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DOD scrutinizes existing ties with NFL after spate of domestic-abuse cases
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STARS AND STRIPES®

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KINGDOM STANDS UNITED

Scottish voters reject historic independence referendum

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INSIDE

Spain's Catalonia pushes forward with secession effort

A "Yes" campaign supporter walks down a street in Edinburgh after voters rejected the Scottish independence referendum on Friday.

STEFAN ROUSSEAU/AP

Will America be able to avoid boots on ground?

Political pledge against combat troops clashes with military realities

By **TRAVIS J. TRITTEN**
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration won a key political victory when Congress approved its proxy army offensive against the Islamic State in Syria, a strategy it hopes will spare the United States from sending troops to the region to fight another ground war.

But Pentagon brass and retired military leaders spent the week hinting at a different military reality, one that could require the use of U.S. ground forces at some point to defeat the extremist group.

The clash between President Barack Obama's repeated guarantees

INSIDE France launches airstrikes against Islamic State

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of its military officials deepened skepticism on Capitol Hill, where the House and Senate moved quickly this week to approve arms and training for so-called moderate Syrian rebels despite widespread misgivings about the president's war strategy.

The authorization, which passed the Senate on Thursday evening as part of a continuing resolution to keep the government operating into the next fiscal year, rules out ground combat for U.S. forces, but expires in December. Congress will have to consider a more comprehensive authorization for military force in Iraq and Syria when it returns after the midterm elections in November.

SEE PLEDGE ON PAGE 4

QUOTE
OF THE DAY

“It’s enough that he took his daughter’s life, but his grandkids, too? It’s surreal.”

— Bell, Fla., resident Daniel Barry, trying to absorb the loss after a man killed six of his grandchildren, including an infant, his adult daughter and himself in a rampage at a home

See story on Page 8

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MILITARY

Hagel eyeing military’s ties to NFL

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has asked his staff for detailed information about the U.S. military’s relationships with the National Football League in the wake of the scandal over how the league is handling domestic-abuse allegations against players, CNN reported Friday.

The Pentagon is increasingly sensitive to any suggestion it is supporting a major sports organization that is perceived to tolerate domestic violence.

“The secretary wants to fully understand that relationship, in case he decides to make some changes to it,” a senior defense official told CNN.

The military has a zero-tolerance policy in the ranks for domestic abuse, but it also has a decades-long, high-profile relationship with the NFL. Any

Pentagon action to cut back support for the NFL would be the most direct involvement by the Obama administration yet in the scandal.

The NFL is under pressure from sponsors, fans and lawmakers for its handling of domestic-violence allegations against several players. Here is a look at some key developments:

- The Minnesota Vikings reversed course and indefinitely benched star running back Adrian Peterson, claiming they “made a mistake” in reinstating him as he faced a child abuse charge in Texas for spanking his son with a tree branch.

- Arizona running back Jonathan Dwyer was arrested on aggravated assault charges in connection with two altercations at his home in late July involving a 27-year-old woman and an 18-month-old child.

- The Carolina Panthers re-

moved Greg Hardy from the team’s active roster until his domestic violence case is resolved. Hardy was convicted July 15 of assault and communicating threats after the victim claimed the 6-foot-4, 275-pound player threw her into a bathtub and onto a sofa covered with guns before threatening to kill her.

The Army alone spends \$10 million per year on advertising during NFL games. Games are also broadcast by the Armed Forces Network to troops deployed overseas.

Military support for the NFL games includes providing ceremonial units at games for colors ceremonies; military personnel singing the national anthem, and other units providing drill teams or flyovers. Military personnel, including wounded warriors, often appear at NFL events honoring those who serve, CNN noted.

The Army and the NFL also

have an agreement to share information and resources to better understand traumatic brain injury, which is a major medical issue for wounded troops and football players. They are working together on awareness of TBI as well as research into treatment. The military has been sharing some of the lessons learned on TBI from the last 13 years of war.

The White House is also closely monitoring the NFL controversy, with one senior administration official calling recent abuse allegations “deeply troubling” and stressing the league’s obligation to get “control of the situation.”

“Many of these professional athletes are marketed as role models to young people,” the official said. “So that’s one of the many reasons it’s important the league gets a handle on this and have zero tolerance.”

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.

US anti-Ebola aid arrives in Liberia

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military has begun setting up operations in Liberia to help fight the Ebola epidemic in the West African country, the Pentagon said Friday.

A budget reprogramming request of \$500 million earlier this week could push Pentagon spending to fight the disease as high as \$1 billion, Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said.

A C-17 U.S. military transport aircraft landed Wednesday carrying Army Maj. Gen. Darryl Williams, who will command Operation United Assistance, along with a team of 12 military personnel to conduct site surveys and planning for construction of Ebola treatment units in Liberia.

The team is also evaluating what’s required to sustain a six-month military mission in the country — a term that could be extended, Kirby said.

Williams and U.S. diplomatic personnel have met with Liberian officials, including President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, to discuss how to tame the outbreak that

has killed more than 2,600 people across West Africa. More than half the deaths have occurred in Liberia.

Another C-17 with a forklift and other heavy equipment, accompanied by a crew of seven, arrived Thursday, Kirby said. Two more C-17s with 45 troops are scheduled to arrive this weekend to begin establishing Williams’ command headquarters, he said.

Speaking to reporters Friday, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno said thousands of promised American troops will be moving into Africa over the next 30 days to set up facilities and form training teams to help the Africans treat Ebola victims.

Before troops are sent in, Odierno says the Army needs to make sure they are prepared to operate in that environment, which includes health care safety. The military units expected to deploy have not been identified.

Kirby said U.S. troops — operating in support of Liberian government and the U.S. Agency for International Development — would not be in direct contact

with Ebola sufferers. Instead they’ll provide logistics, engineering and other non-medical support.

“Right now the effort does not include U.S. military personnel treating Ebola patients,” he said. “We’re going to be in support of other health care workers who are experts at doing this.”

Defense Department personnel will be sent in with the training and equipment needed to protect themselves from the disease, Kirby said. Should troops contract Ebola, DOD will be ready to evacuate them for treatment.

“We are in effect deploying them into harm’s way, we are aware of that, they are aware of that,” he said. “Should any of our troops fall ill, we’re going to do everything we can to make them better and to get them back to the treatment that they need.”

President Barack Obama on Tuesday announced the United States is sending 3,000 troops to help fight the Ebola outbreak.

In addition, thousands of health workers began knocking on doors across Sierra Leone on Friday

in search of hidden Ebola cases, with the entire West African nation locked down in their homes for three days in an unprecedented effort to combat the deadly disease.

Authorities hope to find and isolate Ebola patients who have resisted going to health centers, which are often seen only as places to die. International health experts, including Doctors Without Borders, have warned such a strategy could backfire especially if there are not enough beds at treatment centers for all the new patients.

In an address to the nation last Thursday, President Ernest Bai Koroma said health workers would be handing out soap and that once a house had been visited, it would be marked with a sticker. He urged Sierra Leoneans abide by the order.

“The survival and dignity of each and every Sierra Leonean is at stake; all that we have tolled for as a people is at stake; this is a fight for each and every one of us; this is a fight for this land that we love,” he said.

DODDS SPORTS

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



WAR/MILITARY



KELLY SCHINDLER/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Navy's newest messenger

The MQ-4C Triton, an unmanned jet built for U.S. Navy high-altitude maritime surveillance missions, completes its inaugural cross-country flight. It flew Thursday from California to Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., taking nearly 11 hours. The Navy will conduct Triton flight tests at Patuxent River in preparation for an operational deployment in 2017.

Child porn conviction tossed over NCIS role

By MIKE CARTER
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE—Navy criminal investigators reportedly and routinely peeked into the computers of private citizens in Washington state and elsewhere, a violation of the law so “massive” and egregious that an appeals court says it has no choice but to throw out the evidence against an Algona, Wash., man sentenced to 18 years in prison for distribution of child pornography.

The three-judge panel of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, in a decision handed down last week, said the 2012 prosecution of Michael Allan Dreyer by the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Seattle demonstrated Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents “routinely carry out broad surveillance activities that violate” the Posse Comitatus Act, a Reconstruction-era law that prohibits the military from enforcing civilian laws.

The court called the violations “extraordinary” and said evidence presented in Dreyer’s prosecution appears to show that “it has become a routine practice for the Navy to conduct surveillance of all the civilian computers in an entire state to see whether any child pornography can be found on them, and then to turn over that information to civilian law enforcement when no military connection exists.”

That is what happened to Dreyer, now 60, who became the target of an NCIS investigation in 2010 when Agent Steve Logan, who was stationed in Georgia, used a law-enforcement software program called “RoundUp” to troll for child pornography on computers in Washington using a legal file-sharing network called “Gnutella.”

According to court documents, Logan identified a computer sharing suspicious files, downloaded three of them, then got a subpoena for Comcast, which identified Dreyer as the IP address owner.

Logan, according to court documents, checked to see if Dreyer was a member of the

‘There could be no bona fide military purpose to this indiscriminate peeping into civilian computers.’

Senior 9th Circuit Court Judge Andrew Kleinfeld

armed forces and determined he was not.

Logan then summarized his investigation and forwarded it to the NCIS office in Washington state, which turned it over to the Algona Police Department, according to the documents.

The case was filed by the U.S. Attorney’s Office in federal court, where Dreyer faced up to 40 years in prison due to a prior conviction.

Dreyer was arrested in April 2011 and fought to suppress the evidence, which included explicit videos of adults having sex with preteen boys and girls.

U.S. District Judge Marsha Pechman allowed the videos to be used and Dreyer was convicted of possession and distribution of child pornography after a four-day jury trial in September 2012. Dreyer—who previously had served 27 months for a federal child pornography conviction in 2000—was sentenced to 18 years in prison and a lifetime of supervised release when he gets out.

However, the 9th Circuit judges found the NCIS behavior so outrageous that it “demonstrates the need to deter future violations” and sent Dreyer’s case back to the district court with an order that Pechman exclude the NCIS evidence against him.

Erik Levin, the former federal public defender who represented Dreyer during his trial and appeal, said the ruling likely means he will go free.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office is considering asking the case be reheard by the entire Court

of Appeals. U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan, whose office prosecuted Dreyer and argued the appeal, said Wednesday it is possible the court misunderstood some of the technology the agent was using and the scope of his searches.

Durkan said some information in the 9th Circuit’s opinion “is wrong.”

Telephone and email messages sent to NCIS headquarters in Washington were not returned Wednesday.

The government, in its appellate briefs, argued that the case “amounts to the military performing a role and fell within exceptions to the Posse Comitatus Act.

The panel unanimously, and strongly, disagreed.

Senior 9th Circuit Judge Andrew Kleinfeld found that the case “amounts to the military acting as a national police force to investigate civilian law violations by civilians.”

“There could be no bona fide military purpose to this indiscriminate peeping into civilian computers,” Kleinfeld wrote. “Letting a criminal go free to deter national military investigation of civilians is worth nothing.”

Logan had argued he had chosen to scan computers in Washington partly because of the state’s many military bases.

While he initially was able to identify only the suspect’s whereabouts within a 30-mile radius of the IP address he identified, he wrote in a search warrant that the “large [U.S. Navy/Department of Defense] saturation” indicated a “likelihood” the suspect was in the military.

By that logic, Judge Marsha Berzon said, Posse Comitatus would be “rendered meaningless.”

Researchers debut backpack jet pack

The U.S. military hasn’t been shy about its desire to use technology to develop a new generation of super soldiers. But here’s one effort that is sure to raise eyebrows: jet packs to make combat troops faster on foot.

The equipment is worn like a backpack as part of Arizona State

University’s “4MM” project, according to a new video released by the school. That stands for “four-minute mile,” which researchers want all U.S. servicemembers to be able to do while wearing the jet pack.

“In a warfare-type arena, this could be potentially the difference between life and death,” Jason Kerestes, a research on the project, says in the video. “If you think of a Navy SEAL or an

Army soldier that has to get in somewhere quick and do whatever they’ve got to do, but maybe get out of there just as quickly... these devices can really help soldiers to not only accomplish their goals and succeed in their missions, but potentially save human lives as well.”

The video shows test subjects wearing the pack on treadmills, on a running track and on a city street. In some cases, they wear

what looks like a motorcycle helmet while doing so.

The project is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Defense Department agency that specializes in futuristic concepts, including sniper bullets that turn in mid-flight, vehicles that can dodge explosions and robots that can fix space satellites.

From wire reports

Say what?

A sample of reader comments from stripes.com



AF kills compulsory ‘so help me God’

The Air Force announced Wednesday it would drop a requirement for airmen to say “so help me God” in oaths of enlistment and officer appointment oaths. The service had in 2013 reversed a long-standing tradition of making the phrase optional.

Readers respond:

Is this an example of the squeaky wheel getting the oil? One airman can effect what has been tradition for decades, just thoughtless selfishness on his part while getting his 15 minutes in the headlines.

— ISGRETT

The tradition WAS omission being allowed. It was late last year that the AFI was changed to prevent omission. This is simply a return to the legal status of the oath, allowing the religious affirmation, but not requiring it.

— Blarghokn

Good for the airman for standing his ground

— Christine Holland Cosgrove

Reckon this will come up again. The Dominionist reach within in the AF officer corp is appalling.

— Morgan Sheridan

My question is who allowed the change? I am guessing it wasn’t the DoD since all services would be affected. Did the Sec. of the Air Force make the decision? Either way, we should know who changed the rules and maybe give someone else that person’s post as they seem to make bad decisions...

— CentTexMan

As usual the Christians are taking a back seat to everyone else... This as got to STOP!

— RegularMom

Once upon a time, Christians were actually persecuted. Romans threw them in the arena to fight lions with their bare hands and the like. Now, “oppression” is that people may choose to not say “so help me god” in a reenlistment oath. That’s some pathetically weak persecution to be whining about.

— NPZ

Join the fray at stripes.com/go/oath

WAR ON TERRORISM

Defining 'boots on the ground' in Iraq

By MIKE DORNING
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — Putting U.S. military boots on the ground in Iraq doesn't necessarily mean hitching infantry units into the battlefield.

The possibility raised by the top U.S. general this week of involving American forces in the ground fight against the Islamic State presents a different scenario: small groups of commandos operating in the shadows of Iraqi army units, giving advice and calling in airstrikes.

President Barack Obama Wednesday again drew a hard line on sending U.S. forces into another ground war in Iraq, even as U.S. combat planes and drones fly missions overhead. Yet that pledge may not preclude having American warriors coming under fire next to Iraqi troops as they root out Islamic State militants.

The problem with all of this is the tenuous phrase "boots on the ground," said Anthony Cordesman, a military analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "This is a completely different kind of presence than sending in a brigade or a division."

The debate flared up after Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Senate committee he would recommend that U.S. military advisers accompany Iraqi troops into battle if necessary to defeat Islamic State.

Dempsey was referring to something limited: special operations teams, usually operating in 12-member groups, and forward air controllers, typically two-person teams.

"If we get to the point where I think we need the JTAC with the Iraqi security forces, I'll make the recommendation. But I'm not there," Dempsey said Sept. 16 before a Senate committee, referring to a Joint Terminal Attack Controller trained to coordinate airstrikes.

Even with those restrictions, the danger of U.S. casualties would be considerable since, to be effective, commando groups would most likely need to operate in the middle of fighting or nearby, according to Cordesman and former military officers.

Air controllers helping ground units typically work within visual range of a target, though they may be using binoculars, said Norton Schwartz, who was U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff from 2008 to 2012.



SCOTT THOMPSON/Courtesy of the U.S. Air National Guard

From right: Tech. Sgt. Matthew Spittler and Senior Airman Tyler Trocano talk through a CH-47 Chinook helicopter extraction with Sgt. 1st Class Steven Sparks during training recently in Michigan. Both Airman are Joint Terminal Air Controllers from the 148th Air Support Operations Squadron.

While the U.S. sometimes confirms targets with remote imagery, such as from drones, forward air controllers are more reliable in a battlefield situation with multiple targets or moving targets, said Schwartz, now president of Business Executives for National Security.

"We can generally hit what we aim at," Schwartz said. "The question is: Is it a valid target? You want to have confidence in who's providing the information."

Dempsey alluded to unspecified technological advances in his congressional testimony, as he explained why he hasn't yet recommended send such air controllers to battlefields.

"There are technologies available that we didn't have five years ago that allow us to actually apply force and to see the situation on the ground in ways we couldn't before," he said.

David Deptula, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant general who commanded the combined air operations center during the war in Afghanistan, said imaging technology on U.S. warplanes would facilitate strikes on Islamic State forces moving between towns or paralyze movements within a town. Forward controllers still would make air power more effective in urban battles, said Deptula, now dean of the Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies in

Arlington, Va.

John Nagl, a retired Army lieutenant colonel who co-authored the Army's counterinsurgency manual, said accurate information from controllers also is essential to avoid strikes that accidentally kill allies.

Another level of involvement are the larger special operations teams that both advise Iraqi forces and go with them into combat. That would magnify an Iraqi unit's effectiveness "two or three times," said Nagl.

Special operations teams, such as those of the Army's Green Berets, can provide tactical advice, bolster unit leaders and help hold together elements of a unit it comes under fire, Cordesman said.

Pledge: Ground forces remain an option for military planners, Odierno says

FROM FRONT PAGE

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno said Friday that ground forces remain an option for military planners.

"I did not say we need U.S. divisions and brigades on the ground to do this," he said. But "if some time, someday, that means U.S. forces [and] we think that's the right thing, it might be something we recommend."

Obama's highest ranking military officer, Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey, was among the first to cast doubt on the administration's unequivocal rejection of ground troops when he spoke to the Senate on Tuesday.

"My view at this point is that this coalition is the appropriate way forward. I believe that will prove true," Dempsey said. "But if it fails to be true and there are threats to the United States, then of course I would go back to the president and make a recommendation that may take the use of U.S. military ground forces."

During the testimony, Dempsey also said Gen. Lloyd Austin, the commander of all U.S. forces in the Middle East, had advised that American troops embed with Iraqi forces to guide airstrikes against the Islamic State. Dempsey said he may support such operations in the future.

Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry walked back the com-

ments the following day.

"I want to be clear: The American forces that have been deployed to Iraq do not and will not have a combat mission," the president said during a speech at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida. "As your commander and chief, I will not commit you and the rest of our armed forces to fighting another ground war in Iraq."

Kerry repeated the statement in Senate testimony, saying that the 1,600 U.S. troops to be deployed in Iraq will not enter into combat.

The administration has said it can defeat the Islamic State by supporting Syrian rebels as well as the Iraqi army and the Kurdish peshmarga to serve as ground forces. Meanwhile, it has stepped out airstrikes that began in August, announcing Thursday that France will carry out bombing missions, too. France announced its first strikes late Thursday. Kerry and the State Department are working to build an international coalition against the extremist group that includes Arab and Muslim nations.

But the proxy army strategy was again called into question Wednesday when former Defense Secretary Robert Gates — a respected figure in the Pentagon and on both sides of the aisle in Congress — said the U.S. cannot win without waging a ground war with its own troops.

"The reality is they are not going to be able to be successful against ISIS strictly from the air or strictly depending on the Iraqi forces or the peshmarga or the Sunni tribes acting on their own," said Gates, who used an acronym for Islamic State. "So there will be boots on the ground if there's to be any hope of success in the strategy."

