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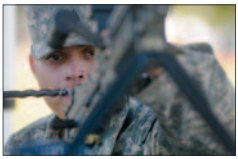
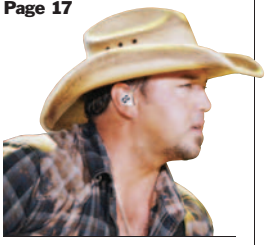
Inside

MILITARY
Soldiers battle it out for Best Warrior title in Army competition
Page 6



MUSIC
Jason Aldean takes fresh approach on 'Old Boots, New Dirt'
Page 17



NATION
Senator's Army War College degree revoked over plagiarism charges
Page 10

MLB PLAYOFFS
Baltimore heads into Game 2 of ALCS trailing Kansas City
Page 29

EBOLA OUTBREAK

'It's our job'

TROOPS CAUTIOUS IN PREPARING TO FACE INVISIBLE ENEMY Page 4

KIN MAN HUI, SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS/AP

Sgt. Joel Miick, left, and Spc. Michael Potts don gas masks and protective gear while training with the 36th Engineer Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas, on Thursday to deploy to Liberia to help fight the Ebola virus outbreak.

Syria airstrikes meet early trouble

BY LIZ SLY
The Washington Post

REYHANLI, Turkey — The U.S.-led air war in Syria has gotten off to a rocky start, with even the Syrian rebel groups closest to the United States turning against it, U.S. ally Turkey refusing to contribute and the plight of a beleaguered Kurdish town exposing the limitations of the strategy.

U.S. officials caution that the strikes are just the beginning of a broader strategy that could take years to carry out. But the anger that the attacks have stirred risks undermining the effort, analysts and rebels say.

The main beneficiary of the strikes so far appears to be President Bashar Assad, whose forces have taken advantage of the shift in the military balance to step up attacks against the moderate rebels designated by President Barack Obama as partners of the United States in the war against extremists.

The U.S. targets have included oil facilities, a granary and an electricity plant under Islamic State control.

SEE SYRIA ON PAGE 8

INSIDE

■ Yazidi hostages who escaped from Islamic State militants tell of captivity
Page 7

■ US resists suggestion that it establish no-fly zone over Syrian territory
Page 9

Cellphone snapshots of Afghan women cause stir

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY AND ZUBAIR BABAKARKHAIL
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Cellphones have become omnipresent here since the ouster of the Taliban. But connectivity comes with a downside in this conservative Muslim country.

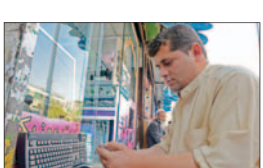
As more Afghans take and store photos on their phones, private images of women are increasingly appearing online and being shared publicly, say ordinary Afghans, religious leaders and government officials.

The trend has sparked outrage and embarrassment in a culture where women are largely hidden from public view, leading some to fear it might result in further isolation.

"It has a great impact on women all over," said Nadera Nahrinwal a women's rights activist in rural Baghlan province. "No one feels safe, and they feel the same could happen to them."

Few of the images at issue would be considered scandalous or provocative by Western standards. Many are videos of clothed women dancing at private celebrations, including wedding parties segregated by sex. Others are private family photos with unveiled women.

SEE AFGHAN ON PAGE 2



JAD SLEIMAN/Stars and Stripes

For as little as $1 a gigabyte, vendors in Afghanistan — like this one in Kabul — will download photos, videos and games to cellphones.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The environment we're going into is drastically different (from Afghanistan) ... the stuff that can kill you is much worse."

— Capt. Tyler Mark, one of the 700-plus members of the 101st Airborne Division headed to Liberia as part of the U.S. military's humanitarian mission to stop the spread of Ebola

See story on Page 4

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Bergdahl investigation finished
2. Garrison commander at Fort Bliss suspended
3. Airmen who voluntarily separated see health coverage canceled
4. If infected with Ebola, troops would fly out of Africa on special charter
5. Read this column ASAP – aka immediately

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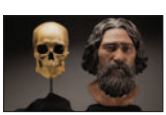

Science and Medicine
Exploring origins of 9,000-year-old Kennewick Man

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	14
Books	18
Business	23
Comics	19
Crossword	19
Gadgets & Charts	20
Lifestyle	15
Music	16-17
Opinion	12-13
Sports	24-32
Weather	23

MILITARY

Afghan: Snapshots cause stir

FROM FRONT PAGE

Custom in much of Afghanistan calls for women to avoid all contact with male strangers and to associate only with relatives. Men enforce the separation by keeping even their friends from female relatives, a prohibition that extends to photos.

"If someone sees personal photos, everyone will look down on that family," said 22-year-old Sediq Afgar, who was standing outside a wedding celebration in Kabul recently. "And the family will look for the person who did this and start a feud."

Yet cameras and smartphones are popular in cities like Kabul, and families regularly hire wedding videographers for celebrations at the rental wedding halls downtown. Male and female revelers bring cameras to record the celebrations.

The images make it online through a variety of paths, Afghans say. Photos can be pulled from lost and stolen phones, some say. Others blame videographers for sharing or selling their videos. Someone may choose to surreptitiously film another person and share it.

The images wouldn't go far by Internet alone in Afghanistan, where only 5.9 percent of households had online access in 2013, according to the International Telecommunications Union. Phone sharing is far more common, especially in rural areas of the country that have no Internet access at all.

Seven out of 10 Afghans had a phone in 2013, a significant increase from the 1 out of 10 in 2001, according to the ITU. Many of those phones have only rudimentary cameras, but smartphones are growing in popularity, a likely reflection of a society in which nearly 65 percent of the population is under the age of 25.

Even without the Internet, men can use their phones to access shared photos and videos. A cottage industry selling Internet uploads to phones has sprung up in cities and villages. A gigabyte of data sells for about $1 in Kabul. Pictures are uploaded by one of the dozen or so men sitting at a computer along a sidewalk near Pashtunistan Square. One man denied he sold the videos when asked by a reporter. Another agreed to upload videos of women dancing if the purchaser stood close to the computer to conceal the screen.

The owner of a nearby cellphone shop said the vendors have been in business for a few years. He shrugged when asked if the uploads were controversial.

"If someone is angry, what can they do about it?" the man, Shapoor Sediqi, 26, said. "It's not in one computer, it's not in two computers. It's in all computers."

But another nearby business owner said that the uploads were a problem and that they could bring violent reprisals if the person who shared the video was ever discovered. He claimed a member of his extended family was killed after it was discovered he had shared a private video of a relative.

"In Afghanistan, people kill each other for very small reasons," said the man, Lali Mohammad Ahmadzai, owner of a TV shop.

The Afghan government created hot lines for complaints two years ago, one for women and another for men, said a spokesman for the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. Local governments have also been asked to deal with the problem.

In Baghlan, concerns grew after several high-profile incidents, Nahrinwal, the women's advocate, said. A family was blackmailed by someone who snapped a photo of their marriage-age daughter riding in a car with a suitor and threatened to share it. In another incident, someone shared a picture of a woman breast-feeding her child during a wedding celebration. The family scolded the woman.

Some women told Nahrinwal their husbands had prohibited them from attending large wedding ceremonies for fear they might be recorded.

Religious leaders in Baghlan began preaching about the issue and women held a round table earlier this year to address the problem, Nahrinwal said. They requested the government stop men from selling phone uploads. The practice ceased for a day, she said, before the men returned and set up shop again.

"As long as young people are getting smartphones, this will be a problem," she said.

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3 leaders found derelict of duty in ship's latest woes

By Kate Wiltrout
The Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va. — Weeks after the Navy relieved the skipper of a Norfolk-based destroyer of command, its three top leaders have been punished for dereliction of duty.

In mid-September, the Navy announced that Cmdr. Curtis Calloway and Command Master Chief Travis Biswell, the ship's top enlisted sailor, had been removed from the USS James E. Williams.

Friday, the Navy said Capt. Fred Pyle, commander of Destroyer Squadron Two, had issued separate nonjudicial punishments to Calloway, Biswell and former executive officer Cmdr. Ed Handley, who had been slated to take command of the Williams.

The ship is currently deployed to the Mediterranean Sea.

At separate captain's masts on Thursday, Pyle found Calloway and Handley were derelict in their duty. Pyle found Biswell was derelict, too, and also found him guilty of drunk and disorderly conduct.

Lt. Cmdr. Cate Cook, a Navy spokeswoman based in Norfolk, said the three top leaders on the Williams "failed to exercise effective leadership" and that an investigation found "issues with climate and culture aboard ship."

On Sept. 16, when Calloway and Biswell were removed from the ship pending an investigation into command climate issues, Capt. Tony Simmons took over temporary leadership. That will change soon, when the new commanding officer, Cmdr. Heidi Haskins, takes over.

Haskins will join executive officer Cmdr. Chad Fella and Command Master Chief Asa Worcester to form a new command structure. Fella reported aboard May 31. Worcester has been aboard since Oct. 3.

The three former leaders of the Williams are temporarily assigned to desk jobs in Norfolk, where they're expected to remain until Navy Personnel Command makes a final determination on their cases.

The Williams has seen its share of turmoil since leaving Norfolk on May 30 for an expected eight-month deployment. Seaman Yeshabel Villot-Carrasco died aboard on June 19. Her death was being investigated as a suicide.

Cook said the investigation into Villot-Carrasco's death uncovered issues that led to a second investigation into command climate aboard the ship.

Fort Bliss garrison commander suspended

FORT BLISS, Texas — A high-ranking officer at Fort Bliss has been suspended while Army officials investigate accusations of misconduct.

Fort Bliss spokesman Lt. Col. Lee Peters said the garrison commander, Col. Thomas Munsey, 45, has been taken off the job pending the outcome of the investigation.

Peters said Friday it's Army policy to not comment on ongoing investigations and no additional information was being made available.

Munsey has been at the El Paso-area post since June.

As garrison commander, he oversees a staff of more than 3,400 civilians, contractors and soldiers who support the 160,000 people at Fort Bliss.

The more than 1 million-acre post, larger than Rhode Island, extends into New Mexico and is home to the Army's 1st Armored Division.

From The Associated Press

MILITARY

Stars and Stripes

Two F-22 Raptors line up for refueling during an exercise in September.

DOD report questions amount spent on F-22 parts

By Barrie Barber
Dayton (Ohio) Daily News

The Air Force could not determine if it paid jet engine maker Pratt & Whitney "fair and reasonable" prices for spare parts for engines that power the stealthy F-22 Raptor, a Department of Defense Inspector General's report has concluded.

The Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, based at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, also could not determine how much it paid for individual spare parts under a $1.6 billion sustainment contract on the F119 engine on the fifth-generation, supersonic fighter jet, the report said.

The Feb. 10 report, released last month to the Dayton Daily News under a Freedom of Information Act request filed in February, recommended the Life Cycle Management Center develop a process to identify and document spare part costs to determine fair and reasonable prices and a plan with "defined milestones" to transition to a fixed-price contract.

Air Force officials say it has a process, and the military was not overcharged for the spare parts.

"We do have a process to ascertain whether the prices we're paying to Pratt & Whitney were fair and reasonable and we are in the process of evaluating our whole product support strategy for F-22 and specifically the engine," said Lt. Gen. John F. Thompson, who became AFLCMC commander Oct. 2.

The F-22 made its debut in combat in bombing missions in Syria in recent weeks.

Neil Gordon, an analyst with watchdog group Project On Government Oversight in Washington, D.C., said in an email the Inspector General's report showed the Air Force was "not being a responsible buyer" on the engine spare parts contract.

The report showed the Air Force relied on Pratt & Whitney to track and value engine spare parts costs, he said. "That's a really big problem, relying on a contractor to keep track of the information — it's literally like letting the fox guard the hen house," he said in an email.

Gordon noted the Inspector General reported Pratt & Whitney provided all cost and pricing data, "but the Air Force did not take full advantage of that data," he said.

The report showed the Defense Contract Audit Agency hasn't reviewed Pratt & Whitney's accounting systems since 2006 and its estimating system since 2007, Gordon added. "That's a long time for the government to go without auditing a major contractor's internal financial systems," he said.

A message was sent Friday to a Department of Defense spokesman for a response.

The Air Force told the Dayton Daily News in a statement it "does not feel it has been overcharged for spare parts by Pratt & Whitney" and the company provided "certified cost and pricing data to the government."

Pratt & Whitney spokesman Matthew C. Bates defended the company's management of the contract, known as the F119 Sustainment Program for the Raptor Engine (SPaRE), which included parts from suppliers.

"Pratt & Whitney is fully compliant with the terms and conditions of the SPaRE contract, and we believe we have provided a sustainment solution at a fair and reasonable price to the USAF," he said in a statement. "Pratt & Whitney justified the price of the F119 engine spare parts and provided all contractually required cost and pricing data. We are committed to delivering affordable readiness to our customers and will continue to work with the USAF to ensure the F-22 Raptor can deploy at any moment, as evidenced by the recent combat deployment of the F-22 to strike ISIS targets in Syria."

Defense aerospace giant Lockheed Martin assembled 187 of the twin-engine F-22s capable of cruising at supersonic speed without using fuel-thirsty afterburners. The Pratt & Whitney F119 turbofan engine, which produces 35,000 pounds of thrust, has thrust vectoring nozzles that maneuver the fighter unlike other U.S. combat jets.

Pratt & Whitney delivered the final of 507 engines for the F-22 in January 2013.

The report said contracting officers awarded a $1.6 billion sustainment contract on the F119 engine between 2008 and 2012. The contract included 2,211 "unique" engine spare parts Pratt & Whitney valued at $317.9 million. However, AFLCMC "did not have a process to identify and track the actual unit costs paid," the IG report said.

The Air Force said it tracks costs under Federal Acquisition Regulations that include audits and financial analysis "to negotiate a fair and reasonable price." An audit compares proposed unit costs to what was paid in past purchase orders. A contracting officer considers what a supplier pays for material costs as part of the process to determine fair and reasonable prices, the Air Force said.

The Life Cycle Management Center is considering strategies for firm-fixed prices on future parts, the Air Force said. The F-22 program office at Wright-Patterson is in a "major review" of the engine's supply chain, officials added.

DOD officials who reviewed the IG report before release to the Dayton Daily News redacted how much the Air Force paid for certain expenses. One redaction deleted a range of prices Pratt & Whitney paid an unnamed subcontractor for fuel pump actuators between 2008 through 2012. The part was cited as a chief example of the IG's findings.

Contracting officers "could not provide the actual cost paid to Pratt and Whitney and did not realize the price increased (the report redacted the increased amount) for these fuel pump actuators," the report said.

The IG report also blacked out Pratt & Whitney labor and overhead costs and other contract expenses on two separate vouchers in the document.

In a letter to the Dayton Daily News, the IG office's contended portions were exempt from public disclosure because of privileged or confidential information such as trade secrets or commercial or financial information. The newspaper has sent an administrative appeal on the decision to redact the data.

Neither Department of Defense nor Air Force officials have released a copy of a letter AFLCMC sent in response to the report, claiming it is "for official use only." The letter was left out of the main report because officials said it missed a deadline to be included, but was sent within days of the Feb. 10 date of the findings.

'That's a really big problem, relying on a contractor to keep track of the (costs) information — it's literally like letting the fox guard the hen house.'

Neil Gordon
analyst with watchdog group Project On Government Oversight in Washington

AF pulls promised health coverage

Benefits canceled for 1,000 airmen who voluntarily separated

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — More than 1,000 airmen who were given six months of transitional health insurance when they voluntarily separated are now seeing their coverage yanked.

The Air Force blamed clerical errors at a number of bases for allowing the airmen to mistakenly receive the health coverage in the first place, the Air Force Times reported Thursday.

Those separating under the Voluntary Separation Pay program are ineligible for Transition Assistance Management Program benefits, which are reserved for airmen who are involuntarily separated, the paper reported. The benefits include 180 days of transition Tricare coverage.

Nevertheless, about 25 percent of 4,247 who received VSP in 2014 were wrongly issued the medical benefits, Air Force officials said.

Service officials told the Times that the Air Force does not provide TAMP benefits to those involuntarily separating because they receive a payment and have more time to plan for transition.

A number of airmen said they were misled.

A captain who left the Air Force late last month said he had been promised 180 days of medical coverage, but learned when he separated that wouldn't be the case.

"It's a hit in the gut," the Times quoted him as saying. "It's terrible. They asked us to get out, and the last day you go and they say, 'You don't get this.' "

A major who separated Sept. 29 said he had gotten mixed messages about extended health care, and recently was told he would have coverage, the paper reported.

"I've been told conflicting things since April," he said. "Nobody had any guidance until two or three weeks ago. The family center that does transition, they didn't know, and didn't get a list of what benefits would come. They defaulted to the line that if you volunteer, you don't get six months medical. As we're following up, in the last month or so [before separation], my wife called the DEERS field office, they looked at the code, and said, 'Yeah, you're entitled to the benefits.' "

EBOLA OUTBREAK

101st Airborne soldiers gear up to fight Ebola

By Chris Kenning
USA Today

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — Wearing a hooded chemical suit, breathing mask and two layers of gloves, Pvt. Antwon Phillips raised his arms as an instructor showed him how to scrub and spray with bleach in case of exposure to Ebola.

He was among more than 150 members of the 101st Airborne who were trained Thursday on how to avoid the deadly virus during their upcoming deployment to Liberia.

Across the gym at Fort Campbell, Sgt. Jesus Sanchez said, "We're so used to being in Iraq and Afghanistan, where you know what you're going to get. This is a lot different.

"I'll be honest with you," he added. "I'm kind of scared ... but we're going out there to help."

At least 700 members of the division will deploy to Liberia starting next week as part of the U.S. military's 4,000-soldier humanitarian mission, which is expected to last up to a year and is aimed at building 17 100-bed Ebola care centers and training hundreds of health care workers.

The goal is to stop the spread of a virus that has infected more than 7,470 in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia and killed more than 3,400, though experts say the actual number is likely much higher.

The virus is still spreading in part because of a dearth of hospitals and trained health care workers. As a result, too few patients are being isolated, said Josh Michaud, associate director of global health policy for the Kaiser Foundation.

"That's why there is such urgency to get the 17 treatment units that U.S. military units will assist with," he said.

The soldiers, with specialties in areas such as combat hospitals, aviation, logistics, transportation and engineering, will not be providing direct treatment or having contact with Ebola patients, so the risk is considered to be low, said Lt. Col. Brian DeSantis, the 101st Airborne's spokesman.

But at Thursday's safety training, soldiers were briefed on how Ebola is spread and what symptoms to look for. They were told to seek medical care at the first sign of trouble and not to shake hands or touch residents. They were told not to eat or drink anything that wasn't provided by the U.S. government.

And they were told that using protective gear was critical, particularly when handling blood specimens in a lab or standing guard near public areas. They were shown how to use layers of gloves, chemical suits, masks and special boots.

Capt. Tyler Mark said that while Liberia posed threats from malaria and poisonous snakes to water-borne illness, Ebola has a more than 50 percent death rate and "basically causes your body to eat itself from the inside out."

"The environment we're going into is drastically different (from Afghanistan) ... the stuff that can kill you is much worse," he said.

Still, Ondraya Frick, a microbiologist with the Army's Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, stressed during the training that while the chances of contracting Ebola were "very low," that event could be "catastrophic."

Military leaders in Washington say protecting the health of soldiers is priority No. 1 and promised multiple daily health checks for servicemembers and speedy evacuation to the United States if they contract the virus.

DOD officials said the department is following protocols set by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control over decades of experience with Ebola.

The U.S. military is the most capable organization in the world to assist in fighting the outbreak, and it is also highly trained at implementing safety measures, said Lawrence O. Gostin, a global public health expert and professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

"I think we have a very good understanding of Ebola after more than 25 outbreaks in Africa," Gostin said. "Working in logistics, supply chain management, command and control — I think there is very low risk."

Troops' willingness to deploy into the middle of a disease outbreak brings honor to the United States and its military, he said.

"The U.S. military has stepped up where no one else has in the face of a developing humanitarian crisis," he said. "I'm proud to be an American, knowing we have done this."

Some of the soldiers may be housed in Liberian government buildings or in tent areas, military officials said. In addition, they will be spread across the country, including in Monrovia, the capital, they said.

The military's effort to build the Ebola treatment units could be finished within a couple of months.

Michaud said the training of Liberian health workers also will help fill part of the health care shortage. With the deaths of some health workers, some volunteer groups have been reluctant to send in workers, he said.

"It's a frightening disease, and with a high fatality rate, it would give anyone second thoughts about rushing in there," he said.

Col. Christopher Warner, surgeon for the division, said returning soldiers may be placed in isolation for several weeks but that DOD officials haven't finalized a plan.

While thus far only 700 soldiers from the 101st are deploying, more than 1,400 are being trained in case that figure rises, division officials said.

The deployment comes roughly six months after Ebola was identified in what has become the worst outbreak of the virus since it first appeared in the mid-1970s.

Transmitted by close or direct contact with infected bodily fluids such as blood, feces, vomit or urine, Ebola causes fever and intense flu symptoms followed by vomiting, diarrhea, rash, impaired kidney and liver function and bleeding.

There is no cure, and an experimental drug remains unproven and isn't widely available. Scientists are working on a vaccine, but none yet exists.

Several soldiers said their families were concerned about the deployment, and unlike past ones, they got little advance warning. Some said they felt better after the training, feeling they would be safe. But it left others unnerved.

Maj. Jim Wade, who has two young children, said he was confident he could remain safe. Despite the dangers, he said, "it's our job."

Stars and Stripes reporter Chris Carroll contributed to this report.

Stephen Lance Dennee, The Courier-Journal/AP

Members of the Army's 101st Airborne Division conduct a training exercise at Fort Campbell, Ky., on Thursday, in preparation for their deployment to Liberia to build Ebola treatment centers and conduct medical training.

'We're so used to being in Iraq and Afghanistan, where you know what you're going to get. This is a lot different.'

Sgt. Jesus Sanchez
101 Airborne Division

41 UN staffers under observation

By Jonathan Paye-Layleh
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Liberia's United Nations peacekeeping mission has placed 41 staff members, including 20 military personnel, under "close medical observation" after an international member of its medical team was diagnosed with Ebola this week — the second mission member to test positive for the deadly disease.

"This measure is precautionary and meant to ensure no possible further transmission of the disease," the mission said in a statement Friday. "None of the personnel who are contacts have shown any symptoms but will be observed for the full 21-day possible incubation period."

The World Health Organization says 21 days is the maximum incubation period for Ebola, which is spread via the bodily fluids of infected people. The 41 staffers were identified as having possibly come into contact with the member of the medical team, whose name and nationality have not been disclosed.

The patient tested positive Monday and arrived in Germany on Thursday for treatment — the third Ebola patient to be flown there. The St. Georg Hospital in Leipzig said this week the patient would be placed in a special isolation unit.

The first U.N. staffer in Liberia to come down with Ebola died Sept. 26.

The mission is implementing additional measures to avoid more cases, including daily temperature checks and screening at a military facility where 209 people work, Friday's statement said.

Liberia has recorded 2,316 confirmed, suspected and probable Ebola deaths — far more than any other country touched by the current outbreak, according to the latest World Health Organization figures released Friday.

The outbreak has now killed more than 4,000 people in total, the WHO said.

More than 400 health care workers have contracted Ebola, and 233 of those have died, according to the WHO. Liberia and Sierra Leone have both recorded 95 health worker deaths.

EBOLA OUTBREAK

Contingency plan for US Liberia troops in works

By Nancy Montgomery
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Any servicemember falling ill with the Ebola virus during deployment to Liberia will likely be evacuated the same way at least nine Ebola patients have already been transported to the U.S. and Europe: on one of two jets specially equipped to provide medical treatment and prevent transmission of the contagious, deadly disease.

The jets belong to a small, Georgia-based air charter company called Phoenix Air. Officials say it is the only carrier capable of performing the evacuations.

"We're it," Dent Thompson, Phoenix Air vice president, said in a phone interview. "We've done (six) evacuations back to the U.S. and three to Europe — two into Germany and one into France," Thompson told Stars and Stripes said before the company had evacuated a Norwegian last week. "It's a steady program, we figure, for at least a year," he said.

More than 3,000 U.S. servicemembers set to be deployed to Liberia have been tasked with providing logistical support in the country founded by freed U.S. slaves. The effort includes building 17 hospitals with 100 beds each, building a hospital for infected health care workers and training hundreds more providers each week.

To date, military officials have not disclosed treatment and evacuation plans for U.S. troops deploying to Liberia who might get injured or fall ill with malaria or a variety of other tropical diseases West Africa harbors.

Phoenix is under a six-month, $5 million, sole-source contract with the U.S. State Department to evacuate American citizens from West Africa, the Washington Times reported, and Thompson said he expected the contract would be extended until evacuations were no longer necessary.

"The State Department will allow any U.S. agencies to use us," said Thompson, whose company has previously contracted with U.S. Africa Command to fly general officers around Africa and has long provided more routine medical evacuations there.

"DOD would call State (if a troop needed to be evacuated), and they'd call us," he said.

The French, German and Norwegian citizens were evacuated on the company's Gulfstream IIIs on condition that the U.S. was reimbursed for the full cost of the flight — about $200,000, Thompson said.

The jets are equipped with a variety of special medical equipment, air filtration and negative-pressure systems, a plastic patient tent and a decontamination room.

The system — an "air transport biocontainment unit" — was designed in cooperation with the Defense Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention years ago, when authorities concerned about avian flu and severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, prepared for safely evacuating CDC doctors working in Asia.

> **'DOD would call (the) State (Department), and they'd call us.'**
> **Dent Thompson**
> Phoenix Air vice president

But no doctors got sick. The system went on the shelf — until this summer, when American and European health care workers contracted Ebola in West Africa and authorities found there was no way to bring them home.

When Dr. Ken Brantly, the first American infected, became ill, Phoenix Air was the only option, his employer, the evangelical Christian aid group, Samaritan's Purse, learned. There was a South African company willing to evacuate Brantly, an aid group executive told the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy. But the South African carrier would transport Brantly only as far as Europe — on a Boeing 737 with a lower protection level than Phoenix Air's jets — for $1.4 million.

International SOS, an insurance company that has contracted with Tricare to provide medical services to troops overseas and has arranged previous medical evacuations from Africa, has said it probably could not evacuate Ebola patients. In 2009, ISOS transported a Navy Seabee who contracted malaria in Liberia and died several days later at Landstuhl Regional Medical Facility in Germany.

Flying Ebola patients out of Africa for treatment "is highly complex, and may not be achievable," says a statement on the ISOS website. "International evacuation should not be considered as feasible for patients with active clinical symptoms of Ebola."

"The system we use took two years to develop," Thompson said. "It's custom-made for a Gulf Stream. You couldn't put it on a C-17."

Each plane can transport only one patient. The company was working on equipping a third plane that could evacuate two patients, Thompson said.

All Ebola patients evacuated by Phoenix Air who have been taken to specially equipped hospitals with teams trained to care for patients with diseases like Ebola have survived.

A Liberian man who traveled to Dallas on a commercial flight while asymptomatic died of the disease last week at a Dallas hospital.

Spain evacuated two priests from Sierra Leone on an Airbus A310, according to reports. Both died at a Madrid hospital. A nurse who cared for one of them last week became the first person in Western Europe to be infected, raising concerns for hospitals in the West, which had been considered capable of containing the spread of the disease.

