

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## FISCAL 2015 BUDGET

# Pentagon presents plan to weather cuts

By CHRIS CARROLL  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Top Defense Department leaders appeared Wednesday before Congress to lay out the military's plans to weather defense budget cuts, but the Russian incursion into Ukraine loomed over the proceedings.

The Pentagon on Tuesday formally announced a \$496 billion 2015 base budget proposal that would cut the number of Army troops to as low as 440,000 in coming years, cut the number of Navy ships and cut well-regarded aircraft from the Air Force.

Department leaders recommended further savings by limiting troop pay increases, cutting the Basic Allowance for

Housing, raising health care contributions by military retirees and families, and deeply cutting the subsidy to military commissaries.

Before Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel launched into an overview of the budget, he told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee that the U.S. military was stepping up joint training with troops in Poland,

neighbor to both Ukraine and Russia, as well as increasing participation in NATO's air policing mission in the Baltic region.

"It is a time for all of us to stand with the Ukrainian people in support of their territorial integrity and their sovereignty, and we are doing that," Hagel said.

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## OCO FUNDS

Wartime spending requests to continue after troops out of Afghanistan

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Despite increase, veterans groups dissatisfied with amount of VA funding

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Lower spending levels necessitate restructuring of units' readiness

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Service favors technology over personnel to defeat 'high-end' threats

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Service sets its sights on Asia pivot, aggressive shipbuilding schedule

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Plan is for shrinking force; F-35B, MV-22 Osprey among service's priorities

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## SEA PAY

Secretary of the Navy says sailors, Marines could see increase of 25 percent

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## UKRAINE UNREST



SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/AP

Hundreds of demonstrators break police ranks Wednesday as they storm the regional administrative building in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine. Several government buildings around Ukraine, particularly in the east, have been seized by pro-Russian demonstrators in recent days.

## New PM: Country is willing to consider concerns

*The Associated Press*

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukraine's new prime minister vigorously defended the legality of his government against attacks coming from Russia, but said Wednesday that Ukraine would be willing to consider granting more autonomy to the Crimea region to assuage the concerns of the province's pro-Russian population.

Also Wednesday, pro-Russian crowds stormed a government building in the eastern city of Donetsk and armed men tried to force a U.N. envoy to leave the country.

Speaking to The Associated Press, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk denied reports that Ukraine is seeking military assistance from the United States.

Since last weekend, Russian troops have taken control of much of the Crimea, a peninsula in the Black Sea where Russian speakers are in the majority.

SEE CONCERNS ON PAGE 4

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Top-ranked Florida is poised to make SEC hoops history

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## FACES

Special delivery one pizza guy will never forget

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# QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"You cannot wish Iran's nuclear program away. You cannot entertain illusions of a zero-enrichment option."**

—Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, noting that Western sanctions on Iran failed to stem its nuclear program

See story on Page 14

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# MILITARY

## Spain-based Marine team returning from Uganda

Stars and Stripes

STUTT GART, Germany — A Spain-based U.S. Marine crisis-response force began its redeployment back to Europe on Sunday after operating for several months in Africa in connection with the conflict in South Sudan, where Marines were sent to assist in the evacuation of U.S. citizens.

The unit, which was forward-stationed at Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa's headquarters in Djibouti, arrived in Africa on Dec. 24 aboard two KC-130s and four MV-22B Ospreys, according to a news release from Africa Command.

The Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response unit of Moron, Spain, was then sent to Uganda to provide a faster response to the crisis in South Sudan, where ethnic clashes forced the U.S. to evacuate U.S. citizens and some embassy staff.

"We were tasked by U.S. AFRICOM to reposition a platoon sized element and a KC-130J aircraft in Entebbe, Uganda," Capt. D. Oliver David, a public affairs officer, said in a news release. He said that the repositioning, which was made with the cooperation of Ugandan authorities, enables quick response to protect U.S. personnel and facilities.

The movement of about 150 Marines from Spain to Djibouti and Uganda served as the longest incept conducted by the force since its inception in 2013, AFRICOM said. The pre-positioning of the force totaled more than 3,400 nautical miles from Spain to Djibouti and an additional 800 nautical miles from Djibouti to Uganda.

### Correction

A March 4 story about the 2015 Pentagon budget should have said Marine Corps end strength would drop from 195,800 to 182,700 Marines by the end of 2015.



OSKAR GARCIA/AP

## Navy to the rescue

Passengers from a disabled Canadian naval ship cheer crewmembers of the destroyer USS Michael Murphy after being picked up and taken to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Tuesday. A U.S. Navy ocean tug was towing the Canadian ship after an engine fire left 20 Canadian sailors with minor injuries.

# Witness: Prosecutor 'not fit'

By PAUL WOOLVERTON  
The Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer

The former lead prosecutor in the sexual assault court-martial of Fort Bragg Brig. Gen. Jeff Sinclair appeared irrational and suicidal less than a month before the trial, and at times broke down in tears because of the stress of the case, a witness testified at a pre-trial hearing Tuesday.

"I've never seen a human being so stripped of logic and rationality," said Brig. Gen. Paul Wilson, the former staff judge advocate for Fort Bragg and the 18th Airborne Corps, who saw Lt. Col. Will Helixon two days before he quit the case.

"He was absolutely not fit for any kind of duty. I wouldn't trust him to drive a car" that day, Wilson said.

Sinclair goes on trial this week on allegations that he sexually assaulted a captain under his command, had an adulterous affair with her, disobeyed orders and committed other crimes. His maximum potential punishment is life in prison if convicted.

The state of mind of Helixon,

the former lead prosecutor who withdrew from the case on Feb. 10, was some of the evidence that surfaced as Sinclair's legal team tried to persuade the judge to dismiss all charges against him. They claim there has been unlawful command influence in the decisions to proceed with the case.

The judge, Col. James Pohl, was unconvinced by the Sinclair team's arguments that the Army is prosecuting a weak case that would have been dismissed or pleaded down if not for pressure from the chain of command and Congress. He denied the team's motion to dismiss the case.

Helixon, whose father is in poor health, was not called to testify.

Wilson said he saw Helixon on Feb. 8 at a Washington hotel. He said when he was summoned, he said, after Helixon had a conversation with another Army officer at the hotel who became concerned and contacted others in the Army to reach out to him.

Wilson found Helixon in his hotel room with Craig Ackley, a consultant who is assisting the prosecution. Ackley told him Helixon had been drinking and was

suicidal, Wilson said.

Helixon was in the middle of a personal crisis because of the case and because of his father's health, Wilson said. He agreed that Helixon was suicidal. He described him as incoherent, irrational, illogical and emotional.

Helixon was upset that Sinclair's girlfriend gave inaccurate testimony under oath at a pre-trial hearing in January, Wilson said. Wilson quoted Helixon as saying in conversations that weekend, "She lied to me. She lied to me. She (expletive) lied to me. Why would she lie to me?"

He said he advised Helixon to take his concerns to his staff judge advocate at Fort Bragg, his supervisor in the case. The staff judge advocate, Lt. Col. Jerrett Dunlap, testified that Helixon believed the girlfriend's testimony about the sexual assault, but not her Jan. 7 testimony, which concerned a cellphone that contains evidence in the case. Helixon felt he had no legal or ethical reason not to proceed, but a moral reason, Dunlap said, so he withdrew.

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## MILITARY

# Concern raised over comment on pivot to Asia

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration rushed Tuesday to restate its commitment to a stronger presence in Asia after a senior defense official reportedly said that budget cuts mean the so-called “pivot” can’t happen.

A senior Democratic senator voiced concern at a congressional hearing over the comments by Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Katrina McFarland.

According to Defense News, McFarland told a defense industry conference, “Right now, the pivot is being looked at again, because candidly it can’t happen.”

McFarland later issued a clarification that the shift in focus to the region requires difficult budget decisions and adaptation, but the “rebalance to Asia can and will continue.”

The administration has made increased engagement in Asia a key plank of its foreign policy as the U.S. winds down its military involvement in Afghanistan, and contends with a rising China. The U.S. has begun a new deployment of troops in Australia, and plans

to shift more of its naval forces to the region.

Budget pressures have raised widespread doubts about America’s capacity to follow through on the policy.

The Pentagon on Tuesday unveiled a proposed 2015 defense budget, aiming for a smaller, more modern force rather than a larger one less prepared for combat. Some in Congress see that as an approach that weakens U.S. capabilities in a period of growing uncertainty in Europe and Asia.

Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md., voiced concern about McFarland’s comments at a hearing of the panel he chairs that oversees U.S. policy toward Asia.

David Helvey, a senior defense official for East Asia, responded that the 2015 budget would enable the U.S. to strengthen its posture and presence, “and ensure the U.S. preserves its status as the pre-eminent military power in the region.”

# JPAC nears move to new Hawaii HQ

From wire reports

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command plans to move into a new \$82 million headquarters and lab being built at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as the Pentagon and Congress look at restructuring the command and the possibility of moving it to the mainland.

The future uncertainty — even with the taxpayer expenditure of millions of dollars — follows scathing criticism of agencies in Hawaii and on the mainland that recover missing servicemembers over interagency disagreements, overspending and underperforming results.

“I am here to give a loud wake-up call to everyone involved that it is time to put your squabbles aside for the good of the mission and the good of our nation,” Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said at a hearing in August.

The Defense Department estimated some 83,000 Americans are missing from past wars, McCaskill said.

Planning for the new JPAC facility — which was championed by the late Sen. Daniel Inouye and

## Now in the Tablet Edition

Stars and Stripes reports JPAC investigation in India was rushed, costly



will be named for him — has been difficult with the changing political and budgetary landscape.

Congress required the Pentagon, in the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act, to evaluate reorganizing the nationwide accounting community under one command, merging JPAC with other efforts and/or relocating POW/MIA accounting activities.

The new three-story headquarters building, with 140,000 square feet of space, is expected to help increase efficiencies by consolidating JPAC sections spread across 13 buildings at Hickam, three at Pearl Harbor and two warehouses near Pearl City Peninsula, the Pacific Command said.

The new building is about 70 percent complete, with a target completion of July 31, said Nathan Loo, with JPAC’s engineering and facilities management office.



Courtesy of Defense Media Activity

Lt. Gen. Donald M. Campbell Jr., commanding general of U.S. Army Europe, announces a Division I Championship game on American Forces Network at the DODDS-Europe basketball championships in Wiesbaden, Germany, on Feb. 22.

# Commander courts 2nd career

By MATT MILLHAM  
Stars and Stripes

If there’s one thing soldiers in Europe probably know about Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell Jr., it’s that he’s the commander of U.S. Army Europe.

After the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe basketball championships a couple weekends ago, they might also know this: He’s a sports fanatic.

Campbell, a Kansas State grad, belted out color commentary on the American Forces Network’s live broadcast for the second half of the Division I girls championship game and the first half of the Division I boys game Feb. 22 like an old pro, leading some to say the general did a better job in the booth than AFN’s own stable of broadcasters.

Reaction to his performance has been positive — “so much so that I’m tempted to send the tape off to Bristol, Conn., to ESPN headquarters at some point,” he joked in an interview last week.

Seriously, though, he loves

sports.

He’ll watch anything K-State does — “football, basketball, baseball, equestrian, rodeo — we have a rodeo team, by the way,” he said.

For pro sports, he follows the Washington Redskins, a habit he picked up from his dad, and the Cincinnati Reds, a team he watches dominate the major leagues in the early to mid-1970s. He follows college basketball more closely than the pros, he said, but he does tune in for the playoffs.

Another thing he tries to stay on top of is DODDS sports.

“I’ve been a sports junkie most of my life,” he said.

His son and daughter attended DODDS schools and competed in DODDS athletics. Even though they’ve both graduated, he still keeps up with the prep teams in Europe. A weekend before his AFN commenting gig, he went alone to watch the DODDS-Europe wrestling championships at Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden.

“I kind of tried to be incognito, but it was kind of hard,” Camp-

bell said.

During his appearance on AFN’s basketball championship broadcast, the general was anything but incognito in his seat at the announcers’ table. His thoughtful, on-the-spot game analysis and his ability to call players by name while delivering facts and figures about them indicated that he was well-prepared for his time in a different kind of limelight — more so than the guys whose job it was to be there, it seemed.

“Once I got into the flow of it, some of the stuff that I know about sports and some of the research I did trying to make sure that I sounded credible, kind of — it flowed a little bit for me, so it was enjoyable,” Campbell said.

He do it again if he’s asked, he said, but he’s already got a day job that prevents him from doing it full time.

“I’m kind of busy” being commander of U.S. Army Europe, he said, “which I enjoy thoroughly.”

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# US warns personnel, families in Bahrain

out of place or suspicious and to alert base security officials of any abnormal activity.

There has been no direct targeting of Americans to date, but the statement warns that “additional IED events through March 31st are highly likely.” It also advises personnel to stay away from areas where Bahraini security forces are gathered.

Bahrain, which is home to the U.S. Navy’s 5th Fleet and some 7,000 U.S. personnel and families, has been the site of sporadic demonstrations since February 2011, when citizens gathered in massive protests to demand political and economic reforms. Every year since then, the country experiences an uptick in protests and violence around Feb. 14, the anniversary of the start of the protest movement.

Attempts to disrupt traffic and potential clashes with police may occur for several weeks after the

anniversary, according to the U.S. Embassy.

On Tuesday U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon condemned the attack in Dahi and offered condolences to the families of the police officers.

“Such acts of violence cannot be justified by any cause,” Ban said in a statement.

Two other blasts occurred in the area where the police officers were killed, but no other deaths or injuries were reported. Officials say 25 suspects have been arrested so far in connection with the attack.

Navy officials say that all 5th Fleet and base operations are running normally and that there has been no change to the security posture.

On Sunday the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman concluded a five-day port visit.

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## UKRAINE UNREST



IVAN SEKREAREV/AP

Russian soldiers guard a pier where two Ukrainian naval vessels are moored in Sevastopol, Ukraine, on Wednesday.

## Concerns: Ukraine PM hopes for eventual partnership, 'win-win' game with Russians

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Yatsenyuk, who took office last week, blamed Russian President Vladimir Putin for causing one of the sharpest international crises in Europe since the end of the Cold War — and expressed fears about further possible Russian incursions.

Asked if he was afraid that Russia might send troops to occupy other Russian-speaking areas of Ukraine, Yatsenyuk said: "Let me put it bluntly: Yes, it's still a concern and Russia is to realize its responsibility and Russia is to stick to its international obligation, to stop the invasion.

"Mr. President (Putin), stop this mess," Yatsenyuk said.

The prime minister, approved by parliament on Feb. 27, also denied a report that cash-strapped Ukraine was negotiating with the United States for deployment of U.S. missile defenses in exchange for financial help.

"This is not true," Yatsenyuk said. "We have no talks with the government of the United States of America on any kind of deployment of any military forces. The only negotiations we have is to get financial support, financial aid from the United States government in order to stabilize the economic situation in my country. It's absurd."

On Wednesday, early reports from Ukrainian official said that a U.N. special envoy had been kidnapped in Crimea. However, the U.N. deputy secretary-general denied the reports.

Jan Eliasson said special envoy Robert Serry was threatened by 10 to 15 armed men as he was leaving naval headquarters in Crimea but that he was not abducted. Eliasson said the armed men ordered Serry to leave Crimea and go to the airport. Eliasson said Serry refused but

he couldn't move because his car was blocked so he got out and started walking away.

In Donetsk, hundreds of demonstrators waving Russian flags have stormed a government building. The region is the home area of deposed Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, who fled the country after massive protests in Kiev.

An AP photographer who was in Donetsk said more than 2,000 people gathered in the square Wednesday afternoon outside the regional administrative building before groups of men broke through police ranks and smashed their way into the building.

Many of the protesters waved Russian and other flags. Many chanted "Russia! Russia!"

Several government buildings around Ukraine, particularly in the east, have been seized by pro-Russian demonstrators in recent days.

On Tuesday, Putin said Ukraine's current leaders had come to power as the result of an unconstitutional coup. In the interview, Yatsenyuk blamed Russia's leader for the ongoing crisis and said Putin was the one acting outside the law.

"A number of military forces of the Russian Federation are deployed in Crimea," he said. "We cannot figure out the reason why Russian boots are on Ukrainian ground. And it's crystal clear that it was ordered personally by

President Putin.

"This is Ukrainian territory and Russia wants to grab control over Crimea. But I will underline again, we will do our best in order to regain control over Ukrainian territory. The Russian military is to be back in the barracks.

"What happened in Crimea is unconstitutional and resembles ... a coup supported by the Russian government and the Russian military," Yatsenyuk said.

"The Ukrainian government is legitimate. And let me remind Mr. Putin that this government was supported by the constitutional majority of Ukrainian MPs with 371 votes. We are legitimate and we must fulfill our responsibilities. And we strongly recommend to our Russian partners to build up relations with the new Ukrainian government."

Yatsenyuk, who spoke in English, said he hadn't talked personally to Putin, "but it's in the interests of our countries to start a dialogue."

"First we need to stop the invasion and afterward we want Russia to (be) our partners, real partners and to stop this zero-sum game. It is to be a win-win game where both Ukrainian and Russian interests are considered," he said. "So we urge the Russian government to start real talks with the new Ukrainian government and we ask Russia not to be a neighbor but to become a real partner."

**‘We cannot figure out the reason why Russian boots are on Ukrainian ground. And it’s crystal clear that it was ordered personally by President Putin.’**

Ukraine Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk

# EU seeks to solve crisis with talks, \$15 billion in aid

By LORI HINNAN  
AND JUERGEN BAETZ  
The Associated Press

PARIS — The building blocks of a possible diplomatic solution in Ukraine emerged Wednesday as top Russian and Western officials tried to defuse one of Europe's worst crises since the Cold War. The European Union prepared a \$15 billion aid package for Ukraine, and European and Ukrainian diplomats outlined ways that all sides could step back from the brink of a new global conflict.

Yet it all hinges on Russia, whose troops remain on Ukraine's strategic Crimean peninsula and which sees Ukraine as a crucial part of its geopolitical backyard. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov refused to meet his Ukrainian counterpart in a whirlwind day of talks in Paris on Wednesday, according to a top French diplomat.

The stakes in the rapidly escalating crisis have risen steadily since the departure last month of Ukraine's pro-Russian president after months of street protests and Moscow's takeover of Crimea. NATO is taking up the Ukraine situation Wednesday directly with Russia in an extraordinary meeting in Brussels of the military alliance, originally created to counterbalance to the Soviet Union.

Russia is open to international mediation, but a major sticking point has been Moscow's refusal to recognize Ukraine's new government, much less sit down at the table with them, the French diplomat said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of government policy.

He described the diplomatic elements emerging Wednesday as a "work in progress."

British Foreign Secretary William Hague said a key demand was for Russia's military to pull back to its Black Sea bases to show a tangible de-escalation, but he did not press on a Thursday deadline as European diplomats had initially warned.

On the verge of economic collapse, Ukraine accused Russia of a military invasion after pro-Russian troops took over Crimea on Saturday, placing forces around its ferry terminal, military bases and border posts. Moscow does not recognize the new Ukrainian leadership in Kiev that ousted the pro-Russian president, and raised the pressure by threatening to end discounts on natural gas supplies.

Financial markets settled down Wednesday after two days of big swings, a sign that investors believe the risk of war has been averted.

"In terms of the international stage, this does seem to have moved on from looking like a game of poker to one of chess," said Joao Monteiro, an analyst at Valutrades.

Wednesday's offer by the European Union matched the Russian bailout for fugitive President Viktor Yanukovich. Yanukovich took the Russian loans instead of a wide-ranging trade and economic agreement with the EU, which fuelled the protests that eventually led to his ouster.

Hours later, the EU froze the assets of 18 people held responsible for misappropriating state funds in Ukraine, echoing similar action in Switzerland and Austria. The list, which likely targeted officials in the ousted government or businessmen related to them, were withheld until Thursday to prevent anyone from withdrawing the funds at the last minute.

"The situation in Ukraine is a test of our capability and resolve to stabilize our neighborhood and to provide new opportunities for many, not just a few," European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said.

The European aid offer was the beginning of a solution rather than a fix, experts said.

"It creates more breathing room" that could lead to de-escalation, said Mujtaba Rahman, an analyst with Eurasia Group. "It sends a signal to the Russians that the Europeans are willing to engage."

Lavrov, speaking in Spain ahead of meetings planned with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in Paris, warned against Western support of what Moscow views as a coup. He said that could encourage government takeovers elsewhere.

"If we indulge those who are trying to rule our great, kind historic neighbor, we must understand that a bad example is infectious," Lavrov said.

Wednesday's Paris gathering, originally scheduled to deal with the Syrian refugee crisis, came after Russian President Vladimir Putin appeared to step back from the brink of war, but the crisis is far from resolved.



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# UKRAINE UNREST

# Russia not big concern in DOD strategy paper

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

If the crisis in Ukraine is prompting a strategic reassessment of the security situation in Europe, don't look to the Pentagon's Quadrennial Defense Review for evidence of a heightened focus on the Continent.

The 2014 QDR, released Tuesday, shows a Pentagon that views Russia as a difficult partner, but not one demanding excessive strategic attention.

Relations with the sometimes ally, sometimes adversary are described this way: "The United States is willing to undertake security cooperation with Russia, both in the bilateral context and in seeking solutions to regional challenges, when our interests align, including Syria, Iran, and post-2014 Afghanistan." At the same time, Russia's multidimensional defense modernization and actions that violate the sovereignty of its neighbors present risks. We will engage Russia to increase transparency and reduce the risk of military miscalculation.

It is worth noting that the document was crafted long before Russia's intervention in Ukraine, which is not mentioned. Political upheaval and Russia's sudden in-

tervention last week have brought tensions with the West to the highest level they've been since the Cold War.

For the Pentagon, the crisis in Ukraine is a reminder that Europe can still be a source of instability, particularly in the East, where Russia remains an unpredictable wildcard.

"Russia's actions remind us that the world today remains unpredictable, complex, and quite dangerous," Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in prepared remarks Wednesday before the Senate Armed Services Committee. "We cannot think too narrowly about future security challenges, nor can we be too certain that we have it right. The world will continue to surprise us, often in unpleasant ways."

During the hearing, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., told Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel that U.S. intelligence agencies' inability to predict the Russian invasion was a "massive failure."

But it should have been going to foresee, he said.

"Mr. Putin was not easy to see Sevastopol go into the hands of a government that was not his client," McCain said.

Russia's intervention in the Crimea region isn't the first time the U.S. and its allies have been caught off guard. Moscow also left the West flatfooted in 2008, when it pushed deep into the territory of the Republic of Georgia after a Georgian attack on its breakaway territory of South Ossetia. That conflict resulted in Russia's recognition of South Ossetia's independence, as well as that of Abkhazia, another breakaway Georgian territory. The specter of such secession now looms over Ukraine's autonomous Crimean Peninsula.

How tensions in Ukraine could shape or alter the U.S.'s strategic outlook on the region isn't entirely clear. The conflict in Georgia soured relations with Russia and heightened alarms, but that didn't stop the Pentagon from pursuing a program to downsize its footprint in Europe. Meanwhile, U.S. officials have made clear the events in Ukraine must be dealt with through diplomatic and economic channels. There is no military option on the table.

As the QDR makes clear, more reductions in Europe are being looked at, and there has been no indication from the Pentagon that has changed.

"We will continue to study U.S. infrastructure and headquarters in Europe to balance further consolidation in a time of fiscal austerity with our enduring responsibility to provide forces in response to crises in the region and beyond, and to train with NATO allies and partners," the QDR says.

Still, events in Ukraine could focus more energy on measures aimed at reassuring Eastern allies, who have long been wary of Russian intentions. For example, Poland earlier this week requested a rare NATO Article 4 meeting, which is typically called when a member state feels it is under threat.

"I think whatever reductions are planned right now in Europe probably won't be paused, but any further reductions, people are going to have second thoughts about," said Kathleen McInnis, a defense expert at Chatham House in London and a former planner at the Pentagon. "We need to see how the security landscape looks in the wake of this crisis."

Unlike with the conflict in Georgia, Ukraine's proximity to NATO territory — it borders NATO member Poland — makes the crisis in Crimea more acute,

McInnis said. "This really brings it home that Russia is not the most predictable partner."

