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Free to Deployed Areas

Inside

WORLD

Malaysia Airlines plane carrying 239 vanishes over South China Sea

Page 13



UKRAINE UNREST

Crimea takeover builds as Russia reinforces military presence

Page 6



LIFESTYLE

How Buzzfeed has turned quizzes into an online phenomenon

Page 16-17



COLLEGE HOOPS

Wichita State makes case for No. 1 seed in win over Evansville

Page 28



Measuring their Might

Study seeks unisex standards for assessing combat readiness | Page 3

STEPHEN B. MORTON/AP

Army Pfc. Amy Alexanders lifts a 65-pound wire-guided missile through a hatch into the launcher of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during a physical demands study in Fort Stewart, Ga. The Army is conducting a study that will determine how all soldiers, including women, for the first time, will be deemed fit to join its fighting units from infantry platoons to tank crews.

War-proof gear the aim of Army program

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

Some might consider it a miracle that Harper Morrissey is alive.

Harper is only 4 months old, and it's what happened more than a year before she was born that might seem out of the ordinary.

On Aug. 9, 2012, Harper's father, Sgt. Joe Morrissey, was on a route-security mission in Zhariy district, Afghanistan, when he was struck by enemy fire.

The rounds "felt like a sucker punch," as they hit his body armor and knocked the wind out of

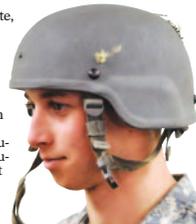
him, said Morrissey, 26, of Port Charlotte, Fla.

But thanks to the ceramic plate inside his flak vest, Morrissey not only survived being shot, he was uninjured and able to return fire at the enemy.

The plate — with a hole about the size of a thumb — stopped the 7.62 mm round.

And while some would call it miraculous, the researchers at the Project Executive Officer Soldier program say it's just another day at the office.

SEE GEAR ON PAGE 2



Spc. Tom Albers, of the Iowa National Guard, wears the Mear helmet that saved his life.

Courtesy of PEO Soldier

Afghan troops, police struggle to combat IED threat

By TIM CRAIG
The Washington Post

KABUL — U.S. and coalition forces have spent billions of dollars training and equipping Afghan security forces. Despite that, they're still struggling to get Afghans to stand up to their most persistent foe: improvised explosive devices.

Now, the U.S.-led coalition

is conducting a "mini-surge" of trainers and equipment to combat the lethal IEDs, which range from pipe bombs to powerful explosives that can blow trailer-size craters into roads.

The coalition's efforts have run into complications, ranging from the high Afghan illiteracy rate to the slow distribution of protective gear. Above all,

the plans for training Afghan soldiers have been jolted by President Hamid Karzai's resistance to signing a bilateral security agreement that would permit a residual U.S. military force to remain in Afghanistan after 2014.

Coalition commanders are now racing to complete a task that analysts say should

have been done far sooner. "Already, there is a bigger training gap to fill than we saw in Iraq, and it's getting started later," said James M. Dubik, a senior fellow at the Institute for the Study of War and former commander of the NATO training mission for the Iraqi security forces.

SEE IED ON PAGE 4

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We affirm, always to our suicide bombers, to be cautious, and to abort any operation if they believe it will hit others but the targeted."

— A statement by the al-Qaida-linked Abdullah Azzam Brigades apologizing for civilian deaths in Lebanon

See story on Page 14

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3. Pentagon outlines ideas for hybrid retirement system
4. Commissioners to be run as a business, not to be a business
5. Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sinclair trial: Accuser says he threatened to kill her

Spring forward

Most of the U.S. set their clocks forward one hour for daylight saving time.



TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	12
Business	21
Comics	18
Crossword	18
Lifestyle	15-17
Entertainment.....	19-20
Opinion	22-23
Sports	24-32
Weather	21

MILITARY

Gear: Armor protected against small-arms fire 'every time'

FROM FRONT PAGE

The PEO Soldier researchers have heard these stories thousands of times. In fact, there's an entire division of the program that collects battle-damaged Kevlar helmets, ceramic plates, and other pieces of protective equipment to make sure they live up to Army standards.

Since 2007, PEO Soldier has collected more than 25,000 pieces of equipment, and research shows that not one single helmet, not one single plate has failed. Ever.

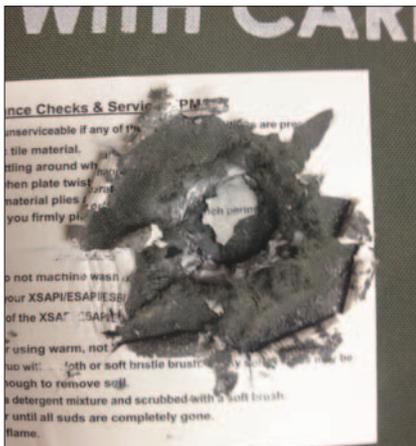
"That doesn't mean that we protected every soldier," said James Zheng, PEO Soldier project manager and soldier protection and individual equipment chief scientist. "For example, an RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) at close range — you can't protect against that. But small-arms fire, for example, it protected the soldier every time."

Zheng's team — including five personnel collecting gear in Afghanistan — estimate that they have received only about a quarter of the battle-damaged helmets and plates worn by U.S. personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We don't get everything," Zheng said but added, "Even with 25 percent, we can still learn a huge amount."

Until recently PEO Soldier focused mostly on collecting and examining the gear, but now that there's a large amount of data, the researchers are analyzing it with a view toward developing better protective equipment, he said.

The battle-damaged gear is turned in by units or medical examiners. The researchers record the name of the person who was wearing it, the type of attack it was exposed to and where and when it happened. They also col-



Courtesy of Joe Morrissey

A 7.62 mm round that hit Sgt. Joe Morrissey during a patrol in Afghanistan left a hole in his armor plate, but he was uninjured.

lect soldiers' medical records, Zheng said.

Helmets and plates are photographed, and some are X-rayed or placed in a CT scanner. The researchers examine each item to determine whether it was struck by a bullet or a bomb.

"We look at any remaining projectiles (embedded in the gear) and analyze them to find out where they hit and the damage they caused," Zheng said.

Much of the information gathered from the research — such

as the likelihood that a particular area on a soldier's body might be susceptible to a gunshot in combat — is classified, PEO Soldier spokesman Doug Graham said.

However, Zheng said, analysts are looking at such things as the percentage of soldiers injured or killed in attacks in which a helmet is struck by a bullet.

"By this analysis, we find that much of the (gear) defeated threats that it wasn't designed to defeat," Zheng said.

For example, Kevlar helmets

are designed to stop only the sort of 9 mm rounds typically fired by handguns and fragmentation from explosions. However, in many cases, helmets stopped 7.62 mm rounds fired by AK-47 rifles from a distance, he said.

The battle-damaged equipment is often covered in the blood of the soldiers who were wearing it.

"We see blood all the time," said Zheng, whose staff treat bloody items as biohazards.

It's a sobering thought that some of the soldiers who wore the gear into combat never made it home, he said.

However, those whose lives were saved by the equipment are often grateful.

After the 2012 battle in Afghanistan, Morrissey turned in his damaged plate, which was sent to the PEO Soldier researchers for analysis.

A month after the battle, he returned home to get married. A little more than a year later, his daughter was born.

"Since I got back, my wife and I have had a baby and we are trying for another," he said. "None of that would have happened without that plate."

When possible, PEO Soldier returns items to troops as souvenirs.

Morrissey was given his plate — mounted on a plaque — during a ceremony at Fort Belvoir, Va., in September. It now sits on top of his dresser at home.

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Morrissey

Navy seeks to renew permits for training in Northwest

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The U.S. Navy is seeking to renew permits to conduct sonar, explosives and other training exercises off the Washington, Oregon and California coasts, raising concerns from marine mammal advocates.

The area stretches from the inland waters of Puget Sound to the northern coast of California.

It is home to endangered whales, as well as seals, sea lions and dolphins.

"The training is necessary so these units are prepared for their various missions," said John Mosher, Northwest environmental manager for the U.S. Pacific Fleet. "They have to train close to homeports where the vessels are located."

He noted that the Navy has been conducting tests and training in the Northwest for decades.

Its current five-year permit expires in 2015, and the Navy has issued a draft environmental impact statement as it looks to continue, as well as to expand, exercises for another five years.

The Navy held public meetings recently in Washington. Four

more are scheduled in Oregon, California and Alaska.

The Navy ultimately needs authorization from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under the Marine Mammal Protection Act because explosive detonations, sonar and vessel strikes have the potential to disturb, injure or kill marine mammals.

DODDS SPORTS

Keep up with the champions of overseas military high school sports with Stars and Stripes. Visit Stripes.com/sports for DODEA sports news, scores, photos and more.



MILITARY

Women test their toughness in combat study

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR**
and **RUSS BYNUM**
The Associated Press

FORT STEWART, Ga. — Standing just over 5 feet, Army Spc. Karen Arvizu is barely a foot taller than the anti-tank missile she carries in both arms and loads into an armored vehicle. She stands on her tip-toes to wrestle open the 300-pound top hatch.

"I have to step on the seat to get the missile into the launcher," said Arvizu, a 24-year-old soldier from Los Angeles. "It's half my body weight."

Arvizu typically drives Humvees or transport trucks at Fort Stewart in Georgia, but over several weeks in February, she and 59 other women soldiers got a taste of what it takes to serve in combat. By spending their days lifting 65-pound missiles and 50-caliber machine guns, all while wearing 70 pounds of body armor, they were helping make history as part of an Army study that will determine how all soldiers — including women, for the first time — will be deemed fit to join the front lines.

The Pentagon ordered last year that women must have the same opportunities to serve in combat jobs as men, with thousands of positions slated to open to both genders in 2016. And while an Army survey shows only a small fraction of women say they want to move into combat jobs, it also revealed soldiers from both genders are nervous about the change.

With roughly one in five Army positions considered combat-related, commanders are turning to science to find a unisex standard to judge which soldiers physically have the right stuff to fight wars.

Testing at Fort Stewart and other U.S. bases is breaking away from the Army's longtime standards for physical fitness — push-ups, sit-ups and 2-mile runs — to focus instead on battlefield tasks, such as dragging a wounded comrade to safety or installing and moving the barrel of the 25 mm gun mounted on Bradley vehicles.

David Brinkley, deputy chief of staff for operations at the Army's Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Eustis in Virginia, said some people think the Army is coming up with unrealistic requirements while others believe standards will be lower to let women fight on the front lines.

"We intend to do neither. That's why we based this on the actual thing you have to do," he said.

At Fort Stewart, a volunteer group of soldiers — 100 men and 60 women — spent a month drilling on the most physically challenging tasks demanded of infantrymen, cavalry scouts, mortar launchers and tank crews. In March, scientists from the Army's Research Institute for Environmental Medicine will have the troops perform those tasks while wearing heart rate monitors, measuring oxygen intake and other equipment to study the



Above: U.S. Army Spc. Sheena Mature hoists a 44-pound section of a 50-caliber machine gun onto a M1A2 Abrams tank during a physical demands study Feb. 25 in Fort Stewart, Ga.

Right: U.S. Army Pfc. Amy Alexanders dresses in her battle gear before taking part in the study.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN B. MORTON/AP



effects of their physical exertion. One of the volunteers, Spc. Artrice Scott, said she has no intention of trading in her job as an Army cook to join an infantry platoon or an armor unit. But she sees the testing as a great opportunity to lead the way for women in the U.S. military.

"The heaviest thing we lift in the kitchen is boxes of frozen chicken, 45 pounds," said Scott, 29, of Mobile, Ala. "And you don't have to lift those over your head." During a training session Tuesday, Scott shaved 45 seconds off her previous best time carrying two anti-tank missiles into a Bradley armored vehicle and loading them into the turret.

Army commanders say there are no doubts that women have the mental and technical abilities needed. Only their ability to perform the most arduous physical tasks has been questioned.

The survey released Feb. 25 found there were nagging stereotypes. Male soldiers fretted that their unit's readiness will be degraded because of what they term "women issues," such as pregnancy and menstrual cycles. Or they worried that women incapable of the physical demands would be brought in anyway.

However, the survey also showed that only about 8 percent of Army women said they wanted combat jobs. Brinkley said such limited interest also is in line with

what other countries, such as Norway, have seen as they integrated women into combat roles.

Maj. Gen. Mike Murray, commanding general at Fort Stewart, watched last month as coed groups of soldiers set up heavy 120 mm mortars on a practice field. An officer with 32 years of infantry experience, Murray said it's time to open combat jobs to women and "this is going to get studied to death" in order for the Army to prove to naysayers that female soldiers are physically capable. The volunteer group at Fort Stewart included a mix of combat veterans and newcomers, but it didn't take long for the group to get after some initial awkwardness.

"It was almost like a high school dance where you had the guys over here and the girls over there," Murray said. "A week later, it was amazing how fast teams form."

Staff Sgt. Terry Kemp, a cavalry scout who's helping train the Fort Stewart volunteers, said female soldiers started to catch up with their male counterparts after two weeks of training. Mis-

sile toting drills that initially took the men seven minutes were taking women 12 minutes to complete, he said. But by week three, men and women had trimmed their times to about four minutes.

"Those who still insist women can't perform as well as men in combat "can beat their chests about it all day," said Kemp, a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan. "But eventually it's going to happen."

Exactly what sort of fitness tests or standards will come out of the Army's study remains to be seen. There are no current fitness requirements for serving in combat positions beyond the Army's standard physical fitness test for all soldiers.

Taking a break from toting anti-tank missiles at Fort Stewart, Arvizu said she found the heavy lifting to be humbling. And though she felt encouraged by her male colleagues, she had no desire to give up driving a truck and join a combat unit.

"It's not that I came, I saw and conquered," she said. "But I came, I saw and I did my best."

Navy opens riverine jobs to women

By **JENNIFER HLAD**
Stars and Stripes

SAN DIEGO — Women can now be assigned to the 267 combat positions in the Coastal Riverine Force that were previously closed to them, the Navy announced Friday.

The move follows the January 2013 removal of the policy that excluded women from combat jobs.

Nine enlisted women have already completed the training and been awarded their Navy enlisted classifications for the riverine jobs, but had to wait until congressional notification was complete before they could deploy with their squadron or be assigned as crewmembers, Navy officials said in a written release.

All nine women were administratively assigned to Coastal Riverine Squadron 2, Company D, 1st Platoon, which is based in Portsmouth, Va. The squadron will be the first to assign women to riverine boats, the Navy said, and it is scheduled to deploy this summer.

"We consistently strive to ensure all sailors and Marines, regardless of gender, have a path toward a successful military career," Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus said in a written statement.

"This not only makes us better war fighters, but it ensures our Navy and Marine Corps remains the finest expeditionary fighting force in the world."

The only jobs that remain closed to women in the Navy are within the special warfare community, and Navy officials said they continue to work with Special Operations Command on that.

In January, Mabus told Stars and Stripes that he believes the Navy and Marine Corps must have the right standards for combat positions, but that anyone who can meet those standards — male or female — should be allowed to do the job.

"When I look out [at the fleet], I see sailors. I don't see male sailors and female sailors," he said, noting that "the big news about women going on submarines was that there was no news. A lot of times the anticipation is worse than the reality!"

Still, many Marine Corps combat jobs remain closed to women, and Marines have been vocal about their concerns about adding women to the infantry. One of their biggest concerns is that the Marine Corps will lower standards to allow more women to meet them, but Commandant Gen. James Amos addressed that fear in a troop talk last month in Afghanistan.

"We're not lowering our standards," Amos said. "Repeat after me: We are not lowering our standards."

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MIDEAST

Karzai's brother picks moderate for president

By KATHY GANNON
The Associated Press

KABUL — The elder brother of Afghan President Hamid Karzai said Friday he dropped out of the country's April 5 presidential election to leave the field open to a candidate that he hoped would steer the nation through a "dignified" transition.

In an interview with The Associated Press, businessman Qayyum Karzai said he believed the majority of voters remained undecided in the upcoming election. He said he's thrown his support behind former Afghan Foreign Minister Zalmay Rassoul as a means to unify a country battered by 35 years of war.

"Overall I think that the people themselves have matured enormously in politics," Karzai said. "They know exactly who is who and so my trust is in the people."

Karzai is the elder brother of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who has served two five-year terms and now is barred by law from running again. Qayyum Karzai dropped out of the election early last week.

Karzai said Friday he supported Rassoul for his moderate views. Both men are ethnic Pashtuns, who dominate the south and the east of Afghanistan, and they likely would have divided the vote between them.

Rassoul is a loyalist of Afghanistan's former King Zahir Shah. Karzai described king's 40-year rule Friday as last time the country enjoyed a protracted period of peace and relative stability.

"I think that the moderate persuasion has enormous appeal and

it should because we have suffered from the politics of the right and the politics of the left" since the king's ouster in 1973, Karzai said. "I wanted this moderate persuasion to win the elections, and I found Zalmay Rassoul to be the most suitable person to lead the country."

A 1973 coup toppled Shah, the last king of Afghanistan. In later years, the Soviet Union would invade the country, sparking a bloody insurgency. Warlords then took over parts of the country until the rise of the Taliban in 1996.

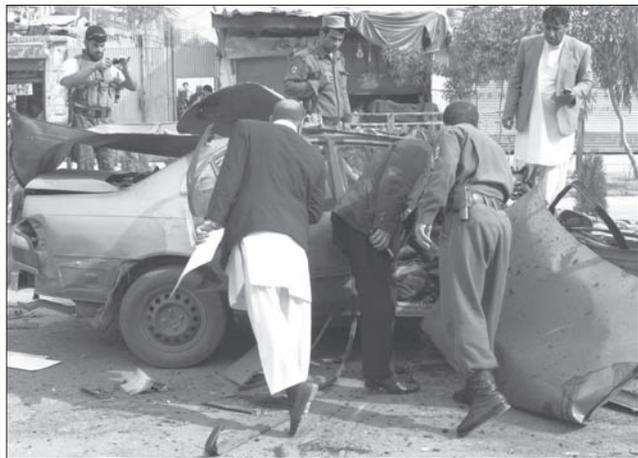


Rassoul

Karzai's brother became president after the U.S.-led invasion in 2001. Karzai said he shared a "close, brotherly relationship" with him, but acknowledged they didn't agree on everything. The comments come as the president has declined to sign an agreement with the U.S. to allow their troops to remain past a deadline at the end of this year.

"There was no national alternative in place and to bring all the elements of the Afghan society together, I think he has done a remarkable, remarkable job," Karzai said.

"Things could have been done better (but) with hindsight everybody would say that. I know how hard the unfolding political realities were in Afghanistan when he started and as he pushed forward."



NISSAN ANIMAP/AP

Police search the mangled car of Noor Agha Kamran, a district chief in eastern Afghanistan, who was killed when a bomb ripped through the vehicle in Jalalab, Afghanistan, on Saturday.

Blast kills Afghan official

The Associated Press

KABUL — A bomb placed under the car seat of a district chief exploded Saturday in eastern Afghanistan, killing him and wounding six other people, officials said.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the assassination, the latest targeting senior officials as the militant movement fights to undermine the Western-backed

government. The Afghan army has recently carried out several operations against militants in Nangarhar province, where the attack occurred.

The blast killed Noor Agha Kamran, head of the Nazian district, as he was on his way to work in Jalalab, Nangarhar's deputy governor Mohammad Hanif Gardiwal said.

"A magnetic bomb was placed under the seat of his vehicle.

While he was on his way to his office near the university the bomb exploded," Gardiwal said.

The explosion seriously wounded two of Kamran's bodyguards and lightly wounded four other people, provincial police spokesman Hazrat Hussain Mashreqi said.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack in an email.

IED: As death toll for Afghans mounts, coalition pushes bomb-detection training

FROM FRONT PAGE

In the latest IED-related violence, The Associated Press reported Saturday that six Afghan security forces were killed and two wounded while trying to defuse a newly planted roadside bomb on the outskirts of Mithertan, the capital of Laghman province.

Sarhadi Zawak, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said those killed included four soldiers and two police officers.

Maj. Gen. Dean Milner, a Canadian who oversees the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, said the IED training program had not been an earlier priority because of the strain associated with recruiting and housing the 183,000-member Afghan National Army.

"There are a lot of things needed to build an army," Milner said. Afghan military officials say 80 percent of the army's casualties are now caused by IEDs. While the Afghan government doesn't release annual casualty figures from the conflict with the Taliban, U.S. military statistics show 1,163 Afghan soldiers were

killed last year and more than 6,000 were wounded, according to the Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction. The death toll from IEDs for the 151,000-member Afghan police is believed to be even higher.

The IEDs are also increasingly killing civilians. A recent U.N. report documented 962 civilian deaths and nearly 2,000 injuries from improvised bombs last year, a 14 percent increase over 2012. One in three civilian deaths in Afghanistan is now caused by an explosive device, the U.N. report said.

After U.S. military commanders were stunned by the effectiveness of insurgents' IEDs in Iraq, they developed new armored vehicles and stressed the importance of bomb detection and disposal.

Afghan soldiers, however, often travel in lightly armored Humvees, while Afghan police patrol in Ford Ranger pickup trucks. Afghan commanders say that, despite the recent infusion of equipment, they also lack robots, protective suits, jammers and night-vision goggles for their soldiers.

With the Afghan army still lagging in explosives experts, Afghan troops often resort to jerry-rigged tactics to locate and defuse IEDs, officials say.

"They have a bit of a cowboy attitude, like our own troops would in learning a new process," U.S. Brig. Gen. Michael Wehr, the Joint Command deputy chief of staff engineer for the coalition, said in a recent interview.

The mini-surge focused on IEDs began last fall. At the time, coalition commanders were especially concerned that there could be a spike in attacks because of the upcoming national elections and the planned withdrawal of most remaining coalition troops.

In October, dozens of U.S. Army explosive ordnance disposal specialists were sent to Afghanistan to help train its military. Their arrival coincided with the delivery of 20,000 pieces of equipment to the Afghan military, including hand-held mine detectors, armored tactical vehicles, probes and bomb disposal suits, Milner said. Most of it was paid for by the U.S. government.

In January, a coalition-funded counter-IED school opened in Kabul for Afghan police, complementing a German-supported training school for the Afghan military in northern Afghanistan. With help from the U.S. Army and contractors, the number of students in explosives training courses tripled over the winter at Camp Shaheen, an Afghan base on the outskirts of Mazar-e-Sharif.

But while the U.S.-run course began with 83 students, it ended in mid-February with about 35 graduating.

The high dropout and failure

rates were partially attributed to Afghanistan's low literacy rate and the challenge in getting soldiers to comprehend basic science and math. Some of the students also left the program upon realizing the danger involved in defusing IEDs.

Still, over the past six months, the coalition has helped the Afghan army and police establish 327 explosive ordnance teams, Milner said. Afghan forces currently defuse 50 to 85 IEDs per day, said Gen. M. Zahir Azimi, a spokesman for the Afghan Ministry of Defense.