Gates, who oversaw the last Iraq War, said the president "in effect traps himself" by repeating the promise.

On Thursday, retired Marine Corps Gen. James Mattis appeared before the House and criticized the Obama strategy for removing the threat of a U.S. ground offensive.

"Once you go into it, you don't tell your adversary in advance what you are not going to do," said Mattis, who helped direct the 2003 Iraq invasion and occupation that followed. "We have the most skillful, the fiercest and certainly the most ethical ground forces in the world and I don't think we should reassure the enemy in advance that they will never face them."

On Capitol Hill, Republicans pounced on the Obama promise of no ground troops as a political ploy that denies the realities on the ground in the Middle East.

Rep. Buck McKeon, R-Calif., sponsored the House authorization to train Syrian rebels but said Thursday the president

should level with the public and acknowledge that U.S. troops will be put into combat and face danger in Iraq and Syria.

"I think that is confusing for the American people and builds distrust of what [Obama] is really saying," McKeon said. "I think they can accept that. They are smart enough to figure it out. If they feel they are not hearing the truth, the whole truth, then they kind of get their backs up."

Security analyst Anthony Cordesman wrote Friday that the military leaders are making the case for more troops including special operators to bolster indigenous forces in Iraq and Syria.

"What Gen. Dempsey, Gen. Odierno, and Gen. Mattis have all made clear ... is that they will almost certainly need something more than the 1,400-odd U.S. troops now assigned to these missions," Cordesman said in a commentary published by the Center

for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "It is not enough to generate and sustain forces."

"Iraqi forces need more forward-deployed advisers, coordinators, air controllers, and intelligence experts, according to Cordesman, who is the Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy at CSIS.

"Iraq still has effective combat units in spite of [former Prime Minister Nouri al] Maliki, but it is going to need forward special forces, Ranger-type troops, and other teams of experts to help coordinate, train, and link ground and air power," he wrote. "These need to be embedded at the combat unit level, they need to be armed, they need to be capable of self-defense, and they need to be prepared to take casualties and have medical aid."

Stars and Stripes reporter Jon Harper contributed to this report. twitter.com/strsstripes.com Twitter:@TraVis_Tritten

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WAR ON TERRORISM

France strikes Islamic State's depot in Iraq

By JAMEY KEATEN
The Associated Press

PARIS — Joining U.S. forces acting in Iraqi skies, French fighter jets struck Friday against the militant Islamic State group, destroying a logistics depot, Iraqi and French officials said.

A pair of Rafale fighter jets accompanied by support planes struck in northern Iraq on Friday morning, and the target was "entirely destroyed," President Francois Hollande said. Four laser-guided bombs struck the Iraqi military installation that had been overrun by the militants, and hit a munitions and fuel depot, a French military official said, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss operational details.

Iraq's military spokesman said dozens of extremist fighters were killed in four strikes, though the French official said the French armed forces had not completed their damage assessment.

"Other operations will follow in the coming days with the same goal — to weaken this terrorist organization and come to the aid of the Iraqi authorities," Hollande said. "There are always risks in taking up a responsibility. I reduced the risks to a minimum."

Qassim al-Moussawi, spokesman for the Iraqi military, said the French planes hit near the town of Zumar, in an area that remains heavily contested by Islamic State fighters even though Iraqi and Kurdish security forces have managed to make headway nearby with the support of U.S. airstrikes.

With the strikes, France becomes the first foreign country to publicly add military muscle to United States airstrikes against the group, which has drawn criticism around the world and in a unanimous U.N. Security Council



A Rafale fighter, partially seen at right, is among French military jets flying over Iraq on Friday.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE FRENCH ARMY/AP

resolution for its barbarity. Hollande, who said the airstrikes were requested by Iraq's government, ruled out French troops on the ground.

The first French airstrikes in Iraq have added significance: France, one of America's oldest allies, was among the most vocal critics of the decision of U.S. President George W. Bush to conduct military action in 2003 that toppled Saddam Hussein.

Last year, France was ready to join possible U.S. military action against President Bashar Assad's force in Syria, before U.S. President Barack Obama stopped short. French operations in recent weeks have suggested that the inaction there has fostered the development of the militants.

The strikes come at a time when polls show Hollande is the most unpopular French president



A soldier loads ammunition onto a Rafale jet fighter on Al Dhafra base in the United Arab Emirates before a strike in Iraq on Friday.

in decades — mainly for his handling of France's economic difficulties. But he has drawn higher

marks from the French public in the international arena, including by helping drive al-Qaida-linked

militants from northern Mali last year and in central African Republic in recent months.

U.S. Central Command said Thursday the U.S. military has conducted 176 airstrikes in Iraq since Aug. 8. On Wednesday, it hit a militant training camp south-east of Mosul and an ammunition stockpile southeast of Baghdad. It has also conducted a number of strikes this week in Iraq's Anbar province, near the strategic Haditha Dam.

The French airstrike took place while U.S. Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was in France for meetings with his counterpart, Gen. Pierre de Villiers. The two men were visiting an American military cemetery in Normandy, on the English Channel, when the French strike took place.

Dempsey, who was told of the attack by de Villiers, praised the French action.

"The French were there very first ally and they are there again for us," Dempsey told reporters traveling with him in Normandy. "It just reminds me why these relationships really matter."

Hollande stressed that France wouldn't go beyond airstrikes in support of the Iraqi military or Kurdish Peshmerga forces, and wouldn't attack targets in Syria, where the Islamic State group has also captured territory.

France is conducting operations in Iraq from French Air Base 104 inside the vast Al Dhafra base near Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. French jets began flying reconnaissance missions over Iraq on Monday.

The base, currently home to about 700 French service personnel and six Rafales, is some 1,000 miles from Mosul, meaning that the planes need midair refueling to strike in Iraq.

Car bomb attacks kill 20, wound dozens in Baghdad

By SAMEER N. YACUB
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A series of car bombings targeting a Shiite mosque and markets in the Iraqi capital killed at least 20 people Friday, officials said, in the second straight day of attacks in Baghdad blamed on Islamic militants who have seized large parts of the country.

In the day's deadliest attack, a parked, explosives-packed car detonated near the al-Mubarak

mosque in central Baghdad's mostly Shiite district of Karradah, killing eight people and wounding 18 others, police said.

Cars later exploded in two outdoor markets, one in the Shiite suburb of Nahrawan and the other in the Shiite district of Bayaa. The attacks together killed nine people and wounded 23, according to police. Just south of Baghdad, yet another car bomb went off on a parking lot in Mahmoudiyah town, killing three and

wounding 10, said police.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty tolls. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

Friday's attacks came a day after a series of deadly attacks in mainly Shiite areas in and around Baghdad that left dozens killed.

The coordinated nature and style of the attacks strongly suggested they were the work of the extremist Islamic State group.

It considers Shiites heretics and has captured large chunks of territory in western and northern Iraq, plunging the country into its worst crisis since U.S. troops left at the end of 2011. U.S. warplanes have been carrying out airstrikes against the group as Iraqi and Kurdish security forces work to retake territory it has seized.

U.S. Central Command said Thursday that the military has carried out 176 airstrikes in Iraq since Aug. 8.

Meanwhile, the Sunni militant group said it has established a police force to assert law and order in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, which it seized in June. Iraqi security forces effectively collapsed as the extremists advanced and captured the city and other towns in northern Iraq earlier this year.

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified, but it was posted on a website frequently used by the group.

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CIA ceases spy work on friendly European nations

By KEN DILANIAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The CIA has curbed spying on friendly governments in Western Europe in response to the furor over a German caught selling secrets to the United States and the Edward Snowden revelations of classified information held by the National Security Agency, according to current and former U.S. officials.

The pause in decades of espionage, which remains partially in effect, was designed to give CIA officers time to examine whether they were being careful enough to evaluate whether their allies is worth running the risk of discovery, said a U.S. official who has been briefed on the situation.

Under the stand-down order, case officers in Europe largely have been forbidden from under- or oversteering events, such as meetings with sources they have recruited within allied governments. Such clandestine meetings are the bedrock of spying.

CIA officers are still allowed to meet with their counterparts in the host country's intelligence service, to conduct joint operations with host country services and to conduct operations with the approval of the host government. Recently, unilateral operations targeting third country nationals — Russians in France, for example — were restarted. But most meetings with sources who are host nationals remain on hold, as do new recruitments.

The CIA declined to comment. James Clapper, the U.S. director of national intelligence, said during a public event Thursday that the U.S. is assuming more risk because it has stopped spying on "specific targets," though he didn't spell out details.

Spying stand-downs are common after an operation is compromised, but "never this long or this deep," said a former CIA official, who, like others interviewed for this story, spoke on condition of

anonymity because it's illegal to discuss classified material or activities. The pause, which has been in effect for about two months, was ordered by senior CIA officials through secret cables.

The current stand-down was part of the fallout from the July 2 arrest of a 31-year-old employee of the German intelligence service. Suspected of spying for Russia, he told authorities he passed 218 German intelligence documents to the CIA.

In a second case, authorities searched the home and office of a German defense official suspected of spying for the U.S., but he denied doing so, and no charges have been filed against him.

A few days later, Germany asked the CIA station chief in Berlin to leave the country, an unprecedented demand from a U.S. ally. The move demonstrated how seriously the Germans were taking the situation, having already been stung by revelations made by Snowden, a former NSA systems administrator, that the agency had tapped German chancellor Angela Merkel's mobile phone.

The NSA disclosure infuriated Merkel, who demanded explanations from President Barack Obama. It embarrassed both world leaders and has left many Germans skeptical about cooperating with the U.S.

CIA managers were worried that the incident could lead European security services to begin closely watching CIA personnel. Many agency officers in Europe, operating out of U.S. Embassies, have declared their status as intelligence operatives to the host country.

The spying stand-down comes at an inopportune time, with the U.S. worried about European extremists going to fight in Syria, Europe's response to Russian aggression and European hostility to American technology companies following revelations the companies turned over data to the NSA.



JAY JANNER, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN/AP

Austin Fire Department Capt. Scott Bartel searches Lake Austin on Thursday for a missing Travis County Sheriff deputy who was swept away in a flood near Fritz Hughes Park in Austin, Texas.

Search set to resume for Texas deputy who disappeared in flood

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A search for a missing Central Texas sheriff's deputy is set to resume Friday, a day after her patrol car was found swamped by floodwaters minutes after she radioed for help while checking flooded low-water crossings.

Efforts to locate the deputy had been suspended before nightfall Thursday because of the storms, which were remnants of Hurricane Odile.

Travis County sheriff's spokesman Roger Wade said the deputy, whose identity hasn't been revealed, was checking low-water crossings during storms. She radioed shortly before 2 a.m. CDT Thursday to say her patrol car was being washed away in an Austin-area subdivision.

Her empty car was found a short time later, awash in floodwaters, but she was nowhere to be found.

"We believe she was swept into the low-water crossing by water going down the street," said Wade, who identified the deputy only as a seven-year veteran of the department.

"We were searching all day and

we will continue searching until we find something," Wade said.

The National Weather Service forecasts more heavy rain through Saturday over much of West Texas, with flash flood watches extending through Friday night. The rain was to continue through Friday in Southeast Texas.

Rainfall pelted parts of the U.S. Southwest, including in Texas from El Paso to Houston. In Plainview, about 45 miles north of Lubbock, 4½ inches of rain was reported over 24 hours ending at

2 p.m. CDT Thursday.

"We are getting moisture from Odile," said Cory Van Pelt, a National Weather Service forecaster in New Braunfels. "We also got a lot of Gulf of Mexico moisture that came in, a combination of the two."

The Austin area received 5 to 7 inches of rain early Thursday, said Van Pelt. About 40 miles north of Austin, near Jarrell, a weather service observer measured almost 1½ inches of rain fell within 30 minutes after 4 p.m.



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Parks pull props in wake of beheadings

By TAMARA LUSH
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Busch Gardens removed some props from its Halloween attraction after people in Virginia complained about decapitated heads, the theme park said Thursday. The change came in the wake of the beheadings of two American journalists and a British aid worker.

Spokesmen for parks in Virginia and Tampa said that in light

of recent events, some props may have had the unintended consequence of appearing insensitive and won't be part of this year's Howl-O-Scream attraction. They wouldn't say exactly which props were removed.

"Many of the scenes depicted at Busch Gardens' Howl-O-Scream are graphic in nature, but they are fictional and are not intended to provide commentary on current world events," wrote Busch Gardens Tampa spokesman Tra-

vis Claytor. "The props in this year's event were designed and purchased several months ago."

Complaints cropped up recently in Williamsburg when the Virginia Gazette newspaper ran a photo of five severed head props that were part of the attraction.

The props were part of the Cut Throat Cove attraction, the paper said. A video of Cut Throat Cove on the Virginia park's website showed a pirate-themed haunted house with body parts and heads.

NATION

Celebrities join campaign against sexual assault

By NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House has enlisted Hollywood stars including Jon Hamm of "Mad Men" and Connie Britton of "Nashville" to help fight campus sexual assault.

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden are unveiling the "It's On Us" campaign Friday at a White House event.

A website that went live Friday morning, It'sOnUs.org, features a public service announcement with Obama, Biden and other familiar faces telling viewers it's their responsibility to stop sexual assault. The star power also includes NBA all-star Kevin Love, actresses Kerry Washington, Rose Byrne and Mayim Bialik, comedian Joel McHale and musicians Randy Jackson and Questlove.

With an estimated one in five college women attacked, the campaign encourages everyone on campus to make sure friends are safe and to intervene before an assault happens. The message is particularly targeted at men, with the White House pointing to research that shows that men are often reluctant to speak out against violence against women because they believe other men accept it.

"It's on us to stop sexual assault," Hamm says in a close-up shot that opens the video.

"To get in the way before it happens," Washington continues.

Others chime in to encourage viewers to make sure friends get home safe and not to blame the victim or look the other way. Obama closes the video by referring to the pledge and the website.

The campaign is being supported by partners who plan to help spread the message, including the NCAA, several collegiate athletic conferences and media companies with reach among students. The NCAA plans to promote anti-assault messages on screens at their championship events. Video game maker Electronic Arts will encourage fans to sign up to pledge to support the campaign through its online platforms. And media giant Viacom will promote the messages on websites, including for music channels MTV, VH1, BET and CMT.

Visitors to the website are asked to turn their social media profile pictures into the shape of the campaign logo. They are asked to use their name, email address and zip code to pledge "not to be a bystander to the problem, but to be a part of the solution." The information is collected by Generation Progress, the youth arm of the liberal Center for American Progress advocacy organization with close ties to the White House.

Clemson suspends course over sex survey

By ANDREW SHAIN
The (Columbia, S.C.) State

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Clemson University tried to learn about the sex habits of its undergraduates in a course designed to prevent sexual assault, but the college decided Thursday to suspend the online program after complaints.

The survey questions in the Clemson course included: "How many times have you had sex (including oral) in the last 3 months?" Another question asked how many different people a student had had sex with in the last three months, according to screen grabs posted by Campus Reform, the website that first reported the story.

The survey was part of a mandatory, two-hour course on sexual assault prevention that Clemson undergraduates are taking for the first time this year. Clemson and the California company offering the course said survey answers were anonymous. But students were required to register online

to receive credit.

Students, worried about punishment for not completing the course, asked professors for advice. "If you're not going to discuss this with your mother, why would you discuss this with Clemson?" Clemson political scientist David Woodard said he told one female student.

Clemson student government president Maddy Thompson said she was surprised the sex questions were part of an assault prevention course that she supported.

"We want to make sure students are protected and safe," the political science major from Greenville said. "We're doing this for right reasons. But this one part was not done correctly."

Clemson reviewed the course before releasing it to students starting in July, school spokesman Robin Denny said. About 6,000 of Clemson's 17,000 undergrads had taken the program before it was suspended, she said.



RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

A firefighter sprays water onto flames approaching a containment line Thursday while fighting the King fire near Fresh Pond, Calif.

Calif. arson suspect held as wildfires rage

By MARK BERMAN
The Washington Post

Authorities in California said Thursday that they have arrested a man suspected of arson in connection with the massive, growing wildfire burning tens of thousands of acres east of Sacramento.

Wayne Allen Huntsman, 37, was arrested Wednesday night, El Dorado County Sheriff John D'Agostini told reporters.

Authorities provided few details regarding the precise nature of the investigation and Huntsman's arrest because the investigation is ongoing, said Vern Pierson, district attorney for El

Dorado County.

A criminal complaint filed by Pierson's office says that Huntsman "willfully and maliciously" set the fire. The complaint also says that an emergency responder "suffered great bodily injury" because of the fire.

Police do not think anyone else was involved in starting the fire, Pierson said. Huntsman's bail has been set at \$10 million.

California Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency Wednesday for El Dorado and Siskiyou counties due to the "conditions of extreme peril" posed by the fires.

"The wildfires in Northern Cal-

ifornia serve as a reminder that dry conditions can be the precursor to devastating loss," Brown said in a statement. "Anne and I extend our deepest sympathies to those who have suffered such terrible losses in the fires."

This fire has spread across 71,000 acres and "continues to grow," said Mike Kaslin, unit chief for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in El Dorado. It had been moving about two or three miles each day since it began on Saturday, but it moved north about 15 miles on Wednesday, a large amount of growth over a small span of time.

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NATION

Fla. felon kills 6 grandchildren, daughter, self

By TAMARA LUSH

The Associated Press

BELL, Fla. — A man who spent time in prison a decade ago for the shooting death of his young son killed six of his grandchildren, including an infant, his adult daughter and himself in a rampage at a home where authorities in the small Florida town say they had been called to in the past.

The shooter, Don Spirit, 51, called 911 Thursday afternoon to say he might harm himself or others, Gilchrist County Sheriff Robert Schultz said at a news conference. When a deputy arrived, Spirit committed suicide and authorities then found the

seven gunshot victims "all over on the property," Schultz said.

Schultz wouldn't say if a weapon was recovered nor what sort was used. He didn't have a motive for the massacre but said deputies had been to the home in the past for various reasons.

"There's still a lot of unanswered questions. There's going to be questions that we're never going to get answered," he said.

Schultz also did not say if slain Sarah Lorraine Spirit, 28, was the mother of any of the two boys and four girls, some of whom spent a lot of time at the rural home.

At a later news conference, Schultz released the names of the victims. In addition to Sarah

Spirit, they were: Kaleb Kuhlmann, 11; Kylie Kuhlmann, 9; Johnathon Kuhlmann, 8; Destiny Stewart, 5; Brandon Stewart, 4; and Alanna Stewart, who was born in June.

As darkness fell, police had cordoned off the length of the dirt road leading to the home near Bell, a town of just 350 people about 30 miles west of Gainesville.

"Keep this community in your prayers," Schultz said. "Tomorrow's going to be a hard day in Gilchrist County."

Schultz said Spirit was the only suspect and that some people were left alive at the home. Schultz also said Spirit had a criminal history. According to the Florida

Department of Corrections website, Spirit was released from prison in February 2006 for a gun charge.

According to an online story in 2003 by the Orlando Sentinel, a 40-year-old Don Spirit pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in the fatal shooting of his 8-year-old son, Kyle, in a 2001 hunting accident. He was sentenced to three years in prison and was emotional about the shooting at his hearing.