For the U.S., bolstering training missions with its allies in the East could be one way to signal reassurance.

"We will continue to adapt the U.S. defense posture in Europe to support U.S. military operations worldwide while also conducting a range of prevention, deterrence, and assurance-related activities in Europe itself," the QDR says.

Nonetheless, the heart of the military effort in Europe appears to remain focused on other areas.

During the Cold War, Europe was the front line, with forces focused on preventing a Soviet invasion into western Europe. Today's mission is more nuanced. Building up the capabilities of partner militaries and ensuring access to volatile hot spots in Africa and the Mideast are the primary objectives.

Still, budgetary uncertainty and the threat of deeper cuts in connection with the so-called sequestration could hamper even those priorities, prompting deeper troop reductions.

Stars and Stripes reporter Chris Carroll contributed to this report. vandiver.john@stripes.com

## House panel reviews intel on Ukraine

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence agencies disagreed on whether Syrian President Vladimir Putin would order military intervention last week in Ukraine, officials said Tuesday, and the House Intelligence Committee is examining what caused the differing analyses.

"We have begun a review to see what pieces were missing here," said House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers, R-Mich.

Lawmakers who read the intelligence analyses say they were given little guidance on what to believe and were surprised Friday when the Russians began taking control of border posts, airports and regional government facilities in Crimea.

A classified report earlier in the week by the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency concluded that Russian military drills with 150,000 troops near the Ukrainian border would not provide a pretext for sending troops into Crimea.

A separate classified analysis from the CIA said that some signs pointed to a Russian intervention, but that it did not expect one, the officials said.

"I think the Russian steps came as a surprise," said Rep. Adam B. Schiff, D-Calif., an Intelligence Committee member. "I think in part it comes from trying to predict a fairly unpredictable Vladimir Putin."



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## MILITARY

# Report: Marine in line for Medal of Honor

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama will award medically retired Marine Lance Cpl. William Kyle Carpenter the Medal of Honor later this year in recognition of Carpenter's heroic actions during a November 2010 grenade attack in Afghanistan, according to a Marine Corps Times report, which cited unnamed officials as sources.

Spokespersons for the Marine Corps and the White House would not confirm the status of Carpenter's case to Stars and Stripes, pending a potential White House announcement.

Carpenter, 24, would be the 10th U.S. servicemember — and the second Marine — to receive the Medal of Honor from the war in Afghanistan.

Carpenter was nominated for the nation's highest award for valor following reports that he covered a grenade to save the life of his friend, Lance Cpl. Nicholas Eufrazio, during an insurgent attack in the Marjah district of Helmand province as the two Marines were standing guard on a rooftop on Nov. 21, 2010. Carpenter and Eufrazio survived the blast, but suffered severe wounds. Carpenter lost an eye and most of his teeth and shattered his jaw; his arm was also broken in several places.

Damage from shrapnel to the frontal lobe of Eufrazio's brain left him unable

to speak for two years.

The Marine Corps investigation of the incident to determine if Carpenter deserved the award was complicated by several factors: There were no other witnesses, Carpenter couldn't remember what happened due to trauma, and Eufrazio was unable to speak until late 2012.

Marines who were deployed with Carpenter told the Marine Corps Times that they believed Carpenter took the brunt of the grenade blast to save Eufrazio because of the nature of the wounds he sustained. Petty Officer 3rd Class Christopher Frend, the Navy corpsman who triaged the two Marines, said the blast seat of the grenade — which indicates the detonation location — was found on Carpenter's torso. Frend said Carpenter's injury would have been different if the grenade had exploded on top of him instead of under him, which suggests that Carpenter smothered the grenade with his body.

In 2011, the state legislature of South Carolina, Carpenter's home state, passed a resolution honoring Carpenter for his service and sacrifices, citing his reported actions during the grenade attack.

After a long recovery and more than 30 surgeries, Carpenter ran the Marine Corps Marathon last year and posted a time of 4:28:42, according to the "Operation Kyle" Facebook page, which was

created by Carpenter's supporters.

"It's hard to comprehend that three years ago today my life and body was torn apart by an enemy hand grenade on a hot dusty rooftop in Afghanistan," Carpenter wrote on the Operation Kyle page last year, on the third anniversary of the attack. "At times it has felt so long ago and yet, when I close my eyes, I can still feel the warm blood pouring out of me onto my skin and fading out of consciousness with my final thought of 'I'm going to die' in my head ..."

"And here I am. I just want to thank and remind all of you how much it means and how truly appreciative I am for every comment, message, word of encouragement and prayer you have sent my way since that day in November 2010. You have helped get me to where I am today and for that I will be forever grateful. It took a life changing event to get me to truly appreciate the precious and amazing life I have been blessed with.

"Please take it from me ... enjoy everyday to the fullest, don't take life too seriously, always try to make it count, appreciate the small and simple things, be kind and help others, let the ones you love always know you love them and when things get hard, trust there is a bigger plan and that you will be stronger for it."

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DANIEL A. WETZEL/Courtesy of the U.S. Marines

Lance Cpl. Kyle Carpenter, who was wounded by an enemy grenade in Marjah, Afghanistan, in 2010, is reported to be in line for the Medal of Honor.

# Celebrate the Week With Yokosuka MWR



## Officers' Club 243-5030

### Women's History Month Celebration

*Fridays in March from 1700 to 2100*

Celebrate Women's History Month and honor their contributions and accomplishments. All ladies will receive a free sliver of cake and a cup of coffee or tea with their meal.

### Our Prime Deal

*Friday from 1700 to 2100 in Kosano Dining Room*

Delighted and excited by succulent beef? Our juicy herb crusted prime rib dinner set comes complete with soup, salad, sides and dessert for only \$20.95/adult. Children up to 11 years old: \$9.95

### Pre-Celebrate St. Patty's Day Brunch

*Sunday, March 16 from 0900 to 1330 in Kosano Dining Room*

Our St. Patty's Day inspired brunch menu is sure to please. Corned beef, potato pancakes, Irish stew to name a few. All hands are welcome.

## CPO Club 243-5506

CPO Club Dining room is open to all hands all the time!

### Breakfast A la Carte

*Saturdays from 0900 to 1330*

Start the weekend off right with our great breakfast with steak & eggs, omelets, waffles, pancakes and lunch items such as burgers, chicken sandwiches and other

breakfast & lunch items on our menu.

### Lunch Buffet

*Monday-Friday from 1100 to 1330*

All-you-can eat buffet with a large variety of offerings including our Asian and Continental specials. Dining room open to all hands all the time. Only \$9

### St. Patrick's Day Buffet

*Monday, March 17*

Wear green and you get a 20% discount on our St. Patrick's Day special buffet during lunch.

## Club Alliance 243-3000

### Garlic Night

*Saturday, March 15 from 1700 to 2045 in Italian Gardens*

Follow your nose to Italian Gardens for our famous garlic night! Steamed garlic mussels and the garlic caesar salad make a delicious dinner!

### March Pizza of the Month: Prosciutto Pizza

Try our delicious Prosciutto pizza topped with Italian ham and fresh Rosemary. Small \$4.95 | Med \$9.95 | Large \$15.95

### Catering And Conferences

Our facilities range from formal ballroom and banquet halls to birthday parties and command functions. We can accommodate small parties or large groups with extensive menu selections to match your taste and

budget. For more information on services offered, please visit or call 243-3000

## Club Takemiya 246-8077

### International Women's Day

*Saturday, March 8*

Share your culture and heritage with us as we celebrate International Women's Day with one scoop of ice cream, FREE to all women 18 years of age and older, just for being you!

### Pre-St. Patrick's Day Brunch

*Sunday, March 16*

Celebrate the luck of the Irish one day early. Visit us for our Green Brunch where you will find everything green, almost!

## Negishi Club 242-4151

### Absolutely Incredible Kid Day

*Saturday, March 15*

Free stickers for the youngsters as a way for Negishi Club to show our appreciation to all our families. Parents: tell us how incredible your kids are and allow us to congratulate and praise them!

### Almost St. Patrick's Green Day

*Sunday, March 16*

Join us in the lounge on Sunday night for green beer and Irish snacks.

# FEDERAL BUDGET

## Pentagon: Obama seeks more money than sequestration permits

### FROM FRONT PAGE

But Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., pointed out that the budget proposal, if enacted by Congress, would result in the smallest Army and Navy since before World War II, and a reduced Air Force. While the U.S. military shrinks, he said, Ukraine is in turmoil, negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program have collapsed, the Syrian conflict is expanding and China has announced major defense spending increases.

"I must say, Mr. Secretary, your timing is exquisite," McCain told Hagel. "You're coming over here ... at a time when the world is probably more unsettled than it has been since the end of World War II."

Republican senators and defense leaders sparred over who was really to blame for falling defense spending — the administration of President Barack Obama or Congress.

Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., said Obama was prioritizing spending on civilian programs over national defense spending.

Hagel took exception, however, saying Congress has not provided the full defense spending amount requested in previous years.

"I think in the five budgets that this president has presented, they have been above ... the ultimate amount that we have requested," he said. "I can assure you that this president of the United States puts the defense of this country as his highest priority."

Hagel and Chairman of the

Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey said that while a recent bipartisan budget agreement provides enough funds to carry out the national defense strategy in 2015, that won't be the case in 2016 if sequestration cuts begin again, as mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011.

Resumption of \$50 billion in yearly sequestration cuts would represent "unacceptable risk," further slashing end strength, readiness and weapons purchases. Army end strength would have to fall to 420,000 troops, air wings and ships would be decommissioned, and an entire carrier group would be dropped, Hagel said.

As a result, Obama's defense budget proposal plans for spending over a five-year period that is \$115 billion higher than the Budget Control Act allows, which would require Congress to eliminate sequestration.

In addition, Obama proposed a spending package for 2015, known as the Opportunity, Growth and Security Initiative, that would add \$26 billion to the defense budget to pay for additional modernization and maintenance, Hagel said.

Hagel and Dempsey also defended changes in pay and benefits, including shifting some housing costs to troops, more out-of-pocket Tricare expenses, slower pay growth and higher prices at commissaries.

Rising personnel costs can't be allowed to damage military capa-



J. SCOTT APPELWITZ/AP

**Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey listens while testifying Wednesday before the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing focusing on the Defense Department's budget for fiscal 2015.**

bility, Hagel said.

"Taking care of our people means providing them with both fair compensation as well as the training and tools they need to succeed in battle any time, anywhere and return home safely," he said.

Dempsey added, "We have personnel costs that have grown at a disproportionate rate and we ought to be able to slow the rate

of expensive and unneeded facilities."

"We have infrastructure that we don't need and — with your support — we ought to be able to reduce it," Dempsey said.

Speaking the previous day, DOD comptroller Robert F. Hale went into greater depth on the need for a new round of closures.

"We've got at least 25 percent unneeded infrastructure in this department, and if we can't get Congress to allow us to close it, then we're simply going to waste the taxpayers' money, frankly, and we won't have that money to invest in other things like readiness and reducing the numbers of force cuts that are required."

Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., asked Hagel and Dempsey to keep in mind the strains and stresses that the personnel changes — particularly cuts and reorganization in Tricare — could put on military families.

"The department is laying out a number of proposals that would negatively affect military compensation," Hagan said. "While I understand the significant fiscal challenges that the department faces, we just can't see to balance the budgets on the backs of our servicemembers."

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in a way that makes the all-volunteer force sustainable over time."

Both leaders also called on Congress to initiate a new round of base closures to rid the mili-

## Contingency model to continue for wars after Afghanistan

Stars and Stripes

The Defense Department will likely continue to ask Congress for war funding separate from the Pentagon's base budget even after U.S. troops leave Afghanistan by the end of the year, on the outlet Defense News reported Monday.

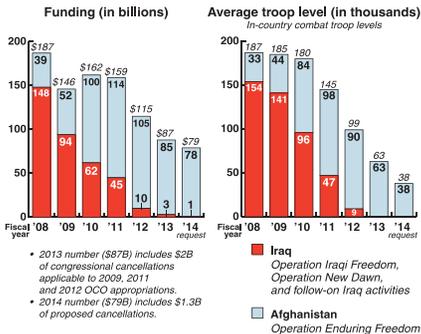
The Pentagon submitted a \$495.6 billion 2015 budget request Tuesday, a spending plan that does not include money for operations in Afghanistan.

War funding has been covered under what's known as overseas contingency operations funding, and is being delayed because the Afghan government has not approved a security agreement that would allow troops to remain in the country beyond the end of the year.

Despite U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan falling 40 percent between 2013 and 2014, the Pentagon's OCO funding did not decline much. DOD requested \$85.5 billion in 2013 and Congress approved \$85 billion in 2014, adding \$5 billion to DOD's request.

Defense News quoted Todd Harrison, an analyst with the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, as saying that about \$20 billion in Army and Air Force operations and mainte-

### Trends on contingency operations



• 2013 number (\$78) includes \$2B of congressional cancellations applicable to 2009, 2011 and 2012 OCO appropriations.  
• 2014 number (\$78) includes \$1.3B of proposed cancellations.

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding

SOURCE: Department of Defense

Stars and Stripes

nance funding, typically included in the base budget, was shifted to the OCO accounts in 2014. The Army and Marine Corps are funding pay and benefits for 38,000 troops out of the 2014 OCO budget, he said.

"This is an uncapped funding stream that exists for DOD, and both the administration and Congress have been willing to use it to soften the impact of sequestration," Harrison said Monday, according to the report.

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## FEDERAL BUDGET

## Army is adjusting to spending

By CHRIS CARROLL  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Army officials rolled out budget plans aimed at ensuring the Army could still fight an unwieldy war despite coming years of falling budgets and declining force structure.

“This budget begins to implement the emerging postwar strategy which decreases funding as the Army begins to draw down,” Maj. Gen. Karen Dyson, Army budget director, told reporters at the Pentagon.

Because funding is declining faster than a drawdown can happen, the Army is being forced to select some units for full readiness while others are allowed to fall to lower levels, she said.

The baseline Army budget request for fiscal 2015 of \$121 billion continues a downward trend after topping out at \$144 billion in 2010, when the fighting in Afghanistan was at its fiercest after the troop surge.

The Army on Tuesday did not specify a request to cover overseas contingency funds for war-fighting, which added \$43 billion on top of 2014’s \$125 billion base. Defense officials say that until there is clarity on the U.S. military’s future mission in Afghanistan, no substantive overseas contingency operations request can



Jessi Ann McCormick/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

## A CH-47 Chinook prepares to sling load a container in Chorah, Afghanistan.

be made.

Army end strength will also fall. The current 520,000-troops active-duty force — down from a high of about 570,000 during the Iraq War — is larger than needed to implement national defense strategy and too big to modernize with current defense spending, Pentagon officials say.

The Army will drop to 490,000 active-duty troops in 2015, and Defense Department officials plan to shrink it to between 440,000 and 450,000 troops by 2017.

If Congress fails to defuse automatic sequestration budget cuts, the Army would fall to 420,000, officials say.

The Army National Guard and Reserve will in 2015 lose 4,000 and 3,000 troops, respectively, with further cuts planned in later years.

To save money, the Army plans to restructure its aviation forces, getting rid

of 898 helicopters and eliminating three active-duty brigades by 2019, officials said. The Army also will kill the ground combat vehicle, which is unaffordable in the new budget environment.

Meanwhile, overall spending on aircraft would grow in 2015 to \$5.1 billion from \$4.8 billion this year, including plans to acquire 79 new Black Hawk helicopters and plans to refit dozens of Chinook cargo helicopters and Apache attack helicopters.

The service also plans to spend more than \$160 million for enhanced night vision devices for SOF and global response forces, \$420 million for new Patriot missiles and \$1.8 billion to modernize and upgrade ground vehicles including Bradley fighting vehicles and Abrams tanks.

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## F-35, KC-46 tanker among AF’s priorities

By CHRIS CARROLL  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Air Force plans to shed tens of thousands of airmen and dump a pair of famous aircraft fleets to pay for advanced capabilities that will allow it to face down “high-end” threats of the future, according to the service’s fiscal 2015 budget proposal presented Tuesday.

“Our challenge in a constrained funding environment is to maintain the balance between having a ready force today, and a modern force tomorrow,” Air Force budget director Maj. Gen. Joe Martin told reporters at the Pentagon.

Under the proposal, which must be approved by Congress, the Air Force would reduce its overall end strength to 483,000 in fiscal 2015, officials told reporters.

The cuts of 17,000 active-duty airmen and 3,000 Air National Guard members would be accomplished through the elimination of weapons systems, reductions in headquarters staffings and sending back aircrew-to-cockpit rats as combat in Afghanistan winds down this

year, officials said.

Voluntary force-reduction measures would first be used to thin out the ranks, followed by involuntary programs if not enough airmen fell, Martin said.

Two entire weapons systems are on the chopping block — the A-10 “Warthog” attack jet, and the venerable U2 spy plane.

The A-10, popular with ground troops in recent wars for its ability to lay waste to enemy formations, which defense officials say can’t operate in contested air environments. Eliminating it would result in \$3.7 billion in savings over five years, Martin said.

A controversial new fighter the Air Force wants to fully fund, the F-35A Lightning II, will be able to operate in a close air support role, as can other multiuse planes in the inventory, Air Force officials say. The A-10 program has generated intense controversy and opposition from powerful members of Congress.

The Global Hawk spy drone, which the Air Force had previously proposed getting rid of, can do the U2’s mission, officials say.

The Air Force’s proposed 2015 base

budget is \$109.3 billion, down from the \$114.1 billion originally proposed for this year, but slightly higher than the \$108.8 billion enacted by Congress.

In addition, the Air Force’s so-called “non-blue” budget, which includes classified DOD programs not under the control of the Air Force, would fall slightly to \$28.5 billion from the \$29.5 billion enacted by Congress in 2014.

The Air Force’s top budget priorities are the KC-46 tanker, the F-35 and the planned long-range strike bomber, Martin said.

Research, development and testing spending on the planned bomber would jump next year to \$914 million from \$359 million currently, he said.

The procurement budget for the F-35, which has been behind schedule and over budget throughout its development, would rise to nearly \$4.3 billion from \$3.3 billion this year, funding the purchase of 26 planes.

Another \$1.58 billion would be budgeted to buy seven of the new tankers next year, Martin said.

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## Vets’ groups seek bump in VA funding

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
Stars and Stripes

President Barack Obama’s budget proposal for fiscal 2015, unveiled Tuesday, includes \$163.9 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs — a \$10.1 billion increase over current funding levels, officials said.

The budget features \$59.1 billion for medical care, approximately \$1.6 billion to prevent or reduce veterans’ homelessness and \$31.2 million for burgeoning technologies that officials hope will address the claims backlog and help them meet 2015 elimination goals, according to a VA statement.

The budget also features \$1 billion for veterans’ job programs.

“This budget will allow us to continue the progress we have made in helping Veterans secure their place in the middle class,” Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki said in the statement. “It is a tangible demonstration of the President’s commitment to ensuring Veterans and their families have the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.”

Some of the budget’s big-ticket items include:

- \$1 billion to create the Veterans Job Corps program that would put thousands of veterans to work over the next five years, the statement said.
- \$4.6 billion for prosthetics.
- \$138.7 million for the Veterans Claims Intake Program and \$173 million for the next generation of the electronic claims processing Veterans Benefits Management System, both of which are meant to address the VA’s claims backlog.
- \$7.2 billion for mental health.
- \$7 billion for long-term care.
- Approximately \$1 billion for spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries and readjustment counseling.
- \$534 million for the activation of new and enhanced health care facilities.

■ \$86.6 million for improved customer service applications for online self-service portals and call center agent-assisted inquiries.

In addition, the proposal contains \$58.7 billion in advance appropriations for VA medical care programs for fiscal 2016, White House budget documents said.

The president’s proposal — the actual budget must be passed by Congress — was met with applause from some in the veterans community and with consternation by others who believe it does not go far enough.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America and American Veterans called on Congress to strengthen the budget by almost \$3 billion more for underfunded VA construction accounts.

“We appreciate the increases offered by the Administration’s Budget for FY 2015 and for advance appropriations for FY 2016, particularly with regards to health care and benefits services, we have concerns that the serious lack of commitment to infrastructure funding to support the system will undermine the VA’s ability to deliver those services,” the groups said in a statement. “We urge Congress to correct the funding deficiencies.”

The American Legion said that more attention needs to be paid to advance appropriations.

“We recognize the primary importance of VA’s health care for our veterans, but we want to see all VA programs protected by advance appropriations, including benefits payments,” said national commander Daniel Dellinger. “That way, if our federal government decides to shut down again, America’s veterans would not be left to worry about whether their benefits checks will show up on time.”

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## FEDERAL BUDGET

## Navy budget plans focused on Asia pivot

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Navy officials unveiled the service's budget plans Tuesday, which are aimed at ensuring the U.S. military can effectively pivot toward the Asia-Pacific and handle anti-access technological challenges being developed by countries like China.

"The rebalance to the Pacific was absolutely a focus not only of the [Quadrennial Defense Review], but [of] this budget," Rear Adm. William Lescher, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for budget, told reporters at the Pentagon. "You see a very strong focus overall and support in this budget for that shift."

At a time when the Army and the Air Force will undergo force reductions, Navy active-duty end strength would remain virtually unchanged through 2019. The Navy Reserve would drop from 59,100 sailors to 57,300 in 2015.

The baseline request for 2015 is \$125.2 billion, down \$400 million from last year's enacted budget.

The Navy has an aggressive shipbuilding program scheduled for its Five-Year Defense Plan. The Navy plans to buy a new aircraft carrier, 10 nuclear submarines, 10 destroyers and 14 littoral combat ships over the next five years. The total number of battle force ships is expected to increase from 291 to 309 during that time period.

Lescher said those numbers are subject to change depending on force level decisions in 2016.

The Navy cut in half the number of F-35C Joint Strike Fighters that it plans to buy over the next five years, from 69 to 36, because of "affordability" issues, according to Lescher. In addition, 11 cruisers will be placed on reduced operating status while they await modernization in an effort to save money.

The Navy would maintain 11 carrier groups under the budget proposal for at least another year, but officials will re-examine the cost of maintaining the USS George Washington in 2016.

Lescher warned that if sequestration goes back into effect in 2016, the Navy Department will take a \$39 billion budget hit over the course of the five-year plan, which would necessitate cuts to the fleet, including:

- Inactivation of a carrier and decommissioning of an air wing.
- Removal of six surface combatants from service.

- Elimination of the planned procurements of three destroyers.

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DONNIE W. RYAN/Courtesy of the US Navy

The littoral combat ship USS Independence transits the San Diego Bay last month. The Navy plans to buy 14 of the ships over the next five years.

## Marines plan for shrinking force

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials unveiled the Marine Corps budget Tuesday, which comes at a time when the service is reducing its force structure as the war in Afghanistan winds down.

Plans call for the Marine Corps to shrink from its current active duty end-strength of 195,800 to 182,700 Marines by the end of 2015.

The base budget request for fiscal 2015 is \$22.8 billion, down \$1.4 billion from last year.

This year's war funding request, known as "OCO", has not been determined because the president has not made any decisions about force levels in Afghanistan post-2014, according to Rear Adm. William Lescher, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for budget.

Marine Corps procurement priorities include:

- The F-35B Joint Strike Fighter. The service plans to procure six of the short take-off and vertical landing variant in FY 2015, the same number as last year.

- Over the course of the Five Year Defense Plan, 69 of the aircraft



ZACHARY W. SCANLON/Courtesy of the US Marine Corps

Marines evacuate to an MV-22B Osprey in Thailand during Exercise Cobra Gold 2014 last month. The Marines plan to buy 19 of the aircraft in fiscal 2015.

are scheduled to be purchased.

- The MV-22 Osprey. The Marines plan to buy 19 of the aircraft in FY 2015, the same number as last year. The Osprey is a unique aircraft which can take off and land like a helicopter but fly like an airplane. Over the course of the five-year plan, the Marines plan to buy 64 of them.

- The Joint-Light Tactical Vehicle and the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle.

commonly known as the Humvee. The service wants to buy eight JLTVs and 57 HMMWVs in FY 2015. Last year, the Marines bought no JLTVs last year and only one HMMWV.

Officials have warned that if sequestration goes into effect, it may further necessitate decreasing the size of the Marine Corps to 175,000.

