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WHISTLEBLOWER

TARGETING THE

For veteran who spoke out, winning is long-elusive quest

By **MARISA TAYLOR**
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Still reeling from combat injuries, Mike Helms opened the letter from the Pentagon, afraid of more bad news.

Military doctors had already told him he couldn't get treatment for a head injury he sustained in an explosion in Iraq. After the intelligence officer complained to Congress, he was fired.

But reading the notice, Helms realized it was the best outcome he could have hoped for: Investigators had concluded the military had illegally retaliated against him for blowing the whistle.

"Finally," he told his lawyer that day in 2010. "This is going to be fixed."

But it wasn't. More than four years later, he still can't get his old job back or even a new one after the Army revoked his security clearance. He still struggles to get proper medical treatment.

'The whistleblowing system has ruined my life. I'm 38 years old, and I'm wondering whether I have to move back in with my mother.'

Mike Helms

The case illustrates the perseverance required of defense and intelligence whistleblowers and the hurdles they encounter despite initiatives aimed at improving protections for them.

"According to President (Barack) Obama, everything should be hunky-dory for whistleblowers," said Helms, a Georgia native who lives in a community outside Fort Knox, Ky. "Well, it's not."

"The whistleblowing system has ruined my life. I'm 38 years old, and I'm wondering whether I have to move back in with my mother."

Bridget Ann Serchak, a spokeswoman for the Pentagon inspector general's office, said she couldn't comment on specific cases.

In response to the overall allegations that her office had improperly changed findings, she said cases underwent a "rigorous quality-review process" to ensure that they were "accurate and complete, legally sufficient and professionally prepared."

SEE QUEST ON PAGE 3

Mike Helms, 38, was denied treatment at military hospitals after being hit with a roadside bomb while serving as a gamer in Iraq. Helms alerted Congress to the inadequate medical care he and others received. Now, he still struggles to find a job in his field after the Army revoked his clearance in what he says was illegal retaliation for his disclosures to Congress.

WILLIAM DE SHAZER/McClatchy (TNS)



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Going to visit Syria is going to visit graves."

— Khaled Smaisen, who fled his native land three years ago and has no plans to ever go home again

See story on Page 7

WAR/MILITARY

Scores of militants killed in Pakistan

Airstrikes target region from which December school massacre may have been launched

By RIAZ KHAN
The Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Pakistani airstrikes killed 31 militants and a suspected U.S. drone strike killed another seven, officials said Sunday, as local troops pressed an ongoing offensive in the country's tribal regions along the Afghan border that have been longtime insurgent havens.

The airstrikes late Saturday in the Tirrah valley of the Khyber region destroyed four militant hideouts and a suicide bomber training center, an army statement said. The military said several would-be suicide bombers were among the dead. No further details were provided.

The military says the operation in Khyber is aimed at militants who have fled a massive offensive in neighboring North Waziristan that was launched on June 15. The army says that offensive has resulted in the killing of 1,200 militants.

Last month's school massacre in Peshawar — in which 150 people were killed, mostly schoolchildren — is believed to have been launched from Khyber. The attack prompted both Afghanistan and Pakistan to vow tougher action along their porous border.

Two Pakistani intelligence officials said U.S. drone-fired missiles struck a militant compound in the Datta Kheil area of North Waziristan early Sunday, killing seven militants and wounding four. The compound, some 330 yards from the Afghan border, was used by fighters loyal to Pakistani Taliban commander Hafiz Gul Bahadur, as well as Uzbek militants.

They said Bahadur's men,



MUHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

People light candles to pay tribute to students killed in December by Taliban militants in Peshawar, Pakistan. The massacre prompted both Afghanistan and Pakistan to vow tougher action along their porous border, which includes the Khyber region targeted by airstrikes Saturday.

who frequently launch attacks in neighboring Afghanistan, and Uzbek fighters were among those killed. It was unclear if Bahadur was present at the time.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to media.

The covert U.S. drone pro-

gram has eliminated several top militants but has also resulted in civilian casualties, making it extremely unpopular among Pakistanis, who condemn it as a violation of their country's sovereignty.

Also Sunday, a bomb exploded near a volleyball court in the

Kadda Bazaar area of the Aurakzai tribal region, killing four teenagers and injuring seven who were preparing to start their game, senior government official Fazal Naem Khan said.

Khan said some of the wounded were critically injured and that the death toll could increase.

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Afghan official says insurgents killed 9 policemen

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — An Afghan official said insurgents killed five policemen, including their commander, in the volatile eastern province of Logar, a day after four policemen who were

abducted in the same region were found dead.

Din Mohammad Darwesh, spokesman for the provincial governor, said insurgents ambushed the five men early Sunday in Baraki Barak district, where the

Taliban launch frequent attacks on government security forces.

Insurgents had kidnapped four policemen from neighboring Wardak province on Saturday. Their bodies were found near the provincial capital of Pul-i-Alam

hours later, he said.

The violence follows the transition of security sovereignty to Afghan forces on Jan. 1 following the 13-year U.S. and NATO-led mission to rid Afghanistan of the Taliban-led insurgency.



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MILITARY

Quest: Gaping holes exist in whistleblower protections

FROM FRONT PAGE

America's conscience

Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, defense and intelligence whistleblowers have served as America's conscience in the war on terrorism. Their assertions go to the heart of government waste, misconduct and overreach: defective military equipment, prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib, surveillance of Americans.

Yet the legal system that was set up to protect those employees has repeatedly failed those with the highest-profile claims. Many of them say they aren't thanked, but instead are punished for speaking out.

More than 8,700 defense and intelligence employees and contractors have filed retaliation claims with the Pentagon inspector general since the 9/11 attacks, with the number increasing virtually every year, according to a McClatchy analysis.

While Obama expanded protections for whistleblowers, his changes didn't go far enough to address the gaping holes in an ineffective and unwieldy bureaucracy for those who claim retaliation, McClatchy found.

The daunting obstacles for defense and intelligence whistleblowers in such cases include:

- A battle between investigators and managers at the Pentagon inspector general's office over the handling of reprisal claims, culminating in accusations that findings were intentionally altered in ways that were detrimental to whistleblowers.

- An entrenched and pervasive anti-whistleblower attitude, especially when the claims involve high-level officials or significant or embarrassing wrongdoing.

- Delays that discourage even the most persistent whistleblowers.

"Only someone with a martyr complex would submit themselves to this system," said Tom Devine, legal director of the Government Accountability Project, an advocacy group that's helped whistleblowers since 1977. "We advise intelligence whistleblowers to stay away from established channels to defend against retaliation. In our experience, they've been a Trojan horse, a trap that ends up sucking the whistleblower into a long-term process that predictably ends up with the whistleblower as the target."

Officials with inspectors general's offices say they investigated reprisal complaints before the expanded protections. Employees, however, often can't prove they were retaliated against under the terms outlined in whistleblower laws, they said.

In many cases, employers demonstrate that they took action against an employee for performance-related reasons, not in retaliation for whistleblowing. In just over a decade, five intelligence inspectors general have substantiated only four retaliation claims among them, according to their own estimates.

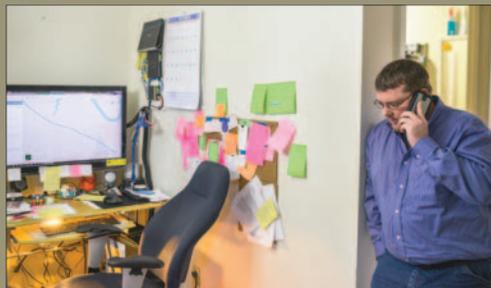
Based on the McClatchy analysis, less than 10 percent of retaliation claims since 9/11 have been investigated. The rest were thrown out after a preliminary analysis or no investigation.

Only 4 percent have been substantiated. In private industry, the substantiation rate is said to be three times higher.

On the hospital floor

Mike Helms' troubled journey through the whistleblower system began in 2004, when he was wounded in Iraq as a gunner and transported to Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Although he had been hit by a roadside bomb while in an unprotected Humvee, the



PHOTOS BY WILLIAM DE SHAZER, MCCLATCHY/TNS
Mike Helms, 38, talks on the phone with his mother in his home in Radcliff, Ky., on Dec. 17.



Above: Various medications sit in the cabinets above Helms' kitchen counter. Right: Helms shows off awards and memorabilia from his military career.



hospital refused to admit him. The hospital told Helms he couldn't be treated there because he wasn't active-duty military but rather a civilian for the Army Intelligence and Security Command.

He slept on the floor of his first sergeant's guesthouse.

"Mr. Helms continued to be denied treatment," records of his case say.

Helms began contacting members of Congress and eventually received treatment. In 2007, he testified before a closed House Armed Services Committee hearing on the matter. The committee later issued a report that confirmed the problems he raised with military civilian employees being improperly denied medical treatment for combat injuries.

A year after he testified, the Army accused him of putting pornography on a

classified network that he and others used. Officials also claimed that he installed an unauthorized version of computer software. His clearance was suspended, and then revoked. He was fired in 2009.

Unknown to Helms at the time, a military computer forensics team had concluded that there was no evidence that he put pornography on the network, according to military documents.

Helms appealed to an administrative employee complaint panel, which declined to assess his whistleblower claims. However, the panel said the Army had the right to suspend him indefinitely.

Four months later, the Pentagon inspector general's office concluded there was evidence that Helms was improperly denied medical treatment and that his firing was in retaliation for his disclosures to Congress.

"As an emergency essential employee, Mr. Helms was entitled to elect treatment at a military treatment facility for no cost," the 2010 report said. "Mr. Helms was denied treatment at military treatment facilities on several occasions from 2004 to the present."

The investigators also found "flaws" in how the Army investigated the pornography allegations, including a "material misstatement of fact."

"The manner in which the investigation was conducted was called into question," they wrote. "We recommend that you consider an appropriate remedy with respect to Mr. Helms."

A partial settlement

As part of a partial settlement, the Army dropped the allegations and agreed that it wouldn't use the claims against Helms in the future. Two years later, however, he went back to the Pentagon inspector general's office. His complaint was essentially the same, but now he alleged that the retaliation had lasted longer because he still didn't have his security clearance or his job back.

This time, the inspector general's office came to a very different conclusion. While staff investigators concluded that he had been retaliated against a second time, the general counsel and other supervisors are accused of overturning their findings and rewriting the report, McClatchy has learned from multiple sources who include congressional staffers.

According to a copy of the final report, the new investigation focused on the computer software allegations that had been dropped earlier. It also cited evidence presented by the Army that investigators had discarded in the first review.

And in the end, it found he wasn't retaliated against.

"I was shocked. It was a 180-degree change," said Helms, who owes thousands of dollars in legal fees. "To me, this is corruption of the system."

After hearing of the allegations, U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., told Inspector General Jon Rymser she was concerned that his office had handled Helms' case improperly.

"It is my understanding that your investigators DID find that Mr. Helms had been retaliated against for these disclosures but that their conclusions were altered over their protests," she wrote in a letter obtained by McClatchy.

"Your office is on the front line of enforcing these protections, and accusations that the integrity of your retaliation investigations are improperly compromised cut to your core competency to serve the American public and the warfighter," she wrote.

Serchak, the inspector general's spokeswoman, said in response to the allegations that managers and lawyers routinely reviewed findings. As a result, reports are "edited, findings modified and, when warranted, conclusions changed."

"The process is a collective process ... reflecting the highest standards for quality, independence and professionalism," she said.

Despite the reversal, Helms persists. He petitioned the intelligence community inspector general, who oversees a new appeals panel set up under the president's expanded whistleblower protections.

He's waited more than three months.

“Only someone with a martyr complex would submit themselves to this system.”

Tom Devine
Government Accountability Project

MILITARY

Leader: Expand Navy sabbatical program access

By **MIKE HIXENBAUGH**
The (Norfolk) Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va. — Thousands of sailors get out of the Navy every year because they want to start families. Or to enroll in school. Or because they are burned out on frequent deployments and months away from home.

With the national unemployment rate dropping and more servicemembers leaving for the private sector, the chief of naval personnel said he wants to do everything he can to keep the best sailors in uniform longer — even if that means letting them go for a while.

“We need to offer meaningful incentives to keep the best talent we can, both men and women,” said Vice Adm. Bill Moran, whose job is best summarized as the Navy’s director of human resources.

One way to keep the best, Moran said: Let servicemembers take sabbaticals from service.

He believes sailors should be allowed to leave the Navy for a few years — to have kids, to go back to college, to travel or just to take a break — then to return to service at the same rank and on the same career path.

The Navy already offers a program that does just that. But the Career Intermission Pilot Program, authorized by Congress in 2009, is limited to 40 sailors per year. Because of complicated restrictions on who can participate, many of the sailors who most desire a break are excluded.

An example: Sailors trained to work on nuclear reactors leave the service at high rates, in part because of a demanding work schedule, but because they receive a special re-enlistment bonus, they are often ineligible for the sabbatical.

The Navy was initially the only service branch to launch a career intermission program. The Air Force, the Army and the Marine Corps are all in the process of implementing their own pilot programs.

Moran plans to ask Congress for authority to expand the pro-

gram and to open it up to more sailors, regardless of their years of service or job descriptions.

He acknowledges that so far there hasn’t been a groundswell of interest. Only about 40 sailors — sometimes fewer — have applied each year for the program, which grants servicemembers up to three years off. Moran thinks sailors are hesitant to risk their careers as a pilot program, another reason he hopes to make it permanent.

The gamble paid off for Capt. Valerie Overstreet, an E-2C Hawkeye pilot. She entered the program in 2010 after becoming the first woman to command a Hawkeye squadron.

The one-year break allowed Overstreet to align her career path with that of her husband, another naval aviator. For years, they lived apart while stationed at different locations.

During the time off, the couple had their first child, something that seemed unlikely while stationed on opposite coasts. That’s a common predicament, according to Navy surveys. Women leave the service at a rate twice that of men, and the desire to start a family is the most reported reason, Moran said.

Overstreet had the baby, returned to service with new orders that allowed her to live full time with her husband, and was soon promoted to captain. “It was fantastic,” Overstreet said of the program.

Most of the enlisted sailors who’ve taken advantage of the pilot program have used the time off, along with the G.I. Bill, to get a degree. Several have since returned and were commissioned as officers.

Two years ago, a SEAL officer took the sabbatical to get a break after years of constant combat deployments and to pursue a degree. He didn’t want to get out of the Navy — he just wanted some time off to recharge, to learn something new and to spend time with his wife and young children.

Those are the sorts of people Moran said he’s trying to keep.



MAGEN F. WEATHERAX/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Keeping track of the tug

Chief Boatswain’s Mate Brandon Bonin, a native of New Iberia, La., observes a tugboat Saturday while relaying instructions to the bridge as amphibious assault ship the USS Iwo Jima departs Civitavecchia, Italy. The two Ijima arrived at Civitavecchia on Tuesday for a scheduled port visit before continuing its deployment in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 6th Fleet areas of operations.

Donated vehicle to help injured vet’s work helping other vets

By **JULIA S. BERGMAN**
The Day of New London (Conn.)

NEW LONDON, Conn. — An SUV that’s been on many camping trips with Boy Scouts is now in the hands of a local veteran who is starting an athletic clothing line to support disabled veterans and civilians.

“That’s a big truck,” said Zoey 4, the daughter of Rhode Island Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Steve D’Amico, of South Kingstown, R.I., who received the Dodge Durango through the Groton, Conn.-based nonprofit Work Vessels for Veterans Inc., in Mystic last week.

His business, called Broken Gear, “was founded on the principle of disabled athletes empowering themselves to get back into sports, whether they’re disabled veterans or disabled civilians,” D’Amico said.

D’Amico, who attended the University of Connecticut’s Entrepreneur Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities, developed the concept for Broken Gear after

suffering an on-duty accident that severely injured his leg and ankle, which led him to medically retire from the military. I thought about (how) I’m broken now,” he said. “What can I do?”

Work Vessels for Veterans, founded in 2008 with the donation of a lobster boat to a returning disabled veteran who was starting a commercial clamming business, has equipped more than 1,000 returning veteran entrepreneurs in 48 states with more than \$1 million in equipment, from tractors to computers to beehives. A Mystic resident who is a local adviser to a Scouting group donated the Dodge Durango to the organization, which in turn selected D’Amico for the SUV.

“I feel so honored,” D’Amico said. “To me, when I see this vehicle, this is what a Broken Gear vehicle would be. It’s rugged. It’s tough. It’s kind of beat up a little bit, but that’s what we’re looking for: You’ve been through the wringer, but that’s OK; you just press on.”

The clothing line features gear bags for people who have prosthetic hands, among other athletic gear.

“I wear a brace on my leg,” D’Amico said. “I wear it every day. I used to do a lot more sports than I do now. I’m trying to use myself as a model for getting back into the game.”

The idea is to support disabled veterans and civilians in the pursuit of their athletic goals. Profits from the sale of gear will go toward “buying equipment and getting vets involved in different activities,” D’Amico said.

“For example, if a veteran wanted to ride a bike, and didn’t have the funds or the ability, we can sponsor him, get him a bike, get him the Broken Gear jersey and pay for his admission,” he said.

Former state Sen. Cathy Cook, executive director of WWVF, said the only thing that the group asks of D’Amico is to “pay it forward” and, when the time comes, to hire other veterans, which D’Amico promised to do.

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MILITARY

Filipino vets endure long green-card wait

By DAVID NAKAMURA
The Washington Post

HONOLULU — Philippines native Art Caleda still carries shrapnel in the left side of his chin that he ruefully calls a "souvenir" from assisting the American military 70 years ago as a guerrilla intelligence officer during World War II.

For their service, Caleda and about 26,000 other Filipino nationals were granted U.S. citizenship under a 1990 immigration law signed by President George H. W. Bush, and many of them received a one-time cash payment of \$15,000 in 2009. But they are still waiting for a final piece of compensation: green cards for their grown children to join them here from the Philippines.

Caleda, 90, said he and his wife, Luz, who settled in Waipahu, west of Honolulu, petitioned the federal government in 1996 on behalf of their three sons, who live in Manila. They waited as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services slowly processed a global backlog of more than 4 million family-based green-card applications.

Caleda said the last time he inquired about his sons' status, immigration officials "told me to wait because they are processing [applications from] 1993. They're processing 1993? The time is 2014."

Luz died last spring during a trip back to the Philippines.

In all, approximately 250,000 Filipinos responded to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's call to arms in 1941 and fought on behalf of American forces in the Philippines, which at the time was a U.S. territory. They responded out of a desire to defeat a common enemy, Japan, but since the end of the war, they have been pushing the U.S. government to fully recognize their contributions.

Waning hopes

As their ranks dwindle, the elderly veterans living here as U.S. citizens have long hoped coming reunited with their children, a casualty of Washington's inability to enact comprehensive immigration reform. Although President Barack Obama announced in November that he would use his executive authority to shield millions of illegal immigrants from deportation, his actions did little to address the lengthy backlogs in the legal immigration system — something the president said only Congress can change through legislation.

The United States has a cap on family-based green cards of 226,000 annually, and no more than 7 percent of the recipients are permitted to come from a single country. Aside from Mexico, Asian countries, including China, Vietnam and India, dominate the list of nations with the most applicants and the longest waits. The average wait from the Philippines, which has the most family applicants after Mexico — is more than two decades.



KENT NISHIMURA/For The Washington Post

Salome Calderon, seated at center, poses with her six children for a holiday portrait at her home on in Waipahu, Hawaii, on Dec. 29. Calderon moved to Hawaii from the Philippines in 1992 under a law expanding visas for Filipino veterans. Many others have waited years for similar approval.

Opponents of easing restrictions on family-based green cards say it would open the door to chain migration, in which extended families flood the United States, competing with Americans for jobs and taxing the nation's benefits system. But Mee Moua, executive director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice, said: "There is an inherent unfairness in setting people up for failure by accepting their application fees but then having them wait five, 10, 15 years before they might possibly see their family members."

Lawmakers from Hawaii and California, where most of the Filipino veterans settled in the 1990s, have tried for years to get them special exemptions from the green-card caps. But each time, the measures were swallowed in the toxic debate over broader reforms of border control laws and ultimately went nowhere.

There are estimated to be only a few thousand veterans still alive and living in the United States.

The Calderon family

Salome Calderon, 89, was just 17 when her home in Angono was commandeered by the Hunters ROTC guerrilla movement resisting the Japanese army for use as a de facto headquarters. The guerrillas dropped off intelligence reports on Japanese bombing targets, and Calderon, who worked as a clerk and radio operator, helped ensure that the reports were delivered by submarine to U.S. commanders based in Australia.

In the living room of her home

in Waipahu — where she lives with her son Edwin, who married an American and has two children of his own — Calderon said she can still picture the "pointy nose and sparkling eyes" of a U.S. pilot who had survived a plane crash and was transported to her house briefly and presumably evacuated to safety later.

After the war, she and her husband, Enrique, a mechanic whom she met during the resistance, had 10 children.