British authorities also evacuated one of their citizens, a nurse, on a Royal Air Force C-17. The nurse, who apparently did not have symptoms of the disease while in transit and so was not considered contagious, survived.

Defense Department officials have stressed that because troops would not be providing care to Ebola patients, they would be at very low risk of getting the disease.

Experts say that the virus is spread through direct contact — via broken skin or mucous membranes — with body fluids of symptomatic, sick patients or things contaminated by them. The virus can live on surfaces for hours or days, experts say.

The disease has killed more than 3,400 people, mostly in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. By the end of August, more than 240 health workers had developed the disease, and it had caused the deaths of prominent doctors in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Health care workers and family caregivers have been hard hit by the disease, for which there is no proven treatment. Experimental drug treatments and transfusions with the blood of Ebola survivors have been used on several patients, but their efficacy is unknown. Supportive care and early treatment are considered to improve survivability, experts say.

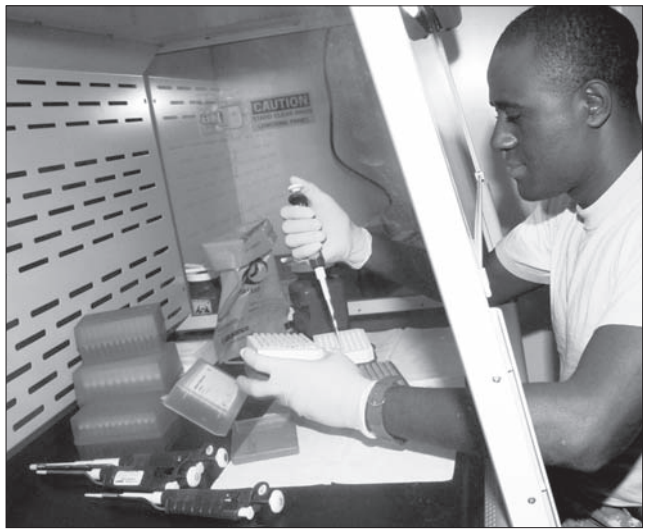
A spokeswoman for U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa said that USAFE-AFAFRICA aircraft are being used in Liberia only to transport cargo and personnel into theater.

"Any additional questions you have on the future of Ebola support efforts should be directed to OSD (the Office of the Secretary of Defense) public affairs," she said.

Phoenix's Thompson said the Air Force's Air Mobility Command had contacted his company recently and had asked questions about Ebola transports, such as how to decontaminate a plane. But he said that if the military were working on its own system, it wouldn't be in the pipeline for four to six months at best.

"If the Air Force did develop a system, we'd be happy," Thompson said. "There's actually more work than capacity."

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com



Courtesy of U.S. Army

Soldiers from the 1st Area Medical Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., will set up labs to support Operation United Assistance, the U.S. response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

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MILITARY

BATTLING IT OUT TO BE THE BEST

Photos by Patrick Kane, The (Petersburg, Va.) Progress-Index/AP

Sgt. Andres Martinez, of Fort Hood, Texas, works on assembling an M240 machine gun during the Army's Best Warrior competition at Fort Lee, Va., on Thursday.

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Carpenter, of the 10th Special Forces Group from Fort Carson, Colo., was named best sergeant in the Army's Best Warrior competition.

28 of Army's finest take part in Best Warrior competition

The Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

A Fort Carson Green Beret has been named the Army's best sergeant after a weeklong event at Fort Lee, Va.

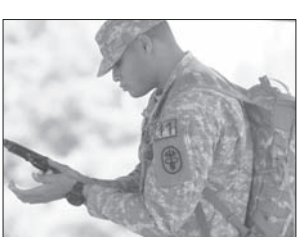
Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Carpenter, with the 10th Special Forces Group, was one of three Fort Carson soldiers in the Army-wide Best Warrior competition.

The Army reported that Spc. Thomas Boyd, a cryptologic linguist with Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, earned Soldier of the Year honors.

The competition drew 28 soldiers from across the Army to compete for the titles of best soldier and best sergeant. They were tested on military skills, military knowledge, marksmanship and physical fitness.

Carpenter, an engineer sergeant, serves on 10th Group's A-teams, which specialize in training foreign troops and conducting lightning raids. His commanders were happy with the win.

"His excellence in these competitions is demonstrative of the diversity, versatility and maturity of our people, and exactly what enables 10th Special Forces Group to accomplish a wide-range of special warfare tasks as directed in Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, and Afghanistan," said Col. Brian Petit, the group's deputy commander.



Above: Staff Sgt. Victor Munoz, of Landstuhl, Germany, assembles an M9 pistol.

Left: Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Carpenter, right, examines Staff Sgt. Tegst Ayalw's uniform.

WAR ON TERRORISM

DALTON BENNETT/AP

A Yazidi girl, 15, captured by the Islamic State group and forcibly married to a militant in Syria sits on the floor of a one-room house that she shares with her family after escaping in early August.

Yazidis tell of captivity with militants

BY DALTON BENNETT
The Associated Press

MAQLUBA, Iraq — The young Yazidi girl rocked apprehensively as she described the ordeal that took her from her family when she was snatched from her home by militants in Iraq and sold as a slave in Syria before finally escaping to Turkey.

The 15-year-old is now with what is left of her family — two of her brothers and some more distant relatives — living in a makeshift roadside shelter in this tiny village in northern Iraq, along with other families shattered by the onslaught from the Islamic State militant group.

Her two sisters remain in the militants' hands, and her father, other brothers and other male relatives have vanished, their fates unknown.

The girl was among hundreds of women and girls from the Yazidi religious minority captured by Islamic State fighters in early August, when the militants overran her hometown of Sinjar in northwestern Iraq. Hundreds were killed in the attack, and tens of thousands fled for their lives, most to Kurdish-held parts of northern Iraq.

Iraq's Human Rights Ministry said at the time that hundreds of women were abducted by the militants, who consider the Yazidis a heretical sect.

The Associated Press spoke to the girl and several other young women who escaped captivity by the Islamic State group. While specifics of their stories could not be independently confirmed, they reflected circumstances reported by the United Nations last month.

One young hostage

For weeks after being snatched from Sinjar, the 15-year-old girl and two of her sisters were shifted from one place to another, she said. The AP does not identify victims of abuse, and the girl also did not want to be named for fear of reprisals against her relatives still being held by the militants.

As she told her story, the girl rubbed her hands and avoided eye contact. But she spoke decisively and clearly, never hesitating when asked questions. She asked her relatives to leave the room, saying she was more comfortable speaking alone.

First, she said, she and other girls were taken to the nearby town of Tal Afar, where she was kept in the Badosh Prison. When U.S. airstrikes began around the town, the militants took her and many other girls with them to the Islamic State group's biggest stronghold, Mosul, in northern Iraq.

> **'He told me, 'I'm going to change your name to Abeer so your mother doesn't recognize you.'"**
>
> **Yazidi hostage who escaped**

From the city of Mosul, she and her sisters were taken to the militants' de facto capital, the Syrian city of Raqqa. There they were held in a house with other abducted girls.

"They took girls to Syria to sell them," she said, her body shyly hunched over as she spoke. "I was sold in Syria. I stayed about five days with my two sisters, then one of my sisters was sold and taken (back) to Mosul, and I remained in Syria."

In Raqqa, she said, she was first married off to a Palestinian man. She claims she shot him, saying the Palestinian's Iraqi housekeeper who was in a dispute with the man helped her by giving her a gun. She fled, but she had nowhere to run. So she went to the only place she knew, she said — the house where she was first held with the other girls in Raqqa.

There, the militants did not recognize her and sold her off again — for $1,000 to a Saudi fighter, she said. The Saudi militant took her to a house where he lived with other fighters.

"He told me, 'I'm going to change your name to Abeer so your mother doesn't recognize you,'" she said. "'You'll become Muslim, then I will marry you.' But I refused to become a Muslim, and that's why I fled."

She said she saw the fighters taking a powdered drug. So she poured it into tea she served to the Saudi and the other men, causing them to fall asleep. Then she fled the house.

She found a man who would drive her to Turkey to meet her brother. Her brother then borrowed $2,000 from friends to pay a smuggler to get them both back to Iraq. They ended up in Maqluba, a tiny roadside hamlet just outside the Kurdish city of Dahuk, where several other Yazidi families are staying.

Amsha Ali

Amsha Ali, 19, said she was taken from Sinjar to Mosul. Ali was around six months' pregnant at the time. The last she saw of her husband and other men in her family as she was being dragged off was the militants forcing them to lie on the ground, apparently to shoot them. Ali agreed to be identified, saying she wanted the ordeals of the women to be known.

In Mosul, she said, she and other women were taken to a house full of Islamic State fighters to be married off. "Each of them took one of us for themselves," she said. She, too, was given to a fighter. She said she was never raped by the man — likely because of her pregnancy, she said — but she witnessed other girls being raped.

After several weeks, she was able to slip out of a bathroom window at night and escape. A Mosul resident who found her in the streets helped her get out of the city to nearby Kurdish territory on Aug. 28, she said.

Now Ali is with her father and a surviving sister living in an unfinished building in the town of Sharia, where some 5,000 Yazidi refugees live, also near Dahuk.

"The killing was not the hardest thing for me," she said of seeing fellow Yazidis slain in the assault on Sinjar. "Even though they forced my husband, brother-in-law and father-in-law on the ground to be murdered — it was painful — but marrying (the militant) was the worst. It was hardest thing for me."

Kurds struggling to defend Kobani

The Associated Press

SURUC, Turkey — Kurdish militiamen are putting up a fierce fight to defend a Syrian town near the border with Turkey but are struggling to repel the Islamic State group, which is advancing and pushing in from two sides, Syrian activists and Kurdish officials said Saturday.

The battle for Kobani is still raging despite more than two weeks of airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition targeting the militants in and around the town. The strikes, which are aimed at rolling back the militants' gains, appear to have done little to blunt their onslaught on Kobani, which began in mid-September.

In Iraq, officials in Anbar province appealed for U.S. ground troops to stem the Islamic State onslaught in that region, according to a CNN report Saturday.

The situation in the province just west of Baghdad was "very bad," the president of Anbar Provincial Council told CNN. The council's deputy head, Falleh al-Issawi, said the body had asked the Iraqi government to intervene immediately and to request the deployment of U.S. ground forces there.

Baghdad officials told CNN they had not received an official request for such aid. In the past, the Iraqi government has said it does not need American ground troops to fight the militants and U.S. officials have said there would be no "boots on the ground."

In Kobani, the militants on Friday seized the Kurdish security quarter — an area in the town's east where Kurdish militiamen maintain security buildings and where the police station, municipality and other local government offices are located.

A senior Kurdish official, Ismet Sheikh Hasan, said clashes were focused in the southern and eastern parts of the town. He said the situation was dire and appealed for international help.

"We are defending (the town) but ... we have only simple weapons and they (militants) have heavy weapons," he said in a call Friday night with The Associated Press. "They are not besieged and can move easily."

A video posted online Saturday by a group affiliated with the militants showed what it said were Islamic State group militants fanning out in some streets of Kobani amid heavy gunfire. Militants are shown firing rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns.

U.S. Central Command said it conducted airstrikes north and south of Kobani over Friday and Saturday using fighter jets and bombers.

Hasan said U.S.-led airstrikes were not effective, and urged the international community and the United Nations to intervene, predicting a massacre if the militants seize control of Kobani. He also appealed to Turkey to open a corridor that would allow remaining civilians to leave Kobani and arms to enter the town.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Syria: Rebels seek attacks on Assad regime, not just militants

FROM FRONT PAGE

The damage to those facilities has caused shortages and price hikes across the rebel-held north that are harming ordinary Syrians more than the well-funded militants, according to residents and activists.

At the start of the air campaign, dozens of U.S. cruise missiles were fired into areas controlled by the moderate rebels, who are supposed to be fighting the Islamic State. Syrians who had in the past appealed for American intervention against Assad have been staging demonstrations denouncing the United States and burning the American flag.

"Everyone is angry with the airstrikes. For three years, we have been asking for support, and now the West decides to hit only the Islamic State?" said Abu Wassim, a rebel fighter in the northern province of Idlib. The strikes are weakening the Islamic State, he said, but "empowering the regime."

Since the outcry about the choice of targeting in the first days of the air campaign, the majority of coalition attacks have been concentrated in the three northern and eastern provinces governed by the Islamic State as part of its self-proclaimed caliphate, which stretches across the Syrian border into Iraq.

U.S. officials say the strikes are working to achieve the core American objective — to degrade and ultimately defeat the militants.

"The airstrikes are hitting the targets they are intended to hit," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told journalists Friday. "They take out ISIL positions. They take out ISIL tanks. They take out ISIL weapons. That's obviously helping," she said, using an acronym for the Islamic State.

A lower profile

Residents of Islamic State-controlled areas say the attacks have had a noticeable impact on the jihadist group's tactics and behavior, forcing it to adopt a lower profile to avoid detection from the air.

In their self-styled capital of Raqqah, the foreign jihadists who until recently swept through the streets in armored convoys, showing off American Humvees and other booty captured from the Iraqi army, now drive around in regular vehicles, according to residents. A wealthy neighborhood of spacious villas has been abandoned by the Chechen, European, Arab and other foreign fighters who had moved in. They have relocated to apartments in the city center, blending in among the ordinary citizens, residents say.

Elsewhere, the militants have vacated headquarters, checkpoints, command posts, courts and other facilities, many of which had been conspicuously painted with the Islamic State's distinctive black-and-white logo.

"You don't see them around like you used to," said a resident of Raqqah, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The strikes are not unpopular among ordinary people in Raqqah, who yearn for an end to the militants' harsh rule, said another resident interviewed on a visit to Turkey. He also spoke on the condition of anonymity because he is afraid. Since the U.S.-led attacks began, Syrian government airstrikes have stopped, he said.

> **'We have no problem with striking the Islamic State, but people think it is Syrians who are being targeted, which makes it difficult for the Free Syrian Army to support America.'**
>
> **Salim al-Birin**
> Fifth Legion commander

"The big difference between the coalition strikes and the Assad strikes is that the coalition strikes are accurate and they only hit the Islamic State," he said, speaking during a visit to relatives. "The Assad strikes only kill civilians."

But the attacks have not loosened the militants' grip on power, he and other residents said, or had any significant impact on the militants' capacity to launch offensives and capture territory, as the assault on the Kurdish border town of Kobane has demonstrated. Over a two-week period, fighters swept unimpeded through a string of villages around the town. Only when they reached the town itself did the U.S. military weigh in with intensified strikes.

U.S. officials have defended the response to the Kobane battle by pointing to the broader strategy, which is primarily aimed at rolling back the Islamic State's gains in Iraq.

"In Syria, the purpose of the airstrikes largely is to get at this group's ability to sustain itself, to resupply, to finance, to command and control," Rear Adm. John Kirby, the Pentagon's spokesman, told reporters recently. "They use Syria as the sanctuary and safe haven so that they can operate in Iraq."

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/AP

Smoke rises following an airstrike on Friday by U.S.-led coalition aircraft in Kobani, Syria, as seen from the outskirts of Suruc, on the Turkey-Syria border.

A missing link

In Iraq, however, the United States has allies beyond the borders of the Islamic State's territories who back the airstrikes, including the Iraqi government and the leaders of the semi-autonomous Kurdish region. At least in some parts of the country, those allies are in a position to dispatch ground forces to capitalize on the airstrikes.

In Syria, the strikes have highlighted the absence of U.S. partners on the ground. Moderate rebels grouped in the Free Syrian Army were pushed out of the Islamic State's northeastern strongholds during fierce fighting over the summer and now have no presence in the areas that are the chief target of the coalition attacks.

The one front on which the rebels are battling the Islamic State, in the northern province of Aleppo, has not seen any coalition airstrikes, even though rebels say they have asked for them.

Instead, the Syrian government launched a new offensive aimed at cutting off rebel supply lines to Aleppo city a few miles farther south, forcing the rebels to redirect troops from the fight with the militants.

In Khan Sheikhoun, a front-line town in rebel-held Idlib province, the rate of government airstrikes has tripled since the U.S.-led attacks were launched, according to activists in the town.

A 'disconnect'

"There's a disconnect between a stated American policy that recognizes you need a credible local force on the ground and a campaign that is undermining those local forces," said Noah Bonsey, a senior analyst at the International Crisis Group who is monitoring the war from Syria's northern border with Turkey. If the U.S. government doesn't speed up plans to support the Free Syrian Army, "a year from now, there might not be any moderate rebels left," he said.

U.S. officials say they are aware of the need to accelerate the effort to train and equip an effective rebel force in Syria. Harf said a Pentagon team will be dispatched to Turkey this week for discussions on ways to do that. The White House strategy includes a $500 million program to train and equip 5,000 Free Syrian Army fighters, but that still has not begun.

"We don't have a willing, capable, effective partner on the ground inside Syria right now," Kirby said Wednesday. "It's just a fact."

Even rebels who have received U.S. support now have withdrawn their backing for the U.S.-led air campaign, which they had initially welcomed. Harakat Hazm, the group anointed with the first deliveries of U.S.-made antitank weapons this year, issued a statement calling the American effort "a sign of failure whose devastation will spread to the whole region."

The rebels say they have been put in a difficult position in which they are being asked to support a strategy that has so far brought them no benefits and is regarded with suspicion by ordinary Syrians. They are now insisting they will not support the strikes unless the strategy is extended to include toppling the Assad regime — a position shared by Turkey, which hosts the rebel leadership.

"We have no problem with striking the Islamic State, but people think it is Syrians who are being targeted, which makes it difficult for the Free Syrian Army to support America," said Salim al-Birin, a commander with the Fifth Legion, another group that has received U.S. support. "That is why we want strikes against the regime as well. Then maybe people would change their minds."

Suspected US drone strike kills two in Afghanistan; other violence reported

BY RAHIM FAIEZ AND ZARAR KHAN
The Associated Press

KABUL — A suspected U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan near its border with Pakistan killed two people, Pakistani intelligence said Saturday, and a Taliban suicide bomber killed a police officer in the country's south.

The drone strike struck near Margha, across the border from Pakistan's Datta Khel, a town in the North Waziristan tribal area where the U.S. has carried out previous drone attacks targeting militants, the officials said.

The Pakistani officials did not elaborate, and Afghan officials did not immediately comment on the strike. The CIA typically carries out such strikes in Pakistan's tribal region and does not comment on the attacks, which have stirred anger in Pakistan over civilian casualties.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to publicly brief journalists.

Meanwhile, a suicide bomber wearing a police uniform killed an officer and wounded three at police headquarters in Lashkhar Gah, the capital of southern Helmand province, local police spokesman Fared Obiad said.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement sent to the media. The Helmand provincial capital was also the scene of a Taliban suicide car bombing on Wednesday that targeted a former police chief but killed five other people.

Also Saturday, gunmen opened fire and killed the two truck drivers in eastern Khost province, said Mubariz Mohammad Zadran, the spokesman for the provincial governor.

Also, the governor's office said two police officers and one civilian were killed in the provincial capital, Khost, when a bomb-rigged bicycle was detonated by remote control on Friday. Three policemen and another civilian were wounded in that attack.

In other reports, three civilians died when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb in southern Uruzgan province, said Dost Mohammad Nayab, spokesman for the provincial governor. Eleven people were also wounded in that explosion, which occurred in Chora district late on Friday afternoon.

No group claimed responsibility for the attacks in Khost and Uruzgan.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Despite demands, Syria no-fly zone no-go for US

By Bradley Klapper
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is boxed in by its promise to limit U.S. military engagement against Islamic State extremists, making it tough to agree to Turkey's condition for joining the fight in neighboring Syria.

Turkey and other U.S. allies want the U.S. to create a no-fly zone inside Syrian territory. Doing so would mean embracing one of two options President Barack Obama has long resisted: cooperating with Syrian President Bashar Assad's government or taking out its air defenses, action tantamount to war.

Airstrikes alone might not prevent Islamic militants from carrying out a massacre at a Kurdish border town, but for now the U.S. isn't steering a new course in its expanded, one-month counterterrorism effort in Iraq and Syria.

Demands are rising for the creation of a secure buffer on the Syrian side of its frontier with Turkey as the U.S. and its coalition members plead with the Turks to prevent the fall of Kobani, where the United Nations is warning of mass casualties. A "safe zone" would require Americans and their partners to protect ground territory and patrol the skies, meaning it would have to enforce a no-fly area.

Turkey's take

Turkey, an American NATO ally, is demanding such a step for a variety of reasons. A buffer might stem the flow of refugees into Turkish territory. It also could provide Syrian opposition fighters with a staging ground for their rebellion to oust Assad — something that Turkey wants to see happen.

The U.S., wary of the implications, wants the focus to remain on defeating Islamic State militants who've captured large areas of northern Syria and Iraq. Yet some of America's closest partners and Obama's fiercest foreign policy critics at home are sympathetic to Turkey's request.

France issued a statement last week announcing its support. The Republican head of the House Foreign Affairs Committee believes Arab countries would shoulder the load. Even Secretary of State John Kerry is describing a no-fly zone as an idea worth examining.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has shown little enthusiasm for the idea. American leaders are open to discussing a safe zone, he said last week, but creating one isn't "actively being considered."

"When it comes to the so-called buffer zone, no-fly zone, they've proposed these for some time," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said Friday. "We are not considering the implementation of this option at this time."

For the U.S. military, creating a protected corridor in Syria safe from the Islamic State group's ground attacks and Syria's air force raises obvious red flags. Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has estimated the endeavor would require hundreds of U.S. aircraft and cost as much as $1 billion a month to maintain, with no assurance of a change in battlefield momentum toward ending the Syrian civil war. That means U.S. enforcement could become open-ended.

Shawn Nickel/
Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

A U.S. Navy EA-6B Prowler supporting operations against the militant Islamic State group leaves after being refueled by a KC-135 Statotanker over Iraq on Oct. 4

The Pentagon learned that lesson in Iraq when it established one no-fly zone over northern Iraq to protect Iraqi Kurds and another over southern Iraq to protect Shiites — both in 1991 in the aftermath of the Gulf War. Those protective zones were enforced by U.S. Air Force and Navy pilots for a dozen years, until the March 2003 invasion of Iraq.

A formidable defense

Implementing such zones in Syria would create a direct confrontation with one of the Middle East's most formidable air defenses, a system bolstered in recent years by top-of-the-line Russian hardware. The Syrians possess multiple surface-to-air missiles providing overlapping coverage and thousands of anti-aircraft guns capable of engaging attacking aircraft at lower levels. Moscow infuriated Washington last year when it confirmed that it would sell to Syria its S-300 anti-aircraft missiles, considered to be the cutting edge in aircraft interception technology.

For the Obama administration, the political challenges of a no-fly zone may be even greater.

Given the threat to U.S. pilots, the military would need rescue personnel stationed nearby, perhaps in Turkey or Iraq. If a U.S. flier were shot down, a rescue team would have to put boots on the ground in Syria, which Obama has repeatedly ruled out.

Engaging in direct military action against Assad's government also would severely stretch the United States' already tenuous claims that its intervention in Syria is legal under U.S. and international law. Many members of Congress are challenging the administration's justification for war on the basis of the Bush administration's 2001 authorization to fight al-Qaida. The Islamic State group grew out of the al-Qaida movement, but the two are now enemies. The U.S. has no U.N. mandate to wage war in Syria, against rebels or the government.

Other options

To avoid these pitfalls, the U.S. could try to reach an accommodation with Syria's government. But Obama has ruled out this step, too, even if Syrian forces are similarly battling the Islamic State militants, because of their atrocious list of alleged human rights violations and war crimes. These include massacres of civilians and opposition forces and several chemical weapons attacks, according to Western governments and human rights groups.

Washington is searching for an alternative approach with Turkey. On Friday, retired Marine Gen. John Allen, the U.S. special envoy, and his State Department deputy, Brett McGurk, met in Ankara with senior Turkish officials and NATO's secretary-general and discussed "where we think Turkey can contribute more, especially along the military line of effort," Harf said. She praised Turkey for agreeing to help train and equip moderate Syrian opposition forces and said U.S. military planners would hold further talks with their Turkish counterparts this week.

Kerry, meanwhile, is in the Middle East for some "coalition massaging" this weekend, according to U.S. officials. On the sidelines of a Gaza reconstruction conference in Cairo, he will discuss the effort against the Islamic State group with foreign ministers from Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries pressing for more robust American action. Kerry, however, isn't preparing to present a new direction in the strategy, said the officials, who weren't authorized to speak by name on the matter and demanded anonymity.

'We are not considering the implementation of this (a no-fly zone) at this time.'

Marie Harf
State Department spokeswoman

Lefteris Pitarakis/AP

A Turkish armored vehicle patrols a Turkish-Syrian border road in Mursitpinar, on the outskirts of Suruc, Turkey.

US: Where will Turks train Syria opposition?

By Lolita C. Baldor
The Associated Press

TOLEMAIDA MILITARY BASE, Colombia — U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Friday that the U.S. wants to know how far Turkey is willing to go in helping to train and equip moderate opposition fighters trying to topple Syrian President Bashar Assad, including whether it will conduct training on its own land.

Turkey has agreed to support efforts to train and equip the Syrian opposition, but the U.S. doesn't yet know whether Ankara is willing to do the training inside Turkey itself. Saudi Arabia, for instance, has agreed to host training facilities for Syrian rebels on its territory. U.S. officials are still discussing the details with Turkish officials.

"The specifics that go with train and equip — locations, contributions, trainers — will be part of that conversation," Hagel said in Colombia, his first stop on a six-day trip to South America. "Part of those discussions will include how far Turkey is willing to go. Certainly one of those questions will be, will they be willing to provide training locations."

Hagel said a joint team from U.S. Central Command and U.S. European Command will travel to Turkey this week to meet with officials there and discuss the different ways Turkey can contribute to the effort to degrade the Islamic State militants.

Assad's forces continue to fight opposition forces, but the Syrian civil war — now in its fourth year — has been eclipsed by Islamic militants' battle to overrun the city of Kobani along Syria's border with Turkey. In recent months, the Islamic extremists have taken control of territory across Iraq and Syria at lightning speed.

U.S. and coalition forces have been launching airstrikes near Kobani, which officials believe could fall to the militants.

The U.S. has been urging Turkey to get more involved in the battle against the extremists. Ankara has hesitated and has persistently asked the U.S. to set up a safe zone along Turkey's border with Syria. Hagel said earlier that such a zone was not actively being considered, although U.S. officials are open to discussing it.

'Part of those discussions will include how far Turkey is willing to go. Certainly one of those questions will be, will they be willing to provide training locations.'

Chuck Hagel
Department of Defense secretary

Hagel said Thursday that in addition to helping train the Syrian opposition, the U.S. also would like to get access to the Turkish air base at Incirlik in southern Turkey as a base from which to launch strikes against the Islamic militants.

Asked if Turkey had agreed to give the U.S. such permission at Incirlik, Hagel said only that "basing rights would be helpful" and that it will be part of the discussions.

His comments came during a press conference at the Colombian air base here, where he watched a demonstration by the nation's special operations forces.

Hagel also is stopping in Chile and Peru, where he will attend a conference of defense ministers from the Americas.

NATION

Army War College revokes senator's master's degree

By Matthew Brown and Matt Volz
The Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. — Sen. John Walsh's name has been removed from the U.S. Army War College's academic rolls and grinded from a plaque listing the members of the graduating class of 2007 after the college stripped him of his degree for plagiarism.

