

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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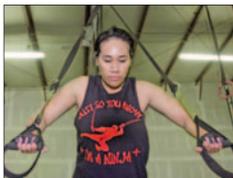
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## Clear channel

Coast Guard working tirelessly to open shipping lanes as Great Lakes become nearly covered with ice | Page 4

A yardstick measures the thickness of the ice the crew of cutter *Katmal Bay*, background, is battling in the Straits of Mackinac on Feb. 5. The icebreaker *Mackinaw* maintains a shipping lane on the Great Lakes, which are almost completely covered with ice for the first time since 1994.

MICHAEL PATTERSON  
Courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard

## Well inland, Coast Guardsmen help pack up Afghan War

BY ALEX PENA  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP MARMAL, Afghanistan — Hundreds of miles from the nearest coastline, members of the U.S. Coast Guard are playing an essential role in helping international troops pack up and leave Afghanistan.

"We help redeploying units make sure they have seaworthy shipping containers," said Chief Petty Officer Aaron Borg, with the U.S. Coast Guard Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment team, or RAID, in Mazar-

### ▶ Related video

Watch a RAID team in Afghanistan inspect shipping containers for seaworthiness. [stripes.com/go/coastguard](http://stripes.com/go/coastguard)

e-Sharif in northern Afghanistan.

Borg, along with two others deployed to the NATO-led coalition's Regional Command North, is responsible for assisting U.S. military personnel in the region properly pack containers for shipping from the war zone.

SEE PACK ON PAGE 4



MONIQUE LAROUICZ/U.S. Navy

Coast Guard Reserve Petty Officer 1st Class Nelson F. Del Valle tags a container after inspection in Helmand province, Afghanistan, in 2011.

# QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It looks like Cupid threw up."

— Brad Palmer, deliveryman for the Petal Patch flower shop in Newport, N.H., where the shop floor was wall-to-wall vases, boxes and bouquets after more than a foot of snow fell, disrupting flower deliveries for Valentine's Day

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5. Soldier's fatal injuries at JBER home being investigated

# COMING SOON

## Science & Medicine

Adding sense of touch to artificial hand



# MILITARY

# Bombs' brain effects still a mystery

By GREG ZOROYA USA Today

Too little is known about how or whether bomb blasts cause long-term damage to the human brain and body, according to a scientific panel focusing on wounds caused by roadside bombs, the most common enemy weapon used in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While the long-term effects of certain blast-related wounds are obvious — such as amputated arms or legs — what isn't understood are the chronic risks of unseen damage from the blast wave, the Institute of Medicine panel concludes in its report issued Thursday.

The question is crucial because of potentially tens of thousands of American troops caught near blasts during a dozen years of combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"If someone is exposed (to a blast) and outwardly looks all right, what we don't know is whether that blast is doing something to their brain, to their heart, to their lungs, to their liver, that is going to cause a problem down the line," said Jeffrey Bazarian, a panelist and associate professor at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

The committee cited military records showing 3,589 U.S. troops killed by roadside bombs in Iraq and Afghanistan and another 32,556 wounded. But there are also gaps in medical records that make it difficult to know pre-

**About 1 million veterans have sought medical care from the VA, nearly 300,000 of them for post-traumatic stress disorder, a disease the Institute of Medicine panel said can be associated with surviving a roadside bomb attack or witnessing its aftermath.**

cisely how many health problems troops or veterans have that are linked to the blasts, the scientific committee found.

"It is likely that many others are exposed to blasts in the combat environment but do not require immediate medical attention and, therefore, are not reflected in the numbers reported," the committee report says.

The Institute study was done at the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which must care for wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. About 2.6 million Americans deployed to both wars, and more than 1.7 million are now veterans.

About 1 million have sought medical care from the VA, nearly 300,000 of them for post-traumatic stress disorder, a disease the scientific panel said can be associated with surviving a roadside bomb attack or witnessing its aftermath.

About 32,000 Iraq and Afghanisthan veterans have been

diagnosed with brain damage, according to the VA.

One encouraging development has been research launched by the VA that Bazarian said could fill many of the knowledge gaps in blast-related injuries. Markers in the blood or better imaging machines also can assist in identifying what are now too often hidden or invisible damage caused by blast waves, the committee said.

The risk of hidden damage from blast exposure was rarely considered by military medical doctors during the first several years of fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Troops caught near roadside bomb explosions who were not bleeding or unconscious often were sent back into combat despite symptoms such as dizziness or headaches.

The result: uncounted numbers of troops who then were exposed to second or third blasts before brain damage from the first had time to heal.

The scientific panel found re-

search that established a limited association between repeated bomb-blast exposures and chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a long-term degenerative brain disease similar to Alzheimer's.

Other evidence suggests that damage from a blast wave can be more widespread across the brain than damage caused by blunt trauma such as a blow to the head.

More research is needed, the committee said.

"Filling the gaps (in knowledge) is important for advancing the understanding of how blast affects humans in the short term and the long term," the committee report says.

Currently, soldiers who are exposed to bomb blasts are more aggressively questioned about symptoms and are pulled from combat until those symptoms go away.

But the committee warned that there is still so much mystery about the wound that there could be damage even without any outward signs.

"Such servicemembers, in practice in the battlefield, would be indistinguishable from the uninjured," the panel said. "The committee believes that it would be an error ... to assume that long-term consequences can occur only as a result of clinically detected initial (obvious) injuries caused by blast exposures."

# VA urged to form registry of roadside bomb victims

By KEVIN FREKING The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Roadside bombs have killed nearly 3,600 military servicemembers and have wounded 34,000 more in Iraq and Afghanistan, but many of the long-term health effects are unknown for those who seemingly walked away without serious injury.

For that reason, the Institute of Medicine is calling on the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a registry of servicemembers exposed to such bombs so the long-term consequences can be better tracked.

Medical researchers often establish disease registries to help monitor health trends in participants. For example, the VA has one for those exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam and one for those who served during the first Gulf War. The registries serve as a giant database that researchers can review for signs of problems.

The institute panel reviewed hundreds of research papers to evaluate when servicemembers are at increased risk of health problems because of bomb blasts. The committee concluded that there was sufficient evidence to show that the blasts contributed to the development of post-

traumatic stress disorder and symptoms following concussions, such as persistent headaches.

But there was not enough evidence to assess whether exposure to bomb blasts leads to depression, substance-abuse and chronic pain. Nor was there enough to determine the prospects for long-term hearing loss, tinnitus, vertigo or the development of muscle or bone impairment such as osteoarthritis.

Stephen L. Hauser, chairman of the committee that wrote the report, said the roadside bombs clearly have caused devastating physical and psychological injuries for thousands of U.S. military

members. "But the long-term consequences are less clear, particularly for individuals who show no external signs of injury from exposure to blast waves or may not even be aware that they were exposed," said Hauser, chairman of the department of neurology of the University of California, San Francisco.

The VA asked the Institute of Medicine to conduct the study and said it would review the recommendations.

The institute is part of the National Academy of Sciences, a private organization chartered by Congress to advise the government on scientific matters.

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## MILITARY



T. ORTEGA GAINES, CHARLOTTE (N.C.) OBSERVER/AF

Gen. David Petraeus' biographer and paramour, Paula Broadwell, poses with the Petraeus biography "All In."

## Paula Broadwell to appear at 'modern warfare' conference

By HOWARD ALTMAN  
Tampa (Fla.) Tribune

The University of South Florida is hosting a conference next week on the human dimension of modern warfare in the wake of Iraq and Afghanistan.

The list of panelists and moderators is a who's-who of the leading thinkers on Afghanistan and Iraq, including those who advise top military commanders, a controversial former colonel who bitterly opposed the counterinsurgency mission in Afghanistan and a major general now serving as deputy commander there.

But there is one name that might jump out most to folks in at the Tampa, Fla., conference: Paula Broadwell.

Her affair with David Petraeus led him to resign from the CIA. Emails she sent to Jill Kelley transformed the wife of an oncologist who hosted parties for local military leaders into an international icon. And those emails, and the leaking of Kelley's name after she reported them to the FBI, have become the basis of an ongoing lawsuit the Kelleys filed against the FBI, the Defense Department and former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, among others, claiming that her rights were violated by the leaking of her name in an investigation in which she said she was the victim of harassment by Broadwell.

The FBI investigation into the

emails Kelley received was eventually dropped.

So even though the Modern Warfare's Complexity and the Human Dimension conference being held Tuesday and Wednesday is bringing many important and influential thinkers to Tampa, Broadwell could be the proverbial elephant in the room.

Broadwell, who describes herself in the conference bio as "writer, academic and former Army officer," co-authored "All In: The Education of David Petraeus" and is pushing herself out on the speaking circuit. She is scheduled to moderate a panel on counterinsurgency on Wednesday. Efforts to reach her were unsuccessful.

She was invited, say conference organizers, because notoriety aside, she is an expert in her own right.

"Paula is extremely bright and knowledgeable and has been a participant and contributor at things like the Aspen Institute (a major annual defense policy forum) and the Council of Foreign Relations, where she has her own professional capabilities and skills," said Derek Harvey, director of USF's Citizenship Initiative, which is putting on the conference. "It is terribly unfortunate what happened to her. She tries to contribute so much to the thinking on our committee, to wounded warriors and how we need to do better in the world."

# AF prepares to cut officers

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Air Force will convene a force-shaping board July 14 to consider eligible officers for involuntary separation, according to an Air Force Personnel Center memo obtained by Stars and Stripes.

Competitive categories for separation include line of the Air Force, or LAF, judge advocate; biomedical sciences corps; dental corps; medical service corps; and nurse corps, according to AFPC. LAF is a competitive promotion category that includes all officers except chaplains, judge advocates and the medical corps.

The board will affect the following active-duty personnel:

- LAF captains and first lieutenants in the 2009, 2010 and 2011 accession year groups.
- Judge advocates with a Jan. 1, 2009, to Dec. 31, 2011, date of rank to captain.
- Lieutenant colonels and lower-ranking officers in the competitive medical categories in the 2009, 2010 and 2011 accession groups.

Officers who are not selected for retention must separate by the end of this year. Officers who will not meet the board include:

- Those who have an approved date of separation before Dec. 31.

- Those who entered active duty later than July 15, 2012.

- Lieutenant colonels and lower-ranking officers possessing a core specialty code of 42B, 42P, 42S, 46S, 47H, 47P or 47S; or a duty Air Force specialty code of X46FX.

- Officers possessing a primary specialty code of 42GXA, 46NXE, 46YXP, 47GXA, 47GXD, 47GXE, 47GXF, 47GXG or 47GXH.

Officers with an approved separation date after Dec. 31 remain eligible for consideration by the board, and their date of separation will be moved up to Dec. 31 if they are not selected for retention.

Officers forced to separate will not have to repay unearned portions of education assistance funds, special pay, bonuses or other monetary incentives. They are also entitled to the following transition assistance program benefits:

- Permissive temporary duty.
- 180 days extended medical care for themselves and their families.

- An identification card that grants commissary and exchange privileges for two years.

When it comes to Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, if an airman transferred his or her benefits before being selected for involuntary separation, the airman's service obligation will be treated as com-

plete. However, if an airman attempts to transfer benefits for the first time after board notification of selection for involuntary separation, the airman will not be allowed to transfer those benefits, according to AFPC.

Officers not selected for retention are entitled to full separation pay if they have at least six years of active service but less than 20 as of the separation date. Officers can also apply for voluntary separation pay if they have at least six years of active service but less than 20 years as of Sept. 29, 2014.

The FSB applies only to active-duty officers, not those in the Air National Guard or Reserve. Those selected for separation should contact the guard, Reserve or Air Force Civil Service if they are interested in transition opportunities for continued service within the total force, according to AFPC.

The FSB is one of many methods that the Air Force is using to meet force reduction and manpower goals in an era of budget constraints. Air Force officials have said that the service may eliminate as many as 25,000 airman positions over the next five years.

The force-shaping board will convene at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

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# USAID cancels contract for good news from Afghanistan

By TOM VANDEN BROEK  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — The federal agency charged with spending more than \$1 billion in aid projects for Afghanistan abruptly canceled a contract to buy photos of "positive images" of its work there to counteract what it terms negative coverage by news organizations.

The U.S. Agency for International Development requested proposals on Feb. 14. But after questions were asked about it on Wednesday, the agency announced the proposal had been canceled.

The proposal was blasted by a good-government group as a thinly veiled attempt at propaganda.

"USAID should instead be focusing on accomplishing mission goals, not glossy propaganda," said Scott Amey, general counsel for the Project on Government Oversight, a nonpartisan watchdog. "Waste, fraud and poor performance have already resulted in billions being lost. Let's not throw additional money down the drain."

The proposal did not state how much money USAID intended to pay contract photographers. It did spell out why it wanted their work, however: "USAID is executing the most massive U.S. international

assistance campaign ever, and the gains particularly in health and education have been impressive, yet the overwhelming majority of pictures recording that effort are negative, and at least to some extent misleading," the solicitation states.

"This is because professional photographers working for news agencies are the prime source of high-quality images of USAID work in Afghanistan. News photographs by their very nature focus on the negative."

USAID said that while Afghans were not the only audience for the positive pictures, USAID sought also to influence American taxpayers' views of its work there, according to the proposal.

"The U.S. and Afghan publics require accurate, well-balanced information about USAID work abroad," the proposal says. "Currently, this requirement is not being met in Afghanistan."

Among the objectives for the program:

■ Counter negative visual images coming from Afghanistan with high-quality, positive

images."

■ "Aggressively distribute those positive images via USAID/Afghanistan-managed social media."

■ Seek a long-term contract for a "continuous supply of field photographs to USAID ... for distribution on social media, to conventional media and directly to the U.S. public."

The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction has taken the agency to task for poor oversight of taxpayer money spent there. For instance, SIGAR reported in September that USAID had provided the Afghan Ministry of Health with more than \$230 million with few controls on how it was spent.

"Despite financial management deficiencies at the Afghan Ministry of Public Health, USAID continues to provide millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars in direct assistance with little assurance that the [ministry] is using these funds as intended," according to the SIGAR report.

‘USAID should instead be focusing on accomplishing mission goals, not glossy propaganda.’

Scott Amey  
Project on Government Oversight

# Great Lakes almost completely covered with ice

By JOHN FLESHER  
The Associated Press

CHEBOYGAN, Mich. — From the bridge of the Coast Guard cutter Mackinaw, northern Lake Huron looks like a vast, snow-covered field dotted with ice slabs as big as boulders — a battleground for the icebreaker's 58-member crew during one of the roughest winters in memory.

It's been so bitterly cold for so long in the Upper Midwest that the Great Lakes are almost completely covered with ice. The last time they came this close was in 1994, when 94 percent of the lakes' surface was frozen.

As of Thursday, ice cover extended across 88 percent, according to the federal government's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Sections of the lakes, which hold nearly one-fifth of the freshwater on the world's surface, harden almost every winter. That freezing keeps the Coast Guard's fleet of nine icebreakers busy clearing paths for vessels hauling essential cargo such as heating oil, salt and coal. But over the past four decades, the average ice cover has receded 70 percent, scientists say, probably in part because of climate change.

Still, as this season shows, short-term weather patterns can trump multiyear trends. Winter arrived early and with a vengeance and refuses to loosen its grip. "That arctic vortex came down, and the ice just kept going," said George Leshkevich, a physical scientist with the federal lab.

The deep freeze is more than a novelty. By limiting evaporation, it may help replenish lake water levels — a process that began last year after a record-breaking slump dating to the late 1990s. Also getting relief are cities along the lakes that have been pummeled with lake-effect snow, which happens when cold air masses pick up moisture from open waters and dump it over land.

Buffalo, N.Y., got nearly 43 inches of snow in January, but this month just 13 inches have fallen, a decline resulting largely from the freeze-over of Lake Erie even though Lake Ontario



ALAN HARAF/Courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard

**The Coast Guard Cutter Biscayne Bay, a 140-foot ice-breaking tug, sails the waters near Chicago and toward the shores of Indiana on Wednesday. The Biscayne Bay helped break ice on the southern part of Lake Michigan to assist commerce.**

has remained largely open, said forecaster Jon Hitchcock, of the National Weather Service.

Heavy ice can also protect fish eggs from predators, and it has delighted photographers, ice anglers and daredevil snowmobilers.

At Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in Wisconsin, the rock-solid cover has allowed about 35,000 visitors to trudge miles over Lake Superior to explore caves featuring dazzling ice formations. It's the first time in five years the lake surface has been firm enough to allow passage.

With no letup in the cold, the ice hasn't experienced the usual thaw-and-freeze cycle, so nature's artistry is even more delicate and beautiful, with needlelike hoarfrost crystals sprinkled across sheets that dangle from cave ceilings like giant chandeliers.

"Seeing them like this is almost

**'As you can imagine, the crew's tired.'**

**Cmdr. Michael Davanzo**  
Coast Guard cutter Mackinaw

a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Superintendent Bob Krumenaker said.

There's even an (apparently) tongue-in-cheek Facebook page inviting people to join a convoy of snowmobiles, cars and other vehicles on a nearly 80-mile trek across Lake Michigan. Never mind that its waters remain partly open and experts warn the ice can be dangerously unstable.

"If it freezes and you miss this chance, when will it happen again?" the page says. "Feel free to invite more folks!"

For Coast Guard icebreaker teams, it's all business. They've

logged four times more hours this season than the average for the same period in recent years, said Kyle Niemi, spokesman for the agency's Cleveland district headquarters.

The 240-foot-long Mackinaw began its duties Dec. 16 — several weeks earlier than usual — and worked nonstop until Feb. 8, when traffic slowed enough to allow a break.

"As you can imagine, the crew's tired," Cmdr. Michael Davanzo said this week during a tour of the ship in its home port of Cheboygan.

A 35-year Coast Guard veteran

who has spent 12 years on the lakes, Davanzo said this winter is the toughest he's experienced because the ice came so soon and is so thick and widespread, and the weather has been constantly bitter.

The Mackinaw, commissioned in 2006 to replace an older vessel with the same name, is designed specifically for duty on the Great Lakes. It's propelled by two Azipod thrusters that can spin 360 degrees and fire jets of water at adjacent ice, weakening it. Sometimes the crew will drive the ship's bow onto an ice sheet to crack it with sheer weight. Or they'll go backward, chopping up ice with the propeller blades.

When the going gets tough, there's the battering-ram option — hurling the reinforced hull directly against walls of ice that can be several feet thick.

## Pack: Coast Guard's RAID unit busy as troop withdrawal nears

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Borg, who is based at the Chicago Navy Pier, said his experience with containers and vessel inspections has made him the expert the military needed to properly and safely pack up their war material.

RAID teams first forward-deployed to Iraq combat zones in 2003 and then to Afghanistan in 2006. The RAID office in Mazar-e-Sharif opened in 2012 to assist in drawdown operations.

"We were really busy November-December. We had a lot of big yards on the base that were closing down, so that's hundreds of containers that we were doing," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Callinan.

Callinan came to Afghanistan

from a Coast Guard unit based in Louisville, Ky., where he inspected shipping vessels and oil and chemical facilities.

Among the RAID teams' responsibilities is to secure hazardous materials from redeploying Army units that may need to be shipped. Once inspected by the RAID team, the containers go by land, sea and air back to their units in the United States.

"That's where we come in handy a lot," Callinan said. "Generally, the hazmat certifiers, who write up the hazmat documentation — it's not their primary job — it's something that was handed to them. Maybe they've had some training, and they generally do a pretty good job, considering they

**'Now it's up in the air whether we're staying or not, so if they go with the zero option, there could be a huge influx of work.'**

**Chief Petty Officer Aaron Borg**  
Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment team member

have a whole actual job to worry about. And that's where we step in and hold their hand through the process."

As the U.S. and NATO-led coalition prepare to remove all combat troops from the country by the end of this year, the Coast Guard unit has been busy.

The tempo could increase if the U.S. and NATO withdraw all forces

from Afghanistan — the so-called zero option — in the absence of a bilateral security agreement. Afghan President Hamid Karzai has refused to sign the agreement with the U.S., which both Washington and NATO have said is key to retaining a small force to train and advise Afghan forces after 2014.

"Now it's up in the air whether we're staying or not, so if they go

with the zero option, there could be a huge influx of work," Borg said.

Despite the large amount of inspection work that stacks up in their container yards — which recently were covered in snow — the Coast Guard members are happy to be in landlocked Afghanistan.

As of mid-2013, only 216 active-duty and reserve Coast Guard members had served in Afghanistan.

Borg and Callinan's yearlong deployment ends in May. Said Borg: "It's something special to say you've been over here with the Coast Guard because there is not a lot of us who have."

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# NATION



A person removes snow from a car in the Philadelphia suburb of Wynnewood, Pa., on Friday.



Above: Jack Alexander makes his way through the ice to the terminal at Charlotte Douglas International Airport in North Carolina early Friday.



Left: U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman 4th class Sijing Qiu clears the snow off of a car parked in downtown Annapolis, Md., on Thursday.

AP photos

# Winter-weary Northeast digs out

## Storm leads to another messy morning with road, air traffic crippled

By **RON TODT**  
AND **MARK SCOLFORD**  
*The Associated Press*

PHILADELPHIA — Commuters faced slick roads on Friday after yet another winter storm brought snow and ice to the East Coast, leaving at least 24 people dead, including a pregnant woman struck by a mini-plow in New York City whose baby was then born by cesarean section and two Good Samaritans killed when they tried to aid a truck driver on a snow-covered interstate in North Carolina.

The latest go-round of bad weather began overnight in some places — just in time to delay tens of thousands of deliveries of Valentine's Day flowers as snow, sleet and rain fell on roads already covered in many parts of the Northeast with deep puddles and icy patches.

Alexander Baez, 24, spent two hours digging out his car before navigating snow-covered roads to his job as a judicial marshal. "It will be a long, slow commute," Baez said as he filled his tank at a gas station in East Hartford, Conn. "I can't wait until the summer comes."

Numerous traffic accidents involving multiple tractor-trailers

and dozens of cars completely blocked one side of the Pennsylvania Turnpike outside Philadelphia on Friday morning and injured more than a dozen people.

By the time it stopped falling, 22.5 inches of snow was reported in Somerset County, Pa. Parts of upstate New York got between 12 and 27 inches of snow.

The sloppy mix of snow and face-stinging sleet grounded more than 6,500 flights nationwide on Thursday and closed schools, businesses and government centers. About 1.2 million utility customers lost power as the storm moved from the South through the Northeast, dropping to about 465,000 outages by Friday morning, mostly in South Carolina and Georgia.

By Friday morning, the number of flight cancellations dropped to about 1,300 nationwide. Many schools remained closed in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York state, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Virginia, while some in Rhode Island were opening late.

The treacherous weather was blamed for nearly two dozen deaths, many of them in motor vehicle accidents.

In North Carolina, two people were killed Thursday night when

they tried to help the driver of tractor-trailer cab that spun out on a snow-covered Interstate 40 near Garner.

In New York, Min Lin, 36, died after she was struck by a utility vehicle with a snowplow attached to it as it backed up outside a shopping center in Brooklyn. She was rushed by paramedics to a medical center, where her nearly full term, 6-pound, 6-ounce baby was delivered via cesarean section, hospital spokeswoman Eileen Tynion said.

The snow, sleet and ice that bombarded the Southeast on Wednesday brought its ferocity into the Northeast a day later.

Washington, D.C., received 9 inches of snow Thursday, Westminster, Md., reported 19 inches, and Newark, Del., had 14 inches. New York City received nearly 10 inches, and parts of New Jersey had more than 11.

In New York, the teachers union and TV weatherman Al Roker harshly criticized Mayor Bill de Blasio's decision Thursday to keep schools open. Roker, who was in Russia for the Winter Olympics but has a daughter in New York's public schools, said on Twitter: "It's going to take some kid or kids getting hurt

before this goofball policy gets changed."

The mayor said many parents depend on schools to watch over their children while they are at work and keeping the schools open was the right decision.

Across the South, the storm left in its wake a world of ice-encrusted trees and driveways and snapped branches and power lines.