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MILITARY

Identities sought of 21 men killed at Pearl Harbor

The Associated Press

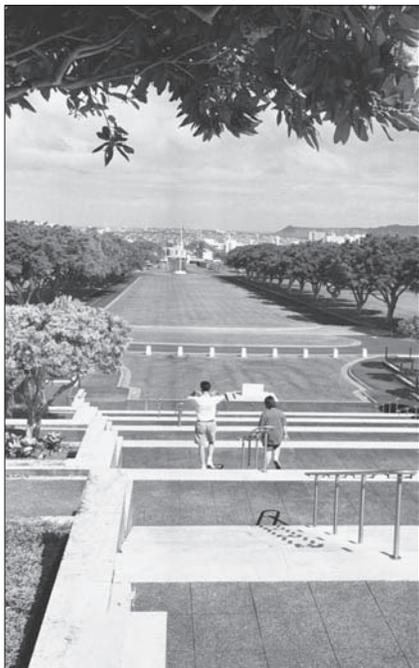
CONCORD, N.H. — The remains of 21 American sailors killed in Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and buried as unknowns should be identified and returned to their families, a group of U.S. senators said Thursday.

The sailors were aboard the battleship USS Oklahoma when it was attacked Dec. 7, 1941, and ripped open by as many as nine torpedoes. The ship quickly rolled and came to rest just 20 minutes after being hit. Nearly 430 men died.

The remains of 27 sailors were classified as unknown and buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as The Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

In 2003, historian Ray Emory, of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, used military records and personnel files to tentatively identify the 27 men. Five were then definitively identified by the Central Identification Laboratory of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and their remains returned to their families.

Emory also tracked down family members of 21 of the remaining 22 sailors. In a letter sent Thursday to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, the group of 15 senators asked that those remains — which are in five caskets — be exhumed and sent to the JPAC lab for identification.



Stars and Stripes

Visitors descend the steps of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as The Punchbowl, above the city of Honolulu.

Soldier charged in prostitution case

Hearing set for sex assault prevention coordinator

The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — A Fort Hood sergeant who was a coordinator of the post's sexual assault and harassment prevention program faces multiple charges after he was accused of setting up a prostitution ring involving cash-strapped female soldiers.

Sgt. 1st Class Gregory McQueen was charged Friday with 21 counts related to pandering, subordinate, abusive sexual contact, and adultery and conduct of a nature to bring discredit to the armed forces, according to a Fort Hood statement.

An Article 32 hearing is scheduled for March 20 and 21 at Fort Hood.

It was not clear if McQueen had an attorney Friday, Fort Hood spokesman Christopher Haug said. A home number for McQueen could not be found.

Last May, the Army said a sergeant first class was being investigated on allegations of sexual assault and possibly arranging for at least one woman to have sex for money.

The Army said he was one of the coordinators of the program at Fort Hood.

Army officials declined to re-

lease his name at the time, but two officials speaking anonymously to The Associated Press because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the case identified that soldier as McQueen, who was assigned as a coordinator of a battalion-level sexual assault prevention program at the Central Texas Army post.

U.S. officials had said he was being investigated in connection with activities involving three women, including sexually assaulting one woman.

At the time, a Defense Department official in Washington said it was not clear if one of the women was forced into prostitution or participated willingly. McQueen remains suspended from his duties but is free pending trial, Haug said.

Another Fort Hood soldier was court-martialed in the case. Master Sgt. Brad Grimes was convicted in December of conspiring to patronize a prostitute and solicitation to commit adultery, reprimanded and demoted.

The Fort Hood case and others like it have increased pressure on the Pentagon and Capitol Hill to confront sexual misconduct in the armed forces.

Testing finds polluted water on Fort Detrick building site

The Associated Press

FREDERICK, Md. — The Army said it has found unsafe levels of groundwater pollution on private property where a developer wants to build more than 700 homes near a Fort Detrick Superfund site.

Early sampling of water beneath a 92-acre site owned by Waverly View Investors LLC detected the solvent trichloroethylene, or TCE, at levels above the maximum allowed for drinking water about 100 feet from the Army's property line, said Joseph Gortva, Fort Detrick's restoration manager. The Frederick News-Post reported Thursday on Gov. Martin O'Malley's presentation to the post's Restoration Advisory Board.

TCE exposure is associated with central nervous system disorders and several types of human cancers, especially kidney, liver, cervix, and lymphatic system, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Gortva called the finding a preliminary observation based on sampling from one well. He said a second well on the property showed no TCE and a third detected the compound at an allowable level.

Gortva said he expects to re-

ceive more data in June after more wells are drilled.

He said the contamination is not affecting anyone, and that concentrations dropped sharply with increased distance from the fort.

The parcel adjoins the southwest border of the fort's Area B, a largely undeveloped tract that includes a former dump site. The EPA added Area B in 2009 to its National Priorities List of the nation's most polluted sites, commonly called the Superfund list.

The Army began sampling the groundwater in December under an agreement that averted a lawsuit threatened by Waverly View over its contention that pollution from Fort Detrick had devalued the property.

Waverly View's lawyer, Thomas Lynch, told the advisory board his client would await further findings.

"We are as interested as you are about these results," he said.

TCE was first detected off-post in four nearby private wells in 1992. Elevated levels of PCE, a suspected carcinogen, have been found in on-post groundwater.

The pollution appears to be from trenches the Army used for waste disposal from the 1940s to the 1970s.

UKRAINE UNREST



DARRO VOJNOVIC/AP

A convoy of military vehicles bearing no license plates travels on the road from Feodosia to Simferopol in the Crimea, Ukraine, on Saturday.

Despite denials, Putin increasing military presence in Crimea

BY YURAS KARMANAU
AND DALTON BENNETT
The Associated Press

SEVASTOPOL, Ukraine—Dozens of military trucks transporting heavily armed soldiers rumbled over Crimea's rutted roads Saturday as Russia reinforced its armed presence on the disputed peninsula in the Black Sea. Moscow's foreign minister ruled out any dialogue with Ukraine's new authorities, whom he dismissed as the puppets of extremists.

The Russians have denied their armed forces are active in Crimea, but an Associated Press reporter trailed one military convoy Saturday afternoon from 25 miles west of Feodosia to a military airfield at Gvardiiskoe north of Simferopol, over which a Russian flag flew.

Some of the army green vehicles had Russian license plates and numbers indicating that they were from the Moscow region. Some towed mobile kitchens and what appeared to be mobile medical equipment.

Vladislav Seleznyov, a Crimean-based spokesman for the Ukrainian armed forces, told AP that witnesses had reported seeing amphibious military ships unloading around 200 military vehicles in eastern Crimea on Friday night after apparently having crossed the Straits of Kerch, which separates Crimea from Russian territory.

"Neither the equipment nor the armstoppers have insignia that identify them as Russian, but we have no doubt as to their allegiance," Seleznyov said.

The amphibious operation appeared to be one of the largest movements of Russian military forces since they appeared in Crimea a week ago.

Seleznyov also said a convoy of more than 60 military trucks was spotted Saturday heading from Feodosia toward Simferopol, the regional capital. An AP reporter caught up with the convoy and trailed it to Russian-controlled airfield. In the rear of the vehi-

cles, heavily armed soldiers could be seen, though none appeared to have identifying badges or insignia. Soldiers spat at the reporters following them.

The regional parliament in Crimea has set a March 16 referendum on leaving Ukraine to join Russia, and senior lawmakers in Moscow said they would support the move, ignoring sanctions threats and warnings from President Barack Obama that the vote would violate international law.

While the U.S. and the European Union urged Russia to engage in dialogue with new Ukrainian authorities, the Kremlin has refused to do so, denouncing the change of power in Ukraine as an "unconstitutional coup."

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Moscow sees no sense in having a dialogue with Ukraine's new authorities because, in his view, they kowtow to radical nationalists. "The so-called interim government isn't independent. It depends, to our great regret, on radical nationalists who have seized power with arms," he said at a news conference. He said nationalist groups use "intimidation and terror" to control Ukraine.

Despite that tough talk, the Russian Foreign Ministry said Grigory Karasin met Saturday with Ukrainian Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko, the first such diplomatic contact since the crisis began. In a terse statement, the ministry said only that they discussed issues related to Russian-Ukrainian ties in a "sincere atmosphere."

At a news conference in Kiev,

"We are not enemies with those soldiers who pledged loyalty to the Ukrainian state. They are not our enemies."

Sergei Aksyonov
Crimean prime minister



Russia may freeze US weapons inspections

From wire reports

MOSCOW — Russia's defense ministry is considering freezing American inspections of its strategic weapons arsenal in response to Washington's decision to impose sanctions and halt military cooperation with Russia due to the Ukrainian crisis, news reports said Saturday.

A statement attributed to an unnamed person in the Russian Defense Ministry was carried by Russia's Interfax news agency Saturday.

The military inspections take place as part of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty between Russia and the U.S. that

involves cutting the nuclear arsenal of both countries.

"As the inspections are a measure of trust and the U.S. has effectively declared sanctions, regular bilateral contact in accordance with the treaties is impossible," the person in the Defense Ministry told Interfax.

Both the U.S. and the European Union have imposed sanctions on Russia over its military intervention in Crimea.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's acting foreign minister, Andrii Deschchytis, said in a Saturday news conference in Kiev: "Crimea is and will be Ukrainian territory, and we will not give up Crimea to anyone."

understands it is vital to establish good relations with all neighbors, including Russia.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin has said that Moscow has no intention of annexing Crimea, but that its people have the right to determine the region's status in a referendum.

The Crimea referendum has been denounced by Ukraine's new government, and Obama has said it would violate international law. Speaking on BBC on Saturday, NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said that while there is no military response to the recent events of Crimea, the crisis was a reminder of threats to European security and stability.

"I do believe that politicians all over NATO will now rethink the whole thing about investment in security and defense," he told the BBC. "Obviously, defense comes at a cost, but insecurity is much more expensive."

An international military mission composed of officers from the U.S. and 28 other nations tried again Saturday to enter Crimea, but it was turned back around the

Of the upcoming referendum, Deschchytis said, "It is illegitimate and will not have any legal implications for Crimea, for Ukraine, as well as for the international community."

In Moscow, Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said the interim Ukrainian government was beholden to extremists of the Right Sektor, a Ukrainian group that grew out of the uprising.

"Effectively there is no state control whatsoever over public order and the music is ordered by the so-called Right Sektor, which operates with methods of terror and intimidation," Lavrov said.

town of Armiansk by armed men. An AP reporter traveling with the 54 observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said that after the group had stopped, the armed men fired bursts of automatic weapons fire to halt other unidentified vehicles. No injuries were reported.

In Simferopol, meanwhile, a public ceremony was held for the swearing-in of the first unit in the pro-Russia "Military Forces of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea." About 30 men armed with AK-47s and another 20 or so who were unarmed turned out.

Sergei Aksyonov, the Crimean prime minister, came to the ceremony and was greeted by the soldiers with shouts of "Commander!"

He said their main role, at least until the referendum, would be to "keep the peace." He said he didn't foresee any fighting with the Ukrainian soldiers still at bay in Crimea.

"We are not enemies with those soldiers who pledged loyalty to the Ukrainian state. They are not our enemies," Aksyonov said.

UKRAINE UNREST

Pentagon studying Putin body language for hints of intent

By RAY LOCKER
USA Today

A Pentagon research team is studying the body movements of Russian President Vladimir Putin and other world leaders in order to better predict their actions and to guide U.S. policy, Pentagon documents and interviews show.

The "Body Leads" project backed by the Office of Net Assessment (ONA), the think tank reporting to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, uses the principles of movement pattern analysis to predict how leaders will act.

U.S. policymakers are seeking any advantage they can find as they try to anticipate Putin, who in the past week has ordered Russian troops into neighboring Ukraine and laid claim to the Crimea Peninsula. The ensuing crisis has led to U.S. and European sanctions against Russia, spurred weapons and aircraft shipments to Eastern European nations and revived tensions last seen during the height of the Cold War.

ONA has backed the work of

Brenda Connors, the director of Body Leads and a research fellow at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., since 1996, records show, and has paid about \$300,000 since 2009 to outside experts to work with her. Part of her work includes a 2008 report for ONA on Putin called "Movement, The Brain and Decision-making, the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin."

Connors acknowledged her work on Putin and other leaders, but declined comment and referred all questions to Hagel's office.

Pentagon officials declined to comment on the record about the program, but confirmed ONA's involvement and that Putin was among the foreign leaders studied.

An ONA official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the research was not publicly available, said "the goal is to learn about the physical movements of national leaders and determine if these can be used to gain insight about a leaders' attitudes, mindset, etcetera. ONA does not make policy recommendations, so we cannot assert with any certainty how the studies have been used by policymakers."

Movement pattern analysis means studying an individual's movements to gain clues about how he or she makes decisions or reacts to events. First developed in Great Britain in the 1940s by Rudolf Laban, a Hungarian movement analyst and dance instructor, the practice was expanded after World War II by Laban's protege, Warren Lamb, a British management consultant.

Lamb and his associates believed each individual has a unique

"body signature" consisting of how one body movement links to the next. These "posture/gesture mergers" can lead investigators to learn more about a person's thinking processes and relative truthfulness when matched with what the person says.

The patterns, Lamb believed, were as unique to each person as DNA.

Lamb, who died in January at age 90, was paid \$24,000 by the war college in February 2011, military contract records show. An obituary in the British newspaper The Independent credited Lamb for performing a study of Putin that was "especially appreciated."

Since July 2011, the war college had paid \$165,735 to Richard Rende, a Brown University psychiatrist and specialist in the field of movement pattern analysis, federal spending records show. Last week, the war college announced Rende had received another no-bid contract to study "movement analysis relative to human development and the brain and decision-making" as part of the Body Leads project.

Timothy Colton, a Harvard University expert on Russia, has been paid \$113,915 since 2009 for his research with Connors, military contract records show.

Last September, Rende, Connors and Colton published a paper in the academic journal Frontiers in Psychology that detailed the uses of movement pattern analysis to determine leaders' decision-making process.

Such analysis, they wrote, "offers a unique window into individual differences in 'decision-making style.'"

While Connors declined to characterize her current work, she has written previously about Putin's movements, including what she identified as an irregularity in the way he walks.

In a 2005 interview in The Atlantic magazine, she said Putin's physical problems "created a strong will that the survive and an impetus to balance and strengthen the body ... When we are unable to do something, really hard work becomes the way."

"He is like that ice skater who had a club foot and became an Olympic skater," Connors said in 2005. "It is really poignant to watch him on tape. This is a deep, old, profound loss that he has learned to cope with, magnificently."

ONA was created in 1973 and has been led since its inception by Andrew Marshall, 92, a former RAND Corp. analyst and National Security Council aide in the Nixon administration.

Its allies consider it an indispensable source of information about the future and credit it and Marshall with anticipating the demise of the Soviet Union, while skeptics say it inflates the threat posed by U.S. adversaries, including China.



SERGEI GETTS/AP

Watchful eye over rally

Ukrainian riot police stand at the entrance of the regional administrative building Saturday during a pro-Russian rally in Donetsk, Ukraine.

US urged to boost natural gas exports

By JOSH LEIDERMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Four Central European nations are urging the United States to boost natural gas exports to Europe as a hedge against the possibility that Russia could cut off its supply of gas to Ukraine.

Ambassadors from Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic made their appeal Friday in a letter to House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. A similar letter was expected to be sent to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

The letter from the four nations, known as the Visegrad Group, asks for Congress to support speedier approval of natural gas exports, noting that the "presence of U.S. natural gas would be much welcome in Central and Eastern Europe."

The ambassadors warn that the unrest in Ukraine has brought back Cold War memories and that energy security threatens the region's residents on a daily basis.

"Gas-to-gas competition in our region is a vital aspect of national security and a key U.S. interest in the region," the ambassadors wrote in a letter obtained by The Associated Press.

Ukraine is heavily dependent

on Russian natural gas, and previous disputes between Ukraine and Russia have led to gas supply cuts. Russian state gas company Gazprom has increased the pressure on Ukraine's new government, which now owes \$1.89 billion for Russian natural gas, by warning that if Ukraine doesn't pay off its debt, there could be a repeat of 2009, when Russia cut off supplies to Europe because of a pricing dispute with Ukraine.

Recent advancements have made it possible for gas that normally flows through Ukraine to the EU instead to flow the other direction, so that nations like Poland and Hungary can supply gas to Ukraine if Russia were to cut off its supply. But with gas supplies limited, the region is still vulnerable unless the U.S. makes it easier to import American natural gas, the ambassadors argued.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Friday that because Europe has had a relatively mild winter, gas supplies are at or above normal levels. He said even if the U.S. did approve more export licenses, it would take until the end of 2015 for gas to be delivered.

"Proposals to try to respond to the situation in Ukraine that are related to our policy on exporting natural gas would not have an immediate effect," Earnest said.

Ukrainian paralympian calls for independence

SOCHI, Russia — The first Ukrainian medalist of the Sochi Paralympics dedicated her achievement to "an independent Ukraine," appealing for peace as Russia intensifies its control of Crimea.

Olena Iurkovska claimed bronze in the first biathlon event

on the first day of competition on Saturday — the women's 6 kilometer sitting competition.

After finishing behind Svetlana Konovalova of Russia, Iurkovska said: "I devote my first medal in Sochi to an independent Ukraine. Every time I race, it will be for Ukrainian independence and peace in my country."

From The Associated Press



ALEXEY NULINSKY, PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SERVICE, RIA-NOVOSTI/AP

NATION

Officials say Senate staffers took CIA papers

By Jonathan S. Landay, Aly Watkins and Marisa Taylor
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Democratic staffers of the Senate Intelligence Committee obtained classified documents at the center of a bitter struggle with the CIA some three years before the agency determined that the materials had been spirited out of a secret facility and demanded their return, according to U.S. officials.

The officials cited the timing of the discovery in contending that the CIA didn't actively monitor computers used by the staffers to compile a report on the agency's secret detention and interrogation program, but instead had to go back and scour security logs kept on all classified systems.

The alleged unauthorized re-

moval of the documents, which is being investigated by the FBI, triggered the unprecedented battle over the authority of the committee, which was created in 1976 to oversee U.S. intelligence organizations in the wake of a series of domestic spying scandals. And what also remains unknown is what secrets about the controversial interrogation program might be contained in the documents now in dispute.

The CIA's refusal to provide the documents to the committee, several Democratic senators contend, is evidence that the agency has been trying to stymie the release of a potentially damning report.

Some people familiar with the matter have defended the committee staffers' action as arguably within the legal and

constitutional authority of the CIA's congressional overseers, and they questioned the decision by the agency's Office of General Counsel to seek a criminal investigation.

"A concern is the appearance that DOJ (the Department of Justice) could be used as a way to intimidate committee members into being less aggressive," said a congressional attorney who has closely followed the controversy. "The practical effect is everyone on the committee begins re-considering how much pressure they should bring to bear on the agency."

The congressional attorney is not on the Intelligence Committee and requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

Separately, the CIA Inspector General's Office asked the Justice Department to open a criminal investigation into what committee staffers viewed as the unauthorized monitoring of the computers they used inside the CIA facility in which they reviewed the highly classified materials underpinning their report.

It couldn't be learned if such a probe is underway. The Justice Department, the FBI, the CIA and the committee declined to comment.

The tug-of-war over the documents has stoked considerable uncertainty over whether the public will ever get to read any parts of the top-secret 6,300-page report on the CIA's use during the George W. Bush administration of waterboarding and other

harsh interrogation methods on suspected terrorists held in secret overseas "black site" prisons. The program was ended in 2006.

The study broadly concluded that the techniques — which many experts and governments condemn as torture — produced little valuable intelligence, according to statements by lawmakers who have read the findings.

The study also determined that the agency misled the White House, Congress and the public about the usefulness of the information.

The CIA and the Bush administration hold that the techniques were legal, and the CIA disputed some of the findings in the official response it submitted to the committee in June. President Barack Obama has called waterboarding "torture."

Justice reform becoming key issue for GOP

By Wesley Lowery
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Many of the headlines after day two of the Conservative Political Action Conference, or CPAC, were about Rick Perry's well-received speech, in which he harped on what he deemed the "two Americas": red-state America and blue-state America.

But as much as the Texas governor's morning address impressed the crowd, it was the second event in which he participated Friday that will be far more important if the Republican Party is serious about winning more swing voters in 2016.

Perry appeared alongside several other conservatives, including Grover Norquist, on a panel about criminal justice reform and how those reforms are being pushed by several Republican states.

While it was sandwiched between better-attended sessions at the conference in Oxon Hill, Md., the discussion of Republican progress on reforming the criminal justice system was one of the few CPAC sessions that laid out a true pathway forward for a party that desperately wants to expand demographically.

Much of the Democrats' successful messaging in recent years has painted Republicans as obstructionist. Democrats have noted the repeated attempts by congressional Republicans to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and each week House Democrats rail against the Republican leadership's refusal to allow votes on immigration reform and raising the minimum wage.

And much of the CPAC lineup consisted of panels that will likely be fodder for that type of Democratic messaging (for example, "Obama's IRS: Political Agenda of the Left?"). But on issues of sentencing reform and prison recidivism, Republicans — especially several governors in Southern states — have been the leaders, earning praise from prison reform groups on both sides of the aisle for efforts to save money by implementing rehabilitation programs and curbing skyrocketing prison costs.

A nonpartisan study issued last year about how one of the bluest states in the union, Massachusetts, could cut prison costs credited



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Texas Gov. Rick Perry, left, talks with Americans for Tax Reform President Grover Norquist, before participating on a panel discussion at the Conservative Political Action Committee annual conference in National Harbor, Md., on Friday.

Republican states for how they have tackled prison reform.

“We’re not a soft-on-crime state. ... We’re tough on crime. But I hope we are also seen as a smart-on-crime state.”

Texas Gov. Rick Perry

Republican governors, many of whom previously won election by stumping on tough-on-crime platforms.

But, as many of those governors have noted, one way to cut state costs is to decrease the number of people being locked up for nonviolent offenses and rid the law books of manda-

tory minimum sentences for such offenses.

In addition to Perry, prominent Republicans who once trumpeted tough-on-crime stances and now call for sentencing changes and rehabilitation programs for drug and other nonviolent offenders include former Florida governor Jeb Bush and former House speaker Newt Gingrich. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a tea party hero, has made reform of mandatory minimum sentences a major focus in recent months.

“We’re not a soft-on-crime state, you know what I’m saying? ... We’re tough on crime,” Perry said. “But I hope we are also seen as a smart-on-crime state.”

The push for more solutions-oriented messaging was not universal at CPAC, however.

Paul on Friday urged Republicans not to “meekly dilute our message” by settling for insufficiently conservative candidates in the midterm or presidential campaigns. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum attacked previous GOP presidential candidates for not being conservative enough. Cruz called them out by name, sarcastically urging the crowd to “remember President Dole, President McCain and President Romney.”

US agencies shift focus to inside threats

By Christian Davenport
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — After years of focusing on outside threats, the federal government and its contractors are turning inward, aiming a range of new technologies and counterintelligence strategies at their own employees to root out spies, terrorists or leakers.

Agencies are now monitoring their computer networks with unprecedented scrutiny, in some cases down to the keystroke, and tracking employee behavior for signs of deviation from routine. At the Pentagon, new rules are being written requiring contractors to institute programs against “insider threats,” a remarkable cultural change in which even workers with the highest security clearances face increased surveillance.

The “if you see something, say something” mind-set of the post-9/11 world has fully arrived in the workplace, with new urgency following high-profile leaks.

And the heightened focus and the emergence of new monitoring technology has touched off a burgeoning industry. Raytheon, the largest contractor in the program that allows agencies to create all sorts of internal alerts indicating when something may be amiss. A company could program the software to detect whenever a file containing the words “secret” or “proprietary” is downloaded, emailed or moved around on the system.