The announcement that the war college revoked the Montana Democrat's 2007 master's degree on Friday marked the end of a swift-moving controversy that began with a newspaper story in July and led to Walsh's withdrawal from the U.S. Senate race weeks later.

Walsh

The lingering question is what effect the academic review board's plagiarism report will have on the Senate race between Republican U.S. Rep. Steve Daines and the Democratic nominee who replaced Walsh, state Rep. Amanda Curtis of Butte.

Probably none, according to Montana State University political analyst David Parker.

"I can't see why it would matter at all. If he were still in the race, yes, there would be all kinds of consequences," Parker said. "He's gone, yesterday's news."

Republicans need a net gain of six seats in November to take Senate control. With Walsh gone and replaced by Curtis, a little-known state lawmaker without the time and resources to mount a campaign that matches Daines', the GOP sees Montana as a prime target to pick up a seat that's been in Democratic hands for more than a century.

The damage was done once Walsh dropped out of the race in the wake of a New York Times story showing Walsh borrowed heavily from other sources for the paper he wrote for a master of strategic studies degree in 2007. He remained as Montana's junior U.S. senator, a seat he was appointed to in February when Max Baucus resigned to become ambassador to China.

Walsh wrote the paper as a 47-year-old colonel in the National Guard, a year away from becoming Montana's adjutant general overseeing the state National Guard. His strategic research project was on the subject of spreading democracy in the Middle East, and was a requirement for the degree.

The college assigned an academic review board to investigate the plagiarism allegations raised by the Times. The review board's report, released Friday, found the plagiarism "egregious." A review of Walsh's paper by the school's director of communicative arts found little, if any, original language or research.

Walsh appealed the findings and recommendation that his degree be revoked. War College Commandant Major Gen. William Rapp rejected the appeal in a letter dated Friday.

Walsh's office released a statement saying the senator disagrees with the findings but accepts the college's decision.

"I apologize to all Montanans for the plagiarism in my 2007 paper, and I am prepared to live with its consequences," Walsh said in the statement. "I may not be a scholar, but I am proud to have been a soldier who has served Montana and this great nation for 33 years in uniform."

Charles Rex Arbogast/AP

A protester yells at a Missouri State Police officer during a protest at the Ferguson, Mo., police headquarters Friday.

Protests expand across St. Louis

By Alan Scher Zagier
The Associated Press

FERGUSON, Mo. — Tense but peaceful protests over Michael Brown's death and other fatal police shootings in Missouri and elsewhere stretched across the St. Louis region Friday as organizers urged hundreds of participants to avoid arrest so that they could return for a weekend of demonstrations.

The four-day event called Ferguson October began Friday afternoon with a march outside the St. Louis County prosecutor's office in Clayton and renewed calls for prosecutor Bob McCulloch to charge Darren Wilson, a white Ferguson officer, in the Aug. 9 death of 18-year-old Brown, who was black and unarmed. A grand jury is reviewing the case.

The demonstrations moved to Ferguson on Friday night as protesters stood inches from officers in riot gear before demonstrators disbursed. Many then went to the site of a police shooting in St. Louis, where another demonstration is planned Saturday. By 2 a.m. Saturday, St. Louis police had blocked a main road that crosses an interstate highway near Saint Louis University's medical complex, but the heavy police restrictions didn't keep hundreds more — including many newcomers from across the country — from marching in the streets.

"It's important for this country to stand with this community," said protester Ellen Davidson of New York, a community college administrator who was making her second trip to the St. Louis area since Brown's death. "This community is under siege. ... The eyes of the world are watching."

The planned Saturday morning protest in downtown St. Louis will take place hours before the Cardinals host the San Francisco Giants in the first game of the National League Championship Series. And on Monday, a series of acts of civil disobedience are to take place throughout the St. Louis region.

"I'm not planning to get arrested," said Davidson, who accompanied about 15 other members of Veterans for Peace from Illinois, Minnesota, New York and Tennessee. "But I do plan to do what I believe are in my rights as a protester. If I get arrested, that's on the people who arrest me."

Organizers said before the weekend that they expected 6,000 to 10,000 participants, but the initial protest outside the county courthouse, which took place amid a cold and steady rain, didn't draw nearly that amount. Tensions increased in Ferguson, with hundreds of protesters gathering outside the Ferguson Police Department and chanting anti-police remarks such as, "Killer cops, KKK, how many kids did you kill today?" as a wall of about 100 officers in riot gear stood impassively.

In Clayton, officers escorted the several hundred demonstrators through the suburb's downtown as they marched past high-end restaurants, jewelry stores, banks and law offices.

"We are here to demand the justice that our people have died for," chanted protest organizer Montague Simmons of the local group Organization for Black Struggle. "We are here to bring peace, to bring restoration, to lift our banners in the name of those who've been sacrificed."

The early Saturday morning protests took place on St. Louis' south side, where on Wednesday night a white police officer shot and killed another black 18-year-old. Police say Vonderrit D. Myers shot at the St. Louis officer, who was in uniform but working off-duty for a private neighborhood security patrol. Myers' parents say he was unarmed.

Report: Colorado school shooter sought revenge for bullying

By Sadie Gurman
The Associated Press

CENTENNIAL, Colo. — The student who killed a classmate before taking his own life at a suburban Denver high school last year wrote in his diary that he was "a psychopath with a superiority complex," and he hoped that the attack would start a conversation about school bullying.

Karl Pierson, 18, wrote that he planned the Dec. 13 attack at Arapahoe High School for months to exact revenge for being teased in elementary school, according to investigative reports released Friday.

"Words hurt, can mold a sociopath, and will lead someone a decade later to kill," he wrote in a document titled "A diary of a madman."

The victim's parents said they hoped the shooting would prompt administrators and lawmakers to find ways to improve school safety by focusing on students' psychological needs.

"The people of Colorado deserve more than to have to sit idly waiting for the next student in imminent crisis to harm or kill another person or themselves," Michael and Desiree Davis, parents of Claire Davis, 17, wrote in a statement.

Their comments came as authorities offered the first new details about the case since the shooting.

Police have said Pierson held a grudge against his debate coach and was targeting him when he entered the school with a shotgun, a machete, homemade bombs and 125 rounds of ammunition. Pierson shot and killed Davis, who was sitting with a friend in a hallway, before taking his own life in the school library as security officers closed in on him.

The coach, Tracy Murphy, escaped unharmed.

School officials determined Pierson was not a danger after a staffer overheard him in a school parking lot threatening to kill Murphy on Sept. 3, after the coach removed him as captain of the debate team. A school resource officer who is also a sheriff's deputy took a report of the threat two days later, but the department took no action against Pierson because he hadn't committed a crime, Sheriff Dave Walcher said.

The shooting plot was "a 10-year subconscious project for me to exact revenge, not on the individuals who perpetrated wrong, but instead by those I believe have done me wrong," Pierson wrote in his diary. "I will do something I have wanted to do for a while — mass murder and be in a place of power where I and I alone are judge, jury and executioner."

The browser history on Pierson's laptop included searches for "rampage" and "school massacre," according to the report. Investigators also found images related to the deadly school shootings at Columbine High School and at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

NATION

Students charged with sex crimes in NJ hazing case

By Sean Carlin
The Associated Press

PARLIN, N.J. — Seven students were charged with sex crimes in connection with a series of assaults amid an investigation into hazing by a high school football team.

The case already has led to the cancellation of the rest of the season, authorities said.

Six of the seven students, ranging in age from 15 to 17, were arrested Friday night, and the seventh was being sought, police and prosecutors said.

The group attacked four students at Sayreville War Memorial High School, a regional football power, on four separate occasions between Sept. 19 and Sept. 29, authorities said. Their investigation found that the students held other teens against their will and improperly touched them in a sexual manner. One of the victims was kicked during an attack, authorities said.

Three of the students were charged with aggravated sexual assault, criminal restraint, hazing and other crimes for an act of sexual penetration upon one of the children, Middlesex County prosecutor Andrew C. Carey said. The four other students were charged with aggravated criminal sexual contact and other crimes.

Those in custody were awaiting a family court decision on whether they would be held at a juvenile detention facility or be released to their families. Their names weren't released because of their ages.

On Friday evening, as what would have been game time on the planned homecoming night neared, the lights at Sayreville War Memorial High football stadium stayed off and the field remained empty.

Mel Evans/AP

Authorities say four Sayreville (N.J.) War Memorial High School students were attacked between Sept. 19 and Sept. 19.

Four days earlier, schools Superintendent Richard Labbe announced he was canceling the rest of the season after the prosecutor's office substantiated allegations of hazing involving members of the school's football team.

Parents in the township have complained that the whole team is being punished. The team, the Bombers, has won three sectional titles over four years.

Labbe has stood by his decision and said the time has come for students and others to step forward when bullying occurs. He said Friday the district has launched a harassment, intimidation and bullying investigation of all its athletic teams.

"In the ensuing days, weeks, and months," he said in a statement, "we will come together as a school district and greater community to harness the strength required to support the young men who may have been victimized and then to begin the healing process for our beloved community."

An anti-bullying rally has been scheduled for Sunday night in Kennedy Park. Holly Emory, whose son plays on the football team, said parents have asked those attending not to wear Bombers gear so they don't "pour salt in the wound."

Alaska police sorry for telling wrong family of death

By Dan Joling
The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — An Alaska couple knocked on the door of their son's long-time girlfriend Thursday, intending to inform her that he'd been killed in a car accident.

Karen and Jay Priest instead were stunned when the son, Justin Priest, 29, answered the door. They had mistakenly been told by Juneau police that he'd been killed in the crash.

Karen Priest said her husband started sobbing, and she was in shock.

"There are no words," she said on Friday, still wrung out from what she called an emotional roller coaster. "We just kept staring at him."

Justin Priest said he'd gotten up to let out his 9-week-old puppy and was near the door at 5:30 a.m. when his parents and brother knocked. They started screaming when he opened the door.

The Priests live outside of Palmer. At 3 a.m. Thursday, they were awakened by their barking dogs and a knock on the door. Through a window, Jay saw a man with the drill sergeant hat of an Alaska State Trooper.

"He knew right away, the dread. It's not good when a trooper knocks on your door at three o'clock in the morning," Karen Priest said.

Bill Roth, The (Anchorage) Alaska Dispatch News/AP

Justin Priest holds his 9-week-old yellow lab, Lily, in Anchorage, Alaska, on Thursday.

The trooper informed them that Justin, a private fisheries biologist in Anchorage, had died in Juneau.

The trooper gave them a Juneau police phone number. When the couple called there, an officer said Justin's car had crashed into a tree at high speed. That didn't sound like Justin, Karen said. The officer said the investigation was ongoing, which to her implied alcohol use, and that didn't sound right, either, she said.

They started calling out-of-state relatives. The Priests dressed and drove 45 miles to Anchorage to tell another son, Cody. Awakened at 4:30 a.m., Cody collapsed when he heard the news, Karen said.

The parents and Cody drove to find Justin's long-time girlfriend, Julia, so she could hear the news in person. Jay knocked on the door.

"It opens, and right here is Justin," Karen said. "I don't even see it, but Jay is sobbing. It doesn't compute to me. Then I see him. You want it to be true, but you go, 'Am I hallucinating?' Justin didn't know what was going on."

"I didn't know why they were yelling and screaming," Justin Priest said. "I was mostly asleep. They were yelling, 'Praise Jesus! It's a miracle!' "

It took a few minutes to sort out what happened. Justin initially thought his parents were the victims of a scam. After "lots of hugging, lots of tears," he called Juneau police to tell them they had identified the wrong Justin Priest.

Juneau police have apologized for the anguish the mistake caused and are reviewing audiotapes and other records to find out what went wrong.

"I'm almost speechless for words," Chief Bryce Johnson said. "This shouldn't happen."

Police wanted troopers to contact the Priest family to find out if the crash victim was their son. The request was unclearly transmitted or misinterpreted, Johnson said, and the officer took the assignment as a death notification.

"We have to take responsibility for that," Johnson said. "It was our case."

> **'I'm almost speechless for words. This shouldn't happen.'**
>
> **Bryce Johnson**
> Juneau, Alaska, police chief

Slaying case reveal nature of police work in Alaska

The Associated Press

BETHEL, Alaska — A man faces two counts of first-degree murder after officials said he killed his parents with an ax, in a case that illustrates the challenges of police work in remote Alaskan villages that do not have law enforcement officers.

Everett Semone, 21, of Shageluk, was arraigned Thursday at the courthouse in Bethel, appearing via teleconference from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center. Bail was set at $500,000, and a preliminary hearing was scheduled Oct. 20 in Anvik.

Alaska State Troopers said Flossie Semone, 46, and John Arrow, 57, were killed in Shageluk, a village of 83 people. Residents told troopers that the two were the man's parents.

Although the slayings happened Tuesday night, Alaska State Troopers were unable to reach the village, located about 350 miles west of Anchorage, until Wednesday. Meanwhile, residents had taken Semone into custody and were holding him in a town building. Shageluk does not have law enforcement officers.

"That's a reality of living in rural Alaska," said Megan Peters, spokeswoman for the Alaska Department of Public Safety, on Friday.

While people in the Lower 48 might complain about law officers taking 15 minutes to arrive at a crime scene, "in a place like rural Alaska, it's hours and potentially days," Peters said.

But in this case, the response time does not appear to have made any difference, Peters said. The victims died, and the suspect was in custody long before officers could have responded under the best of circumstances, she said.

According to charging documents from Sgt. Nicholas Zito, a caller "reported that Everett Semone 'went crazy' and attacked his parents Flossie Semone and Arrow with an ax at their Shageluk residence. Everett was reportedly running loose in the village."

Residents requested troopers that evening, and a medevac flight was arranged out of Bethel to attend to two injured people. Two troopers were to have been on that flight.

However, troopers say residents later called back to say the couple had died, and the hospital canceled the medevac.

Troopers then didn't have a way to get to Shageluk, which isn't on the road system, until chartering a flight on Wednesday from Anvik.

After troopers arrived, they found Arrow's body at the end of the hallway leading from the front door to the living room, where they found Flossie Semone, the charging document said.

KTUU reported that the charging documents said both suffered wounds "consistent with the use of a hatchet."

The bodies were sent to Anchorage for autopsies.

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OPINION

Health law can't shake Obamacare label

By Jonathan Bernstein
Bloomberg News

A Gallup poll released Wednesday confirms what anyone paying attention knows: The Affordable Care Act's successes aren't changing negative views on "Obamacare," including what people report about their personal experiences with health care. Yet the very characteristics that make Obamacare unpopular make the ACA safe from repeal.

The design of the law almost ensured a negative response from the public, given that the benefits that people like aren't labeled "Courtesy of Obamacare." No such confusion exists with the benefits delivered by, say, Social Security or Medicare, which is why most Americans are attached to those programs. Even though President Barack Obama's mediocre approval ratings contribute to Obamacare's bad poll numbers, most of the blame can be attributed to this structural aspect of the law, not the president.

Going to the numbers: 16 percent of Gallup's respondents agreed that Obamacare has "helped" them and their family; 27 percent said the law had "hurt." There's a sharp partisan split: 40 percent of Republicans said the law "hurt," and just 4 percent said it "helped." Among Democrats, however, 27 percent said it "helped" and 15 percent said it "hurt." To some extent that could reflect real disparities in health situations between Republicans and Democrats. But the bulk of the difference is almost certainly due to a combination of the general attitude toward Obama and information flows that make Democrats more likely to be exposed to good news (real and imagined) about the law and for Republicans to know about real and imagined problems with it.

People on expanded Medicaid may not credit Obamacare, but they are going to want to know why their coverage went away.

The partisan divide doesn't explain why relatively few people, regardless of political affiliation, feel the law has helped them, even though, as Jonathan Cohn points out, there have almost certainly been more winners than losers.

The reason more people believe they've been hurt than helped is that peak awareness of the ACA's benefits is already in the past, and it wasn't very broad in the first place.

Why?

For one thing, even though the ACA may have moderated the rise in the cost of health care, even smaller price increases will be perceived as a harmful result of the law. There's always variation in costs, and Republicans are going to publicize any spikes and Democrats aren't going to trumpet increases, even when they are at or below trend. Indeed, Republicans will blame reform for every bad health care story, regardless of whether it's ACA-related.

Another reason for the bad feeling is that there's little reason for most consumers to connect health care benefits that they like with a law passed more than four years ago.

For example:

How many young people who are able to stay on their parents' insurance know they have Obamacare to thank?

How many people with (private!) insurance purchased through an exchange — either state exchanges such as Kynect or Covered California or the federal Healthcare.gov — know that those plans are part of "Obamacare"?

How many people in expanded Medicaid know they are receiving Obamacare?

How many people know Obamacare is the reason they don't exceed annual or lifetime reimbursement caps?

I suspect that most people who enrolled this year after previously having been denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition know the ACA helped them. But many applying for health insurance for the first time probably don't realize that their pre-existing conditions would have barred them from coverage before Obamacare. Fewer people are likely to credit Obamacare in the future because they won't know there was a time when people were denied coverage.

None of these observations settles the question of whether the ACA is good or bad policy. But they do mean that anyone contemplating repeal should ignore the poll numbers and think hard about what consumers would say if the benefits they enjoy were to disappear. People on expanded Medicaid may not credit Obamacare, but they sure are going to want to know why their coverage went away. The same is true of people who obtained insurance through the exchanges or have benefited in other ways.

Remember, just as Obama is now held responsible for any bad news on health care — even if there's no connection to the ACA — the blame would shift to Republicans if they successfully push repeal, with or without a replacement.

Pay for Success worth a look for social ills

By Jay Ambrose
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Hallelujah, fellow citizens. There's a relatively new idea trotting about in the land. It offers great hope of addressing persistent, heartrending social problems effectively and without waste, it is backed by conservatives and liberals and it could ultimately replace a system that has provided far too little for far too much.

You've seen this old way of doing things all your life. Congress figures it has the final answer to something it clearly knows little about, it then combines political conniving with good intentions and it delivers maybe just a portion of the intended consequences along with some harmful unintended ones. Though the cost is high, even the most obviously fruitless programs often stick around indefinitely because they develop powerful constituencies bolstering them while critics get dismissed as compassionless and mean-spirited.

And the new idea? It is sometimes boringly called social income bonds but is more interestingly identified as Pay for Success. It comes from Britain, has been tried some both here and in Australia and works like this: A government agency identifies some social dread it wants fixed and then strikes a deal with a nongovernmental organization to fix it. This outfit will then find investors to fund managers who put together ways to tackle the problem. The investors get no money back from the government until a trusted, impartial, independent entity verifies that the goals have been reached in accordance with previously determined criteria.

The mechanism can be used by federal, state and local governments to address a host of problems, ranging from homelessness to school dropouts to joblessness, and its benefits seem apparent. Those financing the projects will have clear incentives to identify top, creative leaders to make them work and, if they don't work, the government will be out no money.

While none of this has been around more than four years, there's already some evidence it works, namely a report that a British program reduced the annual recidivism rate of prisoners released at one prison by 11 percent even as the national recidivism rate increased by 10 percent.

In this country, a couple of think tanks have grown especially excited and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government is developing ideas about ways to proceed. The Obama administration has shown intense interest and has been pushing ahead. A Republican and a Democrat in the House of Representatives have introduced a bill providing more money for more programs. Scouting various articles we learn that New York City has its own program to reduce recidivism rates, Massachusetts has a program to more successfully rehabilitate young prisoners and Utah has one to better prepare children for what they will face in kindergarten.

Maybe some of this will work far less well than the British program. After all, there's always room for much to go wrong as new ways of doing things march forward. Additionally, it is clearly true that no set of programs can refashion all the political, cultural and economic factors that contribute to the ways lives get dragged down. But there's ample room for optimism. While the methodology did not originate here, it fits in splendidly with what we are as a people, our high-energy, imaginative, entrepreneurial, can-do spirit and charitable impulses that evince themselves in a multitude of ways. The possibilities for ultimately large achievement will surely tug on us.

The most exciting of these possibilities? It's that we will help people out of desperate circumstances, that we will become a society with less disadvantage, less crime, less unemployment. For this to happen on a grand scale will obviously require more than Pay for Success, but this approach may contribute to still other ways in which adversarial ideologies find common ground and more new answers are located for some very old problems.

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune.

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OPINION

Nobel prize shines light on struggle for girls' rights

By Robyn Dixon
Los Angeles Times

They're denied an education, kidnapped, gang-raped and sold in the market. They're forced to cart water, and they're married off early to old men.

Then one extraordinary girl, Malala Yousafzai, escaped the fate of others and soared to freedom, voicing the pain and terror of adolescent girls across large parts of the world.

Malala, who was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday with Indian children's rights activist Kailash Satyarthi, has become a symbol of hope in her homeland, Pakistan, where girls are sometimes slain by their families in "honor killings" if they dare to marry for love, or are kept out of school in deeply conservative communities.

The award comes as girls are under attack by extremists in countries such as Nigeria, Iraq and Afghanistan, and are routinely abused in nations including India, Somalia and South Africa.

In Nigeria, hundreds of schoolgirls kidnapped by the violent Islamist militia Boko Haram are still in captivity, including nearly 219 seized in April, whose fate was highlighted in the "BringBackOurGirls" Twitter campaign this year.

In Iraq, the militant group Islamic State has kidnapped hundreds of girls of the minority Yazidi sect in recent months who are raped and sold like cattle or given to commanders as gifts, activists say.

In India, where horrific cases of sexual abuse of girls and young women surface regularly, two girls were raped and killed in a village in Uttar Pradesh state in May. Their bodies were found hanging in a mango tree. They had gone outside their home at night to relieve themselves in a field because of a lack of bathrooms.

"This award is for all the children who are voiceless, whose voices need to be heard," Malala, 17, said after she became the youngest recipient in history of a prize that is infrequently awarded to women.

Spotlighting the struggles of boys as well as girls, the Nobel committee announced in Oslo that the award was also being given to Satyarthi, 60, founder of Bachpan Bachao Andolan, or the Save the Childhood Movement, which has campaigned to free thousands of children from forced labor and human trafficking. Both Malala and Satyarthi have made exceptional sacrifices, facing the very real possibility of death for their work as advocates for children.

The decision was packed with symbolism: a shared award for a Pakistani and an Indian, each struggling for children's rights in neighboring rival nuclear nations, whose disputed borders in Kashmir have been racked by intense shelling in recent days. The difference in the two recipients' ages illustrated that the struggle for fundamental human rights is everyone's concern.

The committee announced that the pair would receive the award "for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education." It said it "regards it as an important point for a Hindu and a Muslim, an Indian and a Pakistani, to join in a common struggle for education and against extremism."

Malala, a high school student, was at school in Birmingham, England, when the prize was announced and made the world wait until after school for her comments.

"This is not the end. ... I want to see every child going to school and getting an education," she said.

The daughter of a school administrator in the town of Mingora, she had bristled against a Taliban rule against education for girls when she was as young as 11. Despairing at the thought of a life stuck at home, she wrote a blog, campaigning for girls' education, and appeared on TV and in an international documentary.

In October 2012, she was aboard a school bus in the Swat Valley, in northwestern Pakistan, when Taliban gunmen asked for her by name and opened fire. A bullet to the head nearly killed her.

Malala has impressed television audiences with her soft-spoken philosophy of forgiveness and peace, and with the steely strength behind it. Her comments to the United Nations last year voiced her hope for something better for girls: "The terrorists thought that they would change our aims and stop our ambitions but nothing changed in my life except this: Weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born.

"I am the same Malala. My ambitions are the same. My hopes are the same. My dreams are the same," she said.

Shahidullah Jan, a Peshawar-based activist of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, an independent organization, said Friday that Malala's campaign had helped improve girls' access to education in Pakistan but had done little to change entrenched practices such as early marriage and honor killings in deeply conservative regions like the Swat Valley.

"It will take time for the girls inspired by Malala to become educated and start speaking for their rights. It will take time to bring change, but she at least has started the process," Jan said.

Liesl Gerntholtz, Human Rights Watch director for women's rights, said the fact that Malala was awarded the prize was indicative of growing global awareness of abuses against girls.

She said it was important to be aware that boys were vulnerable to violence, forced labor and other abuses, but added that girls were more vulnerable.

"The fact that Malala, a 17-year-old Pakistani girl, should win a Nobel Peace Prize is an important indication that the world is recognizing that this is a problem that we need to address," she said. "Progress is being made. But a lot more needs to be done."

Robyn Dixon covers sub-Saharan Africa for the Los Angeles Times.

Republicans elect to give up fight on gay marriage

By Charles Lane
The Washington Post

It's hard to believe, in the wake of last week's Supreme Court refusal to review federal court rulings in favor of gay marriage, but some gay-marriage backers once took a dim view of federal constitutional lawsuits meant to advance the cause.

They feared the consequences of losing, of course. But they also feared winning. Same-sex marriage by judicial fiat could be attacked as not only morally wrong but also anti-democratic, spawning a long-lasting backlash like the one against the court's 1973 abortion-rights ruling, Roe v. Wade.

As Jonathan Rauch, a Brookings Institution scholar and longtime proponent of gay marriage, wrote in 2009: "[S]o abrupt and heavy-handed a means would undermine the desired end by fomenting a fierce backlash and making gay marriage a bone of national political contention for decades to come — if it did not produce a federal constitutional amendment banning gay marriage for good."

This concern was hardly unfounded: A Hawaii court's 1993 ruling provoked the federal Defense of Marriage Act; multiple states voted for one-man, one-woman constitutional amendments in 2004; Iowans voted out three state Supreme Court justices who had backed a pro-gay-marriage ruling.

Now, however, federal judges in some of the most conservative regions of the country have essentially decreed a constitutional right to same-sex marriage — and the response has been notable mainly for its tepidity.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee called on state officials to resist, but that solitary stand probably won't get any more traction than his futile advocacy of a one-man, one-woman amendment to the Constitution. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, called for a constitutional amendment, too — to enshrine the relatively moderate proposition that marriage should be left to the states.

Most GOP figures, including some facing re-election next month, such as Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, of Kentucky, basically tried to change the subject. The new mainstream Republican position on gay marriage is not redoubled resistance; it's embarrassed silence.

Obviously, the unexpectedly swift shift of public opinion in favor of gay marriage explains much of this muted response but not all of it. The public generally favored some form of legal right to abortion at the time of Roe, but that didn't stop a dedicated minority from building a pro-life movement after the ruling came down.

Those of us who expected a greater backlash failed to anticipate that, even though gay marriage and abortion are both "social issues," the former lacks the latter's power to galvanize opposition — even on the right. Whereas the antiabortion cause draws energy from a narrative of harm rooted in the undeniably difficult physical realities of surgical pregnancy termination ("abortion stops a beating heart"), opponents of gay marriage struggle to describe its harms except in abstract terms of symbolism and tradition.

To be sure, they have made some headway in advancing a worst-case scenario based on religious objectors who might be forced to play some role in same-sex weddings, directly or indirectly. And, as Huckabee's reaction shows, that will excite many evangelical conservatives.

But in cold political terms, the religious freedom issue is not the stuff of broad-based backlash. It's a dilemma for a politically declining minority, whose legitimate concerns can probably be addressed.