In 1990, Bush signed the Immigration and Nationality Act passed by Congress that expanded the number of visas allotted for family reunification and for employment. Under the act, the Filipino veterans were granted citizenship and allowed to move to the United States with their spouses and children younger than 21.

Enrique had died in 1977, and Calderon's other children were too old to qualify. But they told her: "Nana, you are entitled. You must go. You must enjoy the benefits." She stayed with two brothers in San Francisco after arriving in 1992 and moved to Hawaii three

years later to live with Edwin.

Having waited so long, Calderon seems ambivalent about whether she wants her six surviving children in the Philippines to join her in Hawaii, because their roots are so firmly planted back home. She shows off a Filipino magazine featuring her son Gerardo, who has been the mayor of his town for nine years.

Because of the expense, those children rarely visit her. She and Edwin were to return to the Philippines on Monday for a family reunion in honor of her 90th birthday.

"They want to, but it's hard to come," Calderon said. "Sometimes I tell them, 'For me, I'm not really interested in you coming here.' But one thing I want is for them to experience life in the U.S. They can come and go if they want to."

Immigration provisions

In 2013, the Senate approved a comprehensive immigration bill that included provisions to speed up processing and slim down the green-card backlog. It lifted the

caps for spouses and children of legal permanent residents while eliminating categories for foreign siblings of U.S. citizens, who would instead be ranked on a new points-based system, with credit for family ties, education and work skills.

The Senate bill included an amendment from Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, that granted the children of the Filipino veterans green cards immediately on humanitarian grounds. But the Republican-controlled House rejected the Senate legislation last summer amid fierce resistance over another provision that offered a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants.

Estimates from advocacy groups suggested that as many as 20,000 children of Filipino veterans would have been covered by the Senate bill, though not all were expected to apply for green cards.

"If even 10 apply, it's still the right thing to do," said Rodol Rodis, a San Francisco-based lawyer who has done pro bono work on behalf of the veterans.

Two of Caleda's sons live in Manila, where he grew up, and another works in Vietnam. Caleda's three daughters all live in the United States, having gone to school here on student visas and marrying Americans.

Since Luz died, Caleda is uncertain how to proceed on behalf of his sons because his wife had been the petitioner on their green-card applications. He fears he will have to re-file, pay additional fees and go to the back of the line again. His eldest son, Arthur, is 60 and another, Benedicto, is 58, and he's not sure it makes sense for them to come as they near their own retirement.

"To wait another 20 years? 20 plus 90 — I'll be 110!" he said with a wry laugh. (Rodis said there are immigration law provisions that allow the applications to be transferred to a new petitioner without penalty.)

Caleda rubbed his chin, where the shrapnel was lodged on a mission when his guerrilla unit was strafed by a Japanese warplane. His wound was treated by medicine from guava leaves. After the war ended in 1945, he spent 38 years working in forestry before moving to the United States in 1992.

Of the dimming prospects of his sons joining him in Hawaii, Caleda said: "It's too bad. You cannot expect me to be laughing."

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Hostage praises captors in video

By MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE
Los Angeles Times

BEIRUT — A video released Saturday shows a British photojournalist held captive by Islamic State giving a stylized media tour of the beleaguered northern Iraqi city of Mosul, visiting a market and a hospital and even climbing onto a police motorcycle to dispute reports that the city's infrastructure has been crippled.

The video provides a window on a city that has largely been off-limits to journalists since the Islamic State seized control in June, although reports have trickled out from residents and those who have escaped.

"The media likes to paint a picture of life in the Islamic State as depressed, people walking around as subjugated citizens in chains, beaten down by strict, totalitarian rule," hostage John Cantlie says as he appears to be driving to the souk, or market. "This isn't a city living in fear, as the Western media would have you believe," he says. "This is just a normal city going about its daily business."

The video, which lasts slightly more than eight minutes, is one of a series in which Cantlie, 43, has faulted Western governments while praising the Islamic State and their new "caliphate." Its authenticity was still being examined late Saturday. It was not immediately clear under what circumstances he made the video.

The date of the recording could not be



YouTube.com screenshot

The Islamic State group has released a new video showing British hostage John Cantlie, seen here in an earlier video, giving a tour of Mosul, Iraq, and touting the Islamic State, which is holding Cantlie captive.

independently verified, but Cantlie references news reports from autumn and notes the "sunny December weather."

In the video, Cantlie stops at the market, which he describes as "bustling." He notes that the city's merchants, contrary to news reports, have more than a few hours of electricity a day.

Later in the video, Cantlie visits a hospital where he says children are being treated for "psychiatric problems as a direct result of bombs and explosions falling from above," a reference to U.S.-led airstrikes.

"We're told that just two days ago an ambulance was hit by a bomb or a missile that fell from an aircraft," Cantlie says, standing in the hospital. "Despite these things the doctors are getting what they need and the Islamic State is prevailing. They can take it."

Moments later, Cantlie appears standing outside as a plane passes overhead, shouting and apparently mocking Western powers.

"Here! Here! Over here! You've come to

rescue me again? Do something! Useless! Absolutely useless!" he shouts, waving his arms.

Cantlie, who has been held for two years, appears healthier and cleaner shaven than in the last video, wearing blue jeans and a Western winter coat instead of the black shirt and trousers from the last video, an outfit that replaced the orange U.S.-style prison jumpsuit that he and other hostages had been forced to wear in earlier videos.

His previous propaganda video made in the Syrian border town of Kobani appears at the end of the latest video, playing on a screen behind Cantlie as he stands outside.

"It just goes to show the stretch of territory the Islamic State holds all the way from Kobani — and there I am in the background — to all the way here in Mosul — and here I am on the streets," Cantlie says.

"That was me then and this is me now," he says. "It just shows how much territory the Islamic State are controlling."

4 killed in Mogadishu bomb attack

By ABDI GULED
The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — A suicide car bomber blew himself up near a moving convoy of Somalia's U.S.-trained elite forces in Mogadishu, killing at least four people, a Somali police officer said Sunday.

Somali militant group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the group's Radio Andulus.

The attack on the airport road in the capital killed mostly pedestrians walking along the road, said Capt. Mohamed Hussein.

Mohamed Yusuf, the spokesman for Somalia's National Security Ministry, said the government had information about the attack, and the car bomb was detonated while the attacker was being pursued.

"We shall continue preventing such attacks. However, we ask people to work with us," he told reporters in Mogadishu.

The Alpha Group troops are part of Somalia's intelligence forces and often carry out operations against militants in Somalia.

Al-Shabab is an ultra-conservative Islamic militant group that is linked to the al-Qaida terrorist network and wants to run Somalia by its strict interpretation of Shariah law. Despite militants suffering huge losses in recent years, including the killing of their leader in a U.S. airstrike earlier this year, al-Shabab remains a threat.



FARAH ABDI WARSAME/AP

Somali soldiers stand near the wreckage where a car bomb targeted a convoy of Somalia's U.S.-trained elite forces in Mogadishu on Sunday.

Assailants in Yemen kill 5 Shiite rebels

The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Yemeni security officials say unknown assailants attacked Shiite Houthi rebels south of the capital, Sanaa, setting off an explosion that killed at least five Houthis and wounded over 25.

The bombing Sunday in Dhamar province, some 62 miles from Sanaa, hit a local headquarters of the Houthi movement, which has taken over a string of Yemeni cities, including Sanaa, they said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

In a separate incident, the defense ministry said a suspected al-Qaida militant shot dead an army brigadier general in the country's southeastern Shabwa province.



HANI MOHAMMED/AP

Houthi Shiite rebels patrol a street in Sanaa, Yemen, on Saturday. On Sunday, at least five Houthi rebels were reported killed in an explosion set off by unknown attackers.

Australian PM visits Baghdad to talk of aid

By SAMEER N. YACOB
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott made an unannounced visit Sunday to Baghdad, meeting with top officials to discuss ways his country can help Iraqi forces in their fight against the Islamic State group.

Abbott and Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi discussed military cooperation between the two countries, including the training and equipping of Iraqi soldiers, state television reported. The Iraqi army collapsed last summer in the face of a blitz by extremists from the Islamic State group, which now holds about a third of Iraq and neighboring Syria in its self-declared caliphate.

During a joint news conference, Abbott said his country is determined to provide all kinds of support to Iraq in its war against

terrorism. He vowed to enhance cooperation between the two countries.

Australian fighter jets are bombing Islamic State group targets in northern Iraq as part of a U.S.-led coalition, and 200 Australian special forces troops soon will enter Iraq to advise and assist local security forces.

Meanwhile, on Sunday police said mortar shells slammed into several houses in the Shiite village of Sabaa al-Bour, about 20 miles north of Baghdad, killing four people and wounding seven.

Elsewhere, police said a bomb blast on a commercial street killed two people and wounded six in western Baghdad.

Medical officials confirmed the casualties. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to journalists.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Family's road to safety led out of Damascus

Syrian refugees resettling in US

By JULIE ZAUMER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Khaled Smaisen's nightmare began with a phone call — his own.

Details of a private conversation the former Syrian journalist had with an interview subject were broadcast on state-run television. At once, Smaisen said he knew that his government, accused of brutally attacking anyone seen as a threat, now was targeting him. That week, he was charged as a terrorist, he said.

Three terrifying years later — after fleeing his native land on foot, living in limbo in Lebanon under threat of arrest or worse, and then, finally, starting over in an unfamiliar land — he says he has no plans to ever go home again.

“Going to visit Syria is going to visit graves,” he said.

Smaisen, his wife and his four children are among a small number of Syrians — 352 as of mid-December — who have been allowed to resettle in the United States since 2011.

The United States has been criticized for what some see as moving too slowly to take in refugees from Syria, where almost half the country's citizens have been forced to flee their homes since the uprising against President Bashar Assad began in 2011. Six million have been displaced within the country, and more than 3 million have left, mostly stopping in refugee camps in neighboring countries.

Learning English

But six of them are here, in a sparsely furnished apartment in Alexandria, Va. Smaisen is struggling to learn English, which has made finding a job hard. His wife, Fadia, isn't quite comfortable with resuming her career until she has a grasp of the language, either. But the children appear to find their new life in D.C. easy.

Four-year-old Radwa was wearing a Lego bag on her head and tumbling on the couch with her 3-year-old brother, Hammada, on a recent visit. Enana and Lidya, 15 and 16, had just walked through the front door of their new high school, wearing T-shirts — advertising a rapper they've recently been introduced to — rather than the hijabs they wore in Syria.

The U.S. State Department has promised that the United States will take in 10,000 Syrian refugees in the next two years.

Their experiences — both the horrors they witnessed in their homeland and the significant challenges they will face once they arrive in the U.S. — likely resemble the Smaisen family's unfolding story.

Khaled Smaisen, now 46, was working for an independent television station that backed the revolutionaries over Assad.

Three months after the uprising, Smaisen discovered that his



EVELYN HOOKSTEIN/For The Washington Post

The Smaisen family — from left: Fadia, Hammada, Lidya, Khaled, Radwa and Enana — fled war-torn Syria before coming to the U.S. Their resettlement was approved after they went through a rigorous State Department process that included proving their lives would be at risk if they returned to Syria.

phone calls were being recorded. He was reporting on a schoolteacher who was abducted, and nuggets from a conversation he had with the teacher's parents ended up on the official state-sponsored television channel, he said.

Three days later, he said, he found out he had been accused of terrorism.

Smaisen left almost immediately after he heard about the charges against him. He fled on foot over the mountains into Lebanon with the help of two smugglers, he said.

He made it to the home of a friend of a relative. Fadia, pregnant with Hammada at the time, took her three daughters away from their home in Damascus to stay with her extended family in northern Syria.

Her relatives were anxious for her to leave. “They were afraid I'd bring the heat to their house. It was a time of abductions,” she said.

So she, too, set out for Lebanon, via a legal border checkpoint. “At the border, you show your ID. It's stamped on the Syrian side,” she said. “I was afraid because I have his name, I might be on a list. Because I'm his wife, maybe they'd even lock me up.”

She had not heard whether Khaled had safely completed his journey. “I was just all the time wondering what had happened to him at the same time,” she said.

Once the family was reunited, Khaled began asking almost right away about how to get to the United States.

It took two years before they found out they had been accepted for resettlement.

Later, Smaisen would hear that some of his former colleagues had been abducted and never heard from again. Others had been tortured to death in jail, he said.

Fadia shook her head. “We escaped before that happened,” she said.

Refugees limited

The United States takes in a set number of refugees — 70,000 a year — no matter what troubled part of the world they come from.

Candidates for resettlement are nominated by the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, then interviewed by State Department officials. The rigorous process involves a background check, review of any documents the refugees can provide to prove their lives are at risk and numerous interviews to make sure the refugees' accounts of their hardships remain consistent.

“Their stories have to hold water. They can't be dishonest or criminals or would-be terrorists,” said Anne Richard, the assistant secretary of state for population, refugees and migration.

In the Smaisen's case, State Department spokesman Daniel Langenkamp said the specific threat against Khaled, as well as the fact that the family had two teenage daughters in an environment known for its sexual assault hazard, may have contributed to moving them up the list.

Richard said 105 Syrians were resettled in the United States in fiscal 2014. In fiscal 2015, which began on Oct. 1, 112 have arrived.

As of mid-December, 9,972 Syrians had been nominated by the U.N. office and begun the process of applying for U.S. resettlement, Richard said. She said nearly all likely will be accepted within the next two years.

Once refugees arrive, they are assigned to a private organization that partners with the State Department to get the families settled. In the case of the Smaisen's, it was Catholic Charities, the larg-

est such group.

Refugees receive U.S. government stipends for up to three months, and federal grant programs help states support them for longer. But the money quickly tapers off.

“This is not a luxurious program. This is very challenging,” Richard said. “It's kind of run on a shoestring budget.”

Khaled is keenly aware of that. His family's initial cash aid has ended. According to Derek Maxfield, the associate director of Catholic Charities of D.C., the family is receiving food stamps, which will end after they have been in the country for eight months; local government cash assistance that amounts to \$200 to \$300 per month; and \$1,000 monthly per family member through a Catholic Charities program.

That large Catholic Charities stipend, which will end after about four months, is predicated on the family's efforts to become self-sufficient. Smaisen has been looking for work, though he says that his lack of English hampers him.

He failed his driver's license test. He took it in English — he was too proud to ask for a translated version. For a man whose livelihood and sense of self was based on his job as a communicator, starting anew in a place where

“People smile at you on the streets for nothing. Syrians are kind of bitter-faced.”

Fadia Smaisen

fled Syria and now lives in the U.S. with her husband and children

he cannot speak the language is deeply disorienting.

Looking for work

He said he hopes to learn enough English to become a journalist again. But for now he is scared that he will not be able to afford the rent, \$1,700 a month, on the apartment that Catholic Charities picked out for the family.

“I'm looking for jobs now in any field. Anything. I'm not picky,” he said. “It's scary. This is an expensive life.”

Fadia said she can't imagine working yet, even though her case-caseworker told her that her profession in Damascus — she owned a hair salon — would make her employable in American salons. She said she wants to start as a volunteer, maybe in a school or nursing home, so she can learn English.

She is impressed by Americans she has encountered so far, even if she cannot understand them. “People smile at you on the street for nothing. Syrians are kind of bitter-faced,” she said.

She thinks her daughters will benefit from this new life in America. Women here are able to speak their minds more than in Syria, she said.

The teenage girls said they are delighted to be ninth-graders at T.C. Williams High School.

“The difference is, in Lebanon the girls talk together, and the boys talk together. But here, everyone talks together,” Lidya said.

She said she is making friends and enjoying the freedom to hang out without fearing abduction or harassment. “I can wear what I want to wear,” she said. “You can go out on the streets by yourself and go by your stuff.”

She and her sister have picked up English phrases rapidly and keep in touch with their old friends back in Syria via Facebook.

“I miss it sometimes, but I'm happy,” Lidya said.

Enana, perched on the couch in new skinny jeans, interjected in decisive English, “I do not miss it.”

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NATION

Mayor eulogizes officer as cops again turn backs

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE
AND MIKE BALSAMO
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Thousands of city police officers turned their backs Sunday as they watched Mayor Bill de Blasio eulogize an officer shot dead with his partner, repeating a stinging display of scorn for the mayor despite entreaties from the police commissioner not to do so.

The show of disrespect came outside the funeral home where Officer Wenjian Liu was remembered as an incarnation of the American dream: a man who had emigrated from China at age 12 and devoted himself to helping others in his adopted country. The gesture among officers watching the mayor's speech on a screen added to tensions between the mayor and rank-and-file police even as he sought to quiet them.

"As we start a new year, a year we're entering with hearts that are

"As we start a new year, a year we're entering with hearts that are doubly heavy. Let us move forward by strengthening the bonds that unite us and let us work together to attain peace."

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio

doubly heavy" from the loss of Officer Liu and his partner, Officer Rafael Ramos, de Blasio said. "Let us move forward by strengthening the bonds that unite us and let us work together to attain peace."

Liu, 32, had served as a policeman for seven years and was married just two months when he was killed with his partner, Officer Rafael Ramos, on Dec. 20. Liu had long wanted to be a police officer, a desire that deepened after the Sept. 11 terror attacks, his father, Wei Tang Liu, said through tears.

And as he finished his patrol every day, the only child would call his father to say: "I'm coming home today. You can stop worrying now," the father recalled during a service that blended police tradition with references to Buddha's teachings.

Dignitaries including FBI Director James Comey and members of Congress joined police officers from around the country to mourn Liu. Officer Lucas Grant



SETH WENIG/AP

Some police officers turn their back to a large screen displaying New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio speaking during the funeral of Officer Wenjian Liu in the Brooklyn borough of New York on Sunday.

of the Richmond County Sheriff's Office in Augusta, Georgia, said he came to Liu's funeral with officers from neighboring departments "to support our family."

"When one of us loses our lives, we have to come together," Grant said.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo called Liu's and Ramos' deaths a tragic story of "pure and random hatred" on Saturday at Liu's wake. Cuomo didn't attend the funeral, which came as he prepared to bury his own father, former Gov. Mario Cuomo.

The officers' killer, Ismaaiyl Brinsley, committed suicide shortly after the brazen daytime ambush on a Brooklyn street. Investigators say Brinsley was an emotionally disturbed loner who had made references online to the killings this summer of unarmed black men at the hands of white police officers, vowing to put "wings on pigs."

The deaths strained an already tense relationship between city police unions and de Blasio, who

union leaders have said contributed to an environment that allowed the killings by supporting protests following the deaths of Eric Garner on Staten Island and Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri.

The head of the rank-and-file police union, which is negotiating a contract with the city, turned his back on the mayor at a hospital the day of the killings. The act was imitated by hundreds of officers standing last week outside Ramos' funeral, where they turned their backs toward a giant TV screen as de Blasio's remarks were being broadcast.

Many people, including Cardinal Timothy Dolan, have since pressed all parties to tone down the rhetoric. And this weekend, Police Commissioner William Bratton sent a memo to all commands urging respect, declaring "a hero's funeral is about grieving, not grievance." Officers who turned their backs on de Blasio on Sunday spun back around when Bratton took the podium to speak after the mayor.

Photo of Palin's son on dog draws reaction

A photo of one-time U.S. vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin's young son standing on a dog to reach the kitchen sink is drawing sharp reaction.

The image of Trig, 6, presumably preparing to wash dishes, and the reclining and seemingly relaxed black Lab-type animal is posted on the former Alaska governor's Facebook page.

There were nearly 70,000 responses liking the photo, along with a wide variety of comment.

Some blamed Palin, her politics, or called it animal mistreatment. Others offered her support and said the dog would have moved if it had been hurt.

Earthquake in Idaho triggers rock slides

CHALLIS, Idaho — A 4.9-magnitude earthquake in a remote Idaho county triggered rock slides that blocked some road lanes Saturday but did not cause any major damage or injuries.

Hours later, around midnight, quakes of magnitude 4.0 and 3.6 struck in the same area, the U.S. Geological Survey reported.

The quakes followed a 3.7-magnitude tremor that also occurred near the Custer County area on Dec. 22, and numerous smaller recent quakes, according to the USGS website.

Medical worker exposed to Ebola in Sierra Leone

OMAHA, Neb. — Nebraska medical officials said an American health care provider who had high-risk exposure to the Ebola virus while working in Sierra Leone will be observed at a biocontainment unit in Omaha.

Nebraska Medicine said in a statement that the unidentified patient will arrive Sunday afternoon aboard a private air ambulance. Phil Smith, medical director of the facility's biocontainment unit, said the patient "is not ill and is not contagious." He said officials will take "all appropriate precautions."

'Eyeball' man sentenced for shooting officer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A man nicknamed "Eyeball" because of a tattoo that darkened the white part of his right eye has pleaded guilty to shooting an Anchorage police officer.

Jason Barnum, 30, was sentenced to 22 years in prison Friday in Anchorage Superior Court. The shooting happened in 2012 when police were investigating home burglaries and car thefts.