Once that wire is tripped, an alert almost immediately pops up on a security analyst's monitor, along with a digital recording of the employee's screen, the employee's actions — the cursor scrolling over to open the secure file, the file being copied and renamed — can be watched and replayed — can be in slow motion. It's the cyber equivalent of the security camera that catches robbers sticking up a convenience store.

NATION

State sites for health on GAO's audit list

By JEFF BARNARD
The Associated Press

The investigative arm of Congress on Wednesday agreed to look into problems with state health exchange websites around the country.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office accepted an initial request from a group of House Republicans seeking an audit on how \$304 million in federal grants were spent on the Cover Oregon website, which has yet to enroll a single person online without special assistance.

The agency said due to similar requests from several members of Congress and congressional committees related to the rollout of online health care exchanges, it would broaden the investigation and issue several separate reports on its findings.

GAO spokesman Charles Young said just which states will be included with Oregon will be determined as the investigation goes forward. But 14 states and the District of Columbia opted to create their own exchanges and accepted federal funding to do so.

Republicans have been stepping up their attacks on troubled health exchanges during this election year, but Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., said it was a nonpartisan issue.

He noted Oregon Democratic Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley made their own requests for the GAO to investigate a day after the Republicans — Walden, House Committee on Energy and Commerce Chairman Fred Upton of Michigan, and Reps. Joe Pitts and Tim Murphy of Pennsylvania — filed theirs last month.

“The politics will play out where they may, good or bad,” Walden said. “That doesn’t mean you don’t ask questions. We need to get answers.”

Merkley said in a statement that



BOB PENNELL, (MEDFORD, ORE.), MAIL THRU/AP

U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., announces in February a request from House Republicans for the Government Accountability Office to investigate how \$304 million in federal grants was spent on Oregon's health exchange website.

he looked forward to the GAO's recommendations “about how to fix the system and avoid this happening in the future.”

Cover Oregon spokesman Michael Cox said, “We will participate fully with the GAO as they conduct their work.”

Walden added that the probe of state websites would “piggyback nicely” on another GAO look at the federal health exchange website, which has already begun.

Separately, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has asked for an inspector general's investigation into problems with the rollout of the health care law.

Some of the state exchanges have outperformed the federal health exchange website, but others have lagged behind and have faced sig-

nificant challenges, including expensive fixes to glitches and lower projected enrollments.

In addition to Oregon, where residents on their own still can't sign up for coverage in one sitting, the exchanges in Maryland, Hawaii, Massachusetts and Minnesota have faced major problems.

Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, called the investigation a political stunt.

“With House Republicans voting today for the 50th time to repeal the Affordable Care Act, it is disappointing but not surprising that Republicans are now using federal government resources to investigate state health exchanges instead of finding a productive way to help Americans access health care,” Schatz said in an emailed comment.

Education blinks in standoff with Calif. on testing

By LYNDSEY LAYTON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Education is allowing California to bypass federal requirements by giving standardized tests in math and reading to millions of public school students this spring without publicly reporting results or using them to hold schools or teachers accountable.

The reprieve, good for only the testing season that begins in the state on March 18, ends a months-long standoff between California and the department over the state's testing plans.

At one point, Education Secretary Arne Duncan had threatened to withhold at least \$3.5 billion in annual federal funding — money that California uses to educate poor and disabled children.

But in a letter sent to California officials Friday, Assistant Education Secretary Deborah Delisle wrote that her department has approved its plan. “I hope you find this flexibility helpful,” she wrote.

She has issued similar approvals in recent months to Montana, Idaho and South Dakota. Like most of the country, California rolled out new K-12 standards in math and reading this school year, requiring new curricula, materials and teaching approaches. But tests based on those new Common Core standards will not be ready until 2015. That's a problem because federal law requires states to test students in math and reading every year in grades three through eight and once in high school.

California and other states faced a quandary: Should they just dust off their old tests, which don't relate to the Common Core,

and hope for the best?

California lawmakers voted overwhelmingly to scrap the old tests and to give field tests, with sample questions of the Common Core exam that is still being put together.

Because a field test is not designed to be a reliable measure of student achievement, California will not score the tests, and the results will not be publicly reported. The state intends to use test scores from last year's standardized tests to make decisions about school performance, essentially maintaining the status quo for this transition year, officials said.

Tom Torlakson, California's superintendent of public instruction, and Michael Kirst, president of the State Board of Education, said in a joint statement that they appreciated the Obama administration's approval of their plan, calling it a “welcome vote of confidence.... Approval of this waiver could not have come at a better time. In little more than a week, some three million students will begin the largest field test of these new assessments of any state in the nation.”

California's testing plan — and the Education Department's approval — has angered critics, who say the strategy will deprive educators of valuable data and means students will be asked to take a test without meaning.

“It is frankly astonishing that as California makes the critical transition to new, higher standards for students, the state would assess more than three million children and then throw away the results,” Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., ranking member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, said in a statement.

NASA shooting for the moon — one of Jupiter's moons, that is



NASA, JET PROPULSION LABORATORY/AP

The planet Jupiter and two of its moons, Io, left, and Europa, center, are seen from the Voyager 1 spacecraft Feb. 13, 1979.

By SETH BORENSTEIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — NASA is plotting a daring robotic mission to Jupiter's watery moon Europa, a place where astronomers speculate there might be some form of life.

The space agency set aside \$15 million in its 2015 budget proposal to start planning some kind of mission to Europa. No details have been decided yet, but NASA chief financial officer Elizabeth Robinson said Tuesday that it would be launched in the mid-2020s.

Robinson said the high-radiation environment around Jupiter and the distance from

Earth would be a challenge. When NASA sent Galileo to Jupiter in 1989, it took the spacecraft six years to get to the fifth planet from the sun.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute astronomer Laurie Leshin said it could be “a daring mission to an extremely compelling object in our solar system.”

Past NASA probes have flown by Europa, especially Galileo, but none has concentrated on the moon, one of dozens orbiting Jupiter. Astronomers have long lobbied for a mission to Europa, but proposals would have cost billions of dollars.

Last year, scientists discovered liquid plumes of water shooting

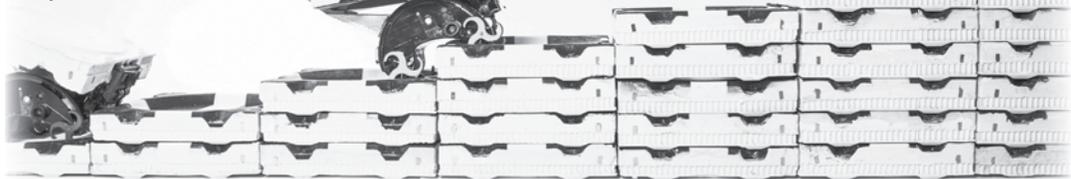
up through Europa's ice. Flying through those watery jets could make Europa cheaper to explore than just circling it or landing on the ice, said NASA Europa scientist Robert Pappalardo.

NASA will look at many competing ideas for a Europa mission, so the agency doesn't know how big or how much it will cost, Robinson said. She said a major mission goal would be searching for life in the strange liquid water under the ice-covered surface.

Harvard University astronomer Avi Loeb said going to Europa would be more exciting than exploring dry Mars. “There might be fish under the ice.”

NATION

TOILING TERMITES



Real-life insects inspire experts to create robots that can build houses — and more

BY MEERI KIM

Special to *The Washington Post*

The termite, typically reviled as the wood-eating nemesis of buildings and homes, has ironically inspired a new batch of construction robots.

The automated machines, each about the size of a small brick, can work as a team to build any predefined structure given to them — without a leader or step-by-step instructions, as termites are thought to do.

Instead of communicating directly with one another or following a central command, the robots coordinate their actions by assessing what work has already been done and adding to it. So say the first robot puts down a block. As it leaves the site, another comes along and senses the block's location. Based on this local information, as well as knowledge about the end product, it decides to put down its own load on top of the first.

Such a process keeps going — ideally with many robots toiling away at once to finish the job faster — until the structure is complete. This decentralized method of construction is very similar to how the tiny termite is thought to create huge, towering nests.

"Around here, you hear about termites destroying buildings," said study author and Harvard University computer scientist Justin Werfel. "But in Africa and Australia, they are known for building enormous, complicated mounds of soil."

These oddly shaped towers can be as tall as 40 feet — about the equivalent of a three-story building. And while they may look like big piles of dirt, their simple exterior hides a complex network of ever-evolving tunnels and chambers. Some biologists even believe they provide the colony with air conditioning and atmosphere control.

Werfel and his colleagues wanted to use robotics to harness the power

of stigmergy — a process where agents communicate indirectly by sensing and modifying the immediate world around them.

"They're all independent, with each termite doing what it wants to," he said. "It's not like they're getting assigned instructions by the queen — they are just reacting to what they encounter."

The robots

Each termite is an organism of fairly low complexity, but by using stigmergy, a colony is capable of building a highly complex structure. So the team started with this simple framework: Each robot must have its own basic brain and sensors, as well as be programmed with certain "traffic rules" it must obey.

The sensors enable them to see bricks and robots next to them, and the traffic rules depend on the final structure. They prevent robots from

placing bricks in places where they might easily collapse, or constructing a scenario where a brick would have to be squished in between two others.

Each robot, about 8 inches long, consists of internal metal gears and hardware as well as 3-D-printed parts. The bricks themselves are also specially made in a way that helps the robots climb and align them better.

"In our system, each robot doesn't know what others are doing or how many others there are — and it doesn't matter," Werfel said.

The main difference from the real-life insect is that termites don't have a desired end product. Rather, there is a random component involved, given the same starting place, a colony will build a slightly different structure every time.

But when constructing a house, for instance, we would want the robots to follow a specific blueprint. So Werfel created the option for a user to input

a picture of a predefined structure, and the robots will go to town on building it.

His convictions his easily programmable team of robots working in places where sending humans would be dangerous and expensive — underwater or on Mars, for instance — or using robots for tedious tasks like building levees with sandbags.

The creators

Werfel came up with the idea of programming termitelike robots more than 15 years ago, but he didn't start hacking away at the problem until 2003. Years later, he met study co-author Kirstin Petersen, a robotics engineer who had independently worked on a collaborative construction project for her master's thesis in Denmark. The two came together, each using their individual expertise to make the little insect-inspired robots a reality.

Then a few years ago, they teamed up with termite expert Scott Turner to try to get a deeper look inside the insect's head. Turner, a biologist at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, has a lab in Namibia where he hopes to discover the purpose behind the mounds. So far, his investigations have found that they may help gas exchange more than temperature regulation.

"The authors have a proof of concept of a system that exhibits collective behavior, without a leader, using only local information," said roboticist Vijay Kumar, of the University of Pennsylvania, in an email. Kumar, who was not involved with the study, said, "This can have far reaching consequences as we try to create swarms of robots for search and rescue, and for first response."

His lab has developed agile, flying quadrotor robots capable of tightly controlled acrobatics, and he has also experimented with automated construction.



PHOTOS BY ELIZA GRINNELL, HARVARD SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES/SCIENCE, AAAS

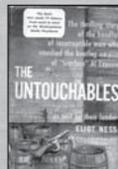
NATION

THE UNTOUCHABLE ELIOT NESS?

BY NEELY TUCKER
The Washington Post

In 1957, a former federal law-enforcement agent published "The Untouchables," which became one of the century's most famous crime stories.

The rat-a-tat Tommy-gun tale of its author, Eliot Ness, and his incorruptible men in the Prohibition Bureau battling Chicago gangster Al Capone, proved to be a hard-boiled gem. It sold more than a million copies. It spawned a famous television series and a Hollywood blockbuster. It lofted Ness into the American pantheon of crime-fighting icons. He was the real-life Gary Cooper in "High Noon," the Depression's Wyatt Earp



the square-jawed Hero Who Came to Save Us from the Bad Man in the Dark.

Of course, it's almost all fiction.

Ness didn't have much to do with Scarface's 1931 tax-evasion prosecution. Whole gobs of the book were ginned up by a ghostwriter. Ness and his agents, hardly saints, boozed it up as much as anybody. Ken Burns, when completing his PBS series "Prohibition" in 2011, dismissed Ness as a "PR invention."

So when U.S. Sens. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, Mark Kirk, R-Ill., and Richard Durbin, D-Ill., recently announced plans to name the national headquarters of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives at 99 New York Ave. NE in Washington, as the Eliot Ness ATF Building, catcalls spewed like moonshine from a busted still.

"Ridiculous," says Daniel Okrent, author of "Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition," one of the definitive volumes about the era. "Naming a building after him for his role in getting Capone? You might as well name it after Batman."

Ditto, says Jonathan Eig, a former Wall Street Journal reporter and author of "Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster." "The movies are allowed to have



their fun," he says, "but we shouldn't go naming buildings after them."

It's so bad that back in sweet home Chicago, Edward Burke, an alderman for 45 years and author of three history books about the city, co-sponsored a resolution that — read this twice — protested naming a federal building in Washington after one of his city's most famous sons.

Isn't this a good story? Wait, it gets better.

You want the real Ness and Capone? Ness, the youngest of five, born in 1902 of Norwegian immigrants on the South

Side of Chicago.

Ness graduated from the University of Chicago and followed his brother-in-law into the Prohibition Bureau. Six feet tall, quiet, honorable in his work but not in his marriages. He helped put together a rotating group of agents who spent the first six months of 1931 raiding Capone's hidden breweries. His car was stolen three times, his office phone line was tapped, he was offered bribes, and a friend/informant was shot four times in the face.

Still, he and his crew — which ranged from six to a dozen or so — put together a 5,000-count bootlegging indictment against Capone. They were dubbed "the untouchables" in a 1931 Chicago newspaper story because they refused bribes.

U.S. Attorney George E.Q. Johnson in Chicago loved Ness's work but opted to prosecute Capone on tax-evasion charges, as the jurors (like most everybody else) loved to drink but loathed tax cheats. Ness gave reporters who covered his raids some of the impounded booze (cough, cough) which helped him grab headlines. The man himself was fond of Cutty Sark. He was given to spells of depression.

Capone, one of nine children, born in Brooklyn to Italian immigrants. Dropped out of school in sixth grade. Burly, muscular, powerful, he worked as a bouncer, face slashed by a knife.

Moved to Chicago to work for mobster Johnny Torrio. Worked at a sleazy club at 2222 S. Wabash Ave., the Four Deuces, in the sleazier Levee District. Smart, resourceful, brutal, about 5-foot-10, corpulent, manly, moved in on the liquor trade after Prohibition started. Flamboyant, volatile, made millions, wore pastel-colored suits and pearl-gray hats, loved reporters (cough, cough), who helped him grab headlines.

"Said things like, 'When I sell liquor, it's called bootlegging; when my patron serve it on Lake Shore Drive, it's called

hospitality.'"

Beat 18 of 23 counts of tax evasion in a sensational 1931 trial, but a judge sentenced him to 11 years, far above the norm. He certainly knew who Ness was, but by all accounts the pair never saw one another in person until his court appearance.

Ness wasn't even 30 when Capone (who was just 32) was convicted. He was a boy wonder when he moved to Cleveland, then the nation's sixth-largest city, and quickly became the director of public safety, overseeing more than 2,000 cops and firefighters.

He took down gangsters. He forced the mayor to let him hire secret investigators, masked as city employees, to investigate cops on the take. Today, every law-enforcement agency has an "internal affairs" division to do the same thing. Led by his mentor August Vollmer, he viewed drug and alcohol addictions as primarily medical problems, which today is commonplace. He emphasized ballistic tests, even soil samples, in building cases, the dawn of forensic sciences. He had squad cars painted an unusual tri-color combination so that people would recognize the cops. He put two-way radios in those cars so that officers could communicate.

Some of these were original. All of them were cutting edge.



Capone, meanwhile, served a good chunk of his sentence in Alcatraz, where his mind slowly deteriorated due to syphilis, contracted years earlier. Released, he moved to his palatial home in Palm Island, Fla., where his mind and body continued to rot.

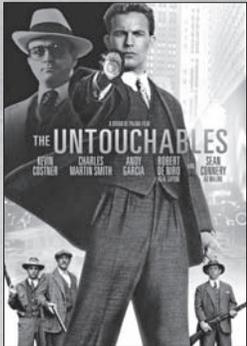
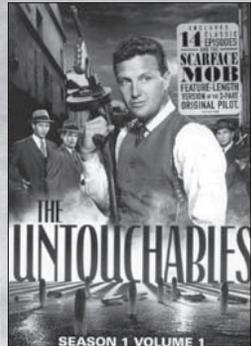
He died, a shell of himself, on Jan. 25, 1947, at age 48. Ness did not last all that much longer. He ran for mayor of Cleveland and got trounced. During World War II he worked for the government, cracking down on the vice trade near military bases. Afterward, he tried business and failed miserably, winding up in tiny Coudersport, Pa. He was depressed, deeply in debt, drank like a fish and cheated on his wife.

In 1955, on a trip to New York, he and a business partner were drinking at a hotel bar when his partner spotted a friend — Oscar Fraley, a wire-service reporter. Fraley joined them and, as the night grew on, talked turned to Ness's long-ago work against Capone. Fraley wanted to do a book. Ness eventually sent him about 20 pages of notes but wasn't enthused. Douglas Perry, author of "Eliot Ness: The Rise and Fall of an American Hero," recounts, and reluctantly continued the collaboration until his heart quit on him.

He died, a shell of himself, on May 16, 1957, at age 55.

The New York Times did not note his death, Perry writes, and back home in Chicago, his obituary was less than 100 words.

"The Untouchables" hit bookstores later that year.



Success of the Eliot Ness memoir "The Untouchables," largely the creation of ghostwriter/reporter Oscar Fraley, led to a hit television series starring Robert Stack in 1959. Kevin Costner, at the height of his matinee-idol appeal, played Ness on the big screen a quarter-century later, where it was a \$76 million hit.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Facebook post leads to man sought for assault

CA SAN MATEO — Authorities said a Facebook post has led to the arrest of a man allegedly trying to solicit sex from teenagers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

KTVU-TV reported that San Mateo police took Roberto Miculax, 41, into custody Wednesday after a three-week investigation. He faces one count of assault with intent to commit a sex crime and other charges.

The probe began when a 15-year-old notified police that a man was following her trying to solicit sex. When officers arrived, the man was gone, but investigators were able to get surveillance video from a nearby store. A screen shot of the man was shared on Facebook and other social media.

Two 12-year-old girls saw the post and identified Miculax.

Police: Man cooked heroin while driving

OH GIRARD — A police officer said a north-east Ohio man admitted cooking heroin on a spoon while driving his car.

The (Youngstown) Vindicator reported that Aaron Repko, 25, pleaded not guilty Thursday to three misdemeanor drug charges in municipal court in Girard. He has yet to enter a plea to a felony charge of drug possession.

Vienna police said an officer stopped Repko on Wednesday believing he was a drunken driver. The officer said he found a spoon on the passenger seat with a burned substance on it.

While being searched, Repko kept falling asleep and said he had injected heroin a short time earlier and had been cooking the drug while driving.

He's being held on a \$20,000 bond.

Man accused of setting woman on fire in fight

WA YAKIMA — Police said a man doused a woman with a flammable liquid and set her on fire during an argument Thursday at an apartment in Yakima.

The Yakima Herald-Republic reported that the 55-year-old woman is reported in stable condition at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

Officers arrested the 48-year-old man for investigation of assault and arson.

Flames spread through a bedroom and caused an estimated \$50,000 in damages to the apartment.

Woman who drove van into ocean charged

FL DAYTONA BEACH—A pregnant South Carolina woman who drove a minivan carrying her three young children into the ocean surf off Florida was charged Friday with attempted first-degree murder and aggravated child abuse, though she has denied trying to harm anyone,



DEVON RAVINE, NORTHWEST (FORT WALTON BEACH) FLORIDA DAILY NEWS/AP

Springtime shenanigans

Sisters Zoe Bart, top, and Manon Bart, center, climb on the back of their friend, Alayna Flynn, for a photo as they enjoy a visit to the beach Wednesday at Pompano Joe's in Destin, Fla. The Florida panhandle community of Destin is a popular spring break destination for both families and college students.

authorities said.

Bystanders and officers helped pull Ebony Wilkerson, 32, and her children, ages 3, 9 and 10, from their minivan as it was almost submerged on Tuesday on Daytona Beach.

Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson said Wilkerson has denied trying to hurt her children. However, the children told investigators otherwise, and witnesses said she tried to keep them from rescuing them.

Wilkerson was in the custody of the sheriff's office after she was taken to a hospital for a mental evaluation. Her children were

with the Department of Children and Families.

Candidate event ends with assault summons

CO CANON CITY — The Canon City Police Department has issued the son-in-law of a political candidate a summons for assault following an altercation that took place during a Meet the Candidate event at the Royal George Republican Women's meeting at Republican headquarters.

Police said Fremont County coroner candidates Carlette Bro-

sius and Randy Keller were invited to speak at the event.

Keller told authorities that Adam Messer, who is Brocius' son-in-law, came up to him and pushed him into some steps and shelves. Keller was not injured. Police said Messer was issued a summons.

Police: Man stole \$10K in equipment from shop

IN DENVER — A central Indiana man faces theft charges after police said he stole more than \$10,000 worth of tools and other equipment from his

THE CENSUS

\$35K

The value of the computers stolen by burglars from Joaquin Miller Elementary School in Oakland, Calif. The Oakland Tribune reported that more than two dozen Apple iMacs and their monitors were taken early Thursday. School District spokesman Troy Flint said the thieves removed a grating on a lab window at about 2 a.m. and then were able to dismantle locks that secured the computers to desks. The computers were paid for with money raised by the school's Parent Teacher Organization.



employer.

Travis J. Greer, 36, of Peru, was arrested Tuesday on two felony counts of theft. He was later released from the Miami County Jail after posting bond.

The Kokomo Tribune reported that deputies said Greer stole tools, equipment, diagnostic instruments and merchandise from Raider Truck Repair, the Denver business where he worked.

Deputies said they searched Greer's vehicle and found stolen property belonging to the business owner. Many of the stolen items have been returned to the owner.

Couple charged with letting toddler get high

MT BOZEMAN — A Montana couple faces charges for allegedly letting a 2-year-old boy smoke marijuana.

The Bozeman Daily Chronicle reported that Lucas Keith Wilson and Camilla Rose Samuels were charged on Feb. 27 with felony and misdemeanor counts of endangering the welfare of a child.

A \$50,000 arrest warrant was issued for Wilson. No warrant was issued for Samuels.

Court records say the investigation began in August when Samuels' mother told investigators she found a video on her daughter's phone showing Wilson's son putting a pipe in his mouth.

Prosecutors say both Wilson and Samuels told investigators they let the boy smoke marijuana five times since August. Wilson said it would make the boy mellow.

Charging documents say the couple recently had a baby that tested positive for marijuana and meth when he was born.

From wire reports

WORLD

Oil slicks found in hunt for missing Malaysian plane

By EILEEN NG AND CHRIS BRUMMITT
The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Vietnamese air force planes on Saturday spotted two large oil slicks close to where a Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777 went missing earlier in the day, the first sign that the aircraft carrying 239 people had crashed.