The remaining issue of judicial usurpation is inherently procedural, of interest mainly to conservative legal intellectuals who themselves are probably generally far softer on gay marriage as a substantive issue than are evangelicals. Indeed, in the years since Roe, conservatives as well as liberals have discovered the uses of judicial activism. For today's Republicans, there's actually an ironic convenience in letting the courts relieve them of active responsibility for an issue that suddenly poses risks for the party on all fronts.

Perhaps everything will change if and when the Supreme Court issues a definitive, final ruling in favor of same-sex marriage. Meanwhile, marriage's triumphant march through the lower courts is demonstrating that, while legislation is generally the optimal source of democratic legitimacy, as Rauch and others suggested, for this particular social revolution, it is not the only one.

Instead, we are witnessing an alternative process of legitimation, in which federal judges lead, and elected officials follow — but where the latter's perceived political interest, in light of voter sentiment, causes them to accept (or acquiesce to) the courts' rulings. It's a passive, reactive kind of decision-making, to be sure, but meaningful nonetheless. In economics, they call this sort of thing "revealed preference."

If these politicians have radically misread the public mood, voters retain ultimate power to hold them accountable, through the ballot box, Cruz's amendment or one of the other myriad checks and balances of the American system.

But at this point, the only thing more astonishing than the gay marriage revolution would be a successful backlash against it.

Charles Lane is a member of The Washington Post's editorial board.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Marijuana soda bottles explode at pot shop

WA BELLINGHAM — Bottles of legal marijuana-infused soda delivered to a Washington state pot shop started exploding on the store shelf.

The manager of Top Shelf Cannabis, Zach Henifin, told KOMO that "it sounded like a shotgun going off."

No one was injured at the store in Bellingham in northern Washington, where recreational pot is legal. Henifin wore a face guard and protective clothing to move more than 300 bottles to a steel trash bin, and most had exploded by Tuesday.

The sparkling pomegranate soda was made by Mirth Provisions and delivered on Sept. 28. Employees found a sticky mess the next day and heard and saw bottles randomly explode.

Mirth Provisions founder Adam Stites said there was too much yeast in the soda, and fermentation caused excess carbon dioxide to build up.

Man charged in subway shooting; no one hurt

IL CHICAGO — Authorities have charged a man who they say used an assault rifle to fire at a Chicago subway train as it pulled into a business district station.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that Lorenzo Jones, 25, was charged Thursday with four felony counts, including aggravated unlawful use of a weapon. No one was injured in the Thursday morning shooting on the Blue Line's LaSalle Street platform.

Chicago Police Superintendent Gerry McCarthy said before charges were filed that the suspect was targeting the train, not passengers, when he fired five shots. McCarthy described the man's behavior as "kind of bizarre" and said he didn't know his motive.

University suspends 2 students over sex video

NJ GLASSBORO — New Jersey's Rowan University has suspended two students for posting a sex video online.

The suspension Wednesday was reported by the Courier-Post.

The university said one male filmed sex between another man and a female student last month, and that the men later put the video on two porn websites.

A university spokesman said the students were all adults and the sexual activity was consensual, but that the woman did not know it was being recorded or posted.

No criminal charges have been filed, but the two men were charged with violating college rules.

Teacher's gun goes off in faculty bathroom

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A Utah schoolteacher injured when her gun accidentally went off in a faculty bathroom has been charged with a misdemeanor crime and resigned from her position.

Online court records show Michelle Montgomery, 39, was charged earlier this month with discharging a firearm in a prohibited area within city limits. An arraignment has been set for Nov. 5.

Granite School District spokesman Ben Horsley said Montgomery was facing discipline for violating school policy but was not fired. He said Montgomery informed the district Thursday she would not be coming back to her position as a sixth-grade teacher at Westbrook Elementary School.

Man seeks to make amends for 1960 theft

FL LAKELAND — Some 54 years after stealing several newspaper racks, a U.S. Navy veteran has sent a letter of apology and a check for $200 to The Ledger, of Lakeland, Fla.

Bernard Schermerhorn said he's followed the rules for most of his 73 years, but caved to peer pressure as a teenager and went along with a friend's scheme to steal several racks from The Ledger.

In a Sept. 30 letter to the newspaper, Schermerhorn said they took a handful of change and then dumped the racks.

Schermerhorn, who lives in Le Mesa, Calif., told the newspaper the check would more than cover the damage and theft of about $10. Publisher Kevin Drake said he's sending Schermerhorn a thank you letter and will donate the money to a children's charity in Lakeland.

1,900-pound pumpkin wins top honors

NH FARMINGTON — A New Hampshire man's 1,900-pound pumpkin has won the top prize at a fair and is believed to be the state record.

Hiram Watson, of Farmington, won the $5,500 prize at the recent fair in Topsfield, Mass., which is affiliated with a group called the Giant Pumpkin Commonwealth.

Watson planted his seed on April 10. Some cold weather in September caused some worry that the pumpkin would split, but Watson and his wife covered it with blankets and a tarp.

According to the Giant Pumpkin Commonwealth's website, the biggest pumpkin so far this year is 2,096 pounds, in Switzerland.

Man shot minutes after release from prison

NY MOUNT HOPE — A man who had just gotten out of prison 15 minutes earlier was ambushed and shot by another ex-convict as revenge for a previous run-in behind bars, state police said Friday.

Devon Simmons, who had served 15 years for an assault conviction, was told a car was waiting to pick him up Thursday as he left the medium-security Otisville state prison.

Simmons had been planning to take a train, but he instead was greeted by Edgar Wilson, whom he didn't know, police Capt. Pierce Gallagher said. Wilson said Simmons' cousin had sent him for a ride back home to Manhattan, he said.

After a short drive, Wilson pulled over, saying he was stopping to relieve himself in the woods, and Simmons got out of the car as well, police said. A man jumped out of the trunk and started shooting, Gallagher said.

The man from the trunk, Jerome Mack, used a handgun to fire at Simmons, who was hit once each in the arm and shoulder but was able to run to the train station, police said. Mack and Wilson were traced to Manhattan and were arrested hours after the attack, police said.

Hypnotist accused of having sex with client

WA KENNEWICK — An amateur hypnotist in the state of Washington is accused of having sex with a woman while she was hypnotized.

Kevin Christian Geyer, 25, pleaded not guilty Wednesday in Benton County Superior Court to a charge of indecent liberties.

Court documents say Geyer hypnotized the woman June 4 at his home in Kennewick.

The Tri-City Herald reported that the woman told police she had vague images of Geyer sexually assaulting her and later found evidence on her clothing.

She said when she confronted him, he responded by apologizing.

From wire reports

THE CENSUS

$37.5K

The value of a Rolex watch that a man is charged with trying to steal from a Pittsburgh jewelry store. A retired Pittsburgh police officer, Michael Blake, was working security in the Jenne Jewelry Store and is being credited with tackling Taquan Knight, 22, who had snatched the watch out of the clerk's hand and tried to run away on Tuesday afternoon. Blake scuffled with the suspect until officers arrived to arrest him.

HEATHER LEIPHART, (PANAMA CITY, FLA.) NEWS HERALD/AP

Prison pups

Inmates sit with their dogs, Leilani, left, and Trooper at the Bay County Jail on Wednesday in Panama City, Fla.

LIFESTYLE

High anxiety

Film studio used for flight scenes becomes classroom for adults plagued by fear of flying

By Richard Verrier
Los Angeles Times

As passengers lined up to walk through an X-ray machine in the airport terminal, a surly security officer bellows "Empty your pockets. Put all your items in the bin yourself. Take your shoes off."

A few minutes later, the weary passengers walked down a jet bridge to board a Boeing 757. They settled into their seats, buckled up and prepared for takeoff as the jet engines rumbled.

Capt. Ron Nielsen wasn't in the cockpit. Instead, he was in the aisle holding a microphone.

"That's the taxiing-out noise," he said, explaining the dog-like bark of a hydraulic pump. "What are you all thinking? Does this cause any trouble for anybody?"

Several hands shot up.

"I usually think, 'Oh my God, why am here?'" passenger Andrea Gronwald said. "Why did I do this again?"

Gronwald and the passengers weren't on an actual flight, and neither the aircraft nor the airport terminal was real. They were props ordinarily used to film hair-raising aviation scenes in movies such as "Red Eye" and "Turbulence" at the film studio Air Hollywood in the San Fernando Valley.

But on this Saturday morning, the props were playing a very different role as a classroom for those suffering from an acute fear of flying.

"You're not alone," Nielsen, a retired US Airways pilot, assured the class. "We're going to demystify fear of flying. There are no drugs, there are no secret pills. All you do is you give yourself one moment of peace without that pink elephant jumping out at you."

Air Hollywood's owner, Talaat Captan, launched the fear-of-flying classes this year, inspired by his own turbulent experience in the skies several years ago.

He was flying from New York to Tokyo when one of the engines on the 747 failed, and the plane was forced to make an emergency landing in Anchorage in the middle of a bad storm. It took him years to force himself onto a plane again, he said.

Captan figured his studio could be the perfect environment to simulate a real-world aviation experience.

For him, the monthly classes, which cost about $200 and span two days, are partly altruistic and partly business. He sees them as way to serve a huge untapped market of fearful fliers.

Some 60 million people are estimated to have some fear of flying. Half will not fly at all, such as legendary football coach John Madden, who switched to traveling by bus or train after a panic attack on a flight.

Others are "white knucklers," who resort to medication and therapy to cope with symptoms that can range from sweaty palms to anxiety attacks.

"I had all the symptoms you guys have," Captan told the recent Saturday group. "I'm the one who knows how you guys feel because I've been there."

Captan admits it's an odd juxtaposition for a studio best known for simulating terrifying flight scenes. "We scare people in one building and help them in the other," he quipped.

The Saturday class drew about a dozen people: an elderly couple, a woman and her daughter, a single man and woman in their 30s. They sat in leather seats next to "Gate 7," where an announcement reminded them to have their boarding passes ready.

Standing next to a screen showing flight times and a giant mural of a jet, Nielsen shared his story. A former Vietnam Air Force pilot and veteran commercial pilot, he began coaching fearful fliers in the late 1980s after he heard about a psychologist who was treating patients for flight phobia.

In the next three hours, he and three volunteer pilots and an air traffic controller talked about aircraft engineering, maintenance, flight communications and what's behind all the unusual noises that can unhinge some passengers. They explained the physics of turbulence — air molecules bumping into one another like "speed bumps in the air" — and how pilots are trained to deal with it.

"It is the safest way to travel on the planet. Yeah, right," Nielsen said, drawing nervous laughter from the class.

"It really is. It is safer than walking," he added, explaining that an average of 7,000 pedestrians die each year in the United States and 35,000 to 40,000 die while driving on highways. By comparison, fatalities on major commercial flights in the U.S. are exceedingly rare.

Some of Nielsen's teaching tools were very low-tech. He handed out straws and instructed everyone to breathe into the tiny tubes to control their breathing before a flight and prevent hyperventilating, a major contributor to panic attacks.

To confront their anxieties, participants also took turns drawing pictures of themselves on giant sheets of white paper and listing their fears: turbulence, strange noises, mechanical failure, confinement, fear of heights and terrorism. One woman said her biggest fear was shame, recalling the time a paramedic had to take her off a plane after a panic attack. "It was so embarrassing," she said.

On the simulated flight, the class experienced the sounds and sensations of taking off and landing, as well as sudden bumps and rocking intended to mimic light turbulence.

Nielsen showed a video explaining each sound and urged passengers to turn on their "harmonizer," a hypnotic soundtrack of New Age music, poetry and voice-overs intended to distract them from any sudden noise that might trigger anxiety.

The volunteer pilots and air traffic controller took turns answering questions and explaining their extensive training.

"It's my way of giving back, and I love to watch the transformation of people who come into this class and get beyond their fear of flying," said Rick Metler, a United Airlines pilot for nearly 40 years.

Metler and other pilots sat with participants during an actual flight that several of them took the following day to Sacramento.

Jan Johns, 37, of Los Angeles, said the flight to Sacramento marked the first time in a decade that she hadn't been paralyzed by the usual symptoms — sweaty palms, shortness of breath, shaking and vomiting.

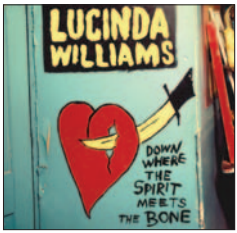
Johns and other classmates even talked about taking other flights together.

"I wouldn't say I'm cured, but I feel like I have an awareness of my fear," said Johns "There is power in a group of people that come together and help each other heal."

Ron Nielsen conducts a fear of flying class at Air Hollywood in Pacoima, Calif. Nielsen has been a pilot for almost 40 years and is now a retired captain for a major airline. He also has a master's degree in professional counseling.

Genaro Molina/Los Angeles Times

MUSIC



Lucinda Williams

Down Where the Spirit Meets the Bone
(Highway 20)

"Have compassion for everyone you meet," goes the opening line on the new album from Lucinda Williams, who struggles to follow her own counsel on the rest of the two-CD set. More than once, Williams advises the subject of a song to buzz off as she copes with the toll of bad decisions, dysfunctional relationships and wrath inspired by heartache.

Like most of Williams' work, "Down Where the Spirit Meets the Bone" digs deep. The title comes from the thoughtful opening ballad, "Compassion," originally a poem written by her father. It's impossible to know another person's burdens, the song says.

Even so, Williams finds her tolerance tested. She sounds both angry and, at 61, a bit weary. But whenever the energy flags during the 20-song album, one of the fine guitarists sitting in — co-producer Greg Leisz, Tony Joe White and Bill Frisell among them — launches into a rejuvenating solo. The album is a testament to the power of patience, empathy and a good guitar solo.

— Steven Wine/The Associated Press

Lucinda Williams

Courtesy of All Eyes Media

'Everything Will Be Alright' with Weezer's new album

By Mikael Wood
Los Angeles Times

Twenty years ago, Weezer was one of the biggest bands in Los Angeles, a deeply quirky alternative-rock quartet riding high on the success of its self-titled 1994 debut.

Also known as the Blue Album, the triple-platinum "Weezer" presented a group — and a frontman, Rivers Cuomo — capable of turning anxiety and insecurity into fuzzy power-pop radio hits like "Buddy Holly" and "Undone — the Sweater Song." The basic idea was Nirvana for nerds, and it worked.

Then Cuomo freaked out, quit the band, came back and made a record that flopped. Then he quit and came back again, which generated more radio hits, before Cuomo aimed for greater heights and eventually alienated his audience with an album nobody liked. "Hurley," released on an indie label in 2010, sold 133,000 copies — about 1/30th the number "Weezer" did.

Weezer

Everything Will Be Alright in the End
(Republic Records)

So when Cuomo and his bandmates performed on a soggy evening this summer at California's Del Mar Racetrack, the gig might've seemed like a stop near the end of the road. Only that's not at all how it went down: Onstage before a concrete parking lot ringed with corn dog vendors, Weezer — with guitarist Brian Bell, bassist Scott Shriner and drummer Pat Wilson — sounded like a band in top form, rocking a crowd filled with people whose track tickets had gotten them into the concert for free.

"Hello, horses," Cuomo said between songs. "Hello, humans." Then he led Weezer through its latest single, "Back to the Shack." The humans cheered.

One of several out-of-the-way shows the group played this summer, Weezer's trip to Del Mar was part of the run-up to the release of its strong new album, "Everything Will Be Alright in the End," from Republic Records. It's the band's first since "Hurley" and comes with comeback-ready talking points, including a return to a major label and a reunion with producer Ric Ocasek of the Cars, who also oversaw the Blue Album.

And then there's "Back to the Shack," a stomping guitar jam in which Cuomo sings that he had to "go and make a few mistakes" — an apparent reference to the sleek pop tunes of 2009's polarizing "Raditude," which featured input from Top 40 veterans like Dr. Luke and Lil Wayne. "Kick in the door, more hard-core," Cuomo goes on, "Rocking out like it's '94." A statement of intent? Well, maybe.

"I actually have a troubled relationship with that song," said Cuomo, 44, recently at a park near his home in Santa Monica, Calif. "There's something problematic about the speaker's position — it's a little cartoonish." The idea, he said, was to demonstrate where Weezer was looking on the new record. But in his enthusiasm he might've ended up tipping over into caricature.

At least it was his doing. Thanks to his pocket-protector look and songs like the debut album's "No One Else" — with lyrics that creepily admit to wanting "a girl who will laugh for no one else" — Weezer was initially pegged by many as a product of mid-'90s irony. In reality, Cuomo was as earnest as they came.

"That was quite a shock for me to discover that (perception)," he said. That gulf between his public persona and who he really was eventually overwhelmed any pleasure he took in the group's success, so in 1995 Cuomo left Weezer and began studying literature at Harvard. When he came back to music, he made a "really gnarly, personal, tell-all album" — the cult favorite "Pinkerton," from 1996 — that failed to catch fire commercially, driving him away from the band again.

The next time Cuomo returned — for a second self-titled record in 2001, followed relatively quickly by three more albums — he took another tack, de-emphasizing his personal troubles and boosting the radio-ready choruses. The hits returned — "Island in the Sun," "Beverly Hills," "Pork and Beans," all staples on alt-rock stations — though some listeners griped that Cuomo was sacrificing the emotional honesty of Weezer's early work.

That view solidified around "Raditude," which had hip-hop-inflected songs like "Can't Stop Partying" and "I'm Your Daddy." For "Hurley," Weezer dialed down much of the supposed excess, but the damage was done. "I think a lot of people wrote that album off without even hearing it," Cuomo said.

His response (as it so often has been) was to take another break, though not before undertaking the so-called Weezer Cruise, a four-night voyage from Miami to Cozumel, Mexico, that found the group "locked up on a boat with our most die-hard fans," as Cuomo put it. The experience was a "turning point," he said, in which he "realized these people really love us, and they want the best for us."

When Cuomo began writing again, the singer — now a family man with two young children — said the music sprang from a deeper place: thoughtful, multi-layered songs about women, his father (with whom he recently reunited after a long estrangement) and Weezer's complicated back-and-forth with its following.

Bethany Cosentino of L.A.'s Best Coast, who co-wrote and sings on the new album's "Go Away," remembered turning up for her first studio session with Cuomo and meeting someone far more focused and relaxed than the tortured soul he's often been depicted as. "He was basically the nicest guy ever," Cosentino said.

In Santa Monica too, the singer spoke calmly and thoughtfully as he sat on a park bench, rolling a Frisbee between his hands.

Yet Cuomo isn't forsaking pop ambition. Over the past six months, Weezer has posted more than 20 behind-the-scenes videos on YouTube, part of what Frank Arigo, senior vice president of marketing at Republic, called a concerted effort to reach more people. And despite its mixed message, "Back to the Shack" has gotten the band back on the radio; Weezer even played alongside Taylor Swift and One Direction at the recent iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas.

Asked if he keeps up with what's on the charts as closely as he used to — if he's monitoring the competition, in other words — Cuomo admitted he hasn't been paying a lot of attention. But he's not worried.

"We're going to stick by this album and support it and do everything we can to share it with the world," he said. "I think it has a good shot at being heard — and understood."

Weezer, from left, Brian Bell, Rivers Cuomo, Pat Wilson and Scott Shriner.

Courtesy of Press Here Publicity

MUSIC

Jim Wright/Courtesy of The Green Room

'Dirt' farmer

Aldean tills new ground in life, on new album

By Chris Talbott
The Associated Press

Jason Aldean isn't just a country singer. He's a celebrity.

The 37-year-old learned that the hard way, with paparazzi following him and embattled future fiancee Brittany Kerr constantly. He initially wanted to hide from prying eyes as his personal life became public, despite enjoying the biggest successes of his career.

No more.

"I'm not going to live my life scared to come out of the house for fear of doing something stupid that somebody catches on camera," Aldean said. "I think people who've followed my career over the years know I'm not an angel."

Aldean openly talked to reporters about his life as he readied to release "Old Boots, New Dirt," on Tuesday. Sometimes subtle and surprising, the new album is his most ambitious to date.

The title is meant to symbolize this next phase in the Georgia native's life. A close listen seems to reveal a narrative about a guy taking chances, moving past regret into something new and exciting, and finding love in unexpected places.

Aldean, though, cautions listeners not to read too much as subtext on the album, his sixth. He's not telling his life story, even though it might feel that way.

"Was there a lot going on during the recording of the album? For sure," Aldean said. "But that was sort of my escape from all that stuff. I'd like to think I separated the two as best I could."

Nevertheless there are some passionate moments of all varieties on the album, and it's in these moments Aldean takes the biggest chances — most notably with lead single "Burnin' It Down."

Aldean's always been a risk-taker, accelerating country's latest infatuation with hip-hop when he released "Dirt Road Anthem" in 2010. He had a hunch about "Burnin' It Down," an R&B love jam with looped beats and lightly processed vocals that debuted in July at No. 1 on Billboard's hot country singles chart and remains in the top spot. It appealed to Aldean for a simple reason: "It doesn't sound like every other male artist on the radio."

That scared the bejeezus out of everyone around him.

"It's not what anybody expected, including his managers," said Clarence Spalding, Aldean's longtime manager. "That was against a lot of people, including me, going, 'I am not sure about that, Jason. I think we ought to come with something else. I think we ought to go back and record some more.' But ... he knew a lot better than we did on this one."

Fans immediately embraced it — and gave a solid indication of how they feel about him. "Burnin' It Down" went platinum in nine weeks. It's the fastest selling country digital single of 2014, helping Aldean become the country's digital certifications leader with more than 21.5 million downloads and streams.

"I wanted to be able to do whatever it was, whether it be a big up-tempo or a ballad or a hip-hop thing or a pop ballad," Aldean said. "We've done all that stuff and I think we've sort of put ourselves in a position where we can branch out and sorta go in a direction where people don't go and radio's going to allow us to give it a chance really. And I think that's really all you can hope for. I don't think fans are shocked when we do things like that anymore."

Jason Aldean

Old Boots, New Dirt (Broken Bow)

Jason Aldean, who helped elevate hard rock dynamics and hip-hop conventions in contemporary country music, focuses on his rock side on his sixth studio album, "Old Boots, New Dirt."

Aldean has always pushed musical innovation with hits such as "Hicktown," "Dirt Road Anthem" and "1994." But the new album doesn't offer the surprises of his past efforts. Downplaying his rap influences, Aldean's new tracks would have fit on a latter-day Aerosmith recording, with dirt roads replacing bright lights. He repeatedly echoes '80s hard-rock swagger on songs about partying hard ("Just Gettin' Started," "Gonna Know We Were Here"), being on the lookout for a new "girl" ("Sweet Little Somethin'") and emphasizing sex rather than romance ("Burnin' It Down," "Laid Back").

The album has several highlights: "Too Fast" shows off his vocal power and range, "Miss That Girl" reeks of regret for choices that pushed away a longtime love and "Two Night Town," with its steel guitar accents and old-school rhythms, is the best traditional country song Aldean has recorded.

But too much of "Old Boots, New Dirt" seems overly predictable, with song after song about drinking, trucks and tan young women in tight jeans dancing and flirting. For a groundbreaker like Aldean, "Old Boots, New Dirt" contains too much old and not enough new.

— Michael McCall
The Associated Press

BOOKS

A post-apocalyptic tale

‘Station Eleven’ suggests life-denying plague is already here

BY MIKE FISCHER
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

The Ebola epidemic certainly adds resonance to Emily St. John Mandel’s introduction of a game-changing plague in “Station Eleven,” her haunting and riveting new novel:

“Of all of them there at the bar that night,” Mandel writes, “the bartender was the one who survived the longest. He died three weeks later on the road out of the city.”

That city is Toronto; the bar in question is in a theater lobby, where 51-year-old actor Arthur Leander has just had a fatal heart attack while playing the lead in a performance of “King Lear.”

It’s a fitting prologue to the ensuing collapse that unfolds around him, as a flu virus quickly wipes out almost everyone on Earth. The death of civilization as we know it takes down the power grid that feeds our machines — from planes, trains and automobiles to free-flowing electricity and all the gadgets it makes possible. Mandel repeatedly reminds us that it’s people rather than machines that make the world spin.

Two dangerous decades later, those who remain live in “an archipelago of small towns,” fighting off marauders and religious zealots. Travel between towns is dangerous; most of the survivors hunker down where they are, perpetuating an isolation that can feel as irreparable as Lear’s divided kingdom.

But for others — including a motley band of musicians and actors calling themselves The Traveling Symphony — survival is insufficient.

This motto comes from “Star Trek: Voyager,” and one might think of the Symphony as a traveling spaceship — or, if you’d like, as the titular Station Eleven, which lives on through the beautiful, limited-edition comic books created by a plague victim before she died. A highly advanced space station that resembles a small planet of islanded enclaves, Station Eleven’s denizens gaze longingly toward Earth, from which they’d made their escape after it was vanquished by hostile aliens.

In several moving passages, Mandel’s characters look back with similar longing toward the receding pre-plague world, remembering all the things they’d once taken for granted — from the Internet to eating an orange.

Mandel also periodically travels backward in time, allowing us to see how blind and selfish such characters were, back in the day when they had so much and lived so small — failing, like Lear, to choose wisely and well, at a time when choice was still possible.

As a result, Station Eleven comes to seem less like a spaceship reflecting how we’ll live our dystopian future than a way of thinking about how and where we’re traveling here and now. It’s not just the residents of Mandel’s post-collapse world who need to forge stronger connections and live for more than mere survival. So do we all.

Mandel can occasionally hit the nail too hard in driving that point home, flirting with sentimentality or becoming sententious; the strands of her well-crafted plot also come together too neatly toward novel’s end.

But such missteps are the flip side of this thoughtful novel’s plangent question — famously asked by another backward-looking Emily toward the close of Wilder’s “Our Town”: “Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?”

The Glass Cage

Nicholas Carr

Carr’s title refers to the glass cockpit found in modern airplanes, instruments of advanced technology that ostensibly render human pilots redundant. Autopilots are supposed to make planes safer by eliminating the risk of human error; Carr notes, however, that this leads to situations in which human pilots are not adequately trained for what to do if and when the computers flying the planes fail.

He looks at this degradation of human skill due to our growing overreliance on computers. Without resorting to scare tactics or sermonizing on the dangers of overautomation, his book details the promise of mechanization and its drawbacks since the earliest days of the Industrial Revolution, drawing connections between the blue-collar worker operating factory equipment and the white-collar worker inputting data in a computer, both using machines meant to shoulder most of the heavy physical or mental labor.

His historical, inclusive approach makes an issue most of those already deeply steeped in technology won’t find at all surprising — that what we’re losing might outweigh what we gain by relying on computers — a stimulating, absorbing read.

— Michelle Scheraga/AP

Strong Darkness

Jon Land

In 1883, Texas Ranger William Ray Strong, assisted by the state’s famous “hanging judge,” Roy Bean, is on the trail of a serial killer who butchers Chinese railroad workers by cutting off their heads and then sewing them on backward.

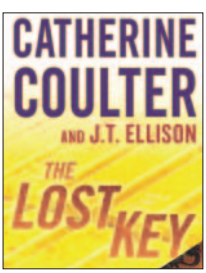
As if that weren’t disturbing enough, the story flashes forward to the present, where we find Strong’s great-granddaughter, Texas Ranger Caitlin Strong, hunting a monster that kills his victims the same way.

“Strong Darkness” is the latest thriller in Jon Land’s series featuring Caitlin, an anti-authoritarian, fifth-generation Texas Ranger with a former South American death squad commander for a best friend and a menacing ex-felon for a boyfriend.