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## Marines, Navy due sea pay increase

By JAMES KIMBER  
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Sailors and Marines could see as much as a 25 percent increase in sea pay, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus said in a news release Tuesday.

It is the first increase in sea pay in more than a decade, and is expected to take effect this summer. The adjustment is aimed at keeping pace with the dollar's inflation rate since October 2001. You need \$1.32 today to buy what \$1 bought in October 2001, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Those sailors and Marines on sea duty, deployed away from home around the world, are the backbone of the Navy and Marine Corps, and enable us to provide and maintain our global presence," Mabus said in the news release. "This change to Career Sea Pay will both improve critical sea-duty manning and reward those who take these challenging sea-going assignments."

"This increase is long overdue and is meant to reward our sailors and Marines for their continued sacrifices as part of 'America's Away Team.'"

Additionally, sailors and Marines who have served more than 36 consecutive months in a sea billet will see a boost to the incentive-based career sea pay premium. The premium will increase anywhere from \$100 per month to \$200 per month depending on rank and time at sea.

"It's long overdue," Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Bill Moran said during an all-hands call aboard the USS Bataan earlier this year. "We haven't adjusted sea pay in over 10 years and we are absolutely convinced that it is the right thing to do for sailors who are committed to sea duty or serving at sea."

Approximately 100,000 sailors receive career sea pay and approximately 13,000 receive career sea pay premium. The Navy expects the increase to cost \$66 million per year.

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FEDERAL BUDGET

# Obama protects party at deficit's expense

By DAVID ESPO  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is trying to have it both ways with an election-year budget that pays faint lip service to reducing federal deficits while piling on about \$1 trillion in tax increases and hundreds of billions in higher spending designed to appeal to economically squeezed voters rather than congressional foes of red ink.

Few, if any, of the proposals Obama sent to Congress on Tuesday are likely to be enacted into law before next fall's elections. But that's not the point.

The objective is political rather than legislative — a book-length compendium of proposals meant to give Democratic congressional candidates a campaign platform at a time when economic disparity is a major concern for millions trying to dig out from the worst recession in decades.

Last year's deficit-cutting proposals "remain on the table," says the budget, referring ever so gingerly to recommended cuts in the growth of Social Security retirement benefits. Asserting the "Republicans' unwillingness to negotiate a balanced long-term deficit-reduction deal," it adds the president is now turning toward "the best path to create growth and opportunity for all Americans."

Shifting priorities means a budget that never balances at any point in the next decade, lays waste to the spending caps that

**[President Barack Obama] has once again opted for ... a budget that's more about firing up [his] base in an election year than about solving the nation's biggest and most persistent long-term challenges.**



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell

## Breaking down the budget

President Barack Obama's election-year budget blueprint costs nearly \$4 trillion and reflects Democratic priorities on spending and taxes.

### WHERE MONEY IS RAISED...

Individual income taxes: \$1.5 trillion	<b>Total Revenue: \$3.3 trillion</b>
Social Security taxes: \$798 billion	
Corporate taxes: \$449 billion	
Medicare: \$237 billion	
Other taxes: \$363 billion	
<b>Deficit: \$564 billion</b>	

### AND WHERE IT GOES

<b>DISCRETIONARY</b>	Defense: \$623 billion	<b>Total Spending: \$3.9 trillion</b>
	Non-defense: \$563 billion	
<b>MANDATORY</b>	Social Security: \$896 billion	
	Medicare: \$526 billion	
	Medicaid: \$336 billion	
	Other mandatory: \$691 billion	
	Interest on the debt: \$252 billion	

### NOTABLE CHANGES

**More spending on:** Highways, railroads, education, job training.

**Less spending on:** Crop insurance, payments to Medicare providers.

**No changes to:** Entitlement programs like Social Security, on which Obama previously offered to slow spending growth by recalculating yearly cost-of-living increases.

**Tax tinkering:** Tobacco taxes would rise to pay for preschool; some tax breaks enjoyed by the wealthy would be eliminated and some corporate loopholes narrowed; tax breaks for lower-income workers would be expanded.

NOTE: These figures represent actual spending proposed for fiscal 2015 only. The government also reports "budget authority" numbers, which authorize spending that can span more than one year.

SOURCE: White House

the White House and Congress agreed to late last year and imposes higher taxes on the wealthy to pay for more spending on programs that benefit those further down the income ladder: Education, job training, child care, transportation, tax breaks for lower-income millions of Americans and more would receive in-

creased funding.

The White House refers to this approach — including raising the minimum wage — as "the best path to create growth and opportunity for all Americans."

Not surprisingly, Republicans call it something different. Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Senate Republican leader, said Obama "has once again opted for the political stunt — for a budget that's more about firing up the president's base in an election year than about solving the nation's biggest and most persistent long-term challenges."

By that, he means the growth of benefit programs and federal deficits.

Speaker John Boehner said House Republicans will offer an alternative "that balances, promotes opportunity, reforms our tax code, saves our critical safety net programs and places a priority on creating jobs, not more

government."

Republican Rep. Paul Ryan, the chairman of the House Budget Committee, has already let it be known he is looking at changes to the welfare system. Coincidentally or not, that was the area on which congressional Republicans and former President Bill Clinton ultimately reached a major compromise almost two decades ago.

For now, Democrats are no doubt ready to pounce on whatever budget Republicans produce. The theory is that if Republicans indeed come up with a serious no-tax-increase attack on deficits, the inescapable result must be cuts in social programs.

Cue the campaign ads. The budget maneuvering is unfolding eight months before the midterm elections, which historically favor the party not in control of the White House. Republicans look confidently to renewing their House majority and hope to seize

control of the Senate, as well. Members of Obama's party must do something to shake up the trend lines.

Enter the budget — and the contrast Democrats hope to set up with a Republican alternative. That would be far better, in their view, than an election that is a referendum on the slow recovery from the deepest recession in decades, Obama's general stewardship across five years in office, the new health care law and whatever else is contributing to the curdled national mood.

The polling is instructive on that point.

The most recent soundings of the public mood include a 2-week-old CBS-New York Times poll that reported only 32 percent of those polled believe the country is headed in the right direction, compared with 63 percent who said it is in the wrong track. Those findings were consistent with a 28-63 finding by NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll about a month earlier and a 35-64 result when an AP-GFK survey asked the question in mid-January.

Obama's approval ratings have risen somewhat since a fall several months ago that coincided with the catastrophic unveiling of the website for the health care law that goes by his name. The AP-GFK poll showed that 45 percent of those polled approved of his performance and 53 percent disapproved. The CBS/New York Times polls had it 43-51, and an ABC-Washington Post poll returned a finding of 46 percent favorable and 50 percent unfavorable.

Anna Greenberg, who served as New York Mayor Bill de Blasio's pollster in his recent winning campaign, said in an interview that the discontentment many individuals feel is centered on the view that "the people on the top have recovered in the way people in the middle and at the bottom have not."

Even those who have found a job are likely to be making less or forced to take two jobs instead of one, as before, she said.

Obama's budget is an all-out appeal for them to vote Democratic this fall.



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NATION

# Human hamsters for art

The Associated Press

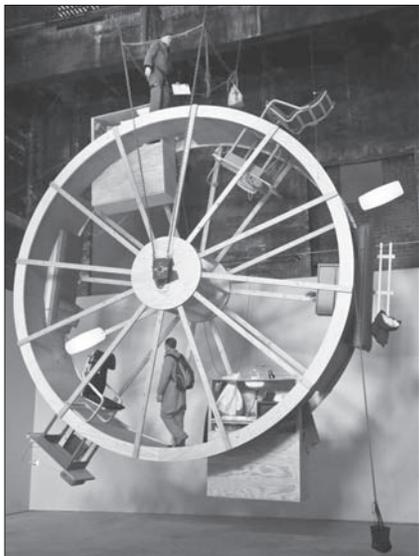
NEW YORK — Ever feel like you're on a big hamster wheel and you can't get off?

Ward Shelley and Alex Schweder know that feeling all too well. The two performance artists are spending 10 days living, eating and sleeping on a giant hamster wheel to make a larger point: We all have to work together to get through the daily grind.

"I wasn't prepared for this ... perhaps I should have been," Shelley said from atop the wheel, his feet dangling off the side of the 25-foot-tall wood and metal structure.

One wrong move by him or his fellow human hamster and they risk being thrown off. They are perched on opposite ends of the wheel, 180 degrees from each other, and must carefully coordinate their movements. When one walks, the other must walk in the opposite direction. When one stops, the other must stop.

"It's really an exploration of what it means to collaborate," Schweder said from the relative safety at the bottom, inside of the wheel. "It's an exploration of trust between two people."



BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Performance artists Ward Shelley, top, and Alex Schweder are spending 10 days in a hamster wheel-like sculpture at the Boiler gallery in Williamsburg, N.Y.

# New extension on health plans

By AMY GOLDSTEIN  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is preparing to announce that Americans who want to keep their old health plans may do so for at least one year longer than they expected, even if the policies don't comply with law, according to insurance industry officials familiar with the latest rewrite of federal health care rules.

The decision has become an open secret in insurance and health policy circles. It marks the second time in four months that administration officials have adjusted their rules about health plans that do not include benefits required by the 2010 Affordable Care Act.

Last fall, a few million consumers discovered that their noncompliant policies were about to be canceled.

A political furor erupted, with accusations that President Barack Obama had broken his promise that people could keep their cur-

rent insurance.

Obama relented in November, giving states latitude to allow policies to be sold through October, regardless of whether they contain all the benefits required by the law. About half the states have agreed.

Now, in a step that insurers believe is imminent, Obama's health care aides will announce that the old policies may continue longer — perhaps one to three more years.

Health and Human Services Department spokeswoman Joanne Peters pointed out that when the president announced the first extension, health officials had said they would consider further extending the ability to renew old plans beyond this year.

Congressional Republicans who have been trying to derail the law did not wait for the administration's announcement to begin their criticism.

"Another day, another delay," said House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton, R-Mich.

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## Behavior's bad; article's worse

Regarding the March 3 article "Gender-bending shows draws big Kadena audience": I served in the U.S. Air Force from 1966 to 1970, and read Stars and Stripes daily — especially the year I spent at Pleiku Air Base, Vietnam (1968). I don't think the people who ran the paper at that time would have entertained the idea of publishing an article of this nature.

I truly don't believe anyone who served in the military during those times would ever have thought that our military would have sunk so low as to allow this type of behavior in the ranks. It's disgusting.

Our military and judicial system have made the U.S. military the laughingstock of the world and I am totally ashamed. The ones I feel for are the "normal" GIs who have to serve alongside these poor misguided souls!

Ben Moore  
 Cibola, Texas

## Even Sikh troops must conform

Regarding Dr. (Maj.) Kamaljeet Singh Kaul's Feb. 9 column "Sikh GIs serve in accordance with their faith": Consistent grooming and appearance standards are essential parts of any professional military. These rules have not only operational purposes — for example being able to obtain a seal on a gas mask — but also more outside observer-based purposes, such as presenting a clean, disciplined, standardized force. Every exception we make to these rules, every deviation from the standard, undermines the efforts of the other troops who are in compliance. Therefore I was disturbed when I read this column.

Maj. Kaul explains that Sikhs are required to wear turbans and to keep their hair uncut for religious reasons. He goes on to argue that the Department of Defense's

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new standards requiring a commander's permission before participating in these religious practices are too restrictive and require "further revisions." In defense of his position he states that "[c]entrally to popular belief, Sikhs are not asking for special treatment." This strikes me as intentionally misleading, since special treatment is exactly what he is advocating.

Suggesting that a small group of people should not be subject to an established set of rules is by definition special treatment, regardless of whether the reasons are based in religion. An Amish man would not be allowed to maintain the majority of his religious practices if he were to join the military. A Muslim woman would not be allowed to wear a burqa over her uniform. Religious dogma is not an excuse for not following standards.

There are many religious practices that military members are barred from participating in. These restrictions exist for a reason. If some of these rules are no longer necessary, then they should be removed completely. However, if these rules are deemed appropriate and necessary, then they must be followed. Every exemption given, every time a waiver or special permission is issued allowing someone to not follow a rule, that rule loses a small

amount of credibility.

Standards that are not enforced cease to be standards. No special treatment should be given to personnel of any religion. In order to maintain the strength of our military, rules must be applied equally to everyone.

Capt. Jay Zimmer  
 Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

## Can't deny GIs visit strip clubs

I had to laugh at the Feb. 20 "Adult-entertainment businesses solicited for Navy fundraiser," in which a Navy captain and master chief petty officer were relieved of their establishments' "adult-entertainment" businesses were included in a fundraising drive. I'm assuming they mean strip clubs.

This hypocrisy is one of the reasons I finally left the military after 10 years. Do the people who made that decision to punish the captain and master chief realize most of their establishments wouldn't even be in business were it not for service members? Do they realize why there are so many "adult-entertainment" businesses outside every military base in the world?

I had to laugh at how they were so shocked and act as though the military has nothing to do with such (legal) small businesses, and that all of us military members, past and present, would never visit such establishments.

That two high-ranking servicemembers had to lose their jobs over such a minor thing as asking for donations for a fundraiser is a shame, and the height of hypocrisy. One of the reasons why I chose to leave the Army was that I was tired of them imposing their so-called morals and religious beliefs on me.

James Dylan  
 Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan

# Regulators should take job loss into account

By CASS R. SUNSTEIN  
 Bloomberg News

The term "job-killing regulations" has been used so often that in some circles it seems to have become a single word. Many Republicans believe that regulations are job-killing by definition.

Their view appears to fit with common sense. Suppose the Environmental Protection Agency imposes significant new burdens on businesses. The cost of production will often rise, potentially raising prices for consumers and thereby reducing demand.

As a result, employment should decline. Businesses will let workers go, or at least hesitate before hiring new ones.

Many Democrats reject this view. Some of them believe that regulations increase employment. For example, regulations often require companies to hire people to build and install new equipment.

This view also appears to fit with common sense. To the extent that regulations mandate new hiring, they will increase employment, at least in the short run.

In light of these competing possibilities, it is not possible to predict, in the abstract, whether regulations will kill jobs or create jobs. That's an empirical question. The latest evidence, outlined in an important new book, "Does Regulation Kill Jobs?" suggests that the polar positions are wrong.

Some research finds that regulations have a negative effect on employment in the short run. Two of the book's editors, Cary Coglianese and Christopher Carrigan, explain that "the empirical work suggests that regulation plays relatively little role in affecting the aggregate number of jobs in the United States."

An influential study, conducted by the Resources for the Future economist

Richard Morgenstern and his colleagues, explored the effects of environmental regulations on several industries. On average, they find that an additional \$1 million in regulation-induced spending produced a net decrease of just 1.5 jobs.

In some industries, such as petroleum and plastics, they find that regulation actually had a (small) positive impact on employment. Compliance with environmental regulation required new hiring, and consumer demand wasn't much decreased by the new costs.

By contrast, Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Greenleaf and Greenleaf's own study finds that in its first 15 years, the Clean Air Act produced a loss of 590,000 jobs in heavily regulated industries. That is a pretty big figure.

But as Greenstone emphasizes, the law didn't have a large impact on total employment in those industries. Nor did his study explore whether the Clean Air Act created jobs as well, or whether those who lost their jobs found other positions. For these reasons, it doesn't provide a complete picture of the employment effects of the law.

Some research suggests that if we focus on how regulations affect overall productivity, or on their impact on foreign direct investment, we will find some warning signs about the potentially harmful effects of expensive requirements. But to date, there is little direct evidence regulations have produced significant job losses in the U.S. (whether the Affordable Care Act will prove to have a similar effect is, of course, hotly disputed, and remains to be seen).

But it would be a big mistake to conclude that public officials should ignore the risk that regulations will cost jobs. In a period of high and sustained unemployment, they should be giving a lot of attention to that risk.

A reasonable approach, followed in

recent years by the Obama administration (in which I served), is for agencies to accompany their required cost-benefit analysis with a separate treatment of employment effects, good or bad. If a regulation would eliminate a lot of jobs, regulators should at least reconsider it, or explore how best to mitigate it so that it doesn't have that consequence.

A more ambitious approach would try to incorporate job losses directly into cost-benefit analysis. In an important essay, economist W. Reed Walker, of the University of California, Berkeley, explores what happens to people who lose their jobs as a result of environmental regulation. He finds that workers in regulated sectors lose a lot, largely as a consequence of sustained unemployment or lower earnings in their subsequent job. The wage loss is about 20 percent, on average, of what workers would have otherwise earned.

Extrapolating from evidence of this kind, University of Chicago law professors Jonathan Masur and Eric Posner contend that \$100,000 is a reasonable monetary estimate for the cost of each job loss. Use of that figure could tip the cost-benefit analysis against many regulations that would do two things more clear. First, there isn't much direct evidence to date that regulation has caused significant job losses in the U.S. Second, some regulations do cost jobs, and they create real and sometimes long-term human hardship as a result. In deciding whether to regulate, public officials should take account of that hardship — and try to minimize it.

Cass R. Sunstein, the Robert Walmley University professor at Harvard Law School, is a Bloomberg View columnist. He is a former administrator of the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, the co-author of "Nudge" and author of "Conspiracy Theories and Other Dangerous Ideas," forthcoming later this month.

OPINION

# Security Council can and must act on Syria

BY LORIE GRAHAM

“Does it stay on all the time or does it come off?” Ahmed asked from his hospital bed, frowning at the thought of a prosthetic leg. “I want one that doesn’t come off.” These are the words of a 12-year-old boy, an innocent victim of a brutal regime and an international system that in too many ways failed the people of Syria.

My own 13-year-old, reading those words in the newspaper, asks whether there is something that can be done to help. I begin my usual “It’s complicated” — there are legal constraints, there is the lack of political will — but seeing the look in my son’s eyes, I say instead, “Yes, there is.”

The U.N. Security Council, and its permanent members in particular, could take bolder action, working in good faith toward delivering on the promise of the U.N. Charter: “To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, and reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, (and) in the dignity and worth of the human person.”

In September, Russian President Vladimir Putin admonished the United States for seeing itself as “exceptional” in its desire to take action against the chemical weapons attacks on innocent civilians in Syria. But the United States is exceptional, as are Russia, China, Britain and France. Each holds a permanent seat on the 15-member Security Council, which means each has the power to veto (or not) any decisions made by the only U.N. body with the authority to “maintain or restore international peace and security. With this exceptional power comes exceptional responsibility.

Rather than wrangling over whether to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid, Russia and the other members should work to ensure that children like Ahmed have access to basic food and medical care. The good news is that with the support of Russia, the Security Council recently adopted a resolution on the safe passage of humanitarian aid to Syria. However, the real test



SAVATORE DI NOLA, KEYSTONE/AP

**Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, chairman of the Commission of Inquiry on Syria, speaks to the media prior to the presentation of a report of the commission to the Human Rights Council at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva on Wednesday.**

will come in 30 days when the U.N. reports on whether such aid has gotten through. Russia’s refusal to allow sanctions language to be included in the aid resolution makes enforcement all that much more difficult.

The next step is for the Security Council to refer the plight of Ahmed and other Syrian civilians to the International Criminal Court for investigation into the commission of crimes against humanity and war crimes. Some will ask, “What good will that do?” But consider what happened in Darfur after the Security Council referred that crisis to the ICC. Although many individuals have yet to answer for their international crimes, the fact that a peace agreement was signed within a year of that

referral was no coincidence. So, too, a referral of the situation in Syria could perhaps aid the stalled peace negotiations in Geneva.

However, Russia does not stand alone in its responsibility and Syria is not the only matter that requires Security Council action. A U.N. commission of inquiry recently reported on gross violations of human rights in North Korea and recommended that the Security Council refer that matter to the ICC as well. The answer to this call, according to many, lies with China, which should join the rest of the council to protect human beings who are facing immeasurable suffering under a brutal regime. The U.S. is not without its own history of neglect on the Security Council, as the U.N.’s docu-

mented failures in the face of genocide in Rwanda aptly demonstrate.

Without bold and decisive action, the Security Council risks becoming irrelevant. In 2003, then-U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, speaking of the potential proliferation of unilateral action in the face of collective inaction, noted that “we must not shy away from questions about the adequacy, and effectiveness, of the rules and instruments at our disposal. Among those instruments, none is more important than the Security Council itself.”

The familiar rejoinder is that it is not the role of the Security Council to get involved with the internal matters of a country. Tell that to the 2 million-plus refugees who have fled Syria in an attempt to escape barrel bombs, chemical attacks and other indiscriminate methods of killing with weapons that are being supplied to the Bashar Assad regime by various forces, including countries outside Syria. It is more than disheartening to think that the only response could be to better arm the rebels. The responsibility of the Security Council is not to escalate war but to find a means to restore peace and security.

The familiar rejoinder is that it is not the U.N. must address are indeed complicated. Each country involved has its own national interests and its own narrative to advance. Yet national interests should not result in tacit approval of or apathy toward the brutal targeting and maiming of innocent civilians. This is especially true when there are legitimate means of responding short of force, such as a Security Council referral to the ICC.

The members of the Security Council, and especially the five permanent members, have an obligation to use their power as it was intended: for the sake of a 12-year-old amputee, and for so many others that they might live in peace, security and dignity.

Lorie Graham is a visiting professor at Harvard Law School and co-director of the International Law Concentration at Suffolk University Law School. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

# This is Putin’s war. Most Russians don’t support it.

BY VLADIMIR V. KARA-MURZA

Vladimir Bukovsky, the legendary Russian dissident who spent 12 years in prisons, labor camps and psychiatric hospitals for his “anti-Soviet activity,” famously faulted Western media in the 1980s for their confusing terminology, which resulted in curious statements of the “Russian” invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and the protests against it by “Soviet” academician Andrei Sakharov. This linguistic mix-up between the oppressor and the oppressed is resurfacing with Vladimir Putin’s aggression against Ukraine. Many analysts and journalists cite “Russian” threats, the “Russian” invasion and the need for sanctions on “Russia.”

The truth is that most Russians oppose intervention in Ukraine. Even the state-run Russian Public Opinion Research Center found last month that 73 percent of Russians are against it. The unanimous vote by the Russian Duma last week granting Putin’s request to use military force in Ukraine illustrates the unrepresentative and authoritarian nature of Russia’s political system. Consider the irony that, while Putin’s officials justified the invasion by citing the need to “protect Russians in Ukraine,” Putin’s police forces were marching in the streets of Moscow and St. Petersburg

**Many analysts and journalists cite the “Russian” invasion and the need for sanctions on “Russia.” The truth is that most Russians oppose intervention in Ukraine.**

for protesting against war. More than 300 people were arrested Sunday alone.

Russia’s opposition leaders, including Boris Nemtsov and Alexei Navalny, did not take part in these protests. Conveniently for the Kremlin, they have been in jail for days after their arrest last week for participating in a separate anti-Putin rally. That demonstration was held to protest the hefty prison sentences — ranging from 2½ to four years — handed out to opposition activists who rallied against Putin’s inauguration in May 2012. According to the human rights group Memorial, Russia now has 40 political prisoners. The Kremlin’s crackdown also targets the remaining independent media outlets, including TV Rain and Ekho Moskvy radio.

The Russian opposition has made its stance clear. In a statement from prison, Nemtsov referred to Putin’s occupation of Ukraine as “madness of a deranged KGB officer.” The People’s Freedom Party that Nemtsov co-chairs with former prime minister Mikhail Kasyanov accused the Kremlin of “an unwillingness . . . to recognize the Ukrainian people’s sovereign

right to decide its own fate.” While Navalny cannot comment publicly — he was transferred in recent days to house arrest that prohibits him from communicating with the outside world — his Progress Party has declared Putin’s war on Ukraine “a reckless policy” that “goes against the interests of our country.”

The international community should respond to Putin’s aggression by sanctioning its perpetrators. In particular, the list of Russian human rights abusers banned from traveling to and keeping assets in the United States under the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act must be dramatically expanded to include senior Kremlin officials responsible for the attack on Ukraine and the crackdown against Russian citizens. One hopes that the European Union would soon follow with its own version of the Magnitsky sanctions. Those who commit acts of aggression and abuse the rights of their own citizens should not be entitled to the privileges and comfort of the democratic West. It is time for the Kremlin’s corrupt cronies to be held responsible for their actions.