The story said that on a walk through the woods with Kyle and an older son, Spirit pointed out rust on the muzzle of his rifle. The rifle fired, hitting Kyle in the head, according to the Osceola

County Sheriff's Office. Spirit was convicted in 1998 for felony possession of marijuana, according to a charging affidavit.

Speaking about Thursday's killings, Schultz said he wouldn't divulge exactly where the victims were found, though he said, "They were certainly all over on the property."

Bell resident Daniel Barry was trying to absorb the loss in the community west of I-75.

"It's tragic, the kids. Even if there were family problems, why involve the kids?" he said outside a convenience store. "It's enough that he took his daughter's life, but his grandkids, too? It's surreal."

Hunt for suspect in Pa. trooper ambush briefly intensifies

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM
AND JOSEPH FREDERICK

The Associated Press

CANADENSIS, Pa. — Hours after a slain Pennsylvania State Police trooper was laid to rest, the hunt for a man charged with killing him briefly intensified late Thursday as authorities blocked roads around the home of the suspect's parents.

The Barrett Township Fire Department opened a shelter for residents in the area who were unable to get to their homes due to police activity in the rural northeastern Pennsylvania community, but shut down not long after as police reopened the area to traffic.

Eric Frein, 31 is charged with killing Cpl. Bryon Dickson and wounding another trooper in an ambush that authorities said was likely fueled by his hatred of law enforcement. Police said he is armed and extremely dangerous, prompting the heavy police response that briefly kept residents from their homes.

"Due to the violent nature of his crimes, extreme precaution-

ary measures are being taken," Trooper Morgan Crummy said late Thursday.

Frein was placed on the FBI's 10 most wanted list Thursday, hours after Dickson's funeral in Scranton drew thousands of law enforcement officials from around the country.

Police described Frein as a self-taught survivalist who had expressed anti-law enforcement and anti-government feelings.

Police said Frein was involved with a military simulation group from eastern Pennsylvania whose members portray soldiers from eastern Europe. His FBI most wanted posting said Frein "claims to have fought with Serbians in Africa, and he has studied Russian and Serbian languages."

At a news conference after the funeral, police said they believe Frein is hiding somewhere in the area, though they wouldn't say how they came to that conclusion. Adding Frein to the FBI's most wanted list allows the agency to use more resources to find him and to offer a \$100,000 reward, in addition to a \$75,000 reward offered by a private group.

stoplights and police cars.

The rapidly expanding systems and their growing databases have been the subject of a larger debate pitting privacy rights against public safety concerns in a new frontier over high-tech surveillance. A Los Angeles judge ruled in August that city police and sheriff's departments don't have to disclose records from the 3 million plates they scan each week.

Michael Robertson, best known for creating the music website MP3.com, stepped into the discussion with a personal lawsuit, asking for access to only his information.

From The Associated Press



CHARLES DHARAPAK/AP

Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., greets President Barack Obama as he arrives at the North Carolina Air National Guard Base in Charlotte, N.C., in August.

GOP holding NC's Hagan to standard she used in '08

By GARY D. ROBERTSON

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Six years ago, little-known North Carolina state legislator Kay Hagan upset Sen. Elizabeth Dole after Hagan and her Democratic allies drilled in voters' minds the idea that Dole was too closely aligned to an unpopular president.

Footage of two older men in rocking chairs outside a country store talking about how Dole voted with George W. Bush 92 percent of the time proved to be the campaign's touchstone commercial. "Voting 92 percent of the time with the president, whether you support him or not, doesn't work here in North Carolina," Hagan said at her only debate with Dole in 2008.

Today, Republicans are counting on Hagan being judged the same way by the electorate.

Initially repeating Hagan's own words, Republican challenger Thom Tillis told viewers in their first televised debate this month that Hagan voted with President Barack Obama 95 percent of the time.

"By Kay's own standard, she's failed the people of North Carolina," Tillis said, adding that "Kay promised that she'd be different, but she broke her promise."

Although there's plenty of dislike for Obama in politically divided North Carolina, Hagan hasn't been tripped up completely. Polls show her with a slight edge over the North Carolina House speaker in one of a handful of closely watched races that will determine whether Democrats can retain control of the Senate in the last two years of Obama's presidency.

The North Carolina race is now the nation's most expensive Sen-

ate race, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. Almost \$38 million has been spent so far.

And while Obama's numbers in North Carolina are underwarmed — an Elon University survey released this week found 52 percent of all residents surveyed disapproved of the president's job — they're not as bad as Bush's figures. In a similar Elon poll in February 2008, Bush's disapproval number was 58 percent.

But Hagan can't completely shake the 95 percent figure, which Tillis' campaign considers the capstone of a narrative that Hagan said one thing in 2008 but did another in Washington. Her vote for Obama's signature 2010 health care law and her Obama-like assertions that people could keep their doctor and insurance plan under the overhaul reinforce the difficulty.

Privacy groups take 2nd hit on license plate data

LOS ANGELES — A California judge's initial ruling against a tech entrepreneur seeking access to records kept secret in government databases detailing the comings and goings of millions of cars in the San Diego area via license plate scans was the second legal setback within a month for privacy advocates.

The tentative decision issued Thursday upheld the right of authorities to block the public from viewing information collected on their vehicles from vast networks that rely on cameras mounted on

NATION



Archaeologists and scientists are working in an area with heavy erosion trying to find imperiled Chumash relics on Santa Cruz Island, Calif.

PHOTOS BY JABIN BOTSFORD, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

By LOUIS SAHAGUN
Los Angeles Times

ASANTA CRUZ ISLAND, Calif. Archaeologist Torben Rick watched with frustration as pounding surf clawed at one of North America's oldest homesteads, a massive heap of village foundations, cutting tools, beads and kitchen discards left behind over the last 13,000 years.

Here, seafaring tribal members cast fishing nets from canoes made of redwood planks, prepared dinners on stone griddles and painstakingly chipped out tiny shell beads prized as currency.

But unless something is done, this rich trove of Native American history and several others on the island will almost certainly be destroyed by rising seas and strong storm surges along beaches that will soon no longer exist.

Rick, curator of anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, picked up a tiny pink bead.

"Things like this are golden because they can help us better understand the people who lived here and how they dealt with some of the same unstoppable forces we face today," he said. "The trouble is, a few more storms and all this valuable history will be washed out to sea."

So conservationists and archaeologists are fighting back. Half a dozen scientists armed with trowels, clipboards and global positioning devices fanned out across the island's headlands and rocky fingers last month to take the first full accounting of archaeological sites heavily threatened by shoreline retreat and storm erosion.

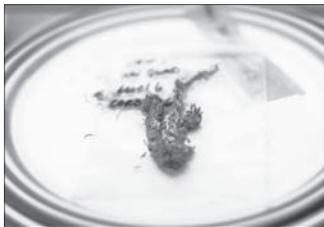
The inventory will create baseline information to help guide conservation decisions at imperiled sites where human culture and island ecosystems have a shared history. It will also enable scientists to monitor the destructive forces of marine erosion, which are predicted to get worse.

The archaeological assessment is a collaborative effort by the Smithsonian Institution, the University of Oregon, Chumash tribal leaders and the Nature Conservancy, which manages 76 percent of the 96-square-mile island, the largest of eight Channel Islands, 36 miles off Ventura.

"The real tragedy, and the urgency, is that sea level rise is destroying wholesale the opportunity to learn about our past — information we can use to be better conservationists," said Scott Morrison, the conservancy's director of conservation science. "We're trying to do something about that."



Above: Torben Rick, director and curator at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, searches for beads near Chumash house pits. Below: Rescued relics are displayed on plates.



'We're standing on a living history book, and we're losing pages from it every day.'

Gil Unzueta

Chumash Indian monitoring the survey

Dozens of sites, including former villages and workshops, were assigned one of five risk categories based on variables including elevation, distance to the nearest shoreline, coastal slope, soil erosion and precipitation rates.

Eight sites were designated "code red," meaning they contain significant archaeological resources and are in imminent danger of being destroyed by rising seas.

Among them is a remote cave where the team conducted an "emergency archaeological rescue" of artifacts entombed beneath thick layers of sand and driftwood: arrowheads, crude stone implements, rope and fabric woven out of sea grass. Also recovered in the cave was a square piece of redwood smeared with brown tar, used to repair a hole in a canoe.

"The last time one of these planks was found was in the 1960s," said Jon M. Erlanson, an archaeologist at the University of Oregon and expert on Santa Cruz Island's cultural resources.

The plank is a reminder of a time when the coast teemed with fish, waterfowl and shellfish "and the shoreline was a lot further away than it is now," Erlanson said.

"There's not enough time to save everything," he said. "We're trying to record and salvage all we can before it's too late."

At a site near the cave, at least three Chumash house pits discovered within the last 40 years have been destroyed by the ocean. The destruction eliminated the possibility that DNA and isotopic analyses could provide important information about changes in island culture and the landscape, Erlanson said.

Rising sea levels between 7,000 and 15,000 years ago submerged much of the evidence of the island's earliest occupants, seafarers who arrived when pygmy mammoths lumbered through inland forests at the end of the last ice age.

Their descendants flourished amid the rich marine environment. In 1542, explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo counted several densely populated villages as he sailed past, and there were many more he didn't see.

The job of surveying evidence of their existence over centuries was complicated by the relatively large size of the island and the diversity of its largely roadless terrain: plunging valleys, conifer forests, steep mountains and wind-swept beaches.

"We're standing on a living history book," said Gil Unzueta, a Chumash Indian monitoring the survey effort, "and we're losing pages from it every day."

WORLD

Scotland to remain part of UK

Scots reject independence referendum in 55-45 vote

By JILL LAWLESS AND DANICA KIRKA

The Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Scottish voters have resoundingly rejected independence, deciding to remain part of the United Kingdom after a historic referendum that shook the country to its core.

The decision prevented a rupture of a 307-year union with England, bringing a huge sigh of relief to Britain's economic and political establishment, including Prime Minister David Cameron, who faced calls for his resignation if Scotland had broken away.

The vote on Thursday — 55 percent against independence to 45 percent in favor — saw an unprecedented turnout of just under 85 percent.

"We have chosen unity over division," Alistair Darling, head of the No campaign, said early Friday in Glasgow.

"Today is a momentous day for Scotland and the United Kingdom as a whole."

Just as the people of Scotland will have more power over their affairs, so it follows that the people of England, Wales and Northern Ireland must have a bigger say over theirs.

David Cameron
British prime minister

Independence leader Alex Salmond's impassioned plea to launch a new nation fell short, with Scots choosing instead the security of remaining in union with England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Salmond said Friday he plans to resign as first minister and leader of his political party.

Still, the result establishes a whole new political dynamic in the United Kingdom, with Cameron appearing outside No. 10 Downing Street to pledge more powers for regional governments.

Even in conceding, Salmond struck an upbeat tone.

"This has been a triumph for the democratic process and for participation in politics," he said to cheering supporters.

The pound hit a two-year high against the euro and a two-week high against the U.S. dollar as markets shrugged off recent anxiety about a possible vote for independence.

A much-relieved Cameron promised to live up to earlier promises to give Scotland new powers on taxes, spending and welfare. He said the new plans will be agreed upon by November, with draft legislation by January.

But he also said change was coming to other parts of the country amid the watershed vote.

"Just as the people of Scotland will have more power over their affairs, so it follows that the people of England, Wales and Northern Ireland must have a bigger say over theirs," Cameron said. "The rights of these voters need to be respected, preserved and enhanced as well."

The No campaign won the capital city, Edinburgh, by a margin of 61 percent to 38 percent and triumphed by 59 percent to 41 percent in



STEFAN ROUSSEAU/AP

"Yes" campaign supporters gather in Edinburgh after voters rejected the Scottish independence referendum on Friday.

Scotland 'no' fails to stop Catalan secession push

The Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain — Scotland's decision to stay within the United Kingdom cost separatists across Europe political momentum they could have gained for their own independence ambitions. But the regional parliament in Spain's Catalonia was still expected Friday to grant its leader the power to call a secession referendum denounced as illegal by the central government in Madrid.

The prospect of an independent Scotland would have served as an example of how to build a new nation, captivating European separatists in addition to Catalans who want to carve out their own Mediterranean nation.

They include pro-independence Basques in northern Spain; Corsicans who want to break away from France; Italians from several northern regions; and Flemish speakers in Belgium demanding more autonomy, independence or union with the Netherlands.

Scotland's independence rejection is a disap-

pointment for the European separatists, but "does not mean the end of nationalist aspirations," said Marc Hooghe, a political science professor at the University of Leuven in Belgium.

"There is no decisive outcome at all. You might compare (it with a soccer game that) ends in a draw, and we go to extra time," he said. "But the nationalists have missed their chance in a lifetime opportunity ... the Scots could have led the way for other regions."

In Catalonia's regional capital of Barcelona, regional president Artur Mas said he was rooting for a "Yes" vote in Scotland but stressed Catalans simply want the same chance as Scots who were given the right to vote. Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has repeatedly said he will block a vote for Catalans in the wealthy northeastern region of 7.5 million people.

"What happened in Scotland and the United Kingdom is not a setback for us because what we really want in Catalonia is to have the chance to vote, the same possibility," Mas told reporters.

Aberdeen, the country's oil center. The Yes campaign won Glasgow, Scotland's biggest city, but it was not enough.

The voted riveted the nation. Those glued to returns included "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling, who tweeted that she had "Been up all night watching Scotland make history. A huge turnout, a peaceful democratic process: we should be proud." Rowling gave \$1.6 million to the No campaign.

Many saw the vote as a "heads versus hearts"

Can Islamic State sustain campaign far from home?

The Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — The Islamic State plot to carry out random beheadings in Sydney alleged by police is a simple and barbaric scheme that has shaken Australians. But terrorism experts on Friday questioned whether the ruthless movement had the capacity or inclination to sustain a terrorism campaign so far from the Middle East.

Police said they thwarted such a plot by detaining suspects and raiding more than a dozen properties across Sydney on Thursday.

The Islamic State militant group has beheaded three Westerners in the Middle East in recent weeks and recorded the brutal slayings to make propaganda videos widely condemned.

Two of the 15 people whom police had detained Thursday have been charged. Nine were freed before the day was over, and the rest released on Friday.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott conceded it was difficult to safeguard the Australian population against such attacks.

"The regrettable reality is that to mount the kind of attacks which ISIL in Syria and in Iraq has in mind for Australia, all you need is a determined individual who will kill without compunction, a knife, an iPhone and a victim," Abbott told Seven Network television on Friday, using one of Islamic State's former names, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Some terrorism experts saw the plot as a potential shift in Islamic State's focus from creating an Islamic caliphate in the Middle East. Others said it is more likely a symptom of policy confusion within a disparate group.

"If you have people coming in from different backgrounds from all these countries, when it comes to policy making, they're going to fight each other, they're going to kill each other," said Samuella Makinda, professor of International Relations and Security Studies at Murdoch University.

"On ISIS, I see no direct threat to Australia or to any other country at the moment except those in the Middle East," he added, using the movement's former name, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Hundreds of Muslims in the Sydney suburb of Lakemba protested the raids on Thursday night, with speakers accusing the government of exploiting public fear in a bid to get contentious counterterrorism laws through Parliament.

Abbott said armed police were taking over security at Parliament House in Canberra, because Australian Islamic State fighters in Iraq and Syria had been urging their supporters at home to attack the building and government ministers.

Greg Barton, a Monash University global terrorism expert, said Islamic State could be starting to direct its global followers to take the fight to their home communities in a bid to usurp Osama bin Laden's leadership of the global jihadist network.

BUSINESS

Tokyo Game Show: Future of gaming is now

By ERIC GUZMAN
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Tokyo Game Show 2014's theme is "Changing Games: The Transformation of Fun," and from the looks of things, organizers have made good on their promise to present the best and brightest of what the future of gaming has to offer.

With the gaming industry's shift toward support for the next-generation Playstation 4 and Xbox One consoles, the possibilities to transform the end-user gaming experience are greater than ever. These powerful machines are capable of such things as motion-control, streaming video and connectivity to social networks — all seen in the previous-generation consoles, but yet to be perfected until now.

Sony seems to have stolen the show this year, showcasing hotly anticipated games such as "Bloodborne" and "Destiny" to eager visitors. Both were received well by crowds, particularly the groundbreaking persistent world first-person shooter gameplay and the role-playing game character-building style of "Destiny."

Kojima Productions also made a great showing, with its director, Hideo Kojima, making an appearance during a "Metal Gear Solid: The Phantom Pain" question-and-answer session. A video trailer for both MGS and the "Silent Hill" sequel — featuring Norman Reedus from "The Walking Dead" and directing assistance from Guillermo Del Toro — played during demonstrations in the Kojima Productions booth.

The Xbox One booth, though not exactly groundbreaking, showed how hard Microsoft has

been working to polish technologies that debuted with the Xbox One. The Kinect peripheral has received a lot of attention from guests this year, in stark contrast to last year's TGS, due to its improved performance.

"Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare" is one of the Xbox One's more popular titles this year, and following right behind is "Evolve," 2K Games' collaboration with Turtle Rock Studios. Both look ready to cement the Xbox One's place as king of the first-person shooter.

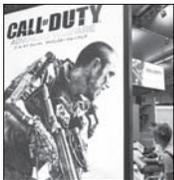
Square Enix, which had possibly the most hotly anticipated releases this year, didn't disappoint with their showing of crossover of role-player hit "Kingdom Hearts 3" and the continuation of their staple "Final Fantasy" franchise, "Final Fantasy XV." The gameplay in FFXV is packed with action and completely different from what any dedicated follower of the series has seen before.

Tokyo Game Show 2014 has shown not only how far gaming has come in the last year, but also how far it has progressed since it started. First the Nintendo Power Glove, now the Xbox One Kinect. From the pixel pong games of the Atari 2600 to the Hollywood-esque events that are Playstation 4 games.

Tokyo Game Show 2014, with a record-setting 421 exhibitors, has made it clear that they're here to show journalists and gamers that the future is now.

The event opens to the general public over the weekend at Chiba's Makuhari Messe convention hall. A record 270,000 people attended last year's Tokyo Game Show.

guzman.eric@stripes.com



Members of the media get a sneak peek at the pre-release copy of "Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare."



PHOTOS JAMES KIMBER/Stars and Stripes

A gamer plays a pre-released game at the Sony Playstation booth on Thursday at the Tokyo Game Show.



Cosplay actresses for DMM.com, above, and Fuji and Gumi Games, left, poses at the Tokyo Game Show on Thursday.

Apple's new big-screen iPhones draw long lines as sales begin

Bloomberg News

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple's stores attracted long lines of shoppers for the debut of the latest iPhones, indicating robust pent-up demand for bigger-screen smartphones.

The iPhone 6 and the 6 Plus became available starting in Australia, before rolling out in Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, France, Germany, Puerto Rico, Canada and the United States. Consumers in New York and San Francisco had already formed queues to be first to buy the gadgets.

Pedro Regadillo, 59, began waiting outside Apple's store on Fifth Avenue in New York about two weeks ago. The Air Force veteran, who has stood in line to buy iPhones three times before on the first day of sales, said he had his heart set on an iPhone 6 Plus, which has a 5.5-inch screen.