The air force planes were part of a multinational search operation launched after Flight MH370 fell off radar screens less than an hour after it took off from Kuala Lumpur for Beijing early Saturday morning.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Navy dispatched the USS Pinckney and a P-3C Orion aircraft to assist in the search. The Pinckney, an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer carrying two MH-60R helicopters equipped for search and rescue, was conducting training operations in the South China Sea when it was diverted to assist, according to a Navy release.

Navy officials said the P-3C Orion aircraft was departing from Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. It has the capability to conduct long-range searches, and it also brings radar and communication capabilities to the effort, the Navy release said.

The oil slicks were spotted late Saturday off the southern tip of Vietnam and were each between 6 miles and 9 miles long, the Vietnamese government said in a statement. There was no confirmation that the slicks were related to the missing plane, but the statement said they were consistent with the kinds that would be produced by the two fuel tanks of a crashed jetliner.

Malaysia Airlines CEO Ahmad Jaufri Yahya said there was no

indication that the pilots had sent a distress signal, suggesting that whatever happened to the plane occurred quickly and possibly catastrophically.

Asked whether terrorism was suspected, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said, "We are looking at all possibilities, but it is too early to make any conclusive remarks."

The plane was carrying 227 passengers, including two infants and 12 crewmembers, the airline said. It said there were 152 passengers from China, 38 from Malaysia, seven from Indonesia, six from Australia, five from India, three from the U.S. and others from Indonesia, France, New Zealand, Canada, Ukraine, Russia, Italy, Taiwan, the Netherlands and Austria.

Foreign ministry officials in Italy and Austria said the names of two nationals from those countries listed on the flight's manifest matched passports reported stolen in Thailand.

Italy's Foreign Ministry said the Italian man who was listed as being a passenger, Luigi Maraldi, was traveling in Thailand and was not aboard the plane. It said he reported his passport stolen last August.

Austria's Foreign Ministry confirmed that a name listed on the manifest matched an Austrian passport reported stolen two years ago in Thailand. It said the Austrian was not on the plane, but would not confirm the person's identity.

At Beijing's airport, authorities posted a notice asking relatives and friends of passengers to gather at a nearby hotel to wait for further information and provided a shuttle bus service. A woman wept aboard the bus while saying on a mobile phone, "They want us to go to the hotel. It cannot be



A woman wipes her tears after walking out of the reception center and holding area for the family and friends of passengers aboard a missing Malaysia Airlines plane at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Malaysia, on Saturday



This screen grab shows the last reported position of Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 on Friday night.

good." They were escorted into a private area at the hotel, but reporters were kept away. A man in a gray hooded sweatshirt later stormed out complaining about a lack of information. The man, who said he was a Beijing resident but declined to give his name, said he was anxious because his mother was on board the flight with a

group of 10 tourists. "We have been waiting for hours and there is still no verification," he said.

The plane was last detected on radar at 1:30 a.m. around where the South China Sea meets the Gulf of Thailand, authorities in Malaysia and Vietnam said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hendrick Simoes contributed to this report.

Syria wrests border town from rebels

By DIAA HADED
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces seized a town from rebels near the Lebanese border on Saturday, their latest attempt to cut off opposition fighters' fluid supply lines from the country, state media and activists said.

Fighting lasted weeks around Zara, which rebels used as a base to attack pro-regime communities in the area, said pro-Syrian media and Rami Abdurrahman, of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. His group obtains its information from a network of activists on the ground.

The town was one of only two strongholds for rebels along the Lebanese border leading to the city of Homs, the other being the nearby village of al-Hosn, said another activist who identified himself as Samy al-Hosni.

"Without al-Hosn and Zara, it will be the end of the revolution

to the west of Homs," al-Hosni said. "It's the only two areas left to the rebels there."

Footage from Zara by Lebanon-based broadcaster al-Mayadeen showed plumes of smoke billowing from houses as gunfire and artillery could be heard in the background. In previous fighting in the area,

"Some of them were butchered inside their homes and then they set the homes on fire. Others, the tanks fired at the homes. Others were killed by snipers as they fled."

Abu Marwan al-Hosni activist

Syrian forces loyal to President Bashar Assad fired well into Lebanon, apparently to push back rebels trying to sneak across on well-worn smuggling routes.

An activist in al-Hosn who uses the name Abu Marwan al-Hosni said most Zara residents fled to his city during the fighting, but at least 20 people were killed after Assad-loyal gunmen entered the town.

"Some of them were butchered inside their homes and then they set the homes on fire. Others, the tanks fired at the homes. Others were killed by snipers as they fled," said al-Hosni. The activist collective Local Coordinating Committees also reported the information.

Abdurrahman and the Lebanon-based al-Mayadeen channel said Syrian forces were now advancing into the nearby area of Hasariyyeh.

Former child soldier to UN: End recruitment of kids

By PETER JAMES SPIELMANN
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council on Friday condemned the recruitment of child soldiers into military forces, guerrilla movements and Islamic militias around the world and demanded an end to attacks on schools and hospitals in conflict zones.

The council unanimously approved a resolution with those demands after hearing testimony from a former child soldier from Sierra Leone, which became notorious for guerrilla groups that amputated the limbs, ears and lips of civilians to leave them as living emblems of fear.

In 2001, when he was 14, Al-haji Babah Sawaneh became the first former child soldier to speak before the council, and he spoke again Friday as a campaigner against the practice.

He told the council that he was "one of the children that were forcefully abducted and conscripted into an armed group at the age of 10."

"My childhood was robbed by the Revolutionary United Front for two years. It was one of the most brutish and turbulent civil wars in the history of armed conflict," he said.

"The children and young people in countries affected by armed conflict need a future, we need education and jobs. Today I am

standing here again, by the grace of God, and I am asking again for your help," he said.

Sawaneh said he went on to find a foster family, finished his university degree two years ago and now is an anti-child conscription campaigner in Sierra Leone.

In his last report on child soldiers, released in 2013, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon cited government forces in Afghanistan, Chad, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia, Congo, Syria, Yemen and Sudan for recruiting minors.

Other offenders are Islamic movements in Somalia, Mali, Iraq, Afghanistan, several al-Qaida groups and combatants in Colombia, the Philippines, Syria, Myanmar and Central African Republic, including the Lord's Res-

istance Army.

On Friday, Ban pointed to Syria as one of the most egregious conflicts affecting children today. He said more than 2.25 million Syrian children are out of school, and "one of five schools has been damaged or occupied by families made homeless by the conflict."

Over the last three years the United Nations has signed action plans to phase out child recruitment with the governments of Afghanistan, Chad, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Yemen and Sudan's governments and Myanmar guerrilla movements have also expressed their commitment to child-free security forces and are in talks with the United Nations.

WORLD

Suicide bomber uses Iraq police vehicle in attack

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber in a stolen police Humvee passed through a military checkpoint in Iraq before detonating his explosives, part of a series of assaults across the country Saturday that killed seven people, authorities said.

The bomber's attack happened in Ramadi, the provincial capital of Anbar province, where Iraqi security forces have been battling militants who took control of parts of the town in late December. Police said militants stole the Humvee and painted it with military colors to trick soldiers into letting it by.

The suicide blast wounded 14 people, police said.

Elsewhere on Saturday, a car bomb targeting a street full of shoppers in the capital, Baghdad, killed six people and wounded 14, police said. The blast happened in the capital's northern Qahirah

neighborhood.

In Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, a roadside bomb targeting a military vehicle killed a captain and wounded four soldiers, police said.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures for the attacks. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to release the information.

Widespread chaos nearly tore the country apart following the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein. The violence ebbed in 2008 after a series of U.S.-Iraqi military offensives, a Shiite militia cease-fire and a Sunni revolt against al-Qaida in Iraq.

But last year, the country saw the highest death toll since the worst of the country's sectarian bloodletting, according to the U.N., with 8,568 people killed.

In April, Iraq is to hold its first parliamentary elections since the U.S. troops' withdrawal in late 2011.

Militants apologize for Lebanese civilian deaths

By DILIA HADID
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — A militant group issued a rare apology Saturday for a twin suicide bombing in Beirut that killed eight people and wounded dozens, including children from a nearby orphanage.

The al-Qaida-linked Abdullah Azzam Brigades issued a statement on militant websites apologizing for civilian deaths.

It said a "technical fault" affected the second of two Feb. 19 suicide bombings targeting an Iranian cultural center in Beirut, but didn't specify what it was. The group insisted its suicide bombers were trained to not target civilians.

"We affirm, always to our suicide bombers, to be cautious, and to abort any operation if they believe it will hit others but the targeted," it said.

More than a dozen bombings have targeted Shiite-dominated areas of Lebanon in recent months.

Many have been claimed by the hard-line Sunni Nusra Front in Lebanon. They have said they are not militarily supportive of Lebanon's Iran-backed Shiite Hezbollah group for supporting President Bashar Assad. The bulk of the casualties are usually civilians. The claims of responsibility usually name Shiite neighborhoods that are traditionally supportive of Hezbollah as the targets, as opposed

to the group's fighters or offices. Lebanon is deeply split over Syria's civil war, which has become increasingly sectarian. Assad comes from a Shiite offshoot, and the rebels fighting him are dominated by Sunnis.

The Brigades said their target was Hezbollah and Iranian interests in Lebanon. Unusually, it said explicitly it was not attacking Shites in general. "The two bombs were meant to be in a place where the shrapnel of the explosion would not reach the main road," Abdullah Azzam Brigades

stated. "The two bombs were meant to be in a place where the shrapnel of the explosion would not reach the main road," the statement said. "The Azzam (bombing) operations do not target Shites in general, nor other sects."

The Abdullah Azzam Brigades claimed responsibility for two of those attacks: a twin suicide bombing attack outside the Iranian embassy in Beirut on Nov. 19 that killed at least 23 people — mostly civilians. The other was the Feb. 19 attack.



PHOTOS BY ARIEL SHALITA/PA

Passengers' carry-on luggage is screened inside the Ben Gurion airport terminal near Tel Aviv, Israel, in November 2010.

Airport security in Israel questioned

By JOSEF FEDERMAN
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Jack Angelides was about to board a flight out of Israel's international airport when he was given a curious choice that baffles him to this day. Traveling with a laptop and a stack of printed reading material, he was told to part with one or the other due to unspecified security concerns.

The Israel-based British-Cypriot businessman said he negotiated a compromise in which he kept the computer and several papers, checking in the rest of the documents.

"It was a very unpleasant, very uncomfortable" experience, said Angelides, the general manager of the Israeli soccer team Maccabi Tel Aviv.

While standing in long lines, walking through scanners and removing belts and shoes are a fact of post-Sept. 11 travel worldwide, Israel's Ben-Gurion Airport seems to stand alone with its security techniques, often leaving travelers dumbfounded. Though Israel denies profiling travelers, business executives, journalists and especially Arabs and visitors to Palestinian areas seem especially prone to being targeted with aggressive questioning, long luggage examinations and even strip searches.

The tough security is not new, but it is stirring debate. On one side stand those concerned about Israel's good name, tourism potential and moral standing. On the other are those for whom security arguments can seem close to sacrosanct in a country hit with decades of attacks by Palestinian militants and a series of hijackings in the 1960s and '70s — and a country whose travelers abroad are targeted in terrorist attacks.

The issue recently burst onto the national agenda after an Arab schoolteacher who teaches at a Jewish high school was strip-searched at Israel's airport in the southern resort town of Eilat dur-



While standing in long lines, walking through scanners and removing belts and shoes are a fact of post-9/11 travel worldwide, Ben-Gurion Airport seems to stand alone with its security techniques, often leaving travelers dumbfounded by the treatment they have experienced.

ing a class trip with her students. Israeli-Arab citizens, including lawmakers and other community leaders, complain of frequent discrimination when traveling.

Aryeh Shaham, the Airports Authority's legal adviser, told a parliamentary hearing that there is no ethnic profiling at the airport.

"The inspection is not done according to population groups," Shaham said. Instead, it is done according to criteria set by security officials, "and I can't disclose those."

He said fewer than 5 percent of Arab travelers are inspected in Ben-Gurion Airport and that the authority receives more complaints from Jewish travelers than Christian or Muslim Arabs.

In response to emailed questions, the Airports Authority said its inspection process is "anchored" in Israeli and international law. It said the high level of security threats facing the airport "demands a severe level of inspection," including questioning, scanning of luggage and inspections of handbags and travelers.

But it acknowledged that with

20 million traveling through the airport, "there are extraordinary events that we regret." And it is not clear whether terrorists have ever been caught as a result of the airport interrogations.

Adi Kol, the lawmaker who chaired last week's parliamentary hearing, said she found the responses by security officials "frustrating," particularly their denial that there is a problem. Kol, whose Yesh Atid party is a member of the governing center-right coalition, said she is now trying to set up a training program in which Arab community leaders will give awareness training to airport security workers.

Security authorities "can use the proper technological equipment" to find explosives "and spare us all this disgrace," said opposition Labor Party lawmaker Nachman Shai. "It is simply a disgrace."

In an editorial, the Haaretz newspaper wrote that the incident involving the teacher "proves that the religion of security drives the authorities out of their senses" and called for checks "devoid of racism and humiliation."

LIFESTYLE

Mini Museum gets big support

Designer gets thousands of dollars in pledges to deliver a childhood dream

By TOM JACKMAN
The Washington Post

It was 33 years in the making, so Hans Fex didn't know how the world would react to his brainstorm from second grade: a portable museum of tiny specimens from dinosaurs, space and everything in between, all encased in a small block of clear resin.

He labored over his prototypes, and recently he nervously released his lifelong dream to Kickstarter, the online fundraising site, in hopes of raising \$38,000 to make a few hundred versions of the "Mini Museum."

To say it took off would be an understatement. Kickstarter made the Mini Museum a "staff pick" on its home page, and in three days people pledged more than \$100,000 in purchases.

Then it really took off. Nine days in, Fex had raised more than \$820,000 in pledges to make three versions of the Mini Museum. Now he must crank up the production process in his modest home in Sterling, Va., to hold more than 3,000 Mini Museums for a surprisingly enthusiastic public — for whom he pours, mounts and labels each one by hand.

In late March, Kickstarter will charge the credit cards of the more than 3,000 people who have pledged to buy Fex's Mini Museum (or spend a day with him in person), then release the funds to Fex.

He is thrilled, but cautious. "I . . . don't feel like truly celebrating until everyone who ordered one, and myself, have our own Mini Museums," Fex said. "I'm not being poetic, I'm serious."

Fex, 44, has been collecting cool stuff — ancient meteorites, mummy wrap, a T. rex tooth, foil from Apollo 11 — for this project since he was 11, always with the idea that he would break off small chunks of his collection and suspend them in resin.

He is obsessed with verifying the authenticity of each piece, whether it's a triceratops horn or a rock from Mount Everest. That involves meeting with museum curators, handing his items over to experts for examination or, in the case of dirt from Dracula's castle, traveling to Romania and scooping up a jar full from the grounds of a castle where Vlad (Dracula) the Impaler is believed to have lived.

Ty Liotta, a longtime friend and a former co-worker at ThinkGeek, a Fairfax County, Va., company that designs and sells toys, gadgets and apparel online, watched Fex work on the project for years.

"The amount of effort he went to get the stuff was crazy," Liotta said. Fex sometimes stored specimens in Liotta's basement and would take out a moon rock or dinosaur dung to amaze Liotta's children. "It's been fascinating," Liotta said.

The seeds for the Mini Museum were sown by Fex's parents. His father was a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health, and his mother was an anesthesiologist. From an early age, Fex's goal in life was to design and build toys.

While he was growing up in Bethesda, Md., his parents would take him to the various Smithsonian museums in Washington, D.C. "My dad would say, 'I really would love it, when you're a toy maker, if you would buy me one of those,' and point to a T. rex tooth. Or a triceratops horn. He did it for his whole life," Fex said.

Fex explains his project in detail at kickstarter.com.



TOM JACKMAN/The Washington Post

Hans Fex holds the large version of his Mini Museum design. Each large Mini Museum will hold 33 specimens of ancient rocks, bones and other items. At top right: A table in his home holds specimens that he will cut into pieces for encasement.



“All at once, I saw it — my first product idea. The Mini Museum. A grand collection within a manageable space. I was 7 years old.”

Hans Fex
product designer

"My father kept an amazing collection of artifacts at his laboratory office and also at home," Fex writes on the site.

"In 1977, the historic year of Star Wars and the Atari 2600, my father had returned from Malta with some artifacts that he had embedded into epoxy resin. I had never seen this done before and it was beautiful.

"Then, all at once, I saw it — my first product idea. The Mini Museum. A grand collection within a manageable space. I was 7 years old."

Fex estimates he has spent more than \$300,000 on his idea throughout the years, and for the past year and a half, after leaving his job as a toy designer at ThinkGeek, he has done nothing but work on it.

He said ThinkGeek was interested in buying it, but the product wasn't ready. He needed more research and more practice pouring the resin into smooth blocks.

"People who want these are really interested in this stuff," he said. "This involves theories of life, how we got here. I don't want to give them something that's not fully baked, that doesn't meet their expectations."

Fex decided to create three sizes of Mini Museums: a small one, three inches high with 11 specimens, for \$99; a medium one, 4½ inches high with 22 specimens, for \$179; and a large one, five inches high with 33 specimens, for \$239.

People posting comments on Kickstarter are ecstatic about the concept.

"I find the awe that this project inspires in my inner child to be enough for me to back a Large MM without question," said one poster.

"It's a fantastic idea!" wrote another. "Thank you for bringing the passion of science back to me, I'm so excited by the project, and very happy to be a part of it."

The Mini Museum project's address is kickstarter.com/projects/.../mini-museum.

Treasures of the Mini Museum

All three of Hans Fex's museums will contain chunks from what he says is the oldest matter humans have collected, carbonaceous chondrite from a 4.6 billion-year-old meteorite, as well as a moon rock, part of a dinosaur egg and some coal from the Titanic.

The larger museums will contain part of a meteorite from Mars, specks of a brick from Abraham Lincoln's house in Illinois and a piece of a plastinated human brain.

The medium Mini Museum will contain a fragment of a ladder rung used for climbing Mount Everest, while the large mini museum will contain a sample of the mountain itself.

At kickstarter.com, Fex details other artifacts to be represented in tiny pieces, including:

- Dinosaur bones and teeth
- Mammoth hair
- Insects fossilized in amber
- Egyptian mummy wrap
- The London Bridge
- The Berlin Wall
- Raw gold nuggets
- Corinthian leather
- Foil from the Apollo 11 command module
- Sand from Waikiki
- Sand that melted into glass after the world's first nuclear explosion test in New Mexico 1945.

Why are we crazy about quizzes?



To learn what my ideal city is

**Gray.
No, wait.
Charcoal.**

Good distraction while waiting

For proof that we are cool

To see what my favorite dessert says about me

One website's silly tests smash traffic records and generate tons of Facebook comment threads

Full story on page 17

LIFESTYLE



John Egan — in Austin, Texas, last month — is one of many taking online quizzes. A recent veritable explosion of silly online personality quizzes, most of them created by the young social media mavens at BuzzFeed.com, has everybody talking about which state they really ought to be living in and which Harry Potter character they really are.

By MEGHAN BARR
The Associated Press

For a compulsive online quiz-taker like Chrissy Noh, the temptation was too great to resist: “Which sandwich are you?”

After answering a series of unscientific, seemingly unrelated questions, which included selecting her favorite doughnut from a lineup of frosted pastries, the New Yorker had her answer (grilled cheese). And she’s not the only one who’s comparing herself to sandwiches lately.

A recent explosion of silly online personality quizzes, most of them created by the young social media mavens at BuzzFeed.com, has Americans talking about which of the 50 states they really ought to be living in and which Harry Potter character they really are. BuzzFeed says the quizzes are smashing traffic records and generating more Facebook comment threads than any viral posts in the site’s history.

Experts say the phenomenon isn’t surprising given the age-old fascination with that central question — “Who AM I?” — and a desire to compare ourselves with others in a social media-obsessed society.

On a recent snowy day, the 37-year-old Noh admitted that she and several friends spent the afternoon taking quizzes and texting each other screen shots of the results. “It turned into an all-day group text message fest, where it was just picture after picture of, oh, what rapper are you?” she says, laughing. “What career should you actually have? Which sandwich are you? Which member of One Direction should you marry?”

Personality quizzes have been around for decades, gracing the covers of women’s and teen magazines with questions designed to lure us in. Nor are they new to the Internet, where online quizzes can be found aplenty on sites like Zimbio.com, among others. But the recent wave of quiz popularity can be traced directly to BuzzFeed’s New York City headquarters, where a team of about 100 content creators have been producing one to five quizzes every day for the past two months.

The most popular quiz — “Which State Do You Actually Belong In?” — has generated about 41 million page views.

Which _____ are you?

Online quizzes from BuzzFeed go viral

“For our most viral quizzes, the results have to be meaningful in some way,” says Summer Burton, BuzzFeed’s managing editorial director. “It’s not that they are scientific. It’s just that what they say means something to people as far as their own identity.”

A quiz for everyone

As scroll through the “QUIZZES” page on BuzzFeed.com reveals a bewildering assortment, many infused with pop culture references, which celebrity cat are you? Which pop diva? Which “Girls” character? What career should you actually have? Which

generation do you actually belong to? What kind of dog would you be?

The intense push to pump out as many quizzes as possible started a couple of months ago after BuzzFeed editors realized that a quiz called “Which ‘Grease’ Pink Lady are you?” ranked among the most-trafficked posts of 2013. Then, in mid-January, a quiz called “Which city should you actually live in?” went viral, and the whole venture just took off like wildfire, Burton says.

The ability to create a quiz was encoded into BuzzFeed’s in-house content management system a little more than a year ago. Essen-

tially any staff member has the autonomy to create one. There are no specific rules regarding quiz-making, but each one follows the same age-old general format: You start with the results and work backward based on general personality traits that go with each answer.

“If you take a ‘Parks and Rec’ quiz and you get Leslie Knope, then you’re very enthusiastic,” Burton says. “It’s almost like you pick three or four adjectives, and then those kind of go into figuring out what the answers for each question are going to be. And assigning them to a result.”

Staff members generate the

quiz ideas themselves and create the entire thing on their own, although they do receive an edit and feedback before the quizzes are published. The trick to creating an addictive personality quiz is similar to the art of writing a good horoscope. It has to be broad and all-encompassing yet make people believe the answer applies to them personally. We know there’s little substance to them, and yet we can’t seem to stop taking them.

What makes these online quizzes so alluring is that they can be instantaneously shared with hundreds of friends on Facebook for instant feedback, says Denise Friedman, who teaches psychology at Roanoke College in Salem, Va. “In our age, we’re constantly reflecting on who we are, and technology has really changed the way we interact,” Friedman says. “I think we are constantly engaging in social comparison and thinking about where we stand.”

‘A way to kill time’

John Egan, 50, who lives in Austin, Texas, says he gets sucked into the quizzes partly because he’s curious about himself — and because he wonders how his answers will stack up against those of his Facebook friends. But the quizzes have little staying power in his brain.

“It’s kind of this momentary thrill, if you will, and then you move on. And it’s like a shiny object: ‘Oh — there’s another quiz!’” he said.

The quizzes are overwhelmingly upbeat and lighthearted in nature, a calculated decision by the people engineering them.

“Quizzes are an investment of someone’s time,” Burton says. “So it feels like it would almost be mean for someone to go through the process of taking the quiz and have it say, ‘You’re really cynical and negative and nobody likes being around you.’”