In South Carolina, about 242,000 homes and businesses were without power Friday morning, and officials warned it could be next week before it is restored for everyone.

Nationwide, this is shaping up as one of the snowiest winters on record. As of early this month,

Washington, Detroit, Boston, Chicago, New York and St. Louis had gotten roughly two or three times as much snow as they normally receive at this point in the season.

The latest round of bad weather threatened to disrupt Friday deliveries of flowers for Valentine's Day.

"This storm could not have been worse for us," said Donna Mahair, owner of the Petal Patch flower shop in Newport, N.H., where more than a foot of snow fell.

Mahair had to call her niece to plow enough spots for three delivery vehicles. Her shop floor was wall-to-wall vases, boxes and bouquets.

"It looks like Cupid threw up," deliveryman Brad Palmer said.

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## NATION

# NSA employee in Snowden probe resigns

By ELLEN NAKASHIMA  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A National Security Agency employee has resigned from his job after admitting to FBI investigators that he allowed Edward Snowden, then an NSA contractor, to use his personal computer credentials to gain access to classified information, according to an agency memo.

The unidentified employee was not aware that Snowden intended to obtain classified material for the purposes of disclosure, said

the memo, which was first reported by NBC News.

The employee is one of three people who have been under investigation for their unwitting involvement in Snowden's effort to remove the material in what may be the largest breach of classified information in history.

None was accused of collusion, said a senior U.S. official familiar with the investigation. "It's a violation of procedures ... but no 'Hey, let's conspire with him to steal information,'" said the official, who spoke on the condition

of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

The employee who resigned, a civilian, had his security clearance revoked in November and was notified of a proposal to fire him. He resigned Jan. 10, said the memo, which was addressed to the staff directors of the House Judiciary Committee.

The two other people, a U.S. military member and a contractor, had their access to NSA facilities and material revoked in August, the memo said. They all worked at a regional NSA facility

in Hawaii, where Snowden was a contract employee for Dell and later Booz Allen Hamilton, officials said.

The resignation appears to be the first personnel action to result from the breach. Snowden, who has been granted temporary asylum in Russia, shared large amounts of intelligence with several journalists. Their stories began appearing in June and have stirred national and international debate about the proper scope of NSA surveillance.

A Reuters report last fall said

that "a handful of agency employees" had given their log-in credentials to Snowden and were removed from their assignments. Snowden, the report said, "may have persuaded between 20 and 25 fellow workers" to give him their log-ins and passwords by telling them they were needed for him to do his job as a computer systems administrator.

In a Google chat last month, Snowden disputed the report and said, "I never stole any passwords, nor did I trick an army of co-workers."

## Obama damage-control teams seek to calm health-law complainers

By MIKE DORNING  
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — The day after Addie Wilson was quoted in a newspaper article complaining about her experience with President Barack Obama's health care law, her mobile phone rang while she was in the bathroom.

It was an employee from the Department of Health and Human Services offering help.

"I was definitely surprised and kind of shocked," said Wilson, 27, who lives in Fairmont, W.Va.

She's not the only one getting such a call.

Facing an onslaught of media attention to the law's rough debut and sustained attacks by Republicans, the Obama administration is borrowing a corporate tactic and tracking down consumers who air their grievances in news reports or on social media. The goal: Get a case worker in touch within 24 hours to resolve the issue.

That quick response can contain damage from negative stories before it's amplified on the Internet, cable television and traditional media, said Eric Dezenhall, a crisis-communications consultant.

"They do not want a motivated adversary to suddenly become a rock star attacking them at every turn," said Dezenhall, a communications aide in the Reagan White House who has since consulted for companies. "They're trying to defuse hostilities by reaching out to those who have a platform."

Since Jan. 1, about 150 consumers have been identified either through traditional media or the federal insurance exchange's social media channels, including @healthcaregov on Twitter and the healthcare.gov page on Facebook, said Aaron Albright, a spokesman for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the government agency that runs the federal exchange.

While that's only a small portion of the approximately 55,000 cases referred to the agency's

casework staff between Oct. 1 and Jan. 31, the administration's damage-control effort mirrors a more rapid response when customers publicly protest.

"The increasing ability for disgruntled parties to do material damage to a company" is "a source of borderline hysteria in boardrooms," Dezenhall said.

A textbook example of how a grievance can become an online sensation is a 2009 video, "United Breaks Guitars," that Canadian musician Dave Carroll posted on YouTube chronicling his effort to get United Airlines to repair a guitar he said baggage handlers broke. It has been viewed 13.8 million times.

Another is the recent outcry over AOL's Tim Armstrong after an employee's wife wrote an online article criticizing the chief executive officer for blaming retirement-benefit cuts on the medical costs of two workers' "distressed babies."

While it was "a novelty two or three years ago" for companies to respond to individual consumer gripes aired on social media, more businesses are doing so now, said David Armano, global strategy director for Edelman Digital.

The administration is joining that trend in dealing with the flood of complaints about the health care law.

Direct to be certain, unsolicited, direct contact from a private company, much less the federal government, can be startling for the recipient, especially amid revelations of massive government surveillance exposed by Edward Snowden.

"The aggrieved party can feel like their personal space has been invaded," Dezenhall said.

That's a risk the White House is willing to take in the case of the health law, which has been political by an organized political opposition that has focused attention on flaws in the rollout of the online insurance marketplaces.



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

People work Feb. 4 at a site in downtown Miami where archaeologists have dug up circles consisting of uniformly carved holes in limestone, believed to be the foundation holes for Tequesta Indians' dwellings.

## Prehistoric Native American site leaves Miami in quandary

By CHRISTINE ARMARO  
The Associated Press

MIAMI — As more Native American archaeological sites are being uncovered around the nation, the findings are posing difficult questions for the cities where they are found.

In Miami, a major prehistoric Native American village has been discovered at a downtown site, where developers plan to construct a movie theater, condos and hotel building.

The discovery has pitted developers against archaeologists and historic preservationists who want the find preserved in its entirety. Developers say the public is better served by removing a portion and putting it on display while continuing with construction.

Little is still known about Native American architecture but more sites are being found with

advances in technology and a better understanding of the subtle markers that remain.

In a vacant lot between gleaming hotels in downtown Miami are a series of holes carved into the bedrock that form eight circles.

At first glance, the site seems like an eyesore. But it's here where archaeologists say they have uncovered a major prehistoric Native American village, one of the largest and earliest examples of urban planning ever uncovered in North America.

It's also where a movie theater, condos and 34-story hotel are expected to be built.

The discovery has pitted developers against archaeologists and historic preservationists. The dispute comes as an increasing number of Native American sites are being uncovered around the country with advances in technology and a greater understanding of the subtle markers left be-

hind to look for. The discoveries pose difficult questions for cities such as Miami that must decide whether it is best to preserve the remains of an ancient society or, often times, to destroy it in hopes of revitalizing a new one.

"Let's be honest with each other," said Eugene Stearns, the attorney representing MDM Development Group, which owns the property and is eager to move forward with construction. "Every great city is built on the shards of a former great city."

MDM has spent \$3 million conducting an archaeological review and is now anxious to continue construction. Stearns said all of the planned commercial space has been leased and half of the residential units have been sold.

"There are enormous financial obligations and commitments that have to be met," he said. "And they need to go forward."

## NATION

Tina Barzo, a forensic specialist with the Torrance, Calif., Police Department, collects evidence at a burglary scene.

PHOTOS BY MARK BOSTER, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT



# The 'CSI' effect

## Field of police forensics dominated by women

By KATE MATHER  
Los Angeles Times

TORRANCE, Calif. — Gabrielle Wimer was nine months pregnant and working a crime scene when she found the closest thing to a smoking gun for a forensic specialist: a clean, detailed fingerprint.

"I was like, 'Oh, I got a beautiful print right here,'" she recalled. "And I turned and my belly just wiped it off."

That was it, she said: "I'm done until I have this baby."

Now almost 3 years old, Wimer's daughter is still too young to understand her mother's job. All she knows, Wimer said, is that it's for the police. "Police," she'll say. "Mama's work."

Wimer is a forensic identification specialist for the Torrance Police Department — one of seven experts in charge of collecting evidence from scenes, analyzing it for clues and helping detectives close their cases.

And for about a year now, the team has been made up entirely of women.

Law enforcement is dominated by men. According to the FBI's most recent statistics, only 11.9

percent of officers nationwide in 2012 were women.

Science is also dominated by men, who tend to collect higher degrees and higher salaries than women.

By all accounts, forensic science — the marriage of the two — should be the same. Instead, more women are finding jobs, filling classrooms and creating careers for themselves in the field. In places such as Torrance, they're not just catching up to their male counterparts, they're outpacing them.

The Torrance Police Department once used sworn officers to handle forensics duties. Cops learned on the job, usually working the unit for about two years before they moved to another assignment.

But in February 2010, the rotating officers were replaced by civilian experts with years of experience.

Donna Brandelli was brought in



Christina Pino, right, and Gabrielle Wimer, forensic specialists with the Torrance, Calif., Police Department, drive to a burglary scene.

to jump-start the civilian unit. She had spent two decades with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, first as a dispatcher and then as a forensic specialist.

She steadily built up the Torrance division, developing protocols, finding new equipment and improving communication between officers and her civilian crew.

There were challenges at first.

"It's hard enough coming in here as a civilian in a law enforce-

ment environment, and then to be a female civilian?" Brandelli said. "We had to break through that."

When the women started showing up at crime scenes, some detectives were skeptical, members of the team said. A few were reluctant to hand over the scenes for processing.

But soon the department started seeing an increase in cases closed with the help of forensics. Detectives began stopping by the lab to congratulate — and

thank — the unit for its work. "It completes our investigative unit. The results are right there: People are getting arrested for crimes they're committing in our city," said Sgt. Robert Watt. "Those forensics people are just as relentless as our detectives."

Sometime in the last decade or so, more women began studying forensic science. Some credit the so-called "CSI" effect, saying strong female characters in crime television shows — think Abby

Sciuto on "NCIS" — have inspired more young women.

"Women see these characters in 'CSI' and female leads of scientists who do this job ... it's cool for them to say, 'I want to be like Abby,'" said Jennifer Smith, a retired FBI special agent who now teaches forensic science at Penn State University.

"It really does seem to make a difference, seeing women in lab coats doing things."

Smith guessed that roughly 75 percent of the university's forensic science program is female — on par with what schools are seeing nationwide. One 2009 study estimated that 78 percent of the students enrolled in such programs were women.

Forensics, Brandelli said, offers women the chance to work in law enforcement without becoming police officers.

"They want to be in public safety, they want to help, they want to do something to help their community or to solve crime," she said. "But they don't necessarily want to be the gunslinger."

"It's brains," said Krishna Patel, one of the Torrance unit's fingerprint experts. "Not brawn."

**[Women] want to be in public safety, they want to help, they want to do something to help their community or to solve crime. But they don't necessarily want to be the gunslinger. ♪**

Donna Brandelli, forensic specialist

NATION

# What California freeway has the greatest gridlock?

By JUSTIN PRITCHARD  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Those who like to argue — or brag — about the worst commute in this traffic-tangled state have a new measure of their misery.

What is the most congested stretch of California freeway? It has more reconstructive surgery than a Hollywood has-been and, if you make it through the madness, you can head to the border (Mexico or Canada).

The dubious honor goes to Interstate 5 in Los Angeles County.

In 2012 alone, vehicles spent a cumulative 6.6 million extra hours on that road due to heavy traffic. And those 753 years only count the hours when the traffic was going less than 35 mph.

The numbers come from data analyzed by the California Department of Transportation, which calculates time wasted in “heavy congestion” using sensors under the pavement that track vehicle speed. Caltrans did the math and then ranked freeways on a county level. The agency collects the data to identify which freeways most need traffic relief.

It was the second year in a row that “the 5,” as locals call it, topped Caltrans’ most-congested-freeways list. The reigning champion had been the stretch of Interstate 405 that cuts across the western part of Los Angeles County.

Indeed, Los Angeles County owned six of the Top 10 slots. The first outside LA County, coming in fifth, was Interstate 5 — in Orange County, just to the south. Rounding out the list were another freeway in Orange and two in Alameda counties.

Several stretches of the 5 in Los Angeles County are being widened to create carpool lanes. It’s no secret why. Since the 5 opened more than 50 years ago, the county has added about 4 million people. There are simply too many cars for the capacity.

There are many ways to measure traffic, and while this one ranking is unlikely to settle

## 10 most congested freeways in Calif.

Each year, California’s Department of Transportation ranks the freeways where drivers spent the most time in heavy traffic. Caltrans uses a metric called “vehicle hours of delay,” which measures the extra time cars, trucks and buses spent on a road when they were going 35 mph or slower. Here is the list of the Top 10 “most congested” freeways, on a county level, for 2012:

Route	County	Hours of Delay
5	Los Angeles	6,581,609
405	Los Angeles	5,722,148
101	Los Angeles	4,516,141
60	Los Angeles	4,440,585
5	Orange	3,346,209
10	Los Angeles	3,294,890
210	Los Angeles	3,152,538
405	Orange	3,119,284
580	Alameda	2,648,174
80	Alameda	2,520,715

SOURCE: California Department of Transportation “Mile Marker” performance report, released February 2014.

the worst-commute-ever argument, it does present a stunning perspective.

The 6.6 million “vehicle hours of delay” on I-5 is a measure of how much more time cars, trucks and buses spent on that road when they were going less than 35 mph (“heavy congestion” in the parlance of traffic planners). A car traveling any faster does not count toward those 6.6 million hours — though a driver going 36 mph may not be bragging.

The statistics were released this month as part of the agency’s first “Mile Marker” performance report. The Department of Transportation has been criticized as not being transparent about its operations, and the report was an effort to present useful information in a concise, accessible way, Caltrans spokesman Matt Rocco said.



DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP

Late-morning traffic on Interstate 5 in Los Angeles in February.



PROVIDED BY SPORTS ILLUSTRATED/AP

The cover of Sports Illustrated magazine’s 50th annual swimsuit issue features Mattel’s Barbie doll.

# Barbie featured in sports magazine’s swimsuit issue

By MAE ANDERSON  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After 50 years of debate over her unattainably perfect figure, Barbie now is unapologetic about her tiny waist and endless legs.

To prove it? The doll, which is made by Mattel, is flaunting her frame in Sports Illustrated Swimsuit’s 50th anniversary issue that’s hitting stands on Tuesday. She’ll be featured alongside supermodels like Christie Brinkley and Brooklyn Decker as part of a campaign called “unapologetic.”

“As a legend herself, and under constant criticism about her body and how she looks, posing ... gives Barbie ... and her fellow legends an opportunity to own who they are,” Mattel said in a statement.

The campaign is a departure for the 55-year-old doll, which has been both beloved as a plaything and criticized as an unrealistic standard of beauty for decades.

In fact, Barbie has faced scrutiny for everything from her chiseled facial features and disproportionately small waist to her “life choices.” And last year’s controversy over Barbie’s ef-

fect on body image was renewed after an artist posted pictures of the more meaty physique the doll would have if she had the figure of an average 19-year-old.

Mattel has tried to change Barbie with the times. The doll has gone through several reinventions, including 150 careers, from architect to lifeguard, and a brief publicity-stunt breakup with her boyfriend, Ken.

But this latest move, which again sparked online debate on Wednesday about body image issues, comes as Mattel tries to revive interest in the doll icon. Barbie is worth an estimated \$1.3 billion in sales for the toymaker and she’s the No. 1 toy brand.

But Barbie has lost some popularity in recent years to edgier toys like Mattel’s Monster High dolls, with their tattoos and neon hair. In fact, Barbie has had declining sales in five of the last six quarters, with sales falling 13 percent in the most recent quarter.

Mattel hopes the “unapologetic” campaign will boost Barbie’s image.

As part of the campaign, there will be a collector Sports Illustrated Barbie doll, an event

at the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Beach House on Monday, a billboard in New York’s Times Square and @Barbie tweets with the hashtag “unapologetic” on Twitter. Barbie also will appear on the cover of 1,000 issues in an advertising “cover wrap” for the New York Toy Fair, which starts Sunday.

Spending for the campaign was undisclosed.

“Unapologetic” is a word that Mattel executives use internally, said Lisa McKnight, the senior vice president at Mattel. But she said this is the first time the company is “engaging in a conversation publicly.”

Sports Illustrated Swimsuit editor M.J. Day said Barbie fits in with the swimsuit issues’ “message of empowerment” for women.

But Allen Adamson, a branding expert, said he’s not sure a feature in Sports Illustrated’s swimsuit issue is the right strategy for the brand.

“The Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue is one step away from Playboy magazine,” he said. “It is potentially sending the wrong message to girls.”

NATION



PHOTOS BY DAMIAN DOVRAGANES/AP

**Sweet Bee Removal professional beekeeper, Tyson Kaiser, expands a beehive hosted on the roof of a home in Los Angeles.**

By GILLIAN FLACCUS  
*The Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — For three years, Rob McFarland has kept 25,000 illegal bees on the roof of his West Los Angeles home — but his hive might not have to fly under the radar much longer.

The City Council voted unanimously Wednesday to begin the process of granting bees like McFarland's legal status and also supported a motion to relocate wild hives when possible instead of destroying them.

The votes bolstered beekeepers who have tended bees in the shadows, but it also raised concerns that legalizing urban hives would sanction wild hives with Africanized "killer bee" genes.

Critics of the controversial practice fear an ordinance that doesn't distinguish between keeping tamer European honeybees and Africanized colonies would allow self-styled "ethical bee removal specialists" to expand their efforts unimpeded amid a growing demand for do-it-yourself hives.

A volunteer group that removed wild hives and relocated them recently disbanded after a customer's neighbor got stung and threatened to sue.



**Honey harvested by urban beekeeper Tyson Kaiser is seen on the counter of the beehive host's home in Los Angeles.**

## Los Angeles takes first step toward urban beekeeping

Currently, most hives discovered in the city's public right of ways or reported by concerned citizens are wiped out because of worries about their aggressive genetics.

"To just haul them (feral bees) out of the fences and stick them in the backyard, that's not a good idea," said Eric Mussen, a bee expert at the University of California, Davis.

Killer bees arrived in Los Angeles County in the mid-1990s and almost completely pushed out the existing wild bee population 15 years ago. They can attack when an intruder gets closer than 100 feet, can chase a person up to a half-mile and will remain aggressive up to an hour after an attack, according to the county.

Those who work with these wild hives insist that the concerns are overblown. Bees in Los Angeles do have some African genes, they say, but the danger has been diluted from years of interbreeding with local, non-Africanized bees. The resulting hybrid hives can be managed easily with proper training, common sense about hive placement and good communication with neighbors.

There are already around 10 hives per square mile in Los Angeles, so moving them to backyards where beekeepers can monitor them makes sense, said Ruth Askren, who maintains hives for 22 clients and has relocated wild hives to backyards all over the city.

Beekeepers like Askren estimate that 10 percent or fewer of the feral hives they relocate are so aggressive they must be destroyed.

"If we really had serious Africanized bees in LA, people would be chased down the street every day,"

she said.

Africanized bees are also harder than their European counterparts, which are used for commercial pollination, and could help counter colony collapse, said McFarland, the rooftop beekeeper. He and others who work with them say that unlike European bees, their hives don't need any chemical treatments to keep them healthy.

"We need them. We need to preserve what's clearly a superior bee. They're the ones that are surviving," he said. "My opinion is that they're a blessing in disguise."

Feral bees have also sweetened the pot for an emerging niche business: Some beekeepers-turned-entrepreneurs have recently started companies to remove unwanted wild hives, relocating them to backyard bee boxes and then harvesting rich honey that can sell for \$110 a gallon to wealthy foodies obsessed with local ingredients.

Some customers even want honey made by bees in their specific neighborhood because they believe that eating honey made from local pollens will combat allergies.

Tyson Kaiser's business, Sweet Bee Removal, charges \$125 an hour for a hive extraction and once made \$5,000 over three days removing a massive feral hive from a tile rooftop in one of LA's ritzier addresses.

On a recent sunny day, Kaiser checked on a feral hive he put on a resident's roof last fall. Dressed in a full-body white bee suit and a zippered hood with a mesh face mask,

Kaiser carefully opened the hive as bees buzzed around him and traffic whizzed by two stories below.

When he was done, about a dozen agitated bees followed him from the roof, down a ladder and into the residents' house before they gave up the chase.

"There are people who think we're crazy for what we're doing," said Kaiser, who has been keeping bees for three years. "But they're afraid that new beekeepers dealing with feral hives are going to tarnish the image of the established beekeepers."

Those more traditional beekeepers keep European honeybees, which rarely become aggressive.

Groups like the Beekeepers Association of Southern California support urban beekeeping, they say, but only with European hives.

Keeping Africanized hives "gives beekeepers in general a bad name," said Richard Heryford, vice president of the association and beekeeper. "If people are caught with those bees in their backyard, they should be subject to penalties."



NATION

# Facebook rolls out new gender ID options

By **MARTHA MENDOZA**  
The Associated Press

MENLO PARK, Calif. — You don't have to be just male or female on Facebook anymore. The social media giant is adding a customizable option with about 50 different terms people can use to identify their gender as well as three preferred pronoun choices: him, her or them.

Facebook said the changes, shared with The Associated Press before the launch on Thursday, initially cover the company's 159 million monthly users in the U.S. and are aimed at giving people more choices in how they describe themselves, such as androgynous, bigender, intersex, gender fluid or transsexual.

"There's going to be a lot of people for whom this is going to mean nothing, but for the few it does impact, it means the world," said Facebook software engineer Brielle Harrison, who worked on the project and is herself undergoing gender transformation, from male to female. On Thursday, while watchdogging the software for any problems, she said she was also changing her Facebook identity from "female" to "transwoman."

"All too often transgender people like myself and other gender nonconforming people are given this binary option, do you want to be male or female? What is your gender? And it's kind of disheartening because none of those let us tell others who we really are," she said. "This really changes that, and for the first time I get to go to the site and specify to all the people I know what my gender is."

Facebook, which has 1.15 billion active monthly users around the world, also offers ways to keep their gender identity private and will continue to do so.

The change to the gender selection option is seen as a major step toward acceptance for people who don't self-identify as male or female, but the high-profile development seemed senseless to those who believe in two genders, no more.

"Of course Facebook is entitled to manage its wildly popular site as it sees fit, but here is the bottom line: It's impossible to deny the biological reality that humanity is divided into two halves — male and female," said Jeff Johnston, an issues analyst for Focus on the Family, an influential national religious organization based in Denver.



FARM SANCTUARY/AP

Cows Tricia, left, and Sweety get acquainted at a shelter in Watkins Glen, N.Y., on Feb. 5. After the shelter tried to find ways to help Tricia, 12, blind since birth, a Canadian animal welfare group sent Sweety, 8, and they have become best female friends.

## For 2 cows, a story of blind love

By **SUE MANNING**  
The Associated Press

Two blind, aging cows were 350 miles apart, distressed and facing a dark future.

What happened next is a love story starring, not cows, but rescuers who worked across international borders for nearly a month to bring the bovines together.

It started when Sweety, an 8-year-old Canadian cow with a hoof infection, was rescued from the slaughterhouse by a horse sanctuary in Ontario. Workers at Refuge RR put out the word to the small region of folks devoted to saving aging farm animals that she needed a permanent home.

Farm Sanctuary in New York is just such a place and they had a 12-year-old Holstein named Tricia, who seemed lonely and

anxious after losing her cow companion to cancer a year ago. Cattle are herd animals and she was the only one at the shelter without a partner.

"It was exciting to think that by giving Sweety a new life, we might also give Tricia another chance to enjoy her own," said Susie Coston, national shelter director for the sanctuary.

Tricia, who was born blind, has been at the Watkins Glen, N.Y., sanctuary since 2008, when she was saved from slaughter.

There was red tape galore, medical exams for Sweety, and finally a road trip to pick her up Feb. 4 at a veterinary hospital in Lachute, Quebec.

Sweety arrived late that night and had to be given a cloth coat because she had lived in barns her whole life and her fur wasn't

thick enough for the cold.

The two cows moored at each other from separate corrals before they were united the next day.