From The Associated Press

Midwest, eastern US brace for Arctic blast, subzero temps

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Midwest and eastern parts of the U.S. on Sunday braced for Arctic temperatures that were expected to arrive during the next few days.

A mix of precipitation on Saturday that included snow, ice and rain affected a swath from the Oklahoma Panhandle — where several inches of snow were in the forecast — to southern New England, where up to a quarter-inch of ice is possible in the eastern Berkshires.

Freezing rain and ice factored

into numerous accidents in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio and threatened an outdoor hockey game in Toledo.

Parts of the southern U.S. saw heavy rain and thunderstorms, leading the National Weather Service to issue tornado watches and warnings in Mississippi and Louisiana and a flash flood watch for portions of Arkansas.

The weather service reported at least two confirmed tornadoes in Mississippi. Greg Flynn, of Mississippi's Emergency Management Agency, said homes were dam-

aged in several counties, power lines were downed and there were reports of flooding.

"Thankfully, in all of this there are no injuries reported anywhere," Flynn said.

Meanwhile, blowing and drifting snow was a problem in the northeast Colorado plains, while a blizzard warning was issued for northern North Dakota and Minnesota. Winds between 30 to 40 mph blew snow that fell overnight in the Red River Valley, weather service meteorologist Tom Graefner said.

That area will be the first to feel

the effects of a strong cold front, he said, with temperatures reaching 20 below zero and wind chills approaching minus 50 by Sunday morning.

By Tuesday, parts of the Midwest will see below-zero temperatures, while lows will reach the single digits along the East Coast. The chilly weather is even expected to move as far south as New Orleans.

Meteorologist Ryan Maue, of the private Weather Bell Analytics, has called it "old-timey" type of cold.



Dana Nolan was a promising young TV reporter until a serial killer tried to add her to his victims. Struggling with post-traumatic stress syndrome, plagued by flashbacks and fearsome nightmares, Dana returns to her hometown and instead of peace finds anything but the comfort she expects.

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NATION



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee speaks at the Conservative Political Action Committee annual conference in National Harbor, Md., in March 2014.

Huckabee leaving Fox News; opens door for White House bid

By ROBERT COSTA
AND KATIE ZEJIMA
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Mike Huckabee is leaving Fox News to decide whether he wants to run for president.

The Republican former governor of Arkansas said that Saturday night's episode of "Huckabee" is the last.

"There has been a great deal of speculation as to whether I would run for president," Huckabee said at the end of the show. "And if I were willing to absolutely rule that out, I could keep doing this show. But I can't make such a declaration."

He said the swirling speculation about whether he will run is

not fair to Fox.

"As much as I have loved doing the show, I cannot bring myself to rule out another presidential run," he said. "I say goodbye, but as we say in television, stay tuned. There's more to come."

Huckabee has hosted the show for more than six years. Ending his show is a requirement for laying the groundwork for a presidential run. As a policy, Fox ends relationships with commentators who form exploratory committees or seriously intend to run for office.

"I have to be very careful about this," Huckabee told *The Washington Post* in November.

The network said it has "amicably parted ways" with Huckabee. It was "in the best of both of their

interests," a network spokeswoman said.

Huckabee's decision instantly shakes up the emerging race for the Republican presidential nomination. Particularly in Iowa, where Huckabee surged from the bottom of the polls in 2008 to win the presidential caucuses, his move will have consequences for other conservative contenders as they plot their own possible paths.

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., and Republican Texas Gov. Rick Perry have been courting Iowa's evangelical voters for months, believing the support of that bloc is up for grabs. Huckabee's entry would make the battle for those conservative votes a messy and crowded contest.

City emerges as voting-rights battleground

By PAUL J. WEBER
The Associated Press

PASADENA, Texas — When the movie "Urban Cowboy" made this refinery town famous in 1980, the honkytonk Gilley's was booming and wannabe cowpokes from the white Houston suburbs flocked here to drink and dance. Houston was the big city, but Pasadena was for kicks.

Today Pasadena is a mostly working-class Hispanic suburb that looks as hard-riden in some pockets as the mechanical bull that bucked John Travolta. Gilley's burned down years ago. Now a federal lawsuit accuses the town's white councilmembers of leading a discriminatory plan to turn back the clock.

Pasadenans are preparing to change the makeup of its city council in a

way that city fathers hope fosters new development but that some Hispanics allege dilutes their influence. The case could become a test of the Supreme Court ruling last year that struck down most of the federal Voting Rights Act, giving cities in many Southern states new latitude to change election laws affecting minorities without first getting federal approval.

"Clearly it was racism," Pasadena Councilman Orlando Ybarra, one of two Hispanics on Pasadena's eight-member council, said about the town's planned council changes. The campaign for a new voting system "was meant to scare Anglos, and it was effective," he said.

In Pasadena, which is roughly 60 percent Hispanic, voters approved a referendum that replaces

two city council seats representing districts with at-large seats, which Hispanic leaders say will negate their growing population numbers. The new format was proposed by the mayor, who is white, in July 2013, one month after the high court decision.

The mayor and supporters insist the new format will bring more participation by all Pasadena residents because they'll have more to vote for. They note that other cities, including Houston, have at-large council members.

The change comes as city leaders are pressing for more investment to boost the local economy. Supporters say at-large council members are more likely to consider a city's larger interests than the concerns of individual districts.

Obama looks past GOP in pushing his 2015 agenda

By JOSH LEDERMAN
AND NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

HONOLULU — President Barack Obama plans new steps to help middle-income Americans, part of a 2015 agenda he hopes can build on the postelection momentum from high-profile moves on immigration and Cuba.

Obama was expected back in Washington on Sunday.

His approach for the new year appears to look straight past newly emboldened Republicans who take full control of Congress on Tuesday.

Fresh from a two-week Hawaiian vacation, the president was readying executive actions and legislative proposals to start promoting right away while advisers and speechwriters flesh out the broad themes that Obama wants to emphasize in his State of the Union policy address on Jan. 20. It will be his sixth since taking office, but his first before a Congress entirely in Republican hands.

In a sign of their divergent paths, Obama was heading out of Washington on Wednesday just as the new Congress was settling in. He plans stops in Michigan, Arizona and Tennessee aimed at highlighting how his own economic policies were contributing

to the country's recovery.

Obama has appeared energized by the end-of-the-year action on immigration policy and Cuban relations, suggesting continued presidential relevance despite a political landscape dramatically altered by deep Democratic losses in the November elections.

Since the November election setback, the key question has been whether Obama will lean in or away from compromise with Republicans in his final two years. Of the issues the White House said Obama will emphasize in the coming weeks, none was among the few areas that both Democrats and Republicans have cited as ripe for deal-making — trade, taxes, and public works.

An Obama spokesman, Eric Schultz, said the president would announce proposals this week that focus on helping middle-class Americans benefit from the economic recovery.

"There are a number of issues we could make progress on, but the president is clear that he will not let this Congress undo important protections gained — particularly in areas of health care, Wall Street reform and the environment," Schultz said.

Obama has threatened to use his veto power to block Republican attacks this year.



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WORLD

Prayers held as AirAsia site search hampered

By EILEEN NG
The Associated Press

SURABAYA, Indonesia — Relatives of those who died in the AirAsia crash sought strength in prayer Sunday, one week after the disaster killed all 162 on board, as rough weather again prevented searchers from reaching a large object on the ocean floor believed to be the plane's fuselage.

Emotionally exhausted family members sang and cried at a tiny chapel in Surabaya, the city from which Flight 8501 departed Dec. 28. The Rev. Philip Mantofa, who heads the congregation at Mawar Sharon Church — where more than a quarter of the victims were members — urged those gathered to find comfort in their faith. "If God has called your child, allow me to say this: Your child is not to be pitied," Mantofa said, locking eyes with a grieving father seated in the front row. "Your child is already in God's arms. One day, your family will be reunited in heaven."

It is not known what caused the Singapore-bound plane to crash into the Java Sea 42 minutes after taking off on what was supposed to be a two-hour flight. Just before losing contact, the pilot told air traffic control that he was approaching threatening clouds.

Surabaya, Indonesia's second-largest city, has been gripped by grief as bodies, one by one, continue arriving in simple, numbered coffins after being painstakingly pulled from the water. Three more corpses were recovered Sunday, raising the total to 34.

Round-the-clock coverage of the disaster also has reignited fear of flying for some in a country that has suffered a string of plane accidents in recent years, as new airlines pop up to meet booming demand in Indonesia, a



TATAN SYUFLANA/AP

National Search and Rescue Agency personnel carry the body of a victim of the crash of AirAsia Flight 8501 after being airlifted Sunday by a U.S. Navy helicopter based on the USS Sampson at the airport in Pangkalan Bun, Indonesia.



ACHMAD IBRAHIM/AP

National Search and Rescue Agency divers on a rubber boat search for victims of AirAsia flight 8501 in the Java Sea on Sunday.

sprawling archipelago nation of 250 million people.

Late Saturday, some passengers panicked when the auxiliary

power failed inside another AirAsia plane leaving from Surabaya, this one headed to the Indonesian city of Bandung, according to a

statement issued by the airline.

The lights and other electrical equipment shut down inside the cabin while the plane was still on the tarmac, and the pilot returned to the gate. Of the 161 passengers on board, 60 refused to fly and were given full refunds, AirAsia officials said.

"There was no engine trouble, but some of the passengers were spooked," said AirAsia Group chairman Kamarudin Meranun. "It is understandable, since the crash is still fresh in their minds."

The crash of Flight 8501 has triggered an intensive international search-and-recovery operation involving 20 planes and helicopters along with 27 ships

from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the United States. All have been desperately searching for the all-important black boxes, pieces of the Airbus A320 and corpses.

The investigation got a huge boost this past weekend when sonar equipment identified five large objects on the seabed in the search area, but no images have been captured confirming they are part of the aircraft. Suspected plane parts also were seen scattered on beaches during an aerial survey.

After detecting the five large objects — the biggest measuring 59 feet long and 18 feet wide and believed to be the fuselage — officials said it was possible that many passengers and crew would be found inside.

Divers tried to reach the site on Sunday, but rolling seas stirred up silt and mud, leaving them with zero visibility, said Henry Bambang Soelistyo, chief of Indonesia's National Search and Rescue Agency.

"At this moment, it's impossible to send any divers," he said. "We'll wait until the weather gets better."

While it remains unclear what caused the plane crash, bad weather appears to have been a factor, according to a report by Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency.

Indonesian authorities have also announced the grounding of AirAsia flights from Surabaya to Singapore, with the Transport Ministry saying the airline did not have a permit to fly on Sundays. However, Singapore's Civil Aviation Authority said that from its end, the airline had been approved to fly the route daily.

Doomed flight has parallels with Air France ocean crash in 2009

By LORI HINNANT
The Associated Press

PARIS — The jet dropped from the sky swiftly, without a mayday call. It was quickly swallowed up by the waves.

It took nearly two years to find the black boxes from Air France Flight 447, but the Rio de Janeiro-to-Paris flight that fell into the Atlantic Ocean in the early hours of June 1, 2009, could offer insight into what may have gone wrong on AirAsia's flight 8501. Both flights killed everyone on board,

both were flying into storms when they disappeared, and — in both cases — it seemed to the pilots of the Airbus that a climb was the way out of their predicament.

In the Air France flight, several factors converged to bring the plane down: The three pilots of the Airbus A330 were confused by faulty airspeed data after key sensors iced over. Then, about 25 minutes into turbulence, the autopilot and autofrust cut out, and the pilot at the controls began a steep climb, despite requests from the co-pilot in the cockpit to

descend.

The captain, who had been away from the cockpit, returned about 90 seconds after the first stall warnings sounded. Four minutes and 23 seconds after the first alarms sowed panic and confusion over how to regain control of the aircraft, the plane slammed into the ocean, plummeting belly-first at nearly 11,000 feet per minute.

Above the Java Sea, the pilot of the AirAsia Airbus A320 told air traffic control he was approaching threatening clouds, but he

was denied permission to climb to a higher altitude. The plane lost contact minutes later.

The 2009 crash ended up being, at least in part, a lesson in the hazards of automation. During that time, deprived of autopilot, the panicking men flying the Air France flight took actions that made matters worse, including trying to carry out different maneuvers simultaneously from both seats of controls.

Since then, many have cautioned that pilots are often ill-equipped to take over when things

go wrong.

"We see more-sophisticated automation in the cockpit really serves us well, and by and large it creates a safer environment for airline passengers," said Deborah Hersman, former chairman of the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and now president of the National Safety Council, a private advocacy group in the U.S. "But there are times when that automation can become confusing, or there can be a disconnect between the pilots and the automation in the aircraft."

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM: A look back in photos on 13 years of war

View the exclusive photos from

STARS AND STRIPES

at www.stripes.com/afghanphotos



WORLD

French mayor denies refusing Roma burial

PARIS — The mayor of a small French town is denying he refused burial in his community of an infant Roma who died suddenly a day after Christmas.

Champlan Mayor Christian Leclerc said on Sunday on BFM-TV that "I would like this masquerade ... to stop immediately."

Leclerc was quoted last Wednesday in the daily *Le Parisien* as saying priority for the few available grave sites goes to those paying taxes. He now says there was confusion among town employees about his instructions. He said on iTele that "my thoughts are with the family."

Mayor Richard Trinquier, of nearby Wisconsin, offered a gravesite, and the infant was to be buried there Monday.

The parents live in a crude camp in Champlan, south of Paris, a typical situation for France's approximately 20,000 Roma.

8 missing after ship capsizes off Scotland

LONDON — British rescue teams were searching for eight missing crew members of a cargo ship that capsized off the north of Scotland.

Two helicopters and four lifeboats were looking for survivors from carrier *Cemfjord*, which was carrying a load of cement from Aalborg, Denmark, to the British port of Runcon on England's west coast. A passing ferry in the Pentland Firth off Scotland spotted the upturned hull of the Cyprus-flagged ship Saturday.

Tony Redding, a spokesman for the German shipping company that operated the vessel, said Sunday the search for the crew was ongoing. Seven were Polish and one was Filipino, the company said.

Ukraine rebel 'Batman' battalion leader killed

KIEV, Ukraine — A Ukrainian security official says a prominent rebel commander in the separatist eastern region of Luhansk has been killed.

A website of the separatist Luhansk People's Republic said that Alexander Bednov, head of a battalion called "Batman," was killed Thursday when separatist security forces tried to arrest him. An arrest warrant for Bednov and several other battalion members had been issued by the separatists' prosecutor's office for murder, abduction and other abuses.

Heat, smoke delay search of Greek ferry

BRINDISI, Italy — For a second day, fierce heat from a slow-burning blaze kept firefighters and other investigators on Saturday from searching a Greek ferry for more bodies.

At least 11 people perished in the pre-dawn blaze on Dec. 28 aboard the *Norman Atlantic* on a voyage between Greece and Italy. Authorities fear more bodies might be inside the vehicle deck where the fire began.

From The Associated Press

N. Korea blasts US over sanctions

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea on Sunday criticized the United States for slapping sanctions on Pyongyang officials and organizations for a cyberattack on Sony Pictures — the latest fallout from a Hollywood movie depicting the fictional assassination of North Korea's leader.

An unnamed spokesman for North Korea's Foreign Ministry, in rhetoric that closely mirrors past statements, denied any role in the breach of tens of thousands of confidential Sony emails and business files and accused the United States of "groundlessly" stirring up hostility toward Pyongyang. The spokesman said the new sanctions would not weaken the country's 1.2 million-strong military.

The spokesman told the North's official media mouthpiece, the Korean Central News Agency, that the sanctions show America's "inveterate repugnance and hostility toward the DPRK," referring to the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"The policy persistently pursued by the U.S. to stifle the DPRK, groundlessly stirring up had blood toward it, would only harden its will and resolution to defend the sovereignty of the country," the spokesman said.

The United States on Friday sanctioned 10 North Korean government officials and three organizations, including Pyongyang's main intelligence agency and state-run arms dealer, in what the White House described as an opening move in the response toward the Sony cyberattack.

The sanctions might have only a limited effect, as North Korea already is under tough U.S. and international sanctions over its nuclear and missile programs. President Barack Obama also warned Pyongyang that the United



ANH YOUNG-JOON/AP

A magazine with cartoons of President Barack Obama, left, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is displayed Saturday at a bookstore in Seoul, South Korea.

States was considering whether to put North Korea back on its list of state sponsors of terrorism, which could jeopardize aid to the country on a global scale.

American officials portrayed the sanctions as a swift, decisive response to North Korean behavior that they said had gone far over the line. Never before has the U.S. imposed sanctions on another nation in direct retaliation for a cyberattack on an American company.

There have been doubts in the cyberspace community, however, about the extent of North Korea's involvement. Many experts have said it's possible that hackers or even Sony insiders could be the

culprits, and questioned how the FBI can point the finger so conclusively.

The 10 North Koreans singled out for sanctions didn't necessarily have anything to do with the attack on Sony, senior U.S. officials said. Anyone who works for or helps North Korea's government is now fair game, especially North Korea's defense sector and spying operations, they said.

North Korea has expressed fury over "The Interview," an anti-Pyongyang Sony comedy. It has denied hacking Sony, but called the act a "righteous deed." Sony initially decided to call off the film's release after movie theaters decided not to show the

film. After Obama criticized that decision, Sony released the movie in some theaters and online.

Questions remain about who was behind a nearly 10-hour recent shutdown of North Korean websites. The United States never said whether it was responsible, but North Korea's powerful National Defense Commission blamed the U.S. and hurled racial slurs at Obama, calling him a reckless "monkey in a tropical forest."

Such hateful comments are not new. Pyongyang has similarly attacked other U.S. officials and called South Korea's female president a prostitute.

Measures seen as warning to cyberattack backers

By JIM SNYDER
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — New U.S. sanctions against North Korea over the hacking of Sony Corp. will be minimized by the fact that impacted isolated Asian nation, but may serve as a warning to other countries suspected of sponsoring cyberattacks.

After President Barack Obama announced measures against 10 North Korean officials and three government entities Friday, the administration said further punishment is coming. Even so, the moves to block U.S. bank access and business dealings with targeted people and entities will be minimized by the fact that impoverished North Korea already is subject to U.S. penalties for its pursuit of nuclear arms and is largely isolated from the rest of the world.

"Sanctions do little against North Korea and really do not put sufficient pressure on the regime

or Kim Jong Un personally," said David Maxwell, a retired colonel in the U.S. Army special forces and a specialist on North Korea, referring to the country's leader.

"Sanctions, while important in sending an international message, are just not strong enough to influence regime behavior." The latest penalties are intended as a signal to nations engaged in offensive cyberactivities that the attack on Sony crossed a line, according to the official, who asked for anonymity to discuss internal administration debates.

Some cybersecurity specialists have questioned whether North Korea was behind the November attack. White House press secre-

tary Josh Earnest, in a statement accompanying the sanctions announcement, reiterated that the administration blames the North Koreans.

"We take seriously North Korea's attack that aimed to create destructive financial effects on a U.S. company and to threaten artists and other individuals with the goal of restricting their right to free expression," Earnest said in the statement.

An administration official said on a conference call with reporters that none of the agencies or individuals listed is believed to have been directly involved in the hacking. The official asked not to be named.

Joseph DeTrani, a former top U.S. intelligence specialist on North Korea, said in a phone interview that the sanctions target the key players in North Korea's government and its major agencies.

He said the country has the technical capacity to carry out the at-

tack on Sony's computer network, and called evidence laid out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last month "pretty compelling."

While numerous American banks, retailers and other companies have been hit by foreign hackers, the sanctions are the first the United States has imposed on a foreign country in response to a cyberattack on a U.S. company, another administration official said on the call.

Jonathan Pollack, an Asia specialist at the Brookings Institution, a Washington-based policy research center, said because 90 percent of North Korea's economic and financial transactions are made with China, the U.S. reach is limited.

The sanctions show, though, the United States won't stand still if its companies are the victims of cyberattacks, Pollack said.

Part of it is a name-and-shame aspect," Pollack said in a phone interview.

WORLD

Diversity touted in Francis' 15 cardinal picks

By FRANCES D'EMILIO
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis named 15 new cardinals Sunday, selecting them from 14 nations, including far-flung corners of the world such as Tonga, New Zealand, Cape Verde and Myanmar, to reflect the diversity of the church and its growth in places like Asia and Africa.

Other cardinals hail from Ethiopia, Thailand and Vietnam. Another is from Sicily, where the Church in recent decades has been galvanizing public rejection of the Mafia.