As for Putin, he would benefit from learning some Russian history. “Small victorious wars” — the phrase coined by czarist Interior Minister Vyacheslav Plehve with regard to Russia’s war on Japan in the early 20th century — have tended not to end well for their instigators. The Crimean War in the 19th century demonstrated the economic and technological backwardness of the autocratic system and showed the need for political, social, judicial, military and economic reforms, including the abolition of serfdom and the establishment of elected local self-government and trial by jury. The Russo-Japanese war, contrary to Plehve’s intent, led to the first Russian revolution and forced the regime to grant a parliament and recognize political and civil liberties. World War I contributed to the collapse of the czarist system. The Afghanistan invasion precipitated the disintegration of the Soviet dictatorship. Putin may yet regret the day he decided to send troops into Ukraine.

Vladimir V. Kara-Murza is a member of the Federal Council of the People’s Freedom Party, a democratic opposition party in Russia. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## WORLD

## Iranian questions US role in region

By ERIK SLAVIN  
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Iran's foreign minister stressed that Tehran does not seek to weaponize its nuclear program, then questioned the continuing role of the United States military in the region during a meeting with reporters Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said even the perception that Iran was interested in a nuclear weapons program was detrimental to his nation's security.

"The best way for the West to ensure Iran's nuclear program remains peaceful is to ensure Iran has a transparent nuclear program... that is, I believe a common objective we can have," Zarif said.

Last month in Vienna, Zarif and Iranian officials met with delegations with the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, plus Germany, and they agreed on a series of talks on ending the confrontation over Iran's nuclear program.

Iran's call for nuclear transparency has been met with hope from the U.S. administration, though some U.S. lawmakers continue to push for new sanctions on the regime. President Barack Obama has said he will veto any legislation containing new sanctions.

Zarif's view of how the current nuclear negotiations came to be is at odds with those who believe that crippling economic sanctions brought Tehran to the negotiating table.

Iran's people "chose to engage" with the West by rejecting more hardline politicians during last year's elections, Zarif said.

Furthermore, he said, the West was willing to change its approach because its system of sanctions failed to stem Iran's nuclear program.

He emphasized that the sanctions had produced hardship on Iran's people, but added that when the current round sanctions began,



ERIK SLAVIN/Stars and Stripes

**Iran Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif talks with reporters at a press conference in Tokyo on Wednesday.**

Iran had 200 nuclear centrifuges. It now has 19,000 centrifuges, Zarif said.

"You cannot wish Iran's nuclear program away," Zarif said. "You cannot entertain illusions of a zero-enrichment option."

Skeptics of Iran's engagement policy point to the massive centrifuge buildup as proof that Iran still wishes to retain the capability to produce weapons of mass destruction.

Zarif said that nuclear energy will allow Iran to use its vast oil resources to manufacture profitable petrochemicals. He added that a U.S. study dating to 1974 — before Iran's Islamic revolution — recommended that Iran derive 20 percent of its energy from nuclear sources.

A secondary hurdle in the U.S.-Iranian relationship remains Tehran's stance on freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf and surrounding waters.

The U.S. maintains its 5th Fleet headquarters in Bahrain, which lies about 140 miles

from Iran across the Persian Gulf. Zarif said that in light of the results of U.S. military intervention in Iraq and Afghanistan, Washington should rethink its deployment of force throughout the world.

"We do not believe presence of foreign forces is conducive to security," Zarif said. "Presence of foreign forces always leads to a greater propensity for miscalculations."

Zarif did not directly answer a question on whether Iran still considered the closure of the Strait of Hormuz — a narrow area that about 20 percent of the world's oil is shipped through — to be a legitimate tactic in achieving its aims.

While discussing U.S.-led sanctions in 2011, Iranian media reported 1st Vice President Mohammad Reza Rahimi saying that, "If Iran oil is banned, not a single drop of oil will pass through Hormuz Strait."

Zarif, however, emphasized a desire to avoid conflict.

"The policy of this government is to try to bring the possibility of the need to resort to force to a minimum, both for us and our adversaries," he said.

The Strait of Hormuz has a navigable area of about 20 miles across. Analysts at several Washington-based think tanks have reported that Iran in recent years has pursued an "anti-access, area-denial" strategy similar to that of China. They have stated that while Iran cannot match conventional arms in a standoff with the United States, it could attempt to use anti-ship missiles, anti-aircraft missiles and its large stockpile of sea mines to keep the U.S. from opening the international waters of the strait.

U.S. officials have previously stated that any attempt to close the strait would provoke a military response.

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## Israelis open fire on suspected militants

BEIRUT — Israeli troops opened fire Wednesday on two suspected militants who were trying to plant explosives on the Jewish state's frontier with Syria, the Israeli military said. Syrian state media accused the Jewish state of targeting its forces with tank shells, and warned against such "adventures."

In eastern Lebanon, Syrian warplanes conducted a series of airstrikes on the outskirts of a Lebanese border town, officials said. The violence along both frontiers shows how Syria's three-year civil war is spilling over into its neighbors, destabilizing the wider region.

Israel's military said its forces fired on suspected Hezbollah militants on the mountainous Golan Heights and that "hits were identified." The military did not explain how it knew of the men's alleged ties with Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed Lebanese Shiite group that is a sworn enemy of Israel.

Hezbollah officials were not immediately available for comment.

## Pope says in interview that hype is 'offensive'

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis finds the hype that is increasingly surrounding him "offensive," according to an interview published Wednesday, even as the Vatican itself is marking the anniversary of his election with commemorative stamps and coins and a DVD with never-before-seen footage of the pope.

Francis told Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* he doesn't appreciate the myth-making that has seen him depicted as a "Superpope" (as an Italian street artist recently painted him who sneaks out at night to feed the poor as Italian newspapers have suggested).

On Wednesday, he had to contend with a new bout of celebrity as "My Pope," a weekly gossip magazine devoted entirely to Francis, hit Italian newsstands. It is published by Mondadori, which is owned by ex-Premier Silvio Berlusconi's media empire.

"I don't like ideological interpretations, this type of mythology of Pope Francis," the pope told *Corriere*.

## At least 17 are killed in Baghdad car bombings

BAGHDAD — A series of car bombs hit commercial areas and marketplaces in mainly Shiite areas of Baghdad on Wednesday, killing at least 17 people, officials said.

The bombings were the latest in a campaign by Sunni militants seeking to undermine the Shiite-led government's efforts to maintain security across the country less than two months ahead of national elections.

Violence has surged in Iraq since last year, with the country weathering its deadliest bout of violence since it pulled back from the brink of civil war in 2008.

U.N. figures showed that last year, the country saw the highest death toll in attacks, with 8,868 people killed.

From The Associated Press

## China to seek market reform

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China's government responded to public demands for bold leadership with vows Wednesday to press long-sought market reforms, defend against terrorism after a horrific slashing attack, and heavily boost military spending amid rising tensions with Japan.

The promises delivered by Premier Li Keqiang in his first annual policy speech also included cutting official waste, combatting persistent smog and pushing ahead with President Xi Jinping's signature campaign to fight the rampant graft that has undermined public faith in the ruling Communist Party.

China announced a 12.2 percent increase in military spending to \$132 billion. That follows last year's 7.7 percent increase to \$114 billion, giving China the second-largest defense budget for any nation behind the United States, which spent \$600.4 billion on its military last year.

Increases in China's military budget have regularly exceeded both total increases in government spending and the nation's rate of economic growth. That has allowed lavish spending on new hardware and better conditions for soldiers, raising concerns about how China intends to use its newfound power amid a rise in tensions with Japan over uninhabited islands in the East China Sea.

China's Foreign Ministry said it was reasonable for the People's Liberation Army to modernize. "Nothing to get fussy about. China's PLA aren't like sports carrying spears," spokesman Qin Gang said.



UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN/AP

**Hadal snailfish are seen at the bottom of the Kermadec Trench near New Zealand in 2011.**

## Snailfish give insight into deep-sea life

The Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — They may look like guts stuffed in cellophane, but five fish hauled up from near-record depths off the coast of New Zealand are providing scientists with new insights into how deep fish can survive.

In a paper published this week in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, scientists from the U.S., Britain and New Zealand describe catching translucent hadal snailfish at a depth of 4.3 miles.

By measuring levels of a compound in the fish that helps offset the effects of pressure, the scientists say they've concluded that fish likely can't survive below about 5.1 miles.

That would mean no fish live in the deepest one-quarter of the world's oceans.

The snailfish have little pigmentation due to the lack of light in their environment, hence their translucent appearance.

New Zealand marine ecologist Ashley Rowden, a co-author of the paper, said nobody had caught a snailfish in nearly 60 years and so he wasn't overly hopeful when they sent down a box-like trap into the Kermadec Trench near New Zealand in late 2011.

He said they used mackerel as bait to attract the small sandhopper-like creatures the snailfish feed upon. "When it came up, it was just amazing to see," Rowden said. "It was 'Oh my God, we've got the fish, and we've got more than one.'"

## WIRED WORLD



# Picture power

MANU FERNANDEZ/AP

The new Samsung Galaxy S5 is displayed last week at the Mobile World Congress, the world's largest mobile phone trade show, in Barcelona, Spain. Samsung Electronics Co. has added smarter software to the camera in the Galaxy S5.

## Smartphone cameras nearing high-end quality

By YOUNGYUNG LEE  
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Expect sharper, clearer selfies this year. Samsung Electronics Co. has beefed up the camera in its Galaxy S5 smartphone due for April release and has added smarter camera software, following Sony and Nokia in their upgrades of handset cameras. The tweaks mean smartphone photos, ubiquitous nowadays because of social media such as Facebook and Twitter, will be closer in quality to images captured by digital single-lens reflex cameras, also known as DSLR.

How to give a super-thin smartphone the power of a DSLR camera that can capture moving images with clarity is a key challenge for the likes of Samsung, Sony, Nokia and LG as they try to differentiate their offerings in a crowded handset market. Their efforts to make smartphone cameras more powerful have taken a toll on the compact, point-and-shoot camera market, but catching up to the high-end cameras used by professional photographers had ap-

peared a far-fetched ambition. The gap is getting narrower thanks mainly to improvements in camera software and other technologies, but may never close completely.

The Mobile World Congress global wireless show in Barcelona last week showed smartphone makers using software trickery to offset their camera weaknesses: inferior image sensors and lack of optical zoom lens. The companies also are making photo manipulation on the phone easier to learn than manually controlling DSLR cameras.

Instead of touting their smartphones as thinner, lighter or bigger-screened, Samsung, Sony and LG were boasting how their latest mobile gadgets can record ultra-high-definition videos known as 4K, can take big-pixel pictures without a second of delay and can capture clearer images even at a low-light setting and when a subject is moving.

One trend in smartphone cameras this year will be phase detection autofocus, previously available only in cameras with interchangeable lenses, said Chris Chute, a di-

**The new Sony Xperia Z2 smartphone has a rear camera with 20.7 megapixels, the same as its predecessor, but Sony upgraded the camera's video-recording power to 4K images.**

MANU FERNANDEZ/AP

rector at research company IDC.

Samsung showcased the feature in the Galaxy S5, the latest version of the South Korean company's flagship smartphone. It reduces the time it takes to focus on a subject to 0.3 seconds, so even when the subject is moving, the image can be captured with a sharp edge, said Seshu Mahavapeddy, Samsung's senior vice president for U.S. product and technology.

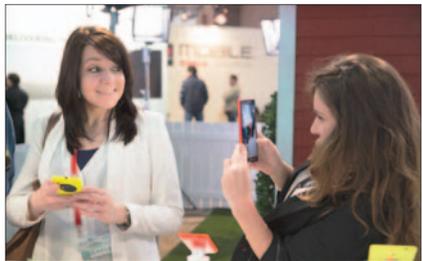
"Now that phones are starting to have this, consumers will only be more likely to use phones for not just everyday pictures, but more and more for special-event photography," Chute said.

With the 16-megapixel rear camera in the Galaxy S5, it is possible to preview the result of applying high dynamic range imaging to pictures.

HDR imaging usually helps create better pictures in extreme lighting conditions, but with digital cameras it is processed after snapping a photo.

Samsung and LG also showed how their high-end smartphones can selectively blur and sharpen a picture by tapping the area a user wants to adjust. This feature, which adds depth to a photo, was a major trait in DSLR cameras. While DSLR cameras did this trick in the image's raw data by changing the lens aperture, Samsung's S5 and LG's G Pro 2 do it through software. Nokia and Sony said their latest smartphones have similar features.

Nokia also is betting big on powerful camera features to lure buyers from Samsung and Apple Inc. Among Nokia's major products is the Lumia 1020 smartphone announced last year, which can take 38-megapixel images. A larger pixel count in a camera doesn't necessarily mean a better picture, which also depends on



MARCE MARTINEZ/AP

A woman takes a picture of her friend with a Nokia Lumia 1520 phone at the Mobile World Congress.

the lens and image sensors. But bigger pixel counts allow taking photos with sufficient details for poster-size prints, something that professional photographers are keen on. Other high-end smartphone cameras are about or below 20 megapixels.

Sony's Xperia Z2 smartphone, announced at the Mobile World Congress, has a rear camera with 20.7 megapixels, same as the predecessor Z1, but Sony upgraded the camera's video-recording power to 4K. The Z2 is also equipped with technologies that allow users capture to moving subjects blur-free.

All those handsets from Samsung, Sony and LG can record ultra-HD-picture-quality video, something that isn't widespread among digital cameras.

"This trend is happening much faster than most predicted," IDC's Chute said of the 4K video recording in high-end smartphones.

But will these moves push smartphone cameras to reach the market reserved for premium cameras over \$1,000?

"You're getting to the stage where cameras in high-end models are good enough for the

majority of consumers in most environments," said Nick Dillon, a senior analyst at Ovum.

But there will be a significant quality gap between the pictures from DSLR cameras and smartphones for the foreseeable future, he said.

One reason is the sensor. The larger the sensor is, the better the image's quality because it can capture more light.

"There is a limitation in the sensor size you can put in smartphones because it would make smartphones bigger," Dillon said.

That's one crucial reason why professional photographers haven't swapped their cameras for smartphones.

Smartphone cameras have yet to match high-end digital cameras, especially in low-light settings, said Jun Michael Park, a freelance photojournalist in Seoul.

"I still wouldn't switch," Park said. "[A smartphone's small camera comes in handy, but when I take pictures I always think about getting it printed, having a show, or getting them published.]"

Winning over photographers like Park could be the next trophy for smartphone makers.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Idling car put into drive by toddler and crashes

**CT WEST HARTFORD** — A Connecticut man is in custody after police say he left his 2-year-old daughter alone in his idling car and she put the vehicle into drive, smashing it into parked cars.

West Hartford Police arrested Oscar Chicas, 33, on Saturday and charged him with risk of injury to a minor. He is being held on \$15,000 bail.

Authorities said Chicas's daughter was left in a running car and managed to put the car into drive. The car struck two other vehicles, causing minor damage.

The girl was not injured. Police said the state Department of Children and Families was notified and the girl was left with her uncle.

## FBI uses billboards in search for bomb suspect

**CA SAN FRANCISCO** — In its quest to find a suspected domestic terrorist on the lam for a decade, the FBI on Friday began placing his image on billboards across the country.

The FBI announced Friday that images of Daniel Andreas San Diego will appear on electronic billboards from California to Massachusetts and along the border with Canada.

San Diego was the first person suspected of domestic terrorism to be added to the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorist List, in April 2009. He is charged with planting two bombs that exploded about an hour apart in the wee hours of Aug. 28, 2003, on the campus of a biotechnology company in Emeryville, Calif. He's also accused of setting off another bomb at a nutritional products company in Pleasanton, Calif., a month later.

## Sentencing delayed in KKK hit man case

**AL BIRMINGHAM** — A judge has delayed sentencing at least a month for an Alabama man who pleaded guilty earlier to trying to hire a Ku Klux Klan hit man to kill a black neighbor.

District Judge Karen Bowdre said sentencing of Allen Wayne Morgan, 30, will be delayed to allow the government to review an expert report submitted by the defense.

Morgan's attorneys said he shouldn't spend more than five years behind bars. They described the Mumford man as a drug-addicted veteran of more than 175 Iraq combat missions who had suffered severe mental problems.

The government said Morgan tried his best last year to do a supposed KKK meet with the black neighbor he suspected of having sex with his wife.

## Police: Fake FBI agents rob jewelry store

**NJ RAMSEY** — Two men who claimed to be FBI agents robbed a northern New Jersey jewelry store at gunpoint and left three people tied up in a back room when they looted the store. Ramsey police said the bandits

## THE CENSUS

**8** The number of classic cars that were swallowed by a huge sinkhole at the National Corvette Museum in Kentucky and are now being retrieved. Cheers went out as the first car, a 2009 ZR1 Blue Devil, was started and driven a few feet after being pulled from the hole by a crane at the Bowling Green museum on Monday. Museum Director Katie Frassinelli said it could take three weeks to remove the remaining cars.



STEVE KOHLIS, THE BRAINER (MINN.) DAILY DISPATCH/AP

## Plunge for a cause

**Mahtomedi Middle School students, from left, Lizzie Fairbanks, Mati Walters and Samantha Bowar jump into Pelican Lake in Breezy Point, Minn., on Saturday after raising funds for Special Olympics Minnesota.**

made off with an unknown quantity of merchandise.

The robbery occurred about 11:20 a.m. Monday, when the two men entered the store and claimed they were involved in an investigation about a reported meth lab. They tied up the store's owner, his brother and their mother and then looted the store's safe and several display cases.

## Lawmakers OK statue of Martin Luther King Jr.

**GA ATLANTA** — A plan passed by the Georgia House of Representatives calls for civil rights leader the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to be commemorated with a statute at the state Capitol.

Lawmakers voted 173-3 on Monday to approve a statue for the slain clergyman. It would be paid for by private donations.

The bill now heads to the state Senate and has received overwhelming bipartisan support.

There is a portrait of King in the Capitol building, but not a statue of him on the Statehouse grounds.

## Storm sinks 'pirate ship' tour boat

**CA BIG BEAR LAKE** — Only one boat on Big Bear Lake has a liquor license and it's under water. The pirate ship tour boat sank under the weekend's barrage of rain, snow and high wind in Southern California. The 27-ton boat has been docked at Holloway Marina, where it was found in the drink Saturday. Owner and boat operator Loren Hafen said body didn't take it down, weather did.

Hafen said he hopes to refurbish the ship for the marina's 100th anniversary.

The one-third-scale 16th-century Spanish galleon replica was a prop in the movie "Time Bandits."

## Troopers: Pilot unhurt after plane loses power

**AK ANCHORAGE** — Alaska State Troopers said an Oregon man landed a small plane on a frozen lake in Alaska after his aircraft lost power. Troopers said Jason Robinson, 41, was not hurt in the incident reported Thursday. He was the only one aboard the Cessna 207 operated by Bethel-based Yute Air.

Robinson's hometown was not immediately disclosed. Troopers said Robinson landed the plane on the lake about 15 miles out of the western Alaska village of Nightmute. People on snowmobiles transported Robinson to the village.

## Farmer builds 50-foot 'Granddaddy' snowman

**MN GILMAN** — A farmer in central Minnesota has created a towering tribute to winter's excess.

Greg Novak said he's invested hundreds of hours to build a 50-foot snowman named "Granddaddy" that he hopes will wake onlookers from their winter doldrums. He admitted it has some neighbors' questioning his sanity. Granddaddy began to take shape when the Gilman farmer needed to move mounting snow piles away from his greenhouses.

"As long as you're moving it, might as well do something practical with it," Novak said.

Friends and family pitched in to help with Granddaddy, or to do farm chores while Novak worked on building the snowman.

From wire reports

## FACES



JOHN SHEARER, INVISION/AP

Brad Pitt, left, and host Ellen DeGeneres, right in white, pass out pizza delivered by Edgar Martirosyan during the Academy Awards show on Sunday in Los Angeles. "I was shocked," Martirosyan says. "When I realized I was onstage, I didn't understand what was going on. Like, 'What am I doing here?'"

# Say cheese!

## Pizza purveyor in spotlight after Oscars appearance

BY AMY KAUFMAN  
Los Angeles Times

When Edgar Martirosyan showed up at the Dolby Theatre on Sunday with a stack of pizza boxes in hand, he thought he was delivering a few pies to some hardworking Oscar staffers.

But Martirosyan, co-owner of Big Mama's and Papa's Pizzeria on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles, soon found himself being led onto the Oscar stage by host Ellen DeGeneres. With 43 million viewers watching at home, he was instructed to hand out slices to some of Hollywood's biggest stars, including Julia Roberts and Jared Leto.

"I was shocked," Martirosyan said in a phone interview Monday afternoon. "When I realized I was onstage, I didn't understand what was going on. Like, 'What am I doing here?'"

The 30-year-old's journey began March 1, he said, when he received a call from an Oscar staffer asking whether he would be able to handle a delivery to the Dolby the following day.

When Sunday evening rolled around, Martirosyan was slammed. He doesn't usually deliver pizzas himself — that stopped five years ago, when he went from

an employee to co-owner of the pizzeria. But because of how busy it was, he decided to help out and drive over to the Dolby himself.

Even though he had to pass through a number of security barriers, he never imagined that he would end up as part of the telecast.

"They told me it was going to be for the writers," he said.

When he finally got backstage, he was told to wait, and suddenly DeGeneres appeared. She introduced herself to him, and then the host told Martirosyan to follow her, without saying where they were going. She didn't give him any instructions on how to behave or what to say, and before he knew it he was in front of the Hollywood elite.

Born in Armenia, Martirosyan moved to Moscow at age 10; there, he grew up watching some Hollywood films, including Roberts' "Pretty Woman." Needless to say, he was star struck when he found himself handing her a slice of cheese pizza. "She was actually more beautiful in person," he said with a laugh.

And then, just as quickly as he'd found himself in the spotlight, he was back at work. When he walked into the pizza shop, his employees greeted him with screams.

Reporters from local news outlets and paparazzi had also gathered outside the restaurant.

On Monday morning, Martirosyan filmed an interview with DeGeneres for her talk show in Burbank, Calif., while his Facebook page was covered with comments from friends congratulating him on the Oscars appearance.

While Martirosyan was on the talk show, DeGeneres gave him a \$1,000 tip for the delivery. DeGeneres said she passed Pharrell Williams' oversized hat at the Oscars and collected about \$600, then contributed more.

Elsewhere on Facebook, Big Mama's & Papa's — which has 20 locations in California — was touting the accomplishments of the franchise owner.

Referring to his journey as the "American Dream Come True!," a post described how Martirosyan went from delivery driver to franchise owner.

In fact, Martirosyan said, he started out even lower on the food chain at Big Mama's — handing out fliers on the street on behalf of the business.

"I always loved to cook and had a real interest in learning to make pizzas," he recalled. "So I became a cook, and then a manager, and then an owner."

## John Travolta apologizes to Idina Menzel for Oscars introduction flub

John Travolta has apologized to singer Idina Menzel for mangling the pronunciation of her name during the Oscars telecast, saying he'd been "beating myself up" over it.

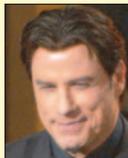
On Sunday night's Academy Awards show, Travolta took the stage and introduced Menzel, but he seemed to say "Adele

Dazeem" instead. An estimated 43 million people were watching, and social media has been mocking him ever since.

Menzel, who starred in "Rent" onstage and on screen and Elphaba in "Wicked," seemed unperturbed by the flub as she sang "Let It Go," from the animated film "Frozen."

Travolta said in a statement released Tuesday: "I've been beating myself up all day. Then I thought ... what would Idina Menzel say? She'd say, 'Let it go, let it go!' Idina is incredibly talented and I am so happy 'Frozen' took home two Oscars Sunday night!"

From The Associated Press



Travolta

## O'Brien to host movie awards

Conan O'Brien announced Tuesday on his TBS talk show "Conan" that he's hosting this year's MTV Movie Awards. The annual movie celebration that honors winners with golden popcorn trophies is scheduled for April 13 at the Nokia Theatre in downtown Los Angeles.

"After eight years of intense negotiations, I am honored to announce I am hosting MTV's second-most prestigious awards show," O'Brien joked in a statement.