And you can take them over and over until you get the answer that validates your own assumptions about yourself. Noh says she probably took the “Which rapper are you?” quiz quite a few times until she was satisfied with the result.

“I kept getting Eminem, which I was unhappy about,” she says. “I was like, ‘I really want Kanye, so I’m gonna answer these questions until I get Kanye West.’”

Experts say the phenomenon isn’t surprising given the age-old fascination with that central question — “Who AM I?” — and a desire to compare ourselves with others in a social media-obsessed society.

CROSSWORD AND COMICS

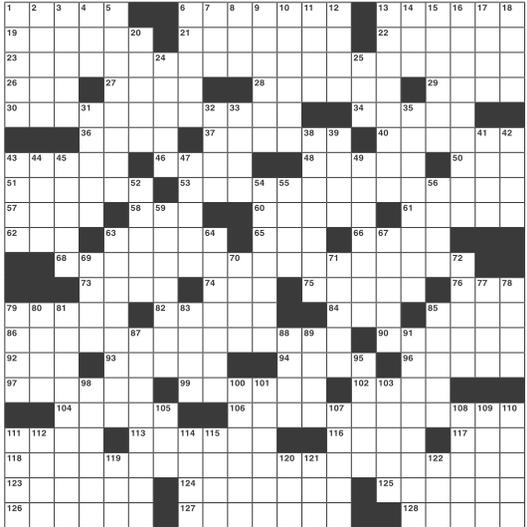
NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

OSCAR DOUBLE FEATURES By ALAN ARBESFELD / Edited by Will Shortz

- ACROSS**
- 1 Compadre
 - 6 Director of "Carrie" and "Scarface"
 - 13 Muss
 - 19 They put up walls
 - 21 Does some farmer's work on
 - 22 Berate
 - 23 Nelson Mandela? [1995, 1985]
 - 26 She, in Lisbon
 - 27 Strike the ground in a golf swing
 - 28 On the line
 - 29 Fraternal group
 - 30 One giving unreliable testimony? [1976, 1985*]
 - 34 Blood-related
 - 36 Gang girl
 - 37 Paradigms
 - 40 Bread holder?
 - 43 Magnate
 - 46 Alternatively
 - 48 Like yaks and mynas
 - 50 Muckraker Tarbell
 - 51 Flips over
 - 53 Reason for missing a fight? [1970*, 2000*]
 - 57 Message from one who's all thumbs?
 - 58 ♣
 - 60 "With the jawbone of ___," (declaration of Samson)
 - 61 Purposely misinform
 - 62 First name in tyranny
 - 63 Real enthusiast [1955*, 1954]
 - 65 Ending for acro- or homo-
 - 66 Look-alike
 - 68 Part of a line at O'Hare? [2002, 1976*]
 - 73 From the top
 - 74 Hide-hair connector
 - 75 ___ cologne
 - 76 Put away
 - 79 Leader of the pack
 - 82 Insurance giant
 - 84 Part of a jazz duo? of pictorial instructions
 - 86 Cheesy pickup line? [1944, 1995*]
 - 90 Bears, but not Cubs
 - 92 Novelist Patches
 - 93 Forfets
 - 94 Degrees for attys.
 - 96 "Hound Dog" or "What's New Pussycat"?
 - 97 Baseball's Iron Man
 - 99 Snowmobile brand
 - 102 River to the Rhine
 - 104 V-shaped fortification
 - 106 Reason why all the computers are down? [1976*, 2005]
 - 111 Gallic girlfriend
 - 113 Surgically remove
 - 116 Pulitzer winner
 - 117 Locale in Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"
 - 118 Seaside outing? [1955*, 1954]
 - 123 Former Gracie Mansion resident
 - 124 Repeat
 - 125 Lying face up
 - 126 ___ Channel ("Hannah Montana" airer)
 - 127 Successfully impersonate
 - 128 Early Apple computers
 - 13 Reciprocal raising of tariffs, e.g.
 - 14 Lumox
 - 15 "Amazing!"
 - 16 Many a hanging
 - 17 Deficiency
 - 18 Some P.A. announcements
 - 20 Knitted wrap
 - 24 TurboTax option
 - 25 "Yah!"
 - 31 Target competitor
 - 32 Not yet final, legally
 - 33 Linda of Broadway's "Jekyll & Hyde"
 - 35 "Holy cow!"
 - 38 Historic trail on the Oregon Trail
 - 39 Bygone boomers
 - 41 Mine words?
 - 42 Tijuana treat
 - 43 Star of "Mr. Hulot's Holiday"
 - 44 Put the finger on
 - 45 Poisonous
 - 47 "The Divided Self" author R. D. ___
 - 49 "I'm not kidding!"
 - 52 Enliven, with "up"
 - 54 Like Gamal Abdel Nasser's movement
 - 55 Jet black
 - 56 Numismatic condition
 - 59 Ocean routes
 - 63 Achieved through trickery
 - 64 "Rough day?" response
 - 67 Expand

DOWN

- 1 Yellow shade
- 2 Thomas of TV
- 3 Caravaggio's "The Sacrifice of ___"
- 4 End of some URLs
- 5 Individually
- 6 Annual N.B.A. event
- 7 Auction ending?
- 8 The Oscars are awarded on it: Abbr.
- 9 When repeated, a plea of Richard III
- 10 Daughter in "The Sound of Music"
- 11 1986 World Series champs
- 12 "Dilbert" intern



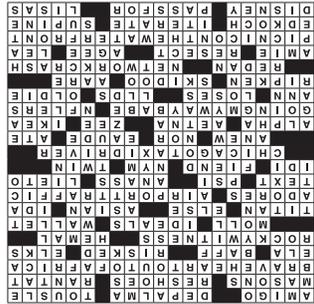
- 69 Chemistry Nobelist
- 70 Award won 21 times by Harold Prince
- 71 In a stupor
- 72 Like fall leaves
- 77 Hatcher or Polo
- 78 Allay
- 79 Food thickener
- 80 Actress Anderson
- 81 Small irritations
- 83 Meadow mamas
- 85 "No one's ___ than me" (Eminem lyric)
- 87 Belgium or Denmark
- 88 Tons
- 89 Diddle away
- 91 Emphatic
- 95 "Beetle Bailey" figure
- 98 Excited about
- 100 Moves slowly
- 101 Scares off
- 103 Astronaut Thomas on four space shuttle flights
- 105 Prefix with natal
- 107 Western
- 108 Dr. Alzheimer
- 109 Medical plant
- 110 Can't stand
- 111 Mimicked
- 112 Skirt style
- 114 Short cut
- 115 James portrayed by Beyoncé
- 119 Clinch
- 120 Post-W.W. II female service member
- 121 From ___ Z
- 122 The Engineers of the N.C.A.A., for short

GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviscki. E-mail him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and visit gunstonstreet.com.

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

THE RUPTURED DUCK

STRIPES CENTRAL

Stripes BLOGS

Get your fair share from our award-winning journalists at Stripes.com/blogs.

PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG

PACIFIC STORM TRACKER

OMBUDSMAN

ENTERTAINMENT

Noah Emmerich stars in "The Americans," a period drama series airing on FX.

Craig Blaukenhorn, FX/AP



A spy hunter with scruples

Noah Emmerich keeps 'em guessing in FX drama series 'The Americans'

By FRAZIER MOORE
The Associated Press

"The Americans" puts its audience on the spot. Whom to root for? Do we throw our support behind Elizabeth and Philip Jennings (played by Keri Russell and Matthew Rhys), the sexy, all-American-seeming couple who in truth are Russian-born KGB spies working to bring down the United States from within? Or do we side with Stan Beeman, their neighbor in a Washington, D.C., suburb, who happens to be an FBI agent in this circa-1980s slice of the Cold War? Stan (played by Noah Emmerich) is sworn to flush out these enemies of the state, but, despite his smarts and dogged commitment, is constantly frustrated in his mission while undermined by personal demons. As "The Americans" returns for its second season, the continuing obligation for its fans will be to reconcile divided loyalties and cheer for both parties, never mind that they're working in deadly opposition.

As before, viewers will likely thrill at the death-defying dedication of Elizabeth and Philip, but will identify with Stan. In Emmerich's performance, he sticks to a fine line between being a hero and being a dupe. He's a straight arrow bending under the pressures of his job, including the isolation it imposes: He has lately fallen into an affair with a beautiful Russian informant as his job keeps him from home.

Most challenging for the audience to deal with: Stan is largely unknowable. Unlike Elizabeth and Philip, whose secret lives are manifest to viewers, Stan remains a private soul to all.

"You don't know what he knows," says Emmerich. "You don't know what he's thinking."

Stan's early-on suspicion of Elizabeth and Philip seems to have relaxed into acceptance of them as the ordinary couple they pretend to be. In a future episode, he even meets Philip at a bar for a sodden heart-to-heart about his extramarital affair.

Has he let down his guard beyond the point of return?

"Is he naive? Or is he (messing) with them?" poses Emmerich, who himself isn't always sure what Stan is up to. "There have been times when I interpreted things in a certain way and played it that way, then mentioned it in passing to a writer, only to find out we had different opinions of what Stan does and doesn't know."

This leaves viewers free to fret about his vulnerabilities and setbacks. So does Emmerich, whose keeps-you-guessing portrayal makes Stan one of TV's most absorbing characters.

"I worry about him a lot, I really do," says Emmerich over a bowl of lentil soup in a Greenwich Village restaurant in Manhattan. It's a day off from filming the series, but Stan, as usual, is on Emmerich's mind.

"Stan's so squeezed!" he says sympathetically. "Stan gets very little respite from the pain and arduousness of his job and his strained relationships. I take it really personally. The things that the character is going through, I go through as an actor. But that's what the work is, and the joy of it. It's precarious, because your internal life is being written by someone else."

Emmerich, 49, is immersed in this, his first series, which he laughingly refers to as "The Emmerichians." But his extensive film work includes "Beautiful Girls," "Little Children," "Super 8," "Cop Land" and the landmark "The Truman Show," in which he played the turncoat chum of Jim Carrey, prompting rebukes for years past its 1998 release from moviegoers who would ask him, "How could you DO that to your friend?"

With that film, says Emmerich, "I became known as the guy who could appear one way and actually be another way."

It's a quality that serves him well as Stan, an unassuming-looking chap, a craggy former golden boy who might have lettered in high school but now chases Communists.

"And does it in the 'analog '80s,'" notes Emmerich. He points out how, on each table of this restaurant, a smartphone is almost as common as silverware. Not then! "Information exchange was so much more dramatic from what it is now when, if you want to find out something, you call on your cellphone or send someone a text. Back then, you had to go and find them, or drop a note under a park bench. The world lent itself better to storytelling in the analog age than now."

Just one more reason Emmerich is pleased with "The Americans." And here's another: He lives in downtown Manhattan, and tomorrow he reports for work at the show's Brooklyn studio, just across the river, minutes away.

"I asked the universe for exactly this," he says. "I decided I wanted to do a series, and I really wanted to stay in New York." He smiles. "Sometimes the universe is listening."

Russell comfortable with sexuality of 'Americans' spy role

By RICK BENTLEY
The Fresno Bee

If the only images you have of Keri Russell are as the sweet young entertainer who went from the "The Mickey Mouse Club" to "Felicity," you've not seen her FX channel series, "The Americans." Russell's traded her good-girl image for that of a hardened Communist spy who will use any weapon — ANY weapon — to get what she wants.

The second season of the FX series throws Russell back into action as it picks up in the early 1980s during the Cold War. Russell and Matthew Rhys play two KGB spies who live in a suburb of Washington, D.C.

The role is a major divergence than anything Russell has played before, but she doesn't think of the series in those terms.

"I guess I'm not thinking about it being different, but it is interesting," says Russell, who's wearing a pair of white pants so tight she looks like an extra for a remake of "Grease II." "I find myself with this role being more exposed. I enjoy the vulnerability and sexuality of her and continually interested in mining the relationships. It's all very fun."

These spies engage in a lot of sex, not so much for pleasure but as part of the job. Season two kicks off with sexual activity that breaks new ground for basic cable television. Russell is more comfortable with this disconnected form of sex than the more romantic variety played out in TV and films.

"The good thing about the sexuality in the show, at least where I'm coming at it from, is there is a gift in it not having to be this big sweeping romantic movie where you have to be so in love and so beautiful and so sexy. You're usually using the sexuality, at least in the spy end of it, to get something," Russell says. "So there is kind of a freedom in that, because it's kind of messier or more direct than that."

Russell looks at her role on "The Americans" as just another credit in a growing resumé. She does admit that because of the role — and maybe the fact that she's a 37-year-old mother of two — that she's feeling a lot more grown up these days.

Playing a sexually charged, butt-kicking spy hasn't changed the kind of jobs Russell's being offered. But the way she feels about acting jobs is different.

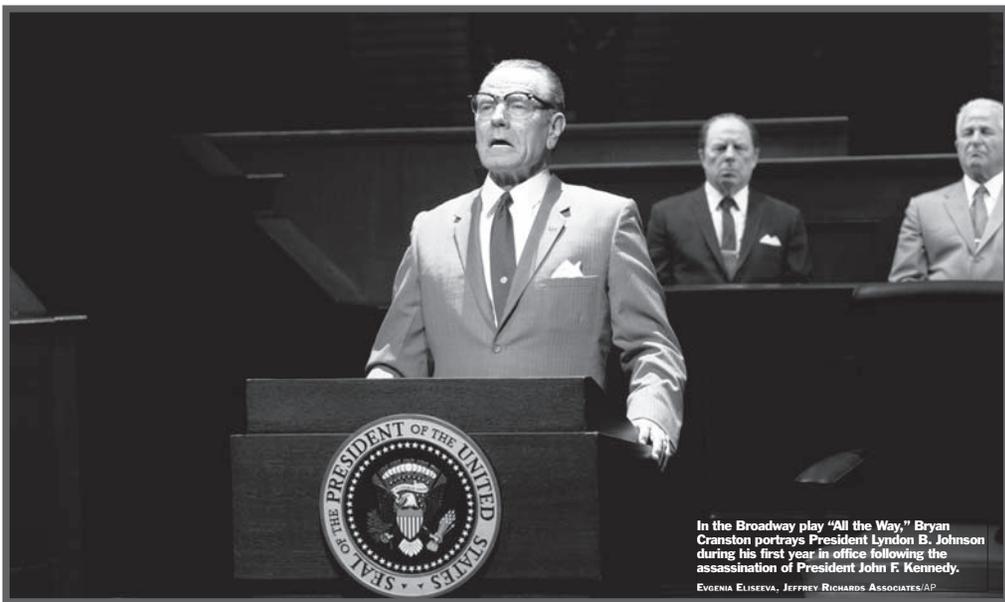
"It's changed my career because it's interesting to me," Russell says. "This second season will add to that because of the relationship with her family because she wants to be with them and engage with them. She's going to be off-center this year, and that's interesting to play."



FX/AP

Keri Russell and Matthew Rhys are spies pretending to be an ordinary married couple in "The Americans." Russell says the sexuality of the role, a departure from her more innocent past roles, doesn't bother her.

ENTERTAINMENT



In the Broadway play "All the Way," Bryan Cranston portrays President Lyndon B. Johnson during his first year in office following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

EVGENIA ELISEVA, JEFFREY RICHARDS ASSOCIATES/AP

'A complicated man'

Bryan Cranston goes 'All the Way' as LBJ in Broadway debut

By MARK KENNEDY
The Associated Press

Bryan Cranston doesn't need to chase paychecks anymore. His salary for "Breaking Bad" wasn't exactly at drug kingpin levels, but he's secure.

So now what? Now it gets interesting.

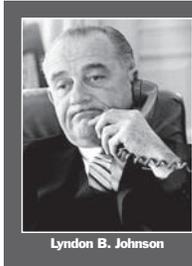
"I don't need work — I don't need to work ever again," says the actor. "So the choices that I make now should all be things that I think are either fun or important or challenging."

Cranston's next move has all of that: He's making his Broadway debut in a role far from Walter White — playing former President Lyndon B. Johnson in "All the Way."

Cranston plays Johnson during his first year in office following the assassination of John F. Kennedy and explores both his fight for re-election and the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"I like to think that I'm well cast for this role. He was a complicated man," Cranston says. "You only make your Broadway debut once, and I'm encouraged that I hitched my wagon to a really well-written play."

No matter how well-written, a three-hour play about the political maneuverings of an irascible president 50 years ago might not be considered serious box office



Lyndon B. Johnson

catnip. Cranston changes that.

"Boy, I planned that well, didn't I?" jokes playwright Robert Schenkkan, who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1992 for his epic "The Kentucky Cycle."

In fact, Schenkkan planned none of it. The role of Johnson was originally handled by actor Jack Willis when it debuted at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 2012. Cranston jumped aboard last fall when the play next went to the American Repertory Theater outside Boston, just as "Breaking Bad" was wrapping up and Cranston's star was streaking.

"If you can't be smart, be lucky," says Schenkkan.

The role requires Cranston to be bullying, insecure, charming,

charismatic, ruthless and scary. Cranston has shown all that in a career that has gone from goofy comedy in "Malcolm in the Middle" to ferocious drama in "Breaking Bad."

"That's who LBJ was — he was charming and witty and incredibly funny, a great raconteur, the life of the party. And also violent and vile and cruel and utterly terrible," says Schenkkan. "I don't write with an actor in mind, but if I had, Bryan Cranston would have been at the head of the list."

The addition of three-time Emmy Award-winning Cranston has made the play more commercially viable but hasn't apparently alienated the rest of the actors, James Eckhouse, best known as

That's who LBJ was — he was charming and witty and incredibly funny, a great raconteur, the life of the party. And also violent and vile and cruel and utterly terrible. I don't write with an actor in mind, but if I had, Bryan Cranston would have been at the head of the list.

Robert Schenkkan
playwright, "All the Way"

"He really is a true member of the company and a leader of the company. There's no sense that he's the star, and the star is separate from the rest of the cast."

Political plays on Broadway haven't always been big draws, but the creative team behind "All the Way" describes it as a "thriller" and a "white-knuckle ride." Schenkkan stresses that what he's written is not a documentary or history: He's a dramatist exploring issues of power and morality, and asking how far we are willing to go to do good.

"What Robert's (Schenkkan) done so successfully, I think, is to create this dramatic framework where the actors get to come to life in a very exciting and energized way," says Robert Petkoff, who plays Sen. Hubert Humphrey. "It takes on a life; it breathes in a way that becomes compelling to watch."

Cranston agrees, saying that "All the Way" is accurate to the past, but it's not history at the expense of drama. "Nobody ever leaves a theater and goes, 'Oh my God, that play was so boring but historically accurate,'" he says. "We don't want that."

So it's time to wish him good luck and to break a leg — a big change from his last role as Walter White. "I'd have someone else break the leg," Cranston says with a wry smile.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Harsh winter hit economy, not hiring

By **CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER**
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Last month's harsh winter weather cut across the U.S. economy, closing factories, canceling flights and keeping shoppers home.

Employers, though, kept hiring. They added 175,000 jobs in February, the government said Friday, far more than in December and January.

So why didn't the weather put job growth in a deep freeze? Mainly because of how the government counts company payrolls. The Labor Department calculates jobs by asking companies how many people they employed during the pay period that includes the 12th day of the month.

If a company's pay period is, say, every two weeks or twice per month, a staffer who worked just one day during that period would be counted as employed.

Take Junkloggers, a New York

City junk removal company. Josh Cohen, the founder and CEO, said a snowstorm forced him to shut down for six full days in February. It cost his company an estimated \$15,000 to \$20,000 in lost revenue. Roughly 45 hourly workers went without pay.

But Junkloggers pays its employees twice per month. So anyone who logged any hours during that time would have been counted as employed.

Cohen thinks the severe weather actually will lead to increased business this spring as some customers call him for jobs that were delayed by the weather. Business typically rebounds solidly in spring after a tough winter, Cohen said. He plans to double his staff to about 120 by May.

Economists, too, expect most hiring disruptions to be made up in coming months, resulting in further job growth.

That's the message from Patrice Rice, CEO of a recruiting firm based in Dunkirk, Md., who

said the weather was a big headache last month. Her firm, with 30 offices nationwide, places executives, managers and chefs for restaurant and hotel chains such as Ruby Tuesday's, Chipotle, Applebee's and Marriott.

Snowstorms caused interviews to be postponed and delayed the completion of new restaurants, she says. That, in turn, delayed hiring at those sites. Overall, Rice thinks the number of people her company placed in jobs fell about 22 percent in February from its monthly average.

"You had somebody set up for an interview, and then the weather comes in, the interviews were canceled," she said.

Many Southern states were hit by much more severe winter weather than usual. About 700,000 customers lost power in the Southeast.

Still, Rice said the restaurant business is doing well, and she expects her business to recover strongly as job openings delayed

by severe weather are filled. And many companies, like Cleveland-based OnShift, plan their hiring over weeks and months, so aren't much affected by weather.

Mark Woodka, CEO of OnShift, has added 14 employees to his Cleveland-based software company this year, bringing its total staff to 74.

