

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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Volume 72, No. 234 ©SS 2014

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014

平成26年3月3日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所: 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

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## UKRAINE UNREST



DARKO VOJNOVIC/AP

Unidentified armed men patrol around a Ukraine infantry base in Perevalne on Sunday. Hundreds of armed men in trucks and armored vehicles surrounded the Ukrainian military base Sunday in Crimea, blocking its soldiers from leaving.

# 'Russia must stop'

NATO chief: Military actions in Ukraine threaten security in Europe

By JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — Russia's intervention in Ukraine threatens European security, NATO's civilian chief cautioned Sunday, but U.S. military officials said there were no immediate plans to take defensive action in response to Russia's seizure of Ukraine's Crimea

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Gunmen surround military base as PM warns 'we're on the brink of disaster'

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region on the Black Sea.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen convened an emergency meeting Sunday of the North Atlantic

Council, NATO's top decision-making body, in response to Russia's military action in Ukraine, and "because of (Russian) President (Vladimir)

Putin's threats against this sovereign nation."

"What Russia is doing now in Ukraine violates the principles of the United Nations Charter. It threatens peace and security in Europe," Rasmussen said in a brief statement before the meeting. "Russia must stop its military activities and its threats."

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## EUCOM readying 'BRAC-like' review of US bases

By JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — As the Pentagon prepares once again to cut forces and facilities on the continent, experts say decades of downsizing have already eliminated most of the Cold War-era fat, leaving planners with a dilemma: Make minor tweaks that will offer only modest savings or carry out sweeping changes that will alter the face of the military's presence in Europe.

There's little room left for a

middle-of-the-road approach that simultaneously offers substantial savings, protects core U.S. interests and pacifies critics who argue that the overseas presence is a bloated Cold War relic.

"In Europe, most of the low-hanging fruit in terms of base closures has already been achieved," said Jim Thomas, a former deputy assistant secretary of defense who now serves as vice president at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington. "Further base clo-

sures are more likely to result in the loss of facilities that would be critical in contingencies in North Africa or the Middle East."

Recent turmoil in Ukraine, where Russian troops now occupy a portion of the country despite Western demands that it pull out, further complicates U.S. strategy. If the Russian threat has been dismissed as a bygone fear, Russian actions during the past week show security outlooks are hard to forecast, even in Europe.

SEE EUCOM ON PAGE 5



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Airfield, school improvements frozen pending EUCOM review

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# QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I saw two attackers, both men, one with a watermelon knife and the other with a fruit knife. They were running and chopping whoever they could."

— Qiao Yunao, 16, who witnessed Saturday's slashing rampage that killed 29 people and wounded 143 at a train station in southern China

See story on Page 9

# MIDEAST



ALLAUDIN KHAN/AP

An Afghan doctor assists a boy who was injured in a suicide attack Sunday in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

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# Afghanistan car bomb kills 9 militants

By RAHIM FAIEZ  
The Associated Press

KABUL — A militant car bomb prematurely exploded overnight in eastern Afghanistan, killing nine insurgents and four civilians, authorities said Sunday.

The blast happened in Logar province, some 6 miles north of the capital, Pul-e-Alam, said Din Mohammad Darwesh, a spokesman for the provincial governor.

Darwesh said it appeared insurgents, whom he identified as three Afghans and six Pakistanis, set off the bomb too early.

"Unfortunately, the explosion completely destroyed a nearby civilian house in which two women and two children were killed," he said in a telephone interview. "Police and local residents retrieved

the bodies."

Two days earlier, additional Afghan soldiers had deployed to the capital of Logar Province after receiving an intelligence report about a possible attack.

Meanwhile, on Sunday, a lone suicide bomber entered a police station in southern Kandahar province, though officers' fire forced him to detonate his explosive vest early, only wounding one civilian, said Zia Durrani, spokesman for Kandahar's police chief.

Also in Kandahar, 12 Taliban escaped from the 1,200-inmate Kandahar Prison after a prison employee falsely put their names on a list of detainees who were scheduled for release, Durrani said.

The men walked out of the prison and the prison employee

has disappeared, he said.

Two of the 12 have been recaptured, he added.

Kandahar Prison has seen spectacular escapes in the past. In 2011, more than 450 prisoners, many of them Taliban fighters, tunneled out of the prison and fled in buses that had been dispatched to collect them.

Southern Afghanistan, and Kandahar in particular, has been the site of some of the heaviest fighting in the protracted Afghan conflict as Afghan and international combat troops have tried to root out a stubborn insurgency. But the Taliban have been tenacious and most Afghans say they still rule in much of the countryside.

In the east of the country, officials said they are working to re-

lease elders kidnapped by armed men.

A spokesman in Nangarhar province, Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, said Sunday that 30 elders from the districts of Ghoshta and Lalpur had been kidnapped three days prior in a remote part of the Nangarhar.

He said that about 15 people already have been freed and that the kidnappers have demanded that any elders' relatives working for the Afghan police quit their posts.

Abdulzai did not provide further details on where or how the kidnappings were carried out.

No one has claimed responsibility for the kidnappings. Several armed groups operate in the area where the elders were taken.

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## PACIFIC



Drag queen Chocolate Sunrise, a pseudonym used by Senior Airman Brandon Smith, performs at a fundraiser for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender troops Saturday at Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

# Gender-bending show draws big Kadena audience

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
Stars and Stripes

To see servicemembers take part in the fundraiser, go to [strypes.com/go/fundraiser](http://strypes.com/go/fundraiser)

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Since the repeal of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, U.S. military bases have hosted gay marriage ceremonies and potluck gatherings. On Saturday, servicemembers here may have been the first to take to the stage and perform as drag queens on a military installation in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender troops.

“Drag queens and drag kings, to be precise.

Six servicemembers — gay, lesbian and straight — donned heavy makeup, danced and lip-synched to songs such as “I Wanna Dance with Somebody” for a raucous, capacity crowd at the Rocker NCO Club at Kadena Air Base. The event was a fund-

raiser for the recently formed Okinawa chapter of OutServe-SLDN, which is the largest non-profit advocate for the military’s LGBT community.

“We didn’t think there was much of a desire for an event like this on the island, but it has actually blown up,” said Navy Lt. Marissa Greene, co-chapter leader of OutServe Okinawa.

Greene said she had hoped to sell about 75 tickets to fund some future support activities for the group, which was formed last summer and still “starting from scratch.” The event was approved as a “variety show” by Kadena’s 18th Wing through the same process as other on-base



“We didn’t think there was much of a desire for an event like this on the island, but it has actually blown up.”

Navy Lt. Marissa Greene  
co-chapter leader of OutServe Okinawa

PHOTOS BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Rudy Del Cid, using the drag queen name Storm, hosts and performs at the fundraiser.

fundraisers.

But an initial 200 tickets were plucked up almost immediately, so they issued another 200. “We ended up selling 400 tickets in 10 days,” she said.

Amid the unexpected success, OutServe carefully avoided any mention of politics, but its variety show comes at a pivotal time for gay civil rights in the United States, with many states passing laws dealing with marriage or debating individual liberties.

It is also a sign of the times within the military. Just a few years ago, gay and lesbian drag performances on a military base would have been unthinkable and

potentially a cause for dismissal from the service.

The repeals of “don’t ask, don’t tell” and the Defense of Marriage Act — the law barring the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages — have allowed gays and lesbians in the military to be open with their sexuality for the first time.

The historic shift appears to be mostly accepted and embraced throughout the ranks despite warnings the DADT repeal could harm order and good discipline.

On Saturday night, the Rocker club was packed for performances by servicemembers using stage names such as Chocolate

Sunrise — a crowd favorite — and Artemis Faux. The event’s sole lesbian performer took the drag king name Manny Nuff.

The advocacy group agreed to avoid using the term “drag show” as part of its on-base fundraiser effort.

Tech. Sgt. Kristen Baker, who was among the crowd, said the show got a warm reception and would leave a mark for civil rights.

“Everything is just accepted. It makes me really proud to watch it,” Baker said. In the military, “we are all brothers and sisters, no matter what.”

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## S. Koreans working for US could face furloughs over deal discord

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Thousands of South Koreans working for the U.S. military could be furloughed beginning April 1 if the National Assembly does not ratify what has become a controversial defense cost-sharing agreement, officials said Friday.

As many as 8,500 employees — about 70 percent of all Korean employees on the peninsula — could be affected, according to South Korea’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which said it could not predict the length of the furloughs.

The new, five-year Special Measures Agreement, which the U.S. and South Korea worked out in January, would increase Seoul’s annual contributions toward the upkeep of U.S. troops on the peninsula by about 6 percent, to 920 billion won, or about \$861 million. Yearly increases due to inflation will be capped at 4 percent.

The last SMA was signed in January 2009, setting South Korea’s contribution for that year at about \$775 million, with provisions for increases for inflation in following years.

The new agreement, which was signed Feb. 2 by U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Sung Kim and South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, must be ratified by the legislative bodies of both countries before going into effect.

It was not immediately clear whether the U.S. Congress had approved the agreement. However, the measure remains stalled at the subcommittee level at the National Assembly, with some politicians arguing that it should be renegotiated and extra provisions included to increase oversight of U.S. Forces Korea’s use of the money, South Korean media reported. The National Assembly is not scheduled to meet in March, but will hold an extra session in April, according to an Assembly officer. A date for that session has not been set.

It was not immediately clear how or whether SMA funds directly contribute to the salaries of Korean employees. MOFA said the U.S. cannot afford to pay those workers unless it receives more money through the latest SMA.

USFK said in an email Friday that “uninterrupted employment is contingent upon the Republic of Korea’s timely ratification of the SMA.”

“We are hopeful that this issue will be

resolved quickly for the sake of our employees and their families,” the statement said.

USFK did not say how military operations might be affected by any potential furloughs.

The MOFA said Friday that the Korean government pays 70 percent of wages for South Korean employees and the U.S. military pays the remaining 30 percent.

South Korea has contributed financially toward the upkeep of USFK forces through SMAs since 1991. Negotiations over the latest SMA began last summer but dragged on because of differences over how much South Korea would contribute, along with concerns in Seoul that the U.S. was not being transparent in its use of funds.

A U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee report issued last spring found that South Korean contributions were not keeping pace with the growth in U.S. costs, and in 2012 U.S. spending was expected to outpace South Korean contributions by \$330 million.

A Congressional Research Service report issued last month said in response to South Korean criticism that the new SMA increases the transparency of USFK’s use of South Korean money.

Under the new agreement, USFK must submit an annual report on SMA funds to the National Assembly, and the South Korean government must approve every contract that uses SMA funds.

“Even with these changes, Korean opposition lawmakers complained that the agreement is ‘humiliating,’” the report said. It added that some believe USFK might improperly use SMA funds to finance portions of the military’s plan to relocate the bulk of its forces to Camp Humphreys and other hubs south of Seoul.

The MOFA previously declined a request to explain why Seoul believes its oversight of USFK’s use of South Korean funds has been inadequate.

Kim Song-yong, head of the USFK Korean Employees Union, which represents the civilian workers, said Friday that they feel like they are being “taken hostage” and are weighing options that include going on strike.

“If they are going to give us unpaid vacations, then be our guest,” he said, adding that the Korean government should be doing something to protect the workers and ensure their job stability.

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## PACIFIC

# S. Korean museum benefits from dispute

## Controversy over contested islets draws attention

By **ASHLEY ROWLAND,**  
**HANA KUSUMOTO**  
AND **YOO KYONG CHANG**  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — Ulleung Island may be best known for its clean air, rugged scenery and fresh squid. But the museum business also is booming on this remote island, some 75 miles from South Korea's eastern coast. Lee Seung Jin says he has the Japanese government to thank.

The island is the closest sizeable land mass to Dokdo, two tiny outcroppings of rock claimed by both Seoul and Tokyo. Even though it's a four-hour ferry ride to Ulleung, the number of visitors to the island's Dokdo Museum has skyrocketed — from 148,000 in 2009 to nearly 250,000 last year. “The more Japan yaps away about Dokdo, the more visitors come,” said Lee, the museum's director.

While the islands — which are known as Takeshima in Japan — are controlled by Seoul, Tokyo also claims them. Both countries cite historical documents to back up their claims, but the issue rages, especially in South Korea, where ownership of the islands is a matter of national pride and passionately defended by politicians, the media and even schoolchildren, who are taught early that Dokdo is a matter of national sovereignty.

The issue is seen in Korea as a painful reminder of the Japanese colonial occupation that ended in 1945 and is linked to concerns about a perceived renewal of Japanese militarism and past imperial ambitions.

### Takeshima Day

Japan claims it annexed Takeshima into Shimane prefecture in 1905, which has been holding a Takeshima Day event for the past eight years.

Despite U.S. urging its two key Pacific allies to resolve the matter peacefully, the prefecture again held Takeshima Day last weekend, a move that has deepened the diplomatic rift.

Shimane prefecture officials established the event because they say the national government was not doing enough to educate the public about the matter.

Even though the day is ignored by most Japanese, Tokyo sent a high-ranking government official — Parliamentary Secretary Yoshitami Kameoka — to attend last weekend's ceremonies in Matsue, on Japan's west coast. It was the second straight year a government representative has attended the event.

Korea's government, which had called for Japan to



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY ROWLAND/Stars and Stripes

**Above:** A guide gives patrons a tour of the Dokdo Museum in Seoul, South Korea, one of about six museums across the country dedicated to furthering South Korea's ownership of the islets also claimed by Japan. **Below:** A model of the Dokdo islets on display at the museum.



For more about the islets dispute, go to:  
[stars.com/go/islands](http://stars.com/go/islands)



A World War II criminals. Many also fear that proposed changes to Japan's pacifist constitution, which would allow it to come to the aid of its allies, signal a return to the country's militaristic past.

Yet, a recent report by the Asan Institute for Policy Studies in Seoul found that among South Koreans, the Dokdo-Takeshima dispute remains the biggest obstacle to improving relations between the two countries.

“In terms of strategic and economic value, Dokdo may be almost worthless,” said the Asan institution's Bong Youngshik. “But because of its symbolic power, appealing to the nationalistic sentiments of the Koreans, it is still the most important and volatile issue in terms of Korea and Japan conducting their relations.”

### ‘A sleeping dog’

The Takeshima-Dokdo debate received relatively little attention in Japan until former South Korean President Lee Myung-bak made a surprise visit to the islets in 2012, the first by a Korean president, and called for the Japanese emperor to apologize for the Japanese occupation of Korea. Lee's actions angered many in Japan, where his visit to the islets was seen as an unnecessary provocation and his comments about the emperor offensive.

“He woke a sleeping dog,” said Toshiimitsu Shigemura, an expert on Korean issues at Waseda University in Tokyo. Unlike in South

Korea, he said, Takeshima means little to the Japanese people.

“When the South Korean side remembers it, the Japanese are reminded of it,” he said. “If the Japanese are not reminded of it, they don't notice it.”

The Abe administration was likely trying to find a middle ground by sending the parliamentary secretary instead of a higher-ranking minister to the Takeshima Day ceremony, Shigemura said.

“They don't want to make it a diplomatic problem,” he said.

The U.S. has maintained a position of neutrality on the matter.

During a visit to Seoul last month, Secretary of State John Kerry emphasized the need for close diplomatic and security cooperation and urged the two countries to “put history behind them and move the relationship forward.”

Dung said dealing directly with disputes over islands in North Asia would be politically costly for the U.S.

Instead, Washington sends indirect signals of support. President Barack Obama's next trip to Asia will include a stop in Seoul, signaling that the U.S. cares about Korea's historical issues with Japan and does not place greater value on its relationship with Tokyo, according to Bong.

“Once the U.S. makes any precedent that it would be willing to be in the middle of the two disputant countries, the Pandora's box will be open,” he said. “You do not want to get involved in a game you know you cannot win.”

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cancel the event, summoned a senior Japanese Embassy official to the foreign ministry last weekend to complain. Seoul also castigated Japan for its stance on Dokdo/Takeshima and its “evasion of responsibility” over the use of sex slaves — known as “comfort women” — by the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II.

Japanese officials have said the Takeshima Day ceremony was not meant to anger Seoul and that the two countries have an important and cooperative relationship.

“We have no interest in deteriorating Japan-South Korea relations,” Ichita Yamamoto, Japan's minister of state for Okinawa and Northern Territories Affairs, said during a recent press conference.

### Military fight unlikely

The rhetoric over the islets, which are inhabited by two private citizens and a few public employees and police officers, is

unlikely to escalate to military confrontation, though some in South Korea believe Japan harbors hopes of conquering Dokdo. The debate might seem trivial to outsiders, particularly in light of the far more serious security concerns posed by a nuclear-armed North Korea and an increasingly belligerent China embroiled in its own clashes over ownership of islands in the East China Sea, including a dispute with Japan over ownership of the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands.

However, a number of historical grievances stemming from Japan's colonization of the peninsula continue to plague the relationship, including a perceived refusal by Japan to fully acknowledge its use of “comfort women.”

Tensions were further aggravated in December when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo, which memorializes the nation's war dead, including Class

MILITARY

**EUCOM: All Europe options will require trade-offs**

FROM FRONT PAGE

For the past year, planners at the Pentagon and U.S. European Command have been quietly at work on the basing map in Europe, trying to root out any redundancies. This spring, the Pentagon is expected to reveal its base closure and consolidation plans for Europe, which have been described as "BRAC-like." BRAC stands for base realignment and closure, a congressionally authorized process by which the Defense Department has reorganized its base structure in the United States.

No congressional approval is needed to close or consolidate bases overseas.

**Major misconception**

All remaining options in Europe involve trade-offs. Cutting deeply into Air Force or Navy units would reduce their ability to respond swiftly to crises in Africa and the Middle East and to maintain resupply and air refueling capabilities for any engagements in those regions.

The Army has cut thousands of troops and closed or consolidated hundreds of installations in the past 25 years. By 2015, about seven main garrisons and some 30,000 soldiers will remain in Europe.

Most of those troops serve as logistical enablers and training partners for allied forces with whom the U.S. has operated in places such as Bosnia, Libya, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Now that most of the Army's consolidation in Europe is completed, two brigades have been inactivated within the past two years, and garrisons in Bamberg and Schweinfurt will soon shutter — the Army's former top officer in Europe says additional base closures would compromise the remaining mission.

"It distresses me to see what's going on right now in Europe, where we have important alliances," said retired Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling, who commanded U.S. Army Europe before retiring in 2012. "For all the focus on the Pacific, it's the armies of Europe that we're worried about."

During his command, Hertling spent a lot of time explaining his mission to policymakers in Washington, where he says there remains a misconception that the U.S. military's mission in Europe is to protect Europeans.

"I drove myself crazy making that point to members of Congress, think tanks, supposed experts," Hertling said. "I even had to inform some on the Army staff about what is going on in Europe."

Stacie Pettyjohn, a force posture expert at the RAND Corp. in Washington, shares Hertling's view.

SEE EUCOM ON PAGE 6



JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

A temporary classroom annex at Ramstein High School is part of a multibillion-dollar program to replace or refurbish more than 130 aging schools that is on hold pending a Pentagon review of reducing the military's presence in Europe.

**US construction in Europe on hold**

Airfield, DODEA school improvements await Pentagon study results

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY, JENNIFER SVAN AND ADAM MATHIS Stars and Stripes

Millions of dollars in construction funding for schools and airfield improvements at U.S. bases in Europe are on hold as Congress awaits the result of a Pentagon study into further reducing the military's presence in the theater.

The freeze, written into an omnibus spending bill passed in January, applies to nearly \$500 million in projects on bases in Germany and the United Kingdom. It requires the Defense Department to complete the study, known as the European Infrastructure Consolidation Review, and create a new basing strategy for Europe before project funding will be released.

Defense officials say they expect the review to be finished in the spring, and they emphasize it will consider only infrastructure and will make no recommendations regarding troop numbers across the continent.

At RAF Mildenhall in the U.K., the freeze applies to almost \$67 million in projects related to the expansion of the 352nd Special Operations Group, a unit that recently welcomed new CV-22 Ospreys and M-130 commando II planes and expects more in the coming years.

To accommodate the new aircraft, the group hopes to build a new hangar, a new operations facility and a warehouse for aircraft parts, and it wants to improve the efficiency of airfield traffic by adding more pavement, Capt. Jethro "Jet" Sadorra, the group civil engineer, wrote in an email. Construction is scheduled to begin in the fall, Sadorra wrote.

"SOG units are currently scattered across the base working toward the same missions, but in a variety of facilities," Sadorra wrote. The new facilities "were designed to make things more efficient."