It marks the first time O'Brien has hosted the MTV Movie Awards. He previously hosted the Primetime Emmy Awards in 2002 and 2006.



O'Brien

## Ice dancers, Carey on 'DWTS'

Olympic ice dancing gold medalists Charlie White and Meryl Davis will try a less slick surface and new partners as contestants in the next edition of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."

ABC said Tuesday that game show host Drew Carey, actor Billy Dee Williams and long distance swimmer Diana Nyad will also be on the show, which begins a new season March 17. Other celebrity contestants include former pro hockey player Sean Avery, "Full House" actress Candace Cameron Bure, "Real Housewives of Atlanta" star NeNe Leakes, James Maslow of the TV show and music group Big Time Rush, actress Danica McKellar of "The Wonder Years," Paralympic athlete Amy Purdy and pop star Cody Simpson.

## Carl Kasell retiring from NPR

Carl Kasell, a signature voice of NPR News for decades, is stepping down from the comedy news quiz show "Wait, Wait ... Don't Tell Me!" and retiring from the network this spring. Kasell has been a recognizable voice on NPR for decades. He was a newscaster for 30 years on "Morning Edition" until 2009. His radio career spans half a century. NPR announced Kasell's retirement Tuesday.

From The Associated Press



RICH SCHULTZ/AP

## Facing real time

Teresa, left, and Joe Giudice, from "The Real Housewives of New Jersey," leave federal court in Newark, N.J., on Tuesday. They each pleaded guilty to several counts including bankruptcy fraud, conspiracy to commit mail fraud and wire fraud, and failing to pay taxes. Teresa Giudice said in a statement read by her lawyer that she takes responsibility "for a series of mistakes I made several years ago" and said she will make a statement to the court when the couple is sentenced on July 8. Under federal sentencing guidelines, Joe Giudice faces a potential sentence of 37 to 46 months and Teresa Giudice could get 21 to 27 months in prison.

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## United to crack down on carry-on size

By **SCOTT MAYEROWITZ**  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK**—United Airlines is getting tough on passengers with oversized carry-on bags, even sending some of them back to the ticket counter to check their luggage for a fee.

The Chicago-based airline has started a push to better enforce rules restricting the size of carry-on bags — an effort that will include instructing workers at security checkpoint entrances to eyeball passengers for bags that are too big.

In recent weeks, United has rolled out new bag-size boxes at most airports and sent an email to frequent fliers, reminding them of the rules. An internal employee newsletter called the program a “renewed focus on carry-on compliance.”

The size limits on carry-on bags have been in place for years, but airlines have enforced them inconsistently, rarely conducting

anything beyond occasional spot checks.

United says its new approach will ensure that bags are reliably reviewed at the security checkpoint, in addition to the bag checks already done at gates prior to boarding.

Passengers are typically allowed one carry-on bag to fit in the overhead bin, which can be no larger than 9 inches by 14 inches by 22 inches. Fliers can also bring one personal item such as a purse or laptop bag that fits under the seat in front of them.

People flying with oversized bags can have the suitcase checked for free at the gate, a long-standing practice. But those who get halted at the entrance to security must now go back to the ticket counter and pay the airline's \$25 checked-luggage fee.

Some travelers suggest the crackdown is part of a larger attempt by United to collect more revenue. The airline says it's simply ensuring that compliant pas-

sengers have space left for them in the overhead bins. In recent years, the last passengers to board have routinely been forced to check their bags at the gate because overhead bins were already full.

“The stepped-up enforcement is to address the customers who complained about having bags within the size limit and weren't able to take them on the plane,” United spokesman Rahaan Johnson said. “That is solely what this is about.”

It has nothing to do with revenue, Johnson said, adding that one noncompliant bag takes up the same space as two compliant ones.

But the airline is likely to benefit financially if more passengers are turned back at security.

This new program is primarily to drive up revenue and will likely delay the boarding process even more unless better education is provided around what is and is not acceptable,” said Brian

Kelly, an industry watcher who writes about flying trends at ThePointsGuy.com.

United collects \$638 million in checked-bag fees a year but wants to increase that figure. In a January earnings call, the airline's chief revenue officer, Jim Compton, said United hopes to collect an extra \$700 million over the next four years from extras such as baggage fees and the sale of extra legroom.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (March 6).....	\$1.4086
Dollar buys (March 6).....	€0.7099
British pound (March 6).....	\$1.71
Japanese yen (March 6).....	99.00
South Korean won (March 6).....	1,044.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar).....	0.3769
British pound.....	\$1.9982
Canada (Dollar).....	1.1080
China (Yuan).....	6.1285
Denmark (Krone).....	6.4334
Egypt (Pound).....	6.9629
Euro.....	\$1.3734/0.7281
Hong Kong (Dollar).....	7.6100
Hungary (Forint).....	225.47
Israel (Sheqel).....	3.4849
Japan (Yen).....	102.44
Kuwait (Dinar).....	0.2816
Norway (Krone).....	5.9937
Philippines (Peso).....	44.77
Poland (Zloty).....	3.204
Saudi Arabia (Riyal).....	3.7506
Singapore (Dollar).....	1.2697
South Korea (Won).....	1,071.54
Switzerland (Franc).....	0.8876
Thailand (Baht).....	32.32
Turkey (Lira).....	2.2019

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., non-U.S. and British pounds), see [http://www.fishbase.com](#). Check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

### MARKET WATCH

March 4, 2014	
<b>Dow Jones industrials</b>	<b>+227.85</b> 16,395.88
<b>Nasdaq composite</b>	<b>+74.67</b> 4,351.97
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's 500</b>	<b>+28.18</b> 1,873.91
<b>Russell 2000</b>	<b>+32.29</b> 1,208.65

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	3.65

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

### THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### THURSDAY IN EUROPE



### FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC



### Thursday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Texas	61	44	Cl	Chatanooga	52	34	Rain	Fort Wayne	28	14	PCldy	Louisville	42	29	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	35	22	Cldy	Chicago	31	18	PCldy	Goodland	69	36	PCldy	Macon	45	38	Rain
Albany, N.Y.	24	10	Cl	Cincinnati	41	29	PCldy	Grand Junction	60	36	Cldy	Madison	47	28	Rain
Albuquerque	67	43	PCldy	Cleveland	30	23	Cldy	Grand Rapids	28	14	PCldy	Medford	57	40	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	30	18	Cldy	Colorado Springs	65	37	PCldy	Great Falls	44	30	Cldy	Memphis	43	31	Cldy
Amarillo	68	38	Cl	Columbia, S.C.	40	36	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	40	30	Cldy	Miami Beach	84	71	Cldy
Anchorage	30	18	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	45	37	Rain	Harrisburg	40	27	Cldy	Miland-Odesa	70	45	Cl
Ashville	45	30	Rain	Columbus, Ohio	40	27	Cldy	Hartford	57	27	PCldy	Mpls-St Paul	34	26	Cldy
Atlanta	43	34	Rain	Concord, N.H.	27	0	Cl	Hofford	27	11	PCldy	Missoula	47	26	Rain
Atlantic City	35	26	Cldy	Corpus Christi	67	49	Cl	Helena	44	25	SNOW	Mobile	56	39	Cl
Austin	70	46	PCldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	57	38	PCldy	Honolulu	81	70	Cldy	Montreal	56	39	Cl
Baltimore	34	25	Cldy	Dayton	37	27	Cldy	Houston	61	39	PCldy	Montgomery	46	39	Rain
Baton Rouge	56	40	Rain	Daytona Beach	76	62	Rain	Huntsville	50	39	Rain	Nashville	51	36	Cldy
Bilings	48	29	Cldy	Denver	67	36	PCldy	Indianapolis	39	23	PCldy	New Orleans	58	43	Rain
Birmingham	44	38	Rain	Des Moines	40	27	PCldy	Jackson Miss.	54	37	Rain	New York City	29	26	PCldy
Bismarck	38	11	Cldy	Detroit	27	16	PCldy	Juneau	68	48	Rain	Newark	30	25	PCldy
Boise	59	38	Rain	Duluth	30	20	Rain	Jupiter	28	17	Cl	Norfolk, Va.	42	29	PCldy
Boston	27	17	PCldy	El Paso	72	53	PCldy	Kansas City	46	34	PCldy	North Platte	63	29	PCldy
Bridgport	27	18	PCldy	Elkins	42	25	Cldy	Key West	83	71	Cldy	Okahoma City	50	34	Cl
Brownsville	68	50	PCldy	Erie	26	19	PCldy	Knoxville	54	34	Cldy	Omaha	45	31	Cldy
Buffalo	29	17	Cl	Eugene	55	45	Rain	Lake Charles	57	39	Cl	Orlando	80	63	Rain
Burlington, Vt.	22	11	Cl	Evansville	42	25	Cldy	Lansing	47	13	Cl	Paducah	40	23	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	17	1	Cl	Fairbanks	12	-11	Cldy	Las Vegas	79	54	Cldy	Pendleton	56	42	Cldy
Casper, Wyo.	67	26	PCldy	Fargo	34	11	Cldy	Lexington	44	29	PCldy	Peoria	53	23	PCldy
Charleston, S.C.	44	41	Rain	Flagstaff	59	30	Cldy	Lincoln	50	30	PCldy	Philadelphia	35	26	Cldy
Charleston, W.Va.	50	34	PCldy	Flint	28	15	Cl	Little Rock	43	27	Cldy	Phoenix	82	59	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	44	33	Rain	Fort Smith	51	29	PCldy	Los Angeles	72	54	PCldy	Pittsburgh	37	23	Cldy
Chicago	31	18	PCldy	Fort Worth	57	38	PCldy	Los Angeles	72	54	PCldy	Pittsburgh	37	23	Cldy
Cincinnati	41	29	PCldy	Grand Rapids	28	14	PCldy	Madison	47	28	Rain	Portland, Maine	26	10	Cl
Cleveland	30	23	Cldy	Grand Rapids	28	14	PCldy	Medford	57	40	Rain	Portland, Ore.	53	45	Rain
Colorado Springs	65	37	PCldy	Great Falls	44	30	Cldy	Memphis	43	31	Cldy	Providence	48	35	Rain
Columbia, S.C.	40	36	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	40	30	Cldy	Miami Beach	84	71	Cldy	Pueblo	72	37	PCldy
Columbus, Ga.	45	37	Rain	Harrisburg	40	27	Cldy	Miland-Odesa	70	45	Cl	Reno	60	35	Cl
Columbus, Ohio	40	27	Cldy	Hartford	57	27	PCldy	Mpls-St Paul	34	26	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	42	33	Cldy
Concord, N.H.	27	0	Cl	Hofford	27	11	PCldy	Missoula	47	26	Rain	Rapid City	57	29	PCldy
Corpus Christi	67	49	Cl	Helena	44	25	SNOW	Mobile	56	39	Cl	Richmond	41	32	Cldy
Dallas-Ft Worth	57	38	PCldy	Honolulu	81	70	Cldy	Montreal	56	39	Cl	Roanoke	42	30	Cldy
Dayton	37	27	Cldy	Houston	61	39	PCldy	Montgomery	46	39	Rain	Rochester	27	16	Cl
Daytona Beach	76	62	Rain	Huntsville	50	39	Rain	Nashville	51	36	Cldy	Rockford	28	18	Cldy
Denver	67	36	PCldy	Indianapolis	39	23	PCldy	New Orleans	58	43	Rain	St Louis	54	40	PCldy
Des Moines	40	27	PCldy	Jackson Miss.	54	37	Rain	New York City	29	26	PCldy	St Thomas	84	76	Cl
Detroit	27	16	PCldy	Juneau	68	48	Rain	Newark	30	25	PCldy	Salem, Ore.	55	44	Rain
Duluth	30	20	Rain	Jupiter	28	17	Cl	Norfolk, Va.	42	29	PCldy	Salt Lake City	61	41	Rain
El Paso	72	53	PCldy	Kansas City	46	34	PCldy	North Platte	63	29	PCldy	San Diego	68	41	Cl
Elkins	42	25	Cldy	Key West	83	71	Cldy	Okahoma City	50	34	Cl	San Antonio	68	42	Cl
Erie	26	19	PCldy	Knoxville	54	34	Cldy	Omaha	45	31	Cldy	San Angelo	67	57	Cldy
Eugene	55	45	Rain	Lake Charles	57	39	Cl	Orlando	80	63	Rain	San Francisco	64	50	Cldy
Evansville	42	25	Cldy	Lansing	47	13	Cl	Paducah	40	23	Cldy	San Jose	66	48	Cl
Fairbanks	12	-11	Cldy	Las Vegas	79	54	Cldy	Pendleton	56	42	Cldy	Santa Fe	65	34	PCldy
Fargo	34	11	Cldy	Lexington	44	29	PCldy	Peoria	53	23	PCldy	St Marie	19	16	PCldy
Flagstaff	59	30	Cldy	Lincoln	50	30	PCldy	Philadelphia	35	26	Cldy	Savannah	45	41	Rain
Flint	28	15	Cl	Little Rock	43	27	Cldy	Phoenix	82	59	Cldy	Seattle	53	45	Rain
Fort Smith	51	29	PCldy	Los Angeles	72	54	PCldy	Pittsburgh	37	23	Cldy	Shreveport	51	33	Cldy

**National temperature extremes**  
 Hi: Tex., 85, Death Valley, Calif.; Fort Myers, Fla.; Punta Gorda, Fla.  
 Lo: Tex., -27, Canaan, Wt., Sutton, Vt.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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Toyota, Tacoma, 2011 \$2500.00
2011 Toyota Tacoma, 4-cylinder, 2.7L, 150,000 miles.

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Harley Davidson Fat Boy Lo, 2011 \$15500.00
White Fat Boy Lo with ABS and custom paint.

BMW, R1100R 2000 \$4000.00
Garage kept (Italy) Fiat US Spec 2 cylinder, 4-speed, air-cooled.
Harley Davidson Fat Boy Lo, 2011 \$15500.00
White Fat Boy Lo with ABS and custom paint.

Harley Davidson Fat Boy Lo, 2011 \$15500.00
White Fat Boy Lo with ABS and custom paint.
BMW, R1100R 2000 \$4000.00
Garage kept (Italy) Fiat US Spec 2 cylinder, 4-speed, air-cooled.

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Chrysler 200 Limited, 2011
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1382cc Harley Sportster
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Volkwagon, Jetta GLS Wagon
Jetta GLS Wagon
Jetta GLS Wagon

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Harley Davidson Sportster
1382cc Harley Sportster
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Nissan, Pathfinder, 2009
Nissan, Pathfinder, 2009

Automotive 140
15M '95, 1995 \$100.00
I am selling a 1995 alloy only 1995 17ms taken at my 13.1M. The rims are in fair condition.

BMW 330i CONVERTIBLE
BMW 330i CONVERTIBLE
BMW 330i CONVERTIBLE

Ford, Taurus, 2004 \$4000.00
Thrill great! Selling for a friend who PCS'd. Great 2004 Ford Taurus.

Volkwagon, Jetta GLS Wagon
Jetta GLS Wagon
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NFL

Source: Neck OK as Manning passes physical

By ARNIE STAPLETON The Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Sixty touchdown passes. Fifteen wins. A fifth MVP...

Peyton Manning is more productive than he's ever been, and whether he's deciphering defenses at the line of scrimmage...

The final piece of evidence that Manning is as good as ever came Monday.

As expected, Manning passed the exam on his surgically repaired neck that was required by his contract with the Broncos...

Manning has said that if doctors tell him he's at risk physically, he'd have no problem calling it a career.

After his four neck procedures, including a spinal fusion that sidelined him for all of 2011 and eventually led to his release from Indianapolis, Manning has said he has steered himself for that possibility.

At the Super Bowl last month, he talked about how his older brother, Cooper, had to give up football after neck surgeries in high school and college, and how that had a big impact on his life.

"I remember at the time, when Cooper got injured, they did a test on me and Eli.

I would have been a junior in high school and Eli would have been a sixth-grader, or something. They said our necks weren't picture perfect and didn't look ideal, but they're stable enough to keep playing football. Cooper had to give up playing football. In some ways, when I had my neck problems, I thought maybe I had been on borrowed time this entire time." Manning said. "I was fortunate to have 20 years of health to play football. If that was going to be the end of it because of a neck injury, I really, believe it or not, had a peace about it."

Once doctors told him his neck was secure, however, Manning said he quickly shifted his focus to seeing if he could strengthen his weakened throwing arm to the point where he could be productive again.

After the Colts released him, Manning signed a five-year, \$96 million deal in Denver, where he's thrown for 100 TDs, including the playoffs, while going 28-7 with two AFC titles.

Manning won his fifth MVP award in 2013, when the season records by passing for 5,547 yards and 55 TDs while guiding the Broncos, the highest-scoring team in NFL history, to their first Super Bowl in 15 seasons.

Manning, who will be 38 next season, said during Super Bowl week that he had no intention of retiring after the Super Bowl.

Although Manning's plans for 2014 became a big story line in the playoffs, the

Broncos front office had proceeded as though their quarterback would be returning for another run at a championship.

Although his deal with Denver requires him to pass a physical every spring to make sure his neck is OK, if there were any concerns about his neck, he wouldn't have started all 16 games, plus three more in the playoffs.

Not only is Manning still performing at his peak level, he said he still enjoys everything that goes into getting ready to play on game days and "when you still enjoy the preparation, I think you probably still ought to be doing that," he said at the Super Bowl.

He passed his required exit physical that all players take in the days following the Broncos' Super Bowl loss to Seattle. He then played in the Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament just days later, another indication that his neck is fine.



Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning

Jose Yau

WACO TRIBUNE HERALD/AF

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# SCOREBOARD

## Sports on AFN

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

## College baseball

### Tuesday's scores

**SOUTH**  
Berry 12, LaGrange 6  
Brevard 1.3, Limestone 0.7  
Calumet at Belhaven, pp'd  
Clemson 7, Wake Forest 6  
Escambia at Benedict, pp'd  
Florida 5, South Florida 1  
George Washington at Virginia, pp'd  
Georgia 1, Georgia Tech 0  
Hendrix 10, Thiel 4  
Jackson 5, South Alabama 4  
Le 9, Campbellville 2  
Maryland at VCU, pp'd  
Miami 11, Villanova 0  
Spring at Morehead, pp'd  
St. Augustine's at Coker, pp'd  
Tennessee 14, Lake Superior 3  
Virginia 10-9, Barton 2-3  
Vanderbilt 4, Tennessee Tech 0  
Wake Forest at Charlotte, pp'd  
W. Carolina 18, Clemson 10  
Williamson 5, 2, Georgetown-Rhyme 1

**SOUTHWEST**  
Texas A&M 5, Texas-Arlington 4  
UTSA 10, Incarnate Word 4

**FAR WEST**  
Pepperdine 2, N.C.-Williamington 1

## Golf

### PGA Tour FedExCup leaders

Rank	Player	Points	YTD	Money
1	Jimmy Walker	1,830	1,830	\$75,680
2	Dustin Johnson	1,206	1,206	\$51,150
3	Justin Thomas	1,111	1,111	\$49,000
4	Chris Kirk	907	907	\$19,450
5	Rickie Fowler	892	892	\$19,000
6	Wendell Kim	839	839	\$20,910
7	Ryan Moore	805	805	\$19,000
8	Ryan Stodder	804	804	\$17,150
9	Patrick Reed	773	773	\$14,750
10	Kevin Day	770	770	\$19,920
11	Brandt Snedeker	688	688	\$12,295
12	Brian Stuard	672	672	\$12,738
13	Sam Putter	659	659	\$12,660
14	Graham DeLaet	620	620	\$14,466
15	Russell Henne	599	599	\$10,954
16	Patrick Morison	575	575	\$10,267
17	Charles Howell III	557	557	\$9,820
18	Corey Pavin	552	552	\$9,295
19	Gar Woodland	505	505	\$11,877
20	Michael Kim	493	493	\$10,267
21	Jason Bohn	491	491	\$9,260
22	Pat Perez	478	478	\$9,575
23	Justin Hoffman	467	467	\$9,110
24	Chris Stricker	456	456	\$9,930
25	Adam Long	446	446	\$8,208
26	Ryo Ishikawa	425	425	\$8,847
27	Scott Piercy	422	422	\$8,874
28	Kevin Na	417	417	\$7,352
29	Graeme McDowell	410	410	\$8,130
30	Tim Lincecum	409	409	\$7,946
31	Bill Haas	396	396	\$6,675
32	Brandt Snedeker	384	384	\$7,412
33	Keegan Bradley	376	376	\$7,131
34	Ian Poulter	368	368	\$6,928
35	Byron Byrum	358	358	\$6,170
36	K.J. Choi	355	355	\$6,638
40	Sergiy Stankov	351	351	\$6,420

### PGA money leaders

Through March 31	Tm	Money
1. Paula Creamer	4	\$349,132
2. Karrie Webb	3	\$204,567
3. Anna Nordqvist	3	\$243,963
4. Stacy Lewis	2	\$204,940
5. Stacy Lewis	2	\$204,940
6. Azahara Munoz	4	\$197,968
7. Inbee Park	2	\$192,410
8. Chella Choi	4	\$165,989
9. Inbee Park	2	\$162,989
10. Morgan Pressel	4	\$124,705
11. Inbee Park	2	\$124,705
12. Na Yeon Choi	3	\$108,730
13. Catrina Namick	3	\$107,294
14. Angela Stanford	3	\$97,131
15. Angela Stanford	3	\$96,870
16. Angela Stanford	3	\$96,870
17. Amanda Blumenfeld	4	\$88,181
18. Angela Stanford	3	\$88,181
19. So Yeon Ryu	2	\$86,748
20. Dawn Storer	3	\$77,566
21. Lizette Salas	3	\$74,285
22. Dawn Storer	3	\$74,285
23. Julieta Granada	4	\$66,423
24. Julieta Granada	4	\$66,423
25. Yani Tseng	3	\$62,745
26. Jennifer Medall	3	\$62,745
27. Amelia Jones	3	\$52,547
28. Jennifer Medall	3	\$52,547
29. So Yeon Ryu	2	\$49,816
30. So Yeon Ryu	2	\$49,816
31. Brittany Lincicome	4	\$41,225
32. Brittany Lincicome	4	\$41,225
33. Wendy Clark Schreffel	3	\$38,243
34. Christin Beck	3	\$31,543
35. Wendy Clark Schreffel	3	\$31,543
36. So Yeon Ryu	2	\$26,330
37. Meena Lee	3	\$26,042

## College basketball

### Tuesday's men's scores

**EAST**  
Florida St. 74, Boston College 70  
Georgia Tech 75, Creighton 63  
Georgia Tech 67, Syracuse 62  
Providence 81, Marquette 80, 2OT  
Tulsa 60, UCF 67, 5A

**SOUTH**  
Clemson 58, Miami 54  
Florida 72, South Carolina 46  
Kentucky 55, Alabama 51  
Maryland 64, Virginia Tech 47

**MIDWEST**  
Arkansas 83, Buffalo 71  
E. Michigan 72, Ball St. 58  
Miami (Fla.) 73, Kent St. 61  
Michigan 84, Illinois 53  
North Dakota 94, Colorado 90  
Ohio 72, Bowling Green 61  
Toledo 73, Cent. Michigan 69  
W. Michigan 61, N. Illinois 56

**SOUTHWEST**  
Baylor 74, Iowa St. 61  
Florida St. 79, Arkansas St. 76, OT  
Houston 79, South Florida 69  
Oregon 85, Arizona 78

**FAR WEST**  
Tennessee 85, Utah 78

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**Atlantic Sun Conference**  
First Round  
ETSU 89, Lipscomb 88, 2OT  
Florida Gulf Coast 77, Stetson 55  
SC-Upper 85, Jacksonville 54  
Mississippi 89, North Florida 74

**Horizon League**  
First Round  
Milwaukee 83, Detroit 73  
Oakland 96, Youngstown St. 92, OT  
Wayne 73, Ill. Central 67

**NSIC Tournament**  
Champion  
Minn. St.-Mankato 75, Winona St. 66

**Red River Valley Conference**  
First Round  
Wiley 77, Langston 52

### Men's schedule

**Thursday**  
George Mason at La Salle  
**SOUTH**  
FIU at FAU  
Charlotte at Marshall  
East Carolina at Old Dominion  
UL at Vanderbilt  
Clemson at Oklahoma  
Delaware St. at Mid.-Eastern State  
Morgan St. at Howard  
NC Central at Norfolk St.  
SC State at Savannah St.  
Texas-Arlington at Troy  
Texas Tech at UAB  
Tulane Tennessee at Tulane  
Middle Tennessee at UAB  
Grambling St. at Kentucky  
Texas St. at South Alabama  
Jackson St. at Alabama A&M  
Crawford at Alabama St.  
Texas Southern at Alcorn St.  
Southern at Northwestern St.  
VCU at Richmond

**MIDWEST**  
Memphis at Cincinnati  
Purdue at Iowa State  
Villanova at Xavier  
Iowa at Chicago State  
Seattle at UMKC  
Butler at Cleveland St.  
Louis at Michigan St.