"I love the size," said Regadillo, who was near the front of a line that wound its way around the block and included tourists who had flown in from Brazil. "I've got a problem with my vision."



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP

People queue outside an Apple shop in London on Friday for the new iPhone release.

The iPhone rollout is the most important event this year for Apple. Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook is counting on the hand-

sets to maintain Apple's sales growth. The devices generate more than half of the company's annual \$171 billion in revenue

and precedes a swath of other products, including new iPads and Apple Watch. The iPhones also sport larger screens — 4.7 inches and 5.5 inches, compared with 4 inches for previous models — helping Apple appeal to new consumers.

The buzz over the smartphones has been high since Cook unveiled them at a Sept. 9 event. When the iPhones became available for pre-order a week ago, they racked up a record 4 million reservations in the first 24 hours and surpassed earlier releases. Reviewers have heaped praise on the gadgets and resellers have said users are trading in older phones to make room for the new iPhones.

RBC Capital Markets polled 6,000 consumers and found that "an impressive 26 percent of respondents who intend to purchase an iPhone are new" to Apple's ecosystem, with the majority coming from Android, Amit Daryanani, an analyst at RBC, wrote in a Sept. 17 note to investors.

A key question about the opening weekend is whether Apple will have enough inventory to satisfy demand.

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

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KEVIN R. WEXLER, THE RECORD OF BERGEN COUNTY (N.J.)/AP

Ukrainian Americans rallied Thursday in front of the White House as Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko met with President Barack Obama. The unrest in Ukraine is one of the reasons the National Defense Panel suggested the president and Congress repeal the Budget Control Act, which puts significant constraints on U.S. defense spending.

Repeat the Budget Control Act

Provision that led to sequestration cuts hurts US defense

By MICHELE FLOURNOY
 AND ERIC EDELMAN

Special to The Washington Post

This summer's dramatic global events — from the rise of the Islamic State, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, war between Hamas and Israel, violent confrontations and airstrikes in Libya and continued tensions on the Korean Peninsula and in the East and South China seas — have reminded us all that the United States faces perhaps the most complex and volatile security environment since World War II.

This realization has led to repeated calls for U.S. leadership to sustain the rules-based international order that underpins U.S. security and prosperity.

But scant attention has been paid to ensuring that we have a robust and ready military, able to deter would-be aggressors, reassure allies and ensure that any president, current or future, has the options he or she will need in an increasingly dangerous world.

The National Defense Panel, a bipartisan commission chartered by Congress and on which we have served for the past 13 months, concluded in its recent report that the Budget Control Act of 2011 was a “serious strategic misstep” that has dangerously tied the hands of the Pentagon leadership, forcing across-the-board “sequestration” cuts in defense spending and subjecting the nation to accumulating strategic risk.

The commission's report concluded that, without budgetary relief, the U.S. armed forces soon will be at high risk of not being able to accomplish the national defense strategy.

The provisions of the Budget Control Act and sequestration have already precipitated a readiness crisis within our armed forces, with only a handful of Army brigades ready for crisis response, Air Force pilots unable

to fly sufficient hours to keep up their skills and Navy ships unable to provide critical U.S. security presence in key regions.

Although last year's congressional budget deal has granted some temporary relief, the return to sequestration in fiscal 2015 and beyond would result in a hollow force reminiscent of the late 1970s.

The U.S. military is an indispensable instrument underpinning the diplomatic, economic and intelligence elements of our national power. It keeps key trade routes open, maintains stability in vital regions such as the Persian Gulf and sustains alliances that serve U.S. and global interests.

That's why the National Defense Panel urged — and we reiterate today — that Congress and the president repeal the Budget Control Act immediately, end the threat of sequestration and return, at a minimum, to funding levels proposed by then-Defense Secretary Robert Gates in his fiscal 2012 budget. That budget called for modest nominal-dollar increases in defense spending through the remainder of the decade to stabilize the defense program.

The report argues that, to meet the increasing challenges of the deteriorating international security environment, the U.S. military must be able to deter or stop aggression in multiple theaters, not just one, even when engaged in a large-scale war. This requires urgently addressing the size and shape of our armed forces so they can protect and advance our interests globally and provide the war-fighting capabilities necessary to underwrite the credibility of the United States' leadership and national security strategy.

Whether confronting the threat of the Islamic State or reassuring allies in Asia, the president must have options, and the Defense Department needs the flexibility to provide the best alternatives that secure our interests.

In particular, the Pentagon needs relief from the budget cuts of the past few years and from limitations on its authority to make judicious cuts where they are most needed and least harmful to our security. This would allow further savings through modest cuts to the rate of growth in already generous military compensation and benefits, further reforms in the acquisition of equipment and materiel, elimination of an estimated 20 percent excess in military infrastructure such as bases, and reductions in overhead and the burgeoning civilian and contractor defense workforce.

These savings and additional budgetary resources must go toward investment in critical capabilities, such as long-range strikes, armed unmanned aviation, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance, undersea warfare, directed energy, cyber-security and others that will safeguard our continued military superiority.

The threat of sequestration was never meant to be carried out. It was supposed to be a “sword of Damocles” ensuring that lawmakers would reach an agreement on ways to cut the federal deficit.

Those efforts failed, putting the defense budget on the chopping block and holding our nation's security hostage at a particularly dangerous moment in world affairs.

As a new Congress is elected and we enter another presidential election cycle, our nation's leaders will need to examine the National Defense Panel report and explain to voters how they intend to address its recommendations. The stakes could not be higher.

Michele Flournoy was undersecretary of defense for policy in the administration of President Barack Obama and is a co-founder and executive director of the Center for a New American Security. Eric Edelman was undersecretary of defense for policy under President George W. Bush and is a fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments.

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OPINION

It's going to be a long fight in Iraq and Syria

BY WALTER PINCUS
The Washington Post

US leadership of the war on terrorism has entered its second phase.

Dealing with Islamic State forces in Iraq is just another leg of the fight.

Deciding to expand U.S. bombing to Syria with the goal of destroying the terrorist group's leadership and about two-thirds of its fighters will take years.

Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had a warning for those who thought a quick dose of U.S. firepower could do the trick.

At a Senate Armed Services Committee meeting last week in Ft. Cruz, R-Texas, asked what would be required "to destroy them (the Islamic State) within 90 days." "It's not possible, Senator," Dempsey replied. "We could destroy a lot of equipment; we could drive them underground, if you will. But as I said, they will only be defeated by sustained leadership and support by the populations in which they hide."

The Sept. 11, 2001, attacks were the Pearl Harbor of this war on terrorism, and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida was only the beginning.

Bin Laden showed other terrorist leaders how to gain attention. Cruz, R-Texas, recruits and financial support: challenge the world's major superpower.

His goal in bringing down the World Trade Center, hitting the Pentagon and killing thousands of Americans was to force the Bush administration's withdrawal from the Middle East, where his real targets were Saudi Arabia's royal family and the secular leaders in Egypt, Libya and Iraq.

Bin Laden was wrong about the United States. The country rallied around President George W. Bush, and core al-Qaida members were never large — saw its operations disrupted, senior leaders captured or



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, left, and Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, appear before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

killed, and its financial support squeezed.

Yet, even bin Laden's death has not ended al-Qaida's threat to the United States. Offshoots have appeared in Iraq, Yemen, Somalia, Iraq, North Africa and Syria — primarily where Sunni or other groups felt mistreated by their own governments. All required U.S. attention.

Extensive intelligence activities at home and abroad, helped by some luck, have allowed the country to escape another major terrorist attack — aside from the bombing last year at the Boston Marathon.

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, leader of the Islamic State, has emerged as a major threat, thanks to his brutality, public relations skills, and military successes in Iraq and Syria. He topped it all with horrendous video headings of two American journalists and a British aid worker. Those acts showed that al-Baghdadi had learned from bin Laden — but in a simpler, bloody way — how he could get the attention of Americans and the world.

Now what?

Such a terrorist group "will only be defeated when moderate Arab and Muslim populations in the region reject it," Dempsey told the Senate panel Tuesday. "And therefore, the way forward seems to me to run clearly through a coalition of Arab and Muslim partners and not through the ownership of the United States in this issue."

The plan is to get the new Baghdad government to reach out to Sunni areas where the Islamic State, according to Dempsey, has either "coerced or co-opted or driven away" about 48 to 54 Sunni tribes. U.S. military teams have assessed that 26 of 50 Iraqi army brigades "are capable of partnering" with U.S. air support.

Getting forces on the offensive in the west and north of Iraq, while the Kurds, with U.S. support, press from the north to the south, "I think will place (the Islamic State) in an untenable position," Dempsey said.

Syria is much harder. First, there is no central party to work with there.

The Syrian moderate military units that the United States hopes to develop need "a chain of command responsive to some Syrian political structure, not responsive to us," Dempsey said. "These can't be simply surrogates and proxies; they have to be tied linked to some political structure that ultimately could assist in the governing of Syria when finally the Assad regime is either overthrown or, through the negotiation, is changed."

Another problem is that the U.S. plan envisions training just 5,000 fighters a year, in small groups that go through in eight-week cycles. The first three to five months, however, will be devoted to setting up training facilities primarily in Saudi Arabia, then recruiting mostly among refugees outside Syria. "We think we'll be recruiting mostly from displaced populations, and therefore it won't be as though they're giving up the security of their families to come and train with us," Dempsey said.

This fighting force's task is to go after Islamic State targets in Syria, aided by U.S.-directed air power. "The number that our military planners were considering was about 12,000," Dempsey said at the hearing.

The U.S.-trained Syrians would not be the only forces on the ground, according to Dempsey.

"If you're asking me how does the opposition in Syria finally prevail against (the Islamic State), I think it's going to require the assistance of, in particular, Jordanians and probably some of the Syrian Kurds, and probably the Turks."

President Barack Obama and top administration officials need to prepare the country for this next phase. This will not be quick, though the number of Americans on the ground will not be great.

Clearly, however, it is a work in progress with no guaranteed end in sight.

Walter Pincus reports on intelligence, defense and foreign policy for The Washington Post and writes the Fire Print column.

Battle for hearts, minds of Muslim youth a must-win

BY MARTIN SCHRAM
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

This is the week Washington pounced on the question of whether American "boots on the ground" will be needed to win the new war against the terrifying forces of the Islamic State.

It erupted Tuesday when the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey, told a Senate hearing that some future event in Iraq or even Syria may indeed cause him to recommend this combat escalation. That his commander in chief, President Barack Obama, had only recently said he would not order.

However, all but forgotten in this single-minded focus is another cornerstone of wartime strategy. It's the one we first deployed aggressively (but not really successfully) in Vietnam a half-century ago — and later used covertly (but apparently successfully) in Afghanistan, although you probably never heard about it. Namely: the need to win "hearts and minds."

In the war on the Islamic State, the battle for hearts and minds is now a matter of utmost urgency. Because so far it's the battle the Islamic State is winning — overwhelmingly, in ways that have shocked intelligence experts in the West, including the CIA.

The Islamic State is recruiting new believers and fighters by the thousands — in

the Middle East but also the West, especially citizens of Britain and the United States.

Just last January, Obama had dismissed the al-Qaida-linked militants in Iraq and Syria as just a junior varsity annoyance. ("The analogy we use around here sometimes, and I think is accurate, is if a jayvee team puts on Lakers uniforms that doesn't make them Kobe Bryant," Obama told The New Yorker magazine's editor David Remnick.)

But by spring, the experts were frantically recalculating. On June 17, The Washington Post reported, "According to academic and intelligence experts, the number of Westerners who have journeyed to the region — and become militarized and radicalized — has surged in the past year from hundreds to as many as 3,000."

Now the CIA has acknowledged Islamic State strength had soared to perhaps 20,000.

The group has been utilizing recruitment weapons Osama bin Laden never dreamed of as he planned his 9/11 attacks on America's homeland. It is luring recruits in the West with sophisticated public relations campaigns utilizing top-tech video and Internet arts that look as though they came out of a glitzy Madison Avenue agency. Their targets: young Muslim males who feel disenfranchised and unappreciated in the West.

A new Islamic State video trailer,

"Flames of War," now playing on the Internet looks like a high-class Hollywood flick. It is a bring-it-on dismissal of Obama's vow to degrade and ultimately destroy the Islamic State.

A new ultra-slick magazine, "Dabiq," lures potential jihadists in the West with an Islamic smorgasbord of propaganda: glossy photos of Islamic State troops triumphantly arriving to "liberate" a town; ghostly photos of the beheading of U.S. journalist James Foley.

Once America was the world's master of overt and covert mind games aimed at shaping geopolitical movements. A little noticed but arguably successful scheme during Ronald Reagan's presidency was designed to create a militant Islamic revolution to drive the Soviets out of Afghanistan.

Here's how it worked: America's foreign aid program saturated Afghanistan with school textbooks devised at the University of Nebraska-Omaha's Center for Afghanistan Studies. The texts were designed to mold Islamic boys by glorifying militancy with language celebrating Islamic jihad, photos of war and even by teaching arithmetic by using pictures of soldiers, tanks, guns and land mines as counting tools. Fast-forward: Eventually, the Soviets abandoned Afghanistan, the Taliban controlled it. And, of course, those 1980s boys were fighting-age militants when America invaded after the attacks of 9/11.

Today's understandable aversion to boots-on-the-ground battles leaves America and the West hoping the Islamic State can be defeated by arming, training and advising so-called moderate rebels in Syria, among the Kurds and in the Iraqi military. Meanwhile, we know they'll be fighting an Islamic State that is well armed with weapons America gave the Iraqi forces we trained — and which they dropped, and ran away, when the Islamic State attacked.

The battle for the hearts and minds of military-aged Muslims is a war we must ultimately win. If not, the entire region will ultimately be lost.

For the Islamic State is not really just another band of stateless terrorists. It has declared itself a caliphate. And it is marketing itself as a unique state — a border-transcending state of mind.

Ultimately, the West may or may not put new boots on the old familiar ground in Iraq and Syria. But this we know: The battle for Islam's hearts and minds cannot be won by the West. It can be won only by the world's influential, sensible but too often silent Islamic leaders. Perhaps they've had laryngitis.

Now they must answer Islam's call — and lead the battle for Islam's hearts and minds.

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police: Lonely man made 911 calls

PA HARRISON CITY — A Pennsylvania man has been charged with making three 911 calls to report bogus emergencies simply because he was lonely and wanted paramedics to show up.

Gregory Shaffer, 52, was jailed after his arraignment Wednesday on charges of making false reports to authorities.

Penn Township police said Shaffer called Westmoreland County's 911 center three times during about four hours on July 30 with various false complaints. The first time, Shaffer claimed he had fallen down some stairs and injured his head and neck. Paramedics said they found him intoxicated but otherwise well and calmly waiting inside his home.

Skunk with head stuck in beer can is rescued

OH OXFORD — A skunk with a beer can stuck on its head had to be rescued near a fraternity house in Ohio.

Oxford police said a resident called them about the skunk's predicament on Sunday. Police found the animal banging around trying to get the can off and running into shrubs.

Skunks are known for the offensive spray they can emit when threatened. But Sgt. Jon Varley said an animal control officer was able to free the skunk without getting sprayed.

The animal then was released. Varley said police in the city about an hour's drive northwest of Cincinnati have received calls before about skunks and other wild animals. But he said this was the first one he knew of that had to be rescued from a beer can.

Football team creates an unwelcome boom

IL SHELBYSVILLE — Gib Smart wishes the high school football team in Shelbyville could turn down the noise just a bit.

The Shelbyville Rams beat Clinton last Friday 50-19. And after every score, the booster club set off fireworks.

That had people complaining to Smart, a member of the City Council in the eastern Illinois town, about the noise, he told *The Herald & Review* in Decatur.

Mayor Jeff Johnson said he gave the booster club permission for the fireworks. He said the club met the required conditions.

Smart accepted that the boosters will be launching more fireworks. But he wondered whether the team might hold down the scoring just a bit to limit the noise, and the complaints.

Police: Man charged in neighbor's dog's death

WA BELLINGHAM — Authorities said a Washington state man fed up with barking fatally shot his neighbors' dog in front of his home. But the couple apparently wasn't the one barking.

THE CENSUS

\$14K

The amount of damage police say a Pennsylvania man caused to several other vehicles when he took a dare to do a "doughnut" with his pickup in a bar parking lot. Police said the truck of Brett Whitmire, 35, of Butler, kicked up damaging stones as it spun in a tight circle in the parking lot of the Beer Garden in Washington Township. Prosecutors said they're willing to drop a felony criminal mischief charge if Whitmire pays for the damage.



JOHN RAWLSTON, CHATTANOOGA (TENN.) TIMES FREE PRESS/AP

Rooster's ride

Rooster McGee, from Mount Airy, N.C., uses the fender of his car as a table Wednesday in Chattanooga Tenn. McGee was featured on the Discovery Channel show "Rebel Road" and is driving his converted Edsel station wagon in the Rat Rod Tour, which concludes Saturday in Tennessee. Rat rods are a style of hot rod or custom car that imitates or exaggerates older-model vehicles and may appear unfinished.

David William Latham faces charges of felony animal cruelty, among others. His attorney, Adri-ann Madrone, said his client feels terrible.

Authorities said Latham walked across the street Sept. 13, aimed his gun over his neighbors' backyard fence and shot the dog. Owner Loyce Andrews said her husband, Cary Chunyk, ran after Latham but stopped when Latham brandished the gun.

The dog died in the backyard. Other neighbors heard a dog barking and whining at a nearby home for hours after the shooting.

Motorists told to watch out for farm equipment

ID BLACKFOOT — Idaho State Police are cautioning motorists that harvest season has arrived and drivers need to be alert and cautious around large, slow-moving farming equipment on roads.

Sgt. Matt Manning told KIFI-

TV that the amount of farm equipment using roadways increases this time of year, and so do collisions.

He noted that farm equipment often lacks turn signals or brake lights. The agency said that last year, there were five fatalities involving cars colliding with farm equipment, making it one of the worst years police have seen.

Attorney general probes obese dog donations

OR PORTLAND — After thousands of dollars began to pour into the donation coffers for an obese and famous Dachshund, the Oregon Attorney General's Office took notice.

The Oregonian reported the attorney general's charitable activities office in January began to scrutinize how Nora Vanatta, who adopted the 77-pound Dachshund named Obie, spent the donations.

Spokeswoman Kristina Ed-

munson said the inquiry began when the office received complaints. Officials were concerned that donors could be misled to believe she was associated with an established nonprofit.

The plight of Obie's weight loss captivated dog lovers. From a penny to \$1,000, donations came in from around the world. The donations also covered \$15,000 in legal fees spurred from a custody battle over the fat dog. Vanatta says that the attorney general's inquiries have cost an additional \$11,800.

In the end, the attorney general's office found no wrongdoing, but Vanatta must follow their directive to give the money away to established nonprofits by a deadline.

Meanwhile, Obie is down to 22 pounds.

18 pounds of crystal meth = 51 months jail

HI HONOLULU — Calling 18-pounds of crystal

meth a huge amount of drugs but taking into consideration the youth of the Los Angeles man who carried it in a backpack, a federal judge in Honolulu sentenced him to about four years in prison for his role in a Hawaii drug ring.