The story jumps back and forth in time, following both murder investigations. Caitlin discovers the cases are connected in a way likely to take readers by surprise. The connection eventually leads her to a high-tech plot by a vengeful Chinese billionaire whose goal is nothing less than the destruction of the United States.

The riveting, fast-paced story is great fun. And as always in a Caitlin Strong novel, Land works in some fascinating, mostly true Texas Ranger lore along the way.

— Bruce DeSilva/AP



The Lost Key

Catherine Coulter and J.T. Ellison

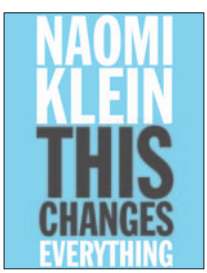
A sub that disappeared near the end of World War I plays a key role in a modern-day murder in Catherine Coulter and J.T. Ellison’s “The Lost Key.”

Nicholas Drummond has left his job with British intelligence and is now an FBI agent. He’s teamed with female agent Mike Caine, and they are summoned to the scene of a murder on Wall Street. The victim is a bookstore owner, but as Drummond and Caine dig deeper, they learn he had a secret identity and was known in some circles as The Messenger. They stumble on the perpetrator, and during the ensuing chase, Drummond accidentally triggers a mechanism inside the man’s mouth that causes him to die from poison.

Then a ruthless villain seeks the aid of a hacker, who happens to be the victim’s son. If his bold plan succeeds, he will access a deadly weapon hidden from the world in a sub lost during the final days of WWI.

“The Lost Key” is a terrific follow-up to Coulter and Ellison’s previous novel, “The Final Cut.” The authors juggle marvelous action with stellar character development and intriguing history to spin another great tale. Both are excellent writers, but together, they are in another league.

— Jeff Ayers/AP



This Changes Everything

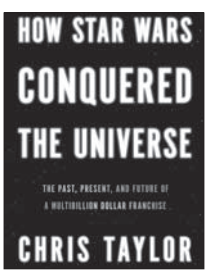
Naomi Klein

Cutting the vast amounts of manmade pollution that feeds global warming is an enormous challenge for societies that gobble up coal, oil and gas. But in “This Changes Everything,” Naomi Klein argues that those fuels aren’t the root problem — capitalism is. That message leads to a tough question: Is blaming capitalism for climate change just rhetorical hot air — or a brutal and uncomfortable truth?

Whatever side you take, Klein deserves credit for not sugarcoating the problem. She writes that limiting global warming won’t be quick, easy or without disruptions, yet holds out hope that the end result will be better for people, the environment and even the economy. But make no mistake: “This Changes Everything” argues that we don’t just have to cut carbon pollution. We have to change society, and our own lifestyles.

“This Changes Everything” might motivate more people to think and act on climate change, and that’s good. Yet capitalism isn’t the only problem. The old message from a 1970 cartoon on the first Earth Day still hangs in the air: “We have met the enemy, and he is us.”

— Kevin Begos/AP



How Star Wars Conquered the Universe

Chris Taylor

With “How Star Wars Conquered the Universe: The Past, Present, and Future of a Multibillion Dollar Franchise,” Chris Taylor tries to accomplish several things: He examines how the “Star Wars” franchise successfully invaded popular culture, and he uses examples of how the films have influenced people’s lives.

One example is the story of Albin Johnson. He was told he wouldn’t walk again after a car accident. He became depressed after a series of operations, including the amputation of a foot, but a friend helped him with various distractions. They discussed their mutual love of “Star Wars” and built stormtrooper outfits. Over time, others with a similar passion joined them. Today, the group is called the 501st Legion. They have worked with George Lucas and are considered the only legitimate stormtroopers when it comes to conventions and appearances in full regalia.

Taylor also delivers a biography of Lucas, and explores the making of the first film in great detail.

Taylor’s research is staggering, and even fans who believe they know all there is to know about the film franchise will find much to learn — and savor.

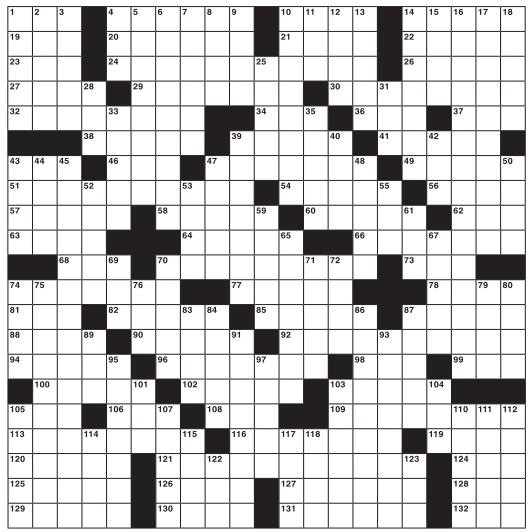
— Jeff Ayers/AP

CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

TIMBER!

BY SAMUEL A. DONALDSON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ



ACROSS

1 Cheap shot?
4 Suggestive
10 William Henry Harrison's nickname
14 Contribute, as to a fund
19 Fink
20 Successivel y
21 Grimm start?
22 Overseas love
23 Pasta suffi x
24 Very simpl e
26 Turns bad
27 Lucy Ricardo's friend
29 Phases
30 Source of the word "mantra"
32 All out
34 Excess
36 —
37 U.F.O. occupants
38 —
39 Finaliz e
41 First choice
43 Year that "Shrek" and "Zoolander" came out
46 Cause of inflation?
47 Thief
49 Features of Appaloosa coats
51 Vile
54 Profi t
56 Monopoly property: Abbr.
57 Wet depression
58 Cavorted
60 Like many a stain before washing
62 R.V. stop, maybe
63 The First Lady of Song, to fans
64 It makes Bruce Banner turn into the Hul k
66 Lathering
68 Sick bay
70 They're around 2.0
73 —
74 Shortest Old Testament book
77 Queen Amidala's home in "Star Wars"
78 Droids, e.g., for short
81 Cab alternative
82 —
85 —
87 2004-13 CBS procedural
88 Wreck
90 "Oh, go on!"
92 Diner side dish
94 Pays to play
96 They got tipped at old-fashioned gentlemen's clubs
98 Mud
99 Comprehend
100 ___ cheese
102 Flies (through)
103 Old roadside advertiser
105 Run a fever, say
106 Accusing of misconduct
108 Philosopher Mo-___
109 Sized up
113 "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
116 Fine fabri c
119 —
120 "Middlemarch" author
121 Earl y
124 Sweet potato
125 Tie a quick knot?
126 Something most people don't want two of
127 Small, as a garage
128 Words for entering a united state
129 Units of force
130 —
131 L.P.G.A. star Ochoa
132 X

DOWN

1 Court filin g
2 Source of the words "mamba" and "chimpanzee"
3 Big name in chain saws and leaf blowers
4 Narrow inle t
5 Psychically, if not physically
6 Symbol for a sharp mind
7 Amethyst or citrine
8 Latin bears
9 Greek war goddess
10 Scrap
11 ___ moment
12 They've been banned in the U.S. since '79
13 TREE
14 Gobs
15 One way to run
16 "Amen to that!"
17 Pain in the neck
18 Where many flights end
25 Charge for a plug
28 TREE
31 Queue before Q
33 Say "nyah, nyah," say
35 Flower that symbolizes paradise on earth
39 British arm
40 Source of pressure, at times
42 Kwik-E-Mart operator
43 Goods: Abbr.
44 Cry like a baby
45 Sly nickname?
47 Viewpoint
48 Like months when oysters are not in season
50 Bad-mouth, in Britai n
52 African antelope
53 Beach tops
55 Brit. award
59 TREE
61 TREE
65 Fixes a frozen screen, say
67 Old "Gotta have it" sloganeer
69 TREE
70 The New Yorker cartoonist Roz
71 Lions and tigers … and bears, sometimes?
72 Tennille of tunes
74 L. Frank Baum princess
75 How congressional elections are held
76 Rock blaster
79 Haloed one: Fr.
80 Part of CBS: Abbr.
83 Fraternity letters
84 Scold shrilly
86 Show adequate appreciation
87 Sweet fillin g
89 Org. for Bulldogs, Gators and Tigers
91 First-rat e
93 Leif Ericson, e.g.
95 Some Muslim s
97 Follow ___ (do some sleuthing)
101 Every, in Rx' s
103 Kitchen item used on Thanksgiving
104 TRE E
105 Plant ___ (suggest something)
107 TRE E
110 "Speak up!"
111 Duck
112 Fiend
114 Wear a long face
115 "Didn't see you there"
117 Jerk, slangily
118 "___ one objects …"
122 Article of Cologne
123 Geological span

GUNSTON STREET

"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and visit gunstonstreet.com.

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.
STRIPES CENTRAL
ARCHIVE PHOTO OF THE DAY
Stripes BLOGS
Get your fair share from our award-winning journalists at Stripes.com/blogs.
PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG
PACIFIC STORM TRACKER
OMBUDSMAN

GADGETS & CHARTS

TED S. WARREN/AP

Anan Bishara, left, and Denise Burrell, right, both from New York, check out a virtual reality display that lets visitors explore the Pike Place Market and other Seattle-area attractions Sept. 19 atop the city's Space Needle, which has a nifty new tablet and mobile phone app.

High-tech Needle

Toys rival view at Seattle's tallest attraction

BY DONNA GORDON BLANKINSHIP
The Associated Press

Visitors to Seattle's Space Needle are treated to a gorgeous view of this waterfront city when skies are clear.

But on a recent beautiful day, many in the crowd on the observation level of the Space Needle — one of Seattle's most popular tourist attractions — ignored the view of blue skies and puffy clouds over Elliott Bay.

Instead, they were mesmerized by virtual depictions of views and peeks into other Seattle tourist attractions that appeared on walls, screens and videos. The new high-tech experience at the Space Needle includes a virtual reality video that seems to take visitors all over Seattle to check out other tourist sites, while they ignore the real view that brought them there.

Anan Bishara, who was visiting from New York for his first visit to Seattle, jokingly said after a virtual look at the Pike Place Market that maybe he wouldn't even need to stop by Seattle's No. 1 tourist destination to see the real thing.

The fun begins before stepping on the elevator to the top of the Space Needle, a 605-foot spire built for the 1962 World's Fair. After downloading the new Space Needle app onto mobile phones, visitors can stop at "space spots" and take "augmented reality" pictures that bring the needle — and the clouds — into their photos.

Upstairs, after watching the real city flash by as they ride up the glass-clad elevator, the next distraction is a giant photo wall populated with historic pictures — think Elvis Presley at the Space Needle — as well as photos taken by regular visitors to Seattle.

Tourists are then invited to find their home on a map on the photo wall and check in virtually. Many visitors take their own picture in front of the map. And some of them do this before they step outside on the observation deck to take a picture of Seattle for real.

It's time to start walking toward the view — the real view — but, wait, another new attraction catches their attention. And this one is seriously cool.

Using Microsoft's 3D Photosynth technology in its only location outside of the Internet, visitors to the Space Needle can make a quick visit to the Seattle Aquarium (for a view from inside a tank) or drop by the soccer stadium to watch a game from the sidelines as a goal is scored.

Maybe you'd prefer a 360-degree tour of the view from outside the Space Needle? No need to step outside; just use the virtual reality kiosk to get a better view, no matter the weather.

When they do finally make it outside, they don't have to pull out their cell phones for a selfie, because the Space Needle has them covered with "sky-high selfies" — which, like all the high-tech treats here, are free.

GADGET WATCH

Get comfy, tune out with headset

BY GREGG ELLMAN
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

The Stealth is Jabra's latest Bluetooth headset in a never-ending line of amazing products.

The ultra-modern looks and design are impressive even before you try on the product.

The Stealth is also quite comfortable, which is obviously a critical component. I was pleased to find an on/off switch, not an annoying button you must hold for a few seconds to turn it on or off.

Inside is Jabra's microPOWER battery technology, which translates to a longer battery life. You'll get up to six hours of talk time after a two-hour USB charge.

Also, the press of a button gets you to Siri or Google Now, depending on your phone's operating system. Other controls include the basics for answering, redialing or ending calls, pairing (NFC or Bluetooth) and volume.

The callers I spoke to during the weekend I used the Stealth had no problem hearing me, and they were perfectly audible to me as well. Jabra incorporated the latest technology in the Stealth to achieve this with Noise Blackout, which reduces background noise for a clear conversation with the dual microphone inside.

If you misplace the Stealth, load up the Jabra app (free) to help you locate using GPS tracking.

Online: Jabra.com; $99.99

The newest Olloclip 4-in-1 photo lens clip finally induced me to try my iPad's camera for the first time.

The lens slides onto the caseless corner of your iPad (iPad Air, iPad mini and iPad mini with Retina display) and converts the existing lens into a wide-angle fisheye (180 degrees) along with 10x and 15x macro lenses.

The lenses are grouped, and all you do is screw/unscrew or flip on the one you need. Included is a soft carrying pouch.

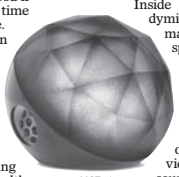
I tried the lens system with multiple photo apps and there was never a problem.

Each lens is a great improvement over the lens built into your tablet. I loved both macros, and the fisheye made some impressive images.

There's also a new model available for the Samsung Galaxy S4 and 5, as well as existing iPhone models.

Online: olloclip.com; $69.99

The Diamond+ music and light LED lifestyle diamond-shaped Bluetooth 3.0 speaker is all you need to get a party going.



MCT photos

Inside is a Neodymium super magnet speaker (3 Watts x 2) with right and left woofer tubes on the sides of the device for great sound.

What makes the speaker stand out is the beat-matching LED multicolor galaxy light show it produces for a disco party effect or whatever your mood.

Settings allow it to stay in one color, fade or flash or alternate into others, or let it choose the pattern from the 8 RGB and 2 White LED lights.

The white light can be used as a bedside reading light. When it's combined with the Bed-Time Social app (free for iOS and Android), the lights can be programmed for waking up, going to sleep or many other choices.

Everything is controlled with the included remote for power, volume, music choices and the color LED modes.

An included USB/AC power cable charge up the lithium battery for about seven hours of use. A velvet pouch is also included to store the 2.5-lb. speaker, which measures 13x11.9x12.8 cm.

Online: yantouch.com; $149, available in choices of black or white bases along with the crystal top

ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 albums on iTunes for Oct. 8:

1. "Partners," Barbra Streisand
2. "Sundown Heaven Town (Deluxe Edition)," Tim McGraw
3. "Run Wild. Live Free. Love Strong." for KING & COUNTRY
4. "Anything Goes," Florida Georgia Line
5. "Bulletproof Picasso," Train
6. "The Cowboy Rides Away: Live From AT&T Stadium," George Strait
7. "World On Fire (featuring Myles Kennedy & The Conspirators)," Slash
8. "Old Boots, New Dirt," Jason Aldean
9. "Title — EP," Meghan Trainor
10. "Guardians of the Galaxy: Awesome Mix, Vol. 1," Various Artists

— Compiled by MCT

SPOTIFY MUSIC

The most streamed tracks from Sept. 29-Oct. 5:

1. "Shake It Off," Taylor Swift
2. All About That Bass," Meghan Trainor
3. "Bang Bang," Jessie J
4. "Cool Kids," Echosmith
5. "Break Free," Ariana Grande
6. "Stay With Me," Sam Smith
7. "Animals," Maroon 5
8. "Chandelier," Sia
9. "Blame," Calvin Harris
10. "Black Widow," Iggy Azalea

— Compiled by The Associated Press

ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for Oct. 8:

1. "Transformers: Age of Extinction"
2. "Godzilla"
3. "The Fault in Our Stars"
4. "Captain America: The Winter Soldier"
5. "Live Die Repeat: Edge of Tomorrow"
6. "Fed Up"
7. "Chef"
8. "The Lunchbox"
9. "Blended"
10. "Draft Day"

— Compiled by MCT

VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer ranks the top 10 Xbox 360 games for October:

1. "FIFA 15," EA Sports
2. "Destiny," Activision Blizzard
3. "Diablo III: Reaper of Souls — Ultimate Evil Edition," Activision Blizzard
4. "Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor," Warner Bros.
5. "Forza Horizon 2," Microsoft Studios
6. "Persona 4 Arena Ultimax," Atlus
7. "Alien: Isolation," Sega
8. "The Walking Dead Season Two Episode Five — No Going Back," Telltale Games
9. "Madden NFL 2015," EA Sports
10. "Ultra Street Fighter IV," Capcom

— Compiled by MCT

APPS

Top 5 new free apps for Oct. 8:

ANDROID

1. What Diff? Find IT
2. SWAT 2
3. BombSquad
4. Brain Wars
5. Kill Shot

Top 5 free apps for Oct. 8:

APPLE

1. Facebook Messenger
2. Spider-Man Unlimited
3. Yik Yak
4. Amazing Thief
5. Bicolor

— Compiled by MCT

Looking for a new field where you can stand out?

STARS AND STRIPES®

Veteran's Job Center

veteransjob.stripes.com

Find your next opportunity with employers who actively seek the experience of former military.

Post your resume and access 25,000 jobs for free.

INDEPENDENT NEWS FOR THE U.S. MILITARY COMMUNITY

Whenever They Fight and Wherever They Live

The first Stars and Stripes was printed during the Civil War, when a band of Union soldiers published a handful of editions.

During World War I, Stars and Stripes reappeared in Paris on February 8, 1918, to serve the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), by order of General of the Armies John J. Pershing. An all-military staff produced it weekly until the war's end.

A second renaissance began on April 18, 1942, when a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first World War II edition of Stars and Stripes featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who described Stripes as a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes later found a champion and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander and later president of the United States.

Eisenhower enforced a hands-off policy in regard to Stars and Stripes that continues to the present day.

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefront to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published over 30 separate editions, running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had some 25 printing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. The Pacific edition was launched a week after VE day (Victory in Europe, May 8, 1945).

The war ended—but Stars and Stripes kept going. Its reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field, throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, during the 1990s Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

From the 2003 outset of Operation Enduring Freedom, Stars and Stripes was there to report first-hand. The war in Afghanistan continues to receive steady coverage. And during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stripes reporters embedded with military units in Kuwait and Iraq, as well as on Navy ships in the region.

Stars and Stripes today is a multimedia news organization. The majority of Stars and Stripes unique reporting efforts is read now in digital form, either online at stripes.com or via mobile offerings for iPhone, Android and iPad, in over 200 countries around the world.

The print newspaper is still available for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific—and in contingency areas. Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where daily editions are transmitted to printers in Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Djibouti, as well as in Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, and South Korea. Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (Stripes Guam, Japan, Korea and Okinawa), designed to serve the needs of their respective military communities.

A U.S. edition comprised exclusively of Stars and Stripes reports from around the world now serves stateside forces and veterans. The U.S. edition is published in partnership with commercial newspaper publishers who serve communities with large military populations.

STARS AND STRIPES RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

2014 VFW News Media Award – *For outstanding contribution to a better understanding of our American way of life and its institutions and interests by honest and forthright reporting.*

2013 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Notable Narrative Winner *Recipient:* Laura Rauch

2013 Best American Newspaper Narrative Writing Contest – Notable Narrative Winner *Recipient:* Martin Kuz: "Soldiers Recount Attack"

2013 National Headline Awards – *Second Place:* News Series (Forever After: A Warrior Wounded: A Family Challenged)

2013 min Best of Web: Redesign – Honorable Mention Stripes UK website

2011 Military Photographer of the Year – Honorable Mention *Recipient:* Joshua DeMotts

2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award – Breaking News Photography (Newspaper Circulation 100,001+ or Affiliated Website/National Magazine) *Recipient:* Laura Rauch: "For those I love I will sacrifice"

2011 John Reagan "Tex" McCrary Award for Excellence in Journalism – Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation

2010 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation) *Recipient:* Jon Rabiroff

2010 National Headliner Awards – *First Place:* Public Service (Forcing Change) – *Third Place:* News Series (Coming Home: The Men of Triple Deuce)

2009 George Polk Awards in Journalism – George Polk Award for Military Reporting *Recipients:* Charlie Reed, Leo Shane III and Kevin Baron

2009 min Editorial & Design Awards – Editorial Print / Special Supplement: HEROES 2009; Custom Publication Design: Stripes GAMER

2007 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation) *Recipient:* Monte Morin

2006 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation) *Recipients:* Monte Morin, Joe Giordono; *Honorable mention:* Nancy Montgomery *Photography:* Fred Zimmerman

2005 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation) *Recipient:* Steve Liewer *Photography:* Terry Boyd

2004 American Legion Excellence in Journalism Award – Ground Truth Series

2003 Scripps Howard Foundation National Journalism Award – First Amendment, Finalist

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Market sees worst week since May '12

By Alex Veiga
The Associated Press

Investors avoided another roller coaster day on Wall Street Friday.

What they got instead was a steady, moderate decline that left the market with its worst weekly performance since May 2012.

Technology shares were especially hard-hit. Semiconductor makers slumped after Microchip Technology cut its sales forecast for the quarter and warned investors to expect bad news from others in the sector.

That sent shares lower for Avago Technologies, Intel and Texas Instruments, among others. Microchip Technology declined the most, shedding $5.59, or 12.3 percent, to $39.96.

The decline capped a week of turbulence in the market brought on by renewed fears that economic growth in Europe could be slowing.

The Dow Jones industrial average recorded its biggest gain of the year on Wednesday; the next day, it plunged 334 points, its steepest decline this year.

> **'A lot of investors are trying to come to grips with the pickup in volatility we've suddenly seen during this (last) week.'**
>
> **David Kelly**
> JPMorgan Funds

"A lot of investors are trying to come to grips with the pick-up in volatility we've suddenly seen during this (last) week," said David Kelly, chief global strategist for JPMorgan Funds.

The slide in semiconductor stocks dragged down the tech-heavy Nasdaq composite index, keeping it in the red all day.

The other indices ended lower for the fourth time in five days. All told, the Dow Jones industrial average lost 115.15, or 0.7 percent, to 16,544.10. The Standard & Poor's 500 index shed 22.08, or 1.2 percent, to 1,906.13.

The Nasdaq slid 102.10 points, or 2.3 percent, to 4,276.24.

All three indices ended lower for the week. For the S&P 500, this was the worst weekly decline since May 18, 2012, when it fell 4.3 percent.

Negative economic news and a slide in oil prices contributed to the uneasiness on Wall Street this week, market watchers said.

Germany, which has been the economic powerhouse for Europe, reported on Thursday its biggest monthly drop in exports in five years. In addition, the International Monetary Fund downgraded its outlook for global economic growth. Meanwhile, some traders are interpreting the decline in oil prices as further indication that growth is slowing.

"You put those three factors together, and it has investors nervous at the health of the world economy," said Jeff Kravetz, regional investment director at U.S. Bank Wealth Management.

The volatility in the market this week also came at a time of relatively light corporate news in the U.S. That changes next week, when a slew of major companies begin to report their latest quarterly results.

"Third-quarter earnings season should be pretty reassuring, and I wouldn't be surprised to see money go back into various stocks as companies surprise to the upside, which is what I expect them to do," said Kelly.

MARKET WATCH

Oct. 10, 2014

Dow Jones industrials	-115.15	16,544.10
Nasdaq composite	-102.10	4,276.24
Standard & Poor's 500	-22.08	1,906.13
Russell 2000	-14.67	1,053.32

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro costs (Oct. 13)	$1.2992
Dollar buys (Oct. 13)	€0.7697
British pound (Oct. 13)	$1.65
Japanese yen (Oct. 13)	105.00
South Korean won (Oct. 13)	1,045.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	$1.6052
Canada (Dollar)	1.1212
China (Yuan)	6.1313
Denmark (Krone)	5.59007
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	$1.2615/0.7927
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7585
Hungary (Forint)	242.27
Israel (Shekel)	3.7293
Japan (Yen)	107.84
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2891
Norway (Krone)	6.5244
Philippines (Peso)	44.80
Poland (Zloty)	3.32
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7511
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2750
South Korea (Won)	1,071.77
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9581
Thailand (Baht)	32.43
Turkey (Lira)	2.2853

(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.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.08
3-month bill	0.01
30-year bond	3.01

WEATHER OUTLOOK

SUNDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SUNDAY IN EUROPE

MONDAY IN THE PACIFIC

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

Sunday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga	77	60	Cldy	Fort Wayne	60	37	PCldy	Louisville	68	51	Cldy	Pocatello	57	41	Cldy	Sioux City	62	41	Rain
Abilene, Texas	84	54	PCldy	Cheyenne	50	43	Rain	Fresno	90	62	Clr	Lubbock	82	49	PCldy	Portland, Maine	59	41	Clr	Sioux Falls	58	44	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	60	38	PCldy	Chicago	58	41	Cldy	Goodland	65	44	Clr	Macon	86	61	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	67	50	Cldy	South Bend	59	38	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	62	36	Clr	Cincinnati	64	45	Rain	Grand Junction	62	46	PCldy	Madison	58	36	PCldy	Providence	58	42	Clr	Spokane	64	42	PCldy
Albuquerque	75	50	Clr	Cleveland	60	40	PCldy	Grand Rapids	58	36	Clr	Medford	77	46	Clr	Pueblo	69	44	Cldy	Springfield, Ill.	59	43	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	62	37	PCldy	Colorado Springs	63	44	Cldy	Great Falls	58	41	Cldy	Memphis	75	61	Rain	Raleigh-Durham	66	55	Cldy	Springfield, Mo.	66	49	Cldy
Amarillo	82	47	Clr	Columbia, S.C.	75	65	Cldy	Green Bay	60	37	Clr	Miami Beach	87	78	Cldy	Rapid City	57	48	Rain	Syracuse	59	37	Clr
Anchorage	42	36	Snow	Columbus, Ga.	87	66	PCldy	Greensboro, N.C.	63	55	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	88	53	PCldy	Reno	68	48	Clr	Tallahassee	91	63	Clr
Asheville	63	57	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	63	42	Cldy	Harrisburg	61	38	Clr	Milwaukee	57	41	PCldy	Richmond	64	51	Cldy	Tampa	90	72	Clr
Atlanta	83	67	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	58	35	Clr	Hartford Spgfld	59	36	Clr	Mpls-St Paul	60	41	PCldy	Roanoke	58	50	Rain	Toledo	60	38	PCldy
Atlantic City	63	42	PCldy	Corpus Christi	88	72	Cldy	Helena	58	43	Cldy	Missoula	58	40	Rain	Rochester	61	35	Clr	Topeka	65	42	Cldy
Austin	83	62	Cldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	78	55	Cldy	Honolulu	87	74	Cldy	Mobile	86	66	Cldy	Rockford	59	38	Cldy	Tucson	88	62	Clr
Baltimore	62	45	PCldy	Dayton	62	41	Cldy	Houston	87	69	Cldy	Montgomery	88	67	PCldy	Sacramento	88	59	Clr	Tulsa	73	46	Cldy
Baton Rouge	85	69	Cldy	Daytona Beach	87	68	PCldy	Huntsville	81	62	Cldy	Nashville	76	58	Rain	St Louis	64	49	Cldy	Tupelo	82	63	Rain
Billings	57	46	Cldy	Denver	61	45	Cldy	Indianapolis	61	43	Cldy	New Orleans	84	71	Cldy	St Petersburg	88	77	Clr	Waco	82	56	Cldy
Birmingham	83	66	Cldy	Des Moines	61	41	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	86	67	Cldy	New York City	61	45	Clr	St Thomas	88	77	Clr	Washington	63	49	Cldy
Bismarck	62	47	Cldy	Detroit	58	39	PCldy	Jacksonville	85	65	PCldy	Newark	62	45	Clr	Salem, Ore.	68	46	Cldy	W. Palm Beach	87	77	PCldy
Boise	63	45	PCldy	Duluth	59	38	PCldy	Juneau	49	45	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	67	58	Cldy	Salt Lake City	60	48	Cldy	Wichita	69	44	Cldy
Boston	57	43	Clr	El Paso	85	56	Clr	Kansas City	63	45	Cldy	North Platte	65	44	Cldy	San Angelo	87	55	PCldy	Wichita Falls	81	50	Cldy
Bridgeport	61	44	Clr	Elkins	62	38	Cldy	Key West	88	81	Cldy	Oklahoma City	76	47	Cldy	San Antonio	87	68	Cldy	Wilkes-Barre	57	36	Clr
Brownsville	90	75	Cldy	Erie	59	40	PCldy	Knoxville	75	56	Rain	Omaha	64	41	Rain	San Diego	77	66	PCldy	Wilmington, Del.	62	42	PCldy
Buffalo	59	35	Clr	Eugene	69	44	Cldy	Lake Charles	85	71	Cldy	Orlando	89	68	PCldy	San Francisco	84	62	Clr	Yakima	67	41	Clr
Burlington, Vt.	58	35	Clr	Evansville	68	50	Cldy	Lansing	58	35	Clr	Paducah	71	53	Cldy	San Jose	87	58	Clr	Youngstown	60	36	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	54	35	PCldy	Fairbanks	35	29	Snow	Las Vegas	89	66	Clr	Pendleton	66	46	PCldy	Santa Fe	71	43	PCldy				
Casper	49	40	Rain	Fargo	55	46	Rain	Lexington	67	50	Cldy	Peoria	58	40	Cldy	St Ste Marie	55	37	Clr				
Charleston, S.C.	82	66	Cldy	Flagstaff	69	39	Clr	Lincoln	64	40	Rain	Philadelphia	62	44	PCldy	Savannah	86	66	PCldy				
Charleston, W.Va.	68	47	Cldy	Flint	57	35	PCldy	Little Rock	74	56	Cldy	Phoenix	93	69	Clr	Seattle	65	54	Cldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	66	61	Cldy	Fort Smith	73	53	Cldy	Los Angeles	84	65	Clr	Pittsburgh	61	39	PCldy	Shreveport	78	61	Cldy				

National temperature extremes
Hi: Fri., 102, Death Valley, Calif.
Lo: Fri., 17, Brimson, Minn.