**SOUTHWEST**  
Tulsa at North Texas  
Louisiana Tech at Rice  
UTSA at UTEP  
Louisiana-Monroe at Arkansas St.  
Gardner-Webb at Georgia Baptist  
New Orleans at Lamar  
Molokaie St. at Texas A&M-CC  
SE Louisiana at Sam Houston St.  
Oral Roberts at Stephen F. Austin

**FAR WEST**  
Montana St. at Arizona  
California at New Mexico St.  
Hawaii at UC Santa Barbara  
San Diego at Washington  
Idaho St. at Washington  
North Dakota at St. Louis  
Long Beach St. at CS Northridge  
UC Irvine at Cal Fullerton  
New Mexico at New Mexico St.  
Webster St. at Portland St.  
Southern Cal at Washington St.

**Atlantic Sun Conference**  
**High-Seeded Team**  
**Seminals**  
Florida Gulf Coast vs. ETSU  
North Florida vs. UConn  
**Midwest Athletic Conference**  
**Quarterfinalists**  
First Round  
Rider vs. N. Illinois  
Marist vs. Fairfield  
Saint Peter's vs. Niagara

**Ohio Valley Conference**  
**At St. Louis**  
Eastern Kentucky vs. Belmont  
Drake vs. Evansville  
**Ohio Valley Conference**  
**At Nashville, Tenn.**  
Morehead St. vs. Tennessee Tech  
Edwardsville vs. Tennessee Tech  
E. Kentucky vs. SE Missouri-E. Illinois

**West Coast Conference**  
**At Las Vegas**  
First Round  
Portland vs. Loyola Marymount  
Pacific vs. Santa Clara

**Seton Hall's men's schedule**  
Tuesday's women's scores  
**EAST**  
Sethon Hall 62, Xavier 50  
Villanova 81, Marquette 64  
West Virginia 77, Kansas 60

**MIDWEST**  
Baylor 70, Iowa St. 54

### Butler 67, Creighton 59

**SOUTHWEST**  
George St. at UCLA, pp'd  
SMU 79, UCF 67

**FAR WEST**  
Nebraska 75, Boise St. 74  
New Mexico 76, Air Force 62  
San Diego 84, UNLV 63  
San Jose St. 65, Colorado St. 64  
Utah 84, Wyoming 67

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**Big South Conference**  
First Round  
Coastal Carolina 106, Charleston Southern 71  
UNC Asheville 43, Radford 42  
Western Carolina 70, W. Va. 61

**Championship**  
Concordia (S.C.) at Western S. (SD) 36

**Patriot League**  
Boston U. 40, Loyola (Md.) 35  
Lehigh 59, Colgate 49

### Women's schedule

**Thursday**  
Mercer at North Florida  
Texas Southern at Alcorn St.  
Delaware St. at Mid.-Eastern State  
Bethune-Cookman at Florida A&M  
N.C. A&T at Hampton  
S.C. State at Howard  
C. Central at North St.  
Morgan St. at Savannah St.  
Jackson St. at Alabama A&M  
Clemson at Jacksonville St.  
Cent. Arkansas at Northwestern St.  
Prime at Southern  
Kennesaw St. at Jacksonville  
Champion

**MIDWEST**  
Evansville at Bradley  
Oakland at Green Bay  
Detroit at Ill.-Chicago  
Illinois St. at N. Iowa  
Indiana St. at Drake

**SOUTHWEST**  
Nichols St. at Houston Baptist  
McNeese St. at Texas A&M-CC  
New Orleans at Philadelphia St.  
SE Louisiana at Sam Houston St.  
Oral Roberts at Stephen F. Austin

**FAR WEST**  
North Dakota at St. Louis  
New Mexico St. at Grand Canyon  
Detroit at Idaho  
E. Washington at Idaho St.  
Sacramento St. at Montana  
California at Montana  
Portland St. at Weber St.  
Northridge at Utah Beach St.  
UMKC at Seattle  
California State at UC Irvine  
UC Santa Barbara at Hawaii

**Atlantic Coast Conference**  
**Champion**  
Second Round  
Syracuse vs. Virginia Tech-Clemson  
winner  
Miami vs. Florida  
Georgia Tech vs. Virginia-Box-Cole  
winner  
North Carolina vs. Wake Forest-Pitts-  
burgh winner

**Atlantic 10 Conference**  
**At Richmond, Va.**  
VCU vs. Richmond  
Saint Joseph's vs. George Mason  
UTSA vs. UTSA  
La Salle vs. Saint Louis  
Gardner-Webb vs. Rhode Island

**Big South Conference**  
**Quarterfinals**  
High Point vs. UNC Asheville  
Campbell vs. Gardner-Webb  
Liberty vs. Presbyterian  
Winthrop vs. UNC-Carolina

**Big Ten Conference**  
**At Indianapolis**  
First Round  
Ohio St. vs. Northwestern  
Ohio St. vs. Northwestern  
Michigan vs. Indiana  
Iowa vs. Wisconsin  
**Midwest Athletic Conference**  
**At Nashville, Tenn.**  
Niagara vs. Saint Joseph (N.J.)  
Manhattan vs. Siena  
Rider vs. Saint Peter's

**Ohio Valley Conference**  
**At Nashville, Tenn.**  
Tennessee St. vs. E. Kentucky-E. Illi-  
nois  
Tennessee Tech vs. Jacksonville St.  
SIU Edwardsville winner

**Pacific Conference**  
**At Seattle**  
UCLA vs. Colorado  
Southern Cal vs. Arizona  
Washington State vs. Oregon  
Washington State vs. Oregon

**Patriot League**  
**At Campus Sites**  
Quinnipiac  
Lehigh at Navy  
American  
Holy Cross at Bucknell  
Boston U. at Colgate

**Southeastern Conference**  
**At Duluth, Ga.**  
Second Round  
Vanderbilt vs. Georgia  
Vanderbilt vs. Missouri-Mississippi St.  
winner  
Alabama vs. LSU  
Auburn vs. Arkansas-Mississippi Uni-  
versity

**West Coast Conference**  
**At Las Vegas**  
First Round  
Santa Clara vs. Pepperdine  
San Francisco vs. Loyola Marymount

## Pro baseball

### Spring training

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

W	L	Pct
Seattle	1	.097
Cleveland	5	.133
Tampa Bay	6	.179
Oakland	7	.213
Kansas City	4	.267
Minnesota	2	.267
Baltimore	2	.600
Los Angeles	2	.600
Los Angeles	2	.600
New York	4	.571
Toronto	4	.571
Atlanta	1	.400
Boston	2	.400
Pittsburgh	5	.182

### National League

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

W	L	Pct
Atlanta	5	.182
Tampa Bay	5	.182
Miami	4	.267
Los Angeles	4	.267
San Francisco	4	.500
Cincinnati	3	.429
Milwaukee	3	.429
Chicago	2	.300
New York	2	.300
St. Louis	1	.250
Philadelphia	1	.250
San Diego	1	.167
Atlanta	1	.143
Philadelphia	1	.143

### Spring training

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
Seattle vs. Cleveland  
Tampa Bay vs. Oakland  
Kansas City vs. Minnesota  
Baltimore vs. Los Angeles  
Los Angeles vs. Los Angeles  
New York vs. New York  
Toronto vs. Toronto  
Boston vs. Boston  
Pittsburgh vs. Pittsburgh

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**  
Atlanta vs. Tampa Bay  
Tampa Bay vs. Boston  
Miami vs. Miami  
Los Angeles vs. Los Angeles  
San Francisco vs. Cincinnati  
Cincinnati vs. Milwaukee  
Milwaukee vs. Chicago  
Chicago vs. Chicago  
Chicago Cubs vs. Oakland (ss) 4  
San Francisco 3, Colorado 2  
Philadelphia 3, Baltimore 3  
Baltimore 3, N.Y. Yankees 2  
**Wednesday's games**  
Detroit vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla.  
New York Yankees vs. Washington at Fort  
Lauderdale, Fla.  
N.Y. Yankees vs. Tampa Bay at Port  
Charlotte, Fla.  
Baltimore vs. Minnesota at Fort My-  
ers, Fla.  
Pittsburgh vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla.  
Boston vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla.  
Atlanta vs. Philadelphia at Clearwa-  
ter, Fla.  
Miami vs. N.Y. Mets at Port St. Lu-  
cie, Fla.  
Cleveland vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz.  
Kansas City vs. Cincinnati at Scottdale, Ariz.  
Colorado (ss) vs. Texas at Spring-  
er, Okla.  
Oakland vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix  
Spring Training, Chicago White Sox at  
Glendale, Ariz.  
Cincinnati vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa, Ariz.  
K.C. Dodgers vs. Arizona at Scottsdale, Ariz.  
K.C. Dodgers vs. Cincinnati at Good-  
year, Ariz.

**Thursday's games**  
Philadelphia vs. Detroit at Lake-  
land, Fla.  
St. Louis vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla.  
N.Y. Yankees vs. Philadelphia (ss) at  
Clearwater, Fla.  
Boston vs. Miami at Jupiter, Fla.  
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla.  
Toronto vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.  
K.C. Dodgers vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz.  
Chicago Cubs vs. Cleveland at Good-  
year, Ariz.  
Cincinnati vs. San Francisco at Scottdale, Ariz.  
Chicago White Sox (ss) vs. Kansas  
City at Spring Training, Peoria, Ariz.  
Colorado vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix  
Spring Training, Peoria, Ariz.  
Seattle vs. Chicago White Sox (ss) at  
Glendale, Ariz.  
Washington vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla.  
St. Louis vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla.

**Friday's games**  
Atlanta vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.  
Miami vs. St. Louis (ss) at Jupiter, Fla.  
Cincinnati vs. Pittsburgh at Braden-  
ton, Fla.  
Tampa Bay vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla.  
Houston vs. Washington at Viera, Fla.  
Philadelphia vs. Baltimore at Sara-  
tota, Fla.  
St. Louis (ss) vs. N.Y. Mets at Port St.  
Lucie, Fla.  
New York vs. Chicago Cubs (ss) at  
Mesa, Ariz.  
Texas vs. Oakland at Phoenix  
San Francisco vs. Kansas City at Spring-  
er, Ariz.  
Atlanta vs. L.A. Dodgers at Glendale, Ariz.  
Cincinnati (ss) vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz.  
Chicago Cubs (ss) vs. L.A. Angels (ss)  
at Tempe, Ariz.  
San Diego vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix  
Spring Training, Peoria, Ariz.  
Chicago White Sox vs. Cincinnati (ss)  
at Goodyear, Ariz.  
New York vs. Colorado at Scottsdale, Ariz.  
Detroit vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla.

## Deals

### Tuesday's transactions

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
**BALTIMORE** - Agreed to terms with LHP Johan Santana on a minor league contract.

**CLEVELAND** - Agreed to terms with RHP Austin Adams, Corey Kluber and C. Brantley. Also agreed to re-sign LHP Jose L. House and Cliff Linton; and INF Lonnie Chappin on one-year contracts. Named Gregu Lopez for spring league re-signing coordinator.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**  
**CHICAGO CUBS** - Named Ted Lilly special assistant to the president of baseball operations and general manager.

**OS ANGELES DODGERS** - Options RHP Pedro Baez, OF Brock Holt, RHP Jhonny Pineda, RHP Yimi Garcia and LHP Jarred Cosart. Made minor league deals with Reassigned RHP Sam Demel, C Griff Rice, LHP Daniel Moskos, catcher O'Brien and LHP Chris Reed to their minor league camp.

**WASHINGTON NATIONALS** - Agreed to terms with LHP Mike Gonzalez on a minor league contract.

**BASKETBALL**  
**NATIONAL Basketball Association**  
**CHARLOTTE BOBCATS** - Signed C Justin Hamilton to a 10-day contract.

**MILWAUKEE** - Assigned G Gal Mekel to Texas (NBA D).

**MIAMI** - Signed F Tony Mitchell to a 10-day contract.

**NATIONAL Basketball Association**  
**ORLANDO MAGIC** - Re-signed F Terrence Ross to a 10-day contract.

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**ARIZONA CARDINALS** - Signed Buddy Morris strength and conditioning coach.

**ATLANTA FALCONS** - Re-signed DT Corey Peters and signed DE Adam Annunzio. Announced the retirement of RB Jason Snelling.

**DETROIT LIONS** - Released G Leroy Harris and signed RB Theo Riddick.

**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS** - Released G Jake Wnager.

**INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** - Released WR Jason Avant.

**MINNESOTA CHARGERS** - Released CB Derek Cox, CB Johnny Patrick and FB Devin Taylor.

**WASHINGTON REDSKINS** - Waived RB Jason Jamison and RB Devin McGee. Terminated the contracts of DE Adam Carriker, TE Richard Quinn and P Saw Rouse.

**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**  
**ANHEIM DUCKS** - Acquired F Dustin Penner to Washington for a 2014 first-round draft pick. Traded G Vincent Visconti to Edmonton for a 2014 fifth-round draft pick and the contracts of DE Adam Carriker and TE Richard Quinn.

**CAROLINA HURRICANES** - Agreed to terms with G Anton Khudobin on a two-year contract.

**CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS** - Acquired D David Rundblad from Anaheim for a 2015 first-round pick. Assigned Briseotes to Rockford (AHL).

**DALLAS STARS** - Traded D Stephane Robitaille to Anaheim for a 2014 fourth-round draft pick. Recalled F Chris Tardif.

**EDMONTON OILERS** - Traded G Ilya Bryzgalov to Minnesota for a 2014 fourth-round draft pick.

**FLORIDA PANTHERS** - Traded D Mike Weaver to Montreal for a 2015 first-round draft pick.

**MINNESOTA WILD** - Signed RW Zack Mitchell to a three-year, entry-level contract. Reassigned F Stephane Veilleux to Rockford (AHL).

**NEW YORK ISLANDERS** - Traded D Troy Brouhard to Philadelphia for F Matt Mangone, a 2014 third-round draft pick and a 2015 second-round pick.

**OTAWA SENATORS** - Traded F Jeff Costello to Vancouver for D Patrick Mullins and a 2015 second-round pick.

**PENNY COYOTES** - Recalled D David Rundblad from Portland (AHL). Acquired F Matt Mangone from Philadelphia for F Washington Capitals for D Rostislav Klesla, F Chris Brown and a fourth round draft pick. Signed F Philadelpho Brindley to a one-year contract.

**VANCOUVER CANUCKS** - Traded G Shawn Horcoff to Pittsburgh for a 2014 first-round pick.

**WASHINGTON CAPITALS** - Reassigned LW Nicolas Deschamps to Hershey (AHL).

**SOCCER**  
**Major League Soccer**  
**COLORADO RAPIDS** - Signed MF Jose Maresca.

**L.A. GALAXY** - Signed D Alex Riley.

**SEATTLE SOUNDERS** - Traded M Alex Zola to D.C. United for a 2014 first-round draft pick.

**SPORTING KANSAS CITY** - Signed M Alex Martinez.

**VANCOUVER WHITESAPS** - Signed G Marco Carducci.

**CASTLETON COLLEGE**  
Named Benjamin Stockwell director of athletic communications.

**CLEMSON** - Suspended DE Corey Crawford, LO David Reyes, OC Shaq Annunzio and D.C. United for violating team rules.

**WELLSLAKE** - Named Rachel Chapman women's assistant soccer coach.

**SMU** - Named Steve Broussard running back coach.

**TCU** - Named Kenny Perry cornerbacks coach.

NHL



BILL KOSTRUN/AP

The New Jersey Devils' Jon Merrill, right, pokes the puck away from the Detroit Red Wings' Darren Helm in the first period of Tuesday's game at Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. The Devils won 4-3.

Roundup

# Gionta's late goal lifts Devils to win

Brodeur beats Red Wings amid trade rumors

The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Martin Brodeur made 20 saves in what might have been his last game with the Devils and Stephen Gionta scored the tiebreaking goal with 36.6 seconds left to lift New Jersey to a 4-3 victory over the Detroit Red Wings on Tuesday night.

Adam Henrique, Marek Zidlicky, and Travis Zajac also had goals for the Devils (27-23-13), who closed within one point of Detroit (28-21-12).

"That's a game we can't lose," Devils coach Pete DeBoer said. "I would have taken (a win any way). Winning in regulation was huge."

Johan Franzen, Brendan Smith and Todd Bertuzzi scored for the Red Wings against Brodeur, who has been the subject of trade rumors leading up to Wednesday's NHL dealing deadline.

"I had some good conversations with Lou (Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello) about what I want to do for the rest of the year and maybe next year. From there you know it's up to him to make the decision that he wants. He knows exactly where I stand," Brodeur said.

Gionta put the Devils ahead for good when he tipped Mark Payne's point shot past Jimmy Howard for the winning goal.

"It's always nice scoring goals, especially one that can help out the team in a big way," Gionta said.

Howard finished with 25 saves in the loss.

"It's not what we wanted to see happen here," Howard said. "To let one slip away is frustrating." **Brussels 4, Panthers 1:** David Krejci scored three goals for

host Boston in a win over Florida, hours after the visitors made a series of deals to retool their lineup, including the acquisition of goalie Roberto Luongo from the Vancouver Canucks.

Jarome Iginla also scored for the Bruins, who kept former Boston goalie Tim Thomas busy all night with 39 shots on goal.

**Blue Jackets 4, Stars 2:** Artem Anisimov scored twice, including a late insurance goal, as host Columbus held off a third-period rally to beat Dallas.

**Penguins 3, Predators 1:** Matt Niskanen scored his second goal of the game 7:29 into the third period as Pittsburgh beat host Nashville to snap a three-game skid.

**Avalanche 4, Blackhawks 2:** Tyson Barrie scored a tiebreaking power-play goal with 7:10 left, and Colorado topped host Chicago for its third straight win.

**Blues 4, Lightning 2:** Alexander Steen scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and goalie Ryan Miller won his first home start in St. Louis' win over Tampa Bay.

**Islanders 3, Jets 2 (OT):** Michael Grabner scored on a breakaway 3:53 into overtime as visiting New York defeated Winnipeg.

**Oilers 3, Senators 2:** Ales Hekky scored two goals as host Edmonton snapped a three-game losing streak in beating Ottawa.

**Coyotes 1, Canucks 0:** Antoine Vermette scored late in the first period and Mike Smith stopped 23 shots in host Phoenix's win over sliding Vancouver.

**Hurricanes 3, Sharks 2 (OT):** Jay Harrison scored with 41.2 seconds remaining in overtime as Carolina won for the first time since the Olympic break in a victory over host San Jose.

## Scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Boston	61	39	5	83
Montreal	63	34	22	76
Tampa Bay	62	34	21	75
Toronto	63	32	23	8
Detroit	61	24	31	12
Ottawa	62	27	24	11
Florida	62	23	32	7
Buffalo	61	19	38	8

Metropolitan Division				
GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Pittsburgh	62	32	24	6
Philadelphia	62	32	24	6
N.Y. Rangers	63	26	33	6
Columbus	62	22	35	6
Washington	62	29	23	6
New Jersey	61	27	23	6
Carolina	62	27	26	9
N.Y. Islanders	64	24	32	8

### Western Conference

Central Division				
GP	W	L	OT	Pts
St. Louis	61	41	14	6
Chicago	63	36	13	6
Colorado	62	40	17	5
Minnesota	62	29	23	5
Winnipeg	63	30	26	7
Nashville	62	26	30	10

Pacific Division				
GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Anaheim	62	39	17	7
San Jose	63	35	22	6
Los Angeles	62	29	23	11
Vancouver	64	28	30	10
Calgary	61	23	31	5
Edmonton	63	21	34	8

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

**Monday's games**  
Columbus 2, Calgary 2  
Los Angeles 2, Montreal 1

**Tuesday's games**  
New Jersey 4, Detroit 3  
Columbus 4, Dallas 2  
Colorado 4, Chicago 2  
Dallas 4, Tampa Bay 2  
Pittsburgh 3, Nashville 1  
N.Y. Islanders 3, Winnipeg 2, OT  
Phoenix 1, Vancouver 0  
Edmonton 3, Ottawa 2  
Carolina 4, San Jose 2, OT

**Wednesday's games**  
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers  
Washington at Philadelphia  
Ottawa at Calgary  
Washington at Anaheim

**Thursday's games**  
Buffalo at Tampa Bay  
Colorado at Detroit  
Columbus at Chicago  
St. Louis at Nashville  
Vancouver at Dallas

**Friday's games**  
N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton  
New Jersey at Detroit  
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina  
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary  
Pittsburgh at Florida

**Tuesday**  
**Penguins 3, Predators 1**  
Pittsburgh 3, Nashville 1  
Nashville 0, 1-0-1

**Second Period—1,** Pittsburgh, Nickerson 8 (Crosby, Gibbons), 27:2. Nashville, Hornqvist 12 (Spaling, Fisher), 39:30.  
**Third Period—1,** Pittsburgh, 9 (Malkin, Crosby), 7:29 (pp), 4. Pittsburgh, Kunitz 28 (Crosby), 17:05.  
**Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh:** 8-4-7-19. Nashville 7-4-8-15.

**Blues 4, Lightning 2:** Alexander Steen scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and goalie Ryan Miller won his first home start in St. Louis' win over Tampa Bay.

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### Islanders 3, Jets 2 (OT)

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Winnipeg	1	0	1-3	3
First Period—1, Winnipeg, Ladd 16 (LITTLE), 10:57. 2, N.Y. Islanders, McDonald 5 (Strome), 17:30. <b>Second Period—3,</b> N.Y. Islanders, Lee 3 (Grabner), 1:33. <b>Third Period—4,</b> Winnipeg, Ladd 17 (Jokinen), 14:53. <b>Overtime—1,</b> N.Y. Islanders, Grabner 12 (Clutterbuck), 3:53.				

**Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders:** 13-7-5-2-21. Winnipeg 9-17-11-5-3.  
**Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders—1 of 2.**  
**Goalties—N.Y. Islanders,** Nilsson 2-3-2 (38 shots-25 saves). Winnipeg, Pavelec 20-22-5 (27-24).  
A-15,004 (15,004). T-2:33.

### Blues 4, Lightning 2

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Tampa Bay	0	2	0-2	2
St. Louis	0	2	0-2	2
First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Killorn 15 (Purcell), 7:08. 2, Tampa Bay, Johnson 18 (St. Louis, Hedman), 14:49 (pp). <b>Second Period—3,</b> St. Louis, Berglund 11 (Schwartz, Tarasenko), 3:32. 4, St. Louis, Oshie 15 (Steen, Pietrangolo), 17:04 (pp). <b>Third Period—5,</b> St. Louis, Steen 29 (Bacques, Oshie), 3:47. 6, St. Louis, Tarasenko 19 (Bacques, Schwartz), 19:21 (pp). <b>Shots on Goal—Tampa Bay:</b> 6-6-5-17. St. Louis 12-10-7-29.				

**Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay:** 4 of 4. St. Louis: 2.  
**Goalties—Tampa Bay,** Bishop 29-11-4 (28 shots-25 saves). St. Louis, Miller 17-22-3 (17-15).  
A-18,602 (19,150). T-2:23.

### Avalanche 4, Blackhawks 2

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Colorado	0	1	3-4	4
Chicago	0	1	3-4	4
Second Period—1, Colorado, Talbot 7 (Johnson, Hejda), 2:49. 2, Chicago, B. Smith 8 (Bollig, Hallmarsson), 15:52. <b>Third Period—3,</b> Colorado, O'Reilly 24 (Duchene, Johnson), 1:23. Chicago, Toews 22 (Sharp, Keith), 7:17 (pp), 5. Colorado, Barre 9 (Johnson, O'Reilly), 12:50 (pp), 6. Colorado, Stastny 20 (MacKinnon, Barre), 19:27 (pp). <b>Shots on Goal—Colorado:</b> 3-11-7-21. Chicago 11-13-14-38.				