The construction hold also applies to new fuel tanks and pumps at Mildenhall. The 100th Air Refu-

eling Wing requested the replacements to update its more than 50-year-old aviation fuel tank, Capt. Laura Balch, a wing spokeswoman, wrote in an email.

The system is safe, but "given its age it is prudent to replace it with a modern system," she wrote.

The construction freeze also puts a hold on spending more than \$22 million on training and storage facilities for Guardian Angel personnel at RAF Lakenheath, England. Seventy-five percent of the personnel's critical equipment is stored outside, and the remaining 25 percent is stored in an unheated aircraft shelter, according to an Air Force justification document for fiscal year 2014 construction.

Not only military infrastructure is affected. The freeze applies to five Department of Defense Education Activity schools slated to be built in Europe. They are Ramstein High School, Wiesbaden Middle School and Kaiserslautern and Hainberg elementary schools in Germany, and Lakenheath High School in the United Kingdom.

The projects are part of a multibillion-dollar program, scheduled through 2019, to replace or refurbish more than 130 aging schools, or more than 70 percent of the agency's schools worldwide. The cost for the school projects on hold range from \$49 million for Kaiserslautern Elementary School to \$100 million for Ramstein High School.

School officials say all five projects are still in the design phase, which has already been funded.

"All of our designs right now are still moving forward," said Jose

Tovar, facilities manager for Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe.

The projects, however, cannot and will not be awarded for construction until completion of the infrastructure review, school officials said.

School officials said they haven't been told what to expect from the review. They speculate that a future round of domestic base changes could range from adjusting enrollment projections to eliminating projects altogether if one of the military communities were targeted for closure.

"We're in the same boat as the military. We really don't know the outcome," Russ Roberts, Department of Defense Dependent Schools-Europe chief of logistics,

said. "We're in the same boat as the military," said Russ Roberts, DODDS-Europe chief of logistics. "We really don't know the outcome."

The construction freeze excludes one project authorized in the current fiscal year — a \$16.6 million family housing unit for junior noncommissioned officers on the Vilseck side of U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria in southern Germany.

The military has gradually reduced its presence in Europe since the end of the Cold War, a process it accelerated in 2013 with the removal of two Army combat brigades from Germany, two Air

Force squadrons and a considerable number of smaller support units.

Changes in the theater coincided with the U.S. rebalance of military and diplomatic resources toward the Pacific amid tighter budgets. The approaching end of the NATO combat mission in Afghanistan removes other roles held by Europe-based units, which both deployed from the continent and trained European forces deploying to Afghanistan.

Another push has come from Congress, which has loosely tied a future round of domestic base closures to further reductions in Europe.

Military leaders, meanwhile, have underlined the importance of basing in southern Europe versus the continent's interior, with a growing focus on potential flash points in Africa and the Middle East. Navy bases in Spain and Italy and an Army base in northern Italy have seen modest growth and a change in roles in recent years.

"We are a force... that lives in a legacy positioning associated with Cold War outlooks," the top U.S. commander in Europe, Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove, told Stars and Stripes last year. "We are seeing ourselves needing to be based closer to those places where we are continuing to find threats... Clearly, the Levant, the east Med, northern Africa are places we need to be positioned well to react quickly to those areas."

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MILITARY

# EUCOM: Military leaders believe US must maintain Europe force presence

FROM PAGE 5

“We don’t maintain those bases out of an overdeveloped sense of altruism or responsibility,” Pettyjohn said. “It is maintained because it provides the U.S. with advantages.”

## Europe to take a hit

Many questions remain about Europe’s future military presence. Will EUCOM recommend modest adjustments to its basing map or bold changes?

If EUCOM argues for the status quo, will the Pentagon concur or push for more cuts? And will Congress continue to see Europe as the prime target for downsizing, applying pressure on an increasingly cash-strapped Defense Department?

“We’re doing a thorough scrub” of Europe bases, John Conger, acting deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, said during an April hearing before a subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The review in Europe will be “BRAC-like,” Conger said.

Last Monday, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel made clear Europe will take a hit.

“I am mindful that Congress has not agreed to our BRAC requests of the last two years,” Hagel said. “But if Congress continues to block these requests even as they slash the overall budget, we will have to consider every tool at our disposal to reduce infrastructure.”

“A European Infrastructure Consolidation Review this spring will recommend further infrastructure cuts, which DOD will pursue.”

## Potential targets

For EUCOM, the type of strategic choices it now faces are captured in a recent cost-benefit analysis of overseas bases conducted by RAND. Commissioned by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the 487-page report offers a glimpse of the dilemmas EUCOM and the Pentagon face.

To achieve a savings of about \$2 billion per year in Europe, the report says, sweeping cuts and multiple base closures would be required, including the Army’s Joint Multinational Training Center in Grafenwöhr, Aviano Air Base in Italy and RAF Lakenheath in the U.K.

In addition, the Army’s two remaining combat brigades would have to be returned to the U.S. along with most soldiers in Europe. Meanwhile, the Air Force presence of roughly 30,000 airmen would have to be cut in half.

If the Army instead retained the JMTC to maintain training ties with allies, which military leaders have deemed critical to alliance readiness and unity, more rotational forces would be required to make up for lost ground forces. The use of more rotational forces would result in a savings of only \$1 billion, the RAND report says.

For Hertling, the Army’s training grounds in Grafenwöhr and Hohenfels are the heart of the Army’s mission in Europe and should be off the chopping block.

Since 2008, the JMTC has trained 70,000 U.S. and 33,000 multinational forces from 27 countries, with many troops going on to fight in Afghanistan.

“Most European partners would receive far less training with U.S. forces without the facilities in Europe, since most partners pay their own way for this training but may not pay to go to training sites in the United States,” the RAND report says.

The added expense of forward-stationing troops in Europe varies among services and locations; it ranges from \$15,000 to \$40,000 per year per servicemember, according to RAND. Meanwhile, fixed costs at European installations range from \$115 million to \$210 million per year. The report cites factors such as the high cost of living,



Stars and Stripes photos

**Above:** Soldiers with the 2nd Cavalry Regiment fire their M-9 pistols during an advanced weapons exercise in July at the Army’s Joint Multinational Training Center in Grafenwöhr, Germany, to prepare for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. **Below:** A pilot prepares to exit an F-15E Strike Eagle at RAF Lakenheath, England.



accompanied tours and lower levels of host nation funding support than those among Asian allies. Still, fixed operating costs for overseas bases were generally in line with costs in the U.S., the study says.

## Addressing skepticism

Pettyjohn, who has co-authored several reports on overseas basing, said the military must do a better job of explaining its overseas missions to a skeptical U.S. audience.

“It does cost somewhat more overseas, but it is not a huge amount more,” Pet-

tyjohn said. “I think that is one of the big misrepresentations — that there is somehow a huge amount of savings to be had by cutting bases in Europe. In the grand scheme of the defense budget, it is not that much.”

The Pentagon’s annual budget request over the last few years has been around \$550 billion, not including additional funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Pentagon will have to decide if it is worth gutting the Army and Air Force presence in Europe and making minor reductions to an already small Navy presence for an annual savings of \$2 billion.

For an interactive map of possible base consolidations in Europe, go to: [stripes.com/go/EUCOM](http://stripes.com/go/EUCOM)

Military leaders have long argued that the U.S. needs to maintain a certain force presence in Europe. EUCOM commander Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove has repeatedly said that while some infrastructure can be reduced, the overall troop presence should hold steady.

Hertling, however, said Breedlove, who formerly commanded U.S. Air Forces in Europe, will need more support to dissuade skeptics in Congress and even the Pentagon from deeper cuts in Europe.

“He’s a man of action and he’s fighting for the forces in Europe, but he needs help,” Hertling said. “He needs more help from the other services and the department but, unfortunately, I don’t see him getting that from them now.”

Under a more modest cost-cutting scenario laid out in the RAND study, about \$200 million in annual savings could be achieved by closing RAF Lakenheath and relocating the Germany-based 52nd Fighter Wing to Aviano Air Base in Italy, putting it closer to potential hot spots in Africa and the Middle East.

## The Russia concern

If bases are shuttered, certain military elements must be preserved and deemed off-limits. Air and sea power on the rim of the Mediterranean and in Turkey should be protected from further cuts, said Thomas, the former deputy assistant secretary of defense.

“Similarly, main operating air bases in northern Europe represent a huge sunk cost that should be sustained given the combat power they can generate as well as their role as en route infrastructure lily pads to support air bridges to the Middle East or Central Asia,” he said.

Pettyjohn concurred that preserving key “access and en route” points is essential in plotting a basing map strategy.

Still, the Army role in Europe shouldn’t be dismissed, Thomas said. Over the past decade, the military has shifted its focus toward the Mediterranean but not entirely away from the countries east of Poland.

During that period, several actions by Russia have been a cause of concern, including its involvement in the 2008 war in Georgia, neighbor threats to cut off gas supplies to its neighbor and suspected violation of a 1987 nuclear missile test ban treaty.

On Friday, reports of Russian troops entering Ukraine’s Crimea region prompted President Barack Obama to caution Russia there would be costs if military action is taken in the country. On Saturday, Russia took over Ukraine’s Crimean peninsula, home to many ethnic Russians, and its military tactics there continued into Sunday.

In light of such developments, USAFEUR needs to focus on building the defense capabilities of “front-line allies” such as Poland through more partnerships, Thomas said.

“Just as we’ve shifted the balance of our forces in Europe south of the Alps over the past decade, we may need to shift our weight toward ‘Vistula,’ he said, referring to the great river of Poland that empties into the Baltic Sea.

“In the absence of a clear strategic vision of what we want our future posture in Europe to be and [unless we] are able to articulate more effectively the enduring purposes that forces and bases there serve, we are likely to experience posture reductions driven more by budget expediencies and the lack of congressional support for maintaining overseas bases,” Thomas said.

Added Hertling, “Part of the problem is there’s no constituency for the forces in Europe. But I hope common sense and a more strategic view will eventually prevail.”

**“Part of the problem is there’s no constituency for the forces in Europe. But I hope common sense and a more strategic view will eventually prevail.”**

retired Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling  
former commander of U.S. Air Europe



# NATION

## Police: Boy, 8, fatally shot by his brother

CINCINNATI — Authorities said an 8-year-old U.S. boy was shot in the chest and killed while one of his brothers was playing with a loaded handgun he thought was a pellet gun.

Cincinnati Police Lt. Don Luck told the Cincinnati Enquirer that the three boys were visiting an uncle when one pulled the trigger of a handgun and hit Sammy Lorenzo in the chest Saturday.

The boy was taken to Cincinnati Children's Hospital and was rushed into surgery, but later died.

Luck said no charges are expected against the children and that it's too early to tell whether charges will be filed against any adults.

## 1 killed, 30 injured in massive Colo. pileup

DENVER — One person died and 30 others were injured in a massive pileup on Interstate 25 as a band of heavy snow moved through south Denver on Saturday, authorities said.

Police said 104 vehicles were involved in crashes along a roughly 2-mile stretch of highway as a short but intense burst of snow slammed the area. The northbound lanes were closed for several hours, but the interstate has since reopened. The injured were taken to nearby hospitals.

## Russian-born man to stay jailed in bomb case

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. — A U.S. judge has reversed himself and decided a Russian-born college student accused of building bombs in his Pennsylvania apartment will remain jailed until trial.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Kim Gibson last month said he was inclined to release Vladislav Mitfakhov, 18, jailed since his Jan. 24 arrest, while his case moved forward.

Federal prosecutors appealed, and the judge changed his mind in an opinion Friday. That's a day after hearing testimony that Mitfakhov was on juvenile court probation for a minor charge out of California when he is suspected of possessing the bomb-making materials at his off-campus apartment.

## Prosecutors: Let Ohio Amish convictions stand

CINCINNATI — The sentences of 15 Amish convictions for men and women found guilty of hate crimes for cutting the hair and beards of fellow Amish in eastern Ohio should be upheld, federal prosecutors argued in a court filing.

In their response to the defendants' appeals, prosecutors on Friday wrote that the victims were forcibly awakened in the middle of the night, restrained and disfigured in a way intended to destroy an important symbol of their beliefs.

The group's leader, Samuel Mullet Sr., was sentenced to 15 years in prison, while the other members of the group got sentences ranging from one to seven years.

From The Associated Press



MIKE ELIASON, SANTA BARBARA (CALIF.) NEWS-PRESS/AP

A sailboat that was washed ashore rests on a beach in Goleta, Calif., on Saturday.

# Calif. storm threat ebbs

BY JOHN ANT CZAK  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A thunderstorm that brought sorely needed rain to drought-plagued California is winding down after sending mudslides down foothill communities, flooding roadways and opening sinkholes.

Evacuation orders remained in effect for hundreds of homes in Los Angeles County foothill communities where recent wildfires have burned away vegetation that holds soil in place, and bursts of rain caused occasional debris flows.

The storm marked a sharp departure from many months of a drought that has grown to crisis proportions for the state's vast farming industry. However, such storms would have to be much more frequent to make major headway against the drought, weather forecasters say.

The heavy band of rain

drenched parts of the state throughout Saturday before tapering off by nighttime. While the danger of mudslides was subsiding, officials urged residents who left their homes as much as three days earlier to stay away until Sunday morning.

"The good news is that it looks like the storm will pass... but we still need to evaluate the safety of the area" before people can return home, Assistant Chief Steve Martin, of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, told a webcast news conference.

The National Weather Service said the storm is forecast to move east over the Rockies and into the Plains and Mississippi Valley through Sunday, bringing a hedgepodge of precipitation. Colorado's ski resorts could see up to 6 inches of fresh snow. A mixture of sleet and snow in Kansas, Missouri and Illinois will eventually change over to all snow — with up to 8 inches forecast for Kan-

sas City and the St. Louis area — while northern Arkansas will see freezing rain. The system also has its sights set on the Appalachians and the East Coast into Monday.

The storm's eastward move on Saturday finally broke a 70-day streak without precipitation in the Phoenix area. An 85-day spell of no measurable rainfall in Las Vegas ended Friday. Rain and snow also finally came to drought-stricken New Mexico.

In California, about 1,200 houses in the adjacent cities of Azusa and Glendora as well as nearby Monrovia were under evacuation orders because of the possibility of destructive flows from the San Gabriel Mountains, a rugged range largely covered by the Angeles National Forest.

Forecasters predicted only showers in California on Sunday as the storm heads east — a lucky break for the evening's Oscar red carpet festivities in Hollywood.

# High court mulls death row inmate with low IQ

BY MARK SHERMAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A person from Florida with an IQ as high as 75 may be diagnosed as mentally disabled and be eligible for help getting a job. But on death row, Florida says having an IQ higher than 70 means an inmate is not mentally disabled and may be executed.

The Supreme Court barred states from executing mentally disabled inmates in 2002, but until now has left the determination of who is mentally disabled to the states.

In arguments Monday, Florida inmate Freddie Lee Hall, 68, is challenging the state's use of a rigid IQ cutoff to determine mental disability.



Hall

Florida is among a few states that use a score of 70, as measured by IQ tests, as the threshold for concluding an inmate is not mentally disabled, even when other evidence indicates he is.

"Simply put, IQ tests are not a perfect measure of a person's intellectual ability," Hall's lawyers told the court in written arguments.

In nine tests between 1968 and 2008, Hall scored as low as 60 and as high as 80, with his most recent scores between 69 and 74, according to the state.

A judge in an earlier phase of the case concluded Hall "had been mentally retarded his entire life." Psychiatrists and other medical professionals who examined him said he is mentally disabled.

# Deal would allow gays in Boston St. Patrick's parade

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The St. Patrick's Day parade in Boston is easing its two-decade ban on gay organizations under a tentative deal to allow them to march in an event that once went to the Supreme Court to keep gays out, a marriage equality group said Saturday.

MassEquality Executive Director Kara Corendi said a group of gay military veterans can march under its banner as part of a tentative deal with parade organizers brokered by Boston Mayor Martin Walsh.

Marchers from the gay-rights group would not be allowed to wear clothing or hold signs that refer to sexual orientation, Corendi said.

Negotiators will work out final details in the coming week, she said.

"But, we are encouraged this conversation is happening. That is a significant step forward," Corendi told The Associated Press.

Although there are still particulars to hammer out, Corendi said the development is a big deal for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

"The LGBT community faces many challenges more significant than this parade, but the parade has historically been the symbol of those challenges that we face," Corendi said. "It's been 20 years since openly LGBT people have been able to march in this parade."

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## WORLD

# Hundreds of gunmen surround Ukrainian base

BY DALTON BENNETT  
AND DAVID McHUGH  
The Associated Press

PEREVALNE, Ukraine — As hundreds of armed men surrounded a Ukrainian military base in Crimea on Sunday, world leaders and Ukraine's new prime minister urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to pull back his military.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry called Russia's military incursion into Ukraine "an incredible act of aggression" — comments that came a day after Russian forces took over the strategic Black Sea peninsula of Crimea from Ukraine without firing a shot.

In Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk said there was no reason for Russia to invade Ukraine and warned that "we are on the brink of disaster."

So far, his new government and other countries have been powerless to react to Russian military tactics. Armed men in uniforms without insignia have moved freely about the peninsula, occupying airports, smashing equipment at an air base and besieging a Ukrainian infantry base.

Putin has defied calls from the West to pull back his troops, insisting that Russia has a right to protect its interests and those of Russian speakers in Crimea and elsewhere in Ukraine.

Russia has long wanted to reclaim the lush Crimean Peninsula, which was part of Russia until 1954. Its Black Sea Fleet is stationed there and nearly 60 percent of Crimea's residents identify themselves as Russian.

Ukraine's population of 46 million has divided loyalties between Russia and Europe, with much of western Ukraine advocating closer ties with the EU, while eastern and southern regions like Crimea look to Russia for support.

Unidentified troops pulled up to the Ukrainian military base at Perevalne in a convoy that included at least 13 trucks and four armored vehicles with mounted machine guns. The trucks carried 30 soldiers each and had Russian license plates.

A dozen Ukrainian soldiers, some with ammunition magazines in their rifles, placed a tank at the base's gate, leaving the two sides in a tense standoff.

Ukraine's acting president, Oleksandr Turchynov, announced late Saturday that he had ordered Ukraine's armed forces to be at full readiness because of the threat of "potential aggression." He also said he had ordered stepped-up security at nuclear power plants, airports and other strategic infrastructure.

The U.S. and other Western governments have few options to counter Russia's military moves.

Ukraine is not a NATO mem-



IVAN SEKRETAREV/AP

**A Ukrainian soldier grimaces behind a fence of a Ukrainian military base Sunday in the village of Perevalne, outside Simferopol, as a Russian soldier guards from outside.**

ber, meaning the U.S. and Europe are not obligated to come to its defense. But Ukraine has taken part in some alliance military exercises and has contributed troops to its response force.

Kerry, interviewed on Sunday news shows in the U.S., raised the possibility of boycotting the G-8 summit, which is to be held in June in Sochi, the Russian resort that just hosted the Winter Olympics. He also discussed visa bans, asset freezes, and trade and investment penalties. Kerry said

he spoke with foreign ministers for G-8 and other nations on Saturday, and said everyone is prepared "to go to the hilt" to isolate Russia.

President Barack Obama spoke with Putin by telephone for 90 minutes Saturday and expressed his "deep concern" about "Russia's clear violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity," the White House said. Obama warned that Russia's "continued violation of international law will lead to greater po-

litical and economic isolation."

In Moscow, thousands marched Sunday in a pro-invasion rally one day after Russia's parliament gave Putin a green light to use military force in Ukraine. At least 10,000 people bearing Russian flags marched freely through the city, while dozens of people demonstrating on Red Square against an invasion of Ukraine were quickly detained by Russian riot police.

The new Ukrainian government came to power last week following months of pro-democracy demonstrations against a pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich, and his decision to turn Ukraine toward Russia instead of the European Union.

Yanukovich fled to Russia after more than 80 people died, most of them demonstrators killed by police. He insists he's still president.

Since then, tensions have risen sharply between the two capitals.

The Interfax news agency reported the speaker of Crimea's legislature, Vladimir Konstantinov, as saying the local authorities did not recognize the government in Kiev. He said a planned referendum on March 30 would ask voters about the region's future status.

The White House said the U.S. will suspend participation in preparatory meetings for the Group of Eight economic summit planned.

## Threaten: US officials say no immediate plans to alter defensive posture

### FROM FRONT PAGE

The council was to discuss the implications of Russia's actions "for European peace and security, and for NATO's relationship with Russia," Rasmussen said. "Ukraine is our neighbor, and Ukraine is a valued partner for NATO," he said.

While NATO has a partnership agreement with Ukraine, it is only obligated to provide military aid to member nations.