Nose to nose, Sweety, tall and bony with a white triangle patch on her forehead, bumped into Tricia, shorter and thicker with black-and-white body swirls. They nuzzled one another.

It didn't take long for them to become BFFs (bovine friends forever), shelter spokeswoman Meredith Turner said.

Sweety is still bumping into things, but Tricia often guides her clear of obstacles.

They eat and walk together and even bed down in tandem.

Love may be blind, Turner said, but for shelter workers, it was a matter of seeing and believing.

# US judge voids gay marriage ban in Va.

By **BROCK VERGAKIS**  
The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — A federal judge ruled Thursday that Virginia's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional, making it the first state in the South to have its voter-approved prohibition overturned.

U.S. District Judge Arenda Wright Allen issued a stay of her order while it is appealed, meaning that gay couples in Virginia will still not be able to marry until the case is ultimately resolved. Both sides believe the case won't be settled until the Supreme Court decides to hear it or one like it.

Allen's ruling makes Virginia the second state in the traditionally conservative U.S. South to issue a ruling recognizing the legality of gay marriages.

A judge in Kentucky ruled Wednesday that the state must recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states. It did not rule on the constitutionality of same-sex marriages inside the state, however. The Virginia judge's ruling also follows similar decisions in Utah and Oklahoma federal courts.

The Virginia Attorney General's Office took the unusual step of not defending the law because it believes the ban violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. However, it asked for the judge to stay her order to avoid a situation like what happened in Utah after a federal judge declared that state's ban on gay marriages unconstitutional.

More than 1,000 gay and lesbian couples were married in the days after the ruling before the Supreme Court granted the state an emergency stay, halting the weddings and creating a cloud of uncertainty for the status of the married couples. Soon after, a federal judge also declared Oklahoma's ban unconstitutional. "That ruling is also on hold while it is appealed."

In a movement that began with Massachusetts in 2004, 17 states and the District of Columbia now allow gay marriage, most of them clustered in the Northeast. None of the states in the old Confederacy.

The Virginia case centered on a gay Norfolk couple who were denied a marriage license by a court in July, shortly after the Supreme Court struck down the federal Defense of Marriage Act. A couple who married in California and are raising a teenage daughter also later joined the lawsuit, seeking to have their marriage recognized in Virginia. The attorneys representing the plaintiffs are the same ones who successfully challenged California's voter-approved ban on gay marriages in court.

## Woman touting 'vampire face-lifts' arrested

The Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Calif. — A woman who advertised "vampire face-lifts" and other cosmetic procedures she wasn't licensed to perform was arrested after a suspicious death at a Southern California beauty salon, police said Thursday.

Licensed massage therapist Sandra Gonzalez, 45, remained jailed on \$10,000 bail Thursday night on suspicion of possessing a controlled substance. She was under investigation by homicide detectives with assistance from the California Medical Board and the Los Angeles county coroner's office, Long Beach police said in a statement.

Hamilton Suarez, 36, was getting cosmetic injections Wednesday

at Areli's Barber Shop & Beauty Salon when Gonzalez rents a room when she went into cardiac arrest, police said. Paramedics arrived and took her to a hospital, where she was later declared dead.

Police would not immediately say what procedure Suarez was having done or what may have killed her.

"Until the report comes back from the coroner, we can't determine if it was the procedure or if any drugs possibly administered caused her death," police Sgt. Megan Zabel told the Long Beach Press-Telegram.

Investigators at the salon found medical equipment and controlled substances used for cosmetic procedures that Gonzalez was advertising but not licensed to perform,



Gonzalez

police said. They included "butt augmentation," "lip augmentation" and "vampire face-lifts," where a gel-like substance derived from the patient's

own blood is injected to reduce wrinkles.

Gonzalez has been performing the procedures at the salon for about a month and may have been practicing previously elsewhere, police said. They urged any other patients to contact both police and their doctor.



## WORLD

# Kerry: China to help bring N. Korea to talks

By MATTHEW LEE

The Associated Press

BEIJING — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Friday he had won a commitment from China to help bring a belligerent North Korea back to nuclear disarmament talks, even as he butted heads with Chinese leaders over a series of increasingly aggressive steps Beijing has taken to assert itself in territorial disputes with its smaller neighbors.

Kerry met with Chinese President Xi Jinping and other senior officials as he sought to underscore the Obama administration's commitment to refocusing U.S. foreign policy on the Asia-Pacific amid myriad other global priorities. He addressed issues ranging from climate change, human rights and rule of law, to Syria and

Iran with his Chinese hosts.

Speaking to reporters following those talks, Kerry praised China for joining with the U.S. in calling for North Korea to dismantle its nuclear programs and said he urged Beijing to "use every tool at its disposal" to convince its communist neighbor to return to the long-stalled disarmament talks.

North Korea "must take meaningful, concrete and irreversible steps toward verifiable denuclearization and it needs to begin now," Kerry said. "China could not have more forcefully reiterated its commitment to that goal, its interest in achieving that goal and its concerns about not achieving that goal."

Kerry said the Chinese officials had told him they were willing to take additional steps to achieve North Korean denuclearization

and that both sides had traded ideas for further consideration. He did not elaborate on what those steps were, but a day earlier in South Korea had suggested they could involve reductions in commercial and energy trade between China and North Korea.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, meanwhile, said China would never allow chaos or war on the Korean Peninsula.

"China is serious on this, as shown not only in our words but in our actions," Wang said, according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

While China is North Korea's only significant ally and main source of economic assistance, the extent of China's influence, and willingness to use it, is unclear following a purge in the isolated country's leadership.

Diplomats say Beijing received no prior warning ahead of the December arrest and execution of North Korea leader Kim Jong Un's uncle, Jang Song Thae, who had been considered Pyongyang's top man on China affairs and was a strong promoter of free trade zones being set up along their mutual border.

That came on the heels of Pyongyang's snubbing of Beijing's wishes when it conducted a missile test in late 2012, followed by the underground detonation of a nuclear device last spring.

While praising China for its stance on North Korea, Kerry was less sanguine about Beijing's response to U.S. concerns about its increasing territorial assertiveness, especially as it relates to declaring an air defense zone over contested areas in the East China

Sea and suggestions it might do the same in the South China Sea.

Kerry said he told the Chinese of the "need to establish a calmer, more rule-of-law based, less confrontational approach" with respect to its territorial disputes.

But he said the Chinese side complained that others were responsible for raising tensions over competing territorial claims. He said he urged all sides to show restraint and said any further Chinese moves, particularly on any future air defense zones, should be conducted in an "open, transparent, accountable way."

China has rejected U.S. criticism of its actions in the past and in response to Kerry on Friday, Wang called on the U.S. to respect China's sovereign interests in the East China South China seas.



SLAMET RIYADI/AP

## Volcano erupts in Indonesia

A woman walks on a road covered with volcanic ash Friday following an eruption of Mount Kelud in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Volcanic ash from a major eruption in Indonesia shrouded a large swath of the country's most densely populated island on Friday, closed three international airports and sent thousands fleeing.

## Bahrain blast injures cops on anniversary of uprising

The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — An explosion rocked a bus carrying police in Bahrain on Friday, while security forces used tear gas in clashes with anti-government protesters on the third anniversary of an uprising in the small Gulf island nation.

Efforts to restart on-and-off reconciliation talks between the Shiite-dominated opposition and the Sunni monarchy and its allies have so far failed to bring an end to simmering unrest in the country, an American ally that hosts the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet.

Activists frequently clash with police in the mainly Shiite villages just beyond the modern skyscrapers and shopping malls of the capital, Manama. Tensions intensified as the anniversary of the Arab Spring-inspired uprising approached, with government forces tightening security and activists blocking roads to Shiite communities with oil slicks and smoldering debris.

An explosion struck a minibus carrying police Friday evening in the Ministry of Interior said on its official Twitter feed. That community is a mainly Shi-

ite village just west of the capital, Manama.

Photos released on the ministry's Twitter feed showed the side panels of the white bus torn from the chassis and twisted upward near the wheel wells.

A ministry official near the scene of the blast told reporters that three police officers were injured in the explosion. He insisted on anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly.

Anti-government factions have been increasingly using bombs targeting government forces, though they typically do not have the force of explosives used by insurgents in places such as Iraq or Syria. Authorities in late December announced the seizure of large amounts of explosives, automatic rifles and ammunition.

Earlier in the day, protesters were turned back by tear gas and stun grenades as they tried to make their way to the former site of Manama's Pearl Square, the focal point for the protest movement that started on February 14, 2011. The square was cleared by police raids and later razed in the early weeks of the unrest and is now sealed off by security forces.

## UN halts evacuations from blockaded Syrian city of Homs

By DIAA HADID

The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The United Nations on Friday halted the evacuation of civilians from the blockaded city of Homs until the fate of men detained from the rebel-held areas becomes clear, a senior U.N. official said.

The development came just a day after a cease-fire was extended for three more days, the second such extension since the truce first went into effect last

week. Hundreds more civilians are believed to still be trapped in rebel-held parts of the city, mostly in the medieval quarter known as Old Homs.

Matthew Hollingworth, deputy U.N. team leader for the Homs mission, told The Associated Press by telephone from Damascus that dozens of men and boys ages 15 to 55 — who left Old Homs earlier during the evacuation — are still being held and questioned by Syrian authorities. The government considers

males between those ages to be potential combatants and they must obtain security clearance before they can be released. Those the authorities suspect of being rebel agents likely will be detained.

Hollingworth said the men are being held in a school in Homs and that U.N. officials are also present there.

The men were part of the 1,400 people whom the U.N. and the Syrian Red Crescent evacuated from opposition-held areas of Homs during the past week

as a fragile truce between Syrian forces loyal to the President Bashar Assad and armed rebels seeking his overthrow took hold.

About 400 Homs men of fighting age subsequently were held for questioning by Syrian security forces. There are about 220 men still detained, said Hollingworth.

The detentions have caused widespread concern among Syrian activists who say Assad's security forces have tortured and killed opposition detainees. International rights groups have made

similar complaints.

Hollingworth said the evacuated men understood they would have to present themselves to Syrian security forces.

But he said Friday the U.N. would not evacuate more civilians until all the men had been processed.

Hollingworth also said that aid workers had managed to send in enough food to cover the needs of 2,500 people for a month. He said they hoped to send in another food aid shipment soon.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## 'Selfie' photo leads to burglary arrest

**CA** CHULA VISTA — Authorities said it was a "selfie" that led detectives to a suspect in the burglary of a Southern California church.

Detectives found a phone at the crime scene in Chula Vista, where a laptop, cash, watches and other items were stolen.

On the phone was a photo of the suspect apparently had snapped of himself.

Residents recognized the man in the photo and on Tuesday police arrested Adam Howe, 26.

A search of his belongings uncovered property suspected of being stolen from the Hilltop Tabernacle Church and an RV parked nearby.

Further investigation led to the arrests of two other people who were also found with stolen property.

## Construction workers unearth mammoth tusk

**WA** SEATTLE — A U.S. museum official said construction workers have found a tusk from an ice age mammoth.

The mammoth tusk appears to be the largest and most intact mammoth fossil ever uncovered in the Seattle area, experts said.

Scientists at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture said the fossil dates back at least 16,000 years when ice swept through the Seattle area.

Although it's possible the paleontologists who began digging out the fossil on Thursday will find more than just a tusk, experts doubt that will happen.

The landowner will donate the tusk to the Burke Museum.

According to the museum, the ancient elephant relatives lived in Washington state until approximately 10,000 years ago.

## NRA backs 'Pop-Tart' simulated-gun bill

**FL** TALLAHASSEE — The Florida affiliate of the National Rifle Association has a new priority: the right to bear Pop-Tarts.

The group is supporting a proposal that would prevent children from being disciplined for playing with simulated weapons in school.

That includes "brandishing a partially consumed pastry or other food," according to the bill.

The language refers to a Maryland boy who was suspended for chewing his Pop-Tart into the shape of a gun. He later was given lifetime membership to the NRA. The Florida bill would protect schoolchildren who play with imaginary guns, miniature toy guns and toy guns made of snap-together building blocks.

## County officials OK Tommy gun trade

**NC** WINSTON-SALEM — The Forsyth County Board of Commissioners has agreed to trade two 1928 Thompson submachine guns for 88 new rifles.

## THE CENSUS

# 18M

The number of shares of Facebook stock donated by Mark Zuckerberg and his wife to a Silicon Valley nonprofit. The gift, valued at more than \$970 million, makes them the most generous American philanthropists in 2013. The Chronicle of Philanthropy reported Monday that Zuckerberg's donation was the largest charitable gift on the public record in 2013.



CHARLES DHARAPAN/AP

## Perfect day for a run

From left, Alejandro Escobar, Courtney Fulton, and Trevor Albert, all from Arlington, Va., run in the snow past the Lincoln Memorial on Thursday in Washington.

The board voted 6-1 on Monday to approve the request from the sheriff to make the swap for the Bushmaster rifles.

Commissioner Bill Whiteheart voted no. He said he doesn't see why the sheriff's office needs 88 new rifles when it has 66 already. Whiteheart said the sheriff has only eight cars on patrol at any one time.

He wanted the county to keep at least one of the old guns.

Some commissioners wanted to know whether they could auction the 1928 submachine guns to the public, but the county attorney said federal authorities told him only a government agency or a dealer could acquire them.

## Gov. OKs concealed carry in restaurants

**SC** COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill allowing people with concealed-weapon permits to bring their guns into restaurants and bars in South Carolina, if the businesses do not prohibit it.

The law took effect with Haley's signature Tuesday.

The Republican governor stressed it is illegal for people to drink alcohol while carrying guns. Under the law, anyone caught would have the permit

revoked for five years, plus face up to two years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Businesses can post signs barring concealed weapons.

Opponents said mixing guns and alcohol invites problems.

The State Law Enforcement Division said more than 229,000 people in South Carolina have concealed-weapon permits.

South Carolina is the 46th state to allow some form of legal carrying of guns into businesses serving alcohol.

## Park warns of mountain lion sightings

**CA** LAKE FOREST — Orange County authorities have increased trail monitoring in Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park because of recent mountain lion sightings.

Additional trail cameras have been installed in the 2,500-acre natural area and warning signs have been posted to alert park patrons.

State Department of Fish and Game wardens also have been called in to assist.

The county advised this week that children should be accompanied by adults at all times. Mountain lions are a natural element of the park, which sprawls on for-

mer ranch lands along the Santa Ana Mountains.

## Committee OKs legal pot ballot measure

**OR** SALEM — A bill to put the issue of pot legalization on Oregon's November ballot has moved a step closer to a vote in the state Senate.

The measure would ask voters to decide whether to legalize marijuana while allowing the Legislature to work out the details of regulating production and sales.

Supporters said that will give the Legislature more control than would the initiated measures that legalization advocates propose for November.

## Man arrested on bus admits robbing bank

**KS** KANSAS CITY — A northeast Kansas man whose getaway vehicle was a city bus has pleaded guilty to robbing a bank.

The U.S. Attorney's office said Jamarr Dale, 29, faces up to 20 years in federal prison after pleading guilty Thursday to one count of bank robbery.

The holdup occurred Jan. 2 at a Security Bank branch in Dale's

hometown of Kansas City, Kan. Dale admitted handing a teller a note that said, "I need \$3,000 or I will start shooting." He left after the teller gave him cash.

Police received a call saying the robber had boarded a city bus outside a nearby Wal-Mart. Officers boarded the bus within minutes and arrested Dale with what was described as a large amount of cash, but no gun.

## Man electrocuted in wire theft attempt

**MI** SCIO TOWNSHIP — Authorities have determined that a Ypsilanti Township man was electrocuted as he and accomplices were trying to steal copper wire from a Washtenaw County warehouse.

Police have ruled Matthew Vair's death an accident. Washtenaw County sheriff's Sgt. Geoff Fox said Vair's body was found Dec. 20 on the ground near open power cabinets in the abandoned building in Scio Township.

An investigation showed that several other people had been in the warehouse and fled after Vair was electrocuted. Four other men — ages 22 to 41 — have since been arrested and arraigned on breaking and entering charges.

From wire reports

## NATION



# Shared struggles

PHOTOS BY JOHN SIDDLE, Me2/ORCHESTRA/AP

Ronald Braunstein conducts a rehearsal of the Me2/orchestra in South Burlington, Vt., in September.

## Mentally ill, their supporters find sense of community as members of orchestra

By **DAVE GRAM**  
The Associated Press

**SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt.** — Ronald Braunstein's career as a musical conductor got off to a brilliant start. He attended The Juilliard School, performed as a guest with top orchestras including the San Francisco Symphony and the Berlin Philharmonic, and won the prestigious Herbert von Karajan conducting competition in 1979.

But bipolar disorder slowed what might have been an explosive career, including three five-year periods when, he said, he had trouble just getting out of bed.

He met his wife, French horn player Caroline Whiddon, when she was working as manager of the Vermont Youth Orchestra and Braunstein was hired as its music director. She had struggled with anxiety and depression.

Braunstein's bipolar disorder was a factor in his firing from the youth orchestra in 2011, they said. They responded by forming the Me2/orchestra — Me2, or "me,

too," as in the shared struggles of its musicians.

It's billed as "the world's only classical music organization for individuals with mental illness and the people who support them," a claim Whiddon said is based on her scouring of the Internet.

"I can't find anyone online doing anything close to what we're doing," she said.

They performed as part of First Night Burlington, an annual New Year's Eve arts festival in Vermont's largest city.

Part of First Night's mission is to make arts accessible to a broad swath of the community, Executive Director Tom Ayers said.

So when Me2/orchestra applied, it was a perfect fit.

"It really goes to the core of our mission," Ayers said.

That kind of exposure is what Whiddon, 44, the orchestra's executive director, and Braunstein, 58, are looking for as they try to use the group to give the public more awareness of mental illness.

They said they took some of

their inspiration from the Gay Men's Chorus movement, which has singing groups in cities around the U.S.

What those groups did for gay men, they want to do for people struggling with mental illness.

"It's all about removing the stigma," Whiddon said, later adding, "They inspired people around the country to get together and support each other."

Braunstein said that his favorite composer is Beethoven, and that he feels a kinship with the 20th-century orchestra leader Otto Klemperer.

Both Beethoven and Klemperer are believed to have had bipolar disorder.

Jake Belcher, 23, a violinist and math student at the University of Vermont, said that after he was diagnosed with anxiety and depression he took comfort in music.

The orchestra, he said, is "just an unspoken, nonjudgmental zone where you can relax and know you're among good people."



Braunstein and his wife, a French horn player, run the Me2/orchestra, billed as "the world's only classical music organization for individuals with mental illness and the people who support them."

## ENTERTAINMENT



CBS

Hamish Linklater (left), James Wolk, Robin Williams, Sarah Michelle Gellar and Amanda Setton gear up for a game on an episode of "The Crazy Ones." The sitcom premiered last fall and is the second most popular show of the season.

# A team effort

## Robin Williams tones it down on TV show 'The Crazy Ones'

By NEAL JUSTIN  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

The first thing you notice on the set of "The Crazy Ones" isn't the vintage pinball machine, the toy guitar or the life-size Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robot. It's a caricature above the fake elevator doors, featuring the face of the show's megastar.

"It's like being on drugs again," said Robin Williams as he stared at the painting last month during a break from shooting. "The first day I walked in and saw that I went, 'Oh, OK. No pressure.'"

The expectations were indeed high when CBS announced Williams' return to prime-time TV, where he emerged as a major talent 35 years ago on "Mork & Mindy." That sitcom once ranked as high as No. 3 in viewership, but viewers eventually got exhausted by Williams' manic persona — the court jester headed to the guillotine if he doesn't keep the king roaring with laughter. It was canceled after four seasons.

So there was every reason to believe that "The Crazy Ones" would come across as "Crazy Robin," with Williams sucking up all the oxygen from anyone who dared to share a scene with him.

When a TV series is built around a gifted comic, there's always a danger that it could wind up more like an audition reel than a reliable sitcom.

But "The Crazy Ones" has avoided that trap and developed into a warm, well-balanced workplace comedy, one that is the second most popular new show of the season, just behind its Thursday night companion, "The Millers."

No one has benefited more than former "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" star Sarah Michelle Gellar, who brings an en-

“ The pressure's off, thank God. This isn't a Robin Williams vehicle. It's a bus, and there are other people on the bus. ”

— Robin Williams

gaging mix of frigidness and vulnerability to her role as Williams' TV daughter and business partner in a Chicago ad agency.

"I think we always knew we were just lucky to be in his presence and to get to play off him," Gellar said. "But I think automatically it sort of gelled that we were a team."

Not that Williams is always on his best behavior. He has a tendency to slip into cartoon voices and borrow liberally from the Ministry of Silly Walks. The bloopers at the end of every episode confirm he can't help trying to crack up castmates.

Creator David E. Kelley said it was daunting to imagine writing for one of the quickest minds in entertainment, but he also knew he was hiring a Juilliard-trained actor who won an Academy Award for "Good Will Hunting" without leaning on a single impersonation.

"The idea of me trying to supply the architecture for comedy is like handing me the keys to a NASCAR race car and saying, 'Go compete.' I felt totally ill-equipped," said Kelley, whose previous credits include "Ally McBeal." "But I responded to the dramatic actor as well as the comedic one. My sense of the series, at least conceptually, was that the nucleus was the father-daughter relationship, which was not always going to rely on comedy. There were going to be more tender moments, and for that I needed true actors."

Rounding out the cast are Hamish Linklater ("The New Adventures of Old Christine"), James Wolk ("Mad Men") and Amanda Setton ("The Mindy Project"), veteran performers on an equal footing with Williams. Wolk, who plays the office Lotherio, said he knew it was going to be a legitimate ensemble from the very first episode, when he and Williams joined guest star Kelly Clarkson in a recording studio for a raunchy single.

"Good actors always bring the people around them up," he said. "He just makes it easy. I can fall and he'll catch me."

It isn't just generosity that keeps Williams from stealing the show. He turns 63 in July and has a history of heart problems. Reviving Mork just isn't an option.

"The pressure's off, thank God," he said. "This isn't a Robin Williams vehicle. It's a bus, and there are other people on the bus."

## LIFESTYLE



PHOTOS BY MEL MELCON/Los Angeles Times

Richie the Barber, 28, douses new customer Roberto Realli with confetti after cutting his hair at Bolt Barbers in West Hollywood, Calif. Richie loves old-time barbershops and old-time clowns. To make his outer clown match his inner clown, he has had his face and head tattooed to look like one.

# Cutting hair and cutting up

## California's Richie the Barber sports a tattooed clown face to get laughs

By NITA LELYVELD  
Los Angeles Times

One day in his little back room at Bolt Barbers in West Hollywood, Calif., Richie the Barber decides he'd like to break a Guinness World Record.

"Most tattooed," he says. "Hey, wouldn't that be great?"

Just thinking about it makes him bounce, eyes wide with excitement, in front of his turn-of-the-century barber chair.

For a second, he stops working on the head of hair he is shaping rapidly. "But that's probably hard, right?" he says. Then he shrugs and resumes snipping, so swiftly his scissor blades click like castanets.

Light-bulb moments come constantly to this exuberant 28-year-old. Some make him go to extremes.

Consider his two passions: being a barber and being a clown.

Richie first wielded scissors at age 10 in his grandfather's barbershop.

Two years ago, he trimmed off his last name, Esposito, and legally became Richie the Barber.

His grandfather once took little Richie to Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Backstage, the boy encountered a clown sitting in a bucket. The clown juggled for him and gave him silks. From that moment on, Richie wanted to be a clown.

So his outer clown would match his inner clown, he recently had a clown face tattooed on his own. Big red eyebrows replace the ones he shaves away every day. Big red lips extend his own beneath his handlebar mustache. A nose tipped in red was key, of course.

To make the look pop, he had the rest of his face inked blue—the bright turquoise of a cartoon swimming pool.

Blue ears. Blue eyelids. (The eyelids made him howl.)

Richie has random tattoos on his face as well: a third eye, upside-down umbrellas, the word "good" on one eyelid and "luck" on the other.