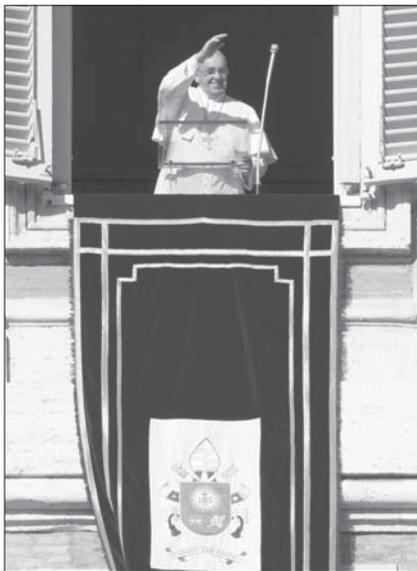
Referring to the Vatican, Francis told the faithful in St. Peter's Square that the churchmen come "from every continent" and "show the indelible tie with the church of Rome to churches in the world."

In addition to the 15 new car-

dinals who are under 80 and thus eligible to vote for the next pope, Francis bestowed the honor on five churchmen older than that. He said they distinguished themselves for their work in the Vatican bureaucracy, in diplomatic service in giving witness to their love of Christ and God's people. Those included men from the pope's native Argentina, Mozambique and Colombia.

Speaking from a Vatican window to a crowd in St. Peter's Square, Francis made another surprise announcement. He said that on Feb. 12-13, he will lead a meeting of all cardinals to "reflect on the orientations and proposals for the reform of the Roman Curia," the Vatican's administrative bureaucracy.

Francis is using his papacy, which began in March 2013, to root out corruption, inefficiency and other problems in the curia.



RICCARDO DE LUCA/AP

Pope Francis waves to the faithful as he arrives to celebrate noon prayer from his studio window overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Sunday, a day in which he named 15 new cardinals.

Palace: Claims against Andrew are false

The Associated Press

LONDON — Buckingham Palace on Sunday stepped up efforts to defend Prince Andrew after the British royal was embroiled in claims of sexual impropriety with an underage woman.

In a second statement since the claims surfaced, officials "emphatically denied" allegations by an unidentified woman who said she was forced to have sex with the royal when she was under the age of 18.

The woman named 54-year-old Prince Andrew, known as the Duke of York, in papers filed with a Florida court last week.

The filing was submitted as part of a lengthy lawsuit against American financier Jeffrey Epstein, who the woman claims forced her to have sex with prominent people, including Prince Andrew. The woman was identified only as "Jane Doe Number 3" in the papers.

Royal officials on Friday denied "any suggestion of impropriety with underage minors" by Andrew, and strengthened that stance Sunday after two tabloid newspapers published details of interviews with the alleged victim. The controversy has dominated British news coverage since Friday.

"It is emphatically denied that the Duke of York had any form of sexual contact or relationship with the woman," Buckingham Palace said in a statement. "The allegations made are false and without any foundation."

The woman claims she was forced to have sex with the royal in London, in New York and on a private Caribbean island between 1999 and 2002. Those claims were filed Tuesday to court as part of a lawsuit centering on Epstein. The billionaire financier was sentenced to 18 months in prison in 2008 after pleading guilty to child sex offenses, but several women want authorities to reconsider a plea deal that they said allowed Epstein to avoid more serious federal charges.

Prince Andrew is not named as a defendant in that case, and no criminal charges or formal allegations have been made against him.

The prince, who is Queen Elizabeth II's second son and fifth in line to the throne, has been dogged for years over his relationship with Epstein.



Prince Andrew

Iran's president: Nuclear talks a matter of 'heart'

By AMIR VAHDAT
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said Sunday that ongoing nuclear negotiations with world powers are a matter of "heart," not just centrifuges, ahead of talks next week in Geneva.

Speaking to an economic conference in Tehran, Rouhani both countered hard-line critics worried Iran will give up too much while also attempting to signal his administration remains open to negotiation with the six-nation group leading the talks.

If "we are ready to stop some types of enrichment which we do not need at this time, does it mean we have compromised our principles and cause?" Rouhani asked.

He responded: "Our cause is not linked to a centrifuge. It is connected to our heart and to our willpower."

On Jan. 15, Iranian negotiators will meet in Geneva with officials from the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany, hoping to hammer details out of a final deal. Iran reached an interim, one-year deal with world powers in November 2013 to freeze its nuclear program in exchange for the easing of some sanctions. Negotiators later agreed to extend talks until June 30, with hopes of reaching a rough deal in March.

The West fears Iran's nuclear program could allow it to build nuclear weapons. Iran says its nu-

clear program is only for peaceful purposes, like power generation and medical research.

The main conflict is over uranium enrichment, which can create both reactor fuel and the fissile core of nuclear arms. In seeking to reduce Iran's bomb-making ability, the U.S. has proposed that Tehran export much of

its stockpile of enriched uranium — something the Islamic Republic has long said it would not do. Two other unresolved issues are Iran's Fordo underground enrichment site and the nearby built Arak nuclear reactor.

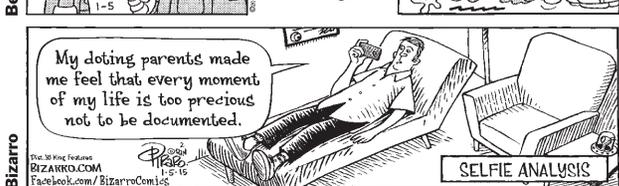
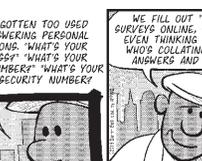
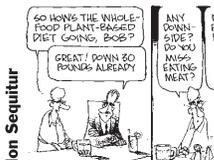
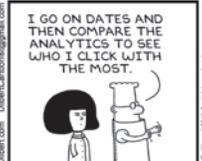
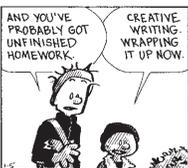
Two diplomats in recent days told The Associated Press that Iran and the U.S. tentatively

agreed on a formula about shipping its stockpile to Russia, as well as drew up a catalog outlining areas of potential accord and differing approaches to remaining disputes. On Saturday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Marziye Afkham denied any tentative formula or catalog had been made.



VAHID SALEMI/AP

In a speech to an economic conference in Tehran on Sunday, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani countered hard-line critics worried Iran will give up too much yet also attempted to signal his administration remains open to ongoing nuclear negotiations with world powers.



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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55											56				57

ACROSS

- 1 Call a halt to
- 5 Got a glimpse of
- 8 Creche figure
- 12 Siamese
- 13 Submachine gun
- 14 Eye layer
- 15 — and crafts
- 16 Camera insert
- 18 Composer Mahler
- 20 Old radio sitcom, "— Tavern"
- 21 Not procrastinating
- 23 Spy novel org.
- 24 Reinvest
- 28 Crazy
- 31 Greek mountain
- 32 Canonical hour
- 34 Modern (Pref.)
- 35 Moist, as morning grass
- 37 Attendance tally
- 39 "For shame!"
- 41 Track component
- 42 Bottles for oil and vinegar
- 45 Low-budget film
- 49 Race car's framework
- 51 Relinquish
- 52 "— Lang Yeng"
- 53 Zero
- 54 Boat's backbone
- 55 Ottoman rulers
- 56 Type measures

DOWN

- 2 By way of, for short
- 3 Feedbag fill
- 4 Handgun
- 5 Jeff Probst's show
- 6 Nitrogenic dye
- 7 Untamed
- 8 "Oh, do you know the — man?"
- 9 Regional bird life
- 10 Depend (on)
- 11 Sweet potatoes' kin
- 17 Capt. Jean-— Picard
- 19 Soon, in verse
- 22 Male singing voice
- 24 Disencumber
- 25 Rhyming praise
- 26 Within the rules
- 27 Changes the tags
- 29 — Aviv
- 30 Scale note
- 33 Stender
- 36 Gives way
- 38 Timepieces
- 40 And so forth (abbr.)
- 42 Grouch
- 43 Libertine
- 44 Logical
- 46 Bidden, familiarly
- 47 Concept
- 48 Slithery swimmers
- 50 Martini ingredient

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

1-5

CRYPTOQUIP

J P Y W Z Z M C L S X O D W H B I W Z I
 Y X H S Y I M Q L M S X X N U L M C
 U P C M O L X C I L O B W Y L Q L O D

N P A A : O I D C I J M H N U A M I Y .
Saturday's Cryptoquip: MY BRUNETTE HAIR IS BEING DYED A VERY LIGHT COLOR. I SUPPOSE I'M HAVING A BLONDING EXPERIENCE.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals O

WORLD



A CITY IN RUINS

Soviet base in Hungary now a ghost town

By DARKO VOJNOVIC
The Associated Press

NAGYVAZSONY, Hungary — Little Moscow lies in ruins. Once a Soviet base where the Red Army may have kept a stockpile of nuclear weapons, the abandoned facility today looks like a set for a post-apocalyptic film.

The barracks, similar to prefab apartment blocks found across eastern Europe, still hold outmoded kitchen appliances and wrecked furniture.

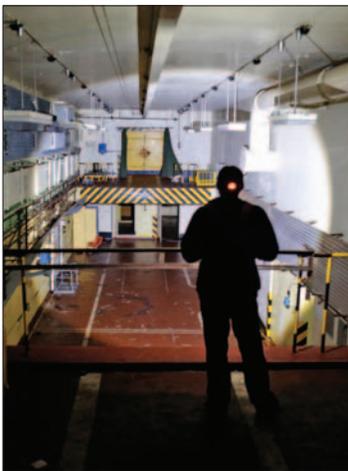
Many of the military installations are rusted and moldy. A large painting of a red flag covered with the faces of communist icons Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and Vladimir Lenin provides one of the few dashes of color.

Located in a wooded area near the village of Nagyvazsony in central Hungary, the base nicknamed "Little Moscow" by locals was one of four nuclear storage facilities in the country. It was abandoned by the Soviets in March 1990, shortly before Hungary's

first post-communist elections. Historians say there is no documentation on whether the Soviets ever stored nuclear weapons there.

The former base covering 36 hectares (89 acres) was protected by three lines of fences and barbed wire and numerous checkpoints and gates.

Nuclear warheads would have been stored on the northern side of the base, in a pair of bunkers protected by doors weighing more than six tons.



PHOTOS BY DARKO VOJNOVIC/AP



Top: A mural depicting Communist leaders Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and Vladimir Lenin hangs on a wall of a bomb assembly and repair facility in an abandoned ex-Soviet military base near Nagyvazsony, Hungary. Above: Hungarian blogger and military enthusiast Gyula Heiner stands inside a nuclear storage bunker in November. Right: Mailboxes remain on a wall inside a building that used to house military personnel. Abandoned by the Soviets in March 1990, a few months after the fall of the Berlin Wall and just weeks before Hungary's first post-communist elections, the base looks like a set for a post-Apocalyptic film.

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Feeding the femme fatale

When female mantis is hungry, she fakes fertility to snack on duped mates

By RACHEL FELTMAN
The Washington Post

As you probably know, the female praying mantis will sometimes bite her mate's head off. It's not something that the insects make a habit of, exactly — they probably do it only when a male is particularly aggressive, or when the female really needs a nutrient boost in order to successfully lay her eggs.

But when a lady is really hungry, she sometimes throws off fake fertility signals to get a guy into bed. And when that happens, he's pretty much always on the menu.

In a study published in *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, researchers report that the false garden mantis — the most common species of mantis in Australia — will fake fertility to get a free meal.

Researcher Katherine Barry divided her females into four groups and fed each a different diet, ranging from poor to very good. *Science News* reported. She then hid them from sight, allowing males to pick mates by scent alone.

You'd expect the male mantids to go after the healthiest (in this case, best fed) females, and in general, the males were more interested as a female's feedings went up. That's some sound biological signaling because those females were the most fertile. But the males were most interested in the group of females who were basically starving to death.

It seems that a starving female will throw the last of her energy into producing the chemical signals associated with fertility. But while she's much more likely to eat the mates she lures in (90 percent of the hungry females did so), she's also less likely to actually let the male mate with her beforehand.

So by all appearances, the deception is quite intentional. After their meal, the females are much healthier and more fertile, meaning that their next paramours can reap the reproductive benefits of their femme fatale tactics.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Couple reunited with dog who went traveling

WA SEATAC — Penny the missing pup has been reunited with her Washington state owners after a cross-country trek that led her to the Pittsburgh area.

Kendra Brown and her husband picked up their 7-month old Vizsla on Friday night after Alaska Airlines offered to fly her back to Seattle.

The Browns said a truck driver picked up the dog near their central Washington home in Royal City, thinking she was a stray. She's been missing since mid-December.

The truck driver apparently dropped Penny off at a vet's office in the Pittsburgh area, where her microchip ID was located.

The Browns had set up a Facebook page in their search for Penny.

Police: High-quality fake bills surfacing

IL SPRINGFIELD — Police in central Illinois have announced instances in which high-quality counterfeit \$100 bills have surfaced.

The (Springfield) State Journal-Register reported that Lincoln police said last week there are two locations in the city where \$100 bills were passed. The money appeared real even after clerks used counterfeit marking pens to check them.

Lincoln police urged businesses to follow appropriate procedures to identify money.

Joe Roesch, chief deputy of the Sangamon County Sheriff's Department, said that between Dec. 15 and 17, a man went into businesses on Springfield's north side and asked for change for \$100 bills. In one case, the man convinced a customer to break the bill for him when the store didn't have change.

The U.S. Secret Service is responsible for investigating counterfeit money.

Police officers in 3 crashes minutes apart

CO COLORADO SPRINGS — Three Colorado Springs police officers and a trainee suffered minor injuries following three separate vehicle accidents just minutes apart on Friday.

Police said an officer stopped to check out a traffic jam and was hit by another car, then a police car was hit responding to the first accident. Both officers suffered minor injuries.

A third accident happened when someone rear-ended a police car responding to another accident, injuring an officer and a trainee.

Police are asking drivers to slow down on the icy streets and to yield to emergency vehicles.

Bakery owners provide 1K free loaves of bread

MN ROCHESTER — Inspired by their ancestors, the owners of a Rochester



RON JENKINS, FORT WORTH (TEXAS) STAR-TELEGRAM/TNS

Cougars celebrate with a roar

Houston Cougars quarterback Greg Ward Jr. celebrates with students and fans after a 35-34 win against the Pittsburgh Panthers in the Armed Forces Bowl at Amon G. Carter Stadium in Fort Worth, Texas, on Friday.

bakery start the new year by providing 1,000 loaves of free bread.

It's the fifth year the Fish family has offered free bread to anyone who wants it. The family operates the Gingerbread House Bakery. Fourth-generation baker Mike Fish said it takes four straight days of baking 250 loaves each day to finish the job.

Fish said the giveaway renews an old tradition the family discovered in a photo from 1920. KTTC-TV said Fish's great-grandfather began the practice at his bakery in Winona.

Street sweeper driver charged with DWI

NY UNIONDALE — The operator of a street-sweeping vehicle who was spotted driving erratically on a highway

was arrested on drunken-driving charges.

New York State Police said Jerry Mitchell, 48, of Brooklyn, was charged with aggravated DWI and aggravated unlicensed operation on New Year's Day. They said his blood-alcohol level was twice the legal limit.

Police said Mitchell was traveling east on Long Island's Southern State Parkway when a state trooper tried to pull him over. Police said he fled, driving 35 mph with police in pursuit. He later stopped and surrendered.

Boy skips soda for a year to win \$500

MT LIVINGSTON — As people across the United States struggle to stick to their New Year's Resolutions, a

young Montana boy is offering lessons in self-discipline and delayed gratification after winning a \$500 prize from his parents for skipping sugary drinks for a year.

A year ago at Christmastime, Jon Sarisky's parents offered the then-10-year-old and his older brother, Andrew, a choice — a guaranteed \$100 then or \$500 in a year if they avoid all pop, milkshakes, hot chocolate and other sugary beverages.

Andrew took the sure thing. Jon, a sixth-grader, took the challenge. He drank his last pop on Jan. 3, 2014 — a Fanta Orange that he savored.

Jon said the challenge wasn't that difficult, with the exception of remembering not to accept a pop at a friend's house.

THE CENSUS

35 The number of vehicles caught up in two separate New Hampshire pileups on an interstate

Friday after some fast-moving snow squalls caused whitout conditions. Lt. Jerry Maslan, a state police spokesman, said there were some injuries but they weren't considered to be life-threatening. Manchester District Fire Chief Al Foulin, who drove through the squall, told WMUR-TV that there were many vehicles on Interstate 93 driving in excess of the 75 mph speed limit, including some apparently heading to ski resorts for the weekend.



Man charged with attempted feticide

IN ANDERSON — A central Indiana man charged with attempted feticide allegedly told officers he mixed a medicinal herb that can cause miscarriages into a pregnant woman's drinks because he wasn't "in a position to have children financially or mentally."

Jared Rebeck, 25, of Elwood, was formally charged Wednesday with attempted feticide during a video court appearance from the Madison County Jail. He was later released after posting bond.

The Herald Bulletin reported that the woman told police she drank two strange-smelling beverages that Rebeck prepared for her on Dec. 24.

Court documents say Rebeck told officers he placed the herb that can cause miscarriages in the woman's drinks.

3 injured during 'large fight' at a strip club

MA WORCESTER — One person was stabbed and two others were injured during what police described as "large fight" outside a Worcester strip club in the early hours of New Year's Day.

Police said the fight at the Riviera Show Club broke out about 1 a.m. Thursday, but by the time officers arrived those involved were gone.

Police received calls from three city hospitals saying they were treating injured people.

A 21-year-old man was treated for stab wounds to the back he said he received inside the club. A 19-year-old man was treated after getting hit on the head with a bottle in the club's doorway, and a 43-year-old man was treated after he was struck by a car speeding from the club's parking lot.

No names were released and no arrests were announced.

From wire reports

FACES

Making the connection

Amy Adams finds the quiet strength in artist Margaret Keane

BY LINDSEY BAHR
The Associated Press

Amy Adams didn't connect with the character of Margaret Keane when she first read the script for "Big Eyes."

She cannot remember whether it was right before or right after she'd given birth to her daughter, but for Adams, who was determined to play more confident characters after she got a taste of one in "The Fighter," the story looked to her like victimization.

But then she read it again, later, and everything came into focus. "Big Eyes," which opened in the U.S. on Christmas Day, tells the almost unbelievable true story of one of the most commercial art movements in recent history and the deep fraud that lingered below the surface.

Popular tiny waifs with big eyes were credited at the time to Walter Keane (played by Christoph Waltz), who amassed enormous wealth and notoriety. It was later revealed the paintings were the work of his wife, Margaret, who participated in the deception for decades for her own complex reasons.

"When I read it again, I didn't see her as victimized at all," said Adams. "She has this quiet strength and this complex nature, but there was a sense of confusion. ... I think that in the beginning, it's easy to make the choices for the right reasons, but in the end to stick with the choices for the wrong reasons."

Her first step, once she wrapped "American Hustle" and officially signed on to the film, was to meet the woman she'd be portraying. Adams wanted to know things that weren't in the script: Did she have siblings? What did she do when she graduated from college? What was her first marriage like?

The opening scene in director Tim Burton's movie shows Margaret and her young daughter fleeing a house and a marriage. It's a bold introduction to a character seemingly stripped of her agency for most of the movie, but it's also one that goes unexplained.

"I wanted to understand the woman before we met her because that would help inform everything after. I was

just seeking the small details that I feel bring texture to that sort of character," said Adams. "Even though she has a very quiet sensibility, her choices were quite bold."

Keane is an intensely private person, though she did let the actress watch her paint in her San Francisco studio. Adams quickly realized she'd be best served by watching and observing. "She's not the sort of person to stand up and invite you in to tell you all about herself," Adams said.

While Adams had caught on to the narrative that Margaret Keane wasn't, in fact, victimized, she was surprised to learn that Margaret shared her view. "She still had a sense of guilt for her part in it. That was something that I really responded to because she says, 'Well, I went along with it and I did lie. A lot.' Whatever the reasons were, she still admits that she lied," said Adams. "She felt very manipulated, but she never phrased it like, 'I don't know why Walter did this to me.' She says, 'I don't understand how I put up with this. How I went along with it for so long.'"

The voice was one of the bigger challenges. At age 86, Margaret Keane doesn't sound the way she did in her youth, so Adams had to improvise. "I won't say who it is, but there is a woman in my life who is quiet and I'm terrified of her, and I know she's going to know who I'm talking about, but she's from Texas and she is steely strong but very, very shy, very quiet," said Adams. "She doesn't talk loud, but boy when she talks, I listen."

Beyond a nagging hope that Margaret Keane would be happy with her performance, Adams wasn't nervous about bringing this private person to the masses. "I actually felt very relaxed. There was something about Margaret that's incredibly grounding," she said.

On the set, Burton's calmness helped, too. "I didn't have to pretend to be anybody else," Adams said, which let her dive into the character. "I'm very confident when it comes to work."

AMY ADAMS

DAN HALLMAN, INVISION/AP



Stage, screen actor Edward Herrmann dies

Edward Herrmann, the towering, melodious-voiced actor who brought Franklin D. Roosevelt to life in films and documentaries, won a Tony Award and charmed audiences as the stuffy dad on TV's "Gilmore Girls," died Wednesday. He was 71.