SCOREBOARD

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

Deals

Friday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Reassigned RHP Ubaldo Jimenez to the minor leagues. Reinstated LHP Brian Matusz.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Re-signed senior vice president and general manager Brian Cashman to a three-year contract. Announced Kevin Long hitting coach and firstbase coach will not return next season.

TEXAS RANGERS — Claimed INF Ed Lucas off waivers from Miami.

National League

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Announced they will not offer 2015 contracts to hitting coach Johnny Narron and first base/infield coach Garth Iorg.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Announced OF Tony Gwynn Jr. declined outright assignment and chose free agency.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Assigned OF Jose Tabata outright to Indianapolis (IL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Reassigned LHP Sam Freeman to the minor leagues. Reinstated C A.J. Pierzynski.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

NFL — Fined Minnesota S Antone Exum $22,050, Tampa Bay WR Louis Murphy $11,025, Seattle OT Justin Britt $8,268 and Seattle LB Bruce Irvin $5,512 for their actions during last week's games.

ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed WR Ryan Spadola to the practice squad.

BALTIMORE RAVENS — Released DB Lou Young from the practice squad. Signed TE Phillip Supernaw to the practice squad.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed C Braxston Cave to the practice squad.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Signed DB Akeem Davis to the practice squad.

Arena Football League

ORLANDO PREDATORS — Agreed to terms with DB Fred Shaw.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

NHL — Announced Chris Pronger has joined the department of player safety.

BUFFALO SABRES — Reassigned Fs Collin Jacobs, Justin Kea and Kevin Sundher from Rochester (AHL) to Elmira (ECHL).

FLORIDA PANTHERS — Reassigned D Shayne Taker from San Antonio (AHL) to Cincinnati (ECHL).

LOS ANGELES KINGS — Assigned F Maxim Kitsyn and D Alex Roach from Manchester (AHL) to Ontario (ECHL).

MONTREAL CANADIENS — Assigned F Tim Bozon to Kootenay (WHL).

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Assigned G Kent Simpson from Bridgeport (AHL) to Colorado (ECHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled D Michael Kostka from Hartford (AHL).

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Recalled F Marcel Noebels from Reading (ECHL) to Lehigh Valley (AHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Assigned F Danick Gauther and D Artem Sergeev from Syracuse (AHL) to Florida (ECHL).

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Assigned F Denver Manderson to Orlando (ECHL).

COLLEGE

TEXAS — Announced suspended men's basketball G Martez Walker has withdrawn from school.

Pro soccer

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-D.C.	15	9	7	52	46	34
x-Sporting KC	14	11	7	49	47	37
New England	15	13	3	48	46	43
New York	11	9	11	44	49	46
Columbus	11	10	10	43	44	38
Toronto FC	11	13	7	40	42	49
Houston	11	14	6	39	36	51
Philadelphia	9	10	12	39	46	45
Chicago	5	9	18	33	38	48
Montreal	6	18	7	25	34	54

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Seattle	19	10	3	60	61	48
x-Los Angeles	17	5	9	60	66	31
Real Salt Lake	13	8	10	49	50	39
FC Dallas	14	11	6	48	52	42
Vancouver	11	8	13	46	41	40
Portland	11	9	12	45	59	52
Colorado	8	15	8	32	42	58
San Jose	6	14	11	29	35	47
Chivas USA	7	18	6	27	26	58

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.
x- clinched playoff berth

Friday's games
Sporting Kansas City 2, Chicago 0
Vancouver 1, Seattle FC 0

Saturday's games
New England at Montreal
Columbus at Philadelphia
Toronto FC at New York
San Jose at Real Salt Lake
Colorado at Chivas USA

Sunday's games
D.C. United at Houston
Los Angeles at FC Dallas

Friday
Sporting KC 2, Fire 0

Chicago	0	0—0
Sporting Kansas City	0	2—2

Second half—1, Sporting Kansas City, Zusi 5 (Ellis), 80th minute. 2, Sporting Kansas City, Dwyer 21 (Zusi), 90th+.
Goalies—Chicago, Sean Johnson; Sporting Kansas City, Andy Gruenebaum.
Yellow Cards—Watson, Chicago, 4th; Soumare, Chicago, 60th; Besler, Sporting Kansas City, 71st; Amarikwa, Chicago, 88th.
A—18,938 (18,500)

Whitecaps 1, Sounders 0

Vancouver	1	0—1
Seattle FC	0	0—0

First half—1, Vancouver, Manneh 4 (Morales), 45th minute.
Goalies—Vancouver, David Ousted; Seattle FC, Stefan Frei.
Yellow Cards—Gonzalez, Seattle FC, 41st; Dempsey, Seattle FC, 64th; Waston, Vancouver, 75th; Laba, Vancouver, 85th.
A—55,765 (32,400)

Boxing

Fight schedule

Oct. 17
At Buenos Aires, Argentina, Juan Carlos Reveco vs. Yodmongkol Vor Saengthep, 12, for Reveco's WBA flyweight title.

Oct. 18
At 2300 Arena, Philadelphia, Steve Cunningham vs. Natu Visinia, 10, heavyweights; Edner Cherry vs. Jerry Belmontes, 10, lightweights.
At StubHub Center, Carson, Calif., Gennady Golovkin vs. Marco Antonio Rubio, 12, for Golovkin's WBA Super World, IBO and interim WBC middleweight titles; Nonito Donaire vs. Nicholas Walters, 12, for Donaire's WBA Super featherweight title; Edwin Rodriguez vs. Azea Augustama, 10, light heavyweights; Marcos Reyes vs. Abraham Han, 10, middleweights.

Pro football

NFL injury report

NEW YORK — The updated National Football League injury report, as provided by the league:

CHICAGO BEARS at ATLANTA FALCONS — BEARS: OUT: G Taylor Boggs (hamstring), LB Lance Briggs (ribs), T Jermon Bushrod (knee, ankle), S Ahmad Dixon (hamstring), LB Shea McClellin (hand). QUESTIONABLE: LB Jonathan Bostic (back), CB Sherrick McManis (quadriceps). PROBABLE: S Chris Conte (concussion), C Roberto Garza (ankle), DT Jeremiah Ratliff (concussion), LB D.J. Williams (neck). **FALCONS:** OUT: WR Harry Douglas (foot). QUESTIONABLE: G Justin Blalock (back), WR Devin Hester (hamstring). PROBABLE: S Kemal Ishmael (ankle), WR Julio Jones (ankle), T Jake Matthews (ankle), LB Prince Shembo (knee).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS at TENNESSEE TITANS — JAGUARS: OUT: RB Toby Gerhart (foot). PROBABLE: DE Ryan Davis (shoulder), CB Dwayne Gratz (head), TE Clay Harbor (back), WR Allen Hurns (foot), RB Storm Johnson (ankle), WR Marqise Lee (hamstring), DT Roy Miller III (ankle), LB Paul Posluszny (knee), WR Cecil Shorts III (hamstring), LB Dekoda Watson (shoulder). **TITANS:** OUT: T Michael Roos (knee), TE Craig Stevens (thigh). DOUBTFUL: RB Shonn Greene (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: QB Jake Locker (right hand), CB Coty Sensabaugh (knee), TE Taylor Thompson (knee). PROBABLE: TE Delanie Walker (shoulder), CB Blidi Wreh-Wilson (concussion).

BALTIMORE RAVENS at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — RAVENS: OUT: DT Chris Canty (wrist), DT Timmy Jernigan (knee), T Eugene Monroe (knee). DOUBTFUL: WR Marlon Brown (pelvis). QUESTIONABLE: G Kelechi Osemele (knee). PROBABLE: S Matt Elam (shoulder), LB Daryl Smith (knee), G Jeremy Zuttah (ankle). **BUCCANEERS:** OUT: LB Jonathan Casillas (hamstring), S Dashon Goldson (ankle). DOUBTFUL: QB Josh McCown (right thumb). QUESTIONABLE: CB Johnthan Banks (neck), C Evan Dietrich-Smith (illness), DE Larry English (hamstring), WR Mike Evans (groin), WR Vincent Jackson (rib). PROBABLE: LB Mason Foster (shoulder).

DENVER BRONCOS at NEW YORK JETS — BRONCOS: OUT: RB Montee Ball (groin). PROBABLE: S David Bruton Jr. (ankle), WR Andre Caldwell (knee), CB Chris Harris Jr. (knee), LB Lerentee McCray (knee), K Brandon McManus (right groin), T Michael Schofield (not injury related), RB Juwan Thompson (knee). **JETS:** DOUBTFUL: S Josh Bush (quadriceps). QUESTIONABLE: WR Eric Decker (hamstring), LB David Harris (shoulder), WR David Nelson (ankle), CB Darrin Walls (knee). PROBABLE: G Willie Colon (knee), TE Jeff Cumberland (illness), T Breno Giacomini (back), NT Damon Harrison (ankle), RB Chris Johnson (ankle), C Nick Mangold (shoulder), CB Dee Milliner (quadriceps).

DETROIT LIONS at MINNESOTA VIKINGS — LIONS: OUT: TE Joseph Fauria (ankle), LB Travis Lewis (quadriceps). DOUBTFUL: WR Calvin Johnson (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: RB Reggie Bush (ankle). PROBABLE: RB Joique Bell (concussion), S Jerome Couplin (ribs), RB Theo Riddick (hamstring), CB Cassius Vaughn (ankle). **VIKINGS:** OUT: TE Kyle Rudolph (abdomen, groin). DOUBTFUL: LB Chad Greenway (hand, rib). QUESTIONABLE: S Harrison Smith (ankle). PROBABLE: RB Matt Asiata (groin), QB Teddy Bridgewater (ankle), DT Sharrif Floyd (elbow), LB Michael Mauti (foot), RB Jerick McKinnon (ankle), WR Cordarrelle Patterson (hip).

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS at BUFFALO BILLS — PATRIOTS: OUT: S Nate Ebner (finger), T Cameron Fleming (finger). QUESTIONABLE: QB Tom Brady (ankle), CB Brandon Browner (ankle), LB Jamie Collins (thigh), DT Dominique Easley (shoulder, knee), LB Dont'a Hightower (knee), WR Matthew Slater (shoulder), C Bryan Stork (concussion). PROBABLE: DE Chandler Jones (shoulder), S Devin McCourty (rib). **BILLS:** OUT: WR Marcus Easley (knee), G Chris Williams (back). QUESTIONABLE: LB Nigel Bradham (knee), CB Ron Brooks (neck), RB Fred Jackson (illness, ankle), S Da'Norris Searcy (knee), LB Brandon Spikes (ribs), S Aaron Williams (wrist), DT Kyle Williams (knee).

CAROLINA PANTHERS at CINCINNATI BENGALS — PANTHERS: OUT: CB Bene Benwikere (ankle), CB Josh Norman (concussion), RB DeAngelo Williams (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: DE Charles Johnson (hip), TE Greg Olsen (ankle), RB Jonathan Stewart (knee). PROBABLE: T Byron Bell (toe), DT Colin Cole (not injury related), LB Thomas Davis (elbow), DT Dwan Edwards (not injury related), S Roman Harper (not injury related), RB Darrin Reaves (hip). **BENGALS:** DOUBTFUL: WR Marvin Jones (ankle), DT Brandon Thompson (knee), G Kevin Zeitler (calf). QUESTIONABLE: WR A.J. Green (toe). PROBABLE: LB Vontaze Burfict (concussion), S George Iloka (abdomen), LB Rey Maualuga (shoulder), G Mike Pollak (knee), LB Vincent Rey (calf).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS at CLEVELAND BROWNS — STEELERS: OUT: LB Ryan Shazier (knee), CB Ike Taylor (forearm), S Shamarko Thomas (hamstring). PROBABLE: DE Brett Keisel (not injury related), TE Heath Miller (not injury related), S Mike Mitchell (not injury related), S Troy Polamalu (not injury related). **BROWNS:** OUT: WR Rodney Smith (hamstring), NT Phil Taylor (knee), DE Billy Winn (quadriceps). QUESTIONABLE: LB Paul Kruger (back). PROBABLE: DE Desmond Bryant (wrist), TE Jordan Cameron (ankle, shoulder), S Tashaun Gipson (shoulder), G John Greco (knee), CB Joe Haden (hip), LB Barkevious Mingo (shoulder), CB Buster Skrine (thumb), RB Ben Tate (finger).

GREEN BAY PACKERS at MIAMI DOLPHINS — PACKERS: OUT: WR Jarrett Boykin (groin). QUESTIONABLE: LB Sam Barrington (hamstring), DE Datone Jones (ankle). PROBABLE: T David Bakhtiari (back), DT Josh Boyd (knee). **DOLPHINS:** DOUBTFUL: WR Brandon Gibson (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: CB Cortland Finnegan (neck), G Shelley Smith (knee). PROBABLE: T Branden Albert (shoulder), TE Charles Clay (knee), LB Jelani Jenkins (abdomen), RB Lamar Miller (foot), LB Koa Misi (ankle), RB Knowshon Moreno (elbow), C Samson Satele (fibula), DT Randy Starks (back), G Dallas Thomas (shoulder), WR Mike Wallace (foot), LB Philip Wheeler (shoulder).

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS at OAKLAND RAIDERS — CHARGERS: OUT: RB Donald Brown (concussion), RB Ryan Mathews (knee), LB Manti Te'o (foot), CB Shareece Wright (knee). QUESTIONABLE: WR Malcom Floyd (calf), T D.J. Fluker (ankle), LB Jarret Johnson (back, ankle), LB Cordarro Law (ankle), C Rich Ohrnberger (back), S Darrell Stuckey (quadriceps), LB Reggie Walker (ankle). PROBABLE: WR Keenan Allen (quadriceps), LB Jerry Attaochu (hamstring), LB Donald Butler (shoulder), LB Dwight Freeney (knee), TE David Johnson (knee, shoulder). **RAIDERS:** OUT: T Khalif Barnes (quadriceps), CB Keith McGill (groin). QUESTIONABLE: WR Vincent Brown (hamstring), QB Derek Carr (ankle, knee), LB Sio Moore (ankle), RB Marcel Reece (quadriceps). PROBABLE: CB Tarell Brown (thumb).

DALLAS COWBOYS at SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — COWBOYS: OUT: LB Bruce Carter (thigh). QUESTIONABLE: DE Jack Crawford (calf), LB Cameron Lawrence (thigh), LB Rolando McClain (groin), T Jermey Parnell (chest). PROBABLE: WR Dez Bryant (shoulder), DT Henry Melton (calf), CB Tyler Patmon (illness), QB Tony Romo (back), DE Anthony Spencer (knee). **SEAHAWKS:** OUT: TE Zach Miller (ankle), CB Tharold Simon (knee). DOUBTFUL: T Alvin Bailey (oblique), C Max Unger (foot). QUESTIONABLE: S Kam Chancellor (ankle). PROBABLE: WR Percy Harvin (thigh), RB Marshawn Lynch (not injury related).

WASHINGTON REDSKINS at ARIZONA CARDINALS — REDSKINS: OUT: QB Robert Griffin III (ankle), CB Tracy Porter (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: S Ryan Clark (ankle), LB Brian Orakpo (ankle), TE Jordan Reed (hamstring), LB Perry Riley Jr. (knee), T Trent Williams (knee). PROBABLE: DE Kedric Golston (groin), DE Jason Hatcher (hamstring), LB Akeem Jordan (knee), DT Frank Kearse (thigh), G Shawn Lauvao (knee), T Tyler Polumbus (finger), S Trenton Robinson (ankle). **CARDINALS:** OUT: DE Calais Campbell (knee), LB Glenn Carson (ankle), TE Troy Niklas (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: G Paul Fanaika (ankle, calf), QB Carson Palmer (right shoulder), QB Drew Stanton (concussion). PROBABLE: CB Justin Bethel (shoulder), LB Kenny Demens (back), RB Andre Ellington (foot), CB Patrick Peterson (ankle).

NEW YORK GIANTS at PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — GIANTS: OUT: RB Rashad Jennings (knee), LB Spencer Paysinger (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: DE Robert Ayers Jr. (neck), LB Jon Beason (foot, toe). PROBABLE: CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (ankle, hamstring), P Steve Weatherford (left ankle). **EAGLES:** OUT: C Jason Kelce (hernia), LB Mychal Kendricks (calf), RB Chris Polk (hamstring), WR Brad Smith (groin). QUESTIONABLE: LB DeMeco Ryans (groin). PROBABLE: LB Connor Barwin (knee), CB Brandon Boykin (hamstring), TE Trey Burton (Achilles), CB Nolan Carroll II (hamstring), WR Josh Huff (shoulder), T Matt Tobin (ankle).

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS at ST. LOUIS RAMS — No Data Reported.

AP sportlight

Oct. 12

1920 — In the final race of his career, 3-year-old Man o War defeats 1919 Triple Crown winner Sir Barton in a match race, the Kenilworth Park Gold Cup. Sent off at odds of 1-20, Man o War wins by seven lengths for his 14th consecutive victory.

1940 — Tennessee registers its 17th consecutive regular-season shutout with a 53-0 rout of Tennessee-Chattanooga. The record streak started on Nov. 5, 1938, also against Tennessee-Chattanooga.

1946 — The No. 2 Texas Longhorns beat No. 1 Oklahoma 28-7. It's the eighth 1-2 matchup in AP poll history and the first time the second-ranked team wins the game.

1976 — Don Murdoch of the New York Rangers ties an NHL record for rookies with five goals in a 10-4 victory over the Minnesota North Stars.

1986 — Walter Payton becomes the first NFL player to accumulate 20,000 all-purpose yards in the Chicago Bears' 20-7 victory over the Houston Oilers. Payton has 76 yards rushing and 30 yards receiving for a career total of 20,045.

1991 — Doug Flutie of the British Columbia Lions breaks Warren Moon's CFL record for yards passing in a season with a 582-yard performance in a 45-38 overtime loss to Edmonton.

College football

Friday's scores

EAST
Mass.-Dartmouth 37, Bridgewater (Mass.) 10

SOUTH
Randolph-Macon 42, Catholic U. 21

FAR WEST
San Diego St. 24, New Mexico 14
Stanford 34, Washington St. 17
UNLV 30, Fresno St. 27, OT

Auto racing

Drive for the Cure 300

NASCAR Nationwide Series
Friday
At Charlotte Motor Speedway
Concord, N.C.
Lap length: 1.5 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (10) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 200 laps, 122.6 rating, 0 points, $65,375.
2. (5) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 200, 131.2, 0, $52,075.
3. (2) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 200, 126.3, 0, $37,500.
4. (19) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 200, 102.6, 0, $26,475.
5. (6) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 200, 119.5, 0, $26,450.
6. (13) Chris Buescher, Ford, 200, 89.2, 38, $27,075.
7. (8) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 200, 94.7, 37, $24,360.
8. (1) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 200, 118.6, 38, $36,120.
9. (4) Elliott Sadler, Toyota, 200, 99, 35, $22,000.
10. (3) Brian Scott, Chevrolet, 200, 100.9, 34, $24,525.
11. (22) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 200, 90.2, 34, $21,150.
12. (7) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 200, 89.4, 0, $13,600.
13. (16) Ryan Sieg, Chevrolet, 200, 82.1, 31, $19,000.
14. (21) Dylan Kwasniewski, Chevrolet, 200, 77.4, 30, $18,625.
15. (9) Ryan Reed, Ford, 200, 77.2, 29, $19,250.
16. (14) Brendan Gaughan, Chevrolet, 200, 81.7, 29, $18,175.
17. (20) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 200, 68.1, 27, $17,975.
18. (15) Mike Bliss, Toyota, 200, 72.3, 26, $17,775.
19. (24) Dakoda Armstrong, Ford, 200, 63.3, 25, $17,600.
20. (33) David Starr, Toyota, 200, 59.7, 24, $18,150.
21. (23) Ross Chastain, Toyota, 200, 64.9, 0, $11,300.
22. (25) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 198, 57.5, 22, $17,195.
23. (37) Kevin Swindell, Dodge, 197, 47.8, 21, $17,095.
24. (17) Corey LaJoie, Ford, accident, 175, 56.7, 0, $16,970.
25. (40) Derrike Cope, Chevrolet, 166, 41.9, 19, $17,370.
26. (38) Joey Gase, Chevrolet, 165, 36.5, 18, $16,795.
27. (31) Jamie Dick, Chevrolet, 161, 38.3, 17, $16,670.
28. (26) Chad Boat, Chevrolet, accident, 138, 58.6, 16, $10,570.
29. (35) Carlos Contreras, Chevrolet, accident, 75, 44.1, 15, $16,495.
30. (11) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, accident, 74, 81.5, 14, $16,745.
31. (18) James Buescher, Toyota, accident, 74, 65.6, 13, $16,390.
32. (32) Eric McClure, Toyota, accident, 73, 40.9, 12, $16,305.
33. (12) Cale Conley, Chevrolet, accident, 73, 45.3, 0, $10,240.
34. (39) Timmy Hill, Chevrolet, vibration, 9, 42.8, 0, $16,205.
35. (36) Jeff Green, Toyota, vibration, 8, 41.2, 9, $10,158.
36. (34) Matt DiBenedetto, Chevrolet, accident, 1, 37.4, 8, $15,450.
37. (30) Tanner Berryhill, Toyota, accident, 1, 35.8, 7, $15,415.
38. (28) Will Kimmel, Toyota, accident, 1, 34.2, 6, $15,336.
39. (27) J.J. Yeley, Dodge, accident, 0, 32.7, 5, $15,220.
40. (29) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, accident, 0, 31.1, 4, $15,190.

Race Statistics

Average Speed of Race Winner: 122.172 mph.
Time of Race: 2 hours, 27 minutes, 20 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 0.377 seconds.
Caution Flags: 8 for 42 laps.
Lead Changes: 13 among 7 drivers.
Lap Leaders: C.Elliott 1-8; M.Kenseth 9-60; C.Elliott 61-73; R.Smith 74-82; C.Elliott 83-120; K.Busch 121-131; B.Keselowski 132-139; C.Elliott 140-146; K.Busch 147-169; B.Gaughan 170-171; R.Blaney 172; B.Gaughan 173; R.Blaney 174-186; B.Keselowski 187-200.
Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): C.Elliott, 4 times for 66 laps; M.Kenseth, 1 time for 52 laps; K.Busch, 2 times for 34 laps; B.Keselowski, 2 times for 22 laps; R.Blaney, 2 times for 14 laps; R.Smith, 1 time for 9 laps; B.Gaughan, 2 times for 3 laps.
Top 10 in Points: 1. C.Elliott, 1,106; 2. R.Smith, 1,064; 3. B.Scott, 1,045; 4. E.Sadler, 1,043; 5. T.Dillon, 1,042; 6. T.Bayne, 1,008; 7. C.Buescher, 912; 8. B.Gaughan, 875; 9. R.Reed, 820; 10. J.Buescher, 792.

NASCAR Driver Rating Formula

A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.
The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While on Lead Lap, Average Speed Under Green, Fastest Lap, Led Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.

SEE SCOREBOARD ON PAGE 25

Tennis

Generali Ladies

Friday
At Tips Arena Linz
Linz, Austria
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Indoor
Singles
Quarterfinals

Karin Knapp, Italy, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.
Camila Giorgi, Italy, def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 6-3, 7-5.
Anna-Lena Friedsam, Germany, def. Stefanie Voegele, Switzerland, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Karolina Pliskova (7), Czech Republic, def. Madison Brengle, United States, 6-4, 6-4.

Shanghai Masters

Friday
At Qizhong Tennis Center
Shanghai
Purse: $6.52 million (Masters 1000)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Quarterfinals

Gilles Simon, France, def. Tomas Berdych (6), Czech Republic, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-0.
Feliciano Lopez, Spain, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. David Ferrer (5), Spain, 6-4, 6-2.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 7-6 (4), 6-0.

Japan Open

Friday
At Utsbo Tennis Center
Osaka, Japan
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Quarterfinals

Luksika Kumkhum, Thailand, def. Madison Keys (2), United States, 6-2, 4-3, retired.
Zarina Diyas (5), Kazakhstan, def. Ana Konjuh, Croatia, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-2.
Elina Svitolina (3), Ukraine, def. Lauren Davis (8), United States, 6-2, 6-4.
Sam Stosur (1), Australia, def. Yulia Putintseva, Kazakhstan, 6-4, 6-1.

Tianjin Open

Friday
At Tianjin Tennis Centre
Tianjin, China
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Quarterfinals

Alison Riske (6), United States, def. Varvara Lepchenko (4), United States, 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Zheng Saisai, China, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1.
Belinda Bencic (3), Switzerland, def. Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.
Peng Shuai (2), China, def. Ajla Tomljanovic (8), Croatia, 7-6 (5), 2-6, 7-5.