NATO ministers also were expected to meet with Ukrainian officials on Sunday.

"We urge all parties to urgently continue all efforts to move away from this dangerous situation. In particular, I call on Russia to de-escalate tensions," Rasmussen said.

Meanwhile, officials at U.S. European Command on Sunday said there are no immediate plans to alter its defense posture nor to

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deploy naval assets into the Black Sea as a show of force.

"We are closely watching events as they unfold in Ukraine and are in close contact with our leadership in D.C.," EUCOM spokesman Navy Capt. Greg Hicks said in a written statement.

The focus, though, remains on supporting diplomatic efforts by the U.S. government.

"Additionally, contrary to any press reporting, no ships are headed to the Black Sea," Hicks said.

EUCOM's Navy units remain in the Mediterranean to "conduct routine operations and exercises with allies and partners and there has been no change to our military posture in Europe or the

Med," Hicks said.

After weeks of political upheaval and violent protests in Kiev, a Ukrainian pro-democracy coalition last week ousted Ukraine's pro-Russian government. During the weekend, Russia deployed forces into Ukraine's Crimea region, where Russia's Black Sea fleet is based, sparking outrage in the West.

On Saturday, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel spoke by phone with Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoygu, according to Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby.

"Secretary Hagel expressed deep concern about Russia's military intervention in Ukraine," Kirby said in a DOD news release. "He reminded Minister Shoygu that these activities ran counter to Russia's international treaty obligations and stated position that it would respect the sov-

ereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Hagel stressed that, without a change on the ground, "Russia risks further instability in the region, isolation in the international community and an escalation that would threaten European and international security," Kirby said.

Though large-scale security threats from the Cold War era largely have faded in Europe, concerns haven't evaporated over Russian intentions in the region. In 2008, Russia launched a brief war against the Republic of Georgia, like Ukraine, a former Soviet republic.

In a call to Putin on Saturday, President Barack Obama stated that Russia should address concerns of treatment of ethnic Russian and minority populations in Ukraine through nonmilitary means, according to the White House.

In a statement Saturday, Secretary of State John Kerry said, "From day one, we've made clear that we recognize and respect Russia's ties to Ukraine and its concerns about treatment of ethnic Russians. But these concerns can and must be addressed in a way that does not violate Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, by directly engaging the Government of Ukraine.

"Unless immediate and concrete steps are taken by Russia to de-escalate tensions, the effect on U.S.-Russian relations and on Russia's international standing will be profound," Kerry said.

He called on Russia to withdraw its forces back to bases and to "support international mediation to address any legitimate issues regarding the protection of minority rights or security."

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## WORLD

## Egypt's new premier urges end to protests

CAIRO — Egypt's new prime minister has urged a halt to all protests and strikes to give the nation a breather to rebuild after more than three years of deadly turmoil.

Ibrahim Mehlib made his appeal in an address televised live Sunday, his first full day on the job after he and members of his Cabinet were sworn in on the previous day.

Mehlib was named prime minister last week following the surprise resignation of his predecessor, Hazem el-Beblawi, after seven months in office.

The former government faced a wave of strikes and protests that officials said undercut the economy.

"The time for work and productivity has come and no voice must be louder than the voice of construction and development," said Mehlib, a former housing minister and a construction executive.

## 6 convicted in Pakistan for killing of reporter

KARACHI, Pakistan — A Pakistani prosecutor said an anti-terrorism court has convicted six people on charges related to the killing of a local TV reporter, including two tried in absentia who were sentenced to death.

Abdul Maroof said Sunday that four more defendants in custody were given life in prison in the Saturday session in the southern town of Shikarpur and one was acquitted.

Geo reporter Wali Khan Babar was gunned down in 2011 in the southern port city of Karachi. Police arrested the five suspects last year.

## 3 musicians crushed in Bolivian Carnival parade

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Bolivian authorities said four people were killed and more than 60 injured when an overloaded metal foot-bridge collapsed onto a group of musicians marching in the opening parade of Carnival in the highlands city of Oruro.

Interior Minister Carlos Romero said three of the dead were musicians.

Dozens were on the bridge when it collapsed, and the normally festive, even raucous, parade of colorfully clad musicians and dancers became a funeral march.

The four-day annual event is Bolivia's most celebrated festival.

From The Associated Press

## China blames separatists for attack

By DIDI TANG  
The Associated Press

KUNMING, China — Authorities blamed a Saturday slashing rampage that killed 29 people and wounded 143 at a train station in southern China on separatists from the country's far west.

On Sunday, they vowed a harsh crackdown as residents wondered why their laid-back city was targeted.

Police fatally shot four of the assailants — putting the overall death toll at 33 — and captured another after the attack late Saturday in Kunming, the capital of Yunnan province, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Authorities were searching for at least five more of the black-clad attackers.

State broadcaster CCTV said two of the assailants were women, including one of the slain and the one detained.

"All-out efforts should be made to treat the injured people, severely punish terrorists according to the law and prevent the occurrence of similar cases," said China's top police official, top member Meng Jianzhu, who arrived in Kunming early Sunday.

The attackers' identities have not been confirmed, but evidence at the scene showed that it was "a terrorist attack carried out by Xinjiang separatist forces," Xinhua said. The far western region of Xinjiang is home to a simmering rebellion against Chinese rule by some members of the Muslim Uighur population, and the government has responded there with heavy-handed security.

Police in Kunming on Sunday were rounding up members of the city's small Uighur community, believed to number no more than several dozen, for questioning in the attack and seeking information about the assailants.

"How do we know them?" said a Uighur man who gave only his first name, Akpar. "We could not tell if the assailants were Uighurs



A policeman walks in a cordoned area outside Kunming Railway Station in China's Yunnan province Sunday.

as they were all dressed in black. We did not like the attack, either."

Most attacks blamed on Uighur separatists take place in Xinjiang, where clashes between Uighurs and police or members of China's ethnic Han majority are frequent, but Saturday's assault happened more than 900 miles to the southeast in Yunnan, which has not had a history of such unrest.

Kunming residents expressed dismay at both the attack and the conditions within China that could have allowed it to happen.

Restaurant worker Xie Yulong said the attackers were "worse than animals." But he also expressed sympathy toward ethnic Uighurs, saying their region has come under severe security crackdowns in recent months under the government of President Xi Jinping.

"It's the pressure," Xie said. "Beijing has put too much pressure on them since Xi Jinping took over. They are under so much

Beijing has put too much pressure on [separatist Uighurs] since [President] Xi Jinping took over. They are under so much pressure they do not want to live, and they did that."

Xie Yulong  
resident of Kunming, China

pressure they do not want to live, and they did that."

Another Kunming resident, Jiang Hua, said the attack has made people scared to go out at night. "I think we should chase off the Uighurs and let them be independent," Jiang said. "And local authorities should be held accountable for providing public safety."

Witnesses described assailants dressed in black storming the train station late Saturday evening and slashing people indiscriminately with large knives and machetes.

Student Qiao Yunao, 16, was waiting to catch a train at the station when people started crying out and running. Qiao then saw a man cut another man's neck, drawing blood.

"I was freaking out and ran to a fast-food store, and many people were running in there to take refuge," she told The Associated Press via Sina Weibo, a Chinese microblog. "I saw two attackers, both men, one with a watermelon knife and the other with a fruit knife."

"They were running and chopping whoever they could."

## At least 51 killed in car bombs in northern Nigeria

The Associated Press

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Twin car bomb blasts at a bustling marketplace killed at least 51 people in Maiduguri, the northeast Nigerian city that is the birthplace of the country's Islamic extremist terrorist group, a Red Cross official said Sunday.

Many more people were believed buried in rubble from the Saturday night explosions that collapsed some buildings and set others aflame with smoke billowing for hours, said the official, a resident who worked at the scene through the

night but insisted on anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to reporters.

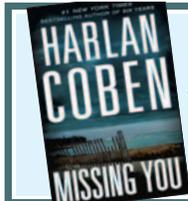
The victims include children dancing at a wedding celebration and people watching a soccer match at an outdoor cinema, survivors told The Associated Press on Sunday. Fifty corpses were retrieved, said Hassan Ali, leader of an anti-terrorist vigilante group.

The first blast came from a pickup truck carrying firewood and did not cause many casualties, Ali said. Most of those killed had run to the scene to help when a second explosion

blasted from a passenger car, he said.

Survivors said they captured a man who jumped out of the car, grabbed a bicycle taxi and tried to escape. He was badly beaten and taken to nearby Umaru Shehu General Hospital, where a security guard said all the wounded who were brought in had died.

Some bodies were blown apart, said market trader Mallam Sumaila. An AP reporter saw a corpse buried beyond recognition at a hospital where wailing families were collecting bodies for immediate burial, in the Muslim tradition.



NYPD Detective Kat Donovan is consumed by an investigation that challenges her feelings about everyone she ever loved—even her father, whose long-ago murder has never been fully explained. With lives on the line, Kat must venture deeper into darkness than ever before.

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## SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

# Adding a new *TWIST*

Scientists create strong artificial muscle by intertwining fishing line, sewing thread

By AMINA KHAN  
*Los Angeles Times*

**B**y taking simple sewing thread and fishing wire and giving it a twist, scientists have created artificial muscle that's 100 times stronger than human or animal sinew.

The invention, described in the journal *Science*, could be useful for prosthetic limbs, humanoid robots, implanted medical devices and even wearable clothing.

This wouldn't be the first artificial muscle out there. There are carbon nanotube yarns and metal wires, but they're often expensive or store relatively low amounts of energy compared with their competitors, scientists said.

These new, high-strength polymer fibers made out of cheap, everyday materials draw their strength from their geometry.

In experiments led out of the University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson, scientists took these thin fibers that were just a few hundred micrometers long and twisted them until they began to coil. (You can see the same effect if you take a rubber band and twist it until it starts to collapse into larger loops.)

As it coils, the twisted fiber cable becomes shorter and thicker, and then the researchers heat-treat it to make it set. The scientists found that if they made the fiber coil in the same direction as the twist, the fiber cable would contract. If the fiber was forced to coil in the opposite direction of its twist, the fiber cable would expand.

When they applied an energy source to the fibers—typically heat—the scientists got different versions of their artificial muscle fibers to contract by 49 percent or to expand by 67 percent. They even produce 7.1 horsepower per kilogram, about the same power as a jet engine (when scaled down for size). Also, the fibers can last through millions of these cycles, making them very durable, reusable devices.

"Despite their small diameter, the fibers can be indefinitely long and used in large structures," Jinka Yuan and Philippe Poulin, scientists from the University of Bordeaux in France who were not involved in the paper, wrote in a commentary.

The scientists think this could be useful for a number of applications that need muscle fibers, whether getting the faces of humanoid robots to move with more humanlike expressions or giving prosthetic limbs better muscle.

They could also be used to automatically open and shut blinds in response to the outside climate. The researchers already have created a textile with pores that expand and contract in response to heat—which could lead the way to adaptable, breathable clothing.

**Experts think this could be useful for a number of applications that need muscle fibers, including prosthetic limbs.**



This image shows different magnifications of the fishing line wrapped around thread.

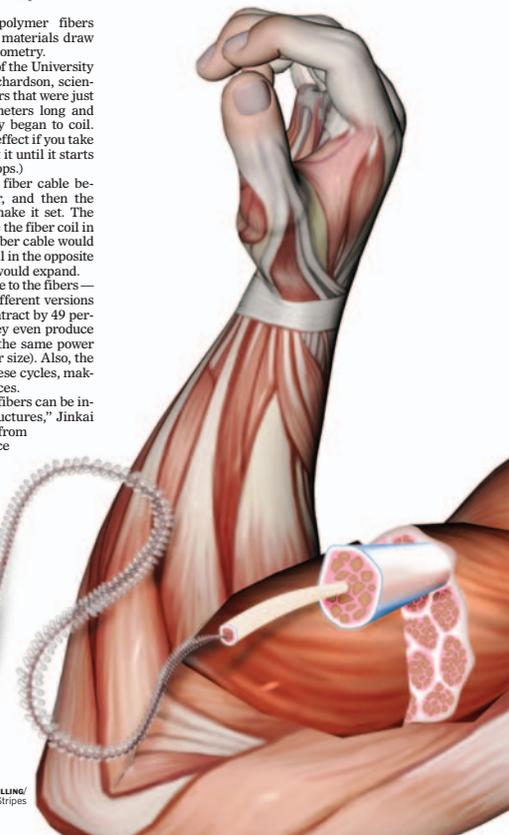


ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/  
*Stars and Stripes*

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Same-sex step-parent adopts wife's adult son

**KY** LEXINGTON—A Kentucky judge has finalized the adoption of a 28-year-old man by a woman who was legally married to his mother in Massachusetts, the first step-parent adoption by a member of a same-sex couple in Fayette County and possibly the state.

According to the Lexington Herald-Leader, Fayette Circuit Court Judge Kathy Stein finalized the adoption of David Crossen by Joan Callahan on Tuesday. Callahan and the man's mother, Jennifer Leigh Crossen, were married in Massachusetts in October.

Stein cited a Feb. 12 ruling in which a federal judge issued a preliminary ruling that Kentucky must recognize same-sex marriages legally performed in other states.

## Crew rescues college student stuck in tree

**OR** FOREST GROVE — Firefighters in Forest Grove rescued an 18-year-old Pacific University freshman who was stranded in a large redwood tree.

The Oregonian reported that Forest Grove Fire & Rescue spokesman Dave Neumann said campus security called for help about 5 p.m. Tuesday when the student couldn't climb down from a tree near the library. She was stuck about 20 feet up.

The unidentified student reportedly told Fire Chief Michael Kinkade that she climbs trees as a hobby and usually gets down without help. A crew with a 24-foot ladder soon had her back on the ground.

## Plane makes emergency landing after bird strike

**TX** GRAPEVINE — An American Airlines flight returned to Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport for an emergency landing after its crew reported the jet hit a bird on takeoff.

The Federal Aviation Administration said American Airlines Flight 1188 landed safely Friday night after its crew reported the bird strike. The MD-80 jet was flying from DFW to Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C., in a statement, the FAA said the return was a precautionary measure. The FAA said American Airlines crews found minor damage to one of the plane's two engines.

## 3 members of Frisbee team killed in crash

**MN** NORTHFIELD — Three college students and members of one of the state's top Ultimate Frisbee teams were killed when a semi-trailer slammed into their SUV after it spun into the wrong lane on an icy Minnesota highway.

The accident happened around 3 p.m. Friday on Highway 3 near Northfield, the Minnesota State Patrol said in an incident report.

All three people killed were stu-

## THE CENSUS

# 10.3

The number of Florida Army National Guardsmen per 100,000 civilians residents, ranking Florida last in the ratio of guardsmen to civilians in the states. The Florida Times-Union reported Saturday that considering the ever-present threats from hurricanes, floods and other natural disasters in the state, Florida National Guard leaders are worried about the low numbers. The state's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Emmett Titshaw, said his forces are already stretched thin and that budget cuts could make the situation worse.



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

## Superheroes hoof it

Charity runners dressed like superheroes race down the final 17 miles of the Boston Marathon course Saturday, training for the world's oldest marathon a year after twin explosions killed three people and wounded more than 260 others.

dents at Carleton College, based in Northfield. The State Patrol identified the deceased as James P. Adams, 20, of St. Paul, Minn.; Paxton M. Harvieux, 21, of Stillwater, Minn.; and Michael D. Goodgame, 20, of Westport, Conn.

Eric Sieger, media relations director for Carleton College, told The Minneapolis Star-Tribune the students played on the school's Ultimate Frisbee team, which finished third in the country last year.

## Former college worker admits to \$1M theft

**WV** WELLSBURG — A former employee of Bethany College admitted she stole more than \$1 million from her employer and said she did it to pay off two people who threatened to tell her husband she had been unfaithful.

Shelly Lough made the admission Friday in Brooke County

Circuit Court. She pleaded guilty to two counts of felony embezzlement and falsifying accounts at Bethany, a small liberal arts college. She worked at the college as a cashier between July 2011 and May 2013.

The Intelligencer and Wheeling News-Register said Lough told police she was being blackmailed by two people who demanded the payments in exchange for keeping silent about her extra-marital affair. One of the two has been charged with extortion.

## Judge sets conditions of Reagan shooter's visits

**DC** WASHINGTON — John Hinckley, who shot and wounded President Ronald Reagan in 1981, soon will be spending more than half of his time outside a Washington mental hospital.

In an order Wednesday that Hinckley's lawyer called a

"milestone," a judge laid out the guidelines for the monthly visits of 17 days that Hinckley will be allowed to make to his mother's home in Virginia.

Hinckley, who was found to be insane when he shot Reagan, has since 2006 been allowed to leave St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington to visit his mother's home in Williamsburg, Va. The length of those visits has expanded over the years with the goal that Hinckley will ultimately live there full time.

Hinckley, 58, will now on his visits be allowed to drive on his own as long as he is traveling to places where people are expecting him. That includes therapy appointments and his volunteer work at a hospital. Previously, he had to be accompanied by his mother or one of his siblings.

Hospital officials have said that the mental illness that led Hinckley to shoot Reagan in an effort to impress actress Jodie Foster has been in remission for decades.

## Police: Fake Waffle House manager arrested

**GA** ATLANTA — A woman in a Waffle House uniform accused of pretending to be a company manager and stealing about \$100 later returned to the restaurant to give the cash back.

Officer Kim Jones told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that the woman — Katie Marie McCrary, 35, of Decatur — was apprehended Wednesday when she returned to the business in the southeast part of the city.

Jones said the suspect began acting as an area manager and conducted an inspection of the restroom area then continued her routine, as real area managers do, before taking cash from the register.

Jones said investigators don't believe McCrary is or was a Waffle House employee.

From wire reports

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday at Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 450002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 450002, APO AP 96338-5002.

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OPINION

With or without Medal of Honor, Sgt. Rafael Peralta is still a hero

By DUNCAN HUNTER

Unfortunate news was delivered to me last month from Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel himself. Following an exhaustive review on the case of Marine Corps Sgt. Rafael Peralta, Secretary Hagel decided that Peralta's Navy Cross will not be upgraded to the Medal of Honor.

While I greatly respect this decision and the attention given by Secretary Hagel, the evidence remains overwhelming in Peralta's favor. But those who knew Peralta best say he wouldn't have cared about the medal — and that's definitely true of any Marine. We don't serve for medals. We serve our nation and each other.

This case has been spearheaded in the name of the Marines who attested to Peralta's actions and believe they are alive today because of what he did that fateful day in 2004 in Fallujah, Iraq, sweeping a grenade under his body. Peralta's case has also been critical to repairing a broken awards process that has produced only 13 Medals of Honor over more than a decade of intense combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Unique to Peralta's case, then-Secretary of Defense Robert Gates initially approved the Medal of Honor before it was rescinded. For the first time on record, a panel was created to examine whether the head wound Peralta received was fatal. The panel concluded the head wound was fatal, even though three medical opinions from Naval Medical Center San Diego had been produced disagreeing with the initial autopsy report.

The Marine Corps rightly maintains that the cause of death was the head wound, caused by a fragment of a slow-moving ricochet, and ballistics from the grenade. The problem I have with the Pentagon's resistance to upgrading Peralta's Navy Cross is that both the Marine Corps and the Navy have supported the Medal of Honor nomination. Not once, but twice.

Marines and others who support Peralta deserve to know what the full body of evidence shows:

■ Peralta was hit in the head by a fragment of an American 5.56 mm round. There is evidence of shrapnel on Peralta's body, including the face and right wrist.

■ Peralta's rifle, which was underneath him, shows shrapnel damage on the hand guard and elsewhere. His body armor also shows damage center-left and a piece of the grenade fuse was also retrieved from the armor, center-mass.



U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO/Provided by the office of Rep. DUNCAN HUNTER

This 2005 photograph, part of the Marine Corps' Medal of Honor investigation, shows the body armor of Sgt. Rafael Peralta, who was killed in Fallujah, Iraq, in 2004.

■ At least six witnesses attested to Peralta's actions, with variations. Because Marines were wounded in the fight, several made statements while separated from the squad. In total, 11 Marines made statements.

■ Photos of the room reveal a thin blast pattern that fanned on the wall adjacent to Peralta with a clearly visible detonation marking on the floor.

■ Video evidence from a combat cameraman shows the chaos that ensued in the minutes after the firefight. Conversations among Marines were also recorded, including one Marine, kneeling next to a wounded Marine, who said in quiet disbelief, "that grenade landed right on top of Peralta." Minutes go by and not a mention of a grenade or the action before the wounded are evacuated.

■ The Marine Corps investigated the entire incident, producing a thorough report, with intensive examination of the 5.56 round and other aspects, and determined that Peralta's actions are worthy of the Medal of Honor.