Herrmann died at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York of brain cancer, his son, Rory Herrmann said. The actor, who had been hospitalized for several weeks, was surrounded by family members including his wife, Star, and his three children, his son said.

"He was full of knowledge and kindness and goodness. ... He always wanted to share the great and beautiful things in life," said Rory Herrmann. That included art, music and classic cars.

The 6-foot-5 actor's favorite role was playing President Roosevelt, his son said, which he did in projects including the TV movies "Eleanor and Franklin" (1976) and its sequel "Eleanor and Franklin: The White House Years" (1977) and in the 1982 movie musical "Annie." Herrmann also provided the voice for FDR in Ken Burns' documentary series "The Roosevelts: An Intimate History," which aired on PBS earlier this year.

His urbane tones were heard on a variety of other documentaries and on hundreds of audio books including Laura Hillenbrand's "Unbroken." He had recently narrated a documentary on cancer, Rory Herrmann said.

He appeared frequently on the big screen, in major films including "Reds" and "The Wolf of Wall Street," and was an acclaimed stage actor whose Tony-winning performance came in 1976 for a revival of "Mrs. Warren's Profession" opposite Lynn Redgrave.

Television was also a familiar home, with recent appearances on "The Good Wife" and "How I Met Your Mother." His best-known role came on the 2000-07 series "Gilmore Girls."

From The Associated Press

Survey: 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens' most anticipated 2015 film

From wire reports

The Force is with moviegoers. "Star Wars: Episode VII — The Force Awakens" is the most anticipated movie of 2015, according to a Fangdango survey.

The nation's largest movie ticket company said the upcoming flick was selected as the top "fan pick" by more than 1,000 people surveyed. The J.J. Abrams-directed film takes place 30 years after the events of "Return of the Jedi." The film hits theaters Dec. 18.

Superhero film "Avengers: Age of Ul-

tron," which debuts May 1, was voted the second most anticipated movie.

In third place, fans picked "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 2," the final installment of Lionsgate's young adult franchise.

"Fifty Shades of Grey," based on the erotic romance novel by E.L. James, was fourth, followed by "Jurassic World."

Meanwhile, "Minions" was the No. 1 anticipated family film for next year. The film, set to open July 10, is a spinoff of the "Despicable Me" franchise.

Other news

Model Sonni Pacheco has filed for divorce from her husband, actor Jeremy Renner, after 10 months of marriage, according to court documents filed in Los Angeles on Dec. 5. The petition cites irreconcilable differences as the reason. Pacheco, in the petition, also seeks return of her passport, birth certificate and Social Security card, as well as invalidation of their prenuptial agreement based on fraud. Pacheco and Renner have one child, Ava Berlin Renner, who is 20 months old.

The two wed in secret on Jan. 13, 2014, and only confirmed their union to the press in September. Renner has 30 days to file a response to the summons and petition.

■ Guitartist Slash — real name Saul Hudson — filed for divorce from his wife of 13 years. Court documents filed Dec. 30 in Los Angeles cite irreconcilable differences for the split. The couple married in 2001, and he filed for divorce in 2010. The couple have two sons, a 10-year-old Cash and 12-year-old London. The documents say the couple separated June 15.

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OPINION

Online venom only compounds parents' grief

By CAITLIN DEWEY
 The Washington Post

In a heart-wrenching letter posted to Tumblr on Dec. 28, Leelah Alcorn — the 17-year-old transgender girl who apparently committed suicide after a long battle with her parents over her gender identity — wrote that she hoped readers would hear what happened to her and try to “fix society.”

But as the note began circulating more widely this week, the Internet's self-appointed vigilantes have turned themselves to a less ambitious quest: “fixing” Alcorn's mother, Carla, and her father, Doug.

Carla was, per Alcorn's Tumblr note, the primary antagonist in her battle to gender-transition; when Leelah, born Josh, told her mother she was transgender, Carla reacted extremely negatively, telling me it was a phase,” Leelah wrote. That is not needless to say, the reaction endorsed by LGBT advocates or family psychotherapists. In revenge, Leelah's supporters dug up Carla's Facebook page and flooded her with messages about Leelah's death.

“You're disgusting.” “You awful b---,” “You daughter killed herself because of you!” “The entire Internet ... can see what you have done.”

“I hope you read her suicide letter and cried your heart out,” one person wrote. “But you probably didn't. You don't seem to be able to care for others in a way normal and healthy human being does.”

Vigilante attacks flooded her phone numbers of both Alcorn's mother and father. On Tumblr, one user urged her followers to call Carla's employer, a relatively new tactic in the online-shaming game.

“Honestly?” tweeted one user who posted Doug's phone number. “I'm ok [with] terrorizing Leelah's parents for eternity.”

The sentiment is understandable, in some ways. As my colleague Terrence McCoy wrote, Leelah was a smart, witty, self-aware girl, a caricaturist at an Ohio amusement park and a junior in high school. The pain and isolation she describes is heartbreaking. And the issues of transgender suicide and acceptance, which Leelah writes about in some detail, are huge, real, urgent subjects that require our action.

But if you think the best, most effective possible action you can take to advance transgender rights is to harass the grieving mother of a recently deceased child, you lack imagination, humanity, any experience with grief, or some combination of the three. Whatever else Alcorn's parents may be — or appear to be, on the basis of a couple Tumblr posts — they are also grieving parents who just lost a bright, articulate child in one of the most soul-rending ways possible.

What, exactly, do you know about it? “We're presented these people as one-dimensional caricatures of views we're meant to either endorse or repudiate,” Flavorwire's Tom Hawking wrote in a thoughtful essay on vigilantism. “They're not so much people as they are symbols, faces to be published with a topical caption in all-caps Impact.”

Except, he points out, they are of course people. People we don't know at all.

“Doxing” has become a trendy tool in the online activist's workbench this year; in some unsettling conflation of old-school flame-war trolling and legitimate protest, advocates for justified, worthwhile causes — like transgender rights — have resorted to personal attacks and petty vengeance, often in negligence of real issues and to the detriment of innocent people.

Arrests a threat to Turkey's democratic gains

By EKREM DUMANLI

When I first appeared in court after a raid a month ago on my newspaper in Istanbul and 80 hours of detention, I asked the judge: “Two columns and a news report. Is that all the evidence against me?” The judge replied, “Yes.” It surely was an “I rest my case” moment for me — as well as for the dismal state of Turkish democracy under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Turkey's leader for almost 12 years, Erdogan contributed to economic successes and democratic reforms during his first and second terms. However, emboldened by consecutive election victories and incompetent opposition parties, he is now leading Turkey toward one-man, one-party rule.

The two critical turning points came in 2013: his government's harsh treatment of protesters in Gezi Park and the systematic obstruction of justice in a major corruption scandal. Since then, Erdogan has branded dissenters and critics as traitors who are part of a vast international conspiracy to topple him. Just last week, a 16-year-old was arrested for pointing out corruption. On Tuesday, two journalists critical of the government, Sedat Kabas and Mehmet Baransu, were detained over tweets. My newspaper, Zaman, and I are just the latest victims of Erdogan's witch hunt.

In the eyes of the regime, the journalists, TV producers and screenwriters detained by the police on Dec. 14 are members of an “armed terrorist organization” threatening the sovereignty of the state. Don't look for concealed arms, attack plans or suicide bombers disguised as journalists. Our

fault was to report on government actions that are undermining the foundations of a democratic Turkey.

The level of media subservience to the government in today's Turkey is unprecedented. Most media are directly controlled, with government supervisors monitoring all editorial content. Anyone who strays is harassed or fired. But as members of the free press, or whatever is left of it in Turkey, we simply doing our jobs. All it takes to be called a terrorist under Erdogan's regime is speaking out against government corruption and abuses of power. Verbal attacks, smear campaigns by pro-government media and legal harassment soon follow.

Since the corruption scandal, a peaceful civil society movement called Hizmet, or service, focusing on democracy, education, interfaith dialogue and social welfare efforts has become the primary object of Erdogan's obsession. In its mission and values, Hizmet is similar to the U.S. civil rights movement. Its supporters are ordinary citizens drawn from cross-sections of public and private institutions, but Erdogan equates their presence in the bureaucracy with a legal coup. The government has purged thousands of police, prosecutors and other public officials. Erdogan's attack machine has also cracked down on Hizmet in the private sector, going after institutions and businesses affiliated with its supporters.

The latest round was targeting a month ago of Zaman and the Samanyolu television station, media institutions established by entrepreneurs who share the same democratic values as Hizmet supporters. Hidayet Karaca, chairman of the Samanyolu Broadcasting Group, was arrested. I was

in the past year, the Internet has — in the name of truth, justice or some other moral high ground — doxed feminists, anti-feminists, Facebook racists, rape victims, gay school teachers, tasteless self-portraitists, Jenna Jameson's former personal assistant and police officers unrelated to the shooting of Michael Brown. Just last month, the self-explanatory (and wildly controversial) Tumblr called “Racists Getting Fired” claimed several careers and many, many more followers — resonating in large part because of the idea that it only “doxed for good.”

This isn't the nasty, ethically unsound mischief of old, its followers argued. This is justified. This is activism.

The problems with this philosophy, of course, are manifold. For one thing, as the ethicist Shannon Vallor points out, doxing often intentionally exposes people to harm — which, news flash, is bad on its face. Then there's the inevitable collateral damage: innocent friends or relatives or coworkers of our victim, who may suddenly find a friend someone's going to show up at their house. (The Alcorns, for instance, have three children besides Leelah. And “Racists Getting Fired” ended, abruptly, when it doxed a woman who had been framed.) And once an Internet mob is unleashed, there's no telling how wild, how disproportionately or undeservingly terrible, its ravings will become.

The whole process is brutal, and blunt, and blind — it requires reducing your opponent to a caricature and throwing little darts at it.

Little darts may comfort, of course. But I doubt it's the kind of social “fix” that Leelah Alcorn was looking for.

Caitlin Dewey writes for The Post's The Intercept Web channel covering digital and Internet culture.

released but will still be tried on terrorism charges. A warrant was also reportedly issued for Fetullah Gulen, a US-based Turkish thinker who was the inspiration behind Hizmet.

The police and judiciary are seizing upon new legislation at odds with the Turkish constitution and international norms. Those laws have been enacted to allow authorities to prosecute or persecute whom ever Erdogan wants. It is no surprise that we were taken in just a few days after the approval of a law that allows the government to detain based only on “reasonable suspicion,” without concrete evidence.

Erdogan's reckless behavior is hurting not only his legacy but also Turkey and its allies. Turkey's image as a stable investment hub has been damaged. A politics of character assassination, polarization and suppression inevitably creates dangerous social stresses. An internally chaotic Turkey cannot be considered a reliable partner for the international community. Erdogan's authoritarian steps move Turkey away from its long-held goal of joining the European Union.

Despite all this, I will never lose hope in Turkey. After all, this is not the first downward spiral that the nation has gone through. Having heard the domestic and international outcry after Zaman was raided, I feel even more optimistic. My wife and I have been married for 30 years. It came to the world while I was in detention. Saadet, which means bliss and happiness. Saadet symbolizes our belief in the brighter future of Turkish democracy. The darkest hour of the night is just before dawn.

Ekrem Dumanli is editor in chief of the Zaman daily newspaper in Turkey. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Looking at the news

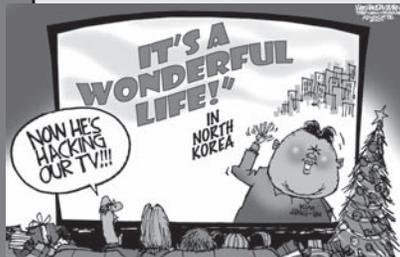
A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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St. John's (Minn.) 69, Bethel 62
St. Thomas 67, Wisc.-Superior 73
St. Thomas (Minn.) 74, Carleton 69
St. Vincent 67, Wisc.-La Crosse 66
Wis.-Oshkosh 61, Wis.-Superior 54
Wis.-Platteville 75, Wis.-Stout 56
Wis.-Whitewater 67, Wis.-River Falls 63

SOUTHWEST
Appalachian State 61, Arkansas-Liberty-Clark-Grange 59
Arkansas 79, Utah Valley 46
Northwestern 59, Texas Baptist 67
Lamar 75, Nichols 62
MSU 67, Ark.-Pine Bluff 63
Northwestern 59, Houston Baptist 78
OKlahoma 73, Baylor 63
Kilgus 67, St. Mary's 67
South Houston 58, Incarnate Word 78
Texas 70, Texas Tech 61
Texas A&M 58, Hartford 49
Texas-Arlington 99, South Alabama 87
Virginia 78, TCU 67
FAR WEST
BYU 99, San Francisco 68
Cal St.-Fullerton 67, Seattle 55
E. Washington 65, Idaho 57
Fresno 52, Santa Clara 66
Gonzaga 87, Portland 75
Idaho 88, Weber 81
Long Beach St. 81, Fresno Pacific 46
North Dakota 63, North Dakota State 60
N. Arizona 73, Portland St. 60
N. Colorado 62, Montana St. 54
New Mexico 70, 70T
New Mexico 66, Colorado St. 53
New Mexico St. 70, CSU Bakersfield 67
Oregon 71, Oregon St. 59
Oregon State 67, Wisc.-Superior 52
Sacramento St. 50, Utah 75
Saint Mary's (Cal.) 72, Loyola Marymount 67
Santa Clara 99, San Diego 56
Utah Valley 78, Cal Maritime 67
Utah St. 62, Boise St. 61
Wyoming 64, San Jose St. 59

Saturday's women's scores

EAST
Albany (NY) 49, Holy Cross 63
American U. 53, Loyola (Md.) 63
Bloomfield 76, Wilmington (Del.) 52
Brainerd 75, Lehigh 67
Bryant 67, LU Brooklyn 63
Cleveland 69, Cornell 77
Cruze 77, St. John's 69
Caldwell 88, Chestnut Hill 84, 30T
Catawba 60, Bucknell 67
Dickinson 83, NYN (NY) 71
Drexel 67, Fairleigh Dickinson 67
Fairleigh Dickinson 73, CCSU 67
Florida 64, Holy Family 60
Ge. Washington 64, Saint Joseph's 61
Georgetown 76, Creighton 61
Gettysburg 62, Manhattanville 61
Hawaii 97, UTeC 90
Keene St. 84, Castleton 65
Lehman 68, CCNY 51
LIU 75, Bridgeview (Mass.) 73
NY 69, Lafayette 65
Northwestern 72, Delaware 52
Pitt 67, Duquesne (Pa.) 67
Post (Conn.) 73, Sciences (Pa.) 67
Randolph 74, Kenyon 68
Richard Stockton 62, Lynchburg 60
Saginaw 62, Mount St. Mary's 45
Roanoke 85, Cabrini 78
Rutgers 50, Penn St. 42
Seton Hall 66, Villanova 61, OT
South Carolina 64, Iowa 50, 30T
St. Bonaventure 69, Mass. 57
St. Francis (NY) 73, Sacred Heart 71
St. Joseph's 67, UConn 68
St. Joseph's (LI) 67, Sarah Lawrence 45
Stony Brook 71, New Hampshire 61
Suffolk 64, Marist 57
Thiel 84, Thomas More 86
UConn 69, Western New England 57

SOUTH
Alabama St. 6, Grambling St. 50
Albany 54, Point Park 71
Auburn 92, North Alabama 61
Baylor 66, Wichita State 67
Chattanooga 72, Furman 60
Clemson 68, Carolina 83, Chestnut Southern 74
Cumberlands 77, WVU Tech 57
Davidson 81, Richmond 67
Duke 85, Boston College 62
E. Kentucky 63, St. State 54
Elizabeth City St. 79, St. Augustine's 70
Freed-Hardeman 62, Arkansas-Liberty-Clark-Grange 59
George Mason 70, La Salle 62
Georgia 63, Norfolk 50, 30T
Georgia Southern 40, Texas St. 36
High Point 67, UNL 67, 20T
Guilford 67, Emory & Henry 48
Hawaii Pacific 67, Wake Forest 67, 20T
Hofstra 68, UNC Wilmington 56
Jackson St. 70, Alabama A&M 67
James Madison 61, St. Lawrence 22
Kennesaw St. 92, Thomas 64
Kent State 71, Mount St. Mary's 67
LIU 75, Savannah St. 59
Lynchburg 62, UConn 68
Lynchburg Wilson 89, MidAm Nazarene 56
Longwood 90, Radford 79, 20T
Marist 64, Virginia Tech 83, Southern Miss 70
North Carolina-Lenoir 67, Virginia-Lynchburg 61, Troy 64
North Carolina 68, Auburn-Montgomery 68
Maryland 70, Minnesota 58
New Hampshire 67, Pennsylvania State 55
Mississippi 92, Austin Peay 63
Montreat 97, Bryan 92
MSU 77, Tennessee St. 57
NC A&T 83, CS Bakersfield 70
New York 68, Pittsburgh 67
Newberry 88, Tusculum 80
North Carolina 64, Clemson 50
Presbyterian 62, Liberty 58
SC-UPstate 68, Hampton 50
SE Missouri 77, Tennessee St. 62
South Florida 58, East Carolina 50
St. Francis (Pa.) 68, Bradley 67
Stephen F. Austin 80, McNeese St. 75
61, 20T
Syracuse 68, Virginia Tech 66
Texas Southern 72, Alcorn St. 55
61, 20T
Tulane 74, Memphis 66
Tulsa 67, Florida 59
UNC Asheville 80, Gardner-Webb 55
UNC Charlotte 62, GRU 64
Vanderbilt 79, Miami 40, 20T
Virginia 89, Yale 80, 20T
West Virginia 79, The Citadel 70
West Georgia 66, Lee 72
William & Mary 75, Coll. of Charleston 45

Wingate 81, Carson-Newman 60
Wofford 68, Samford 65
MIDWEST
Arkansas 79, Coppin St. 62
Azusa Pacific 51, Siena Heights 60
Aurora 74, Loyola 67, Cort 42
Augustana (SD) 96, SW Minn. 77
Ball State 67, Bethune-Cookman 48
Bellevue 80, Indiana-East 70
Baylor 67, Bowling Green 58, Chicago St. 35
Bradley 63, St. Illinois 44
Carroll (W.V.) 59, Michigan College 63
Cincinnati 67, Point Park 67
Concordia (Mich.) 59, Lincoln-Dodge 58
Concordia (Mo.) 71, St. Mary's (Mo.) 63
Concordia (S.P.) 59, St. Cloud 57
Concordia (Wisc.) 79, Rockford 74
Coroner 70, Lawrence Tech 57
Dayton 81, Duquesne 55
Drexel 67, Xavier 68
E. Illinois 59, Jacksonville St. 50, OT
Hennepin 69, Macalester 56
Hope 87, Ohio Wesleyan 61
Marquette 75, Providence 66
Mary St. Bennett 51, 50T
Miami (Ohio) 66, UMKC 61
Minn. St. 67, Illinois 67
Minn. St.-Moorhead 71, Winona St. 65
Missouri St. 89, Minn.-Crookston 73
Missouri 72, Lipscomb 60
Missouri St. 62, Drake 37
North Dakota 63, St. 60T
North Dakota 83, Georgia Tech 76, 20T
Ohio 77, Illinois 67
Purdue 64, Michigan 51
UNLV 88, St. Louis 53
Ripon 83, Knox 64
St. Joseph's (Ind.) 69, Tenn. Tech 62
St. John's (Md.) 80, Wayne 67
St. John's (Minn.) 69, Bethel 62
St. Thomas 67, Wisc.-Superior 73
St. Thomas (Minn.) 74, Carleton 69
St. Vincent 67, Wisc.-La Crosse 66
Wis.-Oshkosh 61, Wis.-Superior 54
Wis.-Platteville 75, Wis.-Stout 56
Wis.-Whitewater 67, Wis.-River Falls 63

SOUTHWEST
Appalachian State 61, Arkansas-Liberty-Clark-Grange 59
Arkansas 79, Utah Valley 46
Northwestern 59, Texas Baptist 67
Lamar 75, Nichols 62
MSU 67, Ark.-Pine Bluff 63
Northwestern 59, Houston Baptist 78
OKlahoma 73, Baylor 63
Kilgus 67, St. Mary's 67
South Houston 58, Incarnate Word 78
Texas 70, Texas Tech 61
Texas A&M 58, Hartford 49
Texas-Arlington 99, South Alabama 87
Virginia 78, TCU 67
FAR WEST
BYU 99, San Francisco 68
Cal St.-Fullerton 67, Seattle 55
E. Washington 65, Idaho 57
Fresno 52, Santa Clara 66
Gonzaga 87, Portland 75
Idaho 88, Weber 81
Long Beach St. 81, Fresno Pacific 46
North Dakota 63, North Dakota State 60
N. Arizona 73, Portland St. 60
N. Colorado 62, Montana St. 54
New Mexico 70, 70T
New Mexico 66, Colorado St. 53
New Mexico St. 70, CSU Bakersfield 67
Oregon 71, Oregon St. 59
Oregon State 67, Wisc.-Superior 52
Sacramento St. 50, Utah 75
Saint Mary's (Cal.) 72, Loyola Marymount 67
Santa Clara 99, San Diego 56
Utah Valley 78, Cal Maritime 67
Utah St. 62, Boise St. 61
Wyoming 64, San Jose St. 59