But the back of his head has been reserved for clowns, too. The inked outline of Bozo the Clown's face already stakes out the center, although only the nose has color so far.



Tattoo artist Rick Villaverde of Border City Tattoo in Upland, Calif., works on Richie the Barber's eyelids.

On the sides of his head, Richie the Barber is growing Bozo hair, which he has dyed bright red.

It's enough, of course, to give anyone with a fear of clowns nightmares.

But then Richie the Barber starts talking, and he's like a friendly puppy who can't stop juggling up and down.

"Did you see my new stuff?" he says, pointing to a set of model teeth and some hypodermic needles under glass, meant to recall the days when barbers also served as doctors and dentists.

"Hey, did I tell you I want to go to Thailand this year? My dream is to juggle and stand on an elephant—and also play with the

tigers and pray with the monks."

In his private lair at Bolt, family photos hang on the wall. Walk in, and ragtime music or Sinatra might be playing.

He's in love with the old-fashioned: big-top circuses, red, white and blue barber poles, the uniforms barbers wore to work way back when, a century before Richie the Barber was born.

He wears the same outfit every day, verging on the Little Tramp—white shirt, red bow tie, well-worn black suit with baggy pants and his name scrawled in big white letters on the vest.

Most of all, Richie the Barber says, he wants to entertain and make his customers smile. Cutting hair, he might stop to honk the bike horn on his belt or pull out a giant yellow comb or start juggling his primary-colored bowling pins or throwing rainbow confetti.

One side of his business card reads: "Richie the Barber, Circus Clown, Sword Juggler, Fire Juggler, Banjo Player, Sideshow Performer, Magic Show/Comedy Show, Juggle While Riding Unicorn."

The flip side: "Also cuts hair."

## LIFESTYLE

A madcap affair with

## MOSAICS

Calif. couple spends 13 years turning their home's exterior into a work of art

By MARTHA GROVES  
Los Angeles Times

**T**he transformation started simply enough, with a molded ceramic tile of a flower framed by Celtic tracery.

Neither Louise Farnam nor Louise Farnam can recall now where they found the periwinkle square, but, at their son Amiel's urging, they glued it to the upper-left corner of a low concrete retaining wall in front of their 1930s bungalow in Santa Monica, Calif.

Both had seen the elaborately tiled mosques and mausoleums in Isfahan, in their native Iran. It didn't take long before they were scrounging in Southland second-hand stores, Catalina boutiques and Las Vegas casinos for more tiles, plates and figurines.

They collected pieces of cobalt blue, aqua, plum and yellows from pale to sunny. They broke or cut them with special nippers into irregular shapes and applied those to the wall, letting them radiate in no particular pattern from the original piece.

They finished that wall, then tiled the walkway to the front door.

From there, things escalated — to a traffic-stopping degree. Motorists routinely slam on their brakes to marvel at the eccentric artistry.

"Everyone knows my house," Louise said. "Just say 'mosaic tile house in Santa Monica.'"

About 13 years have passed since the couple set that first tile, and now the entire house of bare California Avenue at 26th Street is a shimmering montage that beckons the curious.

One morning about two weeks ago, Aziz, 65, fitted bits of plates, floor tiles and orange hearts on the last remnant of bare wall near the two-car garage. A school of whimsical ceramic fish — each plated in the center of a tile adorned with circles of blue, green, tan, white and red glass beads — swam through the section.

Aziz pointed above the fish, to a



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ROBINSON CHAVEZ, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

**Louise and Aziz Farnam have spent the past 13 years applying various tiles, plates and glass to their Santa Monica, Calif., home. The pieces, which now cover the whole house, tell stories and run in themes.**

colorful bird plate. Atop it he had stationed a turkey. Both objects were treasures from Santa Catalina Island, saved for this crowning moment and placed high for their protection.

There has been no grand scheme, and Aziz's style and tastes have evolved. "Every hour you change the mind," he said. "There's always a new idea."

He was impatient to be done. Later, a hired helper would fill in the mortar.

Steve Mount, who lives next door, has watched the venture

from the beginning. "I'll be out gardening and people will screech to a halt," Mount said. "It's a wonderful conversation starter."

Out back by the alley behind their houses, Aziz installed a psychedelic version of the Hollywood sign, with small plates for the Os, to give Mount something fun to look at. It's just around a corner from a stylized synagogue with symmetrical doors.

Walk along the side wall and behold plates with peacocks, lighthouses, palm trees and a kitten drowsing in a basket of yarn.

She learned the basics of arranging pictures or designs by making small bits of colored stone, tile or glass. Then, on her own, she bought plates at a thrift store and covered a table lamp with pieces featuring miniature roses.

She expanded to floor lamps, coffee and dining tables, vases, plates, bowls, mirror frames and chairs, many of which fill the living and dining room of the four-bedroom house where she and her husband have reared six children. The bedazzling centerpiece is the fireplace, covered floor to ceiling with pieces of mirror in all shapes and sizes.

Aziz at first was not happy with his wife's newfound passion. "He called it psychobabble, breaking dishes," Amiel said.

At some point, Amiel talked his parents into turning the low retaining wall in front of their garden into a mosaic. Once that project was completed, he suggested they remove some faded Mexican tiles from the front of the house. With the tiles gone, the exterior urgently needed patching and painting. "Why bother?" Amiel recalled telling his parents. "Just cover it with mosaic."

They initially rejected the idea. So Amiel began to gather pieces to do the work himself. "The day I was supposedly going to get up to do it," he said, "they came with their own feedback." His parents took it from there, letting loose their quirky sensibilities.

In 2005, Louise started a business to make custom mosaic items. By that time, she had turned over the exterior to Aziz, who had put aside all of his reservations.

On weekends, Amiel recalled, Aziz would eat breakfast and then create mosaics until the sun went down, stopping only for lunch. "The work became therapeutic as the recession tamped down his import business."

Last year, the TLC television network featured the tile house in a segment of its "Four Houses" series. Louise took top honors, winning \$10,000 and beating out a water tower residence, a Modernist cube and a big Calabassas house.

Along a narrow walkway at the side of the house, Aziz lifts a curtain to show shelves stacked with plates and cups and yogurt containers filled with beads and broken pottery.

Might they tile some more? "I don't think so," Louise says quickly. "There's no more wall." Aziz's offhanded response: "Only the roof."

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Furniture with an edge

## Entrepreneur gives skis new life as sturdy chairs

By SCOTT RAPFOLD  
The Gazette  
(Colorado Springs, Colo.)

For many of us, skis are much more than planks of wood and plastic. They've gotten us safely down steep, snowy mountains. We've endured blinding storms and frostbite-inducing temperatures in them. We've waxed

and tuned them meticulously, often taking better care of them than we do our cars.

But when their time is up, when the planks have lost their spring and the edges have no metal left to sharpen, do they deserve to be discarded in a landfill?

Adam Vernon thinks not.

Vernon does a healthy business making furniture from skis in his Manitou

Springs, Colo., garage, with his company Colorado Ski Chairs. He's sold more in 2013 than the previous five years combined as word of mouth and social media have spread his chairs from the ski towns of Summit County, Colo., to Texas.

It's not only about recycling to save the planet. It turns out skis make great building material.

"They're made to withstand just ridiculous amounts

of weight and pressure and weather, and they're so much stronger than just lumber," said Vernon, 37, from his tree house made of skis. "Most building materials are not this bulletproof. These are, like, zombie apocalypse-proof."

"Yeah, I have a couple extra skis lying around."

That's an understatement.

Last year in the U.S., 624,000 skis and 393,000 snowboards were sold. That means a lot of old skis and boards are no longer in use.

A small percentage of these seem to have found their way into Vernon's yard. He has as many as 500 skis, in rows and heaps and buckets, that he gets from garage sales, thrift stores and ski shops. Many aren't more than a few years old and appear quite skiable.

Vernon pointed to a row of Atomic skis.

"All these Atomics are only 6 years old, and I got them all free and they still ski really well. I ski them, my friends ski them, but legally (a shop) cannot adjust them, so you can't sell them," he said.

That's because of ski indemnification, an issue that is little-known outside of ski tech and gear junkie circles.

Because of the litigious nature of our society, ski makers now only guarantee the safety of their products for a certain number of years, then remove them from a list of indemnified gear, meaning the maker no longer stands behind that product.

If skis or bindings see too many winters — even unused — shops won't work on them

for liability reasons and used gear stores won't take them. Most gear reaches that point after four to seven years.

Said Vernon: "I think the indemnification thing is really overblown, but it's real."

About seven years ago, Vernon, a lifelong skier, began collecting antique skis to hang in his house.

These 50-year-old wooden skis often are worth money. But 10-year-old painted skis aren't. So he decided to make an Adirondack chair, attaching skis to a wood frame with a binding as an adjustable cup holder.

"If it's painted, it really has no value now," he said. "But we're finding a way to make them valuable."

The chair looked great in his backyard so he started making more, selling them to friends and neighbors. He estimates he sold 20 chairs before this year. As word spread and his company's Facebook page grew more active, his business increased.

He has sold 20 so far this year, and his chairs can be found in three stores. Since he began painting Colorado flags on the chairs, they've grown more popular.

Vernon also takes snowboards, though since they aren't subject to such rigid indemnity rules, he only has a few.

While he still has a day job in sales and marketing for a wellness and nutrition company, he envisions a time when Colorado Ski Chairs will be a full-time job. Ski furniture is so popular that several similar companies have popped up around Colorado.

An Adirondack built of skis by Vernon will run \$300, slightly less if buyers want him to use their old skis. A bench costs \$600.

Among the other things he has made from skis: porch swings, rocking chairs, love seats, coat racks, picnic tables, corn hole boards (the yarn game in which bean bags are tossed through holes) and, of course, the tree house. He even made a ski version of the game Jenga and is working on a bow from cross-country skis. Vernon tries to use every piece of a ski, though the lone use he has found for rear bindings is the climbing wall in his backyard.

As a skier, it still pains him when he has to saw into a ski that is perfectly usable but no store will sell or work on it because of its age.

"I can't assume that liability, so I mainly just cut everything into furniture," he said. "There are a lot of good skis that I've cut that I had mixed feelings about when I cut them."

"I thought, 'Oh man, these could still be ridden.' But they'll make a really pretty chair."



Adam Ferguson adds final touches to a Denver Broncos-themed ski chair. Ferguson hired on with Colorado Ski Chairs to help owner Adam Vernon keep up with demand.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN MURDOCK/The Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

Adam Vernon paints a ski chair. An Adirondack chair like this costs about \$300.

## HEALTH &amp; FITNESS

# High-intensity interval training is a HIIT

## Fat-burning workout alternates between intense bursts of activity, periods of rest

By EDWARD M. EVELD  
The Kansas City Star

Nicole Lindemann, a business owner, wife and mom, speaks the truth: "Basically, I'm like everyone else in the world — we're not getting any younger or any better in shape."

So, resolutionsaries, time to bust a move. But how, exactly?

The 38-year-old Lindemann didn't know that the American College of Sports Medicine named "high-intensity interval training" as the top global trend for 2014 when she signed up for just such an exercise class a few weeks ago.

That's HIIT, or just say "hit."

If the term brings anything to mind, it's probably the image of those cabals of impossibly fit-looking folks sweating it out on TV commercials. They're hawking such hi-end-core workouts as CrossFit and P90X, which are types of high-intensity training.

No doubt the popularity of these well-marketed programs shot HIIT to the top of the ACSM's trend watch, accompanied with warnings from fitness experts that extreme regimens can be injury-inducing and "aren't for everybody."

There's actually nothing new about intense interval training, which goes back at least to the 1930s and Fartlek, the famed Swedish program. And it can be done in a measured way that provides big exercise benefits without big injury risks, says Kri Chay, a certified trainer and owner of Urban HIIT FITT in Lee's Summit, Mo.

The latest science backs him up on this. The central idea couldn't be simpler: Go hard. Then go easier or rest. Repeat.

"It's the notion of alternating relatively intense exercise with periods of recovery," said Martin Gibala, a kinesiology professor at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, who has studied the topic for 10 years. "And it can be properly scaled for different levels of fitness."

The benefits are impressive, Gibala said, and they can be achieved in about half the time of continuous moderate-intensity exercise. That's a big deal because lack of time continues to be the No. 1 barrier people cite to getting regular exercise, he says.

Lindemann is a newbie in Chay's first-of-the-year, six-week session. She wasn't interested in becoming an ultra-exerciser. She's busy enough with her 7-year-old daughter and her business, Kidz First Therapy, which provides occupational therapy for children with special needs.

But she does want to be healthier, in better shape and to look better in her clothes.

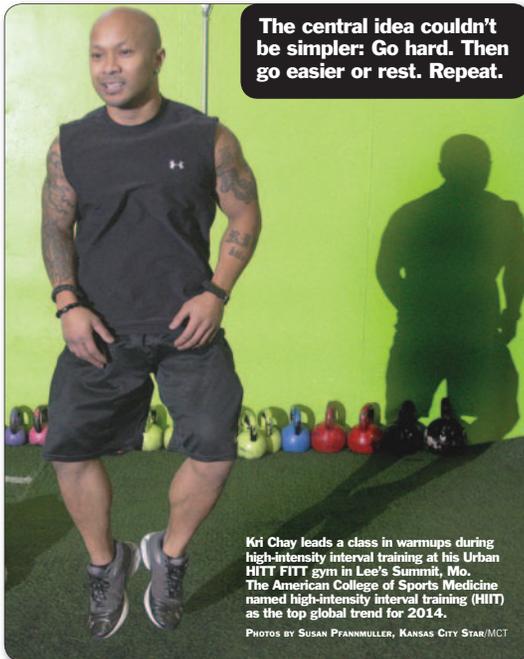
At the start of a recent class, Chay pointed to a dry-erase board with the session's 10 exercises, the set on the left for newbies and on the right for veterans.

Participants — 14 women and four men with a range of body shapes — were to hit each exercise for 40 seconds, with a 20-second break to move to the next station.

With music blasting, they were to cycle through the 10-exercise regimen three times. A buzzer marked the end of each 40-second interval and a bell sounded for the start of the next.

There were dumbbells, kettlebells, hanging rings and other equipment at the stations, set up for various types of lifting and bodyweight, or calisthenic-style, exercises.

Chay circulated, helping with proper form and sometimes offering modifica-



The central idea couldn't be simpler: Go hard. Then go easier or rest. Repeat.

Kri Chay leads a class in warmups during high-intensity interval training at his Urban HIIT FITT gym in Lee's Summit, Mo. The American College of Sports Medicine named high-intensity interval training (HIIT) as the top global trend for 2014.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN PFANNMULLER, KANSAS CITY STAR/MCT



Benefits of high-intensity interval training include improved fat burning and reduced blood-sugar levels. The workout can be adjusted to suit different levels of fitness.

tions of some exercises. A woman with a bad ankle needed an alternative at one of the stations.

"I like to incorporate upper and lower body, push and pull," Chay said. "They choose their level, and I modify the program if someone needs it, even on the fly, in the middle of class."

Lindemann likes the variety, and she

thinks there's a psychic advantage to the intervals.

"It makes me push harder because I know the duration isn't that long," she said.

In fact, that "short-term goal" of the intense interval has been shown to be a plus for exercisers, not to mention that the on/off method, even repeated, helps to fight

boredom, said Micah Zuhl, a clinical assistant professor at Central Michigan University's School of Health Sciences.

Interval training is being used in rehabilitation clinics, he said, even with cardiac patients, which was unheard of just a few years ago.

Zuhl said intervals can be adapted to many types of full-body workouts, with or without equipment, and is used in swimming, biking and running, including on cardio machines.

"What's really hot right now is sprint training," he said, interspersing sprints, rests and jogs of various lengths.

There are no set guidelines on interval length, Zuhl said, although research is showing the best benefits when the high-intensity portion is set at 30 seconds to two minutes. In studies, the "go easier" or rest period is often twice as long. So, for example, 30 seconds of high-intensity effort would be followed by one minute of recovery.

How intense should the high-intensity be?

"There's no free lunch," Gibala said. "If the time-efficiency aspect is attractive to you, then you're going to have to go hard with these intervals."

One approach, especially when starting out, he said, is to "get out of your comfort zone" for the go-hard interval. If you're running outdoors, for instance, resolve to pick up the pace from one streetlight pole to the next, then back off.

As always, talk to your doctor before trying a new exercise program. A certified personal trainer can help you determine proper intensity, Gibala said.

Heart-rate targets are a more exact way to determine exertion, but those also are variable from person to person, he said.

First, figure the average maximum heart rate for someone your age — subtract your age from 220. Then shoot for a heart rate about 85 percent of that number during the high-intense intervals.

If you're 40, the average maximum is 180, so the target would be 153 beats per minute.

Gibala said many of his studies have used exercise bikes with a protocol of one minute of intense effort followed by one minute of recovery, repeated 10 times per session. Participants performed three of these 20-minute sessions over a week.

"We've shown benefits for people with Type 2 diabetes in just two weeks," said Gibala, noting that this was a total commitment of one hour a week. "Their blood-sugar levels are markedly reduced."

Mike Bracko, an exercise physiologist and ACSM program planner, said it isn't well-understood why HIIT produces such time-efficient results. Of course, the exerciser is working harder during the intense bursts than in any similar periods of continuous exercise.

But the physiological benefits might also be a result of both ramping up and down the intensity, he said, and from the "after-burn." It's known that people burn calories longer after interval training than after continuous or endurance training.

Some advocates are so sold on interval training they recommend jettisoning continuous styles of exercise. But Gibala and others say that's unnecessary. They suggest limiting HIIT sessions to two or three a week, alternating on other days with continuous or steady-state exercising, including strength training and cardio.

## VIDEO GAMES

# 'Fable' showing its age

## 'Anniversary' edition still fun, but suffering from dated look, long load times

By BRIAN BOWERS

*Stars and Stripes*

In updating the original "Fable," Lionhead Studios has polished the graphics, improved the controls and added new features. However, there's no mistaking that "Fable Anniversary" dates from a previous generation of games.

The tale of the first hero of Albion was originally developed for the first Xbox back in 2004. It offered a medieval adventure filled with Orc-like hobbes, undead warriors, trolls, bandits and mystical doorways. The graphics and the basic gameplay were in line with other games of the day. However, "Fable" also offered an alignment system that monitored all of your decisions and determined whether you were naughty or nice. The results determined what spells were available to you, how people reacted to your presence and even what you looked like — complete with halo or horns.

The second and third editions of the franchise appeared on the Xbox 360, which boasts far sharper graphics and much more processing power. As a result, developers improved the graphics, tweaked the controls, created an open world and expanded many gameplay elements.

"Fable Anniversary" does a good job of bringing some of that improved experience to the old game.

For me, the most satisfying change was the switch to the new-style controls. These have been streamlined, mapping most battle-related activities to the buttons on the right side of the controller rather than a combination of different buttons and triggers. However, if you played the original game and really want to re-create the



Microsoft photos

"Fable Anniversary" makes some improvements, such as switching to new-style controls and adding visual detail.

experience, you can switch to the cumbersome old control system.

The graphics also are noticeably improved. There's much more detail and texture to characters and settings. And if you have a tablet with the Xbox SmartGlass app, you can take a peek at renderings from the original game to see how things have changed. However, neither the renderings nor the animations approach the quality of the graphics available in most games now available for the 360.

Other improvements to the game include an enhanced system for saving your progress and the addition of Xbox achievements, which didn't exist when the original game was released. In addition, the SmartGlass app provides a map of Albion and hints for finding treasure.

Next to the graphics, the biggest reminder that "Fable Anniversary" is a game from an earlier era is the limited scope of each setting. In most modern role-playing games, you can run from one end of the world to the other without encountering a loading screen, unless you enter a building, cave or important town. In "Fable," there are several small towns that you can roam at will, but walking from one end of the map to the other requires passing through a large number of interconnected areas, each requiring a wait while the scenery loads. Fortu-

nately, there's an abundance of magical teleportation devices that can be unlocked and used to make long-distance travel quicker.

Combat involves a combination of melee weapons, bows and magic spells. Ideally, you can launch an arrow or two at a distant foe, launch a fireball or bolt of lightning as he approaches and then finish him off with a sword stroke. The new control layout makes such tactics much easier. Enemies use a variety of attacks and tactics, so encounters remain fresh and interesting.

Another major part of the game involves social interactions.

The most important aspect of this is gaining renown as a hero. Certain quests are undertaken only after gaining enough fame. This requires completing tasks and showing off the trophies associated with your exploits. Villagers will ooh and ahh as you lift high the head of a giant wasp or hand of a zombie. If you win over enough citizens, your renown score will rise. You also might get a discount in the local shops.

You can also win over villagers by giving them gifts or performing "expressions" that you have gained during your travels. For example, you can pump your arm in a manly manner, flirt, dance or emit a burst of flatulence. Each villager seems to have different preferences

Overall grade: **B-**

and reacts differently to each expression. Eventually, one might find you appealing enough to marry.

I discovered that if you are a hero with a good — rather than evil — background and show off lots of trophies, you'll soon find entire villages filled with admirers, who are identified by large hearts floating over their heads. You'll also be pursued by flocks of women nagging you for a wedding ring — even if you're already married to another woman in the same village.

The story and side quests are much less involved than those in the "Fable" sequels, but they are still interesting. Gamers who didn't jump into the series until it landed on the Xbox 360 might find it worthwhile to learn more about the history of Albion and many of the characters who are mentioned in later adventures.

**Bottom line:** B- "Fable Anniversary" is definitely fun and the updates help, but it still feels a little dated.

**Platform:** Xbox 360

**Online:** [www.lionhead.com/games/fable-anniversary](http://www.lionhead.com/games/fable-anniversary)



Many more staff-written game reviews at [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)

BUSINESS/WEATHER

# Cable firm merger draws backlash

By RYAN NAKAHISHA  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Comcast and Time Warner Cable regularly rank at the bottom of the pay TV industry when it comes to customer satisfaction. So it didn't take long for customers to vent frustrations online over high prices, spotty service and fears of a monopoly after Comcast announced its \$45 billion purchase of Time Warner Cable.

Outrage that these two big cable companies would join hands to form an even more massive entity spurred a cascade of sarcastic tweets and satirical memes: the killer Death Star battle station from "Star Wars," the evil Eye of Sauron from "The Lord of the Rings," and a "South Park" snippet where character Eric Cartman and friends are tormented by cable employees before a logo curiously similar to Time Warner Cable's own.

Consumers weren't buying the assertion of Comcast CEO

**Consumers weren't buying the assertion of Comcast CEO Brian Roberts that the combination, which will have 30 million TV and Internet subscribers, would be "pro-consumer and pro-competitive."**

Brian Roberts that the combination, which will have 30 million TV and Internet subscribers, would be "pro-consumer and pro-competitive."

Using a contorted logic, the two companies are expected to argue to anti-trust regulators that the fact they don't directly compete against each other in many parts of America shows the deal won't reduce competition and therefore should be approved.

But it is that lack of overlap, and lack of choice, which is at the root of consumer frustration, according to American Customer Satisfaction Index managing director David VanAmburg. Cable companies that purposed don't compete

against each other to provide fast Internet or reliable TV service can get away with not fully meeting customer needs in markets where they dominate.

"It's almost unconsciously built into their business model that they don't have to worry so much you're going to leave for a competitor," said VanAmburg. "It's definitely a big factor."

Skepticism about the benefits of the deal to consumers was visible in many of the tweets that surfaced after the takeover announcement.

"I hope that we're headed back to the era of the monopoly," tweeted Chris Buechler. "Eh, I'm sure it'll work out this time!"