"We've been growing quickly, and our products are in demand," he said.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (March 10)	\$1.4251
Dollar buys (March 10)	€0.7017
British pound (March 10)	\$1.72
Japanese yen (March 10)	100.00
South Korean won (March 10)	1,036.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.7226
Canada (dollar)	1.1097
China (Yuan)	6.1279
Denmark (Krone)	5.3664
Euro	\$1.3874/72.08
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7607
Hungary (Forint)	225.02
Israel (Shekel)	3.4640
Japan (Yen)	103.30
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2820
Norway (Krone)	5.7990
Philippines (Peso)	44.38
Poland (Zloty)	3.103
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2686
South Korea (Won)	1,065.55
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8773
Thailand (Bath)	32.34
Turkey (New Lira)	2.0663

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

MARKET WATCH

March 7, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials **+30.83**
16,452.72

Nasdaq composite **-15.90**
4,336.22

Standard & Poor's 500 **+1.01**
1,878.04

Russell 2000 **-1.23**
1,203.32

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	7.00
Federal funds market rate	0.08
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	3.72

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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

Sunday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	64	44	Cldy	Fort Wayne	40	18	Cir	Louisville	50	32	Cir	Pocatello	55	33	Cldy	Clay City	59	19	Cir	
Ablene, Tex	59	30	Pdly	Cheyenne	69	34	Cir	Fresno	75	54	Cldy	Lubbock	65	31	Cir	Portland, Maine	32	20	Cir	Siox Falls	53	19	Pdly	
Akron, Ohio	40	21	Pdly	Chicago	39	13	Cir	Goodland	70	30	Cir	Macon	72	45	Pdly	Portland, Ore.	58	51	Pdly	Rain	South Bend	38	13	Cir
Albany, N.Y.	32	20	Pdly	Cincinnati	47	26	Cir	Grand Junction	58	29	Cir	Madison	39	9	Pdly	Providence	37	28	Cir	Spokane	53	43	Rain	
Albuquerque	62	33	Cir	Cleveland	39	22	Pdly	Grand Rapids	35	10	Pdly	Mefford	59	51	Rain	Pueblo	71	23	Cir	Springfield, Ill.	50	21	Cir	
Allentown, Pa.	41	29	Pdly	Colorado Springs	64	25	Cir	Great Falls	56	38	Cir	Memphis	59	44	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	65	43	Cldy	Springfield, Mo.	57	26	Cir	
Amarillo	64	29	Cir	Columbia, S.C.	71	44	Pdly	Green Bay	36	6	Pdly	Miami Beach	80	64	Pdly	Rapid City	66	29	Cir	St. Louis	51	26	Cir	
Anchorage	27	14	Pdly	Columbus, Ga.	69	47	Cldy	Greensboro, N.C.	64	42	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	64	36	Pdly	Reno	64	41	Cir	Tallahassee	75	43	Pdly	
Asheville	61	41	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	45	25	Pdly	Harrisburg	41	21	Cldy	Milwaukee	37	12	Pdly	Richmond	56	38	Pdly	Tampa	75	56	Pdly	
Atlanta	68	49	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	32	17	Cir	Hartford	37	35	Cir	Mpls-St Paul	43	15	Pdly	Rochester	57	41	Pdly	Tucson	68	47	Pdly	
Atlantic City	47	33	Pdly	Corpus Christi	51	47	Rain	Helena	53	30	Cldy	Missoula	47	37	Cldy	Rockford	38	8	Cir	Topeka	58	24	Cir	
Austin	53	49	Cldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	60	36	Cldy	Honolulu	80	69	Cldy	Mobile	70	49	Cir	San Antonio	57	28	Pdly	Tulsa	67	47	Cir	
Baltimore	50	36	Pdly	Dayton	45	24	Cir	Houston	56	48	Cldy	Montgomery	73	48	Cir	Sacramento	70	53	Cldy	Tucson	72	50	Cir	
Baton Rouge	71	53	Cldy	Daytona Beach	76	49	Cir	Huntsville	66	46	Cldy	Nashville	56	41	Pdly	St. Louis	51	26	Cir	Tulpeo	66	45	Cldy	
Bilings	63	33	Cldy	Denver	66	30	Cir	Indianapolis	46	22	Cir	New Orleans	71	54	Cir	St. Petersburg	75	69	Pdly	Waco	57	37	Cldy	
Birmingham	68	48	Cldy	Des Moines	52	19	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	70	47	Cir	New York City	42	29	Pdly	St. Thomas	83	73	Cir	Washington	52	38	Pdly	
Bismarck	47	24	Pdly	Detroit	33	16	Pdly	Jacksonville	75	45	Pdly	Newark	44	29	Pdly	Salem, Ore.	58	52	Rain	W. Palm Beach	79	60	Cir	
Boise	52	44	Rain	Duluth	33	13	Cldy	Janeau	40	36	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	40	42	Cir	Salt Lake City	65	43	Cldy	Wichita	60	24	Pdly	
Boston	35	27	Pdly	El Paso	64	46	Cldy	Kansas City	56	24	Cir	North Platte	69	28	Cir	San Diego	60	35	Cldy	Wichita Falls	60	30	Pdly	
Bridgport	52	28	Pdly	Elkins	43	20	Pdly	Key West	67	65	Rain	Oklahoma City	57	28	Pdly	San Francisco	63	43	Cldy	Wilkes-Barre	33	24	Pdly	
Brownsville	60	60	Rain	Erie	32	20	Cldy	Knoxville	62	44	Cldy	Omaha	59	23	Cir	San Jose	80	57	Pdly	Wilmington, Del.	45	34	Pdly	
Buffalo	28	17	Cldy	Eugene	57	50	Rain	Lake Charles	66	54	Cldy	Orlando	80	52	Cir	San Jose	67	53	Cldy	Yonkers	56	43	Pdly	
Burlington, Vt.	30	15	Pdly	Evansville	51	30	Cir	Lansing	51	31	Pdly	Paducah	53	33	Pdly	San Jose	71	53	Cldy	Youngstown	40	20	Pdly	
Caribou, Maine	23	7	Pdly	Fairbanks	-2	-25	Cir	Las Vegas	74	48	Pdly	Pendleton	57	47	Rain	Santa Fe	60	27	Cir					
Casper, Wyo.	57	31	Pdly	Fargo	41	17	Cldy	Lexington	50	32	Cir	Peoria	49	46	Cir	St. Marie	27	6	Cldy					
Charleston, S.C.	72	47	Cir	Flagstaff	55	24	Cir	Lincoln	63	24	Cir	Philadelphia	45	34	Pdly	Savannah	73	47	Pdly					
Charleston, W.Va.	50	37	Pdly	Flint	33	11	Pdly	Little Rock	53	43	Cldy	Phoenix	81	54	Cir	Seattle	55	49	Rain					
Charlotte, N.C.	67	43	Cldy	Fort Smith	54	38	Cldy	Los Angeles	81	57	Pdly	Pittsburgh	40	26	Pdly	Shreveport	58	44	Cldy					

National temperature extremes
Hi: Fri., 88, Bullhead City, Ariz.
Lo: Fri., 23, Big Black River, Maine

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OPINION

New SAT don't care 'bout no fancy words

By KATHLEEN PARKER

When the going gets tough, well, why not just make the going easier?

This seems to be the conclusion of the College Board, which administers the dreaded SAT college entrance exam. Recently announced "improvements" to the test are designed, say board officials, to better gauge what students actually study and learn in high school. Shouldn't take too long.

Thus, the new SAT will take less time and consist of multiple-choice questions as follows: (a) yes; (b) no; (c) maybe; (d) none of the above.

Fine, perhaps I exaggerate (pardon the multiple syllables) just a tad. But one does fear that such tweaking is really a stab at greater market share — many students have turned from the SAT to ACT — and to adjust to the fact that student scores have been falling.

Owing to what, one wonders? Surely not the gradual degradation of pre-college education.

By making the test more "accessible," board officials hope, more students will be able to attend college, where, presumably, they will flourish. The test no longer will include fancy words, otherwise known as a rich vocabulary, or require a timed essay. The math section will be adapted so that people—who-aren't-so-good-at-math, including but not limited to future journalists, can pretend they are.

These tweaks are a shame inasmuch as educators lose measures that provided critical information. The essay, for instance, wasn't a call to Emersonian excellence but was a way of determining whether a student can compose a coherent sentence. You know, subject, verb — all that stuff — not to mention whether one can think. If a person can't write a series of sentences to express

Today grades are inflated to assuage low self-esteem and justify flaws in curricula and instruction. In this setting, rigorous standardized testing is more crucial than ever.

a cogent thought, does that person really qualify for a college education? For what purpose?

The most entertaining test area — the analogy — was eliminated in 2005. Again, too hard? Analyzing analogies was not aimed at tripping up lower-income students who otherwise would be Fulbright-bound but of evaluating cognitive ability. Can the kid think?

Critics of the SAT maintain that the test is biased in favor of students from wealthier families. We all want a level playing field and equal opportunity for children. This is fundamental to who we are. But if we truly want to improve everyone's chance at eventual employment and success, the playing field needs to be plowed and seeded well before the harvest of standardized testing.

It starts with schools and teachers, and everybody knows it.

Yet, today grades are inflated to assuage low student self-esteem and justify flaws in curricula and instruction. In this setting, it seems that rigorous standardized testing is more crucial than ever. As for the income differential in comparing test scores, outcomes have more to do with access to good schools and teachers than whether certain words are common among lower-income students.

Does anyone really think that asking a college-bound student to know the difference between punctilious and punctual is a function of income-related bias? One would hope that college-bound students are both of these.

It is indeed unfair that children from less-prosperous homes often are stuck with

the schools they get, while students from more prosperous families live in areas with better schools or can attend a private school of their choosing. Financially better-off students also have greater access to preparation courses, which the College Board helpfully will begin offering online without charge.

But there are other confounding factors that contribute to inequality as measured by testing. More-prosperous students also tend to be beneficiaries of educated families that provide a learning-rich environment. Inestimable is the immense advantage of growing up in a house full of books and witnessing parents who read them.

We can't make the world perfectly equal outcome-wise, but we can keep trying to improve opportunity through better schools and teachers. This is where the real challenges lie, but this, too, is perhaps too hard. Making tests easier so that more will pass becomes a far more accessible solution.

Periodic revision of standardized testing may be justified and, in some instances, even laudable. A new SAT focus on founding documents and their authors is one welcome shift. As to whether the new test will be useful in advancing capable students who, for whatever reason, weren't able to demonstrate their abilities through testing — time will tell.

But saying students are ready for college doesn't make it so.

Kathleen Parker is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

College choices boil down to dollars and sense

By ANNE MICHAUD

Newsday

I thought I was thoroughly familiar with junk mail until we began the college-application process. Now each day I come home to four or five brochures addressed to my high school daughter, advertising a new major program or a remodeled student center or a nurturing campus life. And we're just getting started.

Those are all wonderful attributes, but parents I know are considering schools for their children for "value" — that is, not too much expense and an excellent shot at employment after graduation. I wonder sometimes how small private colleges mailing us the brochures are going to survive.

The answer is that many won't. Jonathan Henry, a vice president for enrollment at Husson University in Bangor, Maine, predicted in *The Wall Street Journal* recently that 30 percent of private colleges

won't exist in a decade. According to the newspaper's analysis, between 2010 and 2012, freshman enrollment at more than a quarter of U.S. private four-year colleges declined by 10 percent or more.

Harvard University business professor Clayton Christensen is even more alarmist: He predicts that half of all universities will be bankrupt in 15 years.

Newsday reported on this trend last month with an in-depth look at how Long Island's private colleges, such as St. Joseph's College in Patchogue and Hofstra University in Hempstead, are adapting. They are seeking new sources of revenue apart from traditional student tuition, offering courses that mirror the job market and hunting for new students outside the region. These institutions employ 10,900 people on Long Island and enroll more than 50,000 students each year.

They're a big contributor to our local economy, but I find parents more often discussing in-state tuition at public universities or completing the first two years at a lower-cost community college. Some high school graduates are taking a year off to work.

And with the explosion in online course offerings, I tell my daughter she could just attend college on a laptop in our basement.

Of course, all of this value-minded behavior from parents is partly a result of the listless economy — and if that were to change, the doomsayers might be out of business. Also, colleges and universities haven't done themselves any favors by al-

lowing costs to skyrocket. Between 1970 and 2010, U.S. median family income grew 22 percent, according to the American Institutes for Research. During that same period, the cost of a degree at a public four-year school rose nearly 200 percent, and at private four-year schools, prices climbed almost 150 percent.

In fact, student loan debt topped \$1 trillion in 2012, surpassing credit card indebtedness for the first time last year. If students were flashing their new degrees and walking into good jobs, that might not be so worrisome, but that's not the case.

Then again, college graduates are doing better than those without a degree. A recent Pew Research Center report concluded that the earnings gap between young American adults with and without bachelor's degrees is now the widest in 50 years.

One welcome response to college parents' thrifit are efforts to rank institutions by their return on investment. President Barack Obama has been talking about rating schools on measures of access, affordability and student outcomes. And three admissions consultants at CollegeTransitions.org have begun a blog series about "consumer-savvy" college searches.

The more analysis that cuts through the avalanche of information, the better. Brochures depicting idyllic quads in bloom are lovely, but college shoppers are minding the numbers.

Anne Michaud is interactive editor for Newsday Opinion and a member of the Newsday editorial board.

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OPINION

Mum's the word for the face of IRS behavior

By GEORGE F. WILL

WASHINGTON

What's been said of confession — that it is good for one's soul but bad for one's reputation — can also be true of testifying to Congress, so Lois Lerner has chosen to stay silent. Hers, however, is an eloquent silence.

The most intrusive and potentially most punitive federal agency has been politicized; the IRS has become an appendage of Barack Obama's party. Furthermore, congruent with exhortations from some congressional Democrats, it is intensifying its efforts to suffocate groups critical of progressives, by delaying what once was the swift, routine granting of tax-exempt status.

So, the IRS, far from repenting of its abusive behavior, is trying to codify the abuses. It hopes to nullify with new rules the existing legal right of 501(c)(4) groups, many of which are conservative, to participate in politics. The proposed rules have drawn more than 140,000 comments, most of them complaints, some from liberals wary of IRS attempts to broadly define "candidate-related political activity" and to narrow the permissible amount of this.

Lerner is, so far, the face of this use of government to punish political adversaries. She knows what her IRS unit did and how it intersects with the law, and for a second time she has exercised her constitutional right to remain silent rather than risk self-incrimination. The public has a right to make reasonable inferences from her behavior.

And from Obama's. After calling the IRS behavior "outrageous," he now says there is not a "smidgen" of evidence of anything to be outraged about. He knows this even though the supposed investigation of the IRS behavior has not been completed, or perhaps even begun. The person he chose

to investigate his administration is an administration employee and a generous donor to his campaigns.

Obama breezily says there was nothing more sinister than "boneheaded decisions" by wayward and anonymous IRS underlings. Certainly boneheadedness explains much about this administration. Still, does he consider it interesting that the consequences of IRS boneheadedness were not randomly distributed, but thwarted conservatives?

The IRS rules that Obama says befuddled the IRS boneheads — to his benefit — read today exactly as they have read since 1959. For half a century they did not prevent the IRS from processing applications for tax-exempt status in less than three months. Some conservative group should offer \$10,000 to anyone who can identify a liberal group that had the experience scores of conservative groups have had — an application delayed more than three years and receipt of an IRS questionnaire awaiting at least 60 questions.

Speaking of questions: Can anyone identify a Democratic Senate candidate whose tax records were leaked, as Christine O'Donnell's were when she was the Republican candidate in Delaware in 2010? Is it a coincidence that in January 2011, after Catherine Engelbrecht requested tax-exempt status for two conservative groups she founded in Texas — King Street Patriots and True the Vote — the Engelbrecht family business was notified of its first IRS audit? Does James Comey wonder why (this was before he became FBI director), five months after Engelbrecht's tax-exemption request, FBI agents appeared seeking information about attendees at the King Street Patriots meetings? Were five subsequent FBI contacts "checking in" for "updates" on the group's activities really necessary? Why did the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the



LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE/AP

Former IRS official Lois Lerner is seen Wednesday on Capitol Hill at the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on the agency's targeting of tea party groups. She invoked her constitutional right not to incriminate herself.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives show a sudden intrinsic interest in the Engelbrechts' business, which has nothing to do with alcohol or tobacco or firearms or explosives?

The idea that politicians should write laws restricting people critical of them is as perverse as the idea that the sprawling, opaque IRS bureaucracy should be assigned to construe and apply such laws. It is bad enough that there is the misbegotten Federal Election Commission to do what the First Amendment forbids — government regulation of the quantity, content and timing of political speech.

This column has previously noted that in 1996 a Republican Senate candidate called

the FEC to dispute campaign finance charges made by Democrats. The head of the FEC's enforcement division told the Republican: "Promise me you will never run for office again, and we will drop this case." So spoke Lois Lerner.

There almost certainly are people, above her and beyond the IRS, who initiated or approved the IRS' punitive targeting of conservative groups, and who hope Lerner's history of aggressive partisanship will cause investigators to conclude that she is as high as responsibility for the targeting rises. Those people should hire criminal defense attorneys.

George F. Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

Honoring the good guys who said 'No' on Adegbile

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS

Philadelphia Daily News

This time, the good guys won. There are a few, so pay close attention.

First in line is Sen. Pat Toomey, the pride of Pennsylvania by way of Rhode Island, who exemplified JFK's profile in courage by standing up to President Barack Obama and saying, "You will not force an offensive nominee on the people of this country, and especially not on the people of my state."

The nominee in question was Debo Adegbile, Obama's choice to head the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. By all accounts, Adegbile is an accomplished attorney and scholar who just happened to embrace the cause of a cop killer. For Pennsylvanians, particularly those of us who live in the southeast portion of this beautiful commonwealth and remember the cold December evening when officer Danny Faulkner was murdered, that nomination was repulsive and unconscionable. So Toomey took up his own cause, namely, making sure that Adegbile's nomination was scuttled.

He wasn't the only one in this scenario. Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams, usually a strong ally of this administration, found the moral courage to stand up and say, "No, this one will not pass." As someone who represents an important branch of law enforcement in a city where

It is completely legitimate to question the professional choices of an attorney. It provides a very clear image of his or her priorities.

a century for our safety was gunned down in a cold blood, Williams saw how inappropriate it was to have the gunman's passionate defender preside over the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. It neither looks right, feels right nor does it in any way give a sense that this administration understands what the death of Maureen Faulkner's husband meant to Philadelphia.

Another good guy, albeit a little late to the game, was Sen. Bob Casey, of Pennsylvania. While Toomey and Williams were out in front from the beginning criticizing this nomination, Casey held back. Whether it was because he truly believed that the nominee was qualified or that he didn't want to be seen cozying up to Republicans, he voted against advancing the nomination, and that is all that matters. To paraphrase Machiavelli, the ends justify the hesitation.

Of course, there was the usual hysteria from the left. Harry Reid blamed "racism" for the nomination's failure, just as

Debo Adegbile and his crew at the NAACP blamed "racism" for Mumia Abu-Jamal's conviction. While both claims are laughable — especially to anyone who has read the trial transcripts and understands that Mumia has gotten more process than anyone is ever due — it's not at all surprising that they were made.

When a Republican is successful and the losing party is black, it must have been due to bigotry, or so the thinking goes. Toomey had the courage to address that execrable notion head-on: "This was always about the principle that no one should be able to make a mockery of our criminal justice system [or] fan the flames of racial strife in America."

Reid has little credibility these days. Obama's reaction was a bit more nuanced, a bit more sober but still troubling. He attributed Adegbile's defeat to "wildly unfair character attacks." Actually, the attacks were not unfair. It is completely legitimate to question the professional choices of an attorney. It provides a very clear image of his or her priorities. While it is quite true that every criminal defendant is entitled to a defense (thanks, Clarence Gideon), no attorney — except, perhaps, the court-appointed — is obligated to take a particular client. In Debo Adegbile's case, he not only accepted the client, he actively campaigned to have the NAACP represent Mumia Abu-Jamal in his quixotic attempt to prove that racism, not the bullet in Danny Faulkner's

body, put him on death row.

The thing is this: No one is entitled to Senate confirmation. If that were the case, we would have mourned the death of Supreme Court Justice Robert Bork last year, and we would be talking about the interesting decision just handed down by Circuit Court Judge Miguel Estrada. Both of those nominations, made by Republican presidents, were rejected because of pure political payback. Bork, one of the most brilliant minds of the last century and a founding father of originalism, was denied a place on the high court because of his conservative views. Estrada, a man who arrived in this country from Honduras not speaking a word of English and who obtained degrees from Harvard, was damaged goods because he wasn't the "right" kind of minority. You know the kind I mean: the one who doesn't believe color and ethnicity demand allegiance to liberal ideology.

That's why the whining from the left is a bit hypocritical. If you live by the sword, you die by the sword, and those who voted against Adegbile had both a right and an obligation to vote their conscience, just as I'm sure everyone who voted against Bork and Estrada were motivated by conscience.

Now, allow me to dislodge my tongue from its sheath.

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News.

SCOREBOARD

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Deals

Friday's transactions

BASEBALL

BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Options LHP Mike Belfiore to Norfolk (IL). Reassigned RHP Tim Anderson and LHP Nick Anderson to minor league camp.

SCOUTS RED SOX - Agreed to terms with FS Drake Britton, Rubby De La Rosa, Felix Doubront, Anthony Ranaudo, Allen Webster, Alex Wilson, Brandon Workman and Steven Wright; CS Dan Butler, Ryan Laraway and Christian Vazquez; INFs Xander Bogaerts, Garin Cecchini, Brock Holt and Will Middlebrooks; and OFs Jackie Bradley Jr., Bryce Brentz, Alex Hassan and David Nara on one-year contracts.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS - Released RHP Brad Penny from his minor league contract.

SEATTLE MARINERS - Announced the resignation of third base coach John Thayer. Contracted with RHP manager Rich Donnelly to third base coach.

FOOTBALL

TEXAS RANGERS - Options RHP Matt Herges to Myrtle Beach (Carolina). Assigned C Jose Felix to minor league camp. Added C Patrick Costello from minor league camp.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

SAN DIEGO PADRES - Claimed OF Alex Castellanos off waivers from Texas. Placed LHP Cory Luebke on the 60-day DL.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

NBA suspended Milwaukee Bucks center Sylvestro one game for punching Sacramento Kings guards in the stomach during Wednesday's game.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

DALLAS COWBOYS - Released C Phil Gosselin.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS - Agreed to terms with P Pat McAfee on a one-year contract.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS - Re-signed QB Chad Henne on a one-year contract.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS - Re-signed CB Pat Mitchell.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS - Released LB Lance Moore.

NEW YORK SEAHAWKS - Signed OL LeMuel Jeanpierre and S Jeron Johnson to two-year contracts.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS - Re-signed LB Jonathan Castillo on a one-year contract.

TENNESSEE TITANS - Agreed to terms with DE Robert Pritchett on a multi-year contract.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHL suspended Vancouver Canucks Zack Kassian three games for boarding Dallas D Brenden Dillon during Thursday's game.

CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS - Recalled center Scott Hartnell from Springfield (AHL).

FLORIDA Panthers - Recalled RW Teemu Pulkkinen to Grand Rapids (AHL).

PHOENIX COYOTES - Recalled D Brandon Gormley from Portland (AHL).

WASHINGTON CAPITALS - Reassigned D Chris Suter to Hershey (AHL).

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

D.C. UNITED - Named Amos Magee assistant coach and U-23 team head coach.

FC DALLAS - Re-signed M Victor Ugochi.

NEW YORK RED BULLS - Signed D Landon Garland.

L.A. GALAXY - Signed D Victor Ugochi.

NEW YORK RED BULLS - Signed FC Chris David and Ambrose Oyongho and M Eric Stevenson.

COLLEGE

ARKANSAS - Fired women's basketball coach Tom Izzo.

JACKSONVILLE STATE - Named Terry Gombert basketball coach.

NEBRASKA - Signed football coach Bo Pelini to a one-year contract extension through Feb.

PRO BASEBALL

Spring training

Friday's games

Minnesota @ Pittsburgh 5

Baltimore vs. Los Angeles (S)

Washington @ Houston 5

San Diego @ Los Angeles (S)

N.Y. Mets vs. St. Louis (S) 5

Chicago White Sox @ Cincinnati (S)

San Diego @ Milwaukee 5

San Francisco @ Angels (S) 2

L.A. Dodgers 2, Texas 1

Philadelphia @ Arizona

Cleveland 7, Chicago Cubs (S) 2

San Diego @ Kansas City

Colorado 7, L.A. Angels (S) 2

N.Y. Yankees 3, Detroit 2

College basketball

Friday's men's scores

EAST

Columbia 74, Penn 55

North Carolina 87, Brown 68

Harvard 70, Yale 58

Princeton 91, Cornell 51

SOUTH

UCF 104, Houston 54

Akron 58, Kent St. 57

MIDWEST

Michigan Tech 78, Michigan 64

SOUTHWEST

Wayland State @ Oklahoma State 77

Far West

Utah Valley 64, CS Bakersfield 55

Tougaloo

Big South Conference

Coastal Carolina 73, Charleston Southern 68

UNC Asheville 106, Radford 87

VMJ 90, Gardner-Webb 77

Winthrop 62, High Point 69

Central Atlantic Conference

Holy Family 62, Bloomfield 51

Philadelphia 59, Sciences (Pa.) 56

Colonial Athletic Association

Hofstra 78, UNC Wilmington 70

Big East Conference

Wake Forest 73, Wake Forest 73

East Tennessee State 73, Tennessee Tech 67

Tennessee State 73, Tennessee State 73

Tennessee Tech 67, Tennessee Tech 67

HACC Tournament

Kidder 73, Hickory 68

NBA

NBAZZ 92, Culver-Stockton 77

Horizon League

Milwaukee 74, Valparaiso 57

Wright State 84, Wright State 84

Lone Star Conference

Missouri State 82, Angelo St. 63

Trinity 84, Trinity 84

Missouri Valley Conference

Indiana St. 75, Loyola of Chicago 62

Missouri St. 63, Illinois St. 48

Illinois St. 63, Evansville 58

Midwest Conference

Albermar 65, St. Thomas 66

Albermar (Ill.) 87, St. Thomas (Ill.) 77

Albermar (Ill.) 8

SPORTS BRIEFS

Olympic champ Shiffrin wins World Cup slalom

The Associated Press

ARE, Sweden — Olympic champion Mikaela Shiffrin won a World Cup slalom on Saturday to retain her season-long title with one race remaining.