EAST
Albany (NY) 49, Holy Cross 63
American U. 53, Loyola (Md.) 63
Bloomfield 76, Wilmington (Del.) 52
Brainerd 75, Lehigh 67
Bryant 67, LU Brooklyn 63
Cleveland 69, Cornell 77
Cruze 77, St. John's 69
Caldwell 88, Chestnut Hill 84, 30T
Catawba 60, Bucknell 67
Dickinson 83, NYN (NY) 71
Drexel 67, Fairleigh Dickinson 67
Fairleigh Dickinson 73, CCSU 67
Florida 64, Holy Family 60
Ge. Washington 64, Saint Joseph's 61
Georgetown 76, Creighton 61
Gettysburg 62, Manhattanville 61
Hawaii 97, UTeC 90
Keene St. 84, Castleton 65
Lehman 68, CCNY 51
LIU 75, Bridgeview (Mass.) 73
NY 69, Lafayette 65
Northwestern 72, Delaware 52
Pitt 67, Duquesne (Pa.) 67
Post (Conn.) 73, Sciences (Pa.) 67
Randolph 74, Kenyon 68
Richard Stockton 62, Lynchburg 60
Saginaw 62, Mount St. Mary's 45
Roanoke 85, Cabrini 78
Rutgers 50, Penn St. 42
Seton Hall 66, Villanova 61, OT
South Carolina 64, Iowa 50, 30T
St. Bonaventure 69, Mass. 57
St. Francis (NY) 73, Sacred Heart 71
St. Joseph's 67, UConn 68
St. Joseph's (LI) 67, Sarah Lawrence 45
Stony Brook 71, New Hampshire 61
Suffolk 64, Marist 57
Thiel 84, Thomas More 86
UConn 69, Western New England 57

College football

Bowl schedule

Saturday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana State vs. Louisiana Tech
New Mexico Bowl
New Mexico vs. Idaho
Idahoque
Utah State vs. Idaho
Las Vegas Bowl
Colorado State vs. Nevada
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise vs. Utah
Las Vegas Bowl
Air Force vs. Western Michigan
Camel
At Montgomery, Ala.
Bowling Green vs. South Alabama
MIU Beach Bowl
Memphis vs. UConn
Tuesday, Dec. 23
Baton Rouge Bowl
Marshall 52, Northern Illinois 23
Panhandle Bowl
At San Diego
New York 17, San Diego State 16
Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
At Nassau, Bahamas
Western Kentucky 49, Central Michigan 38
Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
Friday, Dec. 25
Old Blue Bowl
Louisiana Tech vs. Illinois 18
UConn Bowl
Rutgers 40, UConn 21
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
N.C. State 34, UCF 27
UConn Bowl
At Storrs, Conn.
Virginia Tech Bowl
Virginia Tech 33, Cincinnati 17
At El Paso, Texas
Arizona State 36, Duke 27
Indiana Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
South Carolina vs. Indiana
Pinstripe Bowl
At Bronx, N.Y.
Penn State 31, Boston College 30, OT
At San Diego
Southern Cal 45, Nebraska 42
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Texas A&M 45, West Virginia 37
At Orlando, Fla.
Clemson 40, Kansas 35
Texas Bowl
Arkansas 33, Houston 20
Tuesday, Dec. 30
At Fort Worth, Texas
At Nashville, Tenn.
Notre Dame vs. Tennessee
Belk Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Louisiana State vs. Wake Forest
Fosters Farm Bowl
At St. Louis, Mo.
Stanford 45, Maryland 21
Wednesday, Jan. 31
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
TCU 42, Mississippi 3
Fiesta Bowl
At Mesa, Ariz.
Boise State 38, Arizona 30
At Miami Gardens, Fla.
Georgia Tech 30, State 34
Thursday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Wisconsin 34, Auburn 31, OT
At Arlington, Texas
Michigan 38, Oklahoma 27
Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Missouri 33, Minnesota 17
Rose Bowl
Playoff semifinal: Oregon 59, Florida State 20
Sugar Bowl
Playoff semifinal: Ohio State 42, Alabama 35
Friday, Jan. 2
Armed Forces Bowl
At Fort Worth, Texas
Houston 35, Pittsburgh 34
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Tennessee 37, Alabama Bowl
At San Antonio
UCF 40, Kansas State 29
Cactus Bowl
Oklahoma State 30, Washington 27
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Florida 28 vs. Auburn
Sunday, Jan. 4
Goodyear Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
Toledo (8-0) vs. Arkansas State (7-5)
At Charleston, S.C.
Medical of Honor Bowl
At Charleston, S.C.
American vs. National
At Arlington, Texas
College Football Championship
Ohio State (11-1) vs. Oregon (13-1)
Saturday, Jan. 17
East-West Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
East vs. West
Saturday, Jan. 17
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net

Deals

Saturday's transactions

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
HOUSTON ROCKETS - Signed a Nick Johnson to Rio Grande Valley (NBADL).
FOOTBALL
National Football League
BALTIMORE Ravens - Placed LB Arthur Brown on injured reserve.
GREEN BAY PACKERS - Signed C Joe Madsen to the practice squad.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS - Signed De Lawrence Sanders to the practice squad.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
DALLAS STARS - Signed D David Schlemko off waivers from Arizona. Restricted D Jyrki Jokipalata to Texas (AHL).
NASHVILLE PREDATORS - Placed F Taylor Beck on injured reserve. Recalled FS Mikka Salomaki and Viktor Stalberg from AHL. Recalled D Zach Budish and D Garrett Noonan from AHL.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS - Recalled D Mark Fraser from Albany (AHL).

College hockey

Saturday's scores

EAST
St. Scholastica 3, Tufts 2
UConn 4, New England 0
Boston College 3, Boston University 4
Army 4, American International 3
Boston College 3, Dartmouth 2
Holy Cross 3, Air Force 1
Boston University 3, Vermont 3
Ohio St. 2, Mercyhurst 2, OT
New Hampshire 3, St. Lawrence 2
Providence 5, Colorado College 4, OT
UConn 3, RPI 1
Niagara 2, Sacred Heart 2, OT
Yale 3, Vermont 0
SOUTH
Ala.-Huntsville 2, Alaska-Anchorage 1
Robert Morris 2, Bowling Green 2, tie
Minnesota 3, RIT 2
Minn. St. (Mankato) 2, N. Michigan 2, 0T
Quinnipiac 4, St. Cloud St. 3
Maine-Lowell 3, Merrimack 1
Minnesota 4, North Dakota 0
FAR WEST
Denver 5, Brown 3
EXHIBITION
Princeton 4, Russian Red Stars 3
Merrillville 8, Lake Erie 3
North Dakota 7, US Under-18 Team 2

AP spotlight

Jan. 5
1964 - Keith Lincoln of the San Diego Chargers, rushes for 206 yards in 13 carries, catches seven passes for 123 yards, completes one pass for 20 and scores two touchdowns as a 10-out of the Boston Patriots for the AFL title.
1981 - In his 42nd game, and second of the Wayne Great Lakes, he is the point of the season with assists in the Oilers' 8-0 victory over the Winnipeg Jets.
1991 - Kevin Bradshaw of U.S. International leads the USA team to win Maravich's NCAA Division I single-game scoring record of 69, but loses Loyola Marymount to an NCAA team scoring record in defeating the Bulls 186-140.
1993 - Reggie Jackson, who hit 563 homers and played on five championship teams in 21 seasons, is the only player elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.
1997 - The second-year Carolina Panthers behind John Elway and four field goals, beat the Dallas Cowboys 26-17 in their first game to the NFC Championship game.
1999 - Nolan Ryan, George Brett and Rickey Henderson voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, the biggest class of first-time candidates since Babe Ruth and four others were chosen in the original election.
2003 - Jeff Garcia hits Tall Streets with a 13-yard touchdown pass with 1 minute left, and the New York Giants get the snap on a 41-yard field goal attempt as the Jets win 20-17 in their first victory - the second-biggest comeback in NFL playoff history.
2013 - Peyton Rodgers connects with an NFL playoff record 10 receivers as the Browns beat the Steelers 29-20 in their first NFL playoff game.
2013 - Brian Foster rushes for 140 yards and a touchdown in Houston's 19-13 win over Cincinnati, and becomes the first NFL player to have 100-yard games in each of his first three playoff games.

Tennis

Brisbane International
Sunday
At Queensland Tennis Centre
Tennys, Australia
Singles
First Round
Kaia Kanepi, Estonia, def. Andrea Petrangola, Germany, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4.
Alia Tomljanovic, Croatia, def. Jelena Jankovic, Serbia, 6-3, 6-4.
Carla Suarez Navarro (7), Spain, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.
Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, def. Magdalena Linette, Poland, 6-3, 6-4.
Varina Lepchenko, United States, def. Samantha Stosur, Australia, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5.
Doubles
Jamie Murray, Britain, and John Peers, Australia, def. Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Horac Tecau (1), Romania, 6-3, 6-4.
Steve Johnson, United States, and Sam Querrey, United States, def. Marin Draganja, Croatia, and Henri Kontinen, Finland, 6-2, 6-4.

Women

Alia Ivanovic, Serbia, and Angelique Kerber, Germany, def. Klaudia Jankovic, Poland, and Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, 6-4, 6-1.
Hopman Cup
An ITF event
At Perth Arena
Australia
Czech Republic def. Canada 2-1
Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Evgeniya Dementieva, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.
Vasek Pospisil, Canada, def. Adam Pavlasek, Czech Republic, 7-6(5), 6-2.
Lucie Safarova and Adam Pavlasek, Czech Republic, def. Eugenie Bouchard and Vasek Pospisil, Canada, 6-4, 6-2.
Australia vs Poland
Agnes Szavotz, Poland, def. Casey Dellacqua, Australia, 6-2, 6-3.
Jerzy Janowicz, Poland, def. Matt Edmond, Australia, 3-6, 7-5, 6-0.

Boxing

Fight Schedule
Jan. 9
At Chumash Casino Resort, Santa Ynez, Calif.
Francisco Perez vs. Juan Antonio Macielco, 12, for Perez's interim WBA Super Lightweight title; Francisco Hernandez vs. Sebastian Lujan, 10, welterweights.
At Madison Square Garden Theater, New York, Dusan Dragovic vs. Tommy Rainone, 10, welterweights; Anthony Anzures vs. Juan Carlos Hernandez, 10, middleweights; Cecil McCalla vs. Chris Van Heerden, 10, welterweights.
At Tijuana, Mexico, Javier Mendez vs. Vito Antonio Garcia, 10, welterweights; Amir Ibragimov vs. Jason Jarama, 10, junior welterweights.

NHL



Julio Cortez/AP

New Jersey right wing Jaromir Jagr, right, scores a goal against Philadelphia goalie Steve Mason during Saturday's game in Newark, N.J. Jagr, who turns 43 next month, became the oldest NHL player to score a hat trick in the Devils' 5-2 victory.

Roundup

Jagr Oldest to record hat trick

Almost 43, winger leads Devils past Flyers

The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — A month shy of 43, Jaromir Jagr is still setting scoring records.

Jagr scored three times to pass Gordie Howe and become the oldest NHL player to record a hat trick, leading New Jersey to a 5-2 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday night.

Jagr had his 15th career hat trick, his first since March 26, 2006, against the Flyers while a member of the New York Rangers. Howe was 41 in 1969 when he had a three-goal game.

The line of Jagr, Adam Henrique and Scott Gomez combined for four goals and eight points, helping the Devils end a two-game skid with their third victory in 13 games (3-7-3).

Patrick Elias and Gomez also scored, and Cory Schneider made 18 saves.

Andrew MacDonald and Vincent Lecavalier scored for the Flyers.

Predators 7, Kings 6 (OT): Roman Josi scored 18 seconds into overtime after Pekka Rinne gave up three goals in the final 2:01 of regulation, and Nashville eked out a wild victory over host Los Angeles.

Mike Fisher and Colin Wilson scored goals 1:22 apart in the first period, Mattias Ekholm and Mark Arcobello scored 1:41 apart in the second, and the Predators also got goals from Ryan Ellis and Oli Jokinen in opening a 5-1 lead. Rinne finished with 24 saves.

Blues 7, Sharks 2: T.J. Oshie scored his second career hat trick

to move past the 100-goal milestone in his career and St. Louis ended a five-game road losing streak by beating the Sharks.

Rangers 6, Sabres 1: Derick Brassard, Chris Kreider and Rick Nash scored power-play goals 2:32 apart in the first period, and host New York rolled past slumping Buffalo.

Canadiens 4, Penguins 1: Max Pacioretty and David Desharnais scored early in the first period and visiting Montreal beat Pittsburgh to move into first place in the Eastern Conference.

Carey Price stopped 30 shots for his 22nd win of the season.

Stars 7, Wild 1: Vernon Fiddler scored two goals and host Dallas scored six or more goals in consecutive games for the first time since 1997, beating Minnesota.

Coyotes 6, Blue Jackets 3: Sam Gagner scored twice, Martin Hanzal had a goal and three assists and host Phoenix rode a rare big night on the power play to a victory over Columbus.

Jets 5, Maple Leafs 1: Bryan Little had a goal and two assists to stretch his point streak to six games and Michael Hutchinson made 20 saves to help host Winnipeg beat Toronto.

Senators 3, Bruins 2 (OT): Mike Hoffman scored for visiting Ottawa to send it to overtime and Bobby Ryan ended it 46 seconds into the extra period.

Canucks 4, Red Wings 1: Ryan Miller made 29 saves, Henrik Sedin scored two empty-netters to pass 200 goals for his career and the host Vancouver beat Detroit.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	PP	PKA
Montreal	39	25	11	2	54	108	89	3	81
Tampa Bay	40	24	12	4	52	130	106	3	90
Detroit	39	20	15	4	49	99	99	3	81
Toronto	40	21	16	3	45	132	122	3	93
Florida	36	19	15	4	43	103	96	3	86
Boston	39	19	15	5	43	103	106	3	86
Ottawa	37	16	14	7	39	100	101	3	87
Buffalo	40	12	23	3	27	83	116	3	93

Metropolitan Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	PP	PKA
N.Y. Islanders	39	24	10	5	53	119	104	3	88
Pittsburgh	39	24	10	5	53	118	94	3	84
N.Y. Rangers	36	21	11	4	46	113	90	3	80
Washington	37	18	14	5	40	108	99	3	81
Columbus	36	17	15	3	35	92	116	3	92
Philadelphia	39	14	17	7	35	106	120	3	90
New Jersey	41	14	20	7	35	90	117	3	90
Carolina	38	11	23	4	26	75	101	3	87

Western Conference

Central Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	PP	PKA
Nashville	37	25	9	3	53	113	84	3	81
Chicago	39	25	11	3	52	119	81	3	81
St. Louis	39	23	13	3	49	118	99	3	89
Winnipeg	39	20	12	4	47	101	99	3	89
Dallas	37	18	14	5	41	115	119	3	90
Minnesota	37	18	15	4	40	104	106	3	90

Pacific Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	PP	PKA
Anaheim	39	20	12	7	56	111	107	3	90
Vancouver	37	22	12	4	47	109	98	3	88
Los Angeles	40	19	12	9	47	112	103	3	90
San Jose	39	18	14	7	43	106	109	3	90
Calgary	40	21	16	3	45	115	103	3	90
Edmonton	39	14	17	7	35	106	120	3	90
Ottawa	39	8	22	9	25	83	133	3	93

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

Friday's games

Colorado 2, Edmonton 1, 5:0	Florida 2, Buffalo 0
Montreal 4, New Jersey 2	Pittsburgh 6, Tampa Bay 3
Colorado 2, Philadelphia 1	Minnesota 3, Toronto 1
N.Y. Islanders 2, Calgary 1	Anaheim 4, St. Louis 2

Saturday's games

Ottawa 3, Boston 2 (OT)	Nashville 7, Los Angeles 6 (OT)
Montreal 5, Philadelphia 2	N.Y. Rangers 6, Buffalo 1
Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 1	Winnipeg 5, Toronto 1
Winnipeg 5, Minnesota 1	Arizona 6, Columbus 2
Arizona 6, Columbus 2	Washington 5, Wilson 1
Vancouver 4, Detroit 1	St. Louis 7, San Jose 2

Sunday's games

Boston at Carolina	Florida at Washington
Tampa Bay at Ottawa	Dallas at Chicago
Columbus at Colorado	Nashville at Montreal
Colorado at Montreal	N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton

Monday's game

San Jose at Dallas

Tuesday's games

Buffalo at Philadelphia	Ottawa at Philadelphia
Tampa Bay at Montreal	Carolina at Nashville
San Jose at Minnesota	Colorado at Dallas
Columbus at Dallas	Dallas at Detroit
Detroit at Edmonton	N.Y. Islanders at Vancouver

Saturday Predators 7, Kings 6 (OT)

Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	PP	PKA
Nashville	37	21	11	1	47	108	90	3	81
Los Angeles	37	15	15	7	37	95	115	3	87

Arizona 6, Blue Jackets 3

Arizona	40	2	1	3	7	37	106	3	90
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Blues 7, Sharks 2

St. Louis	39	25	9	3	53	113	84	3	81
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Canucks 4, Red Wings 1

Vancouver	39	20	12	7	43	106	109	3	90
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Devils 5, Flyers 2

New Jersey	41	14	20	7	35	90	117	3	90
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Rangers 6, Sabres 1

New York	39	24	10	5	53	119	104	3	88
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Stars 7, Wild 1

Dallas	39	25	9	3	53	113	84	3	81
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Senators 3, Bruins 2 (OT)

Ottawa	37	16	14	7	39	100	101	3	87
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Sharks 2, Coyotes 6

Phoenix	36	17	15	3	35	92	116	3	92
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Winnipeg 5, Maple Leafs 1

Winnipeg	39	20	12	7	43	106	109	3	90
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Senators 3, Bruins 2 (OT)

Ottawa	37	16	14	7	39	100	101	3	87
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Sharks 2, Coyotes 6

Phoenix	36	17	15	3	35	92	116	3	92
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Winnipeg 5, Maple Leafs 1

Winnipeg	39	20	12	7	43	106	109	3	90
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Blues 7, Sharks 2

St. Louis	39	25	9	3	53	113	84	3	81
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Canucks 4, Red Wings 1

Vancouver	39	20	12	7	43	106	109	3	90
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Canadiens 4, Penguins 1

Montreal	39	20	12	7	43	106	109	3	90
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Stars 7, Wild 1

Dallas	39	25	9	3	53	113	84	3	81
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Senators 3, Bruins 2 (OT)

Ottawa	37	16	14	7	39	100	101	3	87
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Sharks 2, Coyotes 6

Phoenix	36	17	15	3	35	92	116	3	92
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The Predators' Colin Wilson, left, shoots during Saturday's game against the Kings. Nashville won 7-6 in overtime.

JAC C. HONG/AP

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Commentary

CFP exceeds expectations

By PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

Midway through the first College Football Playoff, one thing reads stands out.

Why did it take so long for this to happen?

The two semifinal games produced record TV ratings, packed stadiums, plenty of social media chatter and a bit of controversy. There's no reason to think Oregon and Ohio State won't give us another thrilling contest to follow up a memorable season when the national championship is decided Jan. 12 at Arlington, Texas.

So, in a sport that moves at a glacial pace, let's go ahead and start talking about how to expand this thing. Eight teams is a must. Sixteen would be even better, though that would probably require more radical changes than anyone is willing to accept at the moment.

Until then, the four-team system isn't too shabby.

Oregon wiped out defending national champion Florida State 59-20 in the Rose Bowl, snapping the Seminoles' 29-game winning streak. Ohio State upset top-seeded Alabama 42-35 in a thrilling Sugar Bowl, heading to the title game behind a quarterback (Cardale Jones) who was a third-stringer back in August.

"You get to see the two best teams playing for it all," Ohio State linebacker Darron Lee said. "I'm glad the playoff system is intact now."

So are we. With apologies to Big 12 co-champions TCU and Baylor, both of which could certainly make a case for being part of the playoff,

there's little doubt the new system has worked better than even its biggest supporters could've predicted.

■ The television ratings were off the charts, with ESPN reporting the two-largest audiences in cable television history for the semifinals. The Sugar Bowl averaged 28.271 million viewers, while the less-competitive Rose Bowl wasn't far behind with 28.164 million. Look for even bigger numbers from the title game.

■ The Rose Bowl drew a crowd of more than 91,000, though Florida State had trouble selling its allotment of tickets because it had also played in Pasadena the year before; many Seminoles fans were saving their money for a title game that never materialized. The Sugar Bowl had its largest turnout in eight years (74,682) and an electric atmosphere, with what appeared to be a near-even split between Ohio State and Alabama fans.