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Feb. 17)	\$1.4051
Dollar buys (Feb. 17)	€0.7117
British pound (Feb. 17)	\$1.71
Japanese yen (Feb. 17)	¥99.00
South Korean won (Feb. 17)	1,034.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6171
Canada (Dollar)	1.0980
China (Yuan)	6.0670
Denmark (Krone)	6.4523
Egypt (Pound)	6.9649
Euro	1.0000
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.3673/0.7131
Hungary (Forint)	276.49
Israel (Sheqel)	7.5531
Japan (Yen)	101.85
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2820
South Korea (Won)	1,059.47
Philippines (Peso)	44.60
Poland (Zloty)	3.03
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7504
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2612
South Korea (Won)	1,059.47
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8928
Thailand (Baht)	32.33
Turkey (Lira)	0.1849

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

MARKET WATCH

Feb. 13, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials	+63.65
	16,027.59
Nasdaq composite	+39.38
	4,240.67
Standard & Poor's 500	+10.57
	1,829.83
Russell 2000	+15.25
	1,147.79

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.25
30-year bond	3.68

WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



SATURDAY IN EUROPE



SUNDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

Saturday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	40	29	Pcldy	Fort Wayne	21	4	Pcldy	Louisville	31	13	Pcldy	Pocatello	52	37	Cldy	Shreveport	64	37	Cldy
Ablene, Texas	73	35	Pcldy	Cheyenne	49	34	Cir	Fresno	73	48	Pcldy	Lubbock	82	33	Cir	Portland, Maine	34	18	Snow	Sioux City	42	13	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	21	11	Cldy	Chicago	21	3	Snow	Goodland	58	32	Pcldy	Macon	58	36	Cir	Portland, Ore.	48	38	Rain	Sioux Falls	35	10	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	32	16	Snow	Cincinnati	26	12	Pcldy	Grand Junction	54	33	Pcldy	Madison	59	4	Snow	Providence	58	25	Snow	South Bend	52	31	Pcldy
Albuquerque	71	40	Cir	Cleveland	20	12	Cldy	Grand Rapids	20	10	Cldy	Medford	56	44	Rain	Pueblo	65	24	Pcldy	Spokane	39	32	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	30	23	Snow	Colorado Springs	63	35	Pcldy	Great Falls	46	30	Cldy	Memphis	49	30	Pcldy	Raleigh-Durham	44	33	Cir	Springfield, Ill.	28	4	Cldy
Amarillo	76	35	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	62	37	Cir	Green Bay	41	29	Cir	Miami Beach	78	57	Cir	Reno	69	39	Snow	Syracuse	28	21	Snow
Anchorage	21	12	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	57	36	Cir	Greensboro, N.C.	41	29	Cir	Midland-Odessa	83	38	Cir	Reno	69	39	Snow	Syracuse	28	21	Snow
Ashville	39	24	Sir	Columbus, Ohio	23	12	Pcldy	Harrisburg	64	46	Cir	Milwaukee	19	1	Cldy	Richmond	42	27	Pcldy	Tallahassee	63	44	Cldy
Atlanta	51	32	Cir	Concord, N.H.	31	13	Snow	Hartford Springfield	33	22	Cldy	Mpls-St. Paul	22	0	Snow	Roanoke	32	26	Pcldy	Tampa	69	54	Pcldy
Atlantic City	36	27	Snow	Concord, N.H.	31	13	Snow	Helena	46	25	Cldy	Missoula	46	30	Cldy	Rochester	23	19	Cldy	Toledo	21	8	Cldy
Bismarck	30	20	Cldy	Corpus Christi	76	48	Cir	Helena	46	25	Cldy	Mobile	68	43	Cir	Rockford	21	4	Snow	Topeka	51	34	Pcldy
Boise	51	38	Rain	Dallas-Ft. Worth	52	9	Pcldy	Houston	69	48	Pcldy	Montgomery	54	37	Cir	Sacramento	62	50	Cldy	Tucson	89	47	Cldy
Boston	34	25	Pcldy	Dayton	22	9	Pcldy	Huntsville	45	30	Cldy	Nashville	40	23	Pcldy	St. Louis	24	12	Cldy	Tulsa	62	28	Pcldy
Bridgport	25	25	Snow	Daytona Beach	67	51	Cldy	Indianapolis	24	7	Cldy	New Orleans	63	48	Cir	St. Petersburg	50	31	Cldy	Tupelo	48	30	Pcldy
Brownsville	76	57	Pcldy	Denver	57	38	Cldy	Indianapolis	24	7	Cldy	New Orleans	63	48	Cir	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Buffalo	20	18	Cldy	Denver	57	38	Cldy	Jacksonville	64	46	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	44	25	Snow	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	22	7	Cldy	Des Moines	33	7	Cldy	Jacksonville	64	46	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	44	25	Snow	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Caribou, Maine	22	7	Cldy	Des Moines	33	7	Cldy	Jacksonville	64	46	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	44	25	Snow	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Casper, Wyo.	34	31	Cldy	Detroit	19	10	Pcldy	Jacksonville	64	46	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	44	25	Snow	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Charleston, S.C.	58	43	Cir	Duluth	15	-5	Cldy	Janeau	37	31	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	44	25	Snow	St. Thomas	85	77	Cir	Waco	71	57	Cir
Charleston, W.Va.	31	23	Cldy	El Paso	81	48	Cir	Kansas City	47	15	Cldy	North Platte	51	26	Pcldy	San Antonio	80	37	Cir	Wichita Falls	58	26	Pcldy
Charlotte, N.C.	45	31	Cir	El Paso	81	48	Cir	Key West	74	62	Pcldy	Oklahoma City	54	34	Cir	San Antonio	80	37	Cir	Wichita Falls	58	26	Pcldy
				Evansville	18	12	Cldy	Knoxville	38	28	Cldy	Omaha	46	15	Cldy	San Diego	73	54	Pcldy	Wilkes-Barre	29	19	Snow
				Fairbanks	-8	-25	Snow	Lake Charles	65	46	Cir	Orlando	71	50	Pcldy	San Francisco	61	50	Cldy	Wilmington, Del.	34	26	Snow
				Fargo	21	-1	Cldy	Las Vegas	77	52	Pcldy	Paducah	65	14	Pcldy	San Jose	64	47	Cir	Youngstown	21	12	Cldy
				Flagstaff	65	28	Pcldy	Lexington	29	14	Pcldy	Pensacola	24	3	Snow	Santa Fe	66	34	Cir				
				Flint	68	28	Pcldy	Lincoln	48	18	Pcldy	Philadelphia	34	27	Snow	St. Marie	10	-2	Cir				
				Fort Smith	62	31	Pcldy	Little Rock	52	30	Cir	Phoenix	87	58	Cir	Savannah	59	45	Cir				
							Los Angeles	77	52	Pcldy	Pittsburgh	23	16	Cldy	Seattle	50	38	Rain					

National temperature extremes  
Cir: Thursday, 91, Eismore, Calif.  
Rain: Lo: Thursday, 14, Oakes, ND

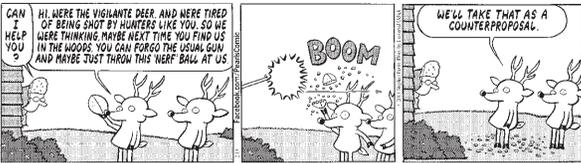
Frazz



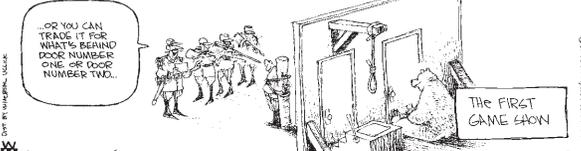
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18			19				20				
			21				22				
23	24	25				26			27	28	29
30						31			32		
33						34			35		
			36				37				
38	39	40				41			42	43	44
45						46			47		
48						49			50		
51						52			53		

ACROSS

- 1 Comedian Margaret
- 4 Flop on Broadway
- 8 Pronto, on a memo
- 12 Height of fashion?
- 13 Eye layer
- 14 Concern
- 15 Rage
- 16 "Why not?"
- 17 Incite
- 18 Focus
- 21 Pay stub abbr.
- 22 "All the Things You —"
- 23 Continental coinage
- 26 Parsons of "The Big Bang Theory"
- 27 "See ya"
- 30 Forehead
- 31 Calendar abbr.
- 32 Greets the villain
- 33 Luncheonette order
- 34 Evergreen type
- 35 Online annoyance
- 36 Candy in a dispenser
- 37 HINI, for instance
- 38 Leo or Libra
- 45 Geometry find
- 46 Channel marker
- 47 U.S. spy org.
- 48 Authentic
- 49 Beige
- 50 Shade provider
- 51 Senior facility?

DOWN

- 1 Stylish
- 2 Medal earner
- 3 Portent
- 4 Clientele, perhaps
- 5 Pizzeria fixtures
- 6 Vegan's no-no
- 7 Its capital is Manama
- 8 Less than 90 degrees
- 9 Bollywood costume treat
- 10 Best Picture of 2012
- 11 Hammerhead part
- 19 Grub
- 20 Prepare for battle
- 23 Recede
- 24 Web address
- 25 Deteriorate
- 26 Mandible
- 27 Jazz style
- 28 Thee
- 29 Kreskin's claim
- 31 Bette Davis film
- 32 Ring match
- 34 Still
- 35 Overemphasize
- 36 Sacred song
- 37 Plant life
- 38 Hailmark offering
- 39 Black-and-white treat
- 40 Approach
- 41 Time founder
- 42 Henry
- 42 On the rocks
- 43 Unctuous
- 44 Appellation

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

2-15

CRYPTOQUIP

V IJM X CFNUB XRJX V UB  
 NUBFZXEKKBH GQZBOK JX  
 XRVZ OEMIRBNM ZCFBJH .  
 VXZ NMOQ J TOEX KBOVMT.  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE YOU STILL DIDN'T SPELL THAT COMBINING WORD FORM CORRECTLY, WILL YOU REFIX THE PREFIX?  
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals T

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OMBUDESMAN

Ernie Gates

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OPINION

Today's history lessons, with popcorn

By ZACH P. MESSITTE

The merits of the nine nominees for the Academy Award for best picture are being debated by cineastes around the world. But as a college professor, this year's Oscar nominees also reaffirm the growing importance of the movies in the classroom and how film can inspire young people to greater academic inquiry.

Although most of my students have never heard of the 1970s Abscam scandal, many have seen "American Hustle." The horrors of American slavery are brought back on screen in "12 Years a Slave" for a generation of white undergraduates who see nothing extraordinary about having African-Americans as roommates, teammates or teachers. As difficult as it is to succinctly explain the 2008 economic meltdown, "The Wolf of Wall Street" does a great job of playing up the excess and speculation that contributed to the global economic crisis. And when trying to convey the concept of failed states and why countries such as Somalia are real threats to U.S. national security, "Captain Phillips" is a way to begin a larger discussion about piracy, the perils of foreign aid and the Law of the Sea.

Historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. said, "The fact that film has been the most potent vehicle of the American imagination suggests all the more strongly that movies have something to tell us, not just about the surface but about the mysteries of American life." Today's movies also tell us a lot about the changing nature of teaching.

Two decades ago, most undergraduate syllabuses in political science included texts, scholarly articles and maybe some photocopied commentaries from periodicals. Undergraduate courses have changed drastically. Gone are most of the long, uninterrupted class lectures when professors would just preach, teach and then point to the assigned reading for further clarification. Today's students are not fazed by guest lecturers who Skype into the classroom from Iraq or Afghanistan for



EVAN AGOSTINI, INVISION/AP

Many of today's students know about the Abscam scandal of the 1970s because they saw actors Amy Adams, Christian Bale, Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Jeremy Renner recreate Abscam's key moments in the film "American Hustle."

a quick Q&A, and then follow up with blog posts for the rest of semester. Collaboration projects and online discussion with your professor after class are now par for the course.

There is also a YouTube-ready show and tell that would have been unimaginable just five years ago. Since most of my students were not yet born in 1989 when Tank Man made his famous protest on CNN outside of Tiananmen Square, watching it before class discussion is part of understanding modern China. My first-year students were only 5 years old on 9/11, but for many, their critical context of the tragic day and the aftermath comes from Oliver Stone's "World Trade Center" or Paul Greengrass' "United 93."

Recent films have also helped shape how today's undergraduates view America's role since 1945. Born in the early 1990s, my students have seen World War II flicks such as "Saving Private Ryan" and "Inglourious Basterds." They grasp some of the paranoia and stress of the Cold War

because of remakes of "The Manchurian Candidate" and "Finkel: Tailor Soldier Spy." Their views of the Iraq War and the hunt for Osama bin Laden are profoundly shaped by "The Hurt Locker" and "Zero Dark Thirty." While many of my students have grandparents who fought in the Vietnam War, "Apocalypse Now" still holds cult status among 18- to 22-year-olds.

As long-form journalism retreats, newspapers and television networks consolidate bureaus and the attention span for international news shrinks, the movies are a critical rough draft of history that affects higher education. It is imperative that Hollywood's best pictures continue to get these stories right, because they lay the groundwork for the next generation's understanding of the world and help inform a basic narrative of our politics and policies for years to come.

Zach Messitte is president of Ripon College in Wisconsin and a professor of political science. He teaches American history, international policy and the Movies. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Many in the US still skeptical of evolution

By ANN McFEATHERS

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

If you think the U.S. education system is doing its job, here's a statistic to contemplate: Forty-six percent of Americans believe that humans were created just 6,000 years ago.

In other words, the overwhelming scientific evidence in favor of evolution is flat wrong.

The alarming, depressing figure comes from the Gallup Poll and hasn't changed much over the years. In 1982, 44 percent of Americans believed that God created humans in their current form. The number of Republicans who believe in creationism and discount evolution has increased since 2009 to 56 percent from 47 percent.

In other words, no monkeys involved. The Bible is literally true. Noah's Ark was real and saved 7,000 species from drowning.

Perhaps you heard about the "debate" the other night between Bill Nye, TV's Science Guy, and Ken Ham, who founded the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Ky. The museum claims to have an array of artifacts from tourists eager to see dioramas of human beings and dinosaurs living side by side in perfect harmony. The human being has modern hair and is fully clothed and belted, of course, and is smiling toothily. I think the dinosaur, which looks eerily like the evil velociraptors in "Jurassic Park," is also smiling.

The Nye-Ham encounter wasn't really a debate because, as Ham said, neither was going to win by changing viewpoints. Ham certainly isn't open to evolution. "I know that God's word is true. Nothing he (Nye) says will cast doubt on that," Ham intoned.

Nye reposted that Ham's no-evolution theory can't possibly explain why there are now millions of species of flora and fauna. He wondered, for example, how two kangaroos from a boat that ended up in Turkey could have hopped over oceans to land in Australia, leaving no fossils behind.

The encounter is little historic note except that school boards all over the country are in real debate over whether creationism should be taught to children.

During one of the interminable GOP debates before the 2008 presidential election, the 10 candidates on stage were asked if they believe in evolution. Three raised their hands indicating they did not: Tom Tancredo, Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee.

Huckabee, a televangelist who has his own political show on Fox News Channel, later said the question was "utterly silly." None of the candidates, he said, was "running to be eighth-grade science teacher."

Huckabee has suddenly emerged as one of the leading GOP presidential candidates for 2016 since New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie self-destructed. He says the earth may be 4 billion years old and we may even be billions of years old. "But we don't

know," he said. He insists he does know that one God created it all.

President Barack Obama says he is against teaching creationism as an alternative to evolution to children because it is religion-based. He calls science the never-ending search for knowledge and truth. He says science holds the key to our planet's survival (climate change), and he says it is time to put science at the top of our agenda.

Huckabee and many millions like him do not agree. They want "beliefs" at the top of the agenda; or rather, they want their form of belief. Their belief that America can do no wrong. Belief that their God loves this country more than others. Their belief that scientific findings can be cherry-picked and denied. Their belief that parents may decide which truths their children are taught and which are inconvenient.

Forty-six percent of Americans refuse to accept that human life evolved from lesser animals in a process that took billions of years.

According to the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, only 63 percent of Americans believe that climate change is happening, although 97 percent of climate experts are convinced climate change is real and human activity is the cause, according to The Consensus Project.

And, yes, folks, there is still a Flat Earth Society.

Ann McFeathers is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune.

OPINION

# Immigration reform: 3rd rail of GOP politics

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF  
The Dallas Morning News

Well, that didn't take long. Less than a week after House Republicans sought to shed their negative image by opening the way to a compromise on immigration legislation, they reversed course, declaring there was no way any bill could pass this year.

"There's widespread doubt about whether this administration can be trusted to enforce our laws," House Speaker John Boehner said. "And it's going to be difficult to move any immigration legislation until that changes."

Their decision means the GOP will have difficulty improving its negative standing with Hispanics before the 2014 election. GOP lawmakers cited proposed border control provisions, President Barack Obama's changes with executive orders during the glitch-filled rollout of the Affordable Care Act and a variety of other measures.

Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, of Florida, who drew sharp conservative criticism for backing the bipartisan immigration bill that passed the Senate, said the IRS scandal, the Benghazi controversy and the health care law were "evidence the government is not enforcing the law to enforce and not enforce."

A relative newcomer, Rubio seems not to know past presidents have done similar things. George W. Bush often issued signing statements noting which part of a law he would enforce, and others issued more executive orders than Obama.

But the real reason is the continuing

GOP split on the extent to which an immigration bill would provide legal status for the 11 million immigrants here illegally. Party leaders refuse to work with the Democratic minority to craft a compromise bill that could pass the House, insisting on a measure backed by "the majority of the majority."

According to several analysts, opinion in most Republican-held House districts opposes legal status for illegal immigrants, making any GOP backer vulnerable to a primary challenge. That would likely mean that the House would stay Republican but with a stronger tea party influence threatening Boehner's speaking.

Boehner talked of action in 2015, but by then candidates in the GOP presidential race will be vying to take the strongest anti-immigrant positions. And Republicans rejected a proposal by a top Senate Democrat, Sen. Charles Schumer, of New York, for a law that would take effect after Obama leaves office.

Republicans don't want to give Obama a legislative victory. And Obama made passage of comprehensive immigration reform with some form of legal status, if not citizenship, one of his top second-term goals.

The GOP stance is especially ironic, since Hispanic groups have sharply criticized the Obama administration for its zeal in deporting more than 2 million illegal immigrants.

But by refusing to consider immigration legislation, the House GOP could spur Obama to use his executive authority unilaterally to reduce deportations of illegal immigrants or expand the number who could stay permanently in the United States. That's what he did in 2012 when



he gave permanent status to the so-called DREAMers — young Hispanics brought here illegally by their parents who became either military veterans, high school graduates or the equivalent.

Behind this jockeying is the realization by both parties that the nation's burgeoning Hispanic population could determine their political future. After all, the number of U.S. Hispanics will likely triple by 2040, spurring a big increase in their clout from their 10 percent of voters in 2012.

In a sense, California and Texas are the cutting edge of that change. In California, the GOP is still suffering from Gov. Pete

Wilson's support for a 1994 referendum denying health and education benefits to illegal immigrants.

In Texas, Republicans risk similar damage from a voter identification law that will keep thousands of Hispanics from voting, redistricting plans that reduce Hispanic legislative clout and repeal of in-state college tuition for illegal immigrants.

So it was hardly surprising that the hint of a more positive national GOP attitude toward Hispanics was just too good to be true.

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of The Dallas Morning News.

# Ambassador Shirley Temple Black looked good in Velvet

By MARKOS KOUNALAKIS

I'm a Shirley Temple fan. Not a big fan of her movies; they seemed more suited for my sister. I'm fan of her diplomacy in Czechoslovakia. I was a Newsweek reporter living in Prague between the 1989 "Velvet Revolution" and 1991, when I saw up close how Ambassador Shirley Temple Black worked it. That's how I became a fan. (Disclosure: I like ambassadors; my wife was U.S. ambassador to Hungary 2010-13.)

America has had many notable diplomats dealing with Czechoslovakia and the more modern Czech Republic, a country split from Slovakia in 1993 following a "Velvet Divorce." But Shirley Temple Black's watch came at a seminal moment in modern Czechoslovak history and she was, perhaps unexpectedly, the right person at the right time.

Her personal and informal style worked well with the new government, made up of formerly imprisoned, hard-laboring and human rights Charta 77 signing artists, musicians, actors and a playwright president named Vaclav Havel. Many of these new Czechoslovak political leaders admired American colleague President Ronald Reagan, an actor-politician like themselves who expressed in the clearest terms — and to the whole world — their deepest desire for freedom.

In Shirley Temple Black, the Czechoslovaks had a new, dramatic-artistic colleague who shared Reagan's sentiments and temperament.

During early street protests in Prague in 1989, she spoke out for more democratic freedom and in thinly veiled language against the Husak government to which she was credentialled. And as the Berlin Wall fell and the distinct scent of



revolution filled the Eastern European air, people filled central Wenceslas Square and jangled their keys in protest. Shaking those keys meant that they wanted to lock out the communists and open the door to democracy. Suddenly, she became the U.S. ambassador to a reborn and dramatically transitioning state.

Thankfully, she knew something about drama. And timing.

Timing brought her to Czechoslovakia for the first time in 1968, in the midst of the Prague Spring and the crackdown on reformers. And combination of actor's good luck and timing brought her back for the Prague Spring's reversal in 1989.

The most visible part of diplomacy consists of public meetings or events, speeches given, parties thrown. But most of the work takes place away from the public eye. Public and private diplomacy require the ability to perform for and understand an au-

**Then-U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Shirley Temple Black and Czechoslovakian President Vaclav Havel take part in the celebration of the 45th anniversary of the liberation of Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, at Pilsen Town Hall, on May 6, 1990. Temple died Monday at 85.**

dience, and she was skilled at both. When it came to the new Czechoslovak leadership, she knew these people and what motivated them, understood their anti-establishment tendencies and gained their respect not merely because of her recognized early film work but also because of her ability to take the stage and perform whatever diplomatic duties were necessary.

Because of her GOP star power and her husband Charlie's own network, she was able to attract a never-ending stream of American officials and business people to Prague. She enticed them to come and witness the unfolding story of the Velvet Revolution. Peaceful democratic change was as strong a draw as the incomparable fairytale beauty of the Prague castle, and the visits got Czechoslovakia added attention in the halls of Congress.

The first six months after the revolution felt like a nationwide party. And the

embassy grounds were no exception. Journalists were often invited to events at the ambassador's residence, and whenever congressional delegations came through town, she opened up the Petschek Palace doors, located on recently renamed Ronald Reagan Street.

At my first reception, I asked a white-jacketed staff member in Czech (and loosely translated into English), "Is Shirley Temple available?" He looked over toward the ambassador and nodded. I then said, "Please procure me Shirley Temple," at which point the bartender nearly dropped the glass he was holding. He had never heard of the drink.

At these receptions, every American or Czechoslovak guest eventually made it to the drawing room, where the ambassador's Oscar statuette sat on a bookshelf. I often sat and watched as one person after another grabbed the Oscar, felt its heft and held it high, sometimes giving a very short acceptance speech. And the ambassador would often take a photo next to the new Oscar "winner." This was the type of cultural diplomacy that money can't buy.

Guests sometimes wanted to linger, but the ambassador usually made it clear when the party was over. She would stand in the foyer, kick off her sky-high heels, light up a cigarette and open up the garden door to let in her dog, a boxer named Gorby, named after Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorby's latent herding instinct kicked in and moved guests slowly toward the exit.

Now that she has headed off-stage, it's time to raise a glass of grenadine and 7-Up and bid a fond farewell.

Markos Kounalakis is a research fellow at Central European University. He is currently a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. This column first appeared in The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee.

## SCOREBOARD

## Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. [myafn.net](http://myafn.net)

## Pro hockey

## NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	58	33	16	6	5	76	175	125
Tampa Bay	58	32	16	7	5	69	165	143
Montreal	59	32	21	6	6	70	148	142
Colorado	58	32	17	10	7	78	173	183
Detroit	58	26	20	12	6	51	143	167
Ottawa	58	22	21	11	6	49	149	183
Florida	58	22	29	7	5	51	139	183
Buffalo	58	24	27	3	8	50	117	133

METROPOLITAN DIVISION		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	58	40	15	3	8	83	186	138
N.Y. Rangers	59	24	24	6	7	55	157	145
Philadelphia	59	23	23	6	6	56	167	167
Columbus	58	22	24	6	4	47	170	161
Washington	59	27	23	9	6	63	117	116
Carolina	58	24	22	10	6	61	135	147
San Jose	59	24	22	13	3	51	115	174
N.Y. Islanders	59	30	25	8	2	52	204	204

WESTERN CONFERENCE		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	57	39	14	4	8	84	135	135
Chicago	57	31	12	16	5	70	157	151
Phoenix	58	37	12	6	9	79	137	143
Minnesota	59	31	21	6	6	69	145	147
Calgary	57	29	16	10	5	64	164	145
Winnipeg	60	28	26	6	6	62	168	173
Edmonton	58	18	14	18	6	42	146	180

PACIFIC DIVISION		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	57	27	16	8	7	67	147	147
San Jose	57	31	16	6	8	80	172	142
Los Angeles	59	31	22	6	6	68	139	128
Vancouver	58	27	21	6	6	63	146	160
San Diego	58	29	20	7	6	57	147	169
Edmonton	60	33	7	4	1	103	193	159

Note: Wins for a win, one half point for a tie, none loss.