All of this evidence and more — including a compelling witness statement from the combat cameraman — was provided to The Washington Post, which just recently

called into question Peralta's actions. The Post mainly sourced its story to three Marines. Two of them were not even in the house at the time of the firefight. The third was wounded on the backside while taking cover. That Marine initially reported not seeing anything, but now claims to have seen the grenade. He is entitled to his own truth but, in instances such as this, where witness statements might differ due to lines of sight, the material evidence matters. And in the case of this same Marine, the full body of evidence verifies that a grenade did in fact detonate underneath Peralta. The evidence does not lie.

Peralta is a hero with or without the Medal of Honor. He is still a Navy Cross recipient who remains an inspiration, and he's sure to continue motivating future generations of Marines, who will tell his story with pride and conviction.

Peralta's legacy is unbreakable, and soon there will be a Navy destroyer — the USS Peralta — sailing the seas. These are things that no one, not even The Washington Post, can take from this American hero.

Semper Fi, Sgt. Peralta.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, a Republican, represents California's 50th Congressional District. This column first appeared in the San Diego Union-Tribune.

Hagel budget is right for postwar America

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette editorial

The \$496 billion military budget presented last week by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel is a reasonable first step toward reorganizing America's priorities after the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

Not surprisingly, the spending plan, which is \$75 billion less than the previous budget, has already provoked scowling from members of Congress who are inclined to see defense spending as pork and who are objecting to the financial impact on their districts. Some also smell another opportunity to attack President Barack Obama, this time by charging him with weakening America's defenses.

That last argument is lame since the nation's military power will be maintained through sufficient forces around the globe,

advanced weapons systems and technological dominance. Plus, any dollars diverted to domestic needs will strengthen America at home by improving education and health care and rebuilding infrastructure. That, too, helps the country defend itself.

Inherent in the budget's policy is a call for replacing old and obsolete weapons with new systems and forces appropriate to the future. The size of U.S. Army personnel, for instance, would be cut from 522,000 to 450,000. The A-10 Warthog aircraft, a weapon dated from the 1970s, would be eliminated, saving \$3.5 billion. The U-2 surveillance aircraft would be replaced by Global Hawk drones. Unnecessary bases and commissaries would close. Pentagon planning would assume an America able to fight one large overseas war while maintaining its capacity to defend the homeland.

New emphasis would be placed on improving the ability to wage cyberwar, both offensively and defensively. U.S. capacities in this regard must stay ahead of any enemy's, although care will need to be taken not to provoke attacks on the United States because of its cyber activities.

Although the price tag on the package will be hotly debated, Hagel's reduced budget proposal is in the ballpark with cuts required by the 2011 Budget Control Act. Even so, it is hard to predict whether the Obama administration plan will face more cuts or new additions by the time it emerges from Congress.

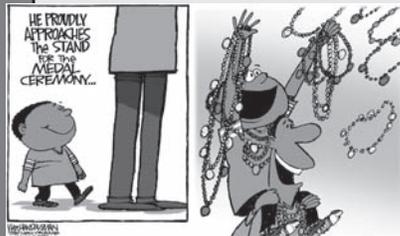
In any case, the downward direction of military size and spending, reflecting a normal postwar reduction of forces and equipment, is the correct course for the United States.

# Looking at the news

## A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



JACK OHMAN/Tribune Content Agency



Let the REAL GAMES begin!

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LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group

FACES

# Scandalously good

## Bellamy Young thrives in TV show's love triangle

By FRAZIER MOORE  
The Associated Press

Of all the fans of "Scandal" — and clearly there are lots of them — none seems more gung-ho than Bellamy Young.

But unlike most fans, who must satisfy themselves by catching every episode, Young isn't watching from a distance. Instead, she's in the thick of this steamy political thriller about a Beltway-based crisis manager (Kerry Washington) desperately in love with the nation's chief executive (Tony Goldwyn). Young plays the third corner of this White House love triangle, first lady Mellie Grant.

"It grows more intense and more stuff happens with every episode," Young marvels, "and we talk faster! Off-camera, they're shouting "Scandal"-pace" at us because they write these long, intricate scripts, and we have to get it all in."

As the "Scandal" saga has spiraled, Mellie has grown into a pivotal figure, a steadfast but beleaguered wife who holds the fate of her husband and his presidency in her hands.

But when the series was cooked up by creator Shonda Rhimes, Mellie was conceived as a passing presence.

Young vividly remembers the cast's first script reading.

"Shonda went around the table afterward, telling all the actors what their story arcs would be for the first seven episodes. When she got to me, she said, 'I think you'll be here for about three episodes,' and I heard her say something about 'presidential divorce.' I'm dying inside, but I'm trying to smile. I'm Southern. I'm trying to be polite."

The 44-year-old Young is indeed polite, as she demonstrates during a recent interview. Firmly but graciously she shakes off an overzealous waiter ("We are trying to do an interview, but we will holler if we need you."). She is a native of Asheville, N.C.

As a teen she headed north to Yale, where she graduated with dual degrees in English and theater studies, then moved to New York, where, on Broadway, she put her singing skill to work as well as her acting chops. She has appeared in films including "Mission: Impossible III," as well as TV series like "Criminal Minds," "CSI: Miami" and "Scrubs."

There were no breakout roles, but Young worked steadily, she says, adding with a laugh, "I am not overburdened with entitlement issues. So I was only grateful to be cast for 'Scandal.' I hoped my character would recur a lot as first lady, so I could run around with these amazing people every once in a while, in a nice dress."

The icing on the cake was her on-screen

**"Mellie has become so multifaceted. So wrong and so right. So ambitious and so selfless. A loser and a winner. And however you judge her ability to love, she does love Fitz — to her detriment."**

**Bellamy Young**  
on her "Scandal" character

marriage to Goldwyn, who had directed her years earlier on an episode of "Dirty Sexy Money."

"I knew how hard he would work and how deep he would go," she says. "I felt completely safe. When I went to the audition, I had my two lines and I kept trying to imagine for myself, 'Who would be a good partner to Tony?'"

"It's challenging to work with Bellamy," says an equally admiring Goldwyn by phone, "because she brings it every time. She knows what she's doing. She finds every nook and cranny in the writing."

Fortunately, the writing embraced, and has continued to explore, Mellie Grant, to a degree far beyond Young's dreams.

"Who hopes THIS high?" she beams. "Mellie has become so multifaceted. So wrong and so right. So ambitious and so selfless. A loser and a winner. And however you judge her ability to love, she does love Fitz — to her detriment!"



MATT SWEETS/IMMAGINE



JOEL AUERBACH/AP

Amy Poehler introduced first lady Michelle Obama at a parks and recreation center Feb. 25 in Miami. Obama will appear on the season finale of Poehler's show "Parks and Recreation."

# Michelle Obama to appear on 'Parks and Recreation'

From wire services

First lady Michelle Obama is making a trip to Pawnee, Ind.

FLOTUS is set to make an appearance in the one-hour season finale of "Parks and Recreation," which airs in the U.S. on April 24.

The episode, "Moving Up," was shot recently in Miami, where Obama was making the rounds in connection to her "Let's Move!" initiative aimed at combating childhood obesity. So we're guessing a hearty Ron Swanson welcome of fatty breakfast food is out of the question?

The first lady joins a growing list of real-world politicians crossing paths with dedicated public servant Leslie Knope (Amy Poehler). Others have included Vice President Joe Biden, Arizona Sen. John McCain, California Sen. Barbara Boxer and former Maine Sen. Olympia Snowe.

It wouldn't be the first time Obama has paid a visit to a fictional TV world. She's appeared on "Sesame Street" and Nickelodeon's since-gone hit "iCarly." And she seems to have a funny bone, goofing off plenty of times with Jimmy Fallon during his run on "Late Night" and, now, "The Tonight Show."

## Deen said she identifies with Sam

Paula Deen says she relates to football player Michael Sam and his desire to avoid being labeled. In an interview with People magazine, Deen quoted Sam as saying he wants to be known as a football player and not a gay football player. The Missouri All-American Sam recently came out as gay.

Deen told the magazine she understands his viewpoint and, in her case, worries the words "embattled" or "disgraced" always will be attached to her name.

The celebrity cook's fortunes fell last year after she admitted

during proceedings in a lawsuit that she had used racial slurs in the past. As part of a comeback effort, she's launched a new company to oversee her restaurants and other ventures.

The 67-year-old Deen called it "amazing" that others face controversies such as hers and come out seemingly unaffected.

## Dolly Parton to play Glastonbury Festival

Britain's leading rock festival is going a little bit country.

Organizers said Thursday that Dolly Parton will play the Glastonbury Festival on June 29. Festival programmer Emily Eavis told the BBC that "it's been something we've been wanting to happen for a long time. And she finally said yes."

Parton, whose hits include "9 to 5" and "Jolene," also tweeted the news.

Held on the Eavis family farm in southwest England, Glastonbury is Britain's most prestigious summer music festival.

This year's lineup is still largely a secret, although members of Arcade Fire have announced the band will perform.

## Other news

■ Orson Welles' personal draft script for "Citizen Kane" is up for sale. Sotheby's auction house said Feb. 27 it is offering the typed script, covered in the director's amendments and marked "Mr. Welles' working copy" on the front page. Other lots to be offered March 5 and 6 in London include eight 100-million-year-old dinosaur eggs.

■ Former "American Idol" runner-up Clay Aiken officially filed Feb. 27 to run for Congress in North Carolina. The performer is a Democrat.

■ Three novels by bestselling author Wilbur Smith are being developed for TV. Corona Pictures and FremantleMedia said the books will serve as the basis for a drama series about a family in Africa, the Courtneys. The novels are "Birds of Prey," "Blue Horizon" and "Monsoon," the companies said.

## NATION



PHOTOS BY AL BEHRMAN/AP

Project manager Randy Kemp works recently on a panel for an engine housing for a World War II-era B-17 bomber being built with salvaged and fabricated parts at the Champaign Aviation Museum in Urbana, Ohio.

# Flying Fortress rebirth

## Volunteers aim to build an airworthy B-17

By MITCH STACY  
The Associated Press

URBANA, Ohio — They got one part for the World War II-era bomber from under an elderly woman's porch in the next town, and another was bought from someone who had it hanging in a bar in Colorado. One chunk was a prop in a 1960s TV show, and the tail section was salvaged from a wreck deep in the Alaska wilderness.

When dozens of volunteers are finished piecing them all together at a small Ohio museum, they're going to roll out a better-than-new, airworthy version of one of history's most famous military airplanes, the B-17, celebrated in Hollywood adventure movies like "Twelve O'Clock High" and "Memphis Belle."

A behemoth of a vintage plane that hasn't been manufactured new in nearly 70 years is being built one piece at a time here — and when the volunteers can't buy or barter for parts they need, they're making them from scratch based on a collection of 28,000 original Boeing Co. blueprints fetched from microfiche at the Smithsonian Institution.

"Modesty aside — and I've been around airplanes as much as anybody here — I think we're building a better airplane than Boeing did," said volunteer Dick Bidlack, 79, a Vietnam War fighter pilot who's been involved with the Champaign Aviation Museum project since it started in 2005. "But we're not trying to build 15 of them a day in a wartime scenario. We're taking years, so we have a little more freedom."

Although completion is still years away, the gleaming shell of the plane stretched out in the hangar these days is unmistakably a B-17, the rugged, 74-foot-long, four-engine bomber called a "Flying Fortress" because it bristled with .50-caliber machine guns and could take an awful beating in combat.

Volunteer Frank Drain designed and painted the authentic-looking nose art, which features a leggy 1940s pinup girl against an outline of Ohio and the plane's Champaign Lady nickname.

"If you had to pick an airplane that would attract the public attention, the B-17 is the one to pick," said Drain, 61, whose father was a radio operator on a Flying

Fortress during the war. Drain now teaches a class on aviation occupations at a local vocational school and brings his students to help out with the project, which can be inspected by visitors anytime the museum is open.

More than 12,700 B-17s were built for the war effort, most of them pressed into service for daylight precision-bombing raids on industrial targets in occupied Europe from small bases in England between 1942 and 1945. It was harrowing duty that claimed the lives of two out of three young men — their average age was 20 — who served on the storied planes.

After the war, many B-17s were unceremoniously left to rust in scrap yards or pressed into other service. About 40 are left around the world today, with fewer than a dozen in flying condition.

Coincidentally, history's most celebrated B-17 — the Memphis Belle — is currently being restored about 40 miles away at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force near Dayton. The Belle got the royal treatment from the military brass in 1943 after becoming one of the first B-17s to



Volunteers Shonil Datta, right, and Rob Culbertson work on one of the B-17's gun turrets. The restoration project started in 2005.

survive the required 25 missions at a time when American bombers were suffering heavy losses. Museum spokesman Rob Bardua said public display of the plane is still years away, although behind-the-scenes tours allow visitors to see the restoration work.

The fact that the Memphis Belle and other B-17s at the much-larger Air Force museum will never leave the ground again motivates the Urbana museum crew even more in their quest to make the Champaign Lady a flying example.

"There was never a decision to make," said Dave Shiffer, whose ride aboard a touring B-17 with his father and brother in 2005 eventually led to the B-17 project and the founding of the nonprofit

museum. "When we started the project, it was to make it fly."

The initial chunks came from five different planes. The many other missing parts that can't be found and restored have to be fabricated under the watchful eye of Randy Kemp, 56, the project manager who works with a changing cast of about 100 volunteers who have come from as far away as England to be part of the effort.

Donations and fundraisers are helping pay for the project, which Shiffer said will end up costing millions of dollars.

A benefit dinner in April at the museum will feature a talk by Amanda Wright Lane — a great-grandniece of Orville and Wilbur Wright.

## WORLD

# Iran's dying lake

New president Rouhani serious about saving Oroumieh, which is disappearing at alarming rate

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI  
The Associated Press

**T**HE FIRST Cabinet decision made under Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, wasn't about how to resolve his country's nuclear dispute with world powers. It was about how to keep the nation's largest lake from disappearing.

Lake Oroumieh, one of the biggest saltwater lakes on Earth, has shrunk more than 80 percent to around 400 square miles in the past decade, mainly because of climate change, expanded irrigation for surrounding farms and the damming of rivers that feed the body of water, experts say.

Salt-covered rocks that were once deep underwater now sit in the middle of desert.

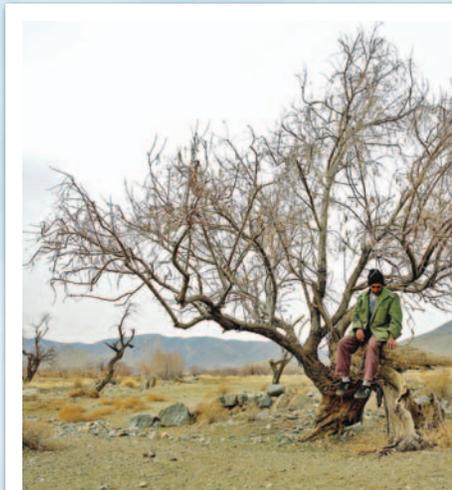
Experts fear the lake — famous in years past as a tourist spot and a favorite stopping point for migrating flamingos, pelicans and gulls — could disappear within two years if nothing is done.

"The lake is gone. My job is gone. My children are gone. Tourists, too," said Mozafar Cheraghi, 58, as he stood on a dusty platform that was once his bustling teahouse.

Less than a decade ago, he recalled, he hosted dozens of tourists a day, with his two sons taking them on boat tours. His children have since left to pursue work elsewhere.

"I sold a dozen boats and kept half a dozen here, hoping the water will return," he said. "But it didn't happen."

Rescuing the lake in northwestern Iran, near



Reza, an Iranian gardener, sits on a dry tree near Lake Oroumieh, northwestern Iran, one of the biggest saltwater lakes on Earth, has shrunk more than 80 percent in the past decade. Below, an abandoned boat stuck in the solidified salts of the lake.

the Turkish border, was one of Rouhani's campaign promises, and his new Cabinet promptly decided to form a team to invite scholars to help find solutions.

The president is putting an emphasis on tackling long-neglected environmental problems that critics say were made worse by his predecessor, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. An engineer with an appetite for giant populist projects, Ahmadinejad pursued policies that led to the expansion of irrigation projects and construction of dams.

"Rouhani stands by his campaign promise to revive the lake," Isa Kalantari, a popular scholar appointed by Rouhani to lead the rescue team, said during a recent conference in Oroumieh.

The new administration in Tehran is seeking input on the lake beyond Iran's borders, raising at least the possibility for further avenues of dia-

logue at a time when Iran is showing a willingness to engage with the world.

The conference included Iranian and foreign experts in addition to scientists charged with trying to revive Oroumieh and saving Iran's environment and economy. The conference did not have any precise figures on the damage, but Iranian scientists included representatives from the United States, Russia and Belgium.

"Don't blame nature," said Rouhani. "Human beings, not nature, are responsible for this situation. We have to change our excessive consumption methods. Now, we have 75 million people and five million people have access to the lake dies."





PHOTOS BY EBRAHIM NOROOZI/AP

western Iran. More than 80 percent in of Lake Oroumieh.



The wreckage of a boat is stuck in the lake's solidified salts and sands.



Visitors walk on salt-covered rocks that were once deep underwater at Lake Oroumieh. Trucks have been hauling salt away from the dry lake bottom, a new business.

an is showing a greater with the West.

ounded a number of for- to the Iranian scien- to reverse the trend at from a major environ- isaster. Authorities gave the number of foreigners on the project, but natives from the United m.

and drought," Kalantari climate change, are re- on. We dried up the lake ve demands and wrong to revive it ourselves. e to leave this region if

Kalantari and his team are to come up with a rescue plan by May.

Twenty proposals are on the table for saving the lake, including cloud-seeding to increase rainfall in the area and the building of pipelines to bring in more water. Experts have also proposed the creation of other industries to reduce reliance on agricultural water.

The government has begun a project to raise public awareness and encourage farmers to abandon wasteful practices and adopt drip irrigation systems that save water. It is also urging farmers to switch to less-thirsty crops. Wheat and pistachios, for example, use less water than sugar beets.

In the village of Govarchinghaleh, near the lake, Nader Hazrati and his son, Ali, grow grapes and almonds.

"A decade ago, this was a green area," Ali said. "Now it is not because of decrease in rainfall. With the level of water in the lake going down, water in wells has gone down too.

"If we dig deeper, the water gets very salty and isn't fit even for agricultural use. Our grape and almond harvest has fallen dramatically."

Ali, 27, said salty winds have killed some of his almond trees.

The effect on crops has prompted many villagers to leave the place of their birth. Govarchinghaleh had about 1,000 people a decade ago. Now, only 300 live in the village overlooking the shrinking lake. Once there were three schools; now there is one, serving a dozen students.

Not far away, trucks hauling salt, a new business, could be seen driving over the dry lake bottom.

Ali Asghar Siab Qudsi, a university teacher and one of the organizers of the conference, said dams and the digging of more than 24,000 unauthorized wells — in addition to 30,000 legal ones — are among the reasons for the shrinking of the lake. He said increasing evaporation and cultivation of thirsty crops have worsened the crisis.

Lakes in other parts of Iran are facing a similar crisis, although not as severe as at Oroumieh. Even residents of Tehran experience water shortages on weekends, and authorities are making plans for possible rationing in the capital.

Authorities have warned of a national disaster in the coming decade if water is not managed properly.

"My No. 1 demand is to see our dying lake back to life. Will that happen in my lifetime?" Cheraghi asked.



# BUSINESS/WEATHER

# DOD eyes Tricare, groceries for cuts

One of the two biggest changes to military compensation proposed in the president's 2015 defense budget request would roll back, after 20 years, an offering of multiple health insurance options to millions of beneficiaries.

The other would end deep discounts on groceries, a benefit that is decades old and long had been viewed as critical to a volunteer force.

But military leaders, worried about postwar budget cuts, see gaps in readiness, risks to key weapons programs and deeper force cuts if Congress continues to block these types of compensation reforms. So they propose bold moves sure to anger servicemembers, retirees and families.

Odds are slim Congress will approve most of them in 2014, an election year. Some lawmakers already are complaining that pay and benefit reforms should be reviewed by the blue ribbon military commission and Retirement Modernization Commission, which will report its findings

## MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

in February 2015.

Here, however, is how Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, hope to save \$11 billion in compensation costs during the next five years.

■ **Pay caps.** The January 2015 military raise would be capped at 1 percent, identical to this year's increase. Flag and general officers would not get raises in 2015. More pay caps would follow but no one's pay would be cut, officials emphasize.