■ The banana-peel fumble by Florida State quarterback James Winston was a huge hit on social media, giving his many detractors a chance to poke fun at the quarterback who kept getting in and out of trouble during his time in Tallahassee. Our favorite: the Vine in which Lance Stephenson's exhale into LeBron James' ear was edited to make it look as though he was blowing over Winston, whose comical play resulted in an Oregon touchdown.

■ The Sugar Bowl was the better game, but the Rose Bowl produced more water cooler topics. Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher was caught on the sideline threatening to bench Winston if he didn't calm down. Several Oregon

players did a tacky rendition of Florida State's tomahawk chant, substituting the words "no means no" in reference to sexual assault allegations against Winston and leading to a hasty apology.

Some coaches expressed worries about the wear-and-tear on their players, especially for the two teams that will wind up playing 15 games — nearly the length of an NFL season. But there was ample time for rest leading up to both the semifinals and final, and having an extra round before the championship figures to improve the quality of play in the biggest game of all.

Under the old BCS system, you might remember, there was a huge gap between the end of the regular season and the championship game. That led to forgettable contests such as Auburn's 22-19 victory over Oregon in 2011, the second-lowest scoring game of the season for both teams instead of the expected shootout, two of the nation's most dynamic offenses clearly thrown off by a 37-day lull.

That shouldn't be a factor in Arlington, featuring two teams that just combined for 101 points on New Year's Day.

There are certainly issues with this new system, in which six major bowls rotate the semifinals on an every-three-years basis. The other four bowls are guaranteed an attractive game, but being an also-ran resulted in an awful turnout for Georgia Tech's victory over Mississippi State in the Orange Bowl, while the Peach Bowl's 17-year sellout streak ended with TCU's stumping of Ole Miss.

The other four bowls would surely be better off with a quar-



LENNY INNELZI/AP

Oregon linebacker Tony Washington, right, knocks the ball out of Florida State quarterback James Winston's hands and scores a touchdown during the second half of the Rose Bowl.

terficial round in their non-semifinal seasons — played around Christmas Day — than they are with games that have no impact on the national championship. But adding another layer to the playoffs would make it even more expensive for a team's fans to travel to all the games, so it might be better to play the opening round at the campuses of the four highest-seeded teams.

Those are issues we need to start discussing.

But at least we have a playoff.

Two teams played their way into the title game, instead of relying on some convoluted ranking system.

Under the BCS, Ohio State's season would have been over. Instead, the Buckeyes get a shot at a title.

"It's good for college football," coach Urban Meyer said. "We're part of history."

Paul Newberry is a national writer for The Associated Press. Write to him at pnewberry@ap.org or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pnewberry1963

Bowl season ends SEC's dominance — for now

By JOHN ZENOR
The Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — It was bound to happen.

BCS or playoff, the Southeastern Conference's run of playing in the national championship game had to end eventually. That aura of invincibility and superiority that vexed other teams and fans inevitably would fade, too.

Four losses over two humbling days took care of that — for the moment, at least. It might be a short-term blip, a down season for a conference replacing star quarterbacks Johnny Manziel, Aaron Murray and AJ McCarron whatever the lofty early and mid-season rankings indicated.

"The bottom line is everybody gets tired of the SEC because they're lifted up seven crystal balls out of eight seasons," said CBS Sports college football analyst Houston Nutt, a former Mississippi and Arkansas coach. "They've been there. The SEC wasn't as good this year. You look



BYRON ANDERSON/AP

Alabama's Sugar Bowl loss means the Southeastern Conference won't have anybody in the national championship for the first time in nine years.

at the quarterbacks that graduated last year. The bottom line is the SEC was not as good this year as in years past."

One year after ACC power Florida State ended the SEC's

run of seven straight BCS titles, Ohio State topped No. 1 Alabama 42-35 in the Sugar Bowl to advance to the championship game against Oregon.

That came hours after Wisconsin beat Auburn in overtime in the Outback Bowl and a day after Mississippi and Mississippi State got roughed up in their games.

Florida's Urban Meyer started the run of domination in the 2006 season by blasting Ohio State. Past forward: Ohio State's Urban Meyer won his latest classic showdown with Alabama's Nick Saban that dealt the SEC another body blow.

The SEC West that once dominated the Top 10, and had four playoff contenders much of the season, went 0-4 on Wednesday and Thursday.

The seven-team SEC West finished 2-5 in bowl play, with the victories coming from sixth-place Texas A&M and last-place Arkansas. The SE is 7-5 overall in the postseason, with Florida beating East Carolina on Saturday in the

Birmingham Bowl.

"I guess you could call this a mediocre year," Florida linebacker Mike Taylor said. "You're going to get scrutinized about it. We want to go out there and get a victory not only for the conference but for each other."

None of what happened in recent days disproves that claim necessarily for a league that routinely reels in highly ranked recruiting classes and delivers more talent to the NFL than any other. It is indicative that it's no longer a closed issue, however.

For every Amari Cooper and Dak Prescott, other leagues countered with stars such as Oregon Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota and Wisconsin tailback Melvin Gordon.

The two-day purge at least laid to rest the perception that other leagues' top teams just can't measure up to the SEC's best.

After all, the same Wisconsin team that beat Auburn was drilled 59-0 by Ohio State in the Big Ten championship game. Saban was

already a Buckeyes believer.

"I thought they were a very underrated team by everybody in terms of how people thought about them, especially the way they played against Wisconsin and the way they played later in the year," said the Tide coach, who has brought the SEC three national titles at Bama and one at LSU.

The "SEC is Best" chatter clearly has worn on other teams and conferences. Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson figured Wednesday's 49-34 win over Mississippi State earned a reprieve of sorts.

"For a week or so we won't have to hear about the SEC," Johnson said.

The SEC presumably will remain a big target in coming seasons however this one ended.

"There's jealousy there because they want their team to win and they get tired of hearing about the SEC," Nutt said. "Everybody gears up. They want to beat the SEC. To win those seven national titles out of eight, that's a heck of a run."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL/MMA

Birmingham Bowl

Big plays help Florida get by East Carolina

BY JOHN ZENOR
The Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Florida Gators got big plays from star cornerback Vernon Hargreaves III, quarterback Treon Harris and two of their lesser known teammates.

Harris threw an 86-yard scoring pass to mostly unheralded receiver Ahmad Fulwood, and Hargreaves intercepted a pass in the end zone late to preserve Florida's 28-20 victory over East Carolina on Saturday in the Birmingham Bowl.

The big plays helped the Gators (7-5) finish a disappointing season with a winning record while new coach Jim McElwain was among the spectators. Brian Poole also scored on a 29-yard interception return and Florida's defense repeatedly turned East Carolina's high-powered offense away from the end zone.

"Words can't describe how I feel about these guys as a team," interim head coach D.J. Durkin said. "I'm so happy for our players to get that win."

Redshirt freshman running back Adam Lane was chosen the game's MVP after rushing 16 times for 109 yards and a touchdown with Matt Jones sidelined with a shoulder injury. He had only eight carries coming into the game, all in two lopsided wins.

Shane Carden was 34 of 66 for 427 yards for the Pirates (8-5), but Hargreaves' pick with 1:20 left ended his day. It was a school record for passing attempts and the most-ever thrown against Florida.

Harris left late in the third quarter with what Durkin describes as an elbow injury and was replaced by former starter Jeff Driskel.

Driskel ran for a first down on a third-down play on the final drive to allow Florida to run out the clock.

Durkin took over for the bowl game after Will Muschamp's firing.

East Carolina came in averaging 37.2 points a game, but managed only a field goal in the fourth quarter, failing to cash in on a number of flirtations with the end zone.

"Coming into this game, people probably didn't think it would be this close," Pirates coach Ruffin McNeill said. "We had opportunities that we just didn't take advantage of."

Justin Hardy finished with 11 catches for 160 yards and Cam Worthy gained 130 yards on eight catches.

Carden's take on the offense: "We ran 101 plays, put up a ton of offensive yards, but we just needed to execute more. We should have had that touchdown, but an interception in the end zone can't happen."



BURCH DILL/AP

Florida players dunk Gators interim coach D.J. Durkin after they defeated East Carolina 28-20 in the Birmingham Bowl on Saturday in Birmingham, Ala.



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Daniel Cormier, left, punches champion Jon Jones during their light heavyweight title bout at UFC 182 on Saturday in Las Vegas. Jones won the fight by unanimous decision, outpointing Cormier 49-46 on all three judges' scorecards.

UFC 182

Jones outpoints Cormier

Light heavyweight champ retains title over Olympian

BY LANCE PUGMIRE
Los Angeles Times

LAS VEGAS — Jon Jones was true to his long-ago guess.

The UFC light-heavyweight champion can indeed take down former Olympic wrestler Daniel Cormier.

And by doing so on at least three occasions in the fourth round, Jones set himself apart from the previously unbeaten challenger en route to gaining a unanimous-decision triumph over Cormier on Saturday night in UFC 182 at the MGM Grand.

The three judges each scored it 49-46 in the champion's favor.

"All the (stuff Cormier) talks, it motivated me," Jones said afterward in the octagon. "I'm sorry if I'm being classless, but right now I do not like Daniel Cormier."

By winning his 12th straight UFC fight and successfully defending his belt for the eighth

'I'm sorry if I'm being classless, but right now I do not like Daniel Cormier.'

Jon Jones

UFC light heavyweight champion, after defeating Cormier on Saturday

consecutive time, Jones (21-1) settled a long-festering feud with Cormier, a former Strikeforce heavyweight champion.

Jones chafed Cormier (15-1) more than four years ago by dismissing him upon an introduction, telling Cormier he'd bet he could take down Cormier in a fight.

The words stewed and created a toxic tension between the two, including an August on-stage brawl at a news conference. Cormier kept the fire ignited by wearing a "Break Bones" T-shirt this week, a reference to Jones' nickname.

Jones afterward declared himself, "Unbroken, and still

(champion)."

In earlier action, it was a good night for Donald Cerrone.

The veteran took a major step to be next in line to UFC champion Anthony Pettis' just-announced March 14 defense in Dallas against Rafael dos Anjos by winning a unanimous decision over previously unbeaten Myles Jury of San Diego.

Ranked No. 4 in the division, the 31-year-old Cerrone (26-6) sealed his win over Jury (15-1) with a kick to the face early in the third round. He then closed the deal by getting Jury down and subjecting him to multiple kicks to the legs.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL



BILL MOSTROM/AP

Seton Hall's Khadeen Carrington, right, strips the ball from Villanova's JayVaughn Pinkston on Saturday in Newark, N.J. The Pirates toppled the No. 6 Wildcats in overtime 66-61.

Seton Hall stuns No. 6 Villanova

Pirates hand Wildcats first loss of season

By TOM CANAVAN
The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Seton Hall is back with the best in the Big East Conference.

Freshman Khadeen Carrington hit a go-ahead, spinning layup with 1:38 to play in overtime and Seton Hall knocked off its second ranked foe this week, defeating No. 6 Villanova 66-61 on Saturday.

The Pirates (12-2, 2-0 Big East) upset No. 15 St. John's on Wednesday and came back to deny Villanova coach Jay Wright his 300th win with the Wildcats (13-1, 1-10), prevent them from setting a school record for wins to start the season.

"The fact that we were able to prove ourselves and beat two top 15 teams in the country, I think it shows a lot about us," said Pirates point guard Sterling Gibbs, who scored 20 points. "We really stuck together. We're a young team, but at the same time we're really talented and really tough."

The Pirates also won despite having the highly talented Isaiah Whitehead sidelined for a third straight game with a foot injury. Fellow freshman Angel Degado was limited to four points and 15 minutes by foul problems.

"We knew we were a good team," said Carrington, who scored a career-high 17 points. "But it showed that we are getting better."

Daniel Ochefu had a career day for Villanova with 19 points and 24 rebounds, personal bests. Darrun Hilliard added 14 points before fouling out.

Carrington's drive gave Seton

Hall a 62-61 lead. After Ryan Arcidiacono missed a drive at the other end, he added two free throws with 22.5 seconds to go after the Pirates got an offensive rebound following Sterling Gibbs' three-point attempt.

"It was a great college basketball game, man. It was fun to be a part of it. Great atmosphere, outstanding players, plays," Wright said. "Seton Hall just got us at the end."

There were four ties in the final six minutes, with neither team leading by more than two points after Gibbs tied the game with an off-balance three-pointer.

Seton Hall, which opened the game with a 17-3 spurt, took a 58-56 lead with 1:01 to play when Carrington drove the lane for a layup.

Kris Jenkins tied the game for Villanova, hitting two free throws with 37 seconds to play.

Both teams had a chance to win in the final seconds. Gibbs had a drive roll around the rim in the final 10 seconds, and Hilliard had a good look from three-point range bound off the front rim at the buzzer.

The four-marred game had an ugly incident early in the second half. Villanova's Josh Hart kicked Seton Hall's Angel Degado in the shin as the big man went to retrieve a loose ball, leaving him writhing in pain.

The officials reviewed the videotape about 15 seconds after the incident and assessed a flagrant foul against Hart. Gibbs took the first free throws and made them, but the officials then ruled Delgado had to take the shots and he missed both.

Top 25 roundup

Cavs survive Miami in 2OT

The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — No. 3 Virginia squandered a 19-point first-half lead and then came from behind in both extra periods to remain unbeaten with an 89-80 victory over Miami.

Virginia never led in the first OT, but the Cavaliers' Justin Anderson made three free throws with 20 seconds left. He sank a game-tying three-pointer with 15 seconds remaining to force the second extra period.

Anderson gave the Cavaliers their first lead of the extra periods when he scored with 3:41 to go in the second overtime, and they pulled away from there.

The Cavaliers (13-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) are off to their best start since 1980-81. Miami (10-4, 0-1 ACC) lost for the fourth time in the past six games.

No. 2 Duke 85, Boston College 62: Freshman Jahlii Okafor scored a career-high 28 points for the host Blue Devils.

Quinn Cook added 15 points to help Duke (13-0, 1-0) win their Atlantic Coast Conference opener.

Olivier Hanlan finished with 22 points for the Eagles (7-5, 0-1).

No. 7 Gonzaga 87, Portland 75: Kevin Pangos and Przemek Karnowski scored 21 points each to lead the visiting Bulldogs past the Pilots.

Gary Bell Jr. added 12 points to help the Bulldogs (14-1, 3-0 West Coast) win their seventh straight.

South Carolina 64, No. 9 Iowa State 60: Duane Notice scored 15 points and the Gamecocks picked up its first win over a top-10 team in nearly five years by nearly holding the Cyclones without a three-pointer for the first time in over seven years in a victory at Barclays Center.

No. 10 Oklahoma 73, No. 22 Baylor 63: Tashawn Thomas scored 24 points to help the Sooners beat the Bears.

Thomas, a senior who transferred from the University of Houston before the season, made 11 of 17 shots and grabbed eight rebounds.

No. 11 Texas 70, Texas Tech 61: Javan Felix scored 15 points and Jonathan Holmes added 14 to lead the visiting Longhorns over the Red Raiders in each team's Big 12 opener.

Holmes became the 34th player in Texas history to score 1,000 points.

No. 12 Maryland 70, Minnesota 58: Melo Trimble scored 20 points, and the Terrapins used a strong defensive performance to beat the Golden Gophers in Maryland's inaugural Big Ten home game.

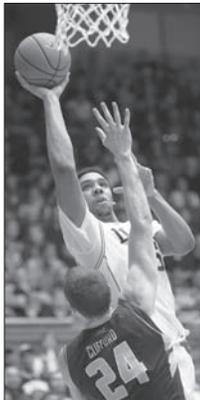
Dez Wells added 12 points, seven rebounds and four assists, and sophomore Dameone Dodd had a career-high 12 rebounds for the Terrapins (14-1, 2-0), who have won seven straight.

No. 14 Notre Dame 83, Georgia Tech 76, 2 OT: Jerian Grant scored 24 points to lead the host Fighting Irish to a comeback win in double overtime over the Yellow Jackets.



ALAN DIAZ/AP

Miami guard Davon Reed, right, drives around Virginia forward Anthony Gill during Saturday's game in Coral Gables, Fla. The Cavaliers won 89-80 in double overtime.



GERRY BROOME/AP

Duke's Jahlii Okafor shoots as Boston College's Demaris Clifford defends Saturday in Durham, N.C. Okafor scored 28 points in the Blue Devil's 85-62 win.

After not scoring in the first half, Steve Vasturia added 17 points for Notre Dame (14-1, 2-0 ACC), which won its 10th straight.

Baylor 73, No. 15 St. John's 69: Kellen Dunham scored a season-high 28 points, including

a pivotal three-pointer with just more than 2 minutes left that helped the Bulldogs hold off the host Red Storm.

No. 17 West Virginia 78, TCU 67: Gary Browne sparked the visiting Mountaineers with 16 points while leading scorer Juwan Staten watched from the bench with an illness as West Virginia opened Big 12 Conference play with a win over the Horned Frogs.

No. 19 North Carolina 74, Clemson 50: Justin Jackson scored 13 points, Kennedy Meeks had 12 points and 12 rebounds and the Tar Heels opened Atlantic Coast Conference play with a victory over the host Tigers.

North Carolina (11-5) led by 20 points in the first half en route to their seventh straight victory over the Tigers — and 17th in the past 18 meetings in the series.

No. 20 Ohio State 77, Illinois 61: D'Angelo Russell scored 22 points, including eight during a decisive 15-0 second-half run, to lead the host Buckeyes past the Illini.

New Mexico 66, No. 24 Colorado 53: Reserve guard Sam Loggwood scored 15 points on perfect shooting to help the Lobos hand the visiting Rams its first loss of the season.

No. 25 Georgetown 76, Creighton 61: Freshmen L.J. Peak, Tre Campbell and Paul White combined for 37 points for the Hoyas and Georgetown defeated the visiting Bluejays.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Longtime ESPN anchor Scott dies at 49

TV broadcaster known for 'boo-ya' battled cancer since 2007



JOHN SHEARER, INVISION/AP

ESPN sportscaster Stuart Scott, known for his enthusiasm and ubiquity, died Sunday after a long fight with cancer. He was 49.

BRISTOL, Conn. — Stuart Scott, the longtime "SportsCenter" anchor and ESPN personality known for his enthusiasm and ubiquity, died Sunday. He was 49.

Scott had fought cancer since a diagnosis in late 2007, the network said, but remained dedicated to his craft even as he underwent chemotherapy, radiation and surgery.

ESPN President John Skipper said in a statement that Scott was "a true friend and a uniquely inspirational figure" and that his "energetic and unwavering devotion to his family and to his work while fighting the battle of his life left us in awe, and he leaves a void that can never be replaced."

Scott accepted the Jimmy V. Perseverance Award at the ESPYs in July. During his speech, he told his teenage daughters: "Taelor and Sydni, I love you guys more than I will ever be able to express. You two are my heartbeat. I am standing on this

stage here tonight because of you."

Born in Chicago, Scott attended high school in North Carolina. After graduating from the University of North Carolina in 1987, Scott worked at three TV stations in the southern U.S. before joining ESPN for the 1993 launch of its ESPN2 network. He often anchored the 11 p.m. "SportsCenter," where he would punctuate emphatic highlights with "Boo-ya!" or note a slick move by "as cool as the other side of the pillow."

Scott went on to cover countless major events for the network, including the Super Bowl, NBA finals, World Series and NCAA Tournament. He also interviewed President Barack Obama, joining him for a televised game of one-on-one. In 2001, Scott returned to Chapel Hill as the university's commencement speaker.

Scott was first diagnosed with cancer in November 2007 after he had to leave the "Monday Night Football" game between Miami and Pittsburgh to have his appendix

removed. Doctors discovered a tumor during surgery. He underwent chemotherapy again in 2011.

Scott made a point of continuing to live his life — at work and outside of it. "Who engages in mixed martial arts training in the midst of chemotherapy treatments?" Skipper said in ESPN's statement. "Who leaves a hospital procedure to return to the set?"

Scott is survived by his parents, O. Ray and Jacqueline Scott; siblings Stephen Scott, Synthia Kearney and Susan Scott; his daughters Taelor, 19, and Sydni, 15; and girlfriend Kristin Spodobalski.

As he accepted the award named for former N.C. State coach Jim Valvano, who died of cancer in 1993, Scott noted: "When you die, that does not mean that you lose to cancer."

"You beat cancer by how you live, why you live, and the manner in which you live," Scott said. "So live. Live. Fight like hell."

Briefly

Teen Shiffrin wins 2nd straight slalom

The Associated Press

ZAGREB, Croatia — American skier Mikaela Shiffrin continued her recent resurgence in slalom by convincingly winning her second straight World Cup race, leaving her rivals in awe four weeks before she defends her world title in Beaver Creek.

"For the first time in my career, I just feel like I am in complete control of myself," said Shiffrin, who sorted out some equipment issues by changing her boots and skis and tweaked her mindset during a 10-day training camp in Italy in December.