Feb. 25-25

Olympic break: Feb. 25-25

## College baseball

## Thursday's games

Game	Score	Time
Belhaven 9, St. Francis, Ind. 9		
ETSU, pp. 60		
Missouri Baptist 13, Campbellsville 3		

## Deals

## Thursday's transactions

Baseball	Player	Team	Transaction
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL	Named Jimmy Kline	Detroit	Director of instant replays
AMERICAN LEAGUE	CLEVELAND INDIANS	Agreed to terms with Michael Brantley on a four-year contract	
SEATTLE MARINERS	Agreed to terms with RHP Fernando Rodney on a one-year contract and LHP Roberto Hernandez and RHP Zach Miner on minor league contracts. Placed RHP Franklin Gutierrez on the restricted list.		
NATIONAL LEAGUE	CHICAGO CUBS	Agreed to terms with RHPs Jason Hammel and James McHugh on one-year contracts	
LOS ANGELES DODGERS	Named Jack McDowell manager of Ogdon (Pisner). Agreed to terms with Carlos Mosquera.		
MILWAUKEE BREWERS	Assigned RHP Donovan Hand outright to Nashville (O) 60-day DL.		
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES	Released RHP Chad Gaudin.		
FITTSBURGH PITTSBURGH	Agreed to terms with LHP Yao-Hsiun Yang on a one-year contract.		
WASHINGTON NATIONALS	Traded RHP Nathan Karns to Tampa Bay for C Jose Abreu. Released LHP Yefsky and LHP Felipe Rivero. Placed RHP Eric Davis on the 60-day DL.		

## Basketball

**AMERICAN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**HUSTON ROCKETS** - Reassigned F Robert Covington to Rio Grande Valley (NBA).

**FOOTBALL**  
 National Football League  
**DETROIT LIONS** - Released WR Nate Burleson and S Louis Delmas.

**REINVENTION FOOTBALL** - Signed TE Raymond Weeber.

**SOCCER**  
 Major League Soccer  
**CHICAGO USA** - Named Paul Parker sporting director.

**SOUTH KANSAS CITY** - Acquired M. Jimmy Medranda from Deportivo Pereira (Colombia) and signed him to a multiyear contract.

**COLLEGE**  
 MEMPHIS - Suspended men's basketball player Dominic Woodworth. Dies. **SOUTHERN CAL** - Announced Q's Max Wittke plans to transfer.

## College basketball

## Thursday's men's scores

EAST  
 Bryant at Mount St. Mary's, ppd.  
 St. Louis at St. Francis (N.Y.), ppd.  
 LIU Brooklyn at Sacred Heart, ppd.  
 Louisville at Temple, ppd.  
 Wake Forest at St. Francis (Pa.), 60  
 Quinnipiac 80, Fairfield 72  
 St. John's 85, Seton Hall 67  
 Wagner at Fairleigh Dickinson, ppd.

SOUTH  
 Appalachian State at Samford 68  
 Arkansas State 75, South Alabama 61  
 Austin Peay 85, Illinois 63  
 Belhaven 73, Spring Hill 53  
 Belmont 73, Missouri State 58  
 Belmont 73, Tennessee State 71  
 Bremond at Carson Newman, ppd.  
 Campbellsville 83, Rio Grande 90  
 Col. of Charleston 47, Drexel 46  
 ETU 90, Florida Gulf Coast 81  
 Freed-Hardeman 52, Missouri Baptist 50

74 Georgia Tech 74, Boston College 71  
 Kentucky Wesleyan 92, Cedarville 87  
 Lincoln Memorial at Tusculum, ppd.  
 Lindsey Wilson 66, Cumberland 67  
 Louisiana-Lafayette 93, UALR 87, 2OT  
 Loyola 58, Mobile 56  
 Middle Tennessee 71, Tulane 44  
 Morehead State 69, Jacksonville State 57  
 Murray State 56, SIUE Edwardsville 57  
 New Orleans 70, Nicholls State 64  
 Old Dominion 62, UNC Asheville 92  
 SE Louisiana 62, McNeese State 53  
 South Carolina 85, Wagner 99  
 St. Catherine 91, Shawnee 50 65  
 Tennessee Tech 72, E. Kentucky 66  
 Wake Forest 88, Loyola-Memore 65

74 Trevecca Nazarene 82, Central State (Ohio) 79  
 Southern 99, Southern Miss. 60  
 UNC Greensboro 68, Georgia Southern 58  
 UNC Wilmington 55, Northeastern 45  
 W. Kentucky 81, Troy 76  
 Youngstown State 114, Kent State 99  
 (Tenn.) 92

MIDWEST  
 Central Methodist at, Culver-Stockton 78  
 Cleveland State 73, Ill.-Chicago 53  
 Drake at Butler 87  
 Findlay 59, Ashland 55  
 Iowa State 71, Youngstown State 40  
 Hillsdale 75, Lake Erie 59  
 IPFW 75, South Dakota 69  
 IUPUI 59, Denver 49

69 Lake Superior St. 89, Grand Valley St.  
 Malone 81, Tiffin 75  
 Northwest 85, Northwestern 70  
 Michigan Tech 63, Wayne (Mich.) 55  
 Eastern Michigan 50, Indiana State  
 Montana State 58, North Dakota 70  
 N. Dakota St. 76, W. Illinois 52  
 Northwest (Mich.) 81, Central State 65  
 Park 93, Harris-Stowe 49

69 Park 71, Indiana State 85  
 S. Dakota St. 71, Nebraska-Omaha 60  
 S. Dakota 84, PPFW 71  
 S. Dakota St. 87, Michigan Tech 60  
 Tiffin 60, Malone 52  
 UMKC 92, New Mexico St. 84  
 W. Illinois 61, 191, Finlandia 38  
 N. Michigan 64, Saginaw Valley St. 63  
 Nebraska 76, Michigan 58

69 Northwood (Mich.) 86, Ferris St. 57  
 Oakland 97, Detroit 78  
 Cleveland State 72, Ball State 68  
 Park 73, Harris-Stowe 49  
 S. Dakota St. 71, Nebraska-Omaha 60  
 S. Dakota 84, PPFW 71  
 S. Dakota St. 87, Michigan Tech 60  
 Tiffin 60, Malone 52  
 UMKC 92, New Mexico St. 84  
 W. Illinois 61, 191, Finlandia 38  
 N. Michigan 64, Saginaw Valley St. 63  
 Nebraska 76, Michigan 58

SOUTHWEST  
 Abilene Christian, Incarnate Word  
 Arkansas 75, Alabama 55  
 Auburn Baptist 84, Oral Roberts 75  
 Lamar University 81, Santa Joaquin 78  
 St. Houston 57, 73, Northwestern St. 87

Texas A&M 78, Georgia 73, OT  
 Texas A&M-CO 45, Cent. Arkansas 42  
 Texas Tech 71, Colorado Austin 61  
 West Virginia 76, Oklahoma 75  
 BYU 67, Portland 43  
 CS Bakersfield 79, Idaho 69  
 Grand Staircase at Idaho 67  
 Cal State-Fullerton 65, UC Davis 62  
 Fresno State 77, Sacramento State 73  
 Gonzaga 56, San Diego 48  
 Idaho 68

69 Idaho 68  
 Loyola Marymount 76, Saint Mary's (Cal) 74  
 O. Regis 81, N. Colorado 55  
 Montana 93, North Dakota 67  
 San Diego State 77, New Nazarene 92  
 Utah 91, Pepperdine 67  
 S. Utah 70, Idaho 56  
 Seattle Pacific 68, Cent. Washington 70  
 Simon Fraser 70, Oregon 50  
 UC Santa Barbara 80, Long Beach 81  
 W. Washington 69, St. Martin's 52  
 Shreveport 65, St. Catherine U. 63

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 Utah 79, Southern Cal 71  
 Weber State 72

EXHIBITION  
 Finlandia 80, Grace Bible 79

Thursday's women's scores

EAST  
 Fairfield 52, Rider 66  
 Florida State 83, Syracuse 59  
 George Washington 80, VCU 62  
 Manhattan 52, Calicut 44  
 NJIT at Hofstra, ppd.

69 NE at Siena 57  
 Northeastern 78, William & Mary 57  
 Notre Dame 82, Stony College 61  
 South 68, Vanderbilt 67  
 Kentucky 58, Mississippi 70  
 Bethel (Tenn.) 81, William Carey 64  
 Bremond at Carson Newman, ppd.

69 Campbell 82, Coastal Carolina 83  
 Marshall 83, Rio Grande 47  
 Cedarville 75, Kentucky Wesleyan 72  
 Charlotte 86, Louisiana Tech 61  
 The College of Westchester 89, Mercer 57  
 Freed-Hardeman 83, Missouri Baptist 52

69 Gardner-Webb 74, Longwood 73, OT  
 Kentucky 58, Mississippi 70  
 Lincoln Memorial at Tusculum, ppd.  
 Lindsey Wilson 66, Cumberland 67  
 Louisiana-Lafayette 93, UALR 87, 2OT  
 Loyola 58, Mobile 56  
 Middle Tennessee 71, Tulane 44  
 Morehead State 69, Jacksonville State 57  
 Murray State 56, SIUE Edwardsville 57  
 New Orleans 70, Nicholls State 64  
 Old Dominion 62, UNC Asheville 92  
 SE Louisiana 62, McNeese State 53  
 South Carolina 85, Wagner 99  
 St. Catherine 91, Shawnee 50 65  
 Tennessee Tech 72, E. Kentucky 66  
 Wake Forest 88, Loyola-Memore 65

74 Trevecca Nazarene 82, Central State (Ohio) 79  
 Southern 99, Southern Miss. 60  
 UNC Greensboro 68, Georgia Southern 58  
 UNC Wilmington 55, Northeastern 45  
 W. Kentucky 81, Troy 76  
 Youngstown State 114, Kent State 99  
 (Tenn.) 92

MIDWEST  
 Central Methodist at, Culver-Stockton 78  
 Cleveland State 73, Ill.-Chicago 53  
 Drake at Butler 87  
 Findlay 59, Ashland 55  
 Iowa State 71, Youngstown State 40  
 Hillsdale 75, Lake Erie 59  
 IPFW 75, South Dakota 69  
 IUPUI 59, Denver 49

69 Lake Superior St. 89, Grand Valley St.  
 Malone 81, Tiffin 75  
 Northwest 85, Northwestern 70  
 Michigan Tech 63, Wayne (Mich.) 55  
 Eastern Michigan 50, Indiana State  
 Montana State 58, North Dakota 70  
 N. Dakota St. 76, W. Illinois 52  
 Northwest (Mich.) 81, Central State 65  
 Park 93, Harris-Stowe 49

69 Park 71, Indiana State 85  
 S. Dakota St. 71, Nebraska-Omaha 60  
 S. Dakota 84, PPFW 71  
 S. Dakota St. 87, Michigan Tech 60  
 Tiffin 60, Malone 52  
 UMKC 92, New Mexico St. 84  
 W. Illinois 61, 191, Finlandia 38  
 N. Michigan 64, Saginaw Valley St. 63  
 Nebraska 76, Michigan 58

69 Northwood (Mich.) 86, Ferris St. 57  
 Oakland 97, Detroit 78  
 Cleveland State 72, Ball State 68  
 Park 73, Harris-Stowe 49  
 S. Dakota St. 71, Nebraska-Omaha 60  
 S. Dakota 84, PPFW 71  
 S. Dakota St. 87, Michigan Tech 60  
 Tiffin 60, Malone 52  
 UMKC 92, New Mexico St. 84  
 W. Illinois 61, 191, Finlandia 38  
 N. Michigan 64, Saginaw Valley St. 63  
 Nebraska 76, Michigan 58

SOUTHWEST  
 Abilene Christian, Incarnate Word  
 Arkansas 75, Alabama 55  
 Auburn Baptist 84, Oral Roberts 75  
 Lamar University 81, Santa Joaquin 78  
 St. Houston 57, 73, Northwestern St. 87

Texas A&M 78, Georgia 73, OT  
 Texas A&M-CO 45, Cent. Arkansas 42  
 Texas Tech 71, Colorado Austin 61  
 West Virginia 76, Oklahoma 75  
 BYU 67, Portland 43  
 CS Bakersfield 79, Idaho 69  
 Grand Staircase at Idaho 67  
 Cal State-Fullerton 65, UC Davis 62  
 Fresno State 77, Sacramento State 73  
 Gonzaga 56, San Diego 48  
 Idaho 68

69 Idaho 68  
 Loyola Marymount 76, Saint Mary's (Cal) 74  
 O. Regis 81, N. Colorado 55  
 Montana 93, North Dakota 67  
 San Diego State 77, New Nazarene 92  
 Utah 91, Pepperdine 67  
 S. Utah 70, Idaho 56  
 Seattle Pacific 68, Cent. Washington 70  
 Simon Fraser 70, Oregon 50  
 UC Santa Barbara 80, Long Beach 81  
 W. Washington 69, St. Martin's 52  
 Shreveport 65, St. Catherine U. 63

69 Arkansas 75, Alabama 55  
 Auburn Baptist 84, Oral Roberts 75  
 Lamar University 81, Santa Joaquin 78  
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69 Arkansas 75, Alabama 55  
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 Lamar University 81, Santa Joaquin 78  
 St. Houston 57, 73, Northwestern St. 87

Texas A&M 78, Georgia 73, OT  
 Texas A&M-CO 45, Cent. Arkansas 4

NBA

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	24	53.8	—
Brooklyn	24	27	47.1	3½
New York	20	33	38.5	8
Boston	19	35	35.2	10
Philadelphia	13	39	27.8	14

Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	37	14	72.5	—
Atlanta	25	26	49.0	12
Washington	25	27	48.1	12½
Charlotte	23	30	43.4	15
Orlando	16	38	29.6	23½

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	40	12	76.9	—
Chicago	27	25	51.9	13
Detroit	22	30	42.7	18
Cleveland	20	33	37.7	20½
Milwaukee	9	43	17.3	31

Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	15	37	28.8	17
Houston	16	37	29.9	16½
Dallas	23	30	43.4	9
Memphis	29	23	55.8	8½
New Orleans	23	29	44.2	14½

Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	43	12	78.2	—
Portland	36	17	67.9	5½
Minnesota	25	28	47.2	16½
Denver	24	27	47.1	16½
Utah	19	33	36.2	22

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	18	38	31.7	—
Phoenix	30	21	58.8	5
Golden State	31	22	58.5	5
L.A. Lakers	19	33	36.0	18
Sacramento	18	35	34.0	18

**Tuesday's games**  
 Cleveland 109, Sacramento 99  
 Charlotte 114, Dallas 89  
 Chicago 100, Atlanta 92  
 Memphis 92, Washington 89  
 Miami 103, Phoenix 93  
 Oklahoma City 98, Portland 95  
 Utah 96, L.A. Lakers 79

**Wednesday's games**  
 Memphis 86, Orlando 81  
 Dallas 83, Indiana 73  
 Toronto 104, Atlanta 83  
 Brooklyn 105, Charlotte 99  
 San Antonio 104, Boston 92  
 Cleveland 93, Detroit 89  
 Sacramento 106, New York 101, OT  
 Minnesota 107, Denver 90  
 Houston 113, Washington 112  
 New Orleans 102, Milwaukee 98  
 Utah 105, Philadelphia 100  
 Miami 111, Golden State 110  
 L.A. Clippers 122, Portland 117

**Thursday's games**  
 Chicago 92, Brooklyn 76  
 Oklahoma City 107, L.A. Lakers 103

**Friday's games**  
 No games scheduled

**Saturday's games**  
 No games scheduled

**Sunday's game**  
 All-Star Game at New Orleans

**Thursday**

**Bulls 92, Nets 76**

**BROOKLYN** — Johnson 4-14 3-5 11, Pierce 4-11 5-7 15, Garnett 2-3 0-0 4, Williams 4-4 1-5 13, Livingston 4-6 2-4 10, Blatche 3-3 2-2 8, Anderson 2-5 0-0 6, Teletovic 0-0 0-0 0, Terry 0-2 0-0 2, Plumlee 0-1 2-1 1, Kirilenko 3-3 1-3 8. Totals 76-92 19-28 76.

**CHICAGO** — Dunleavy 4-11 3-3 14, Breez 7-13 1-15, Noah 6-12 2-3 14, Hinrich 4-9 2-9, Butler 6-8 2-2 14, Augustin 11-14 3-16, Gibson 7-14 3-16, Snell 0-1 0-0 0, Mohammed 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 75-92 18-21 92.

**Brooklyn** 19 22 20 15-76  
**Chicago** 29 20 20 23-92

**Thunder 107, Lakers 103**

**OKLAHOMA CITY** — Durant 14-33 12-12 43, Ibaka 4-9 2-2 10, Perkins 2-13 5-7 19, Thibault 7-12 0-1 14, Seligsohn 3-4 0-2 7, Fisher 4-9 2-12, Lamb 3-10 3-11, Adams 11-14 3-16, Gibson 7-14 3-16, Snell 0-1 0-0 0, Mohammed 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 98-121 24-24 107.

**L.A. LAKERS** — Johnson 8-13 2-4 19, Williams 6-16 0-15, Kaman 7-13 5-7 19, Fisher 4-9 2-12, Lamb 3-10 3-11, Adams 11-14 3-16, Gibson 7-14 3-16, Snell 0-1 0-0 0, Mohammed 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 98-121 24-24 103.

**Thunder 107, Lakers 103**

**THREE-POINT GOALS**—Brooklyn 5-13 (Anderson 2-3, Pierce 2-5, Kirilenko 1-1, Blatche 0-2, Johnson 0-2, Williams 0-4), Chicago 4-14 (Dunleavy 3-7, Breez 1-3, Snell 0-1, Gibson 0-1, Hinrich 0-2), Fruelich 0-0—None, Oklahoma City 38 (Garnett 7), Chicago 50 (Noah 13), Assists—Brooklyn 12 (Williams 5), Chicago 26 (Kirilenko 7), Total Fouls—Brooklyn 21, Chicago 23, Technicals—Johnson, Plumlee, Brooklyn defensive three second, Butler, Noah, Chicago defensive three second. A—21,500 (20,917).

# Durant, Thunder surge past Lakers

## OKC forward drops 43 as team heads into break with league's best record

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — For three quarters, the Los Angeles Lakers tempted the sellout crowd at Staples Center into believing they would pull off one of the most improbable upsets of the NBA season.

Then Kevin Durant took over and the Lakers got sloppy with the ball, turning it into just another loss in a season full of them for coach Mike D'Antoni's undermanned squad.

Durant scored 19 of his 43 points in the fourth quarter as the Oklahoma City Thunder sent the Lakers to a record-setting seventh straight home loss with its 107-103 victory on Thursday night.

"The easy thing to do is look at it like we didn't have the proper focus. But I'm not going to go there — because when you play against an NBA team that's prideful like the Lakers, they're going to have a good game," Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks said.

The Thunder have a 1½-game lead on Indiana for the NBA's best record. Their 43-12 mark equals the best start in the franchise's 47-year history, set by the 1995-96 Seattle SuperSonics.

Oklahoma City is 20-7 without second-leading scorer Russell Westbrook, who hasn't played since getting a triple-double on Christmas Day at Madison Square Garden. Westbrook is recovering from arthroscopic surgery on his right knee.

"This whole group, they are resilient," Durant said. "We persevered through everything and just stayed together. We had faith no matter what. We are looking forward to having Russell back and make it seem less of a transition for him."

Chris Kaman and Wesley Johnson scored 19 points apiece for Los Angeles, and Kendall Marshall added 14 points and 17 assists. The Lakers have lost 22 of their past 27 games and are tied with Sacramento for last place in the Western Conference.

The Thunder, coming off a 98-95 win against Portland in which they held All-Stars LaMarcus Aldridge and Damian Lillard to a combined 1-for-17 from the field in the second half, trailed by 15 points late in the third quarter while Durant missed his first eight attempts from three-point range.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Thunder forward Kevin Durant, shooting over the Lakers' Wesley Johnson, scored 19 points in the fourth quarter as Oklahoma City beat Los Angeles 107-103.

# Gibson, Boozer lead Bulls

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Taj Gibson scored 16 points and Carlos Boozer returned from an injury to add 15 in the Chicago Bulls' 92-76 victory over the Brooklyn Nets on Thursday night.

Boozer missed the past three games with a strained left calf. Joakim Noah had 14 points and 13 rebounds for his fifth straight double-double. The Bulls (27-25) moved two games above .500 for the first time since they were 6-4 on Nov. 21. They have won four of five.

Paul Pierce led Brooklyn with 15 points in the teams' final game before the All-Star break. The Nets are 24-27, going 14-6 since Jan. 1.

The Nets pulled within three points on Andrei Kirilenko's three-pointer with 6:29 left. D.J. Augustin an-

swered with a three to start a 9-0 Chicago run.

The Nets' Joe Johnson and the Bulls' Jimmy Butler were called for technical fouls and Johnson for an offensive foul after they exchanged words and had to be separated by their teammates with 5:57 left in the third quarter. Johnson elbowed Butler on the play, and Butler was restrained by his teammates before Johnson poked Butler's face.

The Bulls shot 50 percent to the Nets' 38.8. Mike Dunleavy and Jimmy Butler each had 14 points for the Bulls. Gibson provided a lift off the bench with Boozer back in the lineup. Gibson has averaged 19.2 points and 9.8 rebounds in eight starts.

Deron Williams added 13 points for the Nets. Joe Johnson had 11, and Shaun Livingston 10.

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# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## No. 9 Michigan St. routs Northwestern

By NOAH TRISTER  
The Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — This wasn't the Northwestern team Chris Collins had watched for the past few weeks.

Gone was the tenacious defense that had forced other Big Ten teams into ugly, low-scoring affairs. Instead, the Wildcats ended up in a bit of a shooting contest with No. 9 Michigan State — and that did not end well.

"We definitely had more breakdowns tonight defensively than I thought we've had in the last month," said Collins, in his first season as Northwestern's coach. "Part of that is them running a really good offense, and part of that were some breakdowns we had that we just haven't had."

Adreian Payne had 20 points and 14 rebounds, and Michigan State cruised past the Wildcats 85-70 on Thursday night to stay tied atop the Big Ten. JerShon Cobb had 22 points and seven rebounds for Northwestern.

The Spartans (21-4, 10-2) are even in the standings with rival Michigan — and those two teams meet in Ann Arbor on Feb. 23. Gary Harris added 14 points for Michigan State, rebounding a bit from a poor shooting performance in a loss to Wisconsin last

weekend. The Spartans shot 53 percent from the field.

"When healthy, I truly believe they're the best team in the country," Collins said. "They're loaded. I hope they can get healthy."

Michigan State was without point guard Keith Appling, who has been bothered by a wrist injury, and Brandon Dawson has been out with a hand injury.

The Wildcats (12-13, 5-7) had not allowed 80 points in a game in over a month. During that span, they'd won road games at Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota, their tough defense giving a number of teams problems along the way.

But this game started with both teams scoring efficiently through much of the first half. Michigan State led 39-30 at halftime, then scored the first seven points of the second half. Payne had a dunk and a three-pointer in that stretch, and although the Wildcats prevented the game from getting totally out of hand, they weren't able to cut their deficit back into single digits.

"The way that they get up and down in transition is like no other," Northwestern's Tre Demps said. "You can't really prepare for the real thing. Every time they push it, it's amazing how fast they get it up and down the court."