In her first slalom race since taking Olympic gold, the 18-year-old American led from start to finish just as she did at Sochi two weeks ago.

Shiffrin had a combined two-run time of 1 minute, 50.66 seconds, 0.60 ahead of Maria Pietilae-Holmner of Sweden. Another Swede, Anna Swenn-Larsson, got her first career podium finish in third, 1.50 back.

Shiffrin earned 100 World Cup points for her fourth victory of the season and moved 130 clear of Frida Hansdotter of Sweden, who placed fourth.

Five days before her 19th birthday, Shiffrin, who is from Vail, Colorado, now has Olympic and world championship gold medals and two World Cup titles in her specialist event.

In other skiing news: ■ Olympic champion Ted Ligety held on to his first-run lead to win a men's World Cup giant slalom on Saturday in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia.

Ligety finished in an aggregate time of 2 minutes, 30.80 seconds to beat Benjamin Raich by 0.18. The Austrian veteran trailed Ligety by 1.61 before posting the fastest second-run time.

Henrik Kristoffersen of Norway was 0.25 behind in third for his first career GS podium, four days after winning the junior world title in GS.

Logano wins Sprint Cup pole

LAS VEGAS — Joey Logano won the pole for Sunday's NASCAR race at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, turning a qualifying lap at a track-record 193.28 mph on Friday.

Logano will start on the front row next to Penske Ford teammate Brad Keselowski. The Penske drivers swept the top two spots for the second straight race, reversing their qualifying finish in Phoenix a week ago.

Logano and Keselowski are thriving in NASCAR's first three-round Friday session under the new knockout qualifying rules.

Clint Bowyer will start third alongside Austin Dillon in fourth. Jimmie Johnson is in fifth.



ALESSANDRO TROVATI/AP

United States skier Mikaela Shiffrin celebrates at the finish line Saturday after winning a women's World Cup slalom in Are, Sweden.

Four tied for lead at Doral

DORAL, Florida — Matt Kuchar birdied the 18th hole Friday to join an exclusive group — one of only four players to beat par at Doral.

The Blue Monster gobbled up just about

everyone else in raving wind at the Cadillac Championship.

Kuchar, Dustin Johnson, Hunter Mahan and Patrick Reed were the survivors to par going into the weekend. They were at 1-under 143. The conditions were so severe that only three players broke par in the

second round, and no one shot in the 60s.

Tiger Woods did well to post a 73 and was only six shots behind.

In other golf news:

■ James Driscoll matched the Puerto Rico Open record with a 9-under 63 on Friday to take a one-stroke lead after the second round in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.

Playing in wind gusting to 20 mph at Trump International, Driscoll had an eagle and seven birdies in his bogey-free round. He had a 12-under 132 total.

Chesson Hadley was second after a 65.

Carpenter gets 6-year deal

JUPITER, Fla. — The St. Louis Cardinals and third baseman Matt Carpenter agreed Saturday to a \$52 million, six-year contract.

The deal includes a team option for a seventh year in 2020 at \$18.5 million. Should the St. Louis decline the option, it would pay Carpenter a \$2 million buyout.

Carpenter's agent, Bryan Cahill, said the 28-year-old received a \$1 million signing bonus and he'll make \$1.5 million this season. The salary escalates each year, reaching \$14.5 million in 2019.

Carpenter says the decision to sign a long-term deal was a "no-brainer."

He hit .318 while leading the National League in hits (199), doubles (35) and runs (126) last season while playing second base. He is moving to third this season.

Source: Sproles won't return

NEW ORLEANS — A person familiar with the situation said Saturday that Darren Sproles has been informed the Saints will release him if they are unable to trade him before free agency begins.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the club's decision, first reported by NFL.com, has not been made public.

New Orleans' decision to part with Sproles is the latest in a series of cost-cutting moves, including Friday's release of receiver Lance Moore.

Sproles, used as a running back, receiver and return specialist, is due \$3.4 million in base salary in 2014. Moore was due \$3.1 million.

The moves give the Saints more flexibility under the NFL's salary cap as they try to sign free agent tight end Jimmy Graham to an extension.

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NBA

Roundup

Rondo helps Boston get best of Brooklyn

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Rajon Rondo scored 20 points and the Boston Celtics dominated the boards to beat Brooklyn 91-84 and stop the Nets' four-game winning streak Friday night.

Boston scored the first five points and never trailed, although Brooklyn used an 11-point run to cut the lead to 70-68 with 2:02 left in the third quarter. But the Celtics came back to take a 78-70 lead entering the final quarter and led by at least seven the rest of the way.

The Celtics outrebounded the Nets 62-37, an important advantage because they turned the ball over 28 times, twice as many as Brooklyn. Rondo also had nine assists and seven rebounds.

The Nets were led by Joe Johnson with 21 points and Deron Williams with 20 as they fell back to .500 two days after going over the mark for the first time this season.

Mavericks 103, Trail Blazers 98: Dirk Nowitzki scored 22 points, Devin Harris hit the go-ahead shot in the final minute and Dallas rallied in the fourth quarter to beat visiting Portland after rebounding a 30-point lead.

LaMarcus Aldridge finished with 30 points for the Trail Blazers, including 18 in the third quarter when they went in front for the first time at 69-67 after trailing 44-14 early in the second.

Bobcats 101, Cavaliers 92: Al Jefferson scored 28 points, Kemba Walker had 20 points and 14 assists, and Charlotte defeated Cleveland for its sixth straight win at home.

Jefferson shot 12-for-18 from the field and reached 20 points for the 22nd time in his last 24 games. Chris Douglas-Roberts added 14 points and nine rebounds for Charlotte (29-33), which surpassed its win total from the previous two seasons combined.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Celtics guard Rajon Rondo, left, battles Nets forward Paul Pierce for a rebound on Friday in Boston. The Celtics defeated the Nets 91-84.

Grizzlies 85, Bulls 77: Marc Gasol had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and Memphis used its stout defense to defeat Chicago.

Mike Miller made four three-pointers and finished with 14 points as the Grizzlies closed out a three-game road trip with their third victory in four games. Zach Randolph added 10 points and 11 rebounds after missing Memphis' previous game with the flu.

Warriors 111, Hawks 97: David Lee had 18 points and six rebounds, reserve Jermaine O'Neal added 17 points and eight rebounds, and Golden State returned home to beat Atlanta for its third straight win.

Andre Iguodala and Stephen Curry each scored 13 to help the Warriors build a 20-point lead in the fourth quarter. Golden State, fresh off a 4-2 road trip, is 8-2 since the All-Star break.

Timberwolves 114, Pistons 101: Kevin Love had 28 points, 14 rebounds and five assists, and host Minnesota outlasted Detroit.

Kevin Martin scored 24 points and Ricky Rubio added 11 points, nine assists and eight rebounds for the Timberwolves, who are trying to mount a push for the Western Conference playoffs.

Raptors 99, Kings 87: Terrence Ross scored 18 points to lead Toronto over Sacramento, spoiling

Rudy Gay's return to his former home.

Gay had 15 points for the Kings, who acquired him in a seven-player deal on Dec. 9. It was his first trip back to Toronto since he was shipped with Aaron Gray and Quincy Acy to the Kings for Greivis Vasquez, Patrick Patterson, John Salmons and Chuck Hayes.

Knicks 108, Jazz 81: Carmelo Anthony scored 18 of his 29 points in the first quarter, sending New York to a rare easy night against visiting Utah.

With a long way to go to get back into playoff position, the Knicks won their second straight following a seven-game losing streak.

Pelicans 112, Bucks 104: Anthony Davis had 29 points and 14 rebounds, and host New Orleans defeated struggling Milwaukee.

Tyreke Evans scored 25 points for the Pelicans, who have won two straight after losing their previous eight games.

Nuggets 134, Lakers 126: Kenneth Faried scored a career-high 32 points and Ty Lawson had 30 in host Denver's victory over skidding Los Angeles.

Pau Gasol scored 27 points to lead the Lakers in their third straight defeat and sixth in eight games. This one ensured their first losing season since going 34-48 in 2004-05.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL



CHRIS LEE, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/AP

Wichita State forward Cahdrack Lufie, left, blocks a shot by Evansville guard Jaylon Brown during the first half Friday's Missouri Valley Conference tournament game in St. Louis, Mo.

Roundup

No. 2 Wichita St. 32-0 after beating Evansville

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — No. 2 Wichita State is still perfect. Calm and collected, too, in a 32nd straight win.

The top-seeded Shockers stayed unbeaten with an 80-58 romp over Evansville in the quarterfinals of the Missouri Valley tournament Friday.

"I love how this team goes about their business, their approach and how resolute they are," coach Gregg Marshall said. "They're really, really focused and locked in to the next challenge, and that's how you win 32 in a row."

If they're feeling pressure because of the streak, their opponents never noticed.

"Fantastic to see what they're doing," Evansville guard D.J. Balentine said after scoring 31 points. "If people say they don't deserve a No. 1 seed, that's silly."

Cleanthony Early and Ron Baker scored 17 points apiece and Wichita State set a tournament record with 11 blocked shots, shot 51 percent and held Evansville to 37 percent.

It was intimidating on both ends, with everyone sharing in the success and no one taking more than 11 shots. Just how Marshall drew it up.

"This team is very unselfish," Baker said. "If we continue to play like that, I like our chances."

Balentine made seven three-pointers for ninth-seeded Evansville (14-19), which lost twice by an average of 15 points to Wichita State (32-0) in the regular season.

Harvard 70, Yale 58: Siyani Chambers scored 17 points and the visiting Crimson became the first team to clinch a berth in this year's NCAA tournament with a win over the arch-rival Bulldogs to capture the Ivy League title.

Steve Moundou-Missi added 16 points and Bran-

dyn Curry chipped in with 14 for Harvard (25-4, 12-1), which won its seventh straight.

Justin Sears had 28 points and 13 rebounds for the Bulldogs (15-12, 9-4).

UCF 104, Houston 83: Isaiah Sykes scored 24 points and Daiquan Walker contributed 20 as the Knights coasted past the visiting Cougars.

Matt Williams added 12 points and Staphon Blair 11 for the Knights (12-17, 4-14 American Athletic Conference), who won for the second time in their last six games.

Jherrod Stiggers led Houston (16-15, 8-10) with 22 points and Daniel Howe added 18. L.J. Rose finished with 16 points and 10 assists for the Cougars, who had won four straight.

Milwaukee 74, Valparaiso 57: At Ashwaubon, Wis., Jordan Aaron scored 20 points as the fifth-seeded Panthers eliminated the fourth-seeded Crusaders in a Horizon League second round tournament matchup.

Milwaukee (20-13) scored the first nine points of the game and raced out to a 15-2 lead before 5 minutes had elapsed from the game clock, with four different players hitting from three-point range. Valparaiso (18-16) finally got on track and cut its deficit to nine at the half, 31-22.

Coastal Carolina 73, Charleston Southern 68 (20T): At Conway, S.C., Josh Cameron scored 20 points as the Chanticleers, the top seed from the South Division, beat the Buccaneers, fifth-seeded out of the South division, in the quarterfinals of the Big South Conference tournament.

Coastal Carolina (19-12) overcame its second-worst shooting performance of the season by dominating the glass, out-rebounding the Buccaneers 59-41, including 25-9 on the offensive end.

Conference tournaments

America East Conference
At Albany, N.Y.
First Round
 Saturday, March 8
 Albany (N.Y.) vs. UMB-C
 Stony Brook vs. Maine
 Hartford vs. Binghamton
Semifinals
 Sunday, March 9
 Vermont-New Hampshire winner vs. Albany (N.Y.)-UMB winner
 Stony Brook-Maine winner vs. Hartford-Binghamton winner
Championship
 Saturday, March 15
 Semifinal winners
Atlantic Sun Conference
At Campus Sites
Semifinals
 Thursday, March 6
 Florida Gulf Coast 69, ETSU 64
 Mercer 78, South Carolina-Upstate 75, 2OT
Championship
 Sunday, March 9
 Mercer at Florida Gulf Coast
Big South Conference
At Conway, S.C.
Quarterfinals
 Friday, March 7
 Winthrop 62, High Point 60
 UNC Asheville 36, Radford 87
 Coastal Carolina 73, Charleston Southern 68, 2OT
 Gardner-Webb 77
Semifinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Winthrop vs. UNC Asheville
 Coastal Carolina vs. VMI
Championship
 Sunday, March 9
 Semifinal winners
Colonial Athletic Association
At Baltimore
First Round
 Friday, March 7
 Hofstra 76, UNC Wilmington 70
Quarterfinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Delaware vs. Hofstra
 Drexel vs. Northestern
 Towson vs. James Madison
 William & Mary vs. College of Charleston
Semifinals
 Sunday, March 9
 Delaware-Hofstra winner vs. Drexel-Northeastern winner
 Towson-James Madison winner vs. William & Mary-College of Charleston winner
Championship
 Monday, March 10
 Semifinal winners
Conference USA
At El Paso, Texas
First Round
 Tuesday, March 11
 North Texas vs. Rice
 FAU vs. Marshall
 East Carolina vs. UTSA
Second Round
 Wednesday, March 12
 Tulane vs. North Texas-Rice winner
 Old Dominion vs. FAU-Marshall winner
UTEP vs. East Carolina-UTSA winner
 UAB vs. Charlotte
Quarterfinals
 Thursday, March 13
 Tulsa vs. Tulane-North Texas-Rice winner
 Middle Tennessee vs. Old Dominion-FAU-Marshall winner
 UTEP vs. UTEP-East Carolina-UTSA winner
 Louisiana Tech vs. UAB-Charlotte winner
Semifinals
 Friday, March 14
 Tulsa-Tulane-North Texas-Rice winner vs. Middle Tennessee-Old Dominion-FAU-Marshall winner
 UTEP vs. Louisiana Tech-UAB-Charlotte winner
Championship
 Saturday, March 15
 Semifinal winners
Horizon League
At Dayton, March 7
Second Round
 Friday, March 7
 Wright State 73, Oakland 57
 Milwaukee 69, Fairfield 62, OT
 Marist 66, Niagara 62
Semifinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Cleveland State vs. Wright State
 Green Bay vs. Milwaukee
Championship
At Higher-Seeded Team
Tuesday, March 11
 Semifinal winners
Metro Atlantic Conference
At Springfield, Mass.
First Round
 Thursday, March 6
 Rider 71, Monmouth (N.J.) 50
 Saint Peter 65, Fairfield 62, OT
 Marist 66, Niagara 62
Semifinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Iona vs. Siena
 Manhattan-Saint Peter vs. Quinnipiac vs. Marist
Sunday, March 9
 Iona-Rider winner vs. Canisius-Siena winner
 Manhattan-Saint Peter's winner vs. Quinnipiac-Rider winner
Championship
Monday, March 10
 Semifinal winners
Mid-East Athletic Conference
At Norfolk, Va.
First Round
Monday, March 10
 Norfolk State vs. Maryland-Eastern Shore
 Savannah State vs. South Carolina State

Tuesday, March 11
 Howard vs. North Carolina A&T
 Coppin State vs. Bethune-Cookman
 Florida A&M vs. Delaware State
Quarterfinals
Wednesday, March 12
 North Carolina Central vs. Howard
 Hampton vs. Coppin State-Bethune-Cookman winner
Thursday, March 13
 Morgan State vs. Florida A&M-Delaware State winner
 Norfolk State-Maryland-Eastern Shore winner vs. Savannah State-South Carolina State winner
Semifinals
Friday, March 14
 North Carolina Central-Howard-North Carolina A&T winner vs. Norfolk State-Maryland-Eastern Shore-Savannah State-South Carolina State winner
 Hampton-Coppin State-Bethune-Cookman winner vs. Morgan State-Florida A&M-Delaware State winner
Championship
Saturday, March 15
 Semifinal winners
Missouri Valley Conference
At St. Louis
Quarterfinals
 Friday, March 7
 Wichita State 80, Evansville 58
 Missouri State 53, Illinois State 48
 Indiana State 75, Loyola of Chicago 62
 Southern Illinois 62, Northern Iowa 58
Semifinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Wichita State vs. Missouri State
 Indiana State vs. Southern Illinois
Championship
Sunday, March 9
 Semifinal winners
Northwest Conference
At Higher-Seeded Team
First Round
Wednesday, March 5
 Robert Morris 60, Fairleigh Dickinson 53
 Wagner 83, CCSU 59
 St. Francis (Pa.) 75, Bryant 54
 Mount St. Mary's 72, St. Francis (N.Y.) 71
Semifinals
 Saturday, March 8
 Mount St. Mary's at Wagner
 St. Francis (Pa.) at Robert Morris
Championship
Tuesday, March 11
 Semifinal winners
Ohio Valley Conference
At Nashville, Tenn.
Semifinals
 Friday, March 7
 Belmont 86, Morehead State 63
 Eastern Kentucky 86, Murray State 83
Saturday, March 8
 Belmont vs. Eastern Kentucky
Patriot League
At Campus Sites
First Round
Thursday, March 6
 Boston University vs. Lafayette 54
 Georgia Southern 65, Furman 50
 Holy Cross 54, Lehigh 45
Semifinals
Saturday, March 8
 Boston University vs. Holy Cross
Championship
Monday, March 10
 Semifinal winners
Southern Conference
At Asheville, N.C.
First Round
Friday, March 7
 Samford 70, Appalachian State 56
 Georgia Southern 65, Furman 50
 The Citadel 86, UNC Greensboro 76
Quarterfinals
Saturday, March 8
 Davidson vs. Georgia Southern
 Elon vs. Western Carolina
 Chattanooga vs. Georgia Southern
 Furman vs. The Citadel
Semifinals
Sunday, March 9
 Davidson-Samford winner vs. Elon-Western Carolina
 Chattanooga-Georgia Southern winner vs. Furman-The Citadel
Championship
Monday, March 10
 Semifinal winners
Summit League
At Sioux Falls, S.D.
First Round
Saturday, March 8
 IPFW vs. IUPUI
Sunday, March 9
 Denver vs. South Dakota
 Saint Joseph's vs. Western Illinois
Semifinals
Monday, March 10
 North Dakota State vs. Denver-South Dakota
 IPFW-IUPUI winner vs. South Dakota State-Western Illinois
Championship
Tuesday, March 11
 Semifinal winners
West Coast Conference
At Las Vegas
First Round
Thursday, March 6
 Loyola Marymount 67, Portland 64
 Santa Clara 81, Pele 64
Quarterfinals
Saturday, March 8
 San Francisco vs. San Diego
 Gonzaga vs. Marquette
 Gonzaga vs. Santa Clara
 Saint Mary's vs. Pezidine
Semifinals
Monday, March 10
 San Francisco-Santa Clara winner vs. Saint Mary's-Pepperdine winner
Championship
Tuesday, March 11
 Semifinal winners

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Brown has Mustangs running wild

73-year-old coach puts SMU on verge of first NCAA berth since 1993

By **KENT BABB**
The Washington Post

They returned home after sunset, a mostly silent flight and a devastating loss behind them.

Southern Methodist University, perhaps the biggest surprise of the college basketball season, had lost on the afternoon of Feb. 16 to last-place Temple. This was how the Mustangs reacted to being ranked for the first time since 1985; this was apparently how they handled pressure and success.

As the team turned a corner toward campus, someone leaned toward second-year Coach Larry Brown. "Larry," the 73-year-old coach recalled, "there's going to be a bunch of kids camping out."

Team members, including Brown, left the bus and walked to find students waiting in tents and professors ready to applaud their team despite the 71-64 loss a few hours earlier.

"They really care about us," freshman shooting guard Keith Frazier said.

No. 18 SMU is 23-6 and a near lock for its first NCAA tournament appearance since 1993. But this team's greatest accomplishment has been making people care again. This is the same school whose football team was infamously handed the NCAA's only "death penalty," the suspension of its 1987 season and a sanction that crippled a once-powerful pro-

gram. The men's basketball team, once a contender, didn't do much to distract its poor students and alumni; over the dozen years that followed the football team's punishment, the Mustangs had four winning seasons. More recently, Matt Doherty, the former North Carolina star who also coached the Tar Heels, went 80-109 in six seasons before being fired in March 2012.

Brown, who has held 12 head coaching jobs since 1974, had been out of work since he was fired in December 2010 by the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats. He spent the next months hounding old friends, trying to stay involved in a game that made him a legend. Brown, who led Kansas to the 1988 NCAA championship and the Detroit Pistons to the 2004 NBA title, visited Maryland's Mark Turgeon, Villanova's Jay Wright, Kansas's Bill Self and Kentucky's John Calipari — watching practices and imparting wisdom, sure, but mostly keeping his mind and body active.

"They never realized they were helping me," Brown said of the coaches who let him hang around. "They were saving my life."

SMU approached Brown in 2012 after swinging and missing on other, younger coaching candidates. This was still SMU, and it was clear few

established coaches were willing to take their reputations on such a reclamation project. Brown, though, was bored. He didn't know much about the program's history, other than a win here while he was coaching Kansas. School officials told him this would be a period of transition at SMU; it was moving from Conference USA to the newly formed American Athletic Conference, which would bring television money and exposure. All the school needed was a committed coach, and before long, Brown agreed to take the job — his first college coaching position since cutting down the nets with Kansas in '88.

"I thought we could do something here if we showed kids we cared," he said.

Brown met with his new team before the 2012-13 season, telling players that they would emphasize discipline and fundamentals and an inside-out, physical style. Then he told them he came to Dallas to, believe it or not, win a national championship.

"It kind of seemed out of the ordinary," said Williams, the Dallas area native who transferred to SMU before the 2010-11 season.

The Mustangs went 15-17 in Brown's first season, hampered by injuries and a roster unaccustomed to Brown's style. Some players left, but others gave the old man a chance. Frazier, who grew up in Dallas and became a McDonald's all-American in high school, spoke with Brown during the recruiting process. Frazier's options were Arizona, Texas A&M and SMU; one of those

schools, his friends told him, didn't belong. "People were looking at me like: 'Why?'" Frazier recalled.

Then Brown shared his expectations. Yes, SMU would win big, maybe sooner than anyone thought.

"He told me: 'We're going to be good with or without you,'" said Frazier, the centerpiece of Brown's 2013 recruiting class. "That kind of just humbled me, and maybe I can be part of something special. . . . I was like, 'Why not? I just figured I would take a chance.'"