"I feel really comfortable on my feet right now after a lot of testing in Santa Caterina but also really great training," the American said. "I have started off really great with my career but I am hoping to keep improving ... I feel like I am in a really great place right now."

Nina Loesch of Norway was 2.79 back in third for her maiden career podium finish and first for a Norwegian female skier since 2002, while the rest of the field trailed Shiffrin by more than three seconds.

Shiffrin won the slalom World Cup the past two seasons but failed to reach a podium in the first three races this season until dominating in Kuehtai, Austria,

last week, where she also won both runs.

"With every single run that I take I get more confident," the American skier said. "My skiing is good right now, it's kind of back on track and my equipment feels really good."

It was the American's 12th career World Cup win and 11th in slalom, matching a World Cup record set in 1980 by France's Perrine Pelen for most slalom wins as a teenager.

Blackhawks land five in first All-Star selections

NEW YORK — The first batch of NHL All-Stars has a distinct Windy City feel as five members of the Chicago Blackhawks are among the initial six selections for the midseason showcase.

Blackhawks forwards Patrick Kane, Jonathan Toews, defensemen Duncan Keith and Brent Seabrook, and goalie Corey Crawford earned spots Saturday based on fan voting. The only non-Chicago All-Star in the group is Buffalo Sabres center Zemgus Girgensons of Latvia, who was the leading vote-getter with 1,574,896.

The All-Star Game, the NHL's first in three years, will be held on Jan. 25 in Columbus, Ohio. The remaining roster of players will be announced on Jan. 10.

Fans cast more than 35 million votes, with nearly 27 percent coming from outside North America — a 7,000 percent increase from 2011-12.

In other NHL news: ■ Blackhawks forward Kris Versteeg will be sidelined for a



GIANNI AULETTA/AP

American teenager Mikaela Shiffrin won her second straight World Cup slalom on Sunday in Sljeme, Zagreb, Croatia.

month with a left hand injury after he was hurt in the Winter Classic.

Versteeg left Thursday's 3-2 loss to Washington, but he blocked Eric Fehr's shot with his hand early in the third period. Versteeg ranks third on the team with 27 points (nine goals, 18 assists) in 34 games.

Coach Joel Quenneville said Saturday that Versteeg will be out for "about a month," and the team doesn't think the injury will require surgery.

Source: Flyers under review for holiday travel

A person familiar with the complaint tells The Associated Press that the NHL Players' Association is investigating whether the Philadelphia Flyers violated the collective bargaining agreement by traveling during a holiday break.

Rogers Sportsnet in Toronto reported Saturday that online flight records showed the Flyers took a flight from Philadelphia to Nashville the night of Dec. 26.

Players are barred from traveling or practicing from Dec. 24-26 under the collective bargaining agreement.

The person who confirmed the union investigation spoke on the condition of anonymity because the NHLPA has not publicly commented on the report.

Marrone interviews for Jets coaching vacancy

NEW YORK — Doug Marrone and Woody Johnson huddled up to discuss the New York Jets' coaching vacancy.

The former Buffalo Bills coach met Saturday with Johnson and consultants Ron Wolf and Charley Casserly as the Jets seek a re-

placement for the fired Rex Ryan. Marrone became one of the Jets' top candidates Wednesday night when he surprisingly opted out of his contract with the Bills.

Marrone led the Bills to a 9-7 finish in his second season for Buffalo's first winning campaign since 2004. Buffalo still missed the playoffs, extending the NFL's longest active postseason drought to 15 seasons — but beat the Jets twice. The Bronx native previously went 25-25 in four seasons as the coach at Syracuse, including two Pinstripe Bowl victories.

His lengthy coaching history includes a stint as the Jets' offensive line coach under Herm Edwards from 2002-05.

Marrone was the fourth confirmed candidate to interview for the coaching position, completing his meeting in New Jersey early Saturday night.

NFL PLAYOFFS



Don Wright/AP

Ravens tight end Crockett Gillmore heads for the end zone in the fourth quarter of Saturday's wild-card playoff game against the Steelers.

Battles: QB Flacco works playoff magic again

FROM BACK PAGE

Roethlisberger passed for 334 yards, but the Steelers (11-6) settled for field goals while the Ravens kept scoring touchdowns.

"I didn't play well enough," Roethlisberger said. "I didn't play well enough to win and guys look at me as the leader and the quarterback to make plays and do what it takes in the football game, and I don't believe I did that today."

Flacco had no such problems. Baltimore heads to top-seeded New England next Saturday, a place where it upset Tom Brady and company two years ago on the way to the franchise's second Super Bowl title.

The Ravens turned it over just once, scored on six in-game possessions and had an answer every time it seemed the Steelers were ready to grab momentum.

"The big thing is we have a good team and we didn't hurt ourselves tonight," Flacco said. "We didn't have a lot of possessions early. We made the most of them by getting some kind of points."

"We played a clean football game and kept at it."

The Ravens won their third wild-card game as the sixth seed. It provided another twist in a season that began with Rice's suspension and eventual release following a domestic dispute with his fiancée (now his wife). When the chaos died down, the Ravens emerged galvanized.

Flacco did what he always seems to do when the calendar flips to January. His seven road playoff wins are the most by a quarterback since the 1970 merger. He completed 18 of 29 passes for 259 yards and the two scores. The Ravens gained a measure of revenge after the archival Steelers knocked them out of the postseason in 2008 and 2010 at Heinz Field.

Yet Flacco has come of age in the interim. And while Pittsburgh's bounce-back season included its first AFC North title in four years, the Steelers' revamped roster could do little when it mattered.

Pittsburgh played without All-Pro running



John Harbaugh Ravens coach, on the play of quarterback Joe Flacco following Saturday's 30-17 wild-card playoff victory over the Steelers.

"That's the playoff football. That's Joe Flacco. The best quarterback in football. I'll take him every day of the week and twice on Sunday or Saturday night."

back Le'Veon Bell, out with a hyperextended right knee. Fill-ins Ben Tate, Josh Harris and Dri Archer managed just 43 yards on 15 carries as the Steelers' four-game winning streak came to an abrupt and decisive end.

Pittsburgh fell to 9-1 when facing a team for the third time in the same season, and it was not close. Baltimore's 13-point victory was the fourth-biggest win by a road team in Steelers postseason history.

Flacco escaped pressure from James Harris to find Smith in the back of the end zone to make it 20-9 in the third quarter. Pittsburgh drew within 20-15 on a 6-yard pass from Roethlisberger to Martavius Bryant with 11:01 to go. But there would be no 2.0-version of the Steelers' rally from 14 points down to Baltimore in the divisional round four years ago.

Justin Tucker drilled a 52-yard field goal to push the lead to 23-15 and Suggs made a juggling interception from his knees on Pittsburgh's ensuing possession. The Ravens did not hesitate to put the Steelers away. Flacco rolled right and flipped to Gillmore. The tight end outraced two defenders to the end zone.

In the end it was Ravens coach John Harbaugh enjoying a rare celebratory moment in a place that has long been a stumbling block. No more. With his brother Jim — the newly minted head coach at Michigan — watching in a Wolverines winter jacket, the elder sibling sprinted off the turf and on to the divisional round for the sixth time since 2008.

Scoreboard

Playoff glance

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 3
 Carolina 27, Arizona 16
 Baltimore 30, Pittsburgh 17
Sunday, Jan. 4
 Cincinnati at Indianapolis
 Detroit at Dallas

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 10
 Baltimore at New England
 Detroit or Carolina at Seattle

Sunday, Jan. 11
 Dallas or Carolina at Green Bay
 Indianapolis-Cincinnati winner at Denver

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 18

NFC
 AFC

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 1
At Glendale, Arizona
 AFC champion vs. NFC champion

Saturday

Ravens 30, Steelers 17

Baltimore	0	10	10	30
Pittsburgh	3	6	0	8-17

First Quarter

Pit—FG Sulistham 45, 1:29.

Second Quarter

Bal—Pierce 5 run (Tucker kick), 12:28.
 Pit—FG Tucker 25, 5:40.
 Bal—FG Tucker 28, 2:41.
 Pit—FG Sulistham 47, 3:37.

Third Quarter

Bal—FG Tucker 45, 10:06.
 Bal—T. Smith 11 pass from Flacco (Tucker kick), 4:13.

Fourth Quarter

Pit—Bryant 6 pass from Roethlisberger (pass failed), 11:01.
 Bal—FG Tucker 28, 10:47.
 Bal—Gillmore 21 pass from Flacco (Tucker kick), 7:56.
 Pit—S. Thomas safety, 1:56.
 A—62,780.

	Bal	Pit
First downs	19	22
Total Net Yards	295	387
Rushes-yards	25-49	19-68
Passing	7-46	31-319
Punt Returns	0-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns	5-117	4-78
Interceptions Ret.	2-3	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	18-29-0	33-48-2
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-12	1-12
Fumbles-Lost	2-4-5	3-38-3
Penalties-Yards	2-14	8-114
Time of Possession	24:43	35:17

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Baltimore. Forsett 16-36, Flacco 8-8, Pierce 1-5, Pittsburgh, Harris 8-25, Tate 5-10, Roethlisberger 2-16, Roy 1-6, Johnson 1-3, Archer 1 (minus 1).

Passing—Baltimore. Smith Sr. 19-29-0, Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 31-45-2-334, Gradkowski 2-30-22.

Receiving—Baltimore. Smith Sr. 5-101, Daniels 4-70, T. Smith 2-28, Juszczyk 2-16, Gilmore 1-21, M. Brown 1-8, Forsett 1-7, Aiken 1-4, Jones 1-3, Pittsburgh, Brown 9-117, Miller 6-78, Whistler 5-68, Bryant 5-61, Archer 3-15, Tate 2-9, Harris 2-6, Hayward-Bey 1-6.

Missed field goals—None.

Panthers 27, Cardinals 16

Arizona	0	14	0	2-16
Carolina	10	3	14	0-27

First Quarter

Car—FG Gano 47, 11:27.

Car—Stewart 17 run (Gano kick), 5:21.

Second Quarter

Ari—Fells 1 pass from Lindley (Catanzaro kick), 14:56.
 Ari—Grice 1 run (Catanzaro kick), 2:50.

Car—FG Gano 39, 1:15.

Third Quarter

Car—Whittaker 39 pass from Newton (Gano kick), 5:36.
 Car—Tolbert 1 pass from Newton (Gano kick), 4:04.

Fourth Quarter

Ari—Bethel safety, :03.
 A—71,849.

	Ari	Car
First downs	8	25
Total Net Yards	78	369
Rushes-yards	15-27	41-188
Passing	5-51	31-319
Punt Returns	0-0	1-0
Kickoff Returns	2-59	1-20
Interceptions Ret.	1-50	2-10
Comp-Att-Int	16-28-2	18-32-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	0-0	3-0
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	4-37
Penalties-Yards	3-11	3-22
Time of Possession	7:38	8-80
Time of Possession	22:54	37:06

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Arizona. K. Williams 10-23, Taylor 3-3, Orce 1-1, Whittaker 1 (minus 12), Stewart 24-123, Newton 7-35, D. Williams 4-16, Tolbert 2-7, Cochrery 1-5, Whittaker 1-4, Norram 2 (minus 2), Olesen 3-37, Cochrery 3-14, Whittaker 1-39, Cidney 1-34, Berman 1-6, Tolbert 1-1, Stewart 1-1.

Passing—Arizona—Carolina. Gano 43 (WL).



Don Wright/AP

Ravens linebacker Terrell Suggs intercepts a pass by Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger with his knees in the fourth quarter on Saturday in Pittsburgh.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Panthers' 'lights out' defense tops Cards

Carolina allows record-low yards

By STEVE REED
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Luke Kuechly knows Carolina's defense didn't have much bite earlier in the season.

He said that made Saturday all the more special.

The Panthers held Arizona to 78 yards and forced three turnovers in a 27-16 win, the franchise's first postseason victory in nine years. It's the fewest yards ever allowed in an NFL postseason game.

"We know who we are — menacing, stifling and we are going to get after you," cornerback Josh Norman said. "We know when there is blood in the water and when there is, our sharks are going to eat."

The Panthers (8-8-1) held Arizona to 12 yards in the second half, intercepted Ryan Lindley twice and sacked him four times in a dominating performance.

Carolina's defense has undergone a remarkable turnaround this season, going from 27th in the league in Week 7 to 10th entering the playoffs.

And the Panthers only seem to be getting better by the week.

"We had a lot of new guys early on who had to get accustomed to each other," said Kuechly, the All-Pro middle linebacker, who had a game-high 10 tackles and a key interception. "Now we're all together and communicating — and that's huge."

The New York Giants held the previous NFL record for fewest yards in a postseason game, limiting Cleveland to 86 yards on Dec. 21, 1958.

Cam Newton overcame two turnovers and threw for 198 yards

and two touchdowns and Jonathan Stewart ran for 123 yards and a score on a rain-soaked afternoon.

The Panthers had 386 yards. Newton was quick to deflect attention to his defensive teammates after his first career playoff win, calling their performance "lights out."

"When those guys play like that, it makes it easier on us on our part," Newton said. "Those guys did everything, turnovers, they stopped them. That is championship football right there and we've got to do our part offensively to put points up on the board." The Panthers will play at Seattle next weekend if Dallas beats Detroit on Sunday. If the Lions win, the Panthers play at Green Bay.

It appeared the Panthers wouldn't get the yardage record, but Arizona began lateralizing the ball around the field on the final play and lost 19 yards.

It was a fitting end to the Cardinals' offensive ineptitude.

Panthers linebacker Thomas Davis, the only player remaining from the last Carolina team that won a playoff game, called it the most dominating defensive performance he's ever been around.

"Our coaches did a great job and when they lined up in their formations we knew exactly what to expect," Davis said. "We just ran to the ball and made plays."

After a 9-1 start, Arizona's once promising season was undone by a rash of injuries, including to quarterbacks Carson Palmer and Drew Stanton.

Lindley simply wasn't up to the task of leading a playoff team.

Trailing 27-14, Arizona con-



Mike McCann/AP

Panthers Charles Johnson, right, and Kony Ealy celebrate after a sack against the Cardinals in the second half on Saturday in Charlotte, N.C. The Panthers had four sacks in the 27-16 victory.

ered a Newton fumble and returned to the Carolina 8. But with a chance to get his team back in

Fewest Total Yards Allowed in a Playoff Game

78 yards — Carolina allowed Arizona, Jan. 3, 2015.
86 yards — N.Y. Giants allowed Cleveland, Dec. 21, 1958.
99 yards — Philadelphia allowed Chicago Cardinals, Dec. 19, 1948.
109 yards — Philadelphia allowed L.A. Rams, Dec. 18, 1949.
112 yards — Washington allowed N.Y. Giants, Dec. 19, 1943.
114 yards — N.Y. Giants allowed Minnesota, Jan. 14, 2001.

the game, Lindley was intercepted by Kuechly, essentially sealing the Carolina win with 11:48 left in the game.

Arizona coach Bruce Arians refused to pin the blame on his young quarterback.

"I thought he did great up until the first interception," Arians said. "He managed the game as well as he could. We didn't do a good job of putting ourselves in manageable third downs. But we got the big break and he tried to force one in that should have never been thrown."

The Cardinals finished the season 11-6, but lost five of their final seven games.

"As a team, we always fought," defensive tackle Froste Rucker said. "It was always the next man up. At some point, we just didn't have anything left. Every one should hold their heads high. Every person gave it their all, this whole season, win or lose."

Trailing by one at halftime the Panthers scored two touchdowns in a span of 1 minute, 32 seconds late in the third quarter to take control.

Arizona doesn't hide behind injuries

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Larry Fitzgerald rattled off a list of Arizona teammates who didn't play in Saturday's season-ending loss to the Carolina Panthers.

Carson Palmer. Darnell Dockett. Andre Ellington. Daryl Washington.

Injuries and other issues decimated the Cardinals, who at 9-1 in November had the best record in the NFL but closed a once-promising season with a 27-16 loss at Carolina on Saturday.

Arizona was eliminated from the playoffs with a thud: third-string quarterback Ryan Lindley managed to lead the Cardinals to just 78 yards — an NFL record for fewest yards in a postseason game.

"We were decimated by injuries this year," Fitzgerald said. "But we never made that an excuse. Now looking back ... if you see all the guys we lost, key components of our team. But coach never allowed us to feel bad about ourselves."

If there was disappointment over Arizona's unraveling, coach Bruce Arians tried to deflect attention to how much the Cardinals overcame.

Quarterback Palmer tore his ACL, then

backup Drew Stanton suffered a knee sprain. Dockett blew out his knee in training camp. Washington was suspended by the NFL for the year.

The list goes on and on and only got worse as they closed in on the playoffs. The Cardinals lost five of their final seven games.

"I don't know if I've ever been prouder of guys that go out and fight every week," Arians said.

When asked if the loss of so many players doomed Arizona's opportunity to make a deep run into the playoffs, Arians bristled.

"No missed opportunity whatsoever, these guys overcame," he said. "This was a great season."

It ended against a Carolina team that used a stifling defense to help Cam Newton claim his first playoff victory.

The fourth-year quarterback threw for 198 yards and two touchdowns, and Carolina's defense set an NFL record for fewest yards allowed in a postseason game. It was Carolina's first playoff win in nine years and Newton's first playoff victory since entering the league as the No. 1 overall pick in the 2011 draft.

The Panthers were rough on third-string quarterback Lindley, who was intercepted

twice and sacked four times.

"You are called upon to win football games and we didn't do that," Lindley said.

The New York Giants held the previous NFL record for fewest yards in a postseason game, holding Cleveland to 86 yards on Dec. 21, 1958. It appeared the Panthers wouldn't get the record, but Arizona began lateralizing the ball around the field on the final play and lost 19 yards.

It was a fitting end to Arizona's struggles. The Cardinals managed 12 yards in the second half and had eight first downs for the game.

"Young guys need to take away, no matter what you did the first couple months of the season, you've got to come to the stage week in and week out," said linebacker Larry Foote, who doesn't know if he'll be back next season.

"I've got to give it some thought. There's two sides: the team's got to want me back, and I've got to want to play."

The future is also murky for Fitzgerald, who has a large salary cap number in 2015 that the Cardinals will likely need to trim to keep the receiver. He declined to discuss his future.

"The taste of defeat is all I can think



Bob Leverone/AP

Cardinals coach Bruce Arians looks for a call in the first half against the Panthers in Charlotte, N.C., on Saturday. Arians refused to bemoan the fact that Arizona lost its top two quarterbacks and several other key contributors this season.

about right now," he said. "I love Arizona, I love the Cardinals, I love the city. It's been a great place to play and I couldn't be more appreciative of the opportunity to fulfill my dream of competing in the NFL."

SPORTS



Old hat

Devils' Jagr nets three goals in win over Flyers » NHL, Page 25

NFL PLAYOFFS: WILD-CARD ROUND



PHOTOS BY DON WRIGHT, ABOVE, AND GENE J. PUSKAR, BELOW/AP

Ravens linebacker Terrell Suggs, above, celebrates intercepting a pass by Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, below, during Saturday's game in Pittsburgh.

Baltimore battles on

Ravens get first-ever playoff win in Pittsburgh

BY WILL GRAVES
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Baltimore Ravens survived the tumultuous dismissal of Ray Rice, a sometimes spotty fall and a critical month without their suspended, all-everything nose tackle.

Winning in Pittsburgh in January hardly seemed too much to ask.

Allowed to hit the reset button in the playoffs, Joe Flacco and

the NFL's postseason road warriors are heading to New England with their swagger fully intact.

Rarely flustered in the face of a pass rush that barely laid a hand on him, Flacco tossed two second-half touchdowns as the Ravens pulled away from the Steelers 30-17 in the AFC wild-card game.

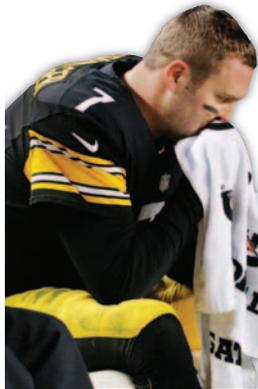
"That's playoff football," Baltimore coach John Harbaugh said. "That's Joe Flacco. The best quarterback in football. I'll take him every day of the week and twice on Sunday or Saturday night."

Once was more than enough.

Flacco hit Torrey Smith for an 11-yard score in the third quarter and found Crockett Gillmore with a 21-yard pass in the fourth one play after Terrell Suggs picked off Ben Roethlisberger. The Ravens won a playoff game in Pittsburgh for the first time in franchise history, avenging postseason losses in 2008 and 2010 by quieting the NFL's second-ranked offense.

Baltimore (11-6) sacked Roethlisberger five times and kept All-Pro wide receiver Antonio Brown largely in check.

SEE BATTLES ON PAGE 30



Longtime ESPN personality Scott dead at 49 » Page 29