SCOREBOARD/SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 24

Golf

Frys.com Open

PGA Tour
Friday
At Silverado Country Clun-North
Napa, Calif.
Purse: $6 million
Yardage: 7,203; Par 72
Second Round

Martin Laird	67-67—134	-10
Sang-Moon Bae	66-69—135	-9
Zachary Blair	69-66—135	-9
Scott Langley	70-66—136	-8
David Lingmerth	68-68—136	-8
Mark Hubbard	71-65—136	-8
Hideki Matsuyama	70-67—137	-7
Brooks Koepka	68-70—138	-6
Tom Gillis	70-68—138	-6
Hunter Mahan	70-68—138	-6
Cameron Tringale	69-69—138	-6
Adam Hadwin	70-69—139	-5
Hudson Swafford	70-69—139	-5
Cameron Wilson	71-68—139	-5
Matt Kuchar	71-68—139	-5
Scott Brown	71-68—139	-5
Stuart Appleby	69-70—139	-5
Bryce Molder	70-69—139	-5
Cameron Percy	69-70—139	-5
Byron Smith	73-66—139	-5
Colt Knost	68-71—139	-5
Retief Goosen	69-71—140	-4
Charles Howell III	73-67—140	-4
Erik Compton	74-66—140	-4
Max Homa	72-68—140	-4
Tyrone Van Aswegen	68-72—140	-4
Jon Curran	68-72—140	-4
Carl Pettersson	71-69—140	-4
Scott Stallings	71-69—140	-4
Charlie Beljan	68-72—140	-4
Danny Lee	73-67—140	-4
William McGirt	72-68—140	-4
Luke Guthrie	68-72—140	-4
Andres Gonzales	66-74—140	-4
Blayne Barber	73-67—140	-4
Robert Allenby	70-71—141	-3
Steven Bowditch	73-68—141	-3
Jerry Kelly	69-72—141	-3
Aaron Baddeley	68-73—141	-3
Chad Campbell	69-72—141	-3
Scott Piercy	71-70—141	-3
Brice Garnett	71-70—141	-3
Jimmy Walker	75-66—141	-3
Graham DeLaet	71-70—141	-3
Jeff Overton	70-71—141	-3
Derek Fathauer	70-71—141	-3
Shawn Stefani	73-69—142	-2
Marc Leishman	69-73—142	-2
Lee Westwood	73-69—142	-2
Chesson Hadley	73-69—142	-2
Brandt Snedeker	71-71—142	-2
Robert Streb	74-68—142	-2
Spencer Levin	73-69—142	-2
Kyle Reifers	68-74—142	-2
Tony Finau	69-73—142	-2
Jarrod Lyle	72-70—142	-2
Harrison Frazar	71-71—142	-2
Brendan Steele	72-70—142	-2
Ryo Ishikawa	71-71—142	-2
Carlos Ortiz	71-71—142	-2
Sam Saunders	73-69—142	-2
John Peterson	70-72—142	-2
Daniel Summerhays	71-72—143	-1
Sean O'Hair	74-69—143	-1
Derek Ernst	72-71—143	-1
Tim Wilkinson	76-67—143	-1
David Hearn	72-71—143	-1
Jason Kokrak	70-73—143	-1
Kevin Kisner	71-72—143	-1
Russell Knox	72-71—143	-1
Steve Wheatcroft	75-68—143	-1
Chez Reavie	73-70—143	-1
Tim Clark	69-74—143	-1
Bo Van Pelt	73-70—143	-1
Brendon de Jonge	72-71—143	-1
Trevor Immelman	76-67—143	-1
Failed to make the cut		
J.J. Henry	72-72—144	E
Michael Thompson	73-71—144	E
Jason Bohn	70-74—144	E
Brad Fritsch	70-74—144	E
Justin Thomas	69-75—144	E
Heath Slocum	72-72—144	E
Lucas Glover	71-73—144	E
Harris English	72-72—144	E
Michael Putnam	70-74—144	E
Billy Hurley III	70-74—144	E
Jim Renner	69-75—144	E
Tom Hoge	74-70—144	E
Jason Gore	74-71—145	+1
Gonzalo Fdez-Castano	73-72—145	+1
Jonas Blixt	70-75—145	+1
Martin Flores	74-71—145	+1
Kevin Chappell	72-73—145	+1
Andrew Svoboda	74-71—145	+1
Troy Kelly	71-74—145	+1
George McNeill	74-71—145	+1
Scott Verplank	73-72—145	+1
Ken Duke	72-74—146	+2
Jhonattan Vegas	72-74—146	+2
Vijay Singh	72-74—146	+2
John Huh	73-73—146	+2
Robert Garrigus	72-74—146	+2
John Rollins	74-72—146	+2
Steven Alker	75-71—146	+2
Ryan Armour	75-71—146	+2
Nick Taylor	74-72—146	+2
Justin Leonard	72-74—146	+2
Matt Jones	74-72—146	+2
James Hahn	77-69—146	+2

LPGA Malaysia

Friday
At Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Purse: $2 million
Yardage: 6,246; Par: 71
Second Round

So Yeon Ryu	66-65—131	-11
Ayako Uehara	70-63—133	-9
Jodi Ewart Shadoff	69-64—133	-9
Lydia Ko	69-64—133	-9
Eun-Hee Ji	66-67—133	-9
Azahara Munoz	69-65—134	-8
Shanshan Feng	67-67—134	-8
Pornanong Phatlum	67-67—134	-8
Chella Choi	69-66—135	-7
Jenny Shin	67-68—135	-7
Ilhee Lee	70-66—136	-6
Gerina Piller	69-67—136	-6
Angela Stanford	69-67—136	-6
Catriona Matthew	68-68—136	-6
Mi Hyang Lee	67-69—136	-6
Na Yeon Choi	66-70—136	-6
Stacy Lewis	65-71—136	-6
Beatriz Recari	70-67—137	-5
Sun Young Yoo	70-67—137	-5
Brittany Lang	69-68—137	-5
Carlota Ciganda	68-69—137	-5
Amy Yang	67-70—137	-5
Sandra Gal	73-65—138	-4
Mi Jung Hur	71-67—138	-4
Mirim Lee	71-67—138	-4
Pernilla Lindberg	70-68—138	-4
Haru Nomura	68-70—138	-4
Caroline Masson	72-67—139	-3
Marina Alex	71-68—139	-3
Austin Ernst	71-68—139	-3
Karrie Webb	70-69—139	-3
Julieta Granada	69-70—139	-3
Moriya Jutanugarn	69-70—139	-3
Lizette Salas	68-71—139	-3
Morgan Pressel	71-69—140	-2
Ariya Jutanugarn	69-71—140	-2
Paula Creamer	75-66—141	-1
Jessica Korda	71-70—141	-1
Dewi Claire Schreefel	71-70—141	-1
Natalie Gulbis	69-72—141	-1
Hee Young Park	66-75—141	-1
Sarah Jane Smith	74-68—142	E
Michelle Koh	72-70—142	E
K. Muangkhumsakul	71-71—142	E
Thidapa Suwannapura	70-72—142	E
Kris Tamulis	70-72—142	E
Danielle Kang	69-73—142	E
Anna Nordqvist	69-73—142	E
Karine Icher	68-74—142	E
Haeji Kang	74-69—143	+1
Laura Diaz	72-71—143	+1
Candie Kung	71-72—143	+1
Suzann Pettersen	71-72—143	+1
Jennifer Rosales	71-72—143	+1
Lee-Anne Pace	69-74—143	+1

SAS Championship

Champions Tour
Friday
At Prestonwood Country Club
Cary, N.C.
Purse: $2.1 million
Yardage: 7,240; Par: 72 (35-37)
First Round

Guy Boros	32-34—66	-6
Tom Lehman	31-36—67	-5
Marco Dawson	32-35—67	-5
Larry Mize	33-35—68	-4
Hale Irwin	33-35—68	-4
Paul Goydos	34-34—68	-4
Jose Coceres	36-33—69	-3
Kevin Sutherland	34-35—69	-3
Neal Lancaster	36-33—69	-3
Mark Brooks	34-35—69	-3
Scott Hoch	34-35—69	-3
Gary Koch	32-37—69	-3
David Frost	33-36—69	-3
Mark O'Meara	37-32—69	-3
Roger Chapman	33-36—69	-3
Lee Janzen	34-36—70	-2
Peter Jacobsen	37-33—70	-2
Steve Lowery	35-35—70	-2
Kirk Triplett	33-37—70	-2
Nick Faldo	37-33—70	-2
Bob Tway	34-37—71	-1
John Inman	34-37—71	-1
Tom Purtzer	33-38—71	-1
Willie Wood	36-35—71	-1
Craig Stadler	32-39—71	-1
Corey Pavin	34-37—71	-1
Russ Cochran	33-38—71	-1
Rocco Mediate	35-36—71	-1
Jeff Brehaut	33-38—71	-1
Wayne Levi	35-37—72	E
Billy Andrade	35-37—72	E
Steve Pate	36-36—72	E
Bobby Wadkins	36-36—72	E
Chip Beck	34-38—72	E
Tom Pernice Jr.	36-36—72	E
Fred Funk	36-36—72	E
Bart Bryant	36-36—72	E
Loren Roberts	36-36—72	E
Mark McNulty	35-37—72	E
Kenny Perry	34-38—72	E
Marion Dantzler	36-36—72	E
Anders Forsbrand	33-39—72	E
Scott Simpson	35-38—73	+1
Mike Reid	37-36—73	+1
Danny Briggs	37-36—73	+1
Jim Thorpe	35-38—73	+1

College hockey

Friday's scores

EAST
Boston U. 8, UMass 1
UMass Lowell 5, Boston College 2
Merrimack 3, Holy Cross 2
Ohio St. 5, Providence 4, OT
Connecticut 2, Penn St. 2, OT
Clarkson 3, Niagara 1
RIT 5, St. Lawrence 2
Robert Morris 3, Lake Superior St. 1
Army 2, Sacred Heart 1
Canisius 4, W. Michigan 2
Union (N.Y.) 7, American International 3

MIDWEST
Minnesota 4, Minn. Duluth 3
Bowling Green 3, Miami (Ohio) 2
RPI 3, Notre Dame 2
Bemidji St. 5, North Dakota 1
Neb.-Omaha 5, Minn. St. (Mankato) 3
Colgate 3, St. Cloud St. 1

FAR WEST
Air Force 5, Mercyhurst 1
Alaska 1, Wisconsin 0
Colorado College 3, Ala. Huntsville 2

EXHIBITION
Ferris St. 4, Wilfrid Laurier 1

Briefly

Donvan hits post in final game with national team

The Associated Press

EAST HARTFORD, Connecticut — Landon Donovan ran onto a backheel pass from Jozy Altidore in the 25th minute, looked at the goal from 12 yards and drove in a right-footed shot like he had so many times before.

Storybook ending?

Not this time.

The ball clanked off a post, and Donovan couldn't beat Ecuador goalkeeper Maximo Banguera to the rebound.

Sixteen minutes later, the most-accomplished national team career of an American player came to an end.

Donovan was applauded and cheered by the crowd of 36,265 at Rentschler Field on Friday night, when he couldn't add to his American records of 57 international goals and 58 assists.

"I was watching Jeter a few weeks back. I thought that would be a perfect way to score a goal, but unfortunately it didn't happen tonight," Donovan said, a reference to the winning hit by Yankees captain Derek Jeter in his final home game.

After the 1-1 draw ended, he hugged each of his teammates in the center of field, then took a slow lap around the field, using the sleeves of his sweat top to dab the tears from his eyes. In front of the benches, he hugged what appeared to be family members, and then he climbed in front of the stands behind a goal to lead the American Outlaws supporters in a chant of "I Believe That We Will Win!"

Donovan did contribute to Mix Diskerud's fifth-minute goal. Donovan crossed the ball from the left, and Altidore failed to connect. DeAndre Yedlin, the 21-year-old defender who is among the top American players of the next generation, played the ball in front of the goal, where Diskerud scored from 12 yards.

Ecuador secured the draw when Enner Valencia scored in the 88th minute with a shot from outside the penalty area that curled around defender Tim Ream and bounced in, with goalkeeper Brad Guzan about 3 yards away.

ELISE AMENDOLA/AP

The United States' Landon Donovan, left, shoots against Ecuador goalkeeper Maximo Banguera during the first half of Friday's match in East Hartford, Conn. It was Donovan's last international match.

FSU to use outside official in Winston case

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State will use an independent official in the student code of conduct hearing of quarterback Jameis Winston.

No hearing date has been set. A female student accused Winston of rape stemming from a December 2012 encounter.

University spokeswoman Browning Brooks said in a statement Saturday the independent officer will be used to "ensure an absolutely fair and impartial process, and to avoid any conflict created by the ongoing federal investigation and threatened civil litigation."

Three independent officers will be presented. Winston and the woman have the option to eliminate one of them.

Winston was not arrested or charged when police and the state attorney conducted their investigations. The university on Friday released a timeline of events defending its investigation.

In other college football news:

■ Florida quarterback Treon Harris has been fully reinstated by the university and the football team after a fellow student accuser withdrew her sexual battery complaint against the freshman.

The school said in a statement Friday that the woman who made the allegation "is not pursuing criminal charges against him at this time, but maintains the right to do so in the future." The university added that it is not proceeding with any action against Harris.

Laird takes the lead at Silverado

NAPA, California — Martin Laird's birdie on the 18th was enough to give him a one-shot lead over Bae Sang-moon and Zach Blair after Friday's second round of the PGA Tour's season-opening Frys.com Open.

Laird bounced back from his first bogey of the new season by running off four straight birdies around the turn, and another on the par-5 18th at Silverado gave him a second straight 5-under 67.

There were 13 rounds at 67 or better, compared with only three in the opening round.

One of them belonged to Jimmy Walker, one of four players fresh off the Ryder Cup who came to the Frys.com Open. Walker opened with a 75, and then he followed that with eight birdies in a round of 66 that got him to the weekend with room to spare.

Hunter Mahan and Matt Kuchar each had a 68 and were at least in range of Laird. Lee Westwood played in the morning when conditions were more difficult, shot a 69 and made the cut by one shot.

In other golf news:

■ Thailand's Pornanong Phatlum made six birdies on the front nine on her way to a 6-under 65 Saturday that gave her a three-shot lead after the third round of the LPGA Malaysia tournament.

Pornanong closed in on her first LPGA victory as she moved to 14-under 199 at Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club.

Japan's Ayako Uehara had three consecutive birdies from the 12th hole in a round of 69 to sit alone in second place. Four players were tied for third a stroke further back, including second-round leader So Hyeon Ryu, who had double bogeys at both the 17th and 18th to give up her lead.

■ Guy Boros birdied the final hole Friday for a 6-under 66 and a one-stroke lead over Tom Lehman and Marco Dawson after the first round of the Champions Tour's SAS Championship at Cary, N.C.

Hale Irwin, the 69-year-old star who won the 2005 tournament at Prestonwood, opened with a 68 — the seventh time he has bettered his age this year. He had six birdies and a double bogey on No. 8.

Hawaii Championship winner Paul Goydos and Larry Mize also shot 68.

NHL/AUTO RACING

Gerry Broome/AP

The Islanders' Griffin Reinhart (8), Johnny Boychuk (55) and goalie Jaroslav Halak (41) defend against the Hurricanes' Eric Staal during the third period of Friday's game in Raleigh, N.C.

Nelson, Boychuk help Isles beat Hurricanes

By Joedy McCreary
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — These New York Islanders didn't look much like the team that finished last year in last place.

Which makes sense: So many of the contributors Friday night weren't with them when last season ended.

Johnny Boychuk had a goal and two assists in his Islanders debut, leading them past the Carolina Hurricanes 5-3.

Brock Nelson began his second NHL season with two goals and two assists, but three other Islanders who played key roles in this one weren't around for the end of last year.

Free-agent signee Mikhail Grabovski had a goal, trade acquisition Jaroslav Halak made 21 saves, and John Tavares had three assists in his return after injuring a knee during the Olympics.

"This is a big starting point for us, the new faces contributed, and that's why they're here," Nelson said. "If we get more than a couple guys on the score sheet, we're going to be a pretty good hockey club."

Travis Hamonic also scored a goal for the Islanders, who scored twice on the power play.

Boychuk — picked up from Boston last week for draft picks — and Nelson scored 1:48 apart in the first period.

Nelson later added a deflected goal off a Boychuk shot in the second to put New York up 3-0 and in control of this matchup of the Metropolitan Division's two worst teams last year.

"Johnny came in and just kind of fit in right away," Tavares said.

Eric Staal, Nathan Gerbe and Chris Terry scored third-period goals while Cam Ward made 21 saves for the Hurricanes.

New coach Bill Peters said losing his NHL head coaching debut felt "not great right now, actually" because Carolina "took a couple of penalties that put us behind the 8-ball, couldn't kill them, and gave them momentum."

Carolina briefly made this interesting, making it 3-1 just 1:25 into the third when Gerbe deflected Justin Faulk's slap shot past Halak.

But Grabovski restored the Islanders' three-goal lead at 5:11 after he was left alone in front of Ward, and Hamonic made it 5-1 with 7:41 remaining. Staal's goal came with 1:34 to play.

"We were trying to use the momentum," Staal said. "When you get one, you feel the energy coming in the building, and the crowd's into it. ... (Grabovski's goal) was tough."

Andrej Sekera added two assists for the Hurricanes, who are ushering in a new era: Jim Rutherford — the only general manager the club had known since it moved from Hartford in 1997 — stepped aside during the offseason to make way for protégé Ron Francis, then took the GM's job with Metropolitan Division rival Pittsburgh.

Francis fired Kirk Muller after 2½ seasons and brought in Peters from Detroit's staff. The roster was mostly left intact, though two key faces were missing: Jordan Staal (broken leg) and Jeff Skinner (concussion).

The Islanders had eight players on the roster making their debuts — and so many of them did so much of the work in this one.

Halak, brought in to replace Evgeni Nabokov, was at times spectacular in goal. Grabovski, signed to a four-year deal after a 13-goal season in Washington, scored his momentum-changing goal when the Hurricanes were caught in a line change.

The Islanders pushed the lead to 3-0 with 12:22 left in the second when Boychuk uncorked a power-play shot that clipped Nelson's knee and got past Ward.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	2	2	0	0	4	6	4
Detroit	1	1	0	0	2	2	1
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Boston	2	1	1	0	2	3	3
Florida	1	0	0	1	1	2	3
Ottawa	1	0	1	0	0	2	3
Toronto	1	0	1	0	0	3	4
Buffalo	1	0	1	0	0	1	3

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	1	1	0	0	2	3	1
New Jersey	1	1	0	0	2	6	4
N.Y. Islanders	1	1	0	0	2	5	3
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	0	2	6	4
N.Y. Rangers	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Washington	1	0	0	1	1	1	2
Carolina	1	0	1	0	0	3	5
Philadelphia	2	0	2	0	0	5	8

Western Conference

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	1	1	0	0	2	5	0
Winnipeg	1	1	0	0	2	6	2
Nashville	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Chicago	1	1	0	0	2	3	2
Dallas	1	0	0	1	1	2	3
St. Louis	1	0	1	0	0	2	3
Colorado	1	0	1	0	0	0	5

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	1	1	0	0	2	4	0
Vancouver	1	1	0	0	2	4	2
Calgary	2	1	1	0	2	7	6
Anaheim	1	0	1	0	0	4	6
Edmonton	1	0	1	0	0	2	5
Arizona	1	0	1	0	0	2	6
Los Angeles	1	0	1	0	0	0	4

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

Friday's games

N.Y. Islanders 5, Carolina 3

Saturday's games

Washington at Boston
Pittsburgh at Toronto
Anaheim at Detroit
Ottawa at Tampa Bay
New Jersey at Florida
Carolina at N.Y. Islanders
Montreal at Philadelphia
N.Y. Rangers at Columbus
Calgary at St. Louis
Dallas at Nashville
Buffalo at Chicago
Minnesota at Colorado
Los Angeles at Arizona
Edmonton at Vancouver
Winnipeg at San Jose

Sunday's games

Toronto at N.Y. Rangers
Winnipeg at Los Angeles

Friday
Islanders 5, Hurricanes 3

N.Y. Islanders	2	1	2—5
Carolina	0	0	3—3

First Period—1, N.Y. Islanders, J.Boychuk 1 (Okposo, Tavares), 17:06 (pp). 2, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 1 (Tavares, J.Boychuk), 18:54.

Second Period—3, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 2 (J.Boychuk, Tavares), 7:38 (pp).

Third Period—4, Carolina, Gerbe 1 (Faulk, Sekera), 1:25 (pp). 5, N.Y. Islanders, Grabovski 1 (Strome, Nelson), 5:11. 6, N.Y. Islanders, Hamonic 1 (Nelson, Strome), 12:19. 7, Carolina, Terry 1 (Sekera, Nash), 14:20. 8, Carolina, E.Staal 1 (Lindholm, Tlusty), 18:26 (pp).

Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 8-7-11—26. Carolina 6-10-8—24.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 2 of 3; Carolina 2 of 5.

Goalies—N.Y. Islanders, Halak 1-0-0 (24 shots-21 saves). Carolina, Ward 0-1-0 (26-21).

A—18,680 (18,680). **T**—2:26.

Auto racing roundup

Keselowski wins Nationwide race

The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — Brad Keselowski thought he was in for a long night when a tire went down and he scraped the wall on lap 55 at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

"It was a night of adversity to start and we all got really nervous," Keselowski said.

But once Keselowski settled down, the No. 22 Ford battled back to the front, passing teammate Ryan Blaney with 12 laps to go to win the Nationwide Series race Friday night.

Keselowski passed Blaney on the outside on the straightaway to earn his fourth victory in nine starts this year and 31st Nationwide Series win of his career. That ties him with Jack Ingram for fifth on the all-time list.

"Winning a Nationwide race, to me the novelty of being in victory lane hasn't worn off — at least to me," Keselowski said. "... I don't take these wins for granted or take these opportunities for granted."

Kyle Busch, who was won a record 69 races in the Nationwide Series, finished second. Matt Kenseth was third, Blaney finished fourth, and Kyle Larson, who won here at Charlotte earlier this year, was fifth.

Chase Elliott finished ninth, extending his points lead over Regan Smith to 42. Smith finished in 11th place.

Elliott started from the pole and led a portion of the race but ultimately left the track frustrated with his performance.

"My restarts are some of the worst you can have," Elliott said. "I think I would know how to restart a race at this point. That is 100 percent pitiful, in all honesty."

Ty Dillon, who entered the night third in the standings, was involved in a six-car crash on lap 76, ending his night. He finished in 30th place and fell back to fifth place, 62 points behind Elliott.

"I made a bit of a mistake going four wide," Dillon said.

The race included eight cautions, several the result of blown tires.

"I felt like we were playing prevent defense early in the race," said Keselowski. "Everyone was waiting for who was the next person who was going to blow a tire. You didn't want to run slow and fall back in traffic where you couldn't make passes. But you could see everyone that ran hard kept having tire problems."

Formula One: Formula One championship leader Lewis Hamilton will start from pole position at the inaugural Russian Grand Prix.

Hamilton earned his seventh pole of the season by beating Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg by two-tenths of a second in Saturday's qualifying in Sochi, Russia.

Williams driver Valtteri Bottas was faster than Hamilton for two sectors in his last lap but then went wide in the last corner and stayed third.

Hamilton leads Rosberg by 10 points and is seeking his ninth victory of the season. He has won the last three races — in Japan, Singapore and Italy — and Mercedes can wrap up its first constructors title if one of its drivers wins Sunday's race.

"Pole is a great place to start from," said Hamilton, who is seeking his second championship after winning the title in 2008. This was his 38th career pole.

Four-time defending champion Sebastian Vettel failed to make the third and final qualifying session in his Red Bull.

Chuck Burton/AP

Brad Keselowski celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Nationwide series race Friday in Concord, N.C.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP

Washington State quarterback Connor Halliday, right, is sacked by Stanford linebacker A.J. Tarpley, center, during the second half of Friday's game in Stanford, Calif. No. 24 Stanford won 34-17 to drop Washington State to 2-5 for the season.

No. 25 Stanford wins big

Cardinal defense quiets Halliday, Washington State

By Antonio Gonzalez
The Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — The defense came as advertised for Stanford, and so did the offense.

Cardinal coach David Shaw is at the point where he finally accepts that the good is going to come with the bad this season, and he just hopes his players can overcome the miscues when the competition gets tougher.

Kevin Hogan threw for 284 yards and three touchdowns, and No. 25 Stanford slowed down Connor Halliday and the Air Raid offense in a 34-17 victory over Washington State on Friday night.

"We're going to try to be perfect but also realize we're not going to be perfect," Shaw said, citing a speech star Ty Montgomery gave to the team earlier in the day. "Give a great effort and try to be perfect, but when we're not we can't let the sky come falling down around us. We're just going to play through our mistakes and continue to give a great effort."

That approach was enough to get by a one-dimensional team. Whether it will work against the Pac-12's heavyweights on the horizon — including games at Arizona State, UCLA and Oregon — is still to be determined.

Greg Taboado grabbed his first two career TDs and fellow tight end Eric Cotton had his first scoring catch to help the Cardinal (4-2, 2-1) rebound from a non-conference loss at Notre Dame and renew their chase for a third straight conference championship.

Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP

Stanford tight end Eric Cotton, left, celebrates his first-half touchdown reception with teammate Greg Taboada.

A week after Halliday threw for an NCAA-record 734 yards in a 60-59 loss to California, the nation's stingiest scoring defense harassed him all over the backfield.

Stanford held Halliday to 42-for-69 passing for 292 yards and two touchdowns on mostly short and intermediate passes. The Cardinal also forced one interception and had four sacks.

"We didn't have time for downfield passes," Halliday said.

The Cougars (2-5, 1-3) have lost two in a row, and their chances of making consecutive bowl games under Mike Leach look dim.

Stanford improved to 9-0 after losses under Shaw and hasn't dropped consecutive games since October 2009. But penalties and mistakes in the red zone cost the Cardinal from taking control — which has been a theme this season — against a Washington State defense that struggled again.

The usually stoic Shaw even broke out of character a couple of times, though it was often directed at officials, including tossing his headset while arguing on the sideline for pass interference. He also dropped his hands to his side and shrugged after fullback Patrick Skov fumbled while trying to stretch the ball over the goal line late in the first half.

Stanford still outgained Washington State 477 to 266 yards — enough to bring a smile out of Tiger Woods on the sideline — and leaned on its defense to do the rest.

The Cardinal entered the game with the country's best scoring defense (8.6 points) and ranked second in total defense (232 yards) and passing defense (107 yards) per game. They lived up to the billing again, hurrying Halliday constantly to break up the Cougars' pass-happy schemes.

K-State's Snyder still going at 75

By Adam Suderman
The Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Even in the midst of a bye week, Bill Snyder didn't have time to blow out any candles.

The Vanier Football Complex, the headquarters of Snyder's architectural masterpiece at Kansas State, was humming like normal on Tuesday. There were no special plans in store as the longtime coach celebrated his 75th birthday.

"I will be right here doing what we always do, evaluating film after our practice, practice tape and Oklahoma tape," Snyder said with a grin. "Same old thing."

The No. 17 Wildcats (4-1, 2-0 Big 12) have a week to prepare for a visit to No. 11 Oklahoma (4-1, 1-1), a game that has significant Big 12 title ramifications. So that's what has Snyder's full attention these days.