■ **Health insurance.** The triple-option Tricare program of Prime, Extra and Standard would be merged into some sort of fee-for-service insurance option,

like Standard, for beneficiaries younger than 65.

While active-duty members still would have access to free health care, dependents and working-age retirees would face higher costs to include a share of medical expenses and perhaps a new annual enrollment fee, set initially at \$285 for individuals and \$569 for families.

Patient costs would be lower if they can access military treatment facilities or use "preferred" providers who offer military discounts. New co-pays would be set for retiree visits to military treatment facilities. Co-pays also would be set for military families and retirees who use emergency rooms inappropriately for routine care.

Tricare Prime, the managed-care option that allows beneficiaries to enroll in an approved network of providers for a small annual fee plus modest co-pays for care, presumably would end. Beneficiaries 65 and older would continue to have access to Tricare for Life, the robust insur-

ance supplement to their Medicare coverage, but they would face a small enrollment fee.

■ **Commissary cuts.** The prized commissary system, which offers deep discounts on groceries, would see taxpayer support slashed from \$1.4 billion annually to \$400 million. That would occur over three years and would lower average shopper discounts from 30 percent to 10 percent compared with commercial grocers. The military would continue to subsidize commissaries overseas and at remote U.S. bases.

■ **Housing allowances.** Servicemembers living off base stateside would see Basic Allowance for Housing level off for a few years. The plan is not to cut payments but to cap yearly adjustments until members must pay 5 percent of monthly rent and utility costs using their own income.

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, Va., or email milupdate@aol.com or twitter: TomPhilpott@MilitaryUpdate.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (March 3)	\$1.4168
Dollar buys (March 3)	€0.7058
British pound (March 3)	\$1.71
Japanese yen (March 3)	100.00
South Korean won (March 3)	1,039.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.6757/0.5967
Canada (dollar)	1.1066
China (Yuan)	6.1453
Denmark (Krone)	5.3988
Euro	€0.9630
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.3823/0.7234
Hungary (Forint)	224.06
Israel (Shekel)	3.4877
Japan (Yen)	101.81
Kuwait (Dinar)	€0.2816
Norway (Krone)	5.9949
Philippines (Peso)	44.64
Poland (Zloty)	3.10
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7204
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2677
South Korea (Won)	1,071.63
Switzerland (Franc)	€0.8785
Taiwan (Dollar)	32.51
Turkey (New Lira)	€0.2073

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

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	3.59

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

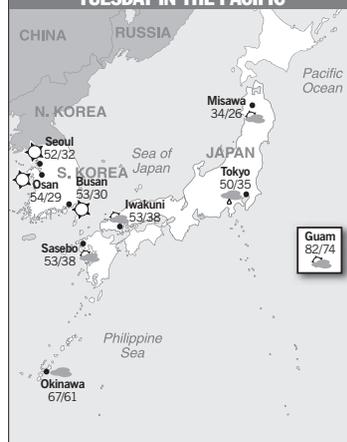
### MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### MONDAY IN EUROPE



### TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



### Monday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Texas	35	26	Cldy	Chatanooga	44	23	Rain	Fort Wayne	16	-1	PCldy	Louisville	24	8	Snow
Albany, N.Y.	19	-1	Cldy	Cheyenne	48	25	PCldy	Fresno	68	51	PCldy	Lubbock	41	23	Cldy
Albuquerque	60	39	PCldy	Chicago	18	3	PCldy	Goodland	43	24	PCldy	Macon	64	38	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	21	0	Snow	Cincinnati	21	4	Cldy	Grand Junction	54	31	Cldy	Madison	31	3	Cldy
Amarillo	33	21	Cldy	Cleveland	16	1	PCldy	Grand Rapids	15	3	PCldy	Medford	59	45	Rain
Anchorage	33	21	Cldy	Colorado Springs	54	26	PCldy	Great Falls	37	23	Cldy	Memphis	24	15	Cldy
Ashville	50	23	Rain	Columbia, S.C.	70	30	Rain	Green Bay	11	2	Snow	Midland-Odesa	43	29	Cldy
Atlanta	57	31	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	60	38	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	53	17	Snow	Milwaukee	15	7	Cldy
Atlantic City	23	7	Snow	Columbus, Ohio	20	3	Cldy	Hartford	37	21	Snow	Missoula	25	19	PCldy
Austin	23	7	Snow	Concord, N.H.	20	1	PCldy	Helena	32	24	Cldy	Mpls-St. Paul	41	21	PCldy
Baltimore	23	6	Snow	Corpus Christi	47	38	Cldy	Honolulu	Rain		Norman	44	17	PCldy	
Baton Rouge	54	32	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	33	26	PCldy	Houston	46	37	Cldy	Omaha	16	5	PCldy
Bilings	30	12	Cldy	Daytona Beach	81	62	Cldy	Huntsville	37	26	Cldy	Orlando	84	62	Cldy
Birmingham	44	28	Rain	Denver	51	30	PCldy	Indianapolis	19	4	Cldy	New Orleans	58	40	Cldy
Bismarck	10	-2	Cldy	Des Moines	10	2	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	42	29	Cldy	New York City	25	11	Snow
Boise	54	39	Rain	Detroit	15	3	Cldy	Jacksonville	80	53	PCldy	Newark	28	11	Snow
Boston	21	10	Cldy	El Paso	62	42	PCldy	Janeau	22	14	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	41	21	Snow
Bridgeport	27	9	Snow	Elkins	13	1	PCldy	Kansas City	15	6	Cldy	North Platte	28	11	Cldy
Brownsville	43	42	Cldy	Erie	13	1	PCldy	Knoxville	37	20	Cldy	Oklahoma City	54	17	PCldy
Buffalo	13	0	Snow	Evansville	55	50	Snow	Lake Charles	52	31	Cldy	Omaha	16	5	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	07	-16	Cldy	Fairbanks	-9	-19	PCldy	Lansing	58	31	Cldy	Orlando	84	62	Cldy
Casper, Wyo.	42	27	Cldy	Fargo	06	-1	Snow	Las Vegas	68	50	PCldy	Pendleton	41	37	Rain
Charleston, S.C.	77	35	Cldy	Flagstaff	50	27	PCldy	Lexington	22	6	Snow	Peoria	11	7	PCldy
Charleston, W.Va.	27	6	Snow	Flint	13	-6	Cldy	Lincoln	19	6	PCldy	Philadelphia	20	6	Snow
Charlotte, N.C.	60	26	Rain	Fort Smith	31	19	Cldy	Little Rock	28	17	Cldy	Phoenix	75	55	Cldy
							Los Angeles	69	54	PCldy	Pittsburgh	22	1	Cldy	

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Sat., 92, Del Rio, Texas  
Lo: Sat., -33, Willow City, N.D.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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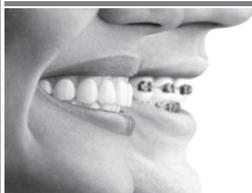
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Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11		
12					13				14					
15					16				17					
18					19				20					
			21			22			23					
24	25	26				27			28		29	30		
31					32				33		34			
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			39			40			41					
42	43					44			45			46	47	48
49						50					51			
52						53					54			
55						56					57			

ACROSS

- 1 Barn neighbor, often
- 5 Journal
- 8 Dalmatian detail
- 12 LummoX
- 13 Boxing legend
- 14 Jason's ship
- 15 Formerly
- 16 Change the essence of
- 18 Ambush
- 20 Entertains
- 21 Oil job
- 23 Apr. addressee
- 24 Signifying
- 28 Cleopatra's river
- 31 Khan title
- 32 Sequence
- 34 Arctic diving bird
- 35 Reply to the Little Red Hen
- 37 Condemn publicly
- 39 "To be," for ex.
- 41 Naturalist Fossey
- 42 Wears away
- 45 Trick-or-treat charity
- 49 Dwellers
- 51 Gilbert of "The Talk"
- 52 Body sci.
- 53 Honest politician?
- 54 Leave out
- 55 Double agent
- 56 More, to Manuela
- 57 Zilch

DOWN

- 1 At a snail's pace
- 2 New Rochelle college
- 3 Charlie Brown's frenemy
- 4 Verdi masterpiece
- 5 Taylor Alta Taylor Johnson
- 6 Bullring bravo
- 7 Actress Gershon
- 8 Ringed planet
- 9 Subject of Frederick I
- 10 Shrek is one
- 11 "Piggies"
- 12 Parisian pal
- 19 Car
- 22 Finished
- 24 Author Brown
- 25 Swelled head
- 26 Countrywide
- 27 Mensa types
- 29 Robitaille of hockey fame
- 30 — out a living
- 33 Reddish horse
- 36 Put in writing
- 38 Togetherness
- 40 Tasseled hat
- 42 Dutch cheese
- 43 Nevada city
- 44 Fashion line?
- 46 Hunter's garb, for short
- 47 Ms. Brockovich
- 48 Destiny
- 50 Cagers' org.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

3-3

CRYPTOQUIP

UYKPWS TYJF EAFJIABZ  
 RABIIJKA NVA RDNWFE BSAKL  
 RPAFALNV KNTTWVJLJAR LN

WRA : LDA UNVZ AGSBARR.  
 Saturday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE HE STILL NEEDED TO PLAN FOR HIS BIG ANGLING TRIP, I GUESS HE HAD UNFINISHED BUSINESS.  
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals O



SPORTS BRIEFS

Free agent Fredette reaches deal with Bulls

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Chicago Bulls and free-agent guard Jimmer Fredette have announced a contract that covers the rest of the season.

Fredette, the 10th overall pick in the 2011 draft, was bought out by the Sacramento Kings on Thursday and cleared waivers on Saturday. He is averaging just 5.9 points and 11.3 minutes in his third season.

The 25-year-old Fredette says the Bulls were the best option for him because of how hard they play and coach Tom Thibodeau's ability to get the best out of his players. He was available for Sunday's game against the Knicks.

The Bulls are hoping the 6-foot-2 Fredette can provide consistent outside shooting. He is shooting 49 percent from three-point range this season.

Sources: Incognito receiving treatment

MIAMI — Embattled former Miami Dolphins guard Richie Incognito is receiving treatment in the wake of the team's bullying scandal, a person familiar with the situation said Saturday.

The person commented to The



RICH INCIGNO/MLB

Free-agent guard Jimmer Fredette reached a deal to play for the Bulls for the remainder of the season.

Associated Press on condition of anonymity because Incognito hasn't discussed the situation publicly. The person said the NFL Players Association is supporting Incognito's treatment.

Another person familiar with Incognito's situation said the veteran lineman is exhausted after being "dragged through the mud" in recent months.

Incognito has sent tweets in recent weeks that varied dramatically in tone. He went on a rant that quickly went viral, blasting

ex-teammate Jonathan Martin and his office, then later tweeted apologies to Martin, Dolphins owner Stephen Ross and Ted Wells, the attorney who investigated the bullying scandal for the NFL.

On Thursday, police in Scottsdale, Ariz., said Incognito told an officer he put several dents in the hood of his Ferrari in an apparent tantrum.

Byrd, Bills negotiations stalled, sources say

BUFFALO, N.Y. — People familiar with contract talks between the Buffalo Bills and safety James Byrd have told The Associated Press that negotiations have stalled, and no further discussions are scheduled.

The people spoke Sunday on the condition of anonymity because neither side has publicly discussed negotiations.

The Bills face a deadline Monday to apply a franchise tag on Byrd and retain the three-time Pro Bowl player's rights before free agency opens March 11.

One person said, Buffalo offered a multiyear contract that would have paid Byrd about \$30 million over the first three seasons. The full value and length of the Bills' offer were not revealed.

Byrd played under a one-year, \$6.9 million franchise tag last season. The price would increase to about \$8.4 million if the Bills tagged him this year.

LaFontaine resigns job with Sabres

BUFFALO, N.Y. — First, Ryan Miller. Now, Pat LaFontaine.

A day after trading their star goal to St. Louis, the Buffalo Sabres lost another face of their franchise after LaFontaine abruptly resigned as president of hockey operations on Saturday a little more than three months after being brought in to provide a new direction to the NHL's last-place team.

The Sabres announced the decision in a news release issued after speculation had been raised of a potential front-office shake-up involving LaFontaine.

The former Sabres captain's arrival was hailed as a major turning point for a struggling team.

Chavez Jr. wins super middleweight rematch

SAN ANTONIO — Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. unanimously outpointed Bryan Vera in a super middleweight rematch Saturday night

at the Alamodome, rebounding from perhaps the worst performance of his career.

Chavez (48-1-1) had winning scores of 114-113, 114-113 and 117-110.

The Mexican fighter consistently scored with a big overhead right, his first landing squarely while Vera (23-8) was on the ropes in the third round in the non-title fight. Chavez capped it off with a jarring straight right in the middle of the ring in the 10th.

Reliever Mota announces retirement

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Reliever Guillermo Mota has announced he is retiring after 14 seasons in the major leagues.

Mota did not pitch last season. The 40-year-old right-hander made 743 career relief appearances with a 3.94 ERA for the Montreal Expos, Los Angeles Dodgers, Florida Marlins, Cleveland Indians, New York Mets, Milwaukee Brewers and San Francisco Giants.

In 2003 and '04, Mota topped National League relievers in innings pitched.

In 2007 while with the Mets, he was suspended 50 games for using performance-enhancing drugs.

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# NBA

## Scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
Toronto	26	26	.500
Brooklyn	28	29	.491
New York	28	30	.486
Boston	20	40	.333
Philadelphia	18	33	.350

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Miami	42	14	.750
Washington	38	25	.604
Charlotte	27	31	.466
Cleveland	23	36	.389
Orlando	18	43	.295

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Indiana	33	27	.545
Chicago	32	26	.552
Memphis	29	29	.500
Minnesota	23	36	.389
Detroit	23	36	.389
Milwaukee	11	47	.150

### Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
San Antonio	42	16	.724
Portland	39	25	.608
Dallas	36	24	.600
Memphis	33	25	.569
New Orleans	20	40	.333

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Oklahoma City	35	24	.594
Portland	31	28	.521
Minnesota	25	34	.424
Denver	25	33	.431
Utah	27	37	.420

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
L.A. Clippers	40	16	.714
Golden State	38	22	.636
Phoenix	34	28	.577
Sacramento	20	39	.339

### Friday's games

Cleveland 99, Utah 79	Oklahoma City 113, Memphis 107
Washington 126, New York 103	Chicago 100, Dallas 95
Atlanta 92, Charlotte 82	L.A. Lakers 126, Sacramento 122
Phoenix 109, New Orleans 104	

### Saturday's games

Washington 122, Philadelphia 103	Houston 118, Detroit 110
Portland 100, Cleveland 96	Brooklyn 107, Milwaukee 98
Portland 102, Denver 96	Minnesota 90, Sacramento 76
Minnesota 90, Sacramento 76	

### Sunday's games

New York at Chicago	Golden State at Toronto
Philadelphia at Orlando	Utah at Indiana
Charlotte at Oklahoma City	Dallas at Philadelphia
Atlanta at Phoenix	

### Monday's games

Memphis at Washington	Chicago at Brooklyn
Charlotte at Miami	New York at Detroit
Portland at Philadelphia	Minnesota at Denver
Portland at Portland	New Orleans at Sacramento

### Tuesday

#### Clippers 108, Pelicans 76

**NEW ORLEANS** — Evans 9-19 2-22, A.Davis 1-6 6-8, Ajinca 4-6 3-11, Robertson 2-2 4, Gordon 1-13 0-0 2, Withey 0-3 0-0, Siemens 5-7 0-0 10, Rivers 7-14 4-5 19, Sabonis 0-5 0-0, Miller 0-0 0-0. Total 28 86 17-19 76.  
**MEMPHIS** — Barnes 5-9 0-0 14, Griffin 11-17 4-6 20, Jordan 14-5 8-7, Paul 7-11 7-21, Collins 0-5 10-13 5, Roberts 2-6 0-0 2, Udofia 1-5 0-2 7, Thomas 2-3 0-0 2. Total 38 113 13-23 76.

#### Clippers 30, Wizards 103

**WASHINGTON** — Ariza 14-23 5-40, Booker 6-7 12 18, May 6-12 1-8, Wall 6-10 4-17, Beal 5-12 0-11, Webster 3-3 2-3, Deng 2-7, Singleton 0-0, Harris 0-0 0-0 2, Temple 0-1 0-0, Porter Jr. 1-2 0-2 2. Total 47 115 18-32 103.  
**PHILADELPHIA** — Thompson 8-11 7-17, Williams 5-11 10-15, O'Leary 3-5 1-5, Evans 5-14 4-6 15, Anderson 5-11 1-11 13, Mullens 2-5 2-6 6, Wroten 5-12 0-0 2, Maynor 5-7 1-13, Varnado 0-0 0-0 2. Total 40 103 20-32 103.

#### Clippers 33, Wizards 103

**WASHINGTON** — Ariza 14-23 5-40, Booker 6-7 12 18, May 6-12 1-8, Wall 6-10 4-17, Beal 5-12 0-11, Webster 3-3 2-3, Deng 2-7, Singleton 0-0, Harris 0-0 0-0 2, Temple 0-1 0-0, Porter Jr. 1-2 0-2 2. Total 47 115 18-32 103.  
**PHILADELPHIA** — Thompson 8-11 7-17, Williams 5-11 10-15, O'Leary 3-5 1-5, Evans 5-14 4-6 15, Anderson 5-11 1-11 13, Mullens 2-5 2-6 6, Wroten 5-12 0-0 2, Maynor 5-7 1-13, Varnado 0-0 0-0 2. Total 40 103 20-32 103.

### Head to head

MIAMI — LeBron James' switch to a clear mask didn't hinder his shooting eye, and he had 20 points Saturday to help the Miami Heat earn their seventh consecutive victory by beating the Orlando Magic 112-98.

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### Heat forward LeBron James, wearing a clear protective mask instead of the black one he wore in Thursday's win over the Knicks, scored 20 points on Saturday as Miami beat the Orlando Magic 112-98.

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### Three-Point Goals—Indiana 5-13

(George 3-6, Stephenson 1-2, Watson 1-3, Sloan 0-1, Turner 0-1), Boston 7-11 (Rondo 3-6, Green 2-5, Johnson 1-2, Bayless 1-5, Pressley 0-1, Sullinger 0-2), Foulled Out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 45 (Stephenson 9), Boston 51 (Humphries 10), Assists—Indiana 19 (Stephenson 6), Boston 25 (Rondo 11). Total Fouls—Indiana 19, Boston 25. Technicals—Hibbert, Rondo. A—18,624 (18,624).

### Rockets 118, Pistons 110

**DETROIT** — J.Smith 8-24 5-21, Monroe 3-11 4-10, Drummond 8-11 0-1 16, Jennings 4-13 1-11, Singler 2-4 2-7, Stuckey 10-17 3-23, Caldwell-Pope 2-2 0-5, Eymun 6-10 0-12, Hackett 1-5 0-0 2, Villanueva 1-1 2-3, Totals 45-100 16-19 110.  
**HOUSTON** — Jarrett 6-12 0-0 13, Jones 10-15 2-22, Howard 4-7 7-17, Beverley 6-15 2-14, Harden 7-16 5-20, Lin 1-6 2-4 2, Cassel 4-5 5-16, Motiejunas 3-7 0-0 7, Ask 0-1 0-2 0, Totals 42-94 23-31 118.

### Three-Point Goals—Portland 7-23

(Foye 3-6, Martin 3-6, 2-2, Curry 1-1, Williams 1-5, Batum 1-5, Aldridge 0-1, Claver 0-1, Matthews 0-3, Lillard 0-4), Foulled Out—None. Rebounds—Denver 54 (Faried 10), Portland 35 (Gatum 10). Assists—Denver 20 (Foye, Fournier 4), Portland 20 (Batum 6). Total Fouls—Denver defensive three second, A—20,068 (19,980).

### Timberwolves 108, Kings 97

**MINNESOTA** — Brewer 8-10 2-13, Love 4-12 2-14 2, Pekovic 8-12 0-20, Rubio 2-4 3-8, Martin 9-16 2-8, Cunningham 3-9 1-2 7, Budinger 3-6 0-6, Baraca 3-9 0-6, Mumphord 0-2 0-0, Mash 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 37-81 29-108.  
**SACRAMENTO** — Gay 8-14 4-14 24, Thompson 10-18 0-2, McLemore 9-16 3-5 21, Thomas 10-18 2-22, Cousins 3-7 0-0 7, Williams 1-4 7-8, Johnson 1-8 0-2 1, Acy 0-1 0-0, Evans 1-2 0-2, McCullum 3-11 2-3, Acy 0-1, Johnson 0-2, Thomas 0-5).  
**MINNESOTA** — 23 31 24-108  
**Sacramento** — 25 34 27-97

### Three-Point Goals—Minnesota 5-21

(Brewer 2-5, Rubio 1-2, Brewer 1-3, Martin 1-5, Budinger 0-3, Baraca 0-3), Sacramento 7-22 (Gay 4-7, McCullum 2-4, McLemore 0-5, Acy 0-1, Johnson 0-2, Thomas 0-5).  
**MINNESOTA** — None. Rebounds—Minnesota 50 (Love 10), Sacramento 53 (Cousins 17). Assists—Minnesota 23 (Rubio 8), Sacramento 22 (Thomas 8). Total Fouls—Minnesota 22, Sacramento 28. Technicals—Minnesota defensive three second, A—17,985 (17,317).