U.S. District Judge Helen Gillmor sentenced Antonio Perez Jr., 22, to 51 months in prison Thursday. In spite of the quantity of the drugs involved, Gillmor said the sentence is far lower than what she could have imposed because of his youth, his lack of previous criminal convictions and because he comes from a good family.

Perez, 22, previously pleaded guilty to charges that he was involved a drug trafficking ring. According to court documents, another man brought the meth when he flew from San Diego to Honolulu last year. Perez's plea agreement says he met that man in a Waikiki hotel, where Perez loaded his backpack with 18 pounds of meth.

From wire reports

MUSIC

NEW ALBUMS



Justin Townes Earle
Single Mothers (Vagrant)

Justin Townes Earle, a guitar-wielding practitioner of bluesy folk music, comes up short on "Single Mothers," 10 tracks of wordy Americana with impractical melodies that are hard to care about.

The son of Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Steve Earle has earned his own way musically, releasing five albums. He plays a nice guitar and sings, passably at best, about nice topics. But something rince false about the delivery, as though he's performing out of his genre and is merely an artistic interloper.

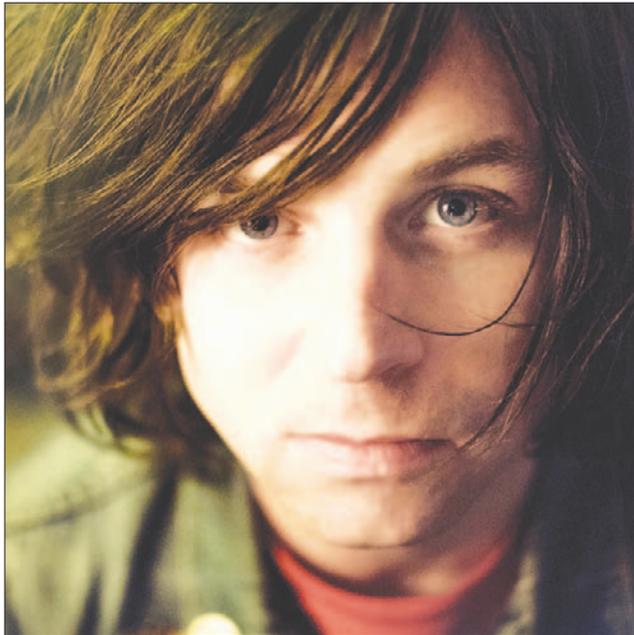
The title track is ostensibly about broken homes, but it's hard to tell amid the overly verbose lyrical plot line. "Wanna Be A Stranger" is similarly afflicted. The music and pace is fine, and the lyrics themselves are nicely constructed.

Earle just needs someone else to sing them. His effete, indie growl of a voice doesn't touch your heart well enough to pull you in deeper.

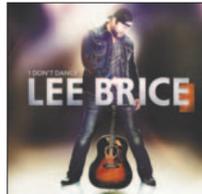
—Ron Harris
The Associated Press



Courtesy of Vagrant Records



JULIA BROKAW/Courtesy of Nasty Little Man



Lee Brice
I Don't Dance (Curb)

On Lee Brice's third album, "I Don't Dance," he furthers his reputation as the most sensitive of the ball cap-bedecked male singers grouped under the "bro country" banner.

Like the others, Brice packs albums with testaments to consequence-free partying ("No Better Than This") and an idealized version of rural life ("My Carolina"). However, in his arrangements and lyrics, Brice takes creative liberties that pay off in ways few of his peers accomplish. Like Brad Paisley before him, Brice comes off as a risk-taker willing to push the boundaries of what country can address in a 3-minute song.

Where Brice truly sets himself apart is on his ballads. The title song, a recent No. 1 country hit, as well as on "That Don't Sound Like You," "Good Man" and other songs, he reveals a talent for avoiding cliché and displaying an empathy for the real-life concerns of women.

As the album title suggests, the hefty Brice isn't likely to dazzle with fancy footwork. But when it comes to insightful looks at modern life, he is a step ahead of most other contemporary country hit-makers.

—Michael McCall
The Associated Press

Adams finds calmer ground

By MIKAEL WOOD
Los Angeles Times

Ryan Adams says that before he wrote and recorded his new, self-titled album, he scrapped an entirely different record he'd composed with the esteemed English producer Glyn Johns, who had overseen Adams' "Ashes & Fire" from 2011.

No surprise there: At 39, Adams already has made more music than many — perhaps most — artists twice his age; his catalog is full of limited-edition releases that live in the shadows of his higher-profile projects. What's unexpected about "Ryan Adams" if you know the record's back story, though, is how even-tempered it feels, not at all like the impulsive bloodletting its origin story might suggest.

Featuring a small rock band that includes Tal Wilkenfeld on bass and Benmont Tench on organ, the 11-track set has a bigger, more forceful sound than the acoustic "Ashes & Fire"; "Kim" even crests with a noisy guitar solo by Johnny Depp, one of many luminaries known to drop by regularly at Adams'



Ryan Adams
Ryan Adams (Pax Am/Blue Note)

Hollywood recording studio.

But the handsome melodic hooks and sturdy roots-music grooves, some of which are downright Tom Petty-ish, provide a hard-won equilibrium in songs about searching for relief from unspecified ailments. "All my life been shaking,

wanting something/Holding everything I had like it was broken," he sings in the album's low-slung opener, "Gimme Something Good."

Whatever Adams was after, he appears to have found it.

Ty Segall
Manipulator (Drag City)

Ty Segall is so prolific as a solo artist, serial collaborator, and moonlighter in other people's bands that the buzz on "Manipulator" is about how the Southern California psych-rockers has slowed his roll to spend a year laboring on his seventh album.

Segall's sensibility is still retro — reference points are '60s hipie aesthetes like Love and Blue

Cheer, and much of what he does would mesh nicely with the original "Nuggets" compilation.

But on the 17-track "Manipulator" — which effectively employs a string section on the tense "The Clock" and two other tracks — he makes enticing garage rock that shimmers and shakes in the present, with his best character-sketch songs showing depth beneath the gleaming surface.

—Dan DeLuca
The Philadelphia Inquirer



The New Pornographers
Brill Bruisers (Matador Records)

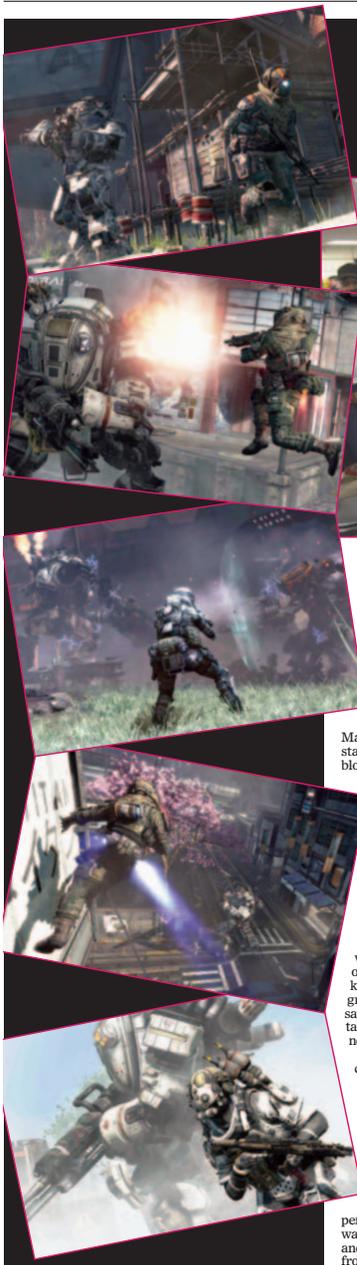
The New Pornographers have spent each record pushing forward, trying new things while always sounding like themselves, and "Brill Bruisers" is a solid, satisfying record, one that found a fresh approach and created some more ultra-catchy pop tunes. If the freshness dulls on occasion when the new approach gets overused, you can still hear the quality underneath, even if you're more inclined to move the needle back to the tunes that leave their bruise more immediately.

—Matthew Fiander
PopMatters.com

LIFESTYLE

Clash of the 'Titans'

School's gaming tournament pits students against alumni



"Titanfall" combines wall-running and double-jumping action with powerful, fast-paced titan warfare. A sixth update for the Xbox One consoles and PCs was released on Sept. 3.

Photos courtesy of Electronic Arts



By DEBORAH M. TODD
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Americans might think of presidential challenges as part of long-forgotten gym classes packed with endurance runs, pullups and other strenuous tasks that no student ever sees a president complete.

For the Art Institute of Pittsburgh's President's Gaming Challenge — a 3½-hour March Madness-style video game tournament starring Respawn Entertainment's blockbuster Xbox exclusive "Titanfall" — school president George

Sebolt was not only front and center for the action but was challenging students to knock him and his team of staffers off the bracket, a task he admitted would be a lot easier than the team name, "Presidential Pain," implied.

"My team will talk a big talk that we're going to be undefeated when really, secretly, we're pretty bad at this game," Sebolt confessed. "So what typically happens is we'll play our first round against a team we know we can beat, like another faculty group. We end up beating them and saying, 'See, I told you.' Then, inevitably, we play against a student team next and we get crushed."

Crushing defeats aside, the gaming challenge — now in its fourth year — is considered a win for Sebolt and his students alike.

The challenge kicked off Sept. 3 with 10 wall-mounted flat screens, stacks of literature and gaming guides, 26 teams of four, and more than 100 students waiting in a student common area to play and watch the show unfold.

"Titanfall," a multiplayer first-person shooter featuring deep-space wars fought by soldiers called "pilots" and massive "Titan" robots that drop from the sky at opportune moments, released its sixth update for the Xbox One console and PCs Sept. 3.

Sebolt, who brought the tournament to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in 2010 after it was created during his run as president of the Art Institute of California, Orange County, said the original



PHOTOS BY LARRY ROBERTS, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE/MCT

Top: The Art Institute of Pittsburgh's President's Gaming Challenge took place at the school on Sept. 3.

Above: With a mock-up of Art Institute president George Sebolt in the background, the real Sebolt, right, poses with Art Institute alumni Stig Amussen, left, and Brad Allen, creators of the "Titanfall" game.

goal was to use gaming to bridge the gap between students and faculty.

At the invitation of Stig Amussen, game director at Los Angeles-based Respawn, and Brad Allen, senior artist at Respawn, Sebolt upped the ante to allow students to make closer connections to institute alumni who are established industry insiders.

Amussen, a 1998 institute graduate, was creative director on the Sony PlayStation franchise hit "God of War." Allen, who graduated from AIP in 1993, was the senior artist behind much of the "Call of Duty" franchise.

Bringing the two men in to play during the tournament and to work as featured panelists during a gaming industry roundtable was the perfect way to highlight the tournament's networking opportunities.

"I think that interaction gives them something to aspire to," Sebolt said. "If a student chooses (gaming) as the industry they want to get into, they can talk to graduates who successfully got into the industry, find out how they did it. It gives them ideas, tips and a possible path to get in."

Nothing how far the Pittsburgh Art Institute has come in terms of career options — there was no gaming major when Allen graduated, and the school

was only beginning to reach out to gaming students by the time Amussen entered — both men said this class of students has access to resources that would have made their journeys much more simple.

After graduating, Allen said he bounced from working at Starbucks to painting film sets in Los Angeles until 2000, when he landed his first job designing game art. He and individuals in that company would eventually come together to form Infinity Ward, the company behind "Call of Duty."

Amussen started off as an architecture major and part-time bartender before he found his way to the Art Institute. Even with his degree under his belt, he worked double time — supporting himself with a day job and fine-tuning his demo reel for gaming companies by night — before landing his first job with Atari.

Knowing that the idea of making video games seemed like an impossible dream for him as a student, Allen said he hopes his and Amussen's visit helps show students the reality of the business.

"To see students from the school you actually go to having jobs in the industry you're trying to get into makes it seem much more feasible," Allen said.

VIDEO GAMES

The game's story unfolds centuries in the future, after humans have discovered an immense and powerful extraterrestrial sphere they call the Traveler. This technological wonder has provided the knowledge to terraform Venus and Mars and triple the span of human life.

Unfortunately, the Traveler also came with an enemy: the Darkness. It took this alien presence several centuries to reach Earth but, when it arrived, it practically obliterated human civilization. Now, there is only one safe city left on Earth and you and other gamers are the species' last hope: the Guardians.

You start off by creating a Guardian. You can choose among three character classes and three "races." The classes are heavy fighters, snipers and warlocks, who wield mystical powers. The races are standard humans, androids and the Awoken, who are sort of like blue space elves. The Awoken descend from humans

who were separated from the rest of the species when the Darkness launched its onslaught. After selecting your class and race, you choose from

a limited number of facial types, hairstyles and skin tones. Unfortunately, the selection is rather limited in each of these categories when compared to other games.

As you progress through the game, your character will gain new armor, weapons and skills in typical role-playing game fashion. Each class has its own special abilities, which can be used to devastating effect. For example, the Titan heavy fighter class can leap into the air and pound the ground with such force that nearby enemies are killed or wounded. And warlocks fling potent energy balls at foes.

Your base of operations is in the last city. Here, you can obtain missions, buy gear and find other gamers to fight alongside. The place is filled with avatars, so finding an ally to help with an adventure isn't hard.

When you leave the city, things get interesting. The solar system is filled with nefarious foes linked to the Darkness. The Fallen are an alien species running rampant over most of the solar system. The Vex are a collection of robots that have a hold on Venus, now a lush jungle planet. The Cabal is a militaristic race that plagues Mars. And the Hive is a zombie-like race that might remind "Halo" fans a bit of the Flood. Although these races often fight each other, they save plenty of ammo to fire at you.

Most storyline missions can be accomplished solo, but are much more enjoyable when you join a friend or two. These missions involve standard video game deeds, such as killing a bunch of baddies, gathering intelligence or picking up some helpful object. Unfortunately, they can start feeling repetitive after a planet or two.



A date with 'Destiny'

A balanced combination keeps sci-fi shooter fun

By BRIAN BOWERS/*Stars and Stripes*

When the developer of the sci-fi shooter "Halo" joined with the publisher of the combat classic "Call of Duty," it seemed like a dream team. And, indeed, the Bungie/Activision pairing delivers on a good deal of its promise with "Destiny."

The game's multiplayer competition feels a lot like Activision's "Call of Duty," offering frantic firefights in a variety of gameplay modes.

And its mechanics, especially the physics and weapon characteristics, feel like

those from Bungie's over-clocked "Halo" universe.

But at its core, the game diverges from both franchises and offers something that's reminiscent of the offbeat shooter "Borderlands," with several distinct character classes and the ability to play cooperatively with friends in a world overflowing with evildoers. In addition, developers threw in a few elements that will be familiar to fans of massive multiplayer online games.

Overall, it's a balanced combination that keeps "Destiny" enjoyable.



The new sci-fi shooter "Destiny" lets players personalize and upgrade every aspect of how they look and fight with a nearly limitless combination of armor, weapons and visual customizations.

Photos courtesy of Bungie/Activision



Things get more exciting when you team with two other players — either friends or randomly assigned gamers — to tackle strike missions, which are scattered throughout the storyline. These feature swarms of foes toppled off by a boss or two who kick the action into higher gear.

In addition to these missions,

you can go on patrol, which involves wandering a planet's surface and picking up small quests, which are usually just excuses to engage in gunplay with dozens of enemies and acquire loot and experience. However, patrols can turn from routine to extreme in short order when a "public event" occurs. The Darkness drops a

horde of enemies into the middle of the map, and Guardians from around the planet suddenly pop up to do battle — and cash in on the rewards.

Beyond the storyline missions, you can jump into the Crucible, a good ol' multiplayer slugfest. There are several styles of play to choose from, including varia-

Overall grade: **B+**

tions on capture the flag, team death match and free-for-all. The battlefields are well designed for the sort of fast-paced combat that "Call of Duty" is known for.

You can start competitive play once you reach the fifth level, but be aware that you'll immediately be thrown in with gamers of all experience levels. There is a modest attempt to equalize things a wee bit, but you're still going to serve as cannon fodder until you've had time to gather some good gear and experience.

The weapons will be familiar to any shooter fan: shotguns, sniper rifles, assault rifles, machine guns, powerful pistols and rocket launchers. Most of these are pretty standard, but you'll occasionally find a weapon that does extra "elemental" damage, such as burning or freezing. For something a little more spectacular, you can try a fusion rifle, which can be absolutely devastating in the right circumstances.

Overall, "Destiny" delivers plenty of action. Much like "Borderlands," there's always something to fight. But also like "Borderlands," you aren't going to find a very complex story or character development. "Mass Effect" showed that game stories and characters could be every deep and compelling, and even "Halo" managed to make Master Chief more than an action hero. However, my "Destiny" character seemed to be a standard-issue video game warrior who had nothing to make him interesting beyond cool gear and impressive stats.

For the most part, the game is excellent technically.

The graphics are superb. There's the same sense of realism that you expect from new-generation "Call of Duty" games. The characters move realistically, and the settings are filled with a tremendous amount of detail and texture.

The interface is also well designed. The controls are efficient and responsive. And even with all of the different options and role-playing elements, everything works smoothly. There's little fuss or menu management required.

Unfortunately, online aspects of the game can sometimes be plagued by connection issues. At least once a day, it seems that my connection — or a co-op partner's — failed and ended a mission. Believe me, that can be incredibly frustrating if you're about to complete a complex strikes mission.

The game is rated T for teens, which means there is little that's objectionable beyond the violence.

Bottom line: B+ "Destiny" delivers plenty of action and excitement, especially when played cooperatively. However, it suffers a bit from repetitive missions and a shallow storyline.

Platforms: Xbox One, Xbox 360, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 3
Online: destinythegame.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

Roll out aches and pains, tight muscles

Inexpensive foam rollers let you give yourself a deep-tissue massage

By MARY MACVEAN
Los Angeles Times

Maybe your shoulders are achy from time spent bent over a computer keyboard. Perhaps your running has tightened your quads and calves to the point of cramping.

Whatever the cause, foam rollers are an inexpensive and growing answer to tight muscles, soft tissue pain, knots and other problems connected to the fascial system, the web of soft, connective tissue in the body. Rollers stretch and massage the areas — and that helps athletic performance, says trainer Ashley Borden.

Borden and other trainers and teachers are using them in classes of all kinds, and gyms are stocking them.

“Rolling out opens you up; it’s your own deep tissue massage,” Borden says. “Which of us can afford a massage every morning before we work out?”

Borden met us at the bustling Fitness Factory L.A. in West Hollywood to show how rolling works. It’s a tool, she says, “to troubleshoot your own body,” and it can help with mobility, balance, alignment and relief from aches and pains.

But don’t mistake it for a relaxing spa massage. Rolling out can range from comfortable to downright painful — not unlike the discomfort from a really strong stretch. But you should feel relief afterward.

Her own experience made Borden a fan of rollers. “I was a



PHOTOS BY CHERYL A. GUERRERO, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

Trainer Ashley Borden demonstrates how to use a foam roller on different parts of the body. Foam rollers can help improve mobility and balance and ease aches and pain associated with tight muscles.



dancer, and I thought I had great posture,” she said, adding that in training, she learned otherwise. So she began using rollers to adjust her alignment. “I saw how my body changed, and it felt better.”

The idea is to target various places from head to toe where there are tight muscles or knots by getting into specific positions and rolling over the target area, generally 10 times, to ease the problem. Avoid rolling directly on bones or joints, Borden says.