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Creighton forward Doug McDermott, right, goes around Butler guard Alex Barlow for a shot during the first half of Thursday's game in Indianapolis. McDermott scored 26 points in a 68-63 victory.

# Creighton edges Butler

By MICHAEL MAROT  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Somehow Doug McDermott seems to make all those big shots — even when they don't feel right.

On Thursday, one of college basketball's most prolific scorers surprised himself by making a three-pointer with 47.8 seconds to go that sent No. 18 Creighton past pesky Butler for a 68-63 victory that helped it keep pace with Big East leader Villanova.

"I didn't think I made it all," McDermott said. "I was really surprised when it went in."

Those are not words usually uttered by the nation's No. 2 scorer. But after a back-and-forth second half, it was the simple truth.

McDermott finished with 26 points on 11-for-19 shooting, passing Allan Houston and Kevin Bradshaw on the NCAA's career scoring list. He's now 15th with 2,824 points.

It wasn't quite the same team the Bluejays (20-4, 10-2 expected) dominated a month ago in Omaha. Creighton rolled to a 28-point victory back then.

This time, the feisty Bulldogs figured out a way to slow McDermott after he scored 11 of the Bluejays' first 13 points and the three-point shooters who

normally complement McDermott when he can't get free.

And, for a change, the Bluejays won this one the blue-collar way.

"It's really good for us because we had to grind one out," said coach Greg McDermott, Doug's father. "We had a chance at St. John's (Sunday) and we didn't get it done. Tonight, Doug hit the three that he missed the other night and we made the free throws that we missed the other night."

McDermott had plenty of help.

Will Artino scored 11 off the bench, Jahenns Mangat and Austin Chatman added nine apiece, and the Bluejays played one of the league's most rugged rebounding teams to a virtual draw (32-30).

Creighton has won five of six and 15 of 17. It has won 20 games in 15 of the past 16 seasons and 10 conference games in 18 straight seasons, and has no quibble with how it got this one.

"This is a really good win for us," Greg McDermott said. "Butler played their tails off."

For the Bulldogs (12-13, 2-11), it was more of the same.

They've lost four straight, haven't won at home since Jan. 18 and have dropped six home games — four in the final minute or overtime.



AL GOLDSRIP/AP

Michigan State's Denzel Valentine, left, talks with coach Tom Izzo on the bench during the second half of Thursday's 85-70 victory over Northwestern in East Lansing, Mich.

## No. 21 Badgers regain some swagger, top Minnesota

By GENARO C. ARMAS  
The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Diving on the floor for loose balls. Strong drives to the hoop for dunks or to draw fouls. A blocked shot that whipped the "Grateful Red" student section into a frenzy.

Wisconsin's frontcourt regained some of its swagger in a 78-70 victory Thursday night over Minnesota.

Frank Kaminsky scored 17 points, Nigel Hayes added 15 off the bench and Sam Dekker had 10 points and the block that pumped up the 21st-ranked Badgers. "The energy is contagious," Kaminsky

said. "Everyone was bringing it tonight."

If not for some late free-throw woes by Wisconsin, the game might have been over way earlier in second half.

Outside shooting helped the Gophers hang around after Andre Hollins and Malik Smith hit threes on back-to-back possessions to get to 73-68 with 55.2 seconds left.

Ben Brust finally sealed the win with two foul shots for an eight-point lead with 38 seconds left.

Wisconsin (20-5, 7-5 Big Ten) benefited from its hot start up front to win its third straight headed into Sunday's showdown at No. 15 Michigan. The Badgers are at their

best when active in the lane, and that was the case on both ends of the floor in building a 13-point lead against sloppy Minnesota (16-9, 5-7).

Minnesota had eight turnovers alone in the first half — one more than they had the entire game in a 13-point victory over Wisconsin last month.

"Oh, polar opposites," Gophers coach Richard Pitino said of Wisconsin's defensive effort this time around.

Trouble getting the ball into the post, let alone anywhere in the paint. Other drives in which the ball just slipped away but luckily bounced out of bounds off Wisconsin.

"We were making plays that were just

uncharacteristic of us, for whatever reason," Pitino said.

Hollins had 22 points, and Smith scored 14. Each hit four three-pointers.

Fast-paced Minnesota was clearly the better transition team. The Gophers would have had much better luck if it had a better hold of the ball.

The Gophers finished with 13 turnovers on the night. That didn't cut it against Wisconsin, even after some late buckets helped get their shooting percentage up to 45 percent.

Conversely, Wisconsin seemed recharged all night against their border rivals.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL/SPORTS BRIEFS



BRODY SCHMIDT/AP

An NCAA committee passed a proposal Wednesday that would allow defenses time to substitute between plays by prohibiting offenses from snapping the ball until 29 seconds are left on the 40-second play clock. "The 10-second rule is like asking basketball to take away the shot clock — boring!" Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy, center, tweeted Thursday. "It's like asking a blitzing linebacker to raise his hand."

## Saban, Bielema back rule to slow down college game

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Arkansas coach Bret Bielema and Alabama coach Nick Saban voiced their concerns about the effects of up-tempo, no-huddle offenses on player safety to the NCAA committee that passed a proposal to slow down those attacks.

Neither Bielema nor Saban were on the committee and they did not vote on the proposal passed Wednesday to allow defenses time to substitute between plays by prohibiting offenses from snapping the ball until 29 seconds are left on the 40-second play clock.

NCAA coordinator of officials Rogers Redding said Thursday that Bielema was at the meeting in Indianapolis as a representative of the American Football Coaches Association.

"Coach Saban asked for the opportunity to meet with the committee and talk about this," Redding said. "It's not routine, but it's not unique, either."

Bielema and Saban run medical offenses and have publicly questioned if the quickening pace of offenses is good for the game.

FBS coaches on the panel are Air Force's Troy Calhoun, who is the chairman, and Louisiana-Lafayette's Todd Berry. Their teams ranked 104th and 93rd, respectively, last season in plays per game in FBS.

The proposal must be approved by the playing rules oversight panel, which meets March 6. Redding said it's not a rubber stamp panel, but more often than not it approves proposals. The panel does not consider competitive issues, Redding said.

"Their role is to examine rules on the basis of player safety, eco-

nomics impact and image of the game," he said.

Right now the proposal is in what is known as a comment period. Coaches can electronically submit their opinions to the NCAA on the proposal, supporting it or opposing it.

Redding said it is "rare though not unheard of for the committee to revisit" a proposal. He added the comments are taken seriously by the oversight panel.

Redding said rules changes that would affect the pace of the game were discussed by the committee last year and during the AFCA convention in January at a meeting he attended of about 35 coaches, including Bielema. The proposal passed by the NCAA committee was an idea that came out of the AFCA meeting, Redding said.

Plenty of coaches have made it known they are not happy with the proposal, especially those such as Auburn's Gus Malzahn, Texas Tech's Kliff Kingsbury, Texas A&M's Kevin Sumlin and Arizona's Rich Rodriguez, who run fast-paced offenses.

"The 10-second rule is like asking basketball to take away the shot clock — boring!" Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy tweeted Thursday. "It's like asking a blitzing linebacker to raise his hand."

The committee said the proposed change addresses concerns that defensive players are at increased risk for injury because defenses cannot substitute if the offense goes straight to the line scrimmage when the ball is spotted and the 40-second clock has started.

An exception will be made in the final two minutes of each half to allow the offense to snap the ball as quickly as it wants.

### Briefs

# Report concludes three players harassed Martin

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Miami Dolphins offensive lineman Jonathan Martin was subjected to "a pattern of harassment" that included racist slurs and vicious sexual taunts about his mother and sister by three teammates, according to a report ordered by the NFL.

The report said Richie Incognito, who was suspended by the Dolphins in November, and fellow offensive linemen John Jerry and Mike Pouncey harassed Martin. Another offensive lineman and an assistant trainer also routinely came under attack. Neither was named in the report.

Lawyer Ted Wells released his 144-page report Friday.

Wells says his inquiry found Martin was taunted and ridiculed almost daily. After Martin left the team in October, Incognito boasted about "breaking Jmart" in a notebook the linemen used to tally fines and bonuses among themselves. When the investigation began, Incognito asked another player to destroy the book, but investigators obtained it.

The other harassed player was "subjected to homophobic name-calling and improper physical touching," while as assistant trainer, who was born in Japan, was subjected to racial slurs.

"It was not difficult to conclude that the Assistant Trainer and Player A were harassed, but the questions raised in Martin's case were more complex, nuanced and difficult," the report says.

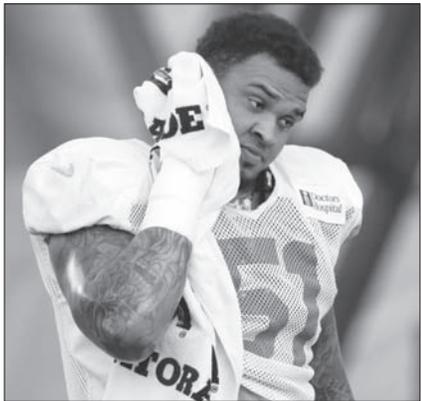
Although Wells concluded that Martin was abused by three teammates, he qualified some of the assertions in Martin's account. Evaluating Martin's claims was difficult, "given his mental health issues, his possible heightened sensitivity to insults and his unusual, 'bipolar' friendship with Incognito," the report said.

"Nonetheless, we ultimately concluded that Martin was indeed harassed by Incognito, who can fairly be described as the main instigator."

In a statement emailed by a league spokesman, the NFL did not make any mention of possible punishment stemming from the case. Instead, the league confirmed that it had received Wells' report, and said it appreciated the Dolphins' cooperation with the investigation.

Wells said he doesn't intend to comment further. "Incognito and Jerry followed Incognito's lead."

"To a great extent, Incognito dictated the culture," the report said. "We doubt that matters would have gotten so out of hand had Incognito not set a tone on the offensive line that made extremely vulgar taunting a typical form of communication."



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Dolphins offensive lineman Jonathan Martin was subjected to "a pattern of harassment" that included racist slurs and vicious sexual taunts about his mother and sister by three teammates, according to a report ordered by the NFL. The report said Richie Incognito, who was suspended by the team in November, and fellow offensive linemen John Jerry and Mike Pouncey, above, harassed Martin.

### NASCAR's Patrick reacts to Petty's criticism

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Danica Patrick has a two-year-old photo of her in the car at Daytona, on the receiving end of two thumbs up from Richard Petty.

"It's a back shot of his butt sticking out," Patrick said, smiling.

It had been the extent of the interaction between the pair — just a playful sign of encouragement from the Hall of Famer to one of NASCAR's most popular drivers after she won the pole at the 2012 Nationwide Series race at Daytona.

On Thursday, Patrick spent most of her appearance at the Daytona 500 media day brushing off criticism from The King that the only way she could win a Sprint Cup race was "if everybody else stayed home."

She refused to fire back at Petty, a seven-time champion, politely stating that he was entitled to his opinion. Patrick handled the comments much in the same way she dismissed Kyle Petty's remarks last year that "she's not a race car driver."

"It has nothing to do with where it comes from," she said. "The people that matter the most to me are my team, my sponsors and those little 3-year-old kids that run up to you and want a great big hug and say they want to grow up to be like you. That's the stuff I really focus on."

### Former All-Star Jim Fregosi dies at 71

ATLANTA — Jim Fregosi, a former All-Star who won more than 1,000 games as a manager for four teams, died Friday after an apparent stroke. He was 71.

The Atlanta Braves said they were notified by a family member that Fregosi died early Friday in Miami, where he was hospitalized after the apparent stroke while on a cruise with baseball alumni.

Fregosi managed the Philadelphia Phillies to the 1993 National League pennant and the 1979 California Angels to their first American League Western Division title. He also managed the Chicago White Sox and Toronto Blue Jays.

### Transferring US QB Wittek to visit Texas

Southern California quarterback Max Wittek plans to visit Texas this weekend and has been in contact with several other schools as he considers where to transfer.

Wittek is on target to graduate with a degree in psychology in May. He will be eligible to play next season, and have two years left.

He says he has also heard from coaches at Louisville, Virginia Tech, Hawaii and TCU. He says he is in no rush to make a decision and Texas should not be perceived as a front-runner.

MLB



Matt York/AP

Chicago Cubs President of Baseball Operations Theo Epstein speaks during a ceremony to unveil the Cubs' new Cactus League spring training facility on Wednesday in Mesa, Ariz. Epstein insists that despite the Cubs' recent struggles, better days are on the way for the organization.

# Epstein, Cubs insist that better days are ahead

## Progress being made, but another long season awaits

By Andrew Seligman  
The Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. — No matter what the record says, Chicago Cubs president of baseball operations Theo Epstein insists he sees progress as he begins his third season in charge.

It hasn't shown at the major league level.

"The people that we have in place in this organization — the coaches, scouts — I believe are impact, and I believe in the processes that we have in place," Epstein said Thursday. "It takes time to turn our organization around. It takes time to build impact talent and to build requisite depth. But it's happening. People in those meetings, the people in this organization, really believe that we're on the verge of something special. And we understand that we've perceived otherwise, and that's our fault because we've been a last-place club the last couple years. We're not protesting. We need to earn our way into a position where we're championship contenders on an annual basis, and we feel like that is certainly moving in the right direction."

It hasn't been an easy process, and while success might be on the horizon, it doesn't appear to be at hand.

Pitchers and catchers reported

on Thursday, and for the Cubs, it doesn't look like much will be different this season. They were relatively quiet in the offseason, although they did hire manager Rick Renteria to replace the fired Dale Sveum and made a run at star Japanese pitcher Masahiro Tanaka, but mostly it looks like they are in for more rough times at the major league level as top prospects develop in the minors.

Their most recent winning season was when they went 83-78 under Lou Piniella in 2009. With four straight sub-.500 seasons, they've matched their longest streak since 1984 to 1988. And another losing season would put them on their longest run since they finished below .500 six years in a row from 1978 to 1983.

For now, the Cubs continue to sell hope, a promise that better days are coming. They tout their minor league system, and while renovations to Wrigley Field remain on hold, they can point to new facilities in the Dominican Republic along with a spring training home that just opened.

As for the Cubs' record, it can't get much worse.

They've dropped 91 or more games each of the past three years and are coming off a two-year run under Sveum that produced a 127-197 record. They're hoping Renteria will provide the

right atmosphere for young major league players such as shortstop Starlin Castro and first baseman Anthony Rizzo as well as top prospects Javier Baez, Jorge Soler, Albert Almora and Kris Bryant.

They believe they have three solid starters in Travis Wood, Jeff Samardzija and Edwin Jackson, although Jackson struggled last season and Samardzija is a potential trade chip after he was unable to reach a long-term agreement and took a one-year deal.

Jake Arrieta, a candidate to start, might not be ready for the beginning of the season because of tightness in his right shoulder. General manager Jed Hoyer revealed Thursday that Arrieta, acquired from Baltimore last July, is being brought along slowly.

Hoyer announced Arrieta's injury after confirming the Cubs agreed to one-year contracts with starting pitchers Jason Hammel and James McDonald. Both could be candidates to be traded before the deadline if they succeed.

"We know we have some numbers now," Hoyer said.

They also have hope that better days are coming.

"There's a real dichotomy between how the organization is perceived from the outside and how we look at it internally and the morale that we have internally," Epstein said.

# Yanks' Tanaka throws first bullpen session

By Ronald Blum  
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Masahiro Tanaka shed the dark business suit and put on a gray Yankees T-shirt and blue shorts and was ready to get to work.

After agreeing to a \$155 million, seven-year contract on Jan. 22 and chartering from Tokyo to New York in a 787 for a news conference, the 25-year-old right-hander threw his first bullpen session under the watch of the Yankees.

Two days before the official start of the team's spring training workouts, Tanaka breezed through a 25-pitch bullpen session to catcher Francisco Cervelli on Thursday at New York's minor league complex.

Tanaka threw two- and four-seam fastballs, splitters and sliders. Cervelli estimated Tanaka threw at about 60 percent strength, and he said pitcher Ivan Nova and coaches were around for the session.

"The fastball travels so well. I think his mechanics are so smooth," Cervelli said. "Japanese pitchers, they all got five, six pitches. So it's fun just to be behind the plate and catch it."

**'Japanese pitchers, they all got five, six pitches. So it's fun just to be behind the plate and catch it.'**

Francisco Cervelli  
Yankees catcher

Tanaka was 24-0 with a 1.27 ERA last year in 27 starts and one relief appearance, leading the Rakuten Golden Eagles to their first Japan Series title. Starting pitchers appear just once a week in Japan, so Tanaka will have to adjust to the major league schedule of starting every fifth day.

"You have to retrain the arm a little bit," Yankees pitching coach Larry Rothschild said. "I'm trying right now to moderate his schedule according to what he's done in the past because he's stayed healthy pretty much throughout his career."

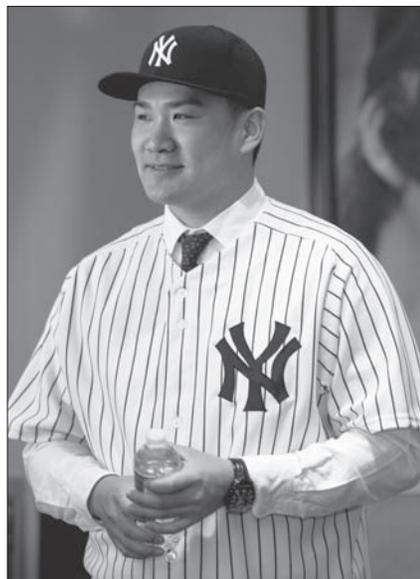
Rothschild said Tanaka laughed a lot and was good natured. Cervelli giggled and smiled when talking

about Tanaka's flight to the U.S. — his aircraft, which seats about 200, had five human passengers plus a toy poodle. Cervelli, who has a \$700,000 salary, can only aspire to such a lifestyle.

"I would love to. I think first class can be fine," he said. "You know how many home runs I have to hit to get on that plane?"

He paused, then finished his thought.

"But nothing is impossible."



Craig Ruttle/AP

Yankees' pitcher Masahiro Tanaka waits for television interviews after he was introduced to the media at Yankee Stadium in New York on Tuesday.

# OLYMPICS

## Scoreboard

### Medals count

At Sochi, Russia  
(Through Thursday, Feb. 13  
of 30 events)

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
United States	4	3	3	10
Netherlands	4	3	3	10
Russia	3	6	13	22
Germany	2	4	6	12
Canada	2	2	4	8
Switzerland	2	1	7	10
Austria	1	4	5	10
China	1	2	4	7
France	1	2	4	7
Italy	1	2	4	7
Czech Republic	1	2	4	7
Poland	0	2	3	5
Britain	0	1	2	3
South Korea	0	1	2	3
Australia	0	1	2	3
Latvia	0	1	2	3
Slovakia	0	1	2	3
Croatia	0	1	1	2
Finland	0	1	1	2
Ukraine	0	1	1	2

### Freestyle skiing

Friday  
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia  
Women's aerials

- Finals**
1. Alla Tsuper, Belarus, 99.18 (O)
  2. Lydia Lassila, Australia, 95.76 (Q)
  3. Mengtao, China, 90.65 (Q)
  4. Li Nina, China, 90.24 (Q)
  5. Emily Cook, Australia, 89.19 (Q)
  6. Emily Cook, Belmont, Mass., 82.21 (Q)
  7. Cheng Shuang, China, 80.01 (Q)
  8. Zhanobot Aidabergenova, Kazakhstan, 75.23 (Q)
  9. Danielle Scott, Australia, 76.23
  10. Ashley Caldwell, Ashburn, Va., 72.80
  11. Veronika Korsunova, Russia, 68.35
  12. Assoli Sivilis, Russia, 62.30
- References: Helene House (LA); Olivier Grange (LA); Oxana Kuchentchenko (LA); H. ally; William Kemp (LA); Hana Kaluzkova (LA).

- Jump 2**
1. Xu Mengtao, China, 101.08 (O)
  2. Lydia Lassila, Australia, 99.22 (O)
  3. Li Nina, China, 89.53 (Q)
  4. Mengtao, China, 89.53 (Q)
  5. Cheng Shuang, China, 87.42
  6. Zhanobot Aidabergenova, Kazakhstan, 68.44
  7. Laura Peel, Australia, 64.50
  8. Emily Cook, Belmont, Mass., 64.50
  9. References: Helene House (LA); Olivier Grange (LA); Oxana Kuchentchenko (LA); H. ally; William Kemp (LA); Hana Kaluzkova (LA).

- Final**
1. Alla Tsuper, Belarus, 98.01
  2. Xu Mengtao, China, 83.50
  3. Lydia Lassila, Australia, 72.12
  4. Li Nina, China, 66.02
  5. References: Helene House (LA); Olivier Grange (LA); Oxana Kuchentchenko (LA); H. ally; William Kemp (LA); Hana Kaluzkova (LA).