The Mustangs started this season 10-2, and suddenly fans began noticing. Then they beat Connecticut and then Memphis, both wins coming on SMU's 58-year-old home court where average attendance has more than doubled since Brown's arrival. SMU stomped then-No. 7 Cincinnati last month, and a fraternity printed T-shirts that read "The House That Larry Built."

Before practice began on a recent Friday afternoon, someone pointed toward the faded banners hanging inside the Mustangs' practice gym. They date from 1935, telling the story of conference titles and NCAA tournament appearances. After 1993, though, there is nothing but blank wall.

Williams said he expects to see a fresh banner raised soon — and, to him, it'll mean more than just an appearance or a big win. It'll mean something changed here.

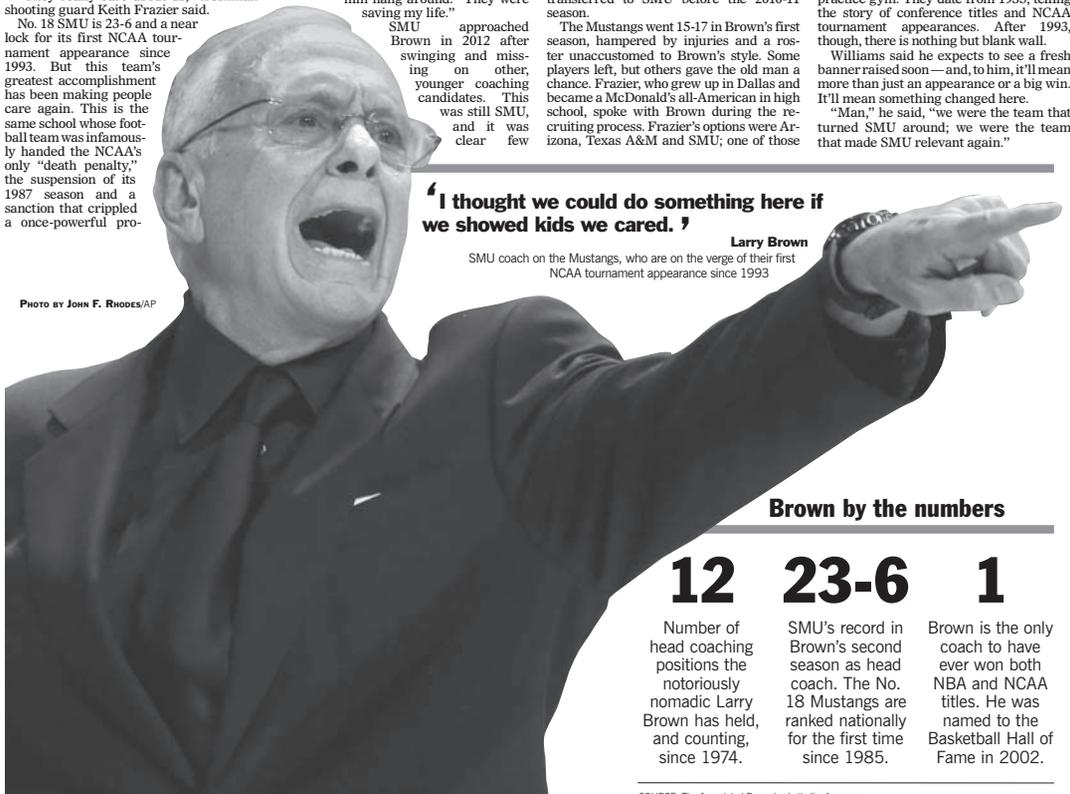
"Man," he said, "we were the team that turned SMU around; we were the team that made SMU relevant again."

"I thought we could do something here if we showed kids we cared."

Larry Brown

SMU coach on the Mustangs, who are on the verge of their first NCAA tournament appearance since 1993

PHOTO BY JOHN F. RHODES/AP



Brown by the numbers

12 **23-6** **1**

Number of head coaching positions the notoriously nomadic Larry Brown has held, and counting, since 1974.

SMU's record in Brown's second season as head coach. The No. 18 Mustangs are ranked nationally for the first time since 1985.

Brown is the only coach to have ever won both NBA and NCAA titles. He was named to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2002.

NHL



REED SAXON/AP

Pittsburgh center Brandon Sutter, right, scores the game-winning goal past Anaheim goalie Jonas Hiller during a shootout Friday in Anaheim, Calif. The Penguins and Ducks lead their respective conferences.

Roundup

Penguins win shootout in showdown with Ducks

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — A distinct playoff atmosphere permeated the cozy surroundings inside Honda Center on Friday night, with Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins making a rare appearance to take on the league-leading Ducks.

The only way the teams can face each other again is if they meet in the Stanley Cup finals — a tantalizing possibility.

Evgeni Malkin scored the tying goal during a power play in the third period and Brandon Sutter got the deciding goal in a six-round shootout, leading the Penguins to a 3-2 victory in the second showdown between the leaders of the Eastern and Western Conferences.

Pittsburgh holds a three-point lead over Boston in the East. Anaheim has a three-point edge over St. Louis in the West and leads the overall standings with a 43-14-7 record.

"I'm glad to get out of here with two points," Sutter said. "It wasn't easy at all, but I think we earned it at the end. We managed to find a way and battled. (Marc-Andre) Fleury made some big saves for us. Anytime you get a shootout win, you have to tip your hat to him. It's a great win for us."

Defenceman Deryk Engelland scored in the first period and Fleury made 29 saves for his league-leading 33rd victory, after the Penguins rallied twice from one-goal deficits.

"He definitely held us in it those first two periods," Crosby said. "In the third, I thought we went after it more. But he really had to make some saves pretty consistently to allow us to get ourselves back in the game."

Corey Perry scored twice for Anaheim and Ryan Getzlaf had two assists, but the Ducks' captain missed a chance to extend the shootout with a shot over the net — making him 0-for-6 this season in the tiebreaker.

Jonas Hiller had 15 saves, one of them on a breakaway by Crosby in the first minute of overtime. It was the second straight shootout loss for the Ducks, who were beaten 4-3 by Montreal on Wednesday.

Panthers 2, Sabres 0: Roberto Luongo made 25 saves, while Dmitry Kulikov and Jesse Winchester each scored power-play goals to lead host Florida over Buffalo.

Luongo, acquired in a trade with Vancouver on Tuesday, was in net for the first time for Florida since April 18, 2006. Luongo previously played for Florida from 2000-2006.

It was the fourth shutout of the season for Luongo. His last was on Dec. 13, 2013, a 4-0 win for Vancouver over Edmonton in which he made 19 saves. It was the first regular-season shutout for the Panthers since a 2-0 win over Carolina on March 11, 2012 in which Jose Theodore had 34 saves.

Rangers 4, Hurricanes 2: Derek Stepan scored on a 5-on-3 power play with 2:45 left in the game to lift visiting New York.

Rick Nash and Ryan McDonagh scored earlier for the Rangers, who beat Carolina for the 10th straight time, and Carl Hagelin added an empty-netter with 41 seconds to go.

Carolina took a pair of delay-of-game penalties in the final five minutes to give New York the two-man advantage. Stepan was set up for a short shot by Martin St. Louis.

Red Wings 7, Devils 4: Johan Franzen had two goals and two assists, Gustav Nyquist a goal and three assists and David Legwand a goal and two assists to lead host Detroit.

Brendan Smith, Kyle Quincey and Drew Miller also scored for Detroit. Jonas Gustavsson made 21 saves.

Adam Henrique had two goals and Patrik Elias and Jaromir Jagr also scored for New Jersey. Cory Schneider, who gave up seven goals for the first time in his career, stopped 25 shots.

Flames 4, Islanders 3: Joe Colborne scored twice during a furious third period comeback for host Calgary, which got three goals in less than five minutes.

Colborne got the comeback started at 11:29 when Mark Giordano's point shot missed the net, but the puck caromed out sharply to Colborne. He fired it in the open side on rookie goaltender Anders Nilsson.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	62	40	17	5	83	138
Montreal	65	35	23	7	77	166
Toronto	64	33	23	4	74	189
Tampa Bay	63	34	24	5	73	180
Detroit	63	29	27	7	65	177
Ottawa	63	27	25	11	65	177
Florida	63	24	32	7	56	154
Buffalo	63	26	35	6	67	186

Metropolitan Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	61	41	17	4	88	201
Philadelphia	63	34	24	6	72	180
N.Y. Rangers	64	36	24	4	78	185
Columbus	63	32	26	5	69	185
Washington	64	29	25	10	68	186
New Jersey	64	27	24	13	67	185
Carolina	63	27	27	9	63	156
N.Y. Islanders	66	24	33	9	57	181

Western Conference

Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	62	42	14	6	90	246
Chicago	64	37	24	3	82	221
Colorado	63	41	17	5	87	195
Minnesota	62	34	21	7	75	150
Dallas	63	30	23	10	70	187
Winnipeg	64	30	27	7	67	177
Nashville	63	29	26	10	62	190

Pacific Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	64	43	14	3	93	207
San Jose	64	40	17	7	89	197
Los Angeles	64	36	22	6	78	155
Phoenix	63	32	21	10	78	182
Vancouver	65	28	27	10	66	151
Calgary	63	31	27	7	67	183
Edmonton	64	22	34	8	52	160

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

Friday's games				
Pittsburgh 3, Anaheim 2, SO	N.Y. Rangers 4, Carolina 2	Florida 2, Buffalo 0	Calgary 4, N.Y. Islanders 3	Ottawa at Winnipeg
St. Louis at Colorado	Philadelphia at Toronto	Boston at Tampa Bay	Carolina at New Jersey	Phoenix at Washington
Columbus at Nashville	Minnesota at Dallas	Calgary at Vancouver	Montreal at San Jose	St. Louis at Minnesota
Los Angeles at Edmonton				

Friday Red Wings 7, Devils 4

New Jersey 0 3 1-4
Detroit 7 1 4 2-7
First Period—1, Detroit, Smith 3 (Franzen, Nyquist), 13:43.
Second Period—2, Detroit, Franzen 14 (Nyquist, Legwand), 5:34, 3, New Jersey, Elias 14, 9:27 (Green), 4, New Jersey, Jagr 20 (Zidlicky), 10:20, 5, New Jersey, Henrique 20 (Foyte, Greene), 11:44, 6, Detroit, Franzen 15 (Berzulis, Nyquist), 13:47 (pp), 7, Detroit, Nyquist (Ericsson), 15:05, 8, Detroit, Quincey 4 (Sheahan, DeKeyser), 17:47.
Third Period—9, Detroit, Legwand 11 (Franzen), 4:48, 10, Detroit, Miller 7 (Berzulis, Andersson), 12:52, 11, New Jersey, Henrique 21 (Ryder, Clowe), 18:42.
Shootout—1-3-3-3-3. Detroit, Legwand 11-13-9-3-3.
Power-play opportunities—New Jersey 0 of 2; Detroit 4 of 3.
Goalies—New Jersey, Schneider 12-13-9 (43 shots/26 saves); Detroit, Gustavsson 15-4-3 (25-21).
A—20,066 (20,066). T—2:27.

Rangers 4, Hurricanes 2

N.Y. Rangers 0 0 4-4
Carolina 1 0 1-2
First Period—1, Carolina, Joakim Eriksson, 17:49.
Second Period—3, N.Y. Rangers, McInnis 24 (Gennep, Sheehy), 12:07, 4, N.Y. Rangers, Rick Nash 20 (Stepan, J.Moore), 13:24, 5, N.Y. Rangers, Stepan 41 (St. Louis, Richards), 17:14 (pp), 6, N.Y. Rangers, Hagelin 13 (Zuccarello, Girardi), 19:19 (pp).
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 15-11-11-44; Carolina 11-7-2-24.
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 4; Carolina 0 of 4.
Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 23-20 (42 shots/22 saves). Carolina, Khudobin 14-9-0 (63-40).
A—17,547 (18,680). T—2:31.

Panthers 2, Sabres 0

Florida 0 0 0-0
Buffalo 1 0 1-2
First Period—1, Florida, Winchester 9 (Upshall, Gomez), 11:11 (pp).
Second Period—2, Florida, Kulikov 7 (Boyes, Blugardt), 4:06 (pp).
Missed Penalty Shot—Bergeheim, Fla., 12:18 second.
Shots on Goal—Florida 8-5-12-25. Buffalo 14-14-14-42.
Power-play opportunities—Buffalo 0 of 2; Florida 2 of 8.
Goalies—Florida, Neuvirth 4-7-2 (44 shots/42 saves). Florida, Luongo 20-16-6 (38-23).
A—14,402 (17,040). T—2:28.

Flames 4, Islanders 3

N.Y. Islanders 1 2 0-3
Calgary 1 0 3-4
First Period—1, Calgary, Grantland 2 (Byron, Otto), 2:01 (sh), 2, N.Y. Islanders, McDonald 6 (Grome, Hickey), 15:26.
Second Period—3, N.Y. Islanders, Okposo 26 (Grabner), 6:31, 4, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 11 (Bailey, Donovan), 12:08.
Third Period—5, Calgary, Colborne 6 (Gardner, Cammalleri), 11:29, 6, Calgary, Monahan 19 (Gallardi, Bourma), 14:22, 7, Calgary, Colborne 7 (Giordano, Brodie), 15:41.
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 11-8-7-25; Calgary 6-8-23.
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 4; Calgary 0 of 1.
Goalies—N.Y. Islanders, Nilsson 2-4-2 (23 shots/19 saves). Calgary, Otto 1-2-0 (26-23).
A—19,289 (19,289). T—2:26.

Penguins 3, Ducks 2 (SO)

Pittsburgh 1 0 1 0-3
Anaheim 0 1 0-2
Pittsburgh won shootout 3-2
First Period—1, Anaheim, Perry 33 (Getzlaf, Kovil), 3:54, 2, Pittsburgh, Getzlaf 5 (Jokinen, Malkin), 7:47.
Second Period—None.
Third Period—3, Anaheim, Perry 34 (Getzlaf, Palmiero), 1:10, 4, Pittsburgh, Malkin 19 (Neal, Crosby), 8:57 (pp).
Shootout—Pittsburgh 3 (Neal, NG, Crosby) 6; Anaheim 2 (Bonino, NG, Perry) 3.
Goalies—Pittsburgh 3-4-7-3-17. Anaheim 12-11-5-3-31.
Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 1 of 3; Anaheim 0 of 3.
Goalies—Pittsburgh, Fleury 33-14-3 (63 shots/26 saves). Anaheim, Hillier 26-9-6 (77-15).
A—17,518 (17,747). T—2:44.

Calendar

April 13 — Last day of regular season.
April 16 — Stanley Cup Playoffs begin.



J PAT CARTER/AP

Roberto Luongo was in goal Friday for the Florida Panthers for the first time since April 18, 2006.

MLB



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

The San Diego Padres' Rich Dauer talks with manager Bud Black, right, as the team takes in a morning workout during spring in Peoria, Ariz. Black was a young pitcher with the Royals when he'd often join the postgame gatherings with the likes of George Brett, Hal McRae, Dennis Leonard, Paul Spittorff and other veteran players. He remembers some of the cramped barren clubhouses, such as old Tiger Stadium or maybe Municipal Stadium in Cleveland, and the conversations shared among players in facilities far less luxurious than those players enjoy today.

Still talkin' baseball

Times have changed, but clubhouse chatter remains

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Hall of Fame third baseman George Brett remembers sitting in the Kansas City Royals clubhouse with teammates long after games ended talking baseball, often sharing a bunch of beer and a bag of potato chips.

When Bruce Bochy was a catcher for San Diego at the end of his playing days in the mid-1980s, nearly a decade before becoming the Padres manager, there were many late nights listening to stories told by well-traveled championship reliever Rich "Goose" Gossage.

"He'd stay there until 1 or 2 in the morning," said Bochy, who has won two World Series in San Francisco the past four seasons. "You wouldn't go home. You felt guilty if you tried to leave, and it's hard to find a little space in between his stories where you could say, 'I've got to go.'"

That was how many old-school players spent their time after coming off the field, long before social media and the amenities now so common for major leaguers. Sure, players today still talk baseball and spend plenty of time together — but not the way it used to be.

"The biggest change, guys are in the clubhouse really early. And, after games, they're out quick," said Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly, who

spent his entire 13-year playing career with the New York Yankees. "Now guys are at the ballpark by 1 o'clock — there's a bunch of guys there already."

'I see them watching the TV screens and talking about different players and things like that. It's just done a little differently.'

Don Mattingly
Dodgers manager

the game they had just played or maybe dealing another hand of cards. The clubbies might even have their tasks interrupted to go pick up pizza, or maybe buy more beer and cigarettes.

"We didn't have a chef, we didn't have video, we didn't have all your at-bats," said Brett, who played all 21 of his major league

seasons with the Royals. "We didn't have a players' lounge. We had a locker room."

These days, it usually doesn't take very long after games before the clubhouse workers are alone in the smoke-free space as players head home, out to eat or back to the luxury hotels where they stay on the road.

When Oakland Athletics manager Bob Melvin made his major league debut as a player with the Detroit Tigers in 1985, almost the entire team — players and coaches — would take the last bus from the hotel to the stadium.

There were no cellphones, Internet, laptops or the latest Xbox and PlayStation systems. No plush seating was positioned in front of numerous satellite-linked televisions with 24-hour sports, news or movies.

Even when players are headed to the ballpark now, Chicago White Sox manager Robin Ventura notes that most everyone is on a smartPhone, usually talking or communicating somehow with someone on the outside instead of teammates sitting with them on the bus.

Mattingly said one thing really hasn't changed: Players still talk about the game.

"I see them watching the TV screens and talking about different players and things like that," he said. "It's just done a little differently."

Mariners: Cano lends star power to Seattle

FROM BACK PAGE

"I'm not going to lie, it feels a little different because everywhere you look around you see different faces," Cano said. "I'm here now. I have it in my mind that I'm with the Mariners and I can't wait for the season to start."

So far, Cano is embracing his role. His locker, tucked in a corner of the Mariners' remodeled spring training facility, is a hub of activity. Some days, Cano chats with younger players. Other times, his corner is engulfed by music blasting from the two speakers next to his chair.

Everyone understands they are in the presence of a star. But Cano doesn't carry himself like one. He's approachable and affable. One day after workouts, Cano set up the "net drill" that helped him become a better hitter with the Yankees and worked extensively with inconsistent first baseman Justin Smoak.

He doesn't have to be the loudest voice in the clubhouse. Hernandez, the established star in Seattle, takes care of that with ease.

"I think he's had a really nice influence on those around him. That's what we were hoping for. We were hoping for his talent to play but when you bring in someone of his stature, how does that affect everyone else around him? And I think it's been good for the other guys," Seattle general manager Jack Zduriencic said. "And a great guy. Just real genuine, smart, articulate in terms of the game, he has a great feel for the game. We've had several discussions about different things and he's got a good grasp on the game itself."

The Mariners seems to understand the star they have acquired, the guy represented by Roc Na-

tion Sports, the guy with Jay-Z on speed dial. Cano is marketable on a national scale, the first time Seattle has employed a player with such reach since Ichiro Suzuki was in his first few seasons after arriving from Japan.

But Seattle's front office is not pushing Cano, at least for now. They understand this first year is about getting Cano comfortable with being somewhere other than New York and letting his play on the field speak for itself. There are nine more years to the contract for Seattle to capitalize on Cano's marketing potential.

"He's arguably the best player in the game and to have him here and on the field as a presence, yeah, he's a superstar but what he's going to do for our team in terms of leadership and showing some of our young guys, it's going to be invaluable," Seattle vice president of marketing Kevin Martinez said. "He'll be front and center in some of our efforts, as he should be, but it's what he brings on the field where the organization is really going to benefit."

Cano will be part of Seattle's always popular television commercials. And the club asked Cano to be a speaker at the opening for its new academy in the Dominican Republic. It was something Cano was more than willing to do, being just a few miles from his home. It gave the Mariners front office a sense of just how revered Cano is in the Dominican Republic.

"I know he's really taking this seriously. He has a genuine interest in making us, in any way he can, get better," Zduriencic said. "With all the young players down in the Dominican Republic he wants to be right in the midst of it all and he wants them to relate to the Mariners and him."



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

The Mariners signed former Yankees second baseman Robinson Cano to a huge 10-year, \$240 million contract in the offseason, adding both star power, and batting power, to a lineup that ranked 22nd in batting in the majors last season.

SPORTS



Hot in Houston

Harden, Rockets use big third quarter to blow by Pacers | Page 26

MLB



A new start?

Behind stars Cano and Hernandez, Mariners hope for return to glory

By TIM BOOTH
The Associated Press

SEATTLE, Ariz. Standing in the middle of the clubhouse holding court with fellow Latino players, Felix Hernandez could not allow himself to walk away from this conversation without a resolution.

He was not going to let Robinson Cano get in the last word. Especially when the two Seattle Mariners stars were bantering at a volume loud enough for everyone in the complex to hear.

The debate: Who is tougher to face? Is it Cano the hitter? Or is it Hernandez the pitcher?

There was no final answer. Just a lot of laughter — the kind the Mariners hope comes with victories during the regular season.

"It's good, man. It's going to help a lot," Hernandez said. "You see how we're talking ... It's good for the kids.

'It's good, man. It's going to help a lot... It's good for the kids. It's good for everybody here, making everyone loose.'

Felix Hernandez

Mariners pitcher, on Seattle's clubhouse atmosphere with the addition of second baseman Robinson Cano

It's good for everybody here, making everyone loose."

For a rare time in their history, the Mariners can lay claim to having one of the most dominant starting pitchers in baseball and one of the top offensive talents in the game on the same roster at the same time. Cano's signing in the offseason was a stunning coup

by Seattle. They threw \$240 million over 10 years at the five-time All-Star and in turn, Cano accepted the responsibility of giving up the New York limelight for the anonymity that playing in Seattle can sometimes bring.

With that come expectations:

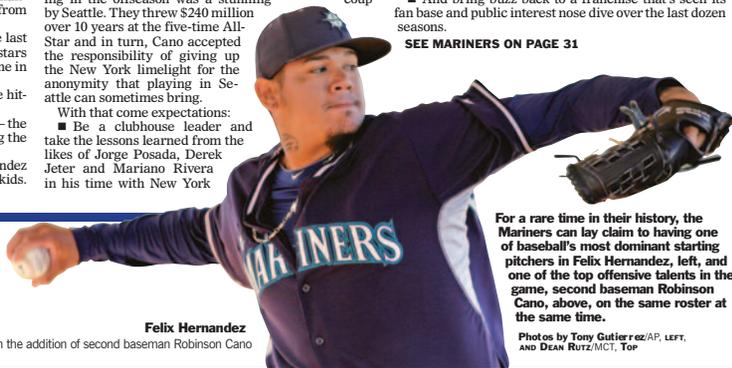
- Be a clubhouse leader and take the lessons learned from the likes of Jorge Posada, Derek Jeter and Mariano Rivera in his time with New York

and bring them to a roster of young players yet to match their expectations.

- Be the first great left-handed power hitter the Mariners have employed since Ken Griffey Jr. was in his prime.

- And bring buzz back to a franchise that's seen its fan base and public interest nose dive over the last dozen seasons.

SEE MARINERS ON PAGE 31



For a rare time in their history, the Mariners can lay claim to having one of baseball's most dominant starting pitchers in Felix Hernandez, left, and one of the top offensive talents in the game, second baseman Robinson Cano, above, on the same roster at the same time.

Photos by Tony Gutierrez/AP, left, and Dean Rutz/MCT, top