### Grizzlies 110, Cavaliers 96

**CLEVELAND** — Deng 5-14 1-2 11, Thomas 3-Point Goals Cleveland 18 (Irving 11-19 3-28, Jack 2-0-0, Zeller 3-6-3), Dellavedova 2-7 0-0, Gole 0-1 0-2 2, Bennett 1-9 5-8, Carter 2-3 0-0 2.  
**MEMPHIS** — Prince 1-8 0-0 2, Randolph 0-1 0-0 0, Foulkes 0-1 0-0 2, Conley 8-14 4-22, Lee 7-11 0-19, Johnson 1-3 0-0 1, Alen 1-1, Calathes 0-1-6, Calathes 0-1-6, Miller 0-1 0-0 0, Koufos 1-2 2-2 4, Totals 44-101 18-110.  
**Cleveland** — 30 35 15 106-96  
**Memphis** — 23 32 23 110-96

### Three-Point Goals—Cleveland 18

(Hawes 3-5, Irving 3-8, Dellavedova 1-2, Deng 1-3, Bennett 1-4, Jack 0-1), Memphis 12-23 (Bennett 4-7, Carter 2-3, Deng 2-7, Singleton 0-0, Harris 0-0 0-0 2, Temple 0-1 0-0, Porter Jr. 1-2 0-2 2). Total Fouls Cleveland 16, Memphis 11. A—10,611 (10,313).

### Pacers 102, Celtics 97

**INDIANA** — George 10-30 4-26, West 4-9 1-12, Hibbert 6-10 3-15, Watson 3-8 0-0 2, Stephenson 5-5 6-16, Sloan 0-3 0-0 0, Turner 8-14 1-3 17, Marjanovic 1-2 0-0 2, Scoll 3-2 0-0 2, Scola 3-7 19-22 10.  
**BOSTON** — Green 10-22, Bass 7-13 2-16, Humphries 1-5 4-18, Rondo 0-0 0-0 0, Foulkes 0-1 0-0 2, Claver 4-14 1-22 10, Johnson 1-3 0-0 3, Babb 0-0 0-0, Pressley 0-0 0-0, Anthony 2-0 0-0 0, Turner 8-14 1-3 17, Marjanovic 1-2 0-0 2, Scoll 3-2 0-0 2, Scola 3-7 19-22 10.  
**Indiana** — 28 21 26-102  
**Boston** — 27 21 30 97

### Three-Point Goals—Brooklyn 10-25

(Thorton 4-7, Williams 3-6, Pierce 1-3, Johnson 1-3 1-14, Wollcott 0-0 0-0 2, Milwaukee 2-12 (Sessions 1-1, Iyavosa 1-1), Assists, Brooklyn 23 (Kirilenko 10), Philadelphia 22 (Mills 10), Total Fouls Brooklyn 19, Milwaukee 19, Technicals, Teleview, A, 14,681 (18,717).

## Roundup

# Heat extend win streak to seven

The Associated Press

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NBA/GOLF

# Cuban: D League is better for prospects

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Mark Cuban thinks the next Kevin Durant would be better off in the NBA Development League rather than the college of his choice.

The outspoken Dallas Mavericks owner said he can envision scenarios where the country's top basketball prospects would get drafted and play in the D-League rather than spend one season at an NCAA school.

Cuban said there's no reason for a player to attend college as a freshman "because he's not going to class, he's actually not even able to take advantage of all the fun because the first semester he starts playing basketball."  
The billionaire owner said his idea is not yet a well-researched proposal, just an opinion. He said agreements with colleges could still give players a shot at an education.

"A major college has to pretend that they're treating them like a student-athlete," Cuban said. "It's a big lie and we all know it's a big lie. We can do all kinds of things that the NCAA doesn't allow schools to do that would really put the individual first."

Durant, far from the only "one and done" player in the NBA, was a star for one season at Texas before the Seattle SuperSonics drafted him with the second overall selection in 2007.

The franchise moved to Oklahoma City and became the Thunder a year later and now Durant is a three-time scoring champion and the league's current scoring leader.

The minimum age for D-League players is 18, a year younger than the NBA rule that was implemented in 2005, two years after LeBron James made the jump straight from high school to the NBA.

New NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said recently he wants to

change the age minimum to 20, and Cuban said he would prefer to make it 21. With a higher age limit in place, Cuban said he would like to see some sort of supplemental draft for the D-League.

Cuban said there's "no question" players would develop better in basketball terms in the D-League, and he believes rules could require life skills or educational training "so you couldn't skate." He would also want to guarantee tuition payments for players who don't make it the NBA.

"We can get rid of all the hypocrisy and improve the education," Cuban said. "If the whole plan is just to go to college for one year maybe or just the first semester, that's not a student-athlete. That's ridiculous."

Cuban and Silver's common ground on the age issue is a change from Cuban's often-contentious relationship with Silver's predecessor, David Stern.

Some of the new commissioner's policies have won over Cuban, who had a long-running and costly feud with Stern.

"I think he's taken some great steps on the officiating. There's been more changes in 15 days or whatever it is than I saw in 14 years. So I like what he's doing there," Cuban said Monday.

Cuban said the league is sending teams more examples of plays that were called incorrectly and other data to help them understand how the games will be officiated.

"Those are things that never would have happened" under Stern, Cuban said.

The NBA did not comment on the changes.

Cuban was fined more than \$1.5 million by Stern, often for his public criticisms of referees. That included a \$500,000 penalty in 2002 when he said he wouldn't hire former director of officials Ed Rush to manage a Dairy Queen restaurant.



**"If the whole plan is just to go to college for one year maybe or just the first semester, that's not a student-athlete. That's ridiculous."**

Mark Cuban  
Dallas Mavericks owner



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Rory McIlroy hits from a bunker onto the second green during Saturday's third round of the Honda Classic in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. McIlroy finished the day with a two-shot lead in the tournament.

## Golf roundup

# McIlroy holds Honda Classic lead

The Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Rory McIlroy is 18 holes away from his first PGA Tour win in 18 months, a chance to show the world he is back on his game.

That's not the way McIlroy sees the final round at the Honda Classic.

McIlroy started strong, avoided a big number with a brilliant bogey in the middle and took on the wind and water on the 16th hole for one final birdie Saturday that gave him a 1-under 69 in the toughest conditions and a two-shot lead over Russell Henley at PGA National.

The 24-year-old from Northern Ireland has come to expect this kind of performance.

He finished one shot behind in Abu Dhabi. He played in the final group in Dubai, where nothing went well in the final round. And here is again, making key shots and big putt to keep his nose in front in the Honda Classic.

"I've been building and building toward getting my game to a level where I feel it should be," he said. "And I'm pretty much at that point now."

McIlroy might have saved his day with a bogey on the par-3 seventh. He took a penalty drop from under a palmetto bush, and faced a shot off the pine straw across 20 yards of rough to an elevated green with the pin toward the back right. The shot came off

perfectly, and he holed the 8-foot putt for bogey.

"It was one of the best up-and-downs I've ever had, I guess," McIlroy said. "And it was almost like a momentum builder. I just bogeyed the last, but walking off that seventh green with a bogey almost felt like I had saved par or I had almost gained a shot on the field. It kept any momentum that I had going to the next few holes."

He closed out his round with a 5-iron into the wind to 10 feet of the flag on the 16th for a birdie, and then narrowly missed two birdie chances on the closing holes.

McIlroy was at 12-under 198. Asked about the importance of winning on a major tour for the first time since the World Tour Championship in Dubai at the end of 2012, and the first time since the BMW Championship at Crooked Stick in 2012 on the PGA Tour, Boy Wonder grappled for the right answer.

"It would be nice. It would be my seventh PGA Tour win," he said. "That's what it is. No bigger, no smaller. And I'll go home and have a nice night and get up the next morning and go play the Seminole Pro-Member."

Henley wasn't doing anything special until he holed out from 150 yards for eagle on No. 14, and then rammed in a 50-foot birdie putt from just off the green at the 17th for birdie that gave him a 68 and put him in the last group for the first time since he won the

Sony Open last year.

Tiger Woods matched the low round of the day. He was among five players who shot 65, all before the leaders teed off and the wind kicked into gear, but it was enough to move the No. 1 player 49 spots up the leaderboard and into a tie for 17th.

**LPGA Tour:** Paula Creamer sank a 75-foot eagle putt on the second playoff hole against Azahara Munoz to win the HSBC Women's Champions on Sunday for her first LPGA title since the 2010 U.S. Women's Open.

Creamer's putt curled across the 18th green and then rolled slowly down the slope and directly into the hole. She ran across the green, then fell to her knees and put her head on the ground, laughing and pounding the grass.

"It's one of those putts where if you just get it in the right spot, it's going to fall down," she said. "But I could stand there all day long and putt that and I don't think get it within six, seven feet."  
Creamer and Munoz finished 72 holes tied at 10-under 278, one stroke ahead of Karrie Webb, who led after every round but bogeyed three of her last six holes to give up a three-shot lead and finish third.

**European Tour:** England's Ross Fisher increased his lead to five strokes in the Tshwane Open, shooting a 5-under 67 to reach 18 under at The Els Club at Cooperleaf in Centurion, South Africa.

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# AUTO RACING/NHL



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Kyle Busch poses for photographers with the winner's trophy after his victory at the rain-shortened NASCAR Nationwide Blue Jeans Go Green 200 on Saturday in Avondale, Ariz. With the win, Busch became the first driver to win three straight Nationwide races at Phoenix International Raceway.

## Busch wins again at PIR

### Driver dominates en route to series-record 64th victory

By JOHN MARSHALL  
The Associated Press

AVONDALE, Ariz. — Kyle Busch didn't mind the rain that ended the race early.

He would have been fine with continuing, though — his car was that good.

Busch became the first driver to win three straight NASCAR Nationwide races at Phoenix International Raceway, dominating his way through a rain-shortened race Saturday.

“We’ve been very dominant here in the past and led a lot of laps today,” Busch said. “I felt like we could have won it if it was rain-shortened or whether we went the whole distance.”

Busch took an early lead and was still out front when the race was halted with 32 laps left in the 200-mile race around Phoenix’s mile oval. After a delay of more than two hours, the race was called, giving Busch his series-record 64th Nationwide win.

Busch led 155 laps for his 10th overall victory — seven in Nationwide — at PIR and the fourth straight Nationwide win for Joe Gibbs Racing at the track. It also was the fourth straight win at PIR for Busch’s crew chief Adam Stevens, who was at the helm when Joey Logano won for JGR in the 2012 fall race.

Busch led 83 laps after that, re-



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Trucks try to blow off the wet track as they pass covered race cars along pit road during a suspension of Saturday's Nationwide race at Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Ariz.

Kevin Harvick finished second and pole sitter Brad Keselowski was third, followed by Kyle Larson and Matt Kenseth.

“Kyle had the best car today; we probably finished where we should have,” Harvick said. “You never know and you always want to finish it out, but all in all it was a good start.”

Busch swept the two Nationwide races at Phoenix in 2013, overcoming a pit-road speeding penalty to end a 24-race winless streak in the series in the spring and leading 169 laps in the fall for his 12th Nationwide victory of the season.

He had the dominant car at PIR on Saturday, moving into the lead on the sixth lap after starting third.

Busch led 83 laps after that, re-

took the top spot on a restart after a pit stop midway through and stayed there another with about 60 laps left.

“Another dominant day at Phoenix,” Busch said. “Those days don’t come around that often, so you try to enjoy them when you can.”

Rain put a slight damper on Busch’s run to the checkers and certainly delayed it.

PIR dodged the heavy downpours that spread across the Phoenix area for most of the day, but rain sent the fans scrambling and halted the race with 32 laps left.

NASCAR sent out the blowers in an effort to get the track dry, but another round of storms moved across the area, soaking the track and ending the race.

## Goal: Sharks' Stalock looking better than ever after injury

FROM BACK PAGE

The injury came just days after Stalock made his NHL debut when Sharks backup goalie Antero Niitymäki was sidelined by a groin injury. Stalock relieved starter Antti Niemi midway through a game against Phoenix on Feb. 1, 2011, and earned the win when the Sharks rallied from three goals down to win 5-3.

Stalock was sent back to Worcester of the AHL after that game to get some action before he was supposed to rejoin the Sharks in Boston. But fate intervened late in the third period while Stalock was on his stomach covering a loose puck.

King tried to jump over the goalie but landed with one skate on the back of his leg instead. Stalock was taken out of the game and the team’s medical staff determined that the nerve that controls movement and feeling in the lower leg, foot and toes had been severed, putting Stalock’s career in doubt.

“I don’t think anybody was putting a percentage on him coming back,” said Sharks assistant general manager Wayne Thomas, who oversees the coaching of goalies in the organization. “The feeling was more negative from doctors and people in the know with that type of nerve injury. It was severed. He had no feeling in his calf and foot.”

After two operations back home in Minnesota at the Mayo Clinic, Stalock had to wait until the nerve grew back. He needed to wear a brace on his leg for nearly four months and had to learn how to walk all over again.

It was about eight months until he could wear skates again and finally got back out on the ice.

“That’s when I realized that I was actually recovered and I was seeing positive growth,” he said. “That was big.”

Stalock finally got back into a game Jan. 21, 2012, for the Stockton Thunder of the ECHL and spent the rest of that season and most of last season in the minors.

Stalock began this year as the backup in San Jose to Niemi and has slowly earned his teammates’

By the numbers

# 9-4

The 26-year-old Stalock’s record over 17 games this season. He has a 1.77 goals against average over that span.

# 178.55

Stalock’s record-setting stretch, in minutes, of playing without allowing a goal, 7:37 longer than the previous franchise mark.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

and coaches’ trust and more playing time with his performance before the Olympic break.

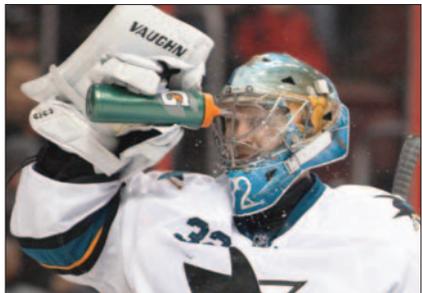
“Guys know his story, they understand where he’s been, and they get excited about playing for him,” coach Todd McLellan said.

The 26-year-old Stalock is 9-4 with a 1.77 goals against average in 17 games and was at his best during a stretch late last month when he posted consecutive shutouts against Florida and Winnipeg. That was part of a record-setting stretch of playing 178:55 without allowing a goal, 7:37 longer than the previous franchise record set by Evgeni Nabokov in 2009.

Stalock’s stellar play has allowed McLellan to sit Niemi more often as he has already missed more than twice as many games this season as he did a year ago.

McLellan has said Stalock will continue to get playing time down the stretch of the season as he has become an integral part of the organization.

“It could have been a catastrophic injury,” Thomas said. “It turned into a really good story.”



TOM MIHALEK/AP

San Jose's Alex Stalock squirts his face before the second period of last Thursday's 7-3 win over the Philadelphia Flyers in Philadelphia.

NHL

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF/GA	
Boston	62	34	27	7	75	159/152
Montreal	62	24	31	7	73	159/152
Toronto	62	22	32	8	72	185/191
Ottawa	62	20	32	12	72	154/158
Florida	60	26	23	11	63	170/197
Buffalo	60	22	31	5	51	146/194
N.Y. Islanders	62	18	34	8	44	122/180

Metropolitan Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF/GA	
Pittsburgh	61	23	25	8	84	192/149
N.Y. Rangers	61	23	25	3	69	159/151
Philadelphia	61	23	25	3	69	159/151
Washington	61	23	25	3	69	159/151
Columbus	60	20	25	5	65	178/169
Carolina	60	26	25	9	65	178/169
N.Y. Islanders	62	23	31	8	54	106/210

Western Conference

Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF/GA	
Chicago	62	36	12	14	86	213/166
St. Louis	59	34	14	4	84	196/137
Colorado	60	38	17	5	81	182/161
Minnesota	61	33	21	7	73	150/148
Dallas	60	28	18	10	66	170/169
Winnipeg	62	30	26	6	66	174/178
Nashville	62	26	10	10	62	150/185

Pacific Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF/GA	
Anaheim	61	28	17	6	89	197/147
San Jose	61	28	17	6	82	184/149
Los Angeles	62	34	22	6	74	150/133
Vancouver	62	27	22	13	72	174/150
Phoenix	60	27	22	11	65	167/167
Calgary	62	28	10	10	66	170/169
Edmonton	62	20	34	8	54	154/204
San Jose	62	23	31	8	54	170/210

Games two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

**Friday's games**  
 Minnesota 2, Vancouver 1:30  
 Buffalo 4, San Jose 2  
 Chicago 4, Phoenix 2  
 Anaheim 1, St. Louis 0

**Saturday's games**  
 Washington 4, Boston 2  
 New Jersey 6, N.Y. Islanders 1  
 Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Rangers 2  
 Columbus 6, Florida 3  
 Tampa Bay 4, Dallas 2

**Sunday's games**  
 San Jose 2, Nashville 1  
 Montreal 4, Toronto 3  
 Chicago 5, Pittsburgh 1  
 Calgary 2, Edmonton 1

**Monday's games**  
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders  
 San Jose at New Jersey  
 Washington at Montreal  
 Ottawa vs. Vancouver at BC Place  
 Vancouver, British Columbia  
 Boston at N.Y. Rangers  
 Tampa Bay at Colorado  
 Phoenix at Phoenix  
 Carolina at Anaheim

**Tuesday's games**  
 Columbus at Toronto  
 Buffalo at Dallas  
 Calgary at Minnesota  
 Montreal at Los Angeles

Saturday

**Flames 2, Oilers 1 (OT)**  
 Calgary 1 0 0 1-2  
 Edmonton 0 0 1 0-1  
**Period 1**—1, Calgary, Monahan (Colborne, Giordano), 10:15.  
**Period 2**—Edmonton, Perron 2:23 (Eberle, Gagner), 9:43.  
**Period 3**—Calgary, Monahan 18:38 (Byron, Smith), 1:50.  
**Shots on Goal**—Calgary 11-3-3-30.  
**Edmonton** 10-3-2-30.

**Power-play opportunities**—Calgary 0 of 3; Edmonton 0 of 3.  
**Goalsies**—Calgary, Berra 9:16-2 (22 shots-21 saves). Edmonton, Bryzgalov 5:8-1 (16.839, 16.839). T—2:32.

Blackhawks 5, Penguins 1

Pittsburgh 0 0 1-1  
 Chicago 1 2 2-5  
**Period 1**—Chicago, Sharp 29 (Toews, Leddy), 15:35.  
**Period 2**—Chicago, Toews 26:14 (44 Chicago, Versteeg 10 (Kane, Hanzus), 16:43.  
**Period 3**—Chicago, Neal 22, 62:1, S. Chicago, Bickel 9 (Saad, Rosszall), 12:57 (21 Chicago, 21 Sharp), 17:55.

**Shots on Goal**—Pittsburgh 15-13-14-32.  
 Chicago 14-17-40-30.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Pittsburgh 0 of 6; Chicago 0 of 3.  
**Goalsies**—Pittsburgh, Fleury 31-14-2 (40 shots-35 saves). Chicago, Crawford 31-14-2 (35-23). T—2:31.

A—62,921 (61,500). T—2:48.

Canadiens 4, Maple Leafs 3 (OT)

Toronto 2 0 1 2-3  
 Montreal 2 0 1 4-3  
**Period 1**—Toronto, Galchenyuk 11 (Ouellet, 12:20). Montreal, Pacioretty 28 (Gorges), 14:02. 3, Toronto, van Riemsdijk 25 (Kessinger), 14:42.  
**Period 2**—Toronto, van Riemsdijk 28:26, 5:22 (31). S. Toronto, Kessel 3 (Bezak), 4:43. 6, Montreal, Subban 9 (Markov, Desharnais), 10:52 (pp).  
**Period 3**—Montreal, Pacioretty 29 (Markov, Subban), 3:28 (pp).  
**Shots on Goal**—Toronto 6-7-11-25.  
 Montreal 14-7-4-30-30.