**Power-play opportunities—Colorado:** 1 of 3. Chicago 1 of 4.  
**Goalties—Colorado,** Varlamov 31-11-5 (38 shots-25 saves). St. Louis, Crawford 23-11-10 (20-17).  
A-21,361 (18,177). T-2:19.

### Bruins 4, Panthers 1

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Florida	0	0	1-1	1
Boston	2	1	1-4	4
First Period—1, Boston, Krejci 14, 7:29. 2, Boston, Iginia 19 (Caron, Kelly), 11:01. <b>Second Period—3,</b> Boston, Krejci 15 (Miller), 19:12. <b>Third Period—4,</b> Florida, B. Campbell 6 (Bergheim), 12:47. 5, Boston, Krejci 16 (Lucic, Iginia), 19:46 (pp). <b>Shots on Goal—Florida:</b> 7-10-7-24. Boston 14-15-10-34.				

**Power-play opportunities—Florida:** 0 of 3; Boston of 2.  
**Goalties—Florida,** Thomas 16-20-3 (38 shots-35 saves). Boston, C. Johnson 12-3-1 (24-23).  
A-17,565 (17,565). T-2:30.

### Blue Jackets 4, Stars 2

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Dallas	0	2	0-2	2
First Period—1, Columbus, Jenner 11 (Johansen, Horton), 1:14. 2, Columbus, Umberger 17 (Dubinsky, Wisniewski), 11:29. 3, Columbus, Anisimov 17, 15:09 (pp). <b>Second Period—4,</b> Dallas, Goligoski 4 (Whitney, Ja. Benn), 1:39 (pp), 5. Dallas, Shates 5 (Gonchar, Cole), 3:22. 6, Columbus, Anisimov (Shout, Gaborik), 15:51. <b>Shots on Goal—Dallas:</b> 5-12-16-35. Columbus 9-10-10-30.				

**Power-play opportunities—Dallas:** 1 of 3.  
**Goalties—Dallas,** Ellis 5-6-0 (20 shots-16 saves). Columbus, Bobrovsky 23-15-3 (33-31).  
A-15,661 (18,144). T-2:29.

### Devils 4, Red Wings 3

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Detroit	1	1	1-3	3
New Jersey	1	0	3-4	4
First Period—1, New Jersey, Henrique 12 (Gardner, Franzen), 11:26 (pp). <b>Second Period—3,</b> Detroit, Smith 2 (Abedulkaev), 7:03. <b>Third Period—4,</b> New Jersey, Zidlicky 10 (Brunner, Ellis), 4:11 (pp), 5. New Jersey, Zajac 10 (Jagi, Clavin), 6:30. 6, Detroit, Bertuzzi 8 (Franzen, Nyquist), 9:43 (pp), 7. New Jersey, Gionta 4 (Foye, Gaborik), 19:23. <b>Shots on goal—Detroit:</b> 7-12-24-33. New Jersey 10-11-22-30.				

**Power-play opportunities—Detroit:** 2 of 4. New Jersey 1 of 3.  
**Goalties—Detroit,** Howard 13-14-9 (29 shots-25 saves). New Jersey, Brodeur 15-11-12 (20-20).  
A-16,592 (17,625). T-2:24.

### Hurricanes 3, Sharks 2 (OT)

GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Carolina	1	0	1-3	3
San Jose	0	2	0-2	2
First Period—1, Carolina, Tlusty 10 (Semin, Lies), 12:07. 2, San Jose, Havlat 5 (Kempny, Desjardins), 13:05. 3, San Jose, Burns 15 (Torres, Sheppard), 19:23. <b>Second Period—4,</b> Carolina, Lindholm 5 (Stastny, Selvero), 4:16. <b>Overtime—5,</b> Carolina, Harrison 3 (Lindholm, Selvero), 4:16. <b>Shots on Goal—Carolina:</b> 16-8-7-4-35. San Jose 11-9-16-13-37.				

**Power-play opportunities—Carolina:** 0 of 2. San Jose 0 of 1.  
**Goalties—Carolina,** Khudobin 14-10-4 (37 shots-35 saves). San Jose, Stalock 10-11-4 (35-32).  
A-17,652 (17,562). T-2:35.

### Leaders

Through March 4	GP	A	Pts
Sidney Crosby, Pit	61	29	54
Phil Kessel, Tor	63	33	69
Ryan Getzlaf, Anth	38	29	68
Patrick Kane, NVI	59	24	66
Alex Ovechkin, Was	58	42	65
Tim Tavek, Chi	62	27	64
Conny Perry, Ann	62	31	63
Martin St. Louis, TB	62	29	61
Patrick Sharp, Chi	63	29	61
Evgeni Malkin, Pitt	63	26	61
Claude Giroux, Phi	62	21	60
Evgeni Kuznetsov, Was	62	21	60
Nicklas Backstrom, Was	62	18	60
Joe Pavelski, SJ	63	27	59
Jonathan Toews, Chi	63	27	59
Evo Thornton, SJ	63	8	51
Johan Sogou, Dal	50	33	58
Taylor Hall, Edm	56	20	38

CHRIS LEE, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/AP  
St. Louis Blues center Derek Roy, right, leaps over the stick of Tampa Bay center Tyler Johnson as he pursues the puck during the first period of Tuesday's game in St. Louis. The Blues won 4-2.

NHL



# Trade deadline deals

## March 5

<b>N.Y. Rangers gets:</b> F Martin St. Louis	<b>Tampa Bay gets:</b> F Ryan Callahan 2nd Round Pick (2015) 2nd Round Pick (2014)	<b>Edmonton gets:</b> 5th Round Pick (2014) 3rd Round Pick (2015)	<b>Los Angeles gets:</b> F Marian Gaborik
<b>Ottawa gets:</b> F Ales Hemsky	<b>Nashville gets:</b> Future Considerations	<b>Los Angeles gets:</b> F Brayden McNabb 3rd Round Pick (2014) 2nd Round Pick (2015)	<b>New Jersey gets:</b> F Tuomo Ruutu
<b>Columbus gets:</b> F Matt Frattin 2nd Round Pick (2014)	<b>Buffalo gets:</b> F Hudson Fasching D Nicolas Deslauriers 3rd Round Pick (2017)	<b>Carolina gets:</b> D Andrei Loktionov Conditional 3rd Round Pick (2014)	<b>Pittsburgh gets:</b> F Marcel Goc
<b>Montreal gets:</b> G Devan Dubnyk	<b>Dallas gets:</b> G Tim Thomas	<b>Florida gets:</b> Future Considerations	<b>Columbus gets:</b> D Nick Schultz
<b>Edmonton gets:</b> 5th Round Pick (2014)	<b>Phoenix gets:</b> F Martin Erat F John Mitchell	<b>Chicago gets:</b> D David Rundblad	<b>Florida gets:</b> G Roberto Luongo F Steven Anthony
<b>Washington gets:</b> F Dustin Penner	<b>Anaheim gets:</b> 4th Round Pick (2014)	<b>Dallas gets:</b> Conditional 4th Round Pick (2014)	<b>Anaheim gets:</b> 5th Round Pick (2014) 3rd Round Pick (2015)
<b>Anaheim gets:</b> D Stephane Robidas	<b>Edmonton gets:</b> G Viktor Fasth	<b>Philadelphia gets:</b> D Andy MacDonald	<b>N.Y. Islanders gets:</b> 3rd Round Pick (2014) 2nd Round Pick (2015) F Mark Mangene
<b>Ottawa gets:</b> D Patrick Mullen	<b>Vancouver gets:</b> F Jeff Costello	<b>Minnesota gets:</b> G Ilya Bryzgalov	<b>Edmonton gets:</b> 4th Round Pick (2014)
<b>Montreal gets:</b> D Mike Weaver	<b>Florida gets:</b> 5th Round Pick (2015)	<b>Chicago gets:</b> 3rd Round Pick (2014) 5th Round Pick (2016)	<b>Florida gets:</b> F Brandon Pirri
<b>St. Louis gets:</b> F Eric Seleck	<b>Florida gets:</b> F Mark Mancari		

## March 4

<b>Phoenix gets:</b> F Martin Erat F John Mitchell	<b>Washington gets:</b> D Rostislav Klesla F Chris Brown 4th Round Pick (2015)	<b>Chicago gets:</b> D David Rundblad	<b>Florida gets:</b> G Roberto Luongo F Steven Anthony
<b>Washington gets:</b> F Dustin Penner	<b>Anaheim gets:</b> 4th Round Pick (2014)	<b>Dallas gets:</b> Conditional 4th Round Pick (2014)	<b>Anaheim gets:</b> 5th Round Pick (2014) 3rd Round Pick (2015)
<b>Anaheim gets:</b> D Stephane Robidas	<b>Edmonton gets:</b> G Viktor Fasth	<b>Philadelphia gets:</b> D Andy MacDonald	<b>N.Y. Islanders gets:</b> 3rd Round Pick (2014) 2nd Round Pick (2015) F Mark Mangene
<b>Ottawa gets:</b> D Patrick Mullen	<b>Vancouver gets:</b> F Jeff Costello	<b>Minnesota gets:</b> G Ilya Bryzgalov	<b>Edmonton gets:</b> 4th Round Pick (2014)
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<b>St. Louis gets:</b> F Eric Seleck	<b>Florida gets:</b> F Mark Mancari		

## Trades roundup

# Lightning deal St. Louis to Rangers

By IRA PODELL  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — In a surprising move just hours before the NHL trade deadline, the New York Rangers and Tampa Bay Lightning pulled off a major deal on Wednesday, swapping captains Ryan Callahan and Martin St. Louis in a blockbuster.

Other top-name players traded were:  
 ■ Forward Marian Gaborik, who was sent from Columbus to Los Angeles for forward Matt Frattin and two draft picks;

■ Ales Hemsky, who left Edmonton after 12 years with the Oilers in a deal with the Ottawa Senators for two draft picks;

■ The Montreal Canadiens picked up some goaltender insurance for injured star Carey Price by acquiring Devan Dubnyk from the Nashville Predators for future considerations.

The Rangers had been trying to sign Callahan, who can become an unrestricted free agent this summer, but weren't able to reach an agreement with the gritty forward. Instead of risking losing him for nothing on the open market, New York dealt him, a second-round pick in this year's draft, and a first round pick in next year's draft to Tampa Bay for St. Louis, a disgruntled two-time NHL scoring champion.

The second-round selection this year would become a first-rounder if the Rangers reach the Eastern Conference finals this season. If Callahan re-signs with the Lightning, the teams will then trade picks in next year's draft. New York would acquire the Lightning's second-round pick, and Tampa Bay would get New York's seventh-round selection.

Callahan was reportedly seeking a six-year deal worth \$6.5 million per season. It is believed the Rangers were willing to agree to a six-year term, but not pay more than \$6 million a season.

St. Louis had a no-trade clause, and recent reports stated the Rangers were the team he wanted to join. The 38-year-old right wing has one year left on his contract. He will earn \$5 million next season and be a \$5.625 million salary-cap charge.

This trade reunites St. Louis with forward Brad Richards, who was his high-scoring teammate with Tampa Bay before the Lightning traded him to Dallas in February 2008. Richards signed a free-agent deal with the Rangers in July 2011.

Callahan, who will turn 29 later this



LM OTERO/AP

**Tampa Bay Lightning right wing Martin St. Louis (26), traded to the New York Rangers on Wednesday for forward Ryan Callahan, a first-round draft pick and a second-round draft pick, will be an unrestricted free agent after this season.**

month, has 11 goals and 14 assists in 45 games this season. He was chosen by the Rangers in the fourth round of the 2004 draft and has 132 goals and 254 points in 450 career NHL games with them over eight seasons.

Several other big-name NHL players were on the move on Tuesday, 24 hours before the trade deadline, including star goaltender Roberto Luongo, who was ushered out of Vancouver and sent back to Florida eight years after he was sent packing.

The Panthers, on their way to missing the playoffs for the 13th time in 14 seasons, dealt goalie Jacob Markstrom and forward Shawn Matthias to the Canucks for Luongo and forward Steven Anthony.

Luongo is first in Panthers history in games played (317), single-season games played (75), career wins (108), single-season wins (35), and career shutouts (26). He also owns single-season records for most saves, most minutes played, and consecutive scoreless minutes.

Anaheim sent goalie Viktor Fasth to Edmonton for a 2014 fifth-round draft pick and a 2015 third-round selection. Edmonton then traded veteran goalie Ilya Bryzgalov to Minnesota for a fourth-round draft pick this year.

The Wild might make a move for

Jaroslav Halak, who was traded from St. Louis to Buffalo only last week, but could be flipped again.

New Jersey veteran Martin Brodeur is another option. The future Hall of Famer has a full no-trade clause that he can invoke.

The Panthers were already active Tuesday before acquiring Luongo, sending defenseman Mike Weaver to Montreal for a 2015 fifth-round draft pick.

Anaheim traded forward Dustin Penner to Washington for a fourth-round draft pick this year and then quickly moved that pick to Dallas for veteran defenseman Stephane Robidas.

Robidas hasn't played since breaking his leg against Chicago on Nov. 9.

The New York Islanders dealt coveted defenseman Andrew MacDonald to Philadelphia for a pair of draft picks and minor league center Matt Mangene.

In other deals, Chicago acquired defenseman David Rundblad and Mathieu Briesebois from Phoenix for a second-round draft pick this year. Ottawa traded forward Jeff Costello to Vancouver for defenseman Patrick Mullen; and Phoenix received forwards Martin Erat and John Mitchell from Washington for forward Chris Brown, defenseman Rostislav Klesla and a fourth-round selection in the 2015 draft.

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## SPORTS BRIEFS

# 10-second rule up for NCAA approval

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A proposed rule change that would penalize college football offenses for snapping the ball before 10 seconds had run off the 40-second play clock is scheduled to be reviewed one last time by an NCAA committee on Wednesday.

The conference call by the football rules committee is a routine step in the process, but also the last opportunity for the proposal to be withdrawn before it goes to the playing rules oversight panel on Thursday.

If the panel approves the proposal, the rule would go into effect next season.

The proposed change was made to address player-safety concerns held by some coaches who say hurry up, no-huddle offenses that increase the number of plays in games and limit defensive substitutions put players at greater risk for injuries.

In other college football news: ■ The prosecutor leading an investigation into fraud in an academic department at North Carolina says a retired administrator tied to the case won't face charges.

In a news release Tuesday, Orange County district attorney Jim Woodall said Deborah Crowder from the formerly named African and Afro-American Studies department is cooperating with investigators. She also will cooperate with an independent investigation by former U.S. Justice Department official Kenneth L. Wainstein, announced by the school last month.

The problems in the department included classes with significant athlete enrollments that didn't meet and were treated as independent study work requiring only a research paper, as well as unauthorized grade changes dating to the late 1990s.

Two school investigations blamed Crowder and ex-chairman Julius Nyang'oro. Nyang'oro was charged in December for receiving \$12,000 to teach a summer 2011 lecture course filled with football players and instead treating it as an independent study requiring a paper.

In an interview with The As-



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

**Brooklyn center Jason Collins acknowledges the cheers from his teammates after Collins hit a basket against Denver on Feb. 27. The Nets signed Collins to another 10-day contract on Wednesday.**

sociated Press, Woodall said he didn't expect anyone else to be charged.

## Servia to run at least 4 races in Rahal car

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing will field a second IndyCar entry for Oriol Servia this season in at least four races, more if sponsorship can be secured.

Servia is currently scheduled to compete at Long Beach, Barber, the inaugural road course race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indianapolis 500 in a deal announced Wednesday.

The Rahal organization last month finished a drawn-out process to secure sponsorship from the National Guard for Graham

Rahal's car. Team owner Bobby Rahal has insisted he would only field two cars if it would strengthen the organization, and Graham Rahal said he told his dad he didn't want to "rob Peter to pay Paul" just to have a teammate.

But in Servia, the organization gets a veteran driver who was briefly teammates with Graham Rahal at Newman-Haas-Lanigan Racing in 2009. Servia also ran the Indy 500 that season for Bobby Rahal.

## Bills sign S Williams to 4-year extension

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — The Buffalo Bills have signed starting safety Aaron Williams to a four-year contract extension.

The move was announced

Wednesday, and provides the Bills at least some long-term stability in their defensive backfield. Williams' signing came at a time when Buffalo stands to lose starting safety Jairus Byrd, who is preparing to test free agency next week.

Williams was Buffalo's second-round pick in the 2011 draft, and is entering the final year of his contract. He was rewarded with the extension after success in making the switch from cornerback to safety last season.

In 14 games last season, Williams had a career-best 82 tackles and also tied Byrd for the team lead with four interceptions.

Overall, he has five interceptions and two forced fumbles in 34 career games.

In other NFL news: ■ The Cleveland Browns have released troubled wide receiver Davone Bess.

The expected move comes after a pattern of disturbing behavior during the offseason by Bess, who spent just one season with Cleveland after being acquired in a trade last April. Bess was arrested for assaulting a police officer at an airport in Florida and he also posted photos of himself on social media with what appeared to be marijuana.

■ The Cincinnati Bengals made tender offers to linebacker Vincent Rey and receivers Andrew Hawkins and Dane Sanzenbacher on Wednesday, leaving them restricted free agents.

They can negotiate with other teams as of Sunday, but the Bengals will have the right to keep them by matching any offer. They can get a deal from another team up until May 2.

■ The Buffalo Bills are reclaiming their home-field advantage by postponing their annual game this season in Toronto, where they've gone 1-5 in the series.

Team president Russ Brandon did not rule out ending the series despite four years remaining in the deal with Toronto-based Rogers Communications.

Citing concerns of the Bills giving up a home-field edge and poor fan turnout north of the border, the Bills and Rogers announced Wednesday they have

put the game in Toronto on hold for this season. The joint release with Rogers president Keith Pelley said both sides would "evaluate opportunities and build on the foundation to enhance future games."

■ The Chicago Bears have cut punter Adam Podlesh, parting ways with the veteran after three seasons.

Podlesh joined the Bears in 2011 and had 238 punts for 10,065 yards (a 42.3 gross average) during his time in Chicago. He landed 82 punts inside the 20 with just 12 touchbacks, one blocked punt and a net average of 39.4.

## Nets sign Collins to another 10-day deal

NEW YORK — Jason Collins' second stint with the Brooklyn Nets will last at least 10 more days.

The Nets signed Collins to a second 10-day contract Wednesday.

Collins became the NBA's first openly gay player when he signed his first deal Feb. 23. Teams can sign players to two 10-day contracts, and then have to sign them for the rest of the season if they want to keep them.

Collins has appeared in all five games since his return, with three points and five rebounds in 36 minutes. The 13-year veteran played for the Nets from 2001-08.

## Royals' Hochevar to miss two months

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Kansas City Royals right-hander Luke Hochevar likely will miss at least the first two months of the season because of a sprained ligament in his right elbow.

Hochevar, the first pick in the 2006 amateur draft, got hurt Monday while pitching to Matt Davidson, his final batter during a two-inning out against the Chicago White Sox. The sprain was revealed in an MRI taken Tuesday.

Manager Ned Yost said Wednesday that Hochevar won't throw for two-to-three weeks and "probably the best-case scenario" would be a return at the end of May or early June.

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# MLB/SOCCER

## Cubs eager to see what Bryant can do

By Mike Tulumello  
The Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. — No. 77 would seem to be the typical spring training number assigned to a player soon to be heading to the minors.

The Chicago Cubs, though, see a large piece of their future in that number. And that future may not be far away.

Third baseman Kris Bryant is a significant prospect.

Early on in camp, the 22-year-old Bryant became a batting-practice draw, sending home runs up on the freeway embankment near the Cubs' new spring training complex. He had a homer in the first spring game.

Bryant grew up in Las Vegas and played in college at San Diego. He turned out to be a dominant power hitter and won player of the year honors in college baseball last year.

The Cubs made him the No. 2 pick in the draft last June and he then earned MVP honors in the Arizona Fall League by hitting .364 with six homers and 17 RBIs in 20 games.

Bryant said he wasn't surprised by his performance.

"I have a lot of confidence in myself in competing with the best," he said. "I was playing as hard as I can. Things really worked out great there."

Cubs fans, of course, are curious about when he might first appear in the big leagues. There has been speculation it could come as soon as the end of the 2014 season.

"Right now, I'm just focus-

ing on the moment, trying to get better, get ready for the season," Bryant said. "Whatever happens out of here, happens. But I'm here to get better and learn from the guys here."

"His performance speaks for itself," general manager Jed Hoyer said. "We're excited to have him."

Undetermined is if Bryant can play well enough defensively to be an everyday third baseman. If not, he might have to look at playing the outfield.

Bryant likely will start the season at Double-A, Hoyer said. From there, Hoyer said, "he's got to perform. And he controls that."

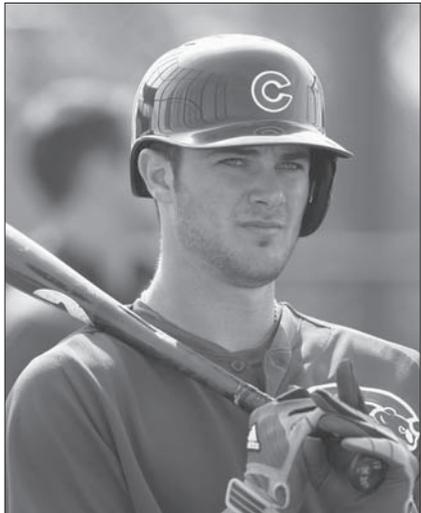
Bryant knows what he can bring to the Cubs.

"I would say my calling card is power," Bryant said. "That's what's gotten me where I am today. But I like to focus on all areas of my game because I believe you can get better in every area. I've been working all off-season and working here just to tighten up on all areas of my game."

Bryant figured out long before he left for college that he might be playing the game professionally.

"I think I realized that when I was probably 12 years old," he said. "Things started coming more naturally to me. I started to separate myself from some of my teammates."

"When I was 12, I had a good Little League season. After that, 'This is what I want to do. I want to be a professional baseball player.' I've run with that dream ever since."



RICK SCUTERI/AP

Chicago Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant, 22, is a big-time prospect.



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

The San Jose Earthquakes' Chris Wondolowski controls a pass during a training session on Feb. 11 in San Jose, Calif. Wondolowski scored both U.S. goals in a 2-0 win against South Korea on Feb. 1 and is likely to be on the roster for the April 2 exhibition against Mexico at Glendale, Ariz.

# Wondolowski's goal: US World Cup team

By Janie McCauley  
The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. For years, Chris Wondolowski waited for this chance. He kept pushing through training as he was passed over to play for his country, hoping the opportunity would eventually come.

All the while, he kept scoring goals.

Now that he has finally gained some valuable experience with the U.S. national team and proven to be a reliable playmaker up front, Wondolowski's next challenge will be making the 23-man World Cup roster for this year's tournament in Brazil.

So far, he is doing everything in his power to land a spot. He scored both U.S. goals in a 2-0 win against South Korea on Feb. 1 and is likely to be on the roster for the April 2 exhibition against Mexico at Glendale, Ariz.

"I'm going to try to keep doing what I'm doing. It's helped get me here for a reason, so I can't change it, can't try to press too hard," he said. "Let it happen. That's what they tell you, just continue to try to get better and continue and try to improve in all aspects and keep that going."

He hopes to keep that momentum going with the Earthquakes, who open Sunday against Colorado. The Americans are using a mostly Europe-based roster for Wednesday's exhibition against Ukraine in Cyprus.

When Wondolowski left the U.S.

**'I'm going to try to keep doing what I'm doing. It's helped me get here for a reason, so I can't change it.'**

Chris Wondolowski  
San Jose Earthquakes Striker



national team and returned to the Earthquakes last month following the game and a 2½-week training camp in Sao Paulo, American coach Jurgen Klinsmann didn't want him to change much but to keep improving. In 2012, the coaches wanted Wondolowski to work on his first touch, and now some minor work with his back to the goal.