However, in his allotted 30-minute session with reporters on Tuesday afternoon, Snyder did spend a bit of time reflecting on his 23-year career at Kansas State.

"Part of it is choosing the right people to embrace in your life, making family important, being who you are and working at whatever you do," Snyder said of sustaining his success. "There are multiple things that you learn by having good people in your life. I have learned something every day from good people."

After coaching at the high school and college levels, Snyder has fine-tuned his craft over the past 50 years. He is now the oldest active coach in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

Age is just a number in college football these days.

Frank Solich, who turned 70 in September, has guided once-woeful Ohio to five straight winning seasons. South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier turns 70 in April, and nobody seems to think he's going anywhere soon. Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer, who is closing in on three decades with the Hokies, turns 68 next weekend.

The list of accolades on Snyder's résumé is long: more than 180 wins, a pair of Big 12 titles, three trips to BCS bowl games and only two sub-.500 seasons since 1992. But while he's not ready to single out any particular moment, he does always point to one thing for the success that he's had throughout his career.

"My mother was a true guiding light in my life and she was there for me," Snyder said. "In the good things that I have learned, I have learned from her."

Orlin Wagner/AP

Head coach Bill Snyder has guided the Wildcats to three BCS bowl games during his 23 years at Kansas State.

NICK WASS/AP

Baltimore's Delmon Young hits a three-run double Friday during the eighth inning of Game 2 of the AL Division Series against the Detroit Tigers in Baltimore. While Young's specialized skill set may not earn him much time in the field, he has proven a valuable contributor off the bench for the Orioles.

Super substitutes

Young, Gore making impact on postseason

BY NOAH TRISTER
The Associated Press

Delmon Young is a power hitter without much speed. Terrance Gore can breeze around the bases — but he might never be good enough with the bat to play consistently at the major league level.

Young and Gore, with their specialized skill sets, may not spend much time on the field this October, but if used properly, they can both make a difference in the late innings. Already, Gore has made his mark as a pinch-runner for the speedy Kansas City Royals, while Young provided perhaps Baltimore's biggest swing of this postseason so far, a three-run, pinch-hit double in Game 2 of the AL Division Series against Detroit.

A dependable bench can be a major asset during the playoffs, giving managers more flexibility in tight games. In honor of Young, Gore and the rest of baseball's super subs, here are a few of the most famous postseason performances by position players who weren't in the starting lineup:

Dusty Rhodes, Giants (1954 World Series): Rhodes homered as a pinch-hitter to give New York a 5-2 victory over Cleveland in the series opener — a game remembered more for Willie Mays' over-the-shoulder catch of Vic Wertz's long drive to center. Rhodes would also come off the bench to hit a single and a homer in Game 2, and a two-run single in Game 3.

Kirk Gibson, Dodgers (1988 World Series): Gibson was too injured to start Game 1 for Los Angeles, but he hobbled to the plate in the ninth as a pinch-hitter and hit a two-out, two-run homer off Oakland's Dennis Eckersley for a 5-4 victory in what became the defining moment of the fiery outfielder's career.

Francisco Cabrera, Braves (1992 NLCS): Cabrera had all of 11 plate appearances during the regular season that year, but he was the man pinch-hitting for Atlanta with two outs and the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth of Game 7. Cabrera's single to left scored two runs and gave the Braves a 3-2 victory over Pittsburgh.

Aaron Boone, Yankees (2003 ALCS): New York had already tied Game 7 with three runs in the eighth off Boston's Pedro Martinez. Then Boone came on as a pinch-runner and was stranded on base.

His spot in the order didn't come around until the 11th, when Boone led off with a pennant-winning homer and etched his name permanently into Yankees lore.

Dave Roberts, Red Sox (2004 ALCS): Boston lost the first three games of the series and trailed by a run in the ninth inning of Game 4 — with Mariano Rivera of the Yankees on the mound. Then Roberts came in as a pinch-runner and stole second, and he scored the tying run moments later.

The Red Sox rallied to win the pennant in improbable fashion — Roberts scored the tying run as a pinch-runner in Game 5 as well — and Boston eventually beat St. Louis to win its first World Series title since 1918. Roberts never actually batted for the Red Sox in the postseason, but his impact was immense.

Zone: 'Human element' alive and well behind home plate

FROM BACK PAGE

The rule book says it's a pitch where "any part of the ball passes through any part of the strike zone."

There are some umpires, however, who look for a little more. Say, half the ball in the zone for the half the time it crosses the plate — 17 inches wide, 17 inches deep.

Now, try pinpointing Yordano Ventura's 100 mph heater or Tim Hudson's dipping sinker in less than a half-second.

"Hopefully they swing the bat before he has to call the pitch," Baltimore reliever Tommy Hunter said. "Some guys have different depth perception."

"That's just the human element of the game. You've got to find out where it is. You have to judge how much the umpire is going to give you up and down, inside and outside," he said.

As for that TV box, well, it all depends.

"That's accurate to a point, but some guys are 6-6 and others are 5-10. They're not going to have the same strike zone, but on TV it's the same strike zone," Hunter said. "You've got to take it with a grain of salt. Maybe it was a strike, maybe it wasn't."

A couple of different firms have provided those strike zone boxes during the postseason; MLB has its own company that creates them.

For all the sophisticated cameras and advanced math used to project a zone, there's another key element — the catcher.

All-Star Yadier Molina of the Cardinals routinely gets called strikes for his pitcher because of how he catches the ball. That's especially true on outside pitches, because umpires usually set up on the inside corner, giving them a clear, unobstructed view.

How a catcher frames a pitch can make all the difference. If he's too obvious in trying to pull his glove in a couple of inches, he might convince an umpire that it was too wide. If he keeps his glove steady, it'll look like the pitcher hit his target and is more likely to result in a called strike.

Frequently, a hitter's reaction will give a good indication of whether a pitch was a strike or not. Several this postseason looked real close and were taken for balls, with the batter, pitcher and catcher never flinching while the crowd howled for a strike.

Other pitches, those started arguments. Especially ones wide on the TV box that wound up being called strike three.

"I think it's as accurate as it can be," Royals slugger Billy Butler said. "It's not 100 percent accurate, but the strike zone is a hard thing to judge."

"That's the reason why the best umpires in the world, they have human error, they make mistakes just like we do. It's a tough thing to judge, but that thing is not 100 percent," he said.

ALEX BRANDON/AP

The Washington Nationals' Asdrubal Cabrera reacts to a strike call in the 10th inning of Game 2 of an NL Division Series against the San Francisco Giants on Oct. 4 in Washington. Cabrerea was ejected for arguing with the umpire.

AP Sports Writer David Ginsburg contributed to this report.

MLB PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

American League

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-seven)
Kansas City 1, Baltimore 0

Friday: Kansas City 8, Baltimore 6, 10 innings
Saturday: Kansas City (Ventura 14-10) at Baltimore (Gonzalez 10-9)
Monday: Baltimore at Kansas City
Tuesday, Oct. 14: Baltimore at Kansas City
x-Wednesday: Baltimore at Kansas City
x-Friday, Oct. 17: Kansas City at Baltimore
x-Saturday, Oct. 18: Kansas City at Baltimore

National League

San Francisco vs. St. Louis

Saturday: San Francisco (Bumgarner 18-10) at St. Louis (Wainwright 20-9)
Sunday: San Francisco at St. Louis (Lynn 15-10)
Tuesday: St. Louis (Lackey 3-3) at San Francisco
Wednesday: St. Louis (Miller 10-9) at San Francisco
x-Thursday: St. Louis at San Francisco
x-Saturday, Oct. 18: San Francisco at St. Louis
x-Sunday, Oct. 19: San Francisco at St. Louis

WORLD SERIES
(Best-of-seven)

Tuesday, Oct. 21: at American League
Wednesday, Oct. 22: at AL
Friday, Oct. 24: at National League
Saturday, Oct. 25: at NL
x-Sunday, Oct. 26: at NL
x-Tuesday, Oct. 28: at AL
x-Wednesday, Oct. 29: at AL

Royals 8, Orioles 6 (10)

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi	Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi
AEscor ss	5	1	1	1	Markks rf	6	1	3	0
AOki rf	3	1	1	0	De Aza lf	5	1	2	1
JDyson pr-cf	1	0	0	0	A.Jones cf	5	1	1	1
L.Cain cf-rf	3	2	2	0	N.Cruz dh	5	1	2	1
Hosmer 1b	5	0	1	0	Pearce 1b	4	0	0	0
BButler dh	4	1	2	1	JHardy ss	5	0	1	0
AGordn lf	4	1	3	4	Flahrty 3b	5	1	3	2
S.Perez c	4	1	0	0	Hundly c	4	0	1	0
Infante 2b	4	0	1	0	Pareds ph	0	0	0	0
Mostks 3b	5	1	1	2	Schoop 2b	3	1	0	0
					DYong ph	1	0	1	1
					Lough pr	0	0	0	0
Totals	**38**	**8**	**12**	**8**	**Totals**	**43**	**6**	**14**	**6**
Kansas City					**004 010 000 3—8**				
Baltimore					**001 031 000 1—6**				

E—Moustakas (1), Schoop (1). DP—Kansas City 1, Baltimore 1. LOB—Kansas City 9, Baltimore 10. 2B—L.Cain (1), A.Gordon (1), Markakis (1), N.Cruz (1). HR—A.Escobar (1), A.Gordon (1), Moustakas (1). SB—Markakis (1), Schoop (1). CS—J.Dyson (1). SF—B.Butler.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Kansas City						
Shields	5	10	4	4	1	3
Finnegan BS,1-1	0	2	1	1	1	0
K.Herrera	2	0	0	0	0	2
W.Davis W,1-0	2	0	0	0	0	4
G.Holland S,1-1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Baltimore						
Tillman	4⅓	7	5	5	2	3
Tom.Hunter	⅔	1	0	0	0	0
Gausman	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1
A.Miller	1⅓	1	0	0	0	3
Z.Britton	⅓	0	0	0	3	0
O'Day L,0-1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Matusz	⅔	1	1	1	0	1

Finnegan pitched to 3 batters in the 6th. HBP—by A.Miller (A.Gordon). T—4:37. A—47,124 (45,971).

PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Baltimore Orioles starting pitcher Chris Tillman labored through 4⅓ innings before being pulled in the fifth after giving up seven hits and five runs.

MATT SLOCUM/AP

Kansas City outfielder Alex Gordon reacts to fans after the Royals defeated the Orioles 8-6 in Game 1 of the ALCS on Saturday in Baltimore.

Gordon, Royals top Orioles

Kansas City wins 4th extra-innings game of playoffs

BY DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Alex Gordon had already compiled a career's worth of playoff memories when he stepped to the plate in the 10th inning of a tie game.

Given the Kansas City Royals' success rate in extra innings this postseason, what happened next was almost inevitable.

Gordon homered to put Kansas City in front, Mike Moustakas added a two-run shot and the Royals defeated the Baltimore Orioles 8-6 Friday night in the opener of the AL Championship Series.

Kansas City is 5-0 this postseason, winning four times in extra innings.

"These games, we've played so many of them that we're kind of used to them a little bit," manager Ned Yost said. "And we still have a lot of confidence."

Before hitting his first playoff homer, Gordon doubled in three runs, was picked off first base, made a great catch in left field and got hit in the neck with a pitch.

"Gordy just has a lot of confidence in his abilities," Yost said. "He's a guy that can hit by a pitch and do exactly what he did, drive it out of the ballpark tonight, after getting hit in the neck. So it was a huge hit for us at that point."

MATT SLOCUM/AP

Kansas City's Mike Moustakas, center, and Salvador Perez, right, celebrate after Moustakas hit a two-run home run during the 10th inning of Saturday's ALCS Game 1.

NFL

Pack rush

Green Bay's defense making life difficult for opposing QBs

By Todd McMahon
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Talk of the Green Bay Packers' pass rush in recent years has started and typically ended with Clay Matthews. The star linebacker has led the Packers in sacks every season since his rookie year in 2009.

Perhaps this season will turn out different and Green Bay won't have to rely so much on their four-time Pro Bowl selection to get after the quarterback.

"I just think we've got some studs on the defensive side," Matthews said.

Green Bay (3-2) sacked Christian Ponder six times in a 42-10 rout of Minnesota last week. For the Packers, who have won two straight going into their game against Miami on Sunday, that matched the total number of sacks they had in their first four games.

Nine players have at least a half-sack for Green Bay this season. Matthews? He has just one after nursing a groin injury in recent weeks.

"Yeah, it's good just knowing that we all can get there and we all can make things happen," linebacker Nick Perry said Friday.

Defensive lineman Mike Daniels tops the deep list with 2½ sacks and Perry has two. After they reviewed the video of last week's game, Packers coaches credited the defense with 15 quarterback hits, one of the highest totals in Dom Capers' six seasons as defensive coordinator.

"We've done a great job of not only getting after the quarterback but also disrupting him and really just changing, I think, what offense wants to throw at us, especially in light of the players which we have to shut those guys down," Matthews said.

Capers has been making frequent use of a rotation of four players at the two outside linebacker spots, with starters Matthews and Julius Peppers as well as Perry and Mike Neal. They have combined for 5½ sacks.

"I think it's, at times, provided a shot in the arm," Matthews said. "I think it's only going to help spelling myself and Peppers as well as keeping those (offensive) tackles, guards, whatever it might be in front of them, kind of on their heels, or toes."

Peppers has made an early impact in his first season with the Packers. The 13th-year pro has 1½ sacks and a forced fumble, as well as an interception he returned 49 yards for a touchdown against the Vikings.

"Pass rush is one of those things where you get better as the year goes along," Peppers said. "So hopefully that's an indication of us hitting our stride and getting better up front and getting more pressure and hits."

Mike Roemer/AP

The Green Bay Packers' Nick Perry (53) and A.J. Hawk sack Minnesota Vikings quarterback Christian Ponder during the second half of last Thursday's game in Green Bay, Wis.

Jets don't intend to lay down for Manning, Broncos

By Dennis Waszak Jr.
The Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Rex Ryan already knew facing Peyton Manning is a daunting task in any week.

But the fact the Denver Broncos quarterback is heading to New York five touchdown passes away from tying Brett Favre's career record? Well, that just doesn't sit well with the Jets coach.

"Oh, God," said a wide-eyed Ryan, drawing laughs, when informed Friday of the impending milestone. "Let's hope he doesn't do it this week."

That, of course, would likely mean bad things for the Jets, who have lost four in a row and are trying to save their season before it spirals out of control. Going up against the soon-to-be touchdown tossing king isn't exactly the ideal cure for the team's woes.

Manning, who has 503 career TD passes, threw for a career-high 479 yards last weekend with four scores in a 41-20 win over Arizona, tying Dan Marino for the most 400-yard games in NFL history with 13. Ryan was asked if the thought of Manning breaking the record against the Jets entered his mind.

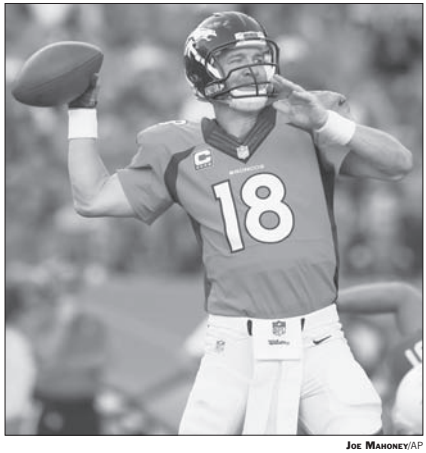
"No, I'm not going into the game thinking we're going to give up five touchdown passes," he said. "He's beat me enough through the years. He doesn't need to break the record against me."

Ryan is 2-5 in his career against Manning, as both a defensive coordinator with Baltimore and as a head coach with New York. One of those wins came in 2009, when Manning was pulled early to prevent injury with the playoff-bound Indianapolis Colts entering the game 14-0.

And, if a five-touchdown game for Manning sounds like a stretch, he has thrown at least that many nine times in his career — eight in the regular season. That includes a seven-TD performance against Baltimore in last year's season opener that tied an NFL record. Manning also has had five touchdown passes six times, including the playoffs, with the most recent coming against Kansas City last December.

So, yeah, it's very possible.

"It's a huge challenge for our defense," linebacker David Harris said. "We're facing the best quarterback of all time."



Joe Mahoney/AP

Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning threw for a career-high 478 yards in last week's 41-20 win over the Arizona Cardinals.

'No, I'm not going into the game thinking we're going to give up five touchdown passes. He's beat me enough through the years. He doesn't need to break the record against me.'

Rex Ryan

New York Jets head coach on Broncos' QB Peyton Manning, who needs five touchdown passes to tie Brett Farve's career mark of 508.

NFL GAMEDAY

WEEK 6

TELEVISED GAMES

Carolina Panthers (3-2) at Cincinnati Bengals (3-1)

AFN-Xtra
7 p.m. Sunday CET

Series: Tied 2-2; Bengals have won past two.

Last meeting: Bengals won 20-7 on Sept. 26, 2010.

Notes: Since entering the league in 2012, Panthers LB Luke Kuechly leads league with 381 tackles. ... In his past 11 regular-season home games, Bengals QB Andy Dalton is 11-0 with 2,563 passing yards and 22 TDs for a 97.7 rating. Bengals are 20-3 when Dalton's rating is over 90.

Detroit Lions (3-2) at Minnesota Vikings (2-3)

AFN-Sports
7 p.m. Sunday CET

Series: Vikings lead 69-34-2 and have won three of past four.

Last meeting: Vikings won 14-13 on Dec. 29, 2013.

Notes: Lions QB Matthew Stafford has thrown for more than 300 yards in three of the past four meetings between the teams. ... Vikings rookie Teddy Bridgewater passed for 317 yards and had a rushing TD in his first start two weeks ago against Atlanta.

Marquee matchup

Dallas Cowboys (4-1) at Seattle Seahawks (3-1)

AFN-Sports, 10 p.m. Sunday Central European Time

SERIES RECORD: Cowboys lead 9-5 and have won three of past four.

LAST MEETING: Seahawks beat Cowboys 27-7 on Sept. 16, 2012, at Seattle.

COWBOYS OFFENSE: OVERALL (5), RUSH (2), PASS (16).

COWBOYS DEFENSE: OVERALL (21), RUSH (20), PASS (18).

SEAHAWKS OFFENSE: OVERALL (12), RUSH (1), PASS (30).

SEAHAWKS DEFENSE: OVERALL (5), RUSH (1) PASS (22).

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES: Dallas has won four in a row after opening the season with a loss to San Francisco, and is tied with Philadelphia and San Diego for the best record in the league. ... Dallas quarterback Tony Romo has won three of his past four starts against Seattle, completing 85 of 141 passes for 1,117 yards and nine touchdowns for a 100.7 rating. ... Running back DeMarco Murray leads the league with 670 rushing yards and five touchdowns. He has eclipsed the 100-yard mark in all five games and gained 136 yards in last week's overtime win over Houston. He joined Hall of Fames Jim Brown and O.J. Simpson as the only players in league history to rush for at least 100 yards in each of his team's first five games ... Seattle has won 19 of its past 20 games at home, including the playoffs, outscoring opponents 584-273. ... Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson won his only start against Dallas and had a 112.7 rating. Including playoffs, he is 19-1 at home with 109.6 rating. He rushed for a career-best 122 yards last week against Washington. ... In his last two meetings with Dallas, running back Marshawn Lynch has rushed for 257 yards and two touchdowns, an average of 128.5 yards.

Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson is 19-1 at home as a starter and has a 109.6 rating.
Elaine Thompson/AP

Game capsules compiled from nflmedia.com

New England Patriots (3-2) at Buffalo Bills (3-2)

AFN-Atlantic
7 p.m. Sunday CET

Series: Patriots lead 65-41-1 and have won 20 of past 21.

Last meeting: Patriots won 34-20 on Dec. 29, 2013.

Notes: Last week, Patriots QB Tom Brady became sixth player in history with 50,000 career passing yards (50,232). ... In his Bills debut last week, QB Kyle Orton completed 30 of 43 passes for 308 yards and a TD. In his only career meeting with Bills, Orton completed 35 of 48 for 330 yards and two TDs.

New York Giants (3-2) at Philadelphia Eagles (4-1)

AFN-Xtra
2:20 a.m. Monday CET

Series: Giants lead 82-74-2; Eagles have won three of past five.

Last meeting: Giants won 15-7 on Oct. 27, 2013.

Notes: Giants QB Eli Manning haas won three straight starts, throwing eight TD passes and only one interception for a 115.2 rating. ... The Eagles have scored seven return TDs this season, tied with the 1920 Buffalo All-Americans for most return TDs in first five games.

Also on AFN:
Washington Redskins (1-4) at Arizona Cardinals (3-1), AFN-Atlantic, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
Chicago Bears (2-3) at Atlanta Falcons (2-3), AFN-Xtra, 10 p.m. Sunday CET

EXPANDED STANDINGS

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
East											
Buffalo	3	2	0	.600	96	89	1-1-0	2-1-0	1-2-0	2-0-0	1-0-0
New England	3	2	0	.600	123	107	2-0-0	1-2-0	2-2-0	1-0-0	0-1-0
Miami	2	2	0	.500	96	97	1-1-0	1-1-0	2-2-0	0-0-0	1-1-0
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	79	127	1-2-0	0-2-0	1-1-0	0-3-0	0-0-0
South											
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	189	136	2-1-0	2-1-0	4-1-0	0-1-0	3-0-0
Houston	3	3	0	.500	132	120	2-1-0	1-2-0	2-1-0	1-2-0	0-1-0
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	88	139	0-2-0	1-2-0	1-3-0	0-1-0	0-1-0
Jacksonville	0	5	0	.000	67	169	0-2-0	0-3-0	0-3-0	0-2-0	0-1-0
North											
Cincinnati	3	1	0	.750	97	76	2-0-0	1-1-0	2-1-0	1-0-0	1-0-0
Baltimore	3	2	0	.600	116	80	2-1-0	1-1-0	2-2-0	1-0-0	2-1-0
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	114	108	1-1-0	2-1-0	2-1-0	1-1-0	1-1-0
Cleveland	2	2	0	.500	103	105	1-1-0	1-1-0	1-2-0	1-0-0	0-2-0
West											
San Diego	4	1	0	.800	133	63	3-0-0	1-1-0	3-0-0	1-1-0	0-0-0
Denver	3	1	0	.750	116	87	3-0-0	0-1-0	2-0-0	1-1-0	1-0-0
Kansas City	2	3	0	.400	119	101	1-1-0	1-2-0	2-2-0	0-1-0	0-1-0
Oakland	0	4	0	.000	51	103	0-2-0	0-2-0	0-4-0	0-0-0	0-0-0

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	NFC	AFC	Div
East											
Philadelphia	4	1	0	.800	156	132	3-0-0	1-1-0	2-1-0	2-0-0	1-0-0
Dallas	4	1	0	.800	135	103	2-1-0	2-0-0	2-1-0	2-0-0	0-0-0
N.Y. Giants	3	2	0	.600	133	111	2-1-0	1-1-0	2-2-0	1-0-0	1-0-0
Washington	1	4	0	.200	112	136	1-2-0	0-2-0	0-3-0	1-1-0	0-2-0
South											
Carolina	3	2	0	.600	104	120	2-1-0	1-1-0	3-0-0	0-2-0	1-0-0
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	151	143	2-0-0	0-3-0	2-2-0	0-1-0	2-0-0
New Orleans	2	3	0	.400	132	141	2-0-0	0-3-0	2-2-0	0-1-0	1-1-0
Tampa Bay	1	4	0	.200	103	156	0-2-0	1-2-0	0-4-0	1-0-0	0-3-0
North											
Detroit	3	2	0	.600	99	79	2-1-0	1-1-0	2-1-0	1-1-0	1-0-0
Green Bay	3	2	0	.600	134	106	2-0-0	1-2-0	2-2-0	1-0-0	2-1-0
Minnesota	2	3	0	.400	101	126	1-1-0	1-2-0	2-2-0	0-1-0	0-1-0
Chicago	2	3	0	.400	116	131	0-2-0	2-1-0	1-2-0	1-1-0	0-1-0
West											
Arizona	3	1	0	.750	86	86	2-0-0	1-1-0	2-0-0	1-1-0	1-0-0
Seattle	3	1	0	.750	110	83	2-0-0	1-1-0	2-0-0	1-1-0	0-0-0
San Francisco	3	2	0	.600	110	106	2-1-0	1-1-0	2-2-0	1-0-0	0-1-0
St. Louis	1	3	0	.250	84	119	0-2-0	1-1-0	1-3-0	0-0-0	0-0-0

REST OF THE SCHEDULE

Jacksonville at Tennessee
Baltimore at Tampa Bay
Denver at N.Y. Jets
Pittsburgh at Cleveland
Green Bay at Miami
San Diego at Oakland
Open: Kansas City, New Orleans

Monday

San Francisco at St. Louis

NEXT WEEK

Thursday, Oct. 16
N.Y. Jets at New England

Sunday, Oct. 19
Atlanta at Baltimore
Tennessee at Washington
Seattle at St. Louis
Cleveland at Jacksonville
Cincinnati at Indianapolis
Minnesota at Buffalo
Miami at Chicago
New Orleans at Detroit
Carolina at Green Bay
Kansas City at San Diego
Arizona at Oakland
N.Y. Giants at Dallas
San Francisco at Denver
Open: Philadelphia, Tampa Bay

Monday, Oct. 20
Houston at Pittsburgh

SPORTS

Cardinal rule

No. 25 Stanford handles Washington State, 'Air Raid' offense | **College football, Page 27**

MLB

Finding the zone

Ball-strike calls source of much postseason dispute

1

6

5

4

2

3

AP photos

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

John Lackey slings a slider, and it ducks under Pablo Sandoval's front kneecap and darts past the inside edge of home plate.

The animated graphic on TV shows the ball barely touching the box.

OK, Mr. Umpire: Ball or strike?

The strike zone is getting plenty of attention this postseason. And with no replays allowed, ball-strike calls are sparking all sorts of disputes.

Lorenzo Cain of the Royals got flustered when Tim Timmons rang him up. Matt Kemp of the Dodgers sounded off after Dale Scott called him out. Asdrubal Cabrera of the Nationals slammed his bat and helmet and was ejected by Vic Carapazza.

"We don't have the box out there when we're pitching," Kansas City left-hander Danny Duffy said. "These umps are in 'The Show' for a reason. Everyone's got a pretty good idea of the zone, and I'm sure the umpire behind the plate has a better idea than we do."

"You just try to throw wherever you think the zone is," he said.

Twenty years ago, several veteran umpires were known to have their own definition of the strike zone. Some were low-ball umps, others called higher strikes.

A decade ago, there was this thought: Take away pitches above the belt and below the knee, but add a little extra on the outside corner, a spot where hitters could still make contact.

These days, when Major League Baseball grades every pitch and often gives umpires a report 12 hours after their plate jobs, strike zones have become much more consistent.

And in an era where most every call is subject to a video review, MLB has remained adamant that the balls-and-strikes job will be done by a person, not a machine, and those decisions cannot be challenged.

Not that there haven't been disputes. Since replay rulings can't be argued, some managers have blown off steam squawking about pitches.

So, what exactly is a strike?

SEE ZONE ON PAGE 28

Packers' defense making life miserable for opposing QBs | **Page 30**