**Power-play opportunities**—Toronto 0 of 3; Montreal 0 of 3.  
**Goalsies**—Toronto, Bernier 22-16-7 (30 shots-27 saves). Montreal, Gaud 14-4-2 (25-22). T—2:49.

Devils 7, Rangers 1

New Jersey 1 0 1 0-1  
 New York 0 2 0-2  
**Period 1**—New Jersey, Henrique 17 (Cizic, Greene), 5:00 (pp).  
**Period 2**—New Jersey, Jagr 19 (Tjovde, Ryerson), 3:31. 3, New Jersey, Gelinac (Henrique, Gelinac), 5:40 (pp). 4, N.Y. Islanders, Okposo 25 (Vanek, Bayne), 8:07 (pp). 6, New Jersey, Fayne 3 (Loktionov), 19:24 (pp).  
**Period 3**—New Jersey, Gelinac 7 (Zidlicky, Elias), 15:21 (pp).  
**Shots on Goal**—New Jersey 9-11-16-35.  
 N.Y. Islanders 10-3-6-19.  
**Power-play opportunities**—New Jersey 4 of 8; N.Y. Islanders 0 of 3.  
**Goalsies**—New Jersey, Brodeur 14-11-4 (15 shots-18 saves). N.Y. Islanders, Nabokov 11-13-5 (19-14). Nilsson 0:00 (pp), 16:42. T—2:34.

Flyers 4, Rangers 2

N.Y. Rangers 0 2 0-2  
 Philadelphia 2 2 1-4  
**Period 1**—Philadelphia, Lecavalier 13 (Martinez, Stroh), 7:04. 2, Philadelphia, Couturier 10 (Read, Timonen), 8:30 (pp).  
**Period 2**—Philadelphia, Brodeur 11 (Nash, Stenehjem), 4:58. 4, N.Y. Rangers, Brodeur 15 (Richard, Stenehjem), 11:42 (pp). 5, Philadelphia, Simmonds 19 (Timonen, B.Schenn), 13:23 (pp).  
**Period 3**—Philadelphia, Lecavalier 19 (Schenn, Gagnier), 16:15.  
**Shots on Goal**—Philadelphia 12-13-10-35.  
 Philadelphia 10-14-31-31.  
**Power-play opportunities**—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 3; Philadelphia 1 of 4.  
**Goalsies**—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 22-19-14 (30 shots-27 saves). Philadelphia, Mason 24-15-5 (35-33). T—2:32.

A—19,988 (19,541). T—2:32.



The Devils' Jaromir Jagr, right, shoots the puck past New York Islanders goalie Evgeni Nabokov to score (left). 7:00th career goal as the Devils' Travis Zajac and Dainius Zubrus look on in the second period of Saturday's game in Uniondale, N.Y.

Blue Jackets 6, Panthers 3

Florida 1 2 0-3  
 Columbus 2 2 0-2  
**Period 1**—Columbus, Ungerer 16 (Wisniewski, Johnson), 7:42 (pp). 2, Columbus, Atkinson 19 (Savard, Johnson), 11:04 (pp). 5, Florida, Matthias 7, 13:50.  
**Period 2**—Florida, Blujstadt 14 (Matthias), 6:54. 5, Columbus, Savard 4 (Horton, Jensen), 16:50 (pp). 6, Florida, Bergehen 14 (Gilbert, Blujstadt), 11:30. 7, Columbus, Anisimov 15, 19:50 (sh).  
**Period 3**—Columbus, Ungerer 16 (Dubinsky, Murray), 18:59 (enr). 5, Columbus, Calvert 7 (Lestijoki, Johnson), 19:23 (enr).  
**Shots on Goal**—Florida 5-9-6-20.  
 Columbus 12-13-12-37.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Florida 0 of 4; Columbus 4 of 4.  
**Goalsies**—Florida, Clemmensen 6-6-1 (35 shots-31 saves). Columbus, Bobrovsky 21-15-3 (20-17). T—2:26.

Lightning 4, Stars 2

Tampa Bay 2 1 1-4  
 Dallas 1 0 0-2  
**Period 1**—Tampa Bay, St. Louis 28 (Breuer, Palat), 1:25. 2, Tampa Bay, Thompson 6 (Hodman, Killorn), 12:05.  
**Period 2**—Tampa Bay, St. Louis 28 (Connaughton, Fiddler), 15:50. 5, Dallas, Fiddler 4 (Roussel, Garbutt), 18:11.  
**Period 3**—Tampa Bay, Salo 2 (Hedman, Killorn), 7:12.  
**Shots on Goal**—Tampa Bay 11-7-3-21.  
 Dallas 8-18-15-41.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Tampa Bay 0 of 2; Dallas 0 of 4.  
**Goalsies**—Tampa Bay, Bishop 29-9-4 (41 shots-39 saves). Dallas, Lettenma 23-16-10 (21-17). T—2:38.

Devils 6, Islanders 1

New Jersey 1 0 1 0-1  
 New York 0 2 0-2  
**Period 1**—New Jersey, Henrique 17 (Cizic, Greene), 5:00 (pp).  
**Period 2**—New Jersey, Jagr 19 (Tjovde, Ryerson), 3:31. 3, New Jersey, Gelinac (Henrique, Gelinac), 5:40 (pp). 4, N.Y. Islanders, Okposo 25 (Vanek, Bayne), 8:07 (pp). 6, New Jersey, Fayne 3 (Loktionov), 19:24 (pp).  
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Capitals 4, Bruins 2

Washington 1 2 1-4  
 Boston 0 2 0-2  
**Period 1**—Washington, Ovechkin 42 (Carlson, Backstrom), 18:39 (pp).  
**Period 2**—Washington, Ovechkin 42 (Johnson, Ward), 2:24 (pp). 5, Washington, Ward 18, 10:13. 4, Boston, Bergeron 17 (Hamilton, Smith), 10:54 (pp). 5, Boston, Thornton 5 (Pelle, Campbell), 17:32.  
**Period 3**—Washington, Fehr 10 (Chimera), 10:55.  
**Shots on Goal**—Washington 13-8-10-31.  
 Boston 7-15-10-35.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Washington 2 of 6; Boston 1 of 5.  
**Goalsies**—Washington, Holtby 19-13-2 (38 shots-31 saves). Boston, Ras 25-14-4 (31-27). T—2:29.

Kings 3, Hurricanes 1

Carolina 1 0 0-1  
 Los Angeles 1 0 0-3  
**Period 1**—Los Angeles, Sekera 10 (Regehr), 19:04. 2, Carolina, Sekera 10 (Nash, Drouin), 19:45.  
**Period 2**—Los Angeles, Martinez 5 (Brown, Williams), 8:15 (pp). 4, Los Angeles, Williams 16 (Kopitar, Lewis), 18:59 (enr).  
**Period 3**—Los Angeles, Clowe 18 (Zidlicky, and Mark Fayne), 10:11-10-31.  
**Shots on Goal**—Carolina 8-9-9-25.  
 Los Angeles 10-11-10-31.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Carolina 0 of 3; Los Angeles 1 of 6.  
**Goalsies**—Carolina, Khudobin 13-8-0 (30 shots-28 saves). Los Angeles, Quick 18-13-25-24. T—2:29.

Jets 3, Predators 1

Winnipeg 0 2 1-3  
 Nashville 0 0 1-1  
**Period 1**—Winnipeg, Jokiinen (Henrique, Trouba), 5:00 (pp).  
**Period 2**—Winnipeg, Ladd 15 (Gogojian, Frolik), 18:18.  
**Period 3**—Nashville, Moser 1 (Gatto, Fisher), 9:11. 4, Winnipeg, Setoguchi 11 (Wheeler, Stuart), 16:08.  
**Shots on Goal**—Winnipeg 8-8-4-20.  
 Nashville 14-15-11-40.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Winnipeg 0 of 1; Nashville 0 of 6.  
**Goalsies**—Winnipeg, Pavelec 20-22-4 (40 shots-30 saves). Nashville, Hutten 14-10-20-17. T—2:22.

Blades 1, Predators 1

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# Monday Recap

## Jagr scores No. 700 as Devils dump Isles

The Associated Press

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Now that Jaromir Jagr has 700 NHL goals in the bank, the future Hockey Hall of Famer is already setting his sights on his next big milestone.

There are only six guys who have ever scored more. So yes, this is a significant marker to reach.

"Maybe not for Wayne Gretzky, but for the rest of us it's a very big number — 800 is a little bit better than 700," he said.

Jagr scored in the second period of the New Jersey Devils' 6-1 victory over the New York Islanders on Saturday.

Through bits of laughter, Jagr suggested that 800 goals is attainable, as well as Gretzky's record 894. With tongue firmly in cheek, Jagr said he could get to the first number in two years and Gretzky's mark in four.

"So far, he has no plans for the special puck that got past goalie Evgeni Nabokov.

"I might save the 800th one, but I don't know what I am going to do with the 700th," he said with a smile.

Jagr's tally sparked New Jersey's four-goal second period, and Martin Brodeur earned the win in his first start in over a month.

Jagr gave the Devils a 2-0 lead early in the second, as Ryan Clowe, Marek Zidlicky, and Mark Fayne followed in rapid succession. The four goals came in a span of 4:36 in the first 8:07 of the second.

Adam Henrique opened the scoring with a power-play goal at 5:00 of the first. New Jersey needed only 12 shots to net its first four goals and 16 to get to five against the beleaguered Nabokov.

Clowe and Zidlicky, with a milestone assist from Jagr, also tallied during power plays.

"The game went away from us pretty quickly. We deflated after they scored two power-play goals," Nabokov said. "This is part of the business. You got knocked down, but you have to get up again and you have to do the job."

When the penalty kill is good, the game makes the saves. Today that wasn't the case in the third period.

Kyle Okposu cut New York's deficit to 3-1 at 6:14 of the second with his team-leading 25th goal, but the Devils quickly answered with two more goals. Anders Nilsson, recalled Saturday from the Bridgeport Sound Tigers (AHL), made 15 saves in the third period in place of Nabokov, who stopped only 14 shots.

Eric Gelinas scored a power-play goal with 38.1 seconds left to make it 6-1.

# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Wichita St. finishes regular season 31-0

No. 2 Shockers beat Missouri St. for MVC title

By DAVE SKRETTA  
The Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. — The chant started when Ron Baker walked toward the Wichita State bench for the final time, and reached a crescendo when he popped the front of his jersey — No. 31.

As in, 31-0. A perfect regular season.

“Undefeated!” the sellout crowd roared in unison. “Undefeated!”

Baker finished with 13 points, CleAnthony Early led the way with 19 and the second-ranked Shockers rolled to a 68-45 victory over Missouri State on Saturday, becoming the first team since Saint Joseph’s in 2004 to enter its conference tournament unbeaten.

Wichita State (18-0) will have a first-round bye in the Missouri Valley tournament next week.

“My teammates told me a couple weeks ago that my number was something special, because that’s how many games we could potentially win,” Baker said. “I didn’t put that together myself, but it’s very special. It’s going to be something I look back on forever.”

Missouri State (19-11, 9-9) had the Shockers in trouble when they met Jan. 11 in Springfield, Mo., but the Bears blew a 19-point second-half lead and ultimately lost 72-69 in overtime.

They never came close to making it a game Saturday, trailing by double-digits in the opening minutes and rarely trimming the

lead to fewer than 20 points in the second half.

The result is the best start since UNLV began 34-0 and lost in the 1991 national title game.

“It seems like the season started about three weeks ago as opposed to months ago,” Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall said. “It’s been incredible. They’ve met every challenge.”

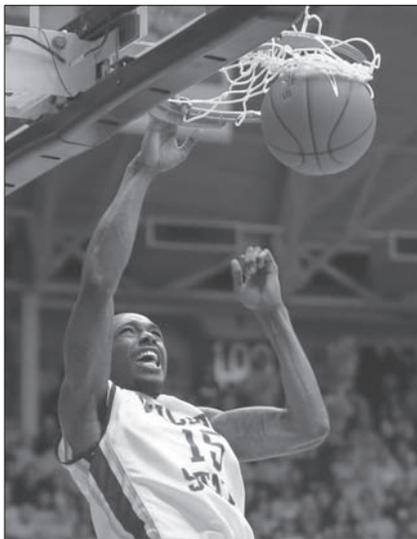
Putting this one away early gave a raucous crowd that had braved the threat of freezing rain ample opportunity to celebrate. Waving signs that applauded their unblemished record, fans packed inside Koch Arena serenaded a senior class led by Early that managed to elevate the program from a solid mid-major to a national power in the midst of a memorable season.

Along with fellow seniors Chadrack Luffie, Kadeem Coleby and Nick Wiggins, Early gave Marshall a bear hug when he checked out for the final time in the closing minutes.

“I’m just very, very proud of these guys,” Marshall said.

Jarmar Gulley scored 15 points to lead Missouri State, which was dominated on the boards, in transition and just about everywhere else in losing its 10th straight against ranked teams.

“We had no answers,” Missouri State coach Paul Lusk said. “They defend you, they take care of the basketball and they’re able to come down and pound it in-



TRAVIS HEYING, THE WICHITA EAGLE/AP

**Wichita State's Nick Wiggins dunks during Missouri State during the second half of Saturday's game in Wichita, Kan. The No. 2 Shockers won 68-45 to win the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season championship and remain perfect with a 31-0 record.**

side every time. We struggled to score on the block, we struggled to score every where.”

“Unlike the first meeting, when it was Wichita State that stumbled early, Missouri State missed 18 of its first 22 shots, suffocated under token pressure and never got into a rhythm.

When the Bears weren’t blowing layups, they were turning the

ball over, leading to some easy baskets at the other end. Wichita State shot 57 percent from the field in the first half, a big reason why it had built a 20-point lead just before the break.

“You know, there’s just a different level of an athlete out there with their size and physicality,” Lusk said. “They’re big, they’re strong and they’re physical.”

## Smart leads Oklahoma St. by Kansas

By CLIFF BRUNT  
The Associated Press

STILLWATER, Okla. — Marcus Smart had no intention of avoiding Joel Embiid, Kansas’ 7-foot shot blocker.

Even after a first half in which he missed all seven shots, Oklahoma State’s star guard was intent on challenging one of the nation’s most intimidating post players.

Smart’s strategy worked. He scored 20 of his 21 points in the second half to help the Cowboys defeat the fifth-ranked Jayhawks 72-65 on Saturday and give a major boost to his team’s once-fading NCAA tournament hopes.

Smart made five of seven field goals and eight of 12 free throws in the second half. Embiid committed three fouls in the first 6 minutes of the second half, twice sending Smart to the free throw line. From there, the tone was set.

“It was always taught that you’ve got to attack the shot blocker,” Smart said. “You’ve got to attack his body and chop him down a little bit. Take his legs from under him and that makes him a little shorter.”

Oklahoma State coach Travis

Ford knew Smart was capable of turning things around.

“After the game, I told him he’s a piece of work,” Ford said. “You have to stick with him, because he’s going to make plays. He’s a competitor. That’s what he did. He was huge down there.”

Markel Brown scored 21 points and Le’Bryan Nash added 16 for Oklahoma State (19-10, 7-9 Big 12), which overcame a 10-point deficit in the second half. The Cowboys are a 3-0 since Smart returned from a three-game suspension for showing a Texas Tech fan.

Andrew Wiggins scored 15 points, Embiid had 13 points and 13 rebounds, and Wayne Selden added 13 points for Kansas (22-7, 13-3), which already had clinched the Big 12 title outright before tipoff because Texas and Iowa State lost earlier.

Kansas coach Bill Self didn’t care about the regular-season championship after the game. He was more focused on his team’s 22 turnovers and 23 personal fouls.

“To me, we missed our opportunity to celebrate,” he said.

Self was concerned with how his team fell apart late, especially defensively. Oklahoma State shot



SUE OROCK/AP

**Oklahoma State guard Marcus Smart (33) shoots between Kansas forward Perry Ellis (34) and center Joel Embiid (21) in the second half on Saturday in Stillwater, Okla.**

64 percent from the field in the second half.

“What’s frustrating to me is we had the game where we wanted it and then we didn’t make competitive plays down the stretch to give us the best chance to win,” he said.

## VCU hands Saint Louis second loss

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — While a trip to the NCAA tournament has become an expectation for Virginia Commonwealth lately, some analysts thought the Rams still had work to do to solidify their position in the field of 68. They should be able to breathe a little easier now.

Travon Graham had 17 points and eight rebounds, and VCU added a quality win to its post-season resume by beating No. 10 Saint Louis 67-56 on Saturday.

“It’s a big, big win,” Rams coach Shaka Smart said. “They’re a top-10 team. It’s a huge win, but it’s not the only game we’re going to hang our hat on. That’s something for the tournament selection committee to look at.”

Briante Weber added 13 points and four steals for the Rams, who gave Saint Louis its second straight loss after a school-record, 19-game winning streak. The Billikens were upset on Thursday by Duquesne, a 14-point underdog.

With another chance to clinch at least a tie for the Atlantic 10 regular-season title, Saint Louis came up empty again. The Billikens led St. Joseph’s by one game with two to play.

VCU has a road win over ACC champion Virginia, but a 1-3 record entering Saturday against Saint Louis and fellow NCAA tournament hopefuls Massachusetts and George Washington out of the Atlantic 10 had the Rams eager to shorten their post-season resume against the Billikens.

“For us, it’s a good win. We feel good about the progress we’ve made, but we’ve still got to get better,” Smart said.

The Rams (22-7, 10-4 Atlantic 10) never trailed but made just two of their first 13 shots in the second half. The Billikens (25-4-12) weren’t much better, shooting 4-for-14 during the same 10-minute stretch.

“I don’t think you’d want to take this game and turn it into any kind of offensive clinic and sell it on the Internet,” Smart said. “Offensively, it was a very similar game to [their meeting in St. Louis]. The difference was that we were much better defensively and on the offensive glass.”

Jordair Jett and Rob Loe helped Saint Louis stay within striking distance, but Jayvont Reddix made two free throws and hit Rob Brandenburg with a fast-break lay to hold the Billikens at bay.

VCU’s lead did not dip below eight points the rest of the way, and Reddix provided the exclamation point with a dunk with 1:10 remaining.

Jett led Saint Louis with 18 points. Austin McCroom had 11 points off the bench and Loe grabbed nine rebounds but turned the ball over six times.

Leading scorer Dwayne Evans had just four points on 2-of-11 shooting after scoring 21 when the Billikens beat VCU 64-62 on Feb. 15 in St. Louis.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Virginia locks up ACC title with win

By HANK KURZ JR.  
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Malcolm Brogdon talked before No. 12 Virginia's final home game about making it a success for seniors Joe Harris, Akil Mitchell and even former walk-on Thomas Rogers, the first building blocks in Tony Bennett's remaking of the Cavaliers.

On Saturday, Brogdon made sure his teammates felt happy. He scored 17 of his career-high 19 points in the second half, including eight in a decisive run that sent Virginia on its way to a 75-56 victory against No. 4 Syracuse.

The victory was the 13th in a row for the Cavaliers, and secured their first outright ACC regular-season championship in 33 years.

"Super exciting," the redshirt sophomore said of watching the final seconds tick off the clock with students pleased to charge the court despite pleas from the public address announcer that they stay put. "You could do nothing, but smile at that point when you're a good team like that and you're having success like we're having. It's surreal when you think about it."

The last Virginia team to win the ACC outright had sophomore Ralph Sampson in the middle. This one has no players of that

stature, but a handful all capable of taking over games with either a critical offensive play, or a defensive stop.

Mitchell added 12 points and nine rebounds, and Mike Tobey and Justin Anderson scored 11 apiece for the Cavaliers (25-5, 16-1 ACC), who won their 13th in a row overall, and their 18th straight at home against ACC competition. Syracuse was only the second ranked team beaten in that home streak, but as has so often been the case this year, it wasn't close at the end.

Mitchell and Tobey were especially crucial early when Harris and Brogdon struggled. Mitchell had eight points and seven rebounds by halftime, and Tobey was more assertive and aggressive inside. He had seven points and four boards at the half.

"I knew this was a big game going in and I have been playing not up to what I feel like I could play up to, so I just came into this game with an aggressive mentality," the 6-foot-11 Tobey said. He finished with eight rebounds, five on offense.

Bennett was able to empty his bench and get Rogers into the game, and the senior put a cap on the day in dramatic fashion, hitting a fallaway three-pointer from the left corner for the first points in ACC play of his career.