After training with the national team in 2010 ahead of an exhibition game against Chile, Wondolowski got his first real chance in a January 2011 camp. He has scored eight goals in 18 matches with the Americans—five of those during the Americans' run to the CONCACAF Gold Cup championship last July. That included a first-half hat trick in a 6-1 victory against Belize on July 9, when he became the third American to score three goals in a Gold Cup game — even if his misspelled jersey had an extra 'W' written on back, as "Wondolowski."

Wondolowski has eight goals in his last nine appearances with the national team.

"Wondo is a wonderful example of (what happens) if you are committed, if you're hungry, if you give everything you have over a long period of time," Klinsmann said last month. "Sooner or later, you're going to get rewarded for it. It's nice to see a player like him is still hungry."

Wondolowski has proven to himself — and so many others — he thrives on the big stage of international competition. In the meantime, he wants to carry that into a bounce-back year with his club team.

"I feel like I have a great base," Wondolowski said. "I have a lot of confidence that I can play at a high level and hopefully I can bring it here and continue that. There's a lot of positives from it and I'm going to take those back here with the Earthquakes and implement them here. That's always my goal. I had a blast with it. I love playing at any level, especially when it's the highest I thoroughly enjoy it. Whatever happens, happens. Until then, just try to play to the best of my ability."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Versatile Clarke leads Arkansas' late surge

Senior has Hogs on verge of tournament return

By **KURT VOIGT**  
The Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Coty Clarke wasn't one of the most heralded recruits when he arrived at Arkansas out of junior college before last season.

The senior, however, has since turned into one of the most important — and versatile — players for the surging Razorbacks, who have won seven of eight games and appear on the verge of returning to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2008.

Arkansas (20-9, 9-7 Southeastern Conference) extended its winning streak to five games with Saturday's win over Georgia, doing so behind a career-high 23 points from Clarke.

The scoring output was a personal best for the 6-foot-7 forward, but his overall impact was nothing new in the eyes of coach Mike Anderson, who called Clarke "a guy that is a glue guy that has slowly become the leader of this basketball team."

Heading into Wednesday night's game against Mississippi (17-12, 8-8),

Clarke has a team-high 70 assists this season for Arkansas. He's also second with an average of six rebounds per game and has shown an adept outside touch as well — connecting on 20 of 46 (43.5 percent) three-pointers.

All in all, he's become everything Anderson could have dreamed of while recruiting the former Lawson State (Ala.) Community College standout, who averaged 12.8 point and 12.1 rebounds per game while there over two seasons.

"I think guys are following his lead," Anderson said. "And if he can continue to play at the high level he is playing at right now, a lot of good things will continue to happen for this basketball team. ... To me, the selfishness that he brings to the table has

kind of tripled throughout our basketball team."

Arkansas hasn't won six straight regular-season SEC games since the 1997-98 season under former coach Nolan Richardson, a mark it can equal on Wednesday night. The Razorbacks have already secured their first 20-win season since 2007-08, the last time the school reached the postseason.

For all of the good vibes right now surrounding Arkansas, however, the Rebels present a particular challenge in that they have won four straight games in Bud Walton Arena — and six straight overall against the Razorbacks.

Arkansas hasn't beaten Ole Miss since a win in Oxford in 2010, though Rebels coach Andy Kennedy puts little stock in the past.

"I'd like to tell you that those prior four games would have some influence on our game Wednesday night, but unfortunately for us they will not," Kennedy said.

"[Arkansas is] playing with a great deal of confidence, a real sense of urgency that you would expect as they're closing in on trying to get into the NCAA tournament."

Ole Miss didn't play at Arkansas last season, but it overcame a 15-point second-half deficit to win in Bud Walton Arena two years ago.

Clarke wasn't around for that loss, but he's played a large role in the Razorbacks' recent run of success. The Birmingham, Ala., native, who averaged 7.6 points per game last season, has scored in double figures in six of his past seven games and is now averaging 9.5 for the season.

He's one of four Arkansas players averaging in double figures in SEC play, and he's upped his play overall during the five-game winning streak — averaging 12.8 points and eight rebounds per game.

It's turning into a fitting end to Clarke's career, though he'd like nothing more than to finish it with a trip to the NCAA tournament.

"That's all I think about, when that last horn is going to blow," Clarke said. "When I come here, I give my teammates all I've got because I don't know when the last time I'll be able to bounce a ball, or what my career holds for me after this."



GARETH PATTERSON/AP

Arkansas senior guard Coty Clarke has become the leader of a team trying to make it back to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2008.

# Chasing: Gators seeking third championship in school history



PHIL SANDLIN/AP

Florida guard Scottie Wilbekin does the gator chop after Florida defeated LSU 79-61 on Saturday. The Gators are trying to become the first SEC team to go 18-0 in conference play.

**FROM BACK PAGE**

Chris Walker getting NCAA clearance to play early last month.

Donovan knows his team is capable of making another deep run in the NCAA tournament and is a real threat to win it all for the third time in school history. But keeping players dialed in and playing on edge is far from easy, especially when they hear so much talk about rankings, seedings and streaks.

Donovan's "chasing greatness" line certainly caused players take notice.

"I think as he saw the results at the beginning of the season, winning so many games in a row, breaking records and all that, he

just sees the ceiling of this team is really high and he wants to motivate us to keep striving for greatness," Young said. "We can do that every game, we can do that every practice. We just need to focus on that each opportunity we get."

The SEC played an 18-game conference schedule from 1967 through 1991, and then expanded the league late last season with the addition of Missouri and Texas A&M.

Only two SEC schools have managed a 17-1 mark: Kentucky accomplished the feat twice (1970, 1986), and LSU did it in 1981.

The Tigers were the only previous SEC program to get to 17-0. They started 17-0 in 1981 before

losing their regular-season finale against Kentucky.

So the Gators know they have a chance to do something special.

And they're embracing it. Donovan hasn't stopped at the motto, either. He has been using visual effects to drive home his points.

After beating Tennessee and Kentucky on the road three weeks ago, Donovan asked forward Will Yeguete to grab a dull bag sitting on the ground and throw it in his locker. Yeguete tried to pick it up with one hand, thinking he would toss it over his shoulder with ease. Donovan had the bag filled with weights, making it nearly impossible to carry with

one hand.

Also this season, Donovan made a picture of the entire team driving in a car. Players were looking all around, staring at signs about their rankings and their records. No one was looking ahead, where their car was getting ready to crash into a wall.

"Are we going to worry about the things around the peripheral or are we going to be focused on the road and the lane we're in right now?" Donovan said.

Right now, it's the "chasing greatness" lane.

"We still have a lot of things to accomplish," guard Michael Prazier II said. "We still have a lot of goals."

# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Friars have faith in NCAA chance

### Providence on right side of bubble, as Arkansas, Oklahoma State

By JOHN MARSHALL  
The Associated Press

Providence has put itself in position to make the NCAA tournament for the first time in a decade with a strong late-season run.

The Friars know there's still some work to do if they're going to get it.

"We know anything we get, we have to work for," Providence senior guard Bryce Cotton said. "This is no different. We are right there, right at the cusp. We see the light at the end of the tunnel, but we have to keep climbing to get there."

Providence opened the season with 10 wins in its first 12 games, then started 5-2 in the Big East. Four losses in five games threatened to derail the Friars' NCAA chances, but they have bounced back with four wins in five games, including a key victory over Marquette in double overtime on Tuesday. Cotton played all 50 minutes and scored 25 points.

Providence (20-10, 10 Big East) has a so-so RPI of 56, but has wins over Xavier, Creighton and St. John's. The Friars play No. 13 Creighton before the Big East tournament.

Providence isn't the only team hanging by the bubble this late in the season. The 68-team bracket has 36 at-large bids, but there are likely only a dozen or so that are not spoken for at this point. In other words, there's still quite a few teams sweating it out.

Here's some that have helped their cause recently and a few that stumbled:

### Moving up

**Arkansas:** The Razorbacks have played their way back into the bubble over the past three weeks. Arkansas has won five straight and six of seven, including a win-look-good-to-the-committee overtime victory over then-No. 17 Kentucky in Lexington to complete a season sweep over the Wildcats. The Razorbacks (20-9, 9-7 SEC) have four victories over teams in the RPI's top 50, but could still use a strong finish against Ole Miss and Alabama to avoid a pressure-filled SEC tournament.

**Florida State:** The Seminoles' road win over Pittsburgh was huge for their NCAA hopes, and they followed that up by beating Boston College Tuesday night for their third straight win. Florida State was shaky before that, losing six of eight games after an 8-2 stretch. The Seminoles have an early season win over VCU on their résumé, but nothing else that really pops out and an average RPI of 57, so they'll need to close strong.

**Oregon:** The Ducks appeared to be doomed after a five-game losing streak in January spoiled a 13-0 start and a top-10 ranking. Oregon (20-8) has bounced back with six straight wins, including a double-overtime road victory over UCLA on Thursday that will



KT KING, THE OKLAHOMAN/AP

Oklahoma State players, led by guard Marcus Smart, sing the school's alma-mater after beating Kansas State on Monday. The Cowboys have won three straight since Smart returned from a suspension.

look pretty good on the résumé. The Ducks also beat Arizona State on Tuesday night and close out the season at home against No. 3 Arizona on Saturday.

**Oklahoma State:** The return of Marcus Smart has done the Cowboys a world of good. Oklahoma State (19-10, 7-9 Big 12) has won three straight since the star guard returned from his fan-shoving suspension, including a had-to-have-it victory over fifth-ranked Kansas on Saturday night. A win over Kansas State on Monday night helps the Cowboys' case even more and a win over Iowa State in the season finale could all but seal it.

### Falling back

**Missouri:** The Tigers might need to finish the season strong after dropping two of their past three games and going 4-6 in their past 10. They close out the

regular season against Texas A&M and Tennessee.

Missouri is 20-9, but is a so-so 8-8 in the SEC, which isn't exactly by the strongest conference in the nation this season. The Tigers do have a win over UCLA, but there aren't really any other marquee wins on the résumé.

**Stanford:** We know, the Cardinal were among the teams moving up last week and now they're here. That's how quickly things can change on the surface of this bubble. How did they get here? A sweep by the Arizona schools. Losing to No. 3 Arizona on the road isn't too bad, but Stanford could have used a win over Arizona State, another team clawing for an at-large bid. The Cardinal have a tough finish, too, against Colorado and Utah, two other teams fighting for bracket spots.

**LSU:** The Tigers' bubble may have popped. They had a big opportunity to get a statement win

against top-ranked Florida on Saturday but were never really in the game and lost for the fifth time in eight games. LSU (17-11, 8-8) still has games left against Vanderbilt and Georgia, but even winning those isn't likely to turn selection committee heads. Winning those and a deep run in the SEC tournament could be the Tigers' only shot.

**Richmond:** The Spiders are losing sight of the bubble after three losses in four games, including a 23-point setback against Rhode Island on Saturday that's not going to look too good. Richmond (18-11, 8-6 Atlantic-10) is 4-3 since leading scorer Cedrick Lindsay injured both of his knees. The Spiders have tough games against VCU and Dayton left on the regular-season schedule and will need to make some noise in the A-10 tournament.



L.G. PATTERSON/AP

Missouri's Jabari Brown, left, has the ball knocked away by Mississippi State's Fred Thomas on Saturday. The Tigers won that game to stop a two-game skid that hurt their NCAA chances.

## Tournaments

- American East Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Saturday, March 8  
 Vermont vs. New Hampshire  
 Albany (N.Y.) vs. UMass  
 Stony Brook vs. Maine  
 Hartford vs. Binghamton  
**Seminifinals**  
 Sunday, March 9  
 Vermont/New Hampshire vs. Albany (N.Y./UMBC  
 Stony Brook/Maine vs. Hartford/Binghamton
- Atlantic Sun Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Tuesday, March 4  
 ETSU 89, Lipscomb 85, 2OT  
 Florida Gulf Coast 77, Stetson 55  
 Mercer 88, Jacksonville 82  
 S. Carolina-Upstate 80, N. Florida 74  
**Seminifinals**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Florida Gulf Coast vs. ETSU  
 Mercer vs. SC-Upstate  
**Big South Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Wednesday, March 5  
 Winthrop vs. Liberty  
 Radford vs. Presbyterian  
 Campbell vs. Charleston Southern  
 Gardner-Webb vs. Longwood  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Friday, March 7  
 High Point vs. Winthrop/Liberty  
 UNC Asheville vs. Radford/Presbyterian  
 Coastal Carolina vs. Campbell/Charleston Southern  
 IMU vs. Gardner-Webb/Longwood  
**Colonial Athletic Association**  
**First Round**  
 Friday, March 7  
 Hofstra vs. UNC Wilmington  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Saturday, March 8  
 Delaware vs. Hofstra/UNC Wilmington  
 Drexel vs. Northeastern  
 Towson vs. James Madison  
 William & Mary vs. Coll. of Charleston  
**Horizon League**  
**First Round**  
 Tuesday, March 4  
 Milwaukee 83, Detroit 73  
 Oakland 96, Youngstown St. 92, OT  
 Valparaiso 80, Wright State 83  
**Second Round**  
 Friday, March 7  
 Wright State vs. Oakland  
 Valparaiso vs. Milwaukee  
**Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Rider vs. Monmouth (N.J.)  
 Saint Peter's vs. Fairfield  
 Marist vs. St. John's  
**Missouri Valley Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Drake vs. Evansville  
 Bradley vs. Loyola (Chicago)  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Friday, March 7  
 Wichita State vs. Drake/Evansville  
 Missouri State vs. Loyola (La.)  
 Indiana State vs. Bradley/Loyola of Chicago  
**Northern Iowa vs. Southern Illinois**  
**Northeast Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Wednesday, March 5  
 Fairleigh Dickinson vs. Robert Morris  
 CCSU at Wagner  
 St. Francis (Pa.) at Bryant  
 Mount St. Mary's at Mount St. Mary's  
**Ohio Valley Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Wednesday, March 5  
 Tennessee Tech vs. SIU Edwardsville  
 SE Missouri vs. Eastern Illinois  
**Second Round**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Morehead State vs. Tennessee Tech/SIU Edwardsville  
 E. Kentucky vs. SE Missouri/E. Illinois  
**Southern Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Colgate 57, Navy 51  
 Lafayette 84, Loyola (Md.) 71  
**Southern Illinois vs. Southern Indiana**  
**West Coast Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Wednesday, March 5  
 Lafayette vs. Santa Clara University  
 Army at Bucknell  
 Lehigh at Holy Cross  
 Colgate at American  
**Southern Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Friday, March 7  
 Samford vs. Appalachian State  
 Georgia Southern vs. Furman  
 UNC Greensboro vs. The Citadel  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Saturday, March 8  
 Davidson vs. Samford/Appalachian St.  
 Elon vs. Western Carolina  
 Chattanooga vs. Georgia Southern/Furman  
 Wofford vs. UNC/GC/The Citadel  
**Summit League**  
**First Round**  
 Saturday, March 8  
 IPFW vs. IUPUI  
**Sunday, March 9**  
 Denver vs. South Dakota  
 South Dakota St. vs. Western Illinois  
**Seminifinals**  
 Monday, March 10  
 N. Dakota State vs. Denver/S. Dakota  
 IPFW/IUPUI vs. S. Dakota St./W. Illinois  
**West Coast Conference**  
**First Round**  
 Thursday, March 6  
 Portland vs. Loyola Marymount  
 Pacific vs. Santa Clara  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Saturday, March 8  
 San Francisco vs. San Diego  
 BYU vs. Portland/Loyola Marymount  
 Gonzaga vs. Pacific/Santa Clara  
 Saint Mary's vs. Pepperdine

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Georgia Tech extends Syracuse's free fall

No. 7 Orange limping toward postseason with fourth loss in five games



KEVIN ROYAL/AP

Georgia Tech's Trae Golden drives against Syracuse's Rakeem Christman on Tuesday. Georgia Tech won 67-62.

By JOHN KEKIS  
The Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — A month ago, Syracuse was unbeaten, ranked No. 1 and riding high. Now, the Orange are struggling toward the postseason having lost four of five.

Trae Golden scored 16 points, including six clutch free throws in the final seconds, and Georgia Tech stunned No. 7 Syracuse 67-62 on Tuesday night, the Orange's second straight home loss to a team with a sub-.500 record.

Syracuse (26-4, 13-4 Atlantic Coast Conference) started the season with 25 straight wins and spent three weeks at No. 1.

"I'm not happy with tonight, but I'm very happy to be 26-4," coach Jim Boeheim said. "We're well ahead of predictions. We just have to regroup."

"I try to look at the big picture and not napsy. We're in good position. When you get in the (NCAA) tournament, you're going

to play somebody good. You play good, you have a chance to win. You play well, seeding doesn't matter. It's as simple as that."

Last season, Syracuse stumbled down the stretch of the regular season, losing four of its final five games, the last a humbling 61-39 loss at former Big East archrival Georgetown. The Orange responded by winning three straight games in the Big East tournament, losing to eventual national champion Louisville in the title game, and then went on to the Final Four.

"It didn't end the way I wanted it to," said C.J. Fair, who matched his career high with 28 points in the final home game of his career. "It happened, but our season's not over. I still have a chance to win my last game."

Golden won it with some clutch free throw shooting in the final 35 seconds.

"I kind of went back to when I was a kid and just knocked them in," said Golden, who was 8-for-8 from the line. "My dad used to make me nervous when I was

younger. It made me think about that calm. It really helped me out."

Georgia Tech (14-16, 5-12) snapped a four-game losing streak.

Getting healthier by the day, the Yellow Jackets, who at one point in the season had only seven scholarship players available, closes the regular season against Virginia Tech on Saturday.

"Big might be an understatement. It's a huge win for us," Golden said. "We beat one of the top teams in the country."

The loss cost the Orange a great chance to lock up a high seed in the conference tournament.

Jerami Grant, the Orange's leading rebounder, had been hobbled by back problems the past two games and watched in street clothes.

"Not having him, he's a big part of our team," Fair said of Grant. "It could have been a different game if he was there. You never know, but it's a big blow to the team."

Roundup

## Michigan tops Illini to win Big Ten title

The Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Michigan came to Illinois with a shot at sewing up its first outright Big Ten title since 1986.

One potential obstacle stood in the way: The Illini were riding a hot streak and had held four straight opponents under 50 points.

It turns out Illinois wasn't much of a problem.

Michigan (22-7, 14-3 Big Ten) buried Illinois with 16 three-pointers on the way to an 84-53 blowout Tuesday night.

Nik Stauskas scored 24 points, hitting a career-best seven three-pointers. He said Michigan didn't want to share the championship with anybody, something it did in 2012.

"We came with that mindset, this was our championship and we wanted to win it," he said.

Dialled in or not, Michigan coach John Beilein said he didn't see that kind of shooting performance coming against the Illini (17-13, 6-11).

"I haven't seen that in practice even," Beilein said. "We were really good today."

Michigan shot 70 percent from three-point range and hit 29 of its 51 shots from the field, 56.9 percent.

Michigan's shooting was a "perfect storm" that reminded Illinois coach John Groce of LeBron James' 61-point game on Monday night.

"He said he felt like he was throwing a golf ball in an ocean," Groce said. "That's what it was like tonight."

Michigan had the game in hand

by halftime with a 52-30 lead. The Wolverines hit five straight three-pointers midway through the half to break the game open. The 15-point run turned Michigan's 20-17 lead to a comfortable 32-17.

Caris LeVert added 15 points for Michigan and Glenn Robinson III had 13.

Almost lost in the shooting was a quietly dominant performance on the boards by the Wolverines, outrebounding Illinois 33-23. Jon Horford led Michigan with 10.

**No. 1 Florida 72, South Carolina 46:** Michael Frazier II set a Florida record with 11 three-pointers on his way to a career-high 37 points.

Florida (28-2, 17-0) has won a school-record 22 straight games to move within one win of a perfect Southeastern Conference regular season.

Frazier kept the visiting Gators in the game when his teammates struggled in the first half. Florida took control with a 23-5 run midway through the second half.

**Georgetown 75, No. 13 Creighton 63:** D'Vauntes Smith-Rivera had 18 points and a career-high 12 rebounds, and host Georgetown frustrated Doug McDermott until late in the game.

Markel Starks added 17 points and a career-best 11 assists, and Jabril Traylor had 15 points for the Hoyas (17-12, 8-9), who shot 54 percent and advanced their cause as a bubble team for the NCAA tournament. They also still have a chance to be one of the six teams in the overhauled, 10-team Big East to get a bye in next week's conference tournament.

McDermott scored 16 of his 22 points in the second half, mak-



EVAN VUCCI/AP

Georgetown guard Markel Starks, left, looks on as Georgetown forward Aaron Bowen pulls down a rebound over Creighton forward Doug McDermott during the first half on Tuesday in Washington. Georgetown defeated No. 13 Creighton 75-63.

ing a series of three-pointers that helped cut a 16-point deficit to five. The Bluejays (23-6, 13-4) have lost two straight and are left with an outside chance at winning the regular-season title in their first year in the conference.

**Baylor 74, No. 16 Iowa State 61:** Brady Heslip scored 18 points, and host Baylor got a much-needed boost to its NCAA tournament hopes.

There were 15 lead changes and four ties before Heslip put the Bears (20-10, 8-9 Big 12) ahead with a tiebreaking three with 2:14 left — the start of a game-ending 13-0 run.

Iowa State (22-7, 10-7), in the mix for the No. 2 seed in next week's Big 12 tournament, lost its second road game in four days.

**No. 25 Kentucky 55, Alabama 48:** Julius Randle had 12 points and 11 rebounds and host Kentucky ended a two-game losing streak.

Needing a bounce after Saturday's loss at South Carolina with a huge hurdle looming this weekend at No. 1 Florida, the Wildcats (22-8, 12-5 Southeastern Conference) used a 15-2 second-half run to build a 43-34 lead.

Kentucky avoided its first three-game losing streak under

coach John Calipari and clinched second place in the conference.

**Clemson 58, Miami 54:** Rod Hall scored 14 points and had six assists to lead host Clemson.

The Tigers (19-10, 10-7 Atlantic Coast) were picked to finish 14th in the league but can clinch the fifth seed in the ACC tournament with a win Saturday over Pittsburgh.

Clemson still seems a long shot for an at-large bid for the NCAA tournament. The Tigers don't have a quality non-conference win, and their only victory over a team likely to be in the tournament is a 72-59 home win over Duke.

# SPORTS



**Captain crunch**  
Lightning swap leader St. Louis for Rangers' Callahan | **NHL, Page 25**

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Chasing greatness



MARY ANN CHASTAIN/AP

Florida's Michael Frazier II, right, and his teammates return to the bench after Frazier scored a career-high 37 points — including 11 three-pointers — as the Gators defeated South Carolina 72-46 on Tuesday in Columbia, S.C. Top-ranked Florida is looking to become the first team in SEC history to go 18-0 in conference play.

## No. 1 Florida looking to make history with first 18-0 run in SEC play

By MARK LONG  
The Associated Press

**T**op-ranked Florida has a motto for the stretch run: "chasing greatness."

Coach Billy Donovan dropped the phrase on his players in recent weeks, hoping to grab their attention and keep them focused on all they can achieve this season.

The Gators already clinched their third Southeastern Conference regular-season

**“There are things out there for these guys to achieve.”**

**Billy Donovan**  
Florida basketball coach

championship in the last four years. They also have set school records for regular-season wins (28), consecutive wins (22)

and consecutive wins at home (31). Nonetheless, there's plenty left to accomplish this season.

Florida (28-2, 17-0) can become the first team in SEC history to go 18-0 in league play, needing to win at Kentucky in the team's home finale Saturday after beating South Carolina 72-46 on Tuesday night.

The team also is looking to wrap up a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament, and after three straight disappointing losses in regional finals, the senior-laden group won't be satisfied with anything short of

the Final Four.

"There are still things out there in front of our team," Donovan said Monday. "There are things out there for these guys to achieve."

Florida dominated the Gamecocks (11-19, 4-13) in early January, winning 74-58 in Gainesville.

The Gators are healthier and deeper since, with swingman Casey Prather (ankle), center Patric Young (knee tendinitis) and guard Kasey Hill (groin) having recovered from injuries and forward

**SEE CHASING ON PAGE 29**