### Skeleton

Friday  
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia  
Women

- Final Ranking**
1. Elizabeth Striegl, Britain, 3:52.89
  2. Noelle Pikus-Pace, Orem, Utah, 3:56.86
  3. Elena Nikitina, Russia, 3:54.30
  4. Jennifer Ulmer, McDonald, Kan., 3:54.34
  5. Olga Potyitsina, Russia, 3:54.40
  6. Kristina Ortivo, Russia, 3:54.72
  7. Sarah Red, Canada, 3:54.73
  8. Anja Huber, Germany, 3:55.24

### Biatlon

Friday  
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia  
Women's 15km  
(Penalties in parentheses)

1. Darya Domracheva, Belarus, 43:15.6
2. Selina Gjonaj, Switzerland, 44:23.6
3. Nadezhda Skardino, Belarus, 44:57.8
4. Gabriela Soukalova, Czech Republic, 45:17.1
5. Olga Bescond, France, 45:34.0 (2)
6. Veronika Vitkova, Czech Republic, 45:46.0 (1)
7. Aljona Dzhyha, Ukraine, 45:49.9 (1)
8. Olena Pidhrushna, Ukraine, 45:59.9 (1)
9. U.S. Finishers  
23. Hannah Dreissiger, Morrisville, Vt., 47:51.7 (2)
24. Susan Duckie, Barton, Vt., 48:54.1 (5)
25. Sarah Stueckeb, Boise, Idaho, 50:00.0 (5)
26. Lanny Barnes, Durango, Colo., 53:02.2 (3)

### Cross-country skiing

Friday  
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia  
Men's 15km Classic

1. Johan Olsson, Switzerland, 38:29.7
2. Daniel Richardson, Sweden, 39:08.5
3. Daniel Richardson, Sweden, 39:08.5
4. Iivo Niskanen, Finland, 39:08.7
5. Lukas Bauer, Czech Republic,

- 39:28.6
- Chris Andre Jespersen, Norway, 39:30.6
7. Alexander Bessmertnykh, Russia, 39:37.7
8. Axel Teichmann, Germany, 39:42.4
9. U.S. Finishers  
31. Noah Hoffmann, Aspen, Colo., 41:12.7
32. Erik Bjornsen, Winthrop, Wash., 41:44.4
33. Brian Gregg, Winthrop, Wash., 42:42.0
34. Kris Freeman, Thornton, N.H., 42:54.8

### Figure skating

Friday  
At Sochi, Russia  
Final Ranking  
(Short and free programs in parentheses)

1. Yuzuru Hanyu, Japan (1, 101.45; 1, 178.64), 280.09
2. Patrick Chan, Canada (2, 97.52; 2, 178.10), 275.62
3. Denis Ten, Kazakhstan (3, 84.06; 3, 171.04), 255.10
4. Javier Fernandez, Spain (3, 86.98; 5, 166.94), 253.92
5. Tatsuki Machida, Japan (11, 83.48; 4, 169.80), 253.42
6. Daisuke Takahashi, Japan (4, 86.40; 6, 162.77), 250.67
7. Yan Han, China (8, 85.66; 7, 160.54), 246.20
8. Peter Liebers, Germany (5, 86.04; 9, 153.83), 239.87
9. Jason Brown, Inwood Park, Ill. (6, 86.61; 15, 152.37), 238.98
12. Jeremy Abbott, Aspen, Colo. (15, 72.58; 8, 160.12), 232.70

### Super combined

Friday  
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia  
Start (short program in parentheses)  
Downhill

1. (9) Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 1:53.24
2. (2) Ondrej Bank, Czech Republic, 1:53.28
3. (14) Matthias Mayer, Austria, 1:53.61
4. (1) Aleksander Amoft, Kitzbuehel, Norway, 1:53.85
5. (5) Max Franz, Austria, 1:53.88
6. (16) Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 1:53.94
7. (10) Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:54.17
8. (11) Christoffer Inerherer, Italy, 1:54.30
9. (16) Carlo Janka, Switzerland, 1:54.42
10. (23) Dominik Paris, Italy, 1:54.46
11. (8) Beat Feuz, Switzerland, 1:54.46
12. (24) Bode Miller, United States, 1:54.46
13. (11) Mauro Caviezel, Switzerland, 1:54.46
14. (20) Sandro Viletta, Switzerland, 1:54.78
15. (28) Jared Goldberg, United States, 1:54.90
16. (15) Peter Fill, Italy, 1:54.98
17. (16) Andriu Thaux, France, 1:55.00
18. (22) Ted Ligety, United States, 1:55.17
19. (18) Natko Zrnjic-Dim, Croatia, 1:55.26
20. (23) Andrew Weir, United States, 1:55.26
21. (13) Romed Baumann, Austria, 1:55.26
22. (40) Otmar Striedinger, Austria, 1:55.26
23. (17) Alexis Pinturault, France, 1:55.26
24. (3) Alexander Khoshornov, Russia, 1:55.26
25. (6) Morgan Prady, Canada, 1:56.21
26. (37) Paul de la Cuesta, Spain, 1:56.21
27. (19) Thomas Mermillod Blondin, France, 1:56.23
28. (16) Adam Zampa, Slovakia, 1:56.23
29. (6) Martin Kruger, Czech Republic, 1:56.23
30. (29) Klemen Kosir, Slovenia, 1:56.41
31. (23) Pavel Trilchikuev, Russia, 1:56.65
32. (30) Krystof Kryzl, Czech Republic, 1:56.65
33. (46) Marc Oliveras, Andorra, 1:57.68
34. (34) Ferran Terra, Spain, 1:57.23
35. (7) Maciej Bydinski, Poland, 1:57.30
36. (49) Alexander Alessandria, Monaco, 1:58.26
37. (42) Igor Zakurdaev, Kazakhstan, 1:58.26
38. (43) Georg Georgiev, Bulgaria, 1:58.26
39. (49) Christoffer Faarup, Denmark, 1:57.96
40. (47) Henrik von Appen, Chile, 1:58.49
41. (58) Nikola Chongorov, Bulgaria, 1:58.68
42. (45) Martin Khuber, Kazakhstan, 1:58.68
43. (31) Cristian Javier Simari Birker, Argentina, 1:59.63
44. (44) Igor Laikert, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1:59.63
45. (33) Olivier Jean, Monaco, 1:59.81
46. (32) Alexander Khoshornov, Russia, 1:59.81

### Slalom

(1) Adam Zampa, Slovakia, 50.11

- (1) Sandro Viletta, Switzerland, 50.12
- (24) Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 51.37
- (23) Christof Inerherer, Italy, 51.37
- (21) Martin Khuber, Czech Republic, 51.56
- (12) Natko Zrnjic-Dim, Croatia, 51.80
- (19) Bode Miller, United States, 51.93

- (13) Ted Ligety, United States, 52.22
- (10) Romed Baumann, Austria, 52.23
- (16) Jared Goldberg, United States, 52.39

- (11) (22) Carlo Janka, Switzerland, 52.46
- (12) (25) Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 52.94
- (13) (30) Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 53.02
- (22) (32) Krystof Kryzl, Czech Republic, 53.29
- (15) (20) Beat Feuz, Switzerland, 53.29
- (16) (29) Ondrej Bank, Czech Republic, 53.46
- (17) (41) Adrien Thaux, France, 53.66
- (18) (41) Nikola Chongorov, Bulgaria, 53.73
- (19) (6) Morgan Prady, Canada, 53.82
- (20) (28) Matthias Mayer, Austria, 53.85
- (21) (9) Otmar Striedinger, Austria, 54.98
- (22) (21) Dominik Paris, Italy, 54.99
- (23) (5) Paul de la Cuesta, Spain, 55.84
- (24) (54) Igor Laikert, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 55.94
- (25) (45) Olivier Jean, Monaco, 56.01
- (26) (34) Ferran Terra, Spain, 56.31
- (27) (43) Cristian Javier Simari Birker, Argentina, 56.56
- (28) (31) Pavel Trilchikuev, Russia, 56.64
- (29) (37) Igor Zakurdaev, Kazakhstan, 57.02
- (30) (40) Henrik von Appen, Chile, 58.42
- (31) (42) Martin Kruger, Kazakhstan, 58.42
- (32) (33) Marc Oliveras, Andorra, 1:01.46
- (33) (7) Alexander Khoshornov, Russia, 1:01.46
- (34) (39) Christoffer Faarup, Denmark, 1:10.36

### Final Ranking

(Dowhill; Slalom in parentheses)

1. Sandro Viletta, Switzerland, (14, 1:54.88; 2, 1:54.22) 2:45.20
2. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, (7, 1:54.17; 3, 1:57.37) 2:45.54
3. Christof Inerherer, Italy, (8, 1:54.30; 3, 1:57.27) 2:45.67
4. (16) Jared Goldberg, Norway, (1, 1:53.24; 13, 1:52.03) 2:46.26
5. Adam Zampa, Slovakia, (17, 1:56.23; 12, 1:54.46) 2:46.69
6. Bode Miller, United States, (12, 1:54.67; 7, 1:51.93) 2:46.60
7. Ondrej Bank, Czech Republic, (2, 1:53.28; 16, 1:54.46) 2:47.74
8. Carlo Janka, Switzerland, (9, 1:54.42; 11, 1:52.46) 2:46.88
9. (16) Andriu Thaux, Norway, (6, 1:54.94; 12, 1:52.94) 2:46.88
10. Natko Zrnjic-Dim, Croatia, (19, 1:55.26; 6, 1:51.80) 2:47.06
11. (16) Jared Goldberg, United States, (15, 1:54.90; 10, 1:52.39) 2:47.29
12. Ted Ligety, United States, (18, 1:55.17; 8, 1:52.22) 2:47.39
13. Matthias Mayer, Austria, (3, 1:53.61; 20, 53.85) 2:47.46
14. Romed Baumann, Austria, (21, 1:55.26; 12, 1:52.23) 2:47.59
15. Beat Feuz, Switzerland, (10, 1:54.46; 15, 1:52.39) 2:47.75
16. Martin Vrablic, Czech Republic, (29, 1:56.65; 16, 1:51.60) 2:48.92
17. Adrien Thaux, France, (17, 1:55.00; 17, 1:53.62) 2:48.66
18. Dominik Paris, Italy, (10, 1:54.46; 42, 1:59.29) 2:49.45
19. Krystof Kryzl, Czech Republic, (32, 1:56.68; 14, 53.21) 2:49.89
20. Cristian Javier Simari Birker, Argentina, (25, 1:56.21; 19, 53.82) 2:50.03
21. Otmar Striedinger, Austria, (22, 1:58.48; 21, 1:54.98) 2:50.46
22. Paul de la Cuesta, Spain, (26, 1:56.23; 23, 55.84) 2:50.67
23. Nikola Chongorov, Bulgaria, (41, 1:58.68; 18, 1:52.37) 2:51.01
24. Pavel Trilchikuev, Russia, (31, 1:56.65; 28, 56.64) 2:53.29
25. Ferran Terra, Spain, (34, 1:57.23; 26, 56.31) 2:53.54
26. Igor Zakurdaev, Kazakhstan, (37, 1:57.62; 29, 57.02) 2:54.64
27. Igor Laikert, Bosnia-Herzegovina, (44, 1:59.63; 24, 55.94) 2:55.70
28. Olivier Jean, Monaco, (45, 1:59.81; 25, 56.10) 2:55.82
29. Cristian Javier Simari Birker, Argentina, (43, 1:59.63; 27, 56.46) 2:56.09
30. Alexander Khoshornov, Russia, (24, 1:56.03; 33, 1:02.43) 2:58.46
31. Marc Oliveras, Andorra, (33, 1:57.08; 32, 1:01.46) 2:58.54
32. Henrik von Appen, Chile, (40, 1:58.49; 10, 1:50.22) 2:58.91
33. Martin Khuber, Kazakhstan, (42, 1:59.42; 31, 1:00.44) 2:59.86
34. Christoffer Faarup, Denmark, (39, 1:57.96; 34, 1:10.36) 3:08.32

## Medals roundup

# Domracheva earns second Sochi gold

The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — Darya Domracheva's unmatched pace at skiing Friday earned her a second gold medal of the Sochi Olympics, and this time she wasn't the only Belarusian on the podium.

With Nadezhda Skardino taking the bronze in the women's 15-kilometer individual race, it was the first time two athletes from the Eastern-European country medaled in the same Winter Games event.

"It's always been my dream to be on one podium with Darya. Now that dream has come true," Skardino said.

Domracheva missed one target — the fourth in her opening round of the standing shooting — but she easily made up the penalty minute for a comfortable victory.

Domracheva, who also won the 12.5K pursuit three days ago, finished in 43 minutes, 19.6 seconds — and was still having only even if she had missed another target.

It was Domracheva's third career Olympic medal. She also won bronze in the individual race in Vancouver four years ago.

Selina Gasparin of Switzerland shot cleanly and finished 1:15.7 behind to take silver for her country's first ever medal at a major biathlon championship. Skardino also avoided mistakes and finished 1:38.2 behind.

"It's amazing. I got the info during the race that Nadezhda was second," Domracheva said. "I wasn't surprised because she is such a good shooter."

## Cross-country skiing

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — After a season blythely on an ankle injury, Dario Cologna is finally having his day in the sun.

Wearing short sleeves and sunglasses in the spring-like weather, the Swiss cross-country skier won his second gold medal of the Sochi Olympics on Friday with a dominant performance in the 15-kilometer classical-style race.

Cologna is a three-time overall World Cup winner, but had ankle surgery in November and only returned to competition in January.

Cologna also won the opening 30-kilometer skiathlon race on Sunday, but had a disappointing freestyle sprint where he fell twice in his quarterfinal and was knocked out. On Friday, no one could match his speed over the half-half of the race and he beat silver medalist Johanesson of Sweden by 28.5 seconds.

## Freestyle skiing

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — Alla Tsuper of Belarus pulled out of the women's aerials on Friday to win gold in women's aerials on Fri-



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Belarus' Darya Domracheva celebrates winning the gold medal in the women's biathlon 15k individual race on Friday.

day, beating a field that included two decorated Olympians.

Tsiper drilled a 98.01 in the finals to knock off defending champion Lydia Lassila of Australia and two-time medalist Li Nina of China.

Xu Mengtao of China won silver, while Lassila earned bronze.

The 34-year-old Tsiper had never finished higher than fifth in four previous Olympics. She plans on retiring after the games to spend more time with her young daughter and hoped to go out "on a high."

American Ashley Caldwell led qualifying, posting the highest score with a backward flipping triple twist jump, which had the highest degree of difficulty in the round. But the 20-year-old from Ashburn, Va., who tore the ACL in her right knee in 2011 and the ACL in her left knee in 2012, stumbled in the finals. She set down at the end of her back layover triple twisting leap, dropping her to 10th place and out of the next round.

## Figure skating

SOCHI, Russia — Yuzuru Hanyu won Japan's first Olympic gold medal in men's figure skating Friday at the Sochi Games despite two falls.

Patrick Chan, trying for Canada's first such victory, took silver. He skated after Hanyu, who left plenty of room for Chan to break through. He could not, making three errors in a water-down program.

World silver medalist Denis Ten of Kazakhstan took the bronze.

All of the medalists had flawed performances, but the 19-year-old Hanyu held on in great part because of his 3.93-point lead after the short program. He is the first Asian man to take Olympic gold.

## OLYMPICS

# Nowhere: Viletta strikes gold in his only event of Games

## FROM BACK PAGE

whose career has been slowed by back troubles. "I knew that I could ski fast. I like the snow and this was my chance."

In fact, this was the only race Viletta entered in Sochi. He'll now head home with a gold medal around his neck.

"In super-combined ... you never know what is possible," Viletta said. "I thought it could be possible to go on the podium, but you must have a perfect day."

Kostelic came close, but the Croatian instead ended up becoming the first skier to win three silvers in a single Alpine skiing discipline, finishing 0.34 behind. Christof Innerhofer, the Italian who took silver in downhill, ended up 0.47 behind for bronze in an event he was worried he might not be able to enter due to his chronically bad back.

When the race was over, Viletta was smiling from ear to ear, Kostelic was shaking his head and Innerhofer was celebrating again.

The 28-year-old Viletta has won only one World Cup race in his career, a super-G in Beaver Creek, Colo., in December 2011. His best super-combined result came in Wengen, Switzerland, last month when he was fourth.

Innerhofer said he never trains slalom and so he said he was thinking "there will be no chance" for a medal.

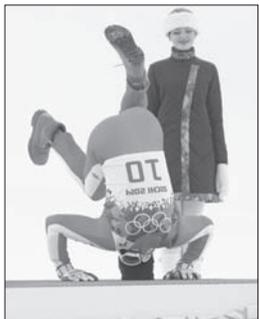
"Unbelievable. Un-be-liev-a-ble!" said the demonstrative Italian, who jumped onto the podium with a backflip.

Defending champion Bode Miller made a big mistake during his downhill run and finished sixth, while world champion Ted Ligety had a ragged slalom leg and placed 12th.

Miller was only 12th in the downhill after swinging out wide and far off the racing line midway down the course. He had the seventh fastest slalom leg to move up six spots.

"The tactics were there and the skiing was there but you can't make mistakes like I did today," Miller said.

Ligety was 18th after the downhill and had only the eighth-fastest slalom.



CHRISTOPHE EMA/AP

**Men's super-combined bronze medalist Christof Innerhofer of Italy does a headstand on the podium during a flower ceremony in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.**



PAVEL GOLOVNIK/AP

**Speedskater Brittany Bowe of the United States is the world-record holder in the 1,000 meters, yet finished eighth on Thursday.**

# 'We gave it our best'

## US speedskaters at a loss to explain flop

By PAUL NEWBERRY  
The Associated Press

**M**ORE than an hour after the latest disappointment at Adler Arena, the bigwigs of U.S. speedskating huddled glumly in the empty stands, talking urgently among themselves, trying to figure out what to do now.

This team came to the Sochi Olympics with such high hopes.

So far, it looks like they're skating in mud.

"I'm at a loss for words," said Ryan Shimabukuro, head coach of the American sprinters. "For whatever reason right now, we are getting skunked."

While Zhang Hong gave China its first gold medal ever in speedskating Thursday, and the Dutch added two more medals to what will surely be a record-breaking haul, the Americans are still seeking a medal of any color.

The way things are going, the third shut-out in the history of the storied U.S. program seems very, very possible.

"We've all prepared as much as we could," said Heather Richardson, who failed to make the podium in her two top events. "We gave it our best."

At least the Americans didn't have to worry about another flameout Friday — it was an off day at the oval.

Unless things change dramatically, it's hard to envision anyone making the podium over the next week.

Sure, Shani Davis is a two-time silver

medalist in the 1,500, but he struggled to an eighth-place showing in the 1,000, an event he won at the last two Olympics.

Brittany Bowe had done well on the World Cup circuit in the women's 1,500. Then again, she's the world-record holder in the 1,000 — and finished eighth in that event on Thursday, one spot behind teammate Richardson.

Richardson was the top-ranked skater in the 1,000, winning three of four World Cup races this season (with Bowe taking the other), but she finished more than a second off Zhang's winning time of 1 minute, 14.02 seconds.

"You've got to just take it for what it is," Bowe said. "Obviously

we haven't had the outcomes that we had wanted or predicted, but that's the games. We still have a long way to go."

The Americans came into Sochi with 29 speedskating golds — more than any other country — and 67 medals overall, the most of any U.S. Winter Olympics program.

The only times the U.S. failed to win a speedskating medal were in 1984 at Sarajevo and the 1956 Games, where there were just four men's races.

This team thought it had a chance to do something special, given some impressive World Cup results this season and new high-tech suits from Under Armour, which got an assist in the design from aerospace giant Lockheed Martin. Now, there's plenty of grumbling that the suits are actually slowing the skaters down in Sochi.

"I'm not going to comment on that," Shimabukuro said. "We have to race in the suits."

Through six of 12 events, the Americans haven't finished better than Richardson's seventh-place showing in the 1,000.

"I'm obviously disappointed," said Bowe, a former inline skater and college basketball player who quickly made the adjustment to ice. "It is my first Olympics, but I came here wanting to get a podium finish in that particular race. I didn't, but all is good. I left it all out there on the track."

Zhang, who had not done much on the World Cup circuit this season, skated in the seventh of 18 pairs based on her mid-racing results. Her time broke the track record and just missed the Olympic mark set by Chris Witty at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

"She hasn't had a podium finish yet this year," Bowe said. "That's what the Olympics are all about."

Many fans didn't even see the gold-medal performance, drifting in late since the supposed big guns were all set to go in the second half of the session. Zhang was merely a spectator after the ice was resurfaced at the midway point, but her smile kept getting bigger as no one came close to beating her.

## OLYMPICS

# Britain's Yarnold takes skeleton gold

## Pikus-Pace nabs silver to make her 'dream come true'

By TIM REYNOLDS  
The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia—Britain's Lizzy Yarnold won the season's first race on a technicality.

The season's last race, there was no argument.

Yarnold won the Olympic women's skeleton gold medal Friday night, a victory that puts the 25-year-old unquestionably atop her sport, probably for years to come. Her four-run time was 0.97 seconds faster than silver medalist Noelle Pikus-Pace of Eagle Mountain, Utah, who entered retirement by excising the memory of letting a medal slip away in Vancouver four years ago.

"It won't sink in for a few more days, but I'm over the moon," Yarnold said, as a full moon illuminated part of the Russian night sky. "I'm so proud. I put in all the work for five years and it all worked out."

Yarnold, who also won the World Cup overall title this season, claimed Britain's first gold at the Sochi Games. Her time was 3 minutes, 52.89 seconds, and the final trip down the track was a mere formality, given that she already had a 0.78-second edge over Pikus-Pace and only needed to avoid a giant mistake.

It didn't happen. The fourth run was like all the others—flawless.

She grabbed a British flag, hopped near the finish line, embraced teammate Shelley Rudman and seemed to just never stop smiling.

"Lizzy's been a beautiful bubble of confidence in every one of her races," said Amy Williams, the 2010 skeleton gold medalist from Britain. "I'm so proud of her that we kept the medal in Great Britain and wrote ourselves into the history books."

Elena Nikitina of Russia won the bronze, another 0.44 seconds off the pace and just 0.04 seconds ahead of Katie Uhlaender of Breckenridge, Colo., who took fourth for her top Olympic finish.

And afterward, Uhlaender never lamenting coming so close. Instead, she picked up Pikus-Pace's daughter Lacey, gave her an embrace and sang her teammate's praises.



MICHAEL SOHN/AP

Britain's Elizabeth Yarnold celebrates her gold medal in women's skeleton Friday in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

"I couldn't be more proud of her," Uhlaender said. "This is a great last race for us both. Noelle finished fourth last time and now she's on the podium and I couldn't be happier for her."

The Lizzy-vs.-Noelle rivalry was back and forth all season, starting with the World Cup opener in Calgary, where Pikus-Pace crossed the line first and was originally announced as the winner. But Yarnold was awarded the victory after race officials said the American used too much tape on the handle of her sled.

That decision played a huge role in deciding the World Cup title. From there, Pikus-Pace set her sights on closing out her sliding career with an Olympic medal—which is really the only thing that lured her from retirement two years ago, especially since a trip to the podium in Vancouver was lost when she made a mistake in Curve 2 of her final run at the 2010 Olympics.

"This is a dream come true for myself and my family," Pikus-Pace said. "Absolu-

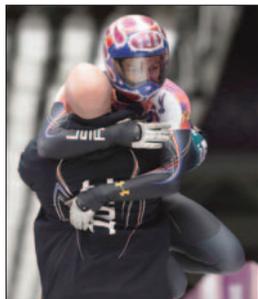
tely unbelievable. I stood up there at the start knowing this was my race and I knew I was just going to go for it."

When she crossed the line Friday night, knowing hardware was hers, she flashed a megawatt smile. Retirement, she said, would be about spending time with her family. She couldn't wait to get started, hopping over the track wall to join her husband and children for hugs and kisses—her first, ever, as an Olympic medalist.

Then she vaped to fans. Waving goodbye, essentially, Yarnold, she's basically just saying hello.

She announced herself as the next big thing in skeleton two winters ago, winning two of her first four World Cup races. A year ago, she vaulted to No. 4 in the World Cup rankings, and inconsistency kept her from rising even higher.

This season, she figured it all out. World Cup champion. Olympic champion. And her top rival is retiring.



DITA ALANGKARA/AP

Noelle Pikus-Pace of the United States celebrates her silver medal.

## Plushenko on thin ice after dropping out

By JIM HEINTZ  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia—Four days after being praised as a hero for helping Russia win its first gold at the Sochi Olympics, Evgeni Plushenko on Friday was taking criticism for dropping out of the men's figure skating.

Plushenko had just one big backer Friday: Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Plushenko's strong performance in the team event brought wide accolades for his determination to overcome injury. But on Thursday he withdrew before the men's short program, complaining of severe spinal pain during the warmup.

Plushenko was Russia's only men singles skater in Sochi. He won the slot in a

closed exhibition skate that cut out Maxim Kovtun, who beat him in the Russian nationals.

Among his critics was longtime rival Alexei Yagudin, the 2002 Olympic gold medalist. He told the R-Sport news agency he supports "people who go to the end."

"I think Zhenya will understand my words," he said, using the familiar version of Plushenko's name. "We always competed through the pain."

The choice of Plushenko as the sole Russian man was debatable. Although he was the dominant skater the past 15 years, with an Olympic gold and two silvers before coming to Sochi, he is 31 years old and underwent back surgery a year ago. When he was selected, advocates argued his long in-

ternational experience made him a stronger choice than the 18-year-old Kovtun.

But that came under sharp questioning Friday.

Alexei Urmanov, the 1994 Olympic gold-medal winner, suggested that Plushenko's hubris backfired.

"It's on the conscience of Zhenya, the team and the federation," he was quoted by R-Sport.

Putin, who has made the Sochi Olympics a personal project, wouldn't join the Plushenko-bashing.

"He performed in the team event and showed his best result," Putin said, according to Russian news agencies. "He really does have a big problem with his health; he has had several operations."



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Russia's Evgeni Plushenko leaves the ice Thursday after pulling out of the men's short program in Sochi, Russia.

## SPORTS



**No answer**  
Durant's 43 points help Thunder hand Lakers 7th straight home loss | **NBA, Page 25**

## WINTER OLYMPICS

# Out of nowhere



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Men's super-combined gold medalist Sandro Viletta of Switzerland celebrates on the podium Friday during a flower ceremony in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.



LUCA BRUNO/AP

Bode Miller of the United States makes a turn during the slalom portion of the men's super-combined. Miller, the defending gold medalist in the event, finished sixth.

## Swiss Viletta shocks super-combined field

By ANDREW DAMPF  
*The Associated Press*

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — For Sandro Viletta, it was a stunning Olympic gold.

For Ivica Kostelic, it was the same old Olympic silver.

Viletta took advantage of a blistering slalom run to beat the favored Kostelic in Friday's super-combined, a race held in spring-like conditions with snow turning to slush.

The Swiss skier stood only 14th after the downhill portion but put down the second-fastest slalom run to finish in a two-run combined time of 2 minutes, 45.20 seconds — then waited as one skier after another failed to catch him.

"I didn't expect to win," said Viletta, **SEE NOWHERE ON PAGE 30**

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