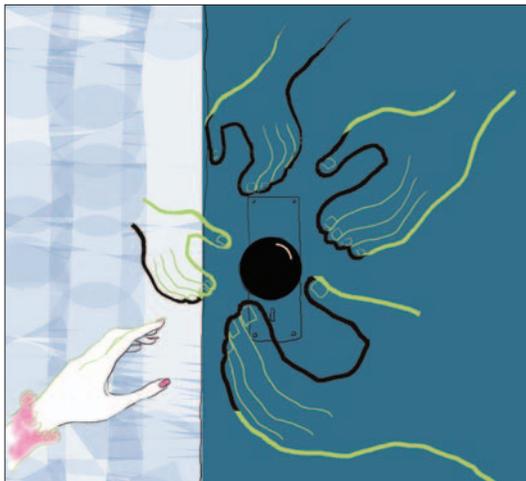
She suggests trying the stretches before a workout or in the evening while watching TV. “I spend a lot of quality time with my roller,” she joked.

Anyone feeling uncertain can consult a doctor or fitness professional, Borden said.

Rollers come in various levels of firmness. The softest roller is for people who are fragile for any reason. Borden uses PVC pipe, which has no give at all. She suggests it for those who like a tough workout. Some rollers have a soft outer grid. Most of them are compressed beads and keep their shape for a long time. There are even very short ones that fit in a carry-on suitcase.

Many brands are available online and in sports stores, and range from around \$15 to \$65. Lacrosse and other balls also can be used in a similar way to get at specific sore spots.

Borden has a downloadable guide to rolling out, available for free on her website, ashleyborden.com.



The Seattle Times illustration

A germey doorknob can infect half of the people in an office within hours

By ABBY PHILLIP
The Washington Post

Viruses can spread from a single doorknob to 40 to 60 percent of surfaces and people in a building in just a few hours, according to a new study.

Researchers put a tracer virus on one or two surfaces in a building (for example a doorknob or push plate) at the beginning of the day. And after two to four hours, the virus could be detected on a majority of commonly touched surfaces such as light switches, coffee pot handles, phones and computers.

“We actually put a virus on a push plate in an office building of 80 people, had three entrances, and within four hours it ended up on over half the people’s hands, and it ended up on over half the surfaces that people touched in that building,” said University of Arizona researcher Charles Gerba, who presented the study at the 54th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy on Sept. 8.

“What we really learned was the hand is quicker than the sneeze in the spread of disease,” Gerba said during his presentation. The alarming speed in which the virus goes from a surface to the hands of anyone

— workers and visitors in office buildings, schools, hotels and hospitals — serves as an important reminder to wash hands and disinfect surfaces frequently.

Viruses such as diarrhea, the flu and the common cold can cause illness when people have the viruses on their hands and then touch their faces, which they do about once every three to four minutes, according to Gerba.

Gerba said that hand-washing, disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer use was found to significantly reduce the spread of a virus.

“Using disinfecting wipes containing quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATS) registered by EPA as effective against viruses like norovirus and flu, along with hand hygiene, reduced virus spread by 80 to 99 percent,” he said.

Touch was found to spread the virus in places where people might least expect it. It wasn’t the bathroom, but the break room, that was a “hot spot” for virus spread.

“What’s the first thing you do when you go to work? You get a cup of coffee. You want to be the first one in that coffee break room,” Gerba said. “Every time you touch these surfaces you’re picking up between 30 and 50 percent of the organisms [that] are on that surface.”

A new study has found that one doorknob can contaminate up to 60 percent of the people in a building in a few hours.

ENTERTAINMENT



Scott Bakula, left, with CCH Pounder, will appear on "NCIS: New Orleans." "Look, the 'NCIS' franchise is beyond successful," says the "Quantum Leap" actor. "I've never been a part of anything as wildly successful as this show has been. It's the most-watched show on the planet. I can't get my head around that."

CBS

Who dat?

Familiar face Scott Bakula starring on franchise spinoff 'NCIS: New Orleans'

By SCOTT COLLINS/Los Angeles Times

One of the most recognizable faces on TV, Scott Bakula has played prominent roles on shows such as "Quantum Leap," "Star Trek: Enterprise," "Chuck," "Men of a Certain Age,"

leans. Will this be the same "NCIS" fans know and love? (The show premieres Sept. 24 on AFN.)

I'm trying to say to people that it's going to be the same but different. Look, the "NCIS" franchise is beyond successful. I've never been a part of anything as wildly successful as this show has been. It's the most-watched show on the planet. I can't get my head around that.

Your character is based on D'Wayne Swear, who really did run the NCIS unit in New Orleans and now serves as a technical adviser on the show. What's he like?

The real D'Wayne is a lot like this guy that I'm playing. He's hugely passionate. He absolutely loves his job. I met him on the phone. I was getting background. He said, "I'm at your disposal. You can call me any time you want. Well, no, don't call me on Thursday, because I'm helping out on a case that's out in such and such a parish." I'm like, "Wait a minute, I thought you were retired?" He said, "Well semi-retired. Now it's a pretty big case, and so they asked me to come in." He loves his work. He has his own way of doing it. He's a little bit of, I think "rebel" might be too strong

"Behind the Candelabra" and "Looking."

Now the 59-year-old actor is back playing Dwayne Pride in "NCIS: New Orleans," CBS' latest spinoff in its smash crime franchise. He spoke by phone from the set in New Orleans.

of a word, but he gets the job done. He's not always super-worried about what the correct procedure is or the rules are. He knows everybody in town. He knows all the police in each parish that we go to.

You're already correcting people's pronunciation of "New Orleans." It's not "Nawlines," right?

The locals, they cringe at that. And they cringe at New Or-LEANS. It's "New Orleans."

You're not a Louisiana native, so how did you work on the accent?

Well, I work with a dialect coach whom I've worked with for probably over 20 years, Jessica Drake. She's pretty famous in the business. We've done New York cops, we've done Appalachia. I've always loved dialects. I did it many times in the theater.

You started shooting in the middle of summer, when the Louisiana heat and humidity were at their peak. How are you dealing?

It's difficult. It has been difficult on the crew. We've had people with heatstroke; we've had many different challenging situations already. You just melt. I mean, it's

not pretty. You're chasing somebody, and when it's over you're completely saturated. I grew up in St. Louis, and I don't know if you've ever been to St. Louis in the middle of summer. There are days in the summer sometimes, weeks in the summer, where the temperature can be over 100 degrees and the humidity can be 100 percent. I'm not a stranger to this. But I haven't lived in it for this amount of time for a very long time.

You're in New Orleans shooting for five days a week, but your family is back in L.A. How's that working out?

Well, we're all discovering that. It's a process. We're in the middle of shooting our fourth episode, and we've all agreed that we're going to be flexible and try and determine how this is going to work. Nobody is talking about what this will be long term. We've got an order for 13 episodes, and we're trying to make this 13 as great as we possibly can and see what happens. I don't know that I would ever move here, but if we get picked up for longer I would get more of a permanent kind of residence that I would go to when I was here.

Many fans still remember you for "Quantum Leap," the early 1990s show about a physicist who time travels. At the end of every episode, you'd land inside the next adventure, glance around and mutter, "Oh, boy."

That was in the first script. That was part of the convention that Don Bellisario, the creator) came up with, which was genius, with the "leap in" and the "leap out." That was the hook to bring people in next week. I never said it the same way twice. I know I had one "Oy vey."

Then you stepped into another cult franchise, playing Capt. Archer in "Star Trek: Enterprise." How on earth did you please all those tough sci-fi fanboys and fangirls?

These sci-fi fans are phenomenal in the standards that they hold you to. But I came into "Enterprise" with some notoriety in the sci-fi world, so people that never watched "Star Trek," when I got "Enterprise," all of a sudden they jumped on the "Star Trek" bandwagon. It's been a good marriage.

Now you're in the latest version of the "NCIS" franchise, this one set in New Or-

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STARS AND STRIPES OFFERS A SUMMARY OF THE LEADING STORIES OF THE WEEK.

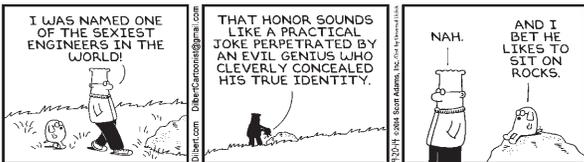


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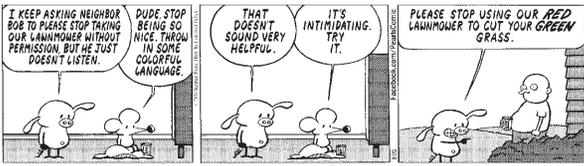
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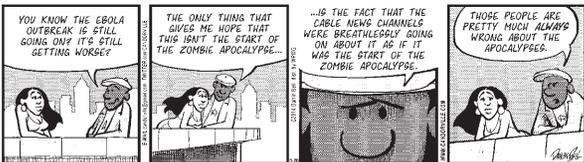
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 Limerick or haiku
- 5 Constrict
- 9 Toss in
- 12 Busy with
- 13 Addict
- 14 Witless
- 15 Mythical man goat
- 16 Do in
- 17 Right angle
- 18 Move like a butterfly
- 19 On maiden
- 20 Armor of a sort
- 21 Leading lady?
- 23 Great the villain
- 25 Get all whiny
- 28 Northerner
- 32 Spiral
- 33 "America's Got Talent" judge
- 34 Attorney General since 2009
- 36 Prolonged attacks
- 37 Tokyo's old name
- 38 Balaam's ride
- 39 "Get lost!"
- 42 Actor McBride
- 43 Pouches
- 48 "Skip to My —"
- 49 Related
- 50 Storybook baddie
- 51 Six-pack, maybe
- 52 Skilled
- 53 Urban disturbance

DOWN

- 1 Jackie Paper's pal
- 2 Autumnal birthstone
- 3 Needle case
- 4 Uruguay's capital
- 5 Four pecks
- 6 Man or Wight
- 7 At hand
- 8 Parched
- 9 On the briny
- 10 Sandwich shop
- 11 Farmer's place?
- 22 Big name in child education
- 24 Refuge, briefly
- 25 "Quiet!"
- 26 Keanu's role in "The Matrix"
- 27 Under the weather
- 29 Frat party item
- 30 Preceding
- 31 Type measures
- 35 USA vehicle
- 36 Marchers of song
- 39 Thick chunk
- 40 Vagrant
- 41 Unseated
- 43 Stereo hookup
- 45 Not "fer"
- 46 Gator's cousin
- 47 MacFarlane or Meyers
- 49 Commotion

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	S	S	A	L	M	A	Z	A	P	S
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9-20

CRYPTOQUIP

YURTTCYRU ERZDUJ TRXRXSJ
 MK R HMOOJTT KJRXSZCWH
 TMEJ VZMECWJWX DUMMO
 GJTJTUT: GJWMST OJ ECUM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THIS COMPANY THAT MAKES WOODEN FENCE PIECES IS DOING WELL FINANCIALLY. I'D LIKE A STAKE IN IT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals F

MLB/SPORTS BRIEFS

Judges skeptical of Bonds conviction

9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals could overturn 2011 obstruction of justice verdict

By PAUL ELIAS
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Skeptical members of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals questioned the soundness of Barry Bonds' obstruction of justice conviction for a rambling response to a grand jury in 2003 and left open the possibility they may throw out the verdict.

During oral arguments that lasted just over an hour Thursday, judges asked a federal government lawyer how an evasive answer could be obstructive given that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled it is a prosecutor's duty to pin down a witness who gives an evasive answer.

"I don't see how there is sufficient evidence where the question was re-asked immediately and answered repeatedly," Circuit Judge Susan P. Graber said. "So it's as if someone says, 'Well I can't remember what time it was. Oh, yeah, it was 7 o'clock.' It just doesn't make sense to me that a jury could find the elements as instructed given the specifics of this case."

Bonds was given immunity to testify before a grand jury investigating the illegal distribution of performance-enhancing drugs. Prosecutors asked Bonds whether Greg Anderson, his personal trainer, ever gave him "anything that required a syringe to inject yourself with?"

Baseball's career home runs leader re-

ferred to his father, former major leaguer Bobby Bonds, when he responded: "I was a celebrity child, not just in baseball by my own instincts. I became a celebrity child with a famous father. I just don't get into other people's business because of my father's situation, you see."

Barry Bonds answered "no" to similar questions later in his grand jury appearance. His lawyer, Dennis Riordan, argued that was sufficient to override any non-responsive answers.

"Can a non-responsive, misleading answer be cured?" Circuit Judge Jacqueline H. Nguyen asked Assistant U.S. Attorney Merry Jean Chan.

"Cure is a different word than I would use," Chan said.

"Nevertheless, that's the question you are being asked, and I would like to know an answer to Judge Nguyen's question, not a different question," Chief Judge Alex Kozinski said.

Many in the court room laughed when Circuit Judge N. Randy Smith interjected: "Did you just give an evasive answer?"

"At least I don't think I had the intent to. There was no corrupt intent, your honor," Chan responded.

Kozinski then chimed in: "That might be a jury issue. And remember that the U.S. Attorney is watching."

The jury at Bonds' trial in 2011 failed to reach a verdict on three counts charging



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

Former San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds got another attempt to overturn his obstruction of justice conviction when an 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in his case on Thursday.

him with making false statements when he denied receiving steroids and human growth hormone from Anderson and denied receiving injections from Anderson or his associates. Prosecutors later dismissed those three charges.

The guilty verdict was upheld last year in a unanimous vote by a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit, but a majority of the court's 28 participating judges voted to set aside that decision and have the larger group rehear the appeal. A decision by the 11-judge panel is not expected until next year.

Circuit Judge William A. Fletcher

compared the prosecution's definition of obstruction with lawyers who evaded questions in civil litigation with the intent to mislead. When he asked Chan whether that would be criminal behavior, Chan said she believed it would be.

"So how many San Francisco lawyers do you intend to put in jail?" Fletcher said. "That is common behavior in civil litigation. Have you just criminalized half the bar here? ... I find your reading of the statute absolutely alarming, and half the bar, maybe three-quarters, maybe all of the bar is in big trouble."



AARON FAVULA/AP

Two-time Grand Slam winner Li Na, of China, formally announced her retirement on Friday. The 32-year-old cited recurring knee injuries as reason for her retirement.

Briefly

Li announces retirement

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Relying on fitness and a strong baseline game, Li Na reached the pinnacle of tennis and lifted the level of the sport in Asia to unprecedented heights.

A sense of humor along the way certainly helped.

The legs that carried Li to two Grand Slam titles ultimately couldn't get her through another season, with the 32-year-old Chinese tennis star citing recurring knee injuries as the reason she needed to quit when she announced her retirement in an open letter posted to social networks on Friday.

The WTA, which governs women's tennis, has described Li as a trailblazer after becoming the first player from Asia to win a major title — the 2011 French Open, beating four top 10 players in succession to wrap up the title — a few months after becoming the first from the region to reach a Grand Slam final, at the 2011 Australian Open.

In her third trip to the final at Melbourne Park, Li won the Australian Open title in January to

reach a career-high No. 2 ranking, another continental milestone.

"Winning a Grand Slam title this year and achieving a ranking of World No. 2 is the way I would like to leave competitive tennis," she said in a letter that thanked fans, supporters, sponsors and fellow players. "As hard as it's been to come to this decision, I am at peace with it. I have no regrets.

Vikings release WR after new charges

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minnesota — The Minnesota Vikings have released wide receiver Jerome Simpson.

The move was made Thursday, following the revelation of misdemeanor charges of driving on a limited driver's license, possession of marijuana in a motor vehicle, and having an open bottle in a motor vehicle for Simpson from a July citation.

He has a Nov. 3 arraignment in Hennepin County court, but with Simpson already serving a three-game suspension for violating the league's substance abuse policy, the Vikings didn't wait to assess

his status. He would have been eligible to return Monday.

In other NFL news:

■ Arizona has placed 15-year veteran John Abraham on injured reserve after he sustained a concussion in the season opener against San Diego, ending his season with the Cardinals.

The 36-year-old outside linebacker is the NFL's active career sacks leader with 133½, ranking him ninth on the all-time list.

Nebraska kicker breaks collarbone in crash

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska kicker Mauro Bondi broke his collarbone when he crashed his motorcycle on the north side of Lincoln.

The accident occurred about 6:30 p.m. Thursday when Bondi failed to negotiate a curve on his 2004 Suzuki and struck a curb. Bondi told police he thought he was traveling about 45 mph. Alcohol or drugs were not a factor.

Police spokeswoman Katie Flood said a roommate drove Bondi to a hospital, where he was treated and released.

AUTO RACING



NAM Y. HUN/AP

AJ Allmendinger was never competitive in the Chase for the championship opener, finishing 22nd.

Allmendinger, Almirola just happy to be there

A CHARLOTTE, N.C. J Allmendinger and Aric Almirola were the underdogs of the Chase, the two drivers nobody thought could win the Sprint Cup championship.

They knew it, too, when they arrived in Chicago and for the first time in their careers were allowed behind NASCAR's velvet rope. They got the white glove treatment in a private dinner with chairman Brian France and his executives, and were whisked around the city during a celebration of the 16-driver field.

Scoring an invite to the party was a coup; not getting kicked out early a major challenge.

"I was laughing at it, (Vegas) made odds for 14 drivers," said Allmendinger, "and me and Almirola were just 'The Field' for the championship. There were 14 names with odds, and then 'The Field' at 500-to-1."

Almirola made the Chase by winning the rain-shortened July race at Daytona, where he gave Hall of Famer Richard Petty his first win in 15 years. Allmendinger used a gritty drive on the road course at Watkins Glen to score his first Cup win and put tiny JTG/Daugherty Racing into the Chase.

So in a sense, both Allmendinger and Almirola should have gone into the Chase with a "we're just happy to be here mentality." They didn't, though. They both wanted more, and both wanted to



NAM Y. HUN/AP

Aric Almirola ran as high as fourth Sunday at Chicagoland Speedway and was in sixth place when his engine failed. He wound up 41st.

survive the first round of eliminations. To do so, they would have to be perfect and work in a margin with zero room for errors.

It's a terribly hard task, and one neither succeeded at on Sunday at Chicagoland Speedway. Almirola was easily the biggest surprise of the opening Chase race, running as high as fourth, and he was sixth when he headed to pit road for a routine stop. Then his engine suddenly failed and his race was over. Almirola finished 41st in a devastating ending to what had been shaping up to be a monster day.

"I've never been so heartbroken, ever," Almirola said from the garage after Petty draped his arm around the dejected driver. "To be running that good with (just) over 30 laps to go ... I've

been saying all week that we can't have a big mistake."

Allmendinger simply wasn't competitive enough on Sunday. He was 22nd for the third-worst finish among Chase drivers.

"I'm thinking big picture, man, but we do this every weekend," he radioed to his team with 86 laps remaining. "I mean, I know you guys are trying, we are all in it together, but it just gets harder every weekend and we don't make any progress."

Now with two races remaining before NASCAR knocks the bottom four drivers out of the Chase, Allmendinger is 14th in the standings and Almirola last in the 16-driver field. Yet they had to know this was going to happen, that it's just too hard to stand up for 10 weeks against Team Penske and Hendrick Motorsports.