STEVE HILBER/AP

Virginia guard Malcolm Brogdon, right, takes a shot during the second half against Syracuse on Saturday in Charlottesville, Va. The 12th-ranked Cavaliers beat the No. 4 Orange 75-56.

"That was the best moment of the game," Brogdon said. It was Virginia's seventh three-pointer in 11 second-half tries.

Tyler Ennis and C.J. Fair each scored 13 for the Orange (26-3, 13-3), who lost for the third time in four games. Syracuse played much of the game without ailing Jerami Grant because of a sore back, but coach Jim Boeheim said it was no excuse.

"They had a tremendous second half. They proved that they could hit those threes, and got it going a little bit," Boeheim said. "Every-one knows they are a tremendous

defensive team and they are also an impressive three-point team. They got going in the second half. I have thought that for a couple weeks, that they have been by far the best team."

As it has so often this season, Virginia took command with a second-half spree fed in part by its defense, and in part by a celebrating sell-out crowd, many of whom stood throughout the second half.

"The last time I heard it that loud, I was at a Taylor Swift concert," Bennett said.

Brogdon broke a 42-41 tie with

two free throws, then hit a jumper from the foul line. After a turnover by the Orange, London Perrantes hit a deep three-pointer that gave the Cavaliers a 49-42 lead.

Rakeem Christmas' dunk after a Syracuse timeout quieted the crowd, but only for a minute because Anderson made a three-pointer from the right side, Brogdon followed an Orange miss with a jumper and then followed another miss with a jumper. The lead was 56-45 with 5:15 remaining and fans sensed that the Cavaliers were in the process of putting away the game.

## Roundup

## Xavier takes rematch against No. 9 Creighton

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — With the best game of his career, Justin Martin helped Xavier get the better of a much-anticipated rematch.

Martin had 19 points and a career-high 16 rebounds on Saturday, and Xavier led most of the way during a 75-69 victory over No. 9 Creighton in front of the largest crowd in the 14-year history of the Musketeers' arena.

It was a big moment for Xavier, (20-9, 10-6), which lost one of the Big East's most wide-open games at Creighton in January. Martin led the way. The junior guard helped Xavier control the tempo and build a 13-point lead early in the second half that was more than enough.

"I love it," Martin said. "I love it. I love it. I love it."

His answer didn't stop. Neither did Xavier's wide-open offense, which shot 50 percent from the field and withstood Creighton's late run. Semaj Christon scored 21 points. Dee Davis added 15, and the Musketeers shot 50 percent from the field.

In the second half, they made the run and we stuck it out and stayed together," Christon said. "That's the biggest part of us."

Creighton (23-5, 13-3) couldn't catch up despite 27 points by Doug McDermott, who leads the nation in scoring.

McDermott had 35 points during the Bluejays' 95-89 win at home on Jan. 12, a game that showed the reconfigured Big East was

a whole different conference. Xavier had more going for it in the rematch.

The Bluejays had nearly as many turnovers (15) as assists (17), settling for shots from the perimeter. Creighton took 34 shots from beyond the arc and made only 10.

**No. 1 Florida 79, LSU 61:** Dorian Finney-Smith scored 16 points, and host Florida used a season-high 13 three-pointers to extend its school-record winning streak to 21 games.

**No. 21 Memphis 72, No. 7 Louisville 66:** Chris Crawford hit a three-pointer with 1:36 left to put host Memphis ahead to stay, and the Tigers (22-7, 11-5 American Athletic Conference) swept the season series.

**Connecticut 51, No. 11 Cincinnati 45:** Shabazz Napier scored 18 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead host UConn. The Huskies (23-6, 11-5 American Athletic Conference) won despite going without a field goal for the game's final 7½ minutes.

**No. 13 San Diego State 82, Fresno State 67:** Xavier Thomas scored 22 points and Aqueel Quinn added 17 in San Diego State's victory over host Fresno State.

**Kansas State 80, No. 15 Iowa State 73:** Will Spradling hit a tiebreaking three-pointer with 1:38 left and host Kansas State overcame a huge game by Iowa State star Melvin Ejim.

Shane Southwell had 13 points for the Wildcats (20-9, 10-6 Big 12), who moved into a four-way tie for second place in the conference.

**No. 16 Michigan 66, Minnesota 56:** Nik Stauskas scored 21 points and Glenn Robinson III provided an emotional lift with his dunks as host Michigan (21-7, 13-3) locked up at least a share of the Big Ten title.

**South Carolina 72, No. 17 Kentucky 67:** Brenton Williams scored 24 points for host South Carolina, which held on after Kentucky coach John Calipari was ejected midway through the second half.

South Carolina (11-18, 4-12 Southeastern Conference) hit six of its first eight shots in the second half to go up 48-32 with 14:13 left. Kentucky made a furious charge after Calipari was tossed, but came up short.

**Illinois 53, No. 18 Michigan State 46:** Tracy Abrams scored 12 points, leading Illinois past slumping host Michigan State.

The Fighting Illini (7-12, 6-10 Big Ten) have three straight victories for the first time since winning four in a row from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4.

**No. 19 North Carolina 60, Virginia Tech 56:** James Michael McAdoo scored 15 points to lead visiting North Carolina to its 11th straight victory.

**No. 23 SMU 70, UCF 55:** Markus Kennedy scored 18 points, Nic Moore had 11 of his 13 in the second half and host SMU took another step toward its first NCAA tournament berth in 21 years.

**Oklahoma 77, No. 24 Texas 65:** Isaiah Courtis scored a career-high 24 points and host Oklahoma gained ground in the race for second place in the Big 12.

**Army 87, Lafayette 84:** Kyle Wilson paced Army with 28 points and the Black Knights withstood a late Lafayette rally.

Host Army (14-15, 10-8) blew a 10-point lead, getting only one basket in the final 3:20 of the first half and took a 43-39 lead into the break.

**Loyola (Md.) 67, Navy 65:** Franz Rasmann scored 15 and Tyler Hubbard made two free throws with 4 seconds left for visiting Loyola.

**UNLV 93, Air Force 67:** Khem Birch scored 15 points on 6-for-7 shooting and grabbed 14 rebounds to lead seven UNLV players in double figures in a 93-67 blow-out of host Air Force.

**Arkansas 87, Georgia 75:** Coty Clarke scored a career-high 23 points as host Arkansas continued its recent surge. The Razorbacks have won five straight SEC games for the first time since 2010, giving them 20 wins for the first time since the 2007-08 season — the last time they went to the NCAA tournament.

**Gonzaga 75, St. Mary's 47:** Sam Dower Jr. bounced back from one of his worst performances of the season with 15 points and 10 rebounds for visiting Gonzaga, which had previously clinched the West Coast Conference regular season title and the top seed in the conference tournament.

**Pittsburgh 85, Notre Dame 81 (OT):** Lamar Patterson scored 20 points, including a pair of free throws with 2 seconds left for visiting Pittsburgh (22-7, 10-6 Atlantic Coast Conference).

## HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

## ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



JOSHUA L. DeMOTTIS/Stars and Stripes

Patch's Caelyn Miller smiles during the DODDS Europe Marksmanship Championship Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014 at Wiesbaden, Germany. Miller placed first on the day with a final score of 288.

## Marksmanship: Caelyn Miller, Patch

BY GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

The daughter of a special forces sniper, Patch marksmanship standout Caelyn Miller started shooting guns at a young age. She shot pistols stateside, and was "a little bit depressed" upon her move to Stuttgart and discovery of the Panthers' air rifle program.

She's since come around. "I like shooting real guns," Miller said. "But this is just as good."

And she is as good as anybody at it. That's why Miller is the newly-crowned DODDS Europe individual champion and the Stars and Stripes marksmanship Athlete of the Year.

"I was surprised in a good way," Miller said. "I ended up loving it."

Many of the nuances of shooting translate seamlessly from the "real guns" she fired stateside and the air rifles she now wields as a member of the European champion Panthers, Miller said. That made the adjustment much easier.

A close rivalry, and a resulting friendly rivalry, made the new sport even more enjoyable.

Miller and fellow junior Maggie Ehmann waged a season-long battle for shooting supremacy. The winter-long duel started in a high-scoring tie and finished with Miller just slightly ahead, with each shooter claiming bragging rights for at least a portion of the season.

Ehmann held the edge before the holiday break. On Dec. 7, in the season's first meet, Miller and her best friend, Ehmann, finished tied at 290 points. A week later, Ehmann's 287 points placed her three points ahead of Miller.

Quickly improving, Miller moved ahead in January. She beat Ehmann by a single point in meets on Jan. 11 and 18 and by three, 288-285, in the final meet of the regular season on Jan. 25.

This trend continued at the Eu

ropean championship; Miller won the individual crown 288-286 as the Panthers earned a runaway team victory.

"We always try to make each other better. If she makes the high score, I guess that's the next thing to beat," Miller said. "Really what we focus on is everyone trying to do their best. That makes the whole team look good."

It's this season-long friendly rivalry, and the minuscule numbers separating the two, that had the unassuming Miller almost bashfully accepting her newfound status as DODDS Europe's premier sharpshooter. After the championship meet, Miller said that she didn't expect to win; she thought Ehmann would beat her, and said she wouldn't have been crestfallen if that's how it had worked out.

"I would still be really happy being here," Miller said. "This is one of the greatest opportunities I've had in my whole life."

A strong runner-up, Ehmann agreed that the spirit of friendship and teamwork evident on the Panthers transcended simple one-umpmanship.

"Rifle is really competitive, no matter who you're going against," Ehmann said. "I really try to make it a friendly competition. I don't want anything to happen between me and my best friend, or anyone on my team."

"A little competition is always good here and there."

Miller plans on a lot more competition in the months and years to follow. She'll travel with the Panthers to Ohio this spring to compete in a national rifle competition. She expects to be back next school year to compete alongside Ehmann as senior members of the Panthers. If all goes well, that won't be the end of her marksmanship career.

"I'll be shooting until I graduate," Miller said, "and hopefully when I go off to college."

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## Wrestling: Jaden Fields, Patch

BY GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

Jaden Fields is a European individual champion in large part because of the program for which he wrestles, the Patch Panthers. And the Panthers are DODDS Europe Division 1 champions because of wrestlers like Fields.

"Our hardest competition is ourselves," Fields said. "You get better wrestling someone who's just as good, if not better."

The daily challenge posed by Patch practices has produced scores of European champions over the years, including six this season. But even among that elite company, Fields stands out.

A European champion at 138 pounds in 2013, Fields claimed another European at 145 pounds in 2014. He won all 27 of his matches this season across three weight classes, including 152 and 160 pounds, and earned 23 pins in posting his second consecutive undefeated season.

Furthermore, Fields' efforts helped Patch relaunch its dynasty atop the DODDS Europe Division I team ranks after losing last year to Ramstein.

For all those reasons, Fields is the 2013-14 Stars and Stripes wrestling Athlete of the Year.

Fields is the latest in a line of Patch mat phenoms produced in Stuttgart by head coach Norm Matzke and his capable staff of coaches and instructors, a list that includes his older brother, Calen Fields, and last year's Stars and Stripes wrestling Athlete of the Year, Robert Mannier. But Fields' list of accolades and accomplishments, and his particular path to DODDS Europe history, stand on their own.

For Fields, the path to glory started in earnest with a defeat. His loss at the European tournament in 2012 showed the then-sophomore just how difficult it was to wrestle at a championship level. In the wake of that defeat, he made a resolution that defined his prep career:

"Wrestling isn't something I can do without trying." Fields recalled thinking after that defeat, the last he ever suffered in DODDS Europe competition. "It's something I have to work for."

That's just what he did. He entered that offseason "super-focused," tore through all available competition in his junior and senior seasons and emerged at the end of his senior season among DODDS Europe's most accomplished grapplers.

While Fields credits Patch's intense competitive environment with helping develop his talent, he's also done his part in contributing to the Panthers' likely future successes. His teammates voted Fields team captain this season, and he took the role seriously, practicing with and encouraging as many up-and-coming teammates as he could get his hands on. In short, Fields both benefited from and perpetuated the culture of accountability and support that has made Patch the class of DODDS Europe wrestling.

"That's encouraging just to hear their voices," Fields said. "I try to provide that for my teammates. I work with as many people as I can. So when I'm yelling at them off the sidelines, they get that motivation."

On the mat, Fields is precise and methodical, but devastatingly quick when the chance to strike arises. With his DODDS Europe career complete, he now finds similar opportunities to seize a moment. Fields' high school exploits have attracted the attention of collegiate wrestling programs, and he expects to choose from among a number of athletic and academic scholarship offers over the next few weeks.

"When I wrestle, I don't go, 'OK, I'm going to do this move,'" Fields said. "I take what's there."

As his promising career enters its next phase, there's a lot out there for Fields to take.

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MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Patch's Jaden Fields, right, beat Ramstein's Justin Zapata to take the 145-pound title at the DODDS Europe wrestling championships in Wiesbaden, Germany last month. The Patch senior has been named the 2013-14 Stars and Stripes wrestling Athlete of the Year.

## HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

## ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: BASKETBALL

## Cierra Martin, Wiesbaden

By GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

Like most every aspiring basketball player, Cierra Martin had a youth-league coach who implored her to play defense with at least the same level of interest and enthusiasm as offense.

Unlike many young players, however, Martin listened.

"Defense is really fun," said Martin, now a Wiesbaden junior and the Stars and Stripes girls basketball Athlete of the Year.

"I realized how important it was, and I was good at it," Martin added, calling defense her "forte."

The extent of Martin's defensive gifts was apparent Feb. 22 as she led the Warriors to a DODDS Europe Division I championship. Their vanquished opponents, previously-explosive Patch, didn't score a second-half point until 96 seconds remained in the fourth quarter of a 40-17 rout.

"Our defense killed everything," Martin said after that game.

Nobody was more responsible for that crime than Martin, who finished that game with five steals and four blocked shots. It was a crowning achievement for the defensive specialist, a validation of her enduring dedication to the less glamorous half of the basketball court.

"I don't not worry about offense," said Martin, who averaged a very respectable 9.4 points per game in the regular season and boosted her scoring output to 10.8 per game in the European tournament. "But I worry about defense more. I grew up with the saying 'defense wins games.'"

The method through which Martin's defense wins games is fascinating. Aside from focus and effort, Martin attributes her defensive aptitude to "anticipation," "experience," and careful attention to her opponent's "body language."

"I look at people's eyes," Martin said. "A lot of people telegraph passes."

Martin's boundless energy and attention to detail has made her a comforting presence for her teammates. Guard Rebecca Russell played alongside Martin before suffering a late-season injury that kept her out of the European tournament. She came away with a unique perspective on Martin's defensive gifts.

"On the court, Russell knew Martin would always be there to cover any gaps that emerged in the Warrior defense."

"She's extremely valuable," Russell said. "It's nice to have a person who knows how to anticipate if you ever get beat on defense. Cierra is always there to help."

As she observed from the sideline, Russell's appreciation only grew.

"Just watching all the different things she does... It was awesome," Russell said. "When she's on defense, she has this look in her eyes like, 'I'm going to get the ball.' And she does."

Among DODDS Europe's most athletically gifted players — she finished fourth in the triple jump at last year's European track championship meet — Martin has made efforts to avoid the trap of relying too heavily on athleticism at the expense of fundamentals. That's particularly true on the glass, where Martin has made a mundane but vital addition to her rebounding skill set.

"I used to never block out," Martin said.

With solid technique in addition to outstanding leaping ability and tenacity, Martin is now one of DODDS-Europe's best rebounders. She averaged 10.8 rebounds over the course of the regular season and postseason.

"I am convinced she can get any rebound she wants," Warriors coach Jim Campbell said.

And that's the crux of what makes Martin a special player — she wants them all. Every rebound, every steal, every assist, every victory.

"She never stops. She never gives up," Russell said. "She's not one to take 'no' for an answer."



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Wiesbaden's Cierra Martin goes to the basket against Patch's Treshon Jenkins in the DODDS Europe basketball tournament. Martin picked up her offensive production in the tournament, but it was her defensive skills that set her apart.

## Brendan Jones, Patch

By GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

Patch boys basketball star Brendan Jones earned a reputation as DODDS Europe's most dangerous outside shooter as a junior in 2012-13. He also earned first-team All-Europe honors and led the Panthers to a Division I European championship.

But that wasn't good enough for Jones. Put more simply, Jones wasn't good enough yet.

"I was kind of one-dimensional," Jones said.

So even as he celebrated a championship and collected well-deserved individual accolades, Jones sought to improve. And when his senior year arrived, his DODDS Europe competition learned how much better he was.

Where before Jones would roam the perimeter in search of a three-point look, the new Jones was more dangerous. He could still launch from deep, but defenders who overplayed that threat were quickly left behind by a sudden drive to the basket. He was still aggressive in seeking his own shot, but he placed a renewed emphasis on finding open teammates.

"I wanted to add more penetration," Jones said. "This year I kind of balanced it out, moved the ball more and created plays."

"It's a lot easier when the defense has to play you honestly. You can kind of do what you want."

That's largely what Jones did as a senior — anything he wanted. He averaged 19 points per game along with five rebounds, four assists and three steals. He led the Panthers to a stirring comeback victory over homestanding Wiesbaden to win the school's second consecutive Division I European championship. He was named the most valuable player of that tournament, as well as the Stuttgart Winter Basketball Tournament that the Panthers won in December. He's a lock for another first-team All-Europe berth.

And Jones is the 2013-14 Stars and Stripes boys basketball Athlete of the Year.

Though his high school career has come to an ideal conclusion, the success Jones and the Panthers enjoyed this season didn't come easily. Patch lost several key members of last year's title-winning team, most notably All-Europe second-team and team leader Kris German.

The team was younger and less-experienced overall and therefore even more reliant on the efforts of seniors Jones and John Robinson, the All-Europe first-team colleague with whom he formed DODDS Europe's best perimeter duo. Meanwhile, improved teams like Wiesbaden, Kaiserslautern and Vilsack were poised to make earning a second title more difficult than the first.

"We had to step up and really jell," Jones said. "We all felt we had to do so if we were going to win again."

Jones and Robinson began that effort in the offseason soon after winning their first European championship. As juniors, Jones and Robinson occupied clearly-defined roles. Jones was the sharpshooter, Robinson the slashing athlete. But to maintain their championship level of playing, the two borrowed elements of each other's games; Robinson fine-tuned his outside shot, while Jones increased the quantity and quality of his trips into the paint.

"We've been working on everything else other than what we usually do," Jones said. "Teams pick up on your weakness. If you don't have any weaknesses, you can't go wrong."

With his high-school body of work complete, Jones is looking forward to playing collegiate basketball. He said he's working with a recruiting service and has already garnered some interest at the Division II level. But he's far from a finished product. In fact, he's ready to launch another offseason self-improvement campaign.

"I don't have the size yet, or the strength," Jones said. "Which is what I'll be working on in the offseason."



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Patch's Brendan Jones takes the ball up the court in the Division I title game at the DODDS Europe basketball championships in Wiesbaden, Germany. Jones helped guide the Panthers to a second straight title.

## SPORTS



## What a shocker

Wichita State finishes regular season with perfect 31-0 record | Page 28

NHL

## Goal keeper

## San Jose's Stalock refused to let injury derail his dreams

By JOSH DUBOW  
The Associated Press

San Jose Sharks goalie Alex Stalock saw his promising career nearly come to an end after a nerve in his left leg was severed while playing in the AHL. Left with no feeling in his lower leg and foot, Stalock refused to let the injury get in the way of his goal of playing in the NHL. After relearning how to walk and skate, Stalock has made good on his dream, and is now thriving on hockey's biggest stage.

TOM MIHALEK/AP

SAN JOSE, Calif.

Just making it back to the NHL after a freakish accident nearly ended his career was accomplishment enough for San Jose Sharks goaltender Alex Stalock.

Setting a franchise record for longest scoreless streak and thriving on hockey's big stage has made the long, grueling rehabilitation worthwhile.

Stalock's promising career nearly ended three years ago this month when Dwight King stepped on the back of his left leg with a sharp skate, severing his nerve.

But after being forced to learn how to walk and skate again, Stalock is playing even better than he did before the injury and is a big part of San Jose's success this season.

"This has always been my goal," Stalock said. "It's what I wanted to do from a young age. I didn't want the injury to prevent me from getting back. It was a goal for me to get back to this level. There were a lot of people involved in the situation, a lot of people who put in a lot of work and time to help me. I got lucky and everything kind of healed."

SEE GOAL ON PAGE 26

"I don't think anybody was putting a percentage on him coming back. The feeling was more negative from doctors and people in the know with that type of nerve injury. It was severed. He had no feeling in his calf and foot."

Wayne Thomas

San Jose Sharks assistant general manager