Allmendinger sort of hinted at that in the buildup to Sunday when he was already looking ahead to the Sept. 28 race at Dover, where the field will be trimmed. He has three top-10 finishes there and led 143 laps there in 2010.

"We've just got to be perfect. We're just got to be at our best," he said. "I look at a race like Dover, depending on how the first two (races) have run, if we have to win it to stay in it, then you start taking some chances."

So now Almirola and Allmendinger will have to gamble the next two weeks and go for broke on every decision. There can be no second-guessing because their seasons are officially on the line. "We have to win. That is it. There is no other option," Almirola said Sunday. "We have to go and figure out how we can win one of the next two races."

Around the tracks

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

This week: Sylvania 300 at Loudon, N.H.

Track: New Hampshire Motor Speedway (oval, 1.058 miles).

Distance: 318.46 miles, 300 laps.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 8 p.m. Sunday Central European Time.

Last year: Matt Kenseth raced to the last of his seven 2013 victories, holding off Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Kyle Busch.

Last week: Brad Keselowski won the Chase opener at Chicagoland. He has won consecutive races and leads the series with five victories.

Next race: AAA 400, Sept. 28, Dover International Speedway, Dover, Del.

Online: nascar.com

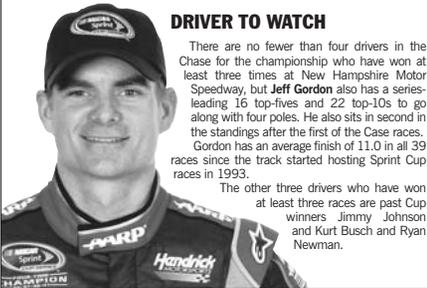
POINTS STANDINGS

1. Brad Keselowski.....2,059
2. Jeff Gordon.....2,052
3. Joey Logano.....2,049
4. Kevin Harvick.....2,047
5. Dale Earnhardt Jr.....2,042
6. Jimmie Johnson.....2,041
7. Kyle Busch.....2,041
8. Denny Hamlin.....2,041
9. Kurt Busch.....2,039
10. Casey Kahne.....2,034
11. Matt Kenseth.....2,034
12. Carl Edwards.....2,030
13. Ryan Newman.....2,029
14. AJ Allmendinger.....2,025
15. Greg Biffle.....2,021
16. Aric Almirola.....2,007
17. Kyle Larson.....779
18. Clint Bowyer.....751
19. Jamie McMurray.....742
20. Austin Dillon.....726

DRIVER TO WATCH

There are no fewer than four drivers in the Chase for the championship who have won at least three times at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, but **Jeff Gordon** also has a series-leading 16 top-fives and 22 top-10s to go along with four poles. He also sits in second in the standings after the first of the Chase races. Gordon has an average finish of 11.0 in all 39 races since the track started hosting Sprint Cup races in 1993.

The other three drivers who have won at least three races are past Cup winners Jimmy Johnson and Kurt Busch and Ryan Newman.



NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: VisitMyrtleBeach.com 300 at Sparta, Ky.

Track: Kentucky Speedway (oval, 1.5 miles).

Distance: 300 miles, 200 laps.

TV: AFN-Xtra, delayed, 9 a.m. Sunday CET.

Last year: Truck Series driver Ryan Blaney raced to his first Nationwide victory.

Last week: Sprint Cup driver Kevin Harvick won at Chicagoland for his fourth series victory of the year.

Next race: NASCAR Nationwide Series, Sept. 27, Dover International Speedway, Dover, Del.

Online: nascar.com

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS SERIES

This week: UNOH 175 at Loudon, N.H.

Track: New Hampshire Motor Speedway (oval, 1.058 miles).

Distance: 185.15 miles, 175 laps.

Last year: No race. In 2011, Kyle Busch raced to his third straight victory at the track.

Last week: Busch won the rain-delayed race at Chicagoland for his sixth victory in eight starts this season.

Next race: Rhino Linings 350, Sept. 27, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas.

Online: nascar.com

FORMULA ONE

This week: Singapore Grand Prix at Singapore.

Track: Marina Bay Street Circuit (street course, 3.147 miles).

Distance: 191.98 miles, 61 laps.

Last year: Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel

led racing to the seventh of his 13 2013 victories. He's winning this season.

Last race: Lewis Hamilton won the Italian Grand Prix on Sept. 7 for his sixth victory of the year.

Next race: Japanese Grand Prix, Oct. 3, Suzuka International, Suzuka, Japan.

Online: formula1.com

NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

This week: Texas Fall Nationals at Ennis, Texas.

Track: Texas Motorplex.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 2:30 a.m. Monday CET.

Last year: Doug Kalitka ended a 71-race Top Fuel victory drought. Cruz Pedregon won in Funny Car, Jason Line in Pro Stock, and Eddie Krawiec in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

Last week: Rain washed out most of the final eliminations in the Carolina Nationals, forcing series officials to reschedule them during qualifying rounds at Texas.

Next event: Midwest Nationals, Sept. 26-28, Gateway Motorsports Park, Madison, Ill.

Online: nhra.com

OTHER RACES

ARCA RACING SERIES: ZLOOP 150, Friday, Kentucky Speedway, Sparta, Ky.

Online: arcaracing.com

WORLD OF OUTLAWS: Sprint Car 4-Crown Nationals, Friday, Eldora Speedway, Rossburg, Ohio; Commonwealth Clash, Saturday, Lernerville Speedway, Sarver, Pa. Super DirtCar: Sunday, Fonda Speedway, Fonda, N.Y.

Online: worldofoutlaws.com

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

No. 5 Auburn gets past No. 20 Kansas St.

QB Marshall throws for 231 yards, 2 TDs

By DAVE SKRETTA
The Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — In the brave new world of college football playoffs, a non-conference win over a ranked team — on the road, no less — could certainly pay dividends when December rolls around.

In that respect, fifth-ranked Auburn made quite the statement with a 20-14 win over No. 20 Kansas State on Thursday night.

Their vaunted ground game held in check, the Tigers were forced to take flight against the Wildcats. Nick Marshall threw for 231 yards and two touchdowns, and the reigning SEC champions took advantage of three Kansas State turnovers to log a momentum-building win with some big conference games looming in a few weeks.

“Our guys found a way,” Auburn coach Gus Malzahn said. “I told them after the game, I think this could be a game that really helps us in the future, because we faced some major adversity tonight.”

Auburn was held to 128 yards rushing, more than 200 below its season average.

“We hadn’t been baptized,” Auburn wide receiver Ricardo Louis said, “so we needed this.”



Auburn running back Cameron Artis-Payne gets past Kansas State defensive back Danzel McDaniel during Auburn's 20-14 win in Manhattan, Kan., on Thursday. Artis-Payne was held to 128 yards rushing, more than 200 below its season average. CHARLIE REIDEL/AP

Five things to know

Maguire set to start for Winston in ACC showdown



PHIL SEARS/AP

Quarterback Sean Maguire will start for top-ranked Florida State when it hosts No. 22 Clemson on Saturday. The Seminoles are without Heisman-winning quarterback Jameis Winston for the first half after he was suspended Wednesday, thrusting redshirt sophomore Maguire into the first start of his career.

The Associated Press

An ACC showdown has an unlikely star, an SEC showdown has an enticing one-on-one matchup and East Carolina goes for two straight upsets.

Here are five things to know about the fourth weekend of the college football season:

1 Winston's stand-in: Introducing Sean Maguire, starting quarterback for the No. 1 team in the country. As you might have heard Jameis Winston earned himself a first-half benching for some less-than-ideal behavior at Florida State this week. Enter Maguire, starting what might be the Seminoles' most significant game of the season against ACC Atlantic Division rival No. 22 Clemson. A loss could cost Florida State a chance to win the Atlantic Coast Conference title.

So who is Maguire? Well, he's not a big-time recruit. He ran the run-first, wing-T offense at Seton Hall Prep in New Jersey.

Coach Jimbo Fisher, however, has always been enamored with Maguire's strong arm and said he won't change the offense at all. Maguire has thrown 26 passes in his college career. He was 3-for-5 for 28 yards after entering the Citadel game in the third quarter with a 34-0 lead two weeks ago. He played in nine games in 2013 and threw for 116 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions.

His job is to not screw up for 30

minutes and maybe make a few plays. And he's pumped for the chance.

"It's going to be pretty awesome, I'd like to imagine," Maguire said. "I've pictured this since I started playing little league ball. ... I don't know how much better it gets than this."

2 Cooper vs. Hargreaves: The game between Florida and No. 3 Alabama features what could end up ranking among the top 1-on-1 matchups of the entire season, with Florida cornerback Vernon Hargreaves covering Alabama receiver Amari Cooper.

Cooper, a junior, leads all Football Bowl Subdivision players with 33 catches and ranks third nationally with 454 yards receiving. He's a future first-round pick. Hargreaves was a first-team all-SEC selection and a third-team AP All-America pick as a freshman last season. Another future first-rounder.

"Coop, he's a great player," Hargreaves said. "Me and him, we talk a little bit. We knew this was coming. He's excited. I'm excited. We both know the magnitude of the game. It's going to be a great matchup on Saturday."

3 ECU vs. ACC: East Carolina, a member of the American Athletic Conference, will try to continue its recent mastery of Atlantic Coast Conference teams when it hosts North Carolina.

The Pirates are coming off a 28-21 upset of Virginia Tech, which

was ranked 17th at the time. East Carolina has won its last three games against ACC teams, a streak that includes a 55-31 victory at North Carolina last season. A home game with an in-state foe after an upset of a ranked team has created plenty of excitement around East Carolina's campus.

"The vibe is crazy right now," East Carolina linebacker Brandon Williams said.

4 Going for 4-0: Two Atlantic Coast Conference teams are trying to reach 4-0 for the first time in a long time.

Duke takes its perfect record into a home game against Tulane (1-2). The Blue Devils are a heavy favorite to reach 4-0 for the first time since 1994, when they set a school record by winning their first seven games. There have been only three other times when Duke has started the season at least 4-0.

Pittsburgh goes for 4-0 at home against Iowa (2-1), which is coming off a tough loss to rival Iowa State. The Panthers haven't won 4-0 since 2000.

5 Home run Hoosier: Indiana, coming off a bad loss to Bowling Green, goes to No. 18 Missouri as a big underdog.

Tevin Coleman gives the Hoosiers at least a shot to pull the upset. The leading rusher in the country, Coleman is averaging 218 yards per game and 9.3 yards per carry.

College GameDay



ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Player to watch

Dak Prescott QB | Miss. State

Prescott ranks fourth in the SEC in total offense. He has thrown for 696 yards, nine touchdowns and two interceptions while also running for 273 yards and two touchdowns.

Prescott has gotten the attention of LSU coach Les Miles.

"Dak Prescott is as good a player as there is at his position in our conference," Miles said. "He makes the throws and he has the ability to pull it down. He runs with strength."

Mississippi State at No. 8 LSU

1 a.m. Sunday

Central European Time

AFN-Xtra



BYRNN ANDERSON/AP

Alabama running back T.J. Yeldon fends off Southern Mississippi linebacker Alan Howze on Sept. 13. Yeldon and Derrick Henry have each had only 16 total carries in the past two games. So they should be rested and ready to take pressure off QB Blake Sims in his first SEC start Saturday against Florida.

SERVICE ACADEMIES



Air Force
Does not play
Last week: Beat Georgia State, 48-38
Next game: vs. Boise State, Sept. 27



Army
at Wake Forest
Last week: Lost to Stanford, 35-0
Next game: vs. Yale, Sept. 27



Navy
vs. Rutgers
Last week: Beat Texas State, 35-21
Next game: vs. W. Kentucky, Sept. 27

AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE

Thursday's game

No. 5 Auburn 20, Kansas State 14

Saturday

No. 1 Florida State vs. No. 22 Clemson

No. 2 Oregon at Washington State

No. 3 Alabama vs. Florida

No. 4 Oklahoma at West Virginia

No. 6 Texas A&M at SMU

No. 8 LSU vs. Mississippi State

No. 11 Michigan State vs. Eastern Michigan

No. 13 Georgia vs. Troy

No. 14 South Carolina at Vanderbilt

No. 18 Missouri vs. Indiana

No. 19 Wisconsin vs. Bowling Green

No. 21 BYU vs. Virginia

No. 24 Nebraska vs. Miami

THE POWER CONFERENCES

ACC			
Atlantic Division		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Louisville	0	0	2
NC State	0	0	3
Florida St.	0	0	2
Syracuse	0	0	2
Clemson	0	0	2
Wake Forest	0	1	2
Boston College	0	1	2
Coastal Division		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Pittsburgh	1	0	3
Virginia	1	0	3
Duke	0	0	3
Georgia Tech.	0	0	3
North Carolina	0	0	2
Virginia Tech.	0	0	2
Miami	0	1	2

Game of the week: No. 22 Clemson at No. 1 Florida State. Last year's deathmatch matchup of top-five teams in Showcase Valley quickly turned into a show of the Seminoles' dominance on their way to winning the national championship. Saturday's rematch lacks the same hype with FSU (2-0) opening as a 19½-point favorite in a key Atlantic Division matchup.

Inside the numbers: The "Triangle" schools of Duke, North Carolina and NC State are unbeaten at 4-0. That marks the first time those teams were unbeaten after Week 3 in the ACC season since 1994, according to STATS. **Player to watch:** Boston College quarterback Tyler Murphy. The graduate transfer from Florida has provided an immediate jolt for the Eagles. He ran for a career-high 191 yards in last week's upset of USC and ranks eighth nationally with 401 yards rushing heading into this week's game against Maine.

Big Ten			
East		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Penn St.	0	0	3
Maryland	0	0	2
Michigan	0	0	2
Ohio St.	0	0	2
Indiana	0	0	1
Michigan St.	0	1	1
Rutgers	0	1	2
West		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Nebraska	0	0	3
Illinois	0	0	2
Iowa	0	0	2
Minnesota	0	0	2
Wisconsin	0	0	1
Purdue	0	0	1
Northwestern	0	0	2

Game of the week: Miami at Nebraska. Four of the last five Miami-Nebraska games were in bowls, and the winner emerged as that year's national champion. The stakes will be considerably lower when they meet in Lincoln, Nebraska (3-0) hasn't won a conference title since 1999 or played in a BCS game since it was a controversial pick to go to the 2002 Rose Bowl.

Inside the numbers: Wisconsin has won its last six games following a bye week by an average of 34.3 points. Michigan State WR Tony Lippert already has 15 catches for 300 yards and three touchdowns this season. **Player to watch:** Wisconsin's Melvin Gordon. The Star RB is coming off a subpar outing after rushing for just 38 yards on 17 carries two weekends ago against Western Illinois. Gordon might be looking forward to facing a Falcons defense that allowed 190 yards rushing and three touchdowns to Indiana's Tevin Coleman last week.

Big 12			
Conf.		All	All
W	L	W	L
Kansas St.	1	0	2
Baylor	0	0	3
Oklahoma	0	0	3
TCU	0	0	3
Oklahoma St.	0	0	2
Texas Tech.	0	0	2
West Virginia	0	0	1
Rutgers	0	0	1
Texas	0	0	1
Iowa St.	0	1	2

Game of the week: No. 4 Oklahoma at West Virginia. While big Big 12 teams are getting the weekend off before conference play kicks into full gear, the Sooners (3-0) leave the state of Oklahoma for the first time this season to take on West Virginia (2-1) in a league opener for both teams. The last time the teams played in Morgantown two years ago, the Sooners pulled out a 50-49 victory after Landry Jones threw his sixth TD pass with 24 seconds left.

Inside the numbers: Oklahoma, coming off a decisive 34-10 win over SEC team Tennessee, goes for its eighth victory in a row. Bob Stoops tries to become the first coach to win 100 Big 12 regular-season games. **Player to watch:** West Virginia senior receivers Kevin White and Mario Alford. They are 1-2 in the Big 12 in receptions per game. White is second nationally with 10.7 catches per game, and his 153.3 yards per game is fourth nationally.

Pac-12			
North		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Oregon	0	0	3
Washington	0	0	3
California	0	0	2
Oregon St.	0	0	2
Washington St.	0	0	1
Stanford	0	1	2
South		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Arizona St.	1	0	3
Southern Cal	1	0	2
Arizona	0	0	3
UCLA	0	0	3
Utah	0	0	2
Colorado	0	1	2

Game of the week: No. 2 Oregon at Washington State. The Ducks' quest to make a four-team playoff at the end of the season would likely not survive a loss to Washington State, which is still in a rebuilding mode under third-year coach Mike Leach.

In last year's meeting Cougars QB Connor Haldiday attempted an NCAA record 89 passes for 557 yards but was intercepted four times. **Inside the numbers:** Washington's John Ross already has three touchdown receptions longer than 55 yards. Ross has had the ball in his hands 17 times this season and gained 465 all-purpose yards (27.4 yards per touch). **Player to watch:** Nick Wilson, Arizona. The freshman running back has rushed for more than 100 yards and scored a touchdown in all three games. He'll be part of an offense that presents a set of challenges: California hasn't yet proved capable of stopping,

SEC			
East		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Florida	0	0	2
South Carolina	1	1	2
Missouri	0	0	3
Tennessee	0	0	2
Kentucky	0	1	2
Georgia	0	1	1
Vanderbilt	0	1	1
West		Conf.	All
W	L	W	L
Auburn	1	0	3
Mississippi	1	0	3
Texas A&M	0	0	3
Alabama	0	0	3
LSU	0	0	3
Mississippi St.	0	0	3
Arkansas	0	1	2

Game of the week: Florida at No. 3 Alabama. The Gators lead the nation in turnover margin, and they'll likely need to force more takeaways to have a shot at pulling the upset in Tuscaloosa. Alabama has won its last three meetings with Florida by an average margin of 24 points, and the Tide are favored by 14½ points in the latest matchup between two of the SEC's heavyweight programs.

Inside the numbers: Nine of the SEC's 14 teams are averaging more than 40 points per game and 12 teams are averaging more than 30. Texas A&M is tops with 54.3 points per game. ... LSU's Travin Dural is averaging more than 30 yards per catch so far this season. **Player to watch:** Missouri's Maty Mauk. He has thrown 12 touchdown passes, putting him in a three-way tie for the FBS lead with Washington State's Connor Haldiday and Western Kentucky's Brandon Doughty.

NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

	East			Pct	PF	PA
	W	L	T			
Buffalo	2	0	0	1.000	42	30
Miami	1	1	0	.500	43	49
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	50	40
New England	1	1	0	.500	50	40
South						
Houston	2	0	0	1.000	47	20
Tennessee	1	1	1	.500	56	36
Jacksonville	0	2	0	.000	27	75
Indianapolis	0	2	0	.000	51	61
North						
Cincinnati	2	0	0	1.000	47	26
Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	52	29
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	.500	56	35
Cleveland	1	1	0	.500	53	54
West						
Denver	2	0	0	1.000	55	41
San Diego	1	1	0	.500	47	39
Kansas City	1	1	0	.500	48	49
Kansas City	0	2	0	.000	27	50

National Conference

	East			Pct	PF	PA
	W	L	T			
Philadelphia	2	0	0	1.000	64	44
Washington	1	1	0	.500	47	27
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	43	36
N.Y. Giants	0	2	0	.000	28	60
South						
Atlanta	2	0	0	1.000	44	21
Carolina	1	0	0	.667	103	72
New Orleans	1	1	0	.500	58	63
Tampa Bay	0	3	0	.000	45	95
North						
Chicago	1	1	0	.500	48	43
Minnesota	1	1	0	.500	51	36
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	42	38
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	47	60
West						
Arizona	2	0	0	1.000	43	31
Seattle	1	1	0	.500	47	46
San Francisco	1	1	0	.500	48	45
St. Louis	1	1	0	.500	45	51

Thursday's game

Atlanta 56, Tampa Bay 14

Sunday's games

Dallas at St. Louis
 Minnesota at New Orleans
 Atlanta at Buffalo
 Washington at Philadelphia
 Houston at N.Y. Giants
 Tennessee at Cincinnati
 Baltimore at Cleveland
 Indianapolis at Jacksonville
 Oakland at New England
 San Francisco at Arizona
 Denver at Seattle
 Kansas City at Miami
 Oakland at Seattle

Monday's game

Chicago at N.Y. Jets

Thursday, Sep. 25

N.Y. Giants at Washington

Sunday, Sep. 28

Green Bay at Chicago
 Buffalo at Detroit
 Tennessee at Indianapolis
 Carolina at Baltimore
 Detroit at N.Y. Jets
 Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh
 Miami at Oakland
 London Jacksonville at San Diego
 Philadelphia at San Francisco
 Atlanta at Minnesota
 New Orleans at Dallas

Open: Arizona, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Seattle, St. Louis

Monday, Sep. 29

New England at Kansas City

Thursday

Falcons 56, Buccaneers 14

Tampa Bay 21 14 21 0 - 56

First Quarter

AT—Douglas 3 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 12:03.
 TB—Jones 8 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 3:03.
 AT—Ishmael interception return (Bryant kick), 2:38.

Second Quarter

AT—Hester 20 punt return (Bryant kick), 14:52.
 TB—Hester 62 punt return (Bryant kick), 7:06.

Third Quarter

AT—Jones 40 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 8:29.
 AT—Jackson 2 run (Bryant kick), 8:11.

Fourth Quarter

AT—Smith 38 run (Bryant kick), 14:47.
 TB—Jackson 3 pass from Glennon (Murray kick), 8:46.
 AT—Ishmael interception return (Bryant kick), 7:07.
 TB—Hester 68 punt return (Bryant kick), 1:18.

	FB	RB	QB
First downs	10	10	10
Total Net Yards	217	488	217
Rushes-yards	18-64	31-144	14-101
Passes-yards	11-101	11-101	11-101
Punt Returns	1-9	3-68	1-9
Kickoff Returns	4-78	1-29	1-29
Interceptions	22-161	1-23	22-161
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-26	24-281	1-23
Fumbles-Lost	7-43	5-43	7-43
Penalties-Yards	11-119	11-119	11-119
% of Possession	31.1	32.39	31.1

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Tampa Bay: Ryan 11-41, Glennon 3-18, James 4-4. Atlanta: Smith 38-147, Hester 20-120, Freeman 11-12, Rodgers 5-6, Ryan 1-2. Tampa Bay: Ryan 11-41, Glennon 3-18, James 4-4, Hester 1-25, Roby 1-11, Freeman 1-7, Rodgers 5-6. Atlanta: Smith 38-147, Hester 20-120, Freeman 11-12, Rodgers 5-6, Ryan 1-2.

MISSSED FIELD GOALS—Atlanta, Bryant 59 (V.L.).

Police: Dwyer head-butted wife

Cardinals running back allegedly broke her nose after she refused sex

By JACQUES BILLEAUD

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona Cardinals running back Jonathan Dwyer head-butted his wife and broke her nose after she refused his sexual advances, and punched her in the face the next day, police said Thursday.

The details surfaced in a law enforcement report a day after Dwyer was arrested on aggravated assault charges and deactivated from all team activities after he was taken into custody at the Cardinals' headquarters in Tempe. He spent a night in jail and made a brief court appearance before being released on a \$25,000 bond early Thursday.

The arrest came at a time when the NFL and its commissioner are under fire for violent, domestic off-the-field encounters involving some of the league's marquee players, including Ray Rice, Adrian Peterson and Greg Hardy.

The NFL has said the Dwyer case will be reviewed under the league's personal-conduct policy.

On Thursday, the Cardinals placed Dwyer on the reserve-non-football illness list. A person with knowledge of the situation said Dwyer was undergoing a mental evaluation because of mentions of suicide referred to in police documents. The person asked to remain anonymous because the team had not made the reason for the illness designation public. Because of the designation, Dwyer can't play for the Cardinals again this season.

Dwyer was arrested on Wednesday for investigation in two allegations that occurred on July 21 and 22 at his Phoenix residence, just days before the Cardinals reported to training camp.

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DAVID KADLUBOWSKI, THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/AP

Phoenix police officers escort Arizona Cardinals running back Jonathan Dwyer to the 4th Avenue Jail after his arrest Wednesday.

His wife left the state after the incidents, but came forward a week ago after Dwyer apparently sent suicidal text messages including a photo of a knife.

In the first encounter, police say Dwyer attempted to kiss

and undress his wife, but she refused. Someone who heard the argument reported the assault to police, who showed up at the apartment but did not make an arrest. Dwyer hid in a bathroom and the wife said she hadn't been

assaulted and denied he was in the home because the running back threatened to kill himself in front of her and their child if she told police about the assault, police said.

The next day, Dwyer punched his wife with a closed fist on the left side of her face, according to police. He also punched walls and threw a shoe at his 17-month-old son, who was not injured, police said.

As his wife tried to call police, Dwyer grabbed her cellphone and threw it down from the home's second story. Witnesses told police that Dwyer's wife said, "I'm calling the police" as she held her swollen face and clutched her son.

During his police interview on Wednesday, Dwyer acknowledged hiding in the bathroom when police responded to the first argument and sending a photo of a knife with suicidal threats. Dwyer denied committing an assault, though he acknowledged that he punched walls in his home, threw a phone, and that his wife bit his lip during the disputes, according to the police report.

As he walked out of a downtown Phoenix jail early Thursday, Dwyer said he never hurt his son.

Dwyer is scheduled for a status conference on Wednesday and a Sept. 26 preliminary hearing.

Dwyer signed a one-year, \$730,000 contract, including a \$65,000 bonus, with the Cardinals this year after spending the last four seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers. He scored a touchdown last week in Arizona's victory over the New York Giants.

Associated Press writers Josh Hoffer, Phoenix and in Denver, and Phoenix contributed to this report.

Breaking: Bucs unable to compete in any phase

FROM BACK PAGE

led St. Louis.

Even with important playmakers like Gerald McCoy, Mason Foster and Doug Martin injured and unable to suit up, nobody among the Bucs thought this kind of performance was possible. "I thought I had our football team ready to play, and obviously we weren't ready to play," Tampa Bay coach Lovie Smith said. "Again, it was all phases. We couldn't stop them on defense, couldn't score any points on offense. On special teams, you know, we couldn't get anything going there."

Some things to consider for both teams:

Hard to stop: Ryan has seen receiver Julio Jones make some remarkable plays in their four years together.

third, looking first over his left shoulder for Ryan's deep pass and then adjusting to catch the ball over his right shoulder to beat cornerback Alterraun Verner and make it 42-0.

Jones had nine catches for a career-high 161 yards.

"He's a special talent, and we talk about it all the time," Ryan said. "When we get him in that situation, we just feel like we can put the ball up and he's going to come down with it."

Banged-up Buc: Bucs quarterback Josh McCown left the game in the second quarter with a thumb injury and did not return. McCown didn't know an immediate diagnosis.

"I either got it hit by a helmet or when the defender landed on me as my thumb was under me when I hit the ground," McCown said. "I tried to grab the ball on the sidelines, but just wasn't able

to grip it."

The 35-year-old McCown's career record dropped to 20-45.

Gimme some lovin': Devin Hester thought it might be a special night when he spoke to Lovie Smith's wife before the game.

MaryAnne Smith hugged Hester on the field and wished him good luck. It was the first time that Lovie Smith, Hester's former coach in Chicago, was facing off against the star return specialist.

It was just the kind of night Hester envisioned — a victory for his new team as he broke the NFL record for career touchdown returns with 20.

The big moment came on his 62-yard punt return that made it 35-0 in the second quarter. Hester also scored a 20-yard TD on a reverse and recovered a fumble.

"I know I'm one of coach Lovie's favorites," Hester said. "Just the years we've grown together — I

love that guy a lot, man. I told him before the game. Unfortunately, you know, we're on opposite teams, but I told him if I break this record tonight, you'll be here to see it."

Up next: The Falcons visit Minnesota in Week 4. Tampa Bay is on the road against Pittsburgh.

By the numbers: The Bucs trailed 35-0 before their offense managed a first down. ... The victory was the second-largest win in Falcons history and the team's most lopsided since it beat New Orleans 62-7 in 1973. ... Tampa Bay committed five turnovers, losing four fumbles and having a McCown interception returned by obscure Falcons safety Kemal Ishmael that made it 21-0 in the first quarter. ... Ryan had as many touchdown passes (three) as he had interceptions. ... The Falcons are 2-0 against NFC South opponents, while Tampa Bay is 0-2.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League
East Division
x-Baltimore 92 60 805
New York Yankees 74 513 14

National League
East Division
x-Washington 71 82 664
Atlanta 76 76 500

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 550
Oakland 82 74 539
Cleveland 82 70 539

Thursday
Rangers 7, Athletics 2
L.Martin of 4 1 2 1
Andrew 4 1 2 1
O'Dor 5 1 2 0

Dodgers 8, Cubs 4
Dorndorf 2b 5 1 3 1
Puljif of 5 1 3 1
Adoniz Jr of 5 0 0 1

Los Angeles
Dorndorf 2b 5 1 3 1
Puljif of 5 1 3 1
Adoniz Jr of 5 0 0 1

Los Angeles
Dorndorf 2b 5 1 3 1
Puljif of 5 1 3 1
Adoniz Jr of 5 0 0 1

Pirates 3, Red Sox 2
Betsis 4b 4 0 1 1
Dorndorf 2b 4 0 0 1
Betsis 4b 4 0 1 1

Boston
Workman L1-10 5 7 3 2 3 3 6 5 0
Wilson 5 7 3 2 3 3 6 5 0
Tazawa 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

AMERICAN LEAGUE
W L Pct GB
Kansas City 83 68 .550 .2

NATIONAL LEAGUE
W L Pct GB
San Francisco 54 68 .443

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539

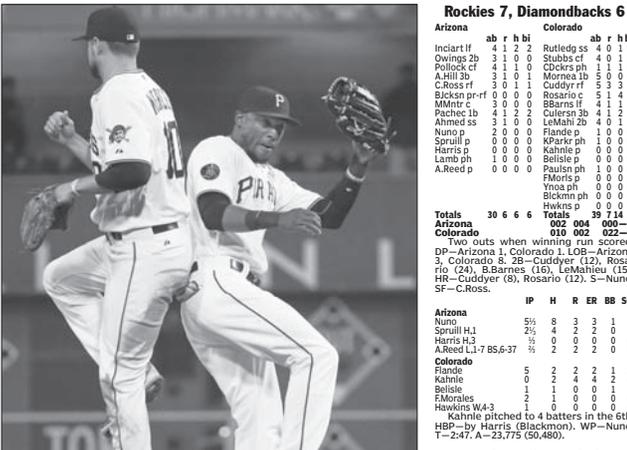
Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
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Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
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Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539

Wild card race
Kansas City 83 68 .550
Oakland 82 74 .539



The Pirates' Starling Marte, right, celebrates Thursday with Jordy Mercer after Pittsburgh's 3-2 victory over the Red Sox in Pittsburgh.

The Pirates' Starling Marte, right, celebrates Thursday with Jordy Mercer after Pittsburgh's 3-2 victory over the Red Sox in Pittsburgh.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Rockies 7, Diamondbacks 6

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

The Pirates' Starling Marte, right, celebrates Thursday with Jordy Mercer after Pittsburgh's 3-2 victory over the Red Sox in Pittsburgh.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 1
Reyes 5f 4 1 2 0
Bautist rf 3 1 2 0
Encrnc dh 4 0 0 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Nationals 6, Marlins 2
Span of 5 0 0 0
Werth rf 4 0 1 0
Harps cf 4 1 3 0

Rockies 7, Diamondbacks 6

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

Arizona
Inciart lf 4 1 2 2
Owings 3b 3 1 0 0
Pollock cf 4 1 1 1

MLB

Rangers sweep A's from top wild-card spot

Sixth loss in eight games for Oakland

By JANIE MCCAULEY
The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics are stunned by their September collapse, yet stuck to find a solution.

And with the way things are going, manager Bob Melvin can't talk about playoffs, let alone plan for them.

Sonny Gray and the A's kept tumbling Thursday, falling out of the top AL wild-card spot with a 7-2 loss to Texas that gave the Rangers a three-game sweep. "It's not very fun. When you're in a race, it's supposed to be fun," left fielder Brandon Moss said. "But I don't see anyone in this clubhouse having any fun, because it's not. We're pretty frustrated. We're disappointed. But it's not over, and we know that."

The latest loss to the team with the worst record in the majors dropped the A's a half-game behind idle Kansas City for the first wild-spot slot. Oakland owned the best record in the big leagues as recently as Aug. 15.

"We're still in the wild card. All that's moot unless we start to play better. We'll find ourselves in no position if we continue to lose," Melvin said. "You've got to fight being beat down based on what has transpired here recently. ... It's tough sometimes to get over these things. They're all accountable for what they do. We all are."



The Rangers' Jake Smolinski celebrates after scoring against the A's on Thursday in Oakland, Calif. Smolinski scored on a hit by Ryan Rua.

BEN MARGOT/AP

Texas roughed up Gray (13-9) for four runs in the first inning and won its season-best sixth in a row. Oakland has lost six of eight.

Gray saw his winless stretch reach five starts. The right-hander in his first full major league

season has only one victory in 10 starts since his 5-0 July that earned him AL pitcher of the month honors.

"It's these games we need to win and I think everyone knows that. It's tough to play away the

last three days," Gray said. "Unfortunately for us, I dug us in a hole a little bit too deep. If you give up four in the first, nine times out of 10 you're not going to overcome that. It's probably easier said than done, but we honestly have got to

put this behind us." Nick Martinez (4-11) allowed two runs and three hits in 5½ innings.

Leonys Martin hit an RBI double as the Rangers came out swinging for 15 total hits.

Cruz single gives Cardinals win over Brewers

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Tony Cruz singled in the winning run in the 13th inning as the St. Louis Cardinals moved closer to their second straight NL Central tie with a 3-2 victory over Milwaukee.

The defending National League champions took two of three in a tight series that featured only 12 runs and another game that lasted 12 innings. St. Louis leads the division by 2½ games with nine games to go.

Aramis Ramirez and Scooter Gennett had an RBI apiece for the Brewers, who are five games back and 3½ out for the second NL wild card.

Cruz singled up the middle with one out for the third hit of the 13th against Jimmy Nelson (2-8). Sam Freeman (2-0) struck out two in a perfect 13th.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 2: Derek Jeter began his final home stand with one more stroll around the bases.

Jeter homered deep into the left-field seats against R.A. Dickey in the sixth inning, earning a starting rotation and helping New York beat Toronto.

Jeter ended a 158-at-bat homer-



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

The Cardinals' Matt Adams scores the game-winning run on a single by Tony Cruz during the 13th inning of Thursday's game against the Milwaukee Brewers in St. Louis. The Cardinals won 3-2.

less streak with just the fourth home run of his 20th and final major league season. The home run, which put New York ahead 2-0, was his first at Yankee Stadium since July 28 last year.

Jeter beat out an infield single in the first on a grounder shortstop Jose Reyes double-clutched, and had his first multihit game

since Aug. 26.

Pirates 3, Red Sox 2: Host Pittsburgh got a lucky break when an opposing pinch-runner Jenille Weeks was hit by a batted ball in the ninth inning during a win over Boston.

The Pirates won their fourth in a row and maintained their lead over Milwaukee for the second

NL wild-card spot.

Down 3-2, the Red Sox put runners at the corners with no outs in the ninth against Mark Melancon. Will Middlebrooks then hit a chopper down the line and the ball struck the back of Weeks' left leg as he made a dive back to third.

Weeks was called out, and Melancon retired the last two batters for his 30th save in 34 opportunities.

Mariners 3, Angels 1: Logan Morrison hit a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning that broke a scoreless tie, as visiting Seattle boosted its wild-card hopes with a win over AL West champion Los Angeles.

With just their third win in nine games, the Mariners pulled within one game of slumping Oakland for the second AL wild-card spot.

Mariners ace Felix Hernandez struck out 11 during seven innings of three-hit ball.

Nationals 6, Marlins 2: Gio Gonzalez allowed two runs in seven innings and Bryce Harper had three hits as visiting Washington kept up its push for home-field advantage in the NL playoffs by beating Miami.

A Miami native, Gonzalez (9-

10) allowed six hits, striking out five and walking none.

Dodgers 5, Cubs 4: Dee Gordon and pinch-hitter Andre Ethier hit RBI doubles in their team's five-run seventh inning as Los Angeles rallied past host Chicago to extend its lead in the NL West.

The Dodgers moved 2½ games ahead of idle San Francisco. **Rockies 7, Diamondbacks 6:** Willin Rosario hit a two-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning as host Colorado rallied past Arizona.

Rosario finished with four hits to lift the Rockies into a fourth-place tie with Arizona in the NL West.

Indians 2, Astros 1 (13): Mike Aviles hit a sacrifice fly in the 13th inning as visiting Cleveland topped Houston.

Ramirez doubled with one out before Samuel Deduno (2-6) walked Michael Brantley and Carlos Santana to set up Aviles' fly.

Padres 7, Phillies 3: Robbie Erlin pitched six strong innings, and Alexi Amarista and Will Venabe homered as host San Diego defeated Philadelphia.

Erlin (4-4), slowed by a sore elbow this season, allowed a run on five hits in his first start since May 17.

SPORTS



Taking a closer look

Domestic violence issues force Pentagon to examine relationship with NFL | **Military, Page 2**



Falcons wide receiver Devin Hester coasts into the end zone for a touchdown during Thursday's 56-14 thrashing of the Buccaneers in Atlanta.

DAVID GOLDMAN/AP



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Atlanta's Jonathan Babineaux, left, and Corey Peters tackle Tampa Bay quarterback Mike Glennon during the first half.

Breaking the Bucs

Hester, Atlanta take apart Tampa Bay

By **GEORGE HENRY**
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Matt Ryan and the Atlanta Falcons have played well twice at home and looked terrible in one road game.

But following Thursday's 56-14 victory over Tampa Bay, Ryan was delighted to head into a long weekend without having to worry about starting the season poorly for a second straight year.

The Falcons, coming off a 4-12 record that caused

Ryan to question his entire offseason training regimen, are off to a 2-1 start.

"We talked about all week that we wanted to start fast and rebound from last week," Ryan said. "With that being said, even as good as tonight was, I think there are areas where we can improve and get better."

The Buccaneers were flat in their first two games, but still only lost at home by a combined eight points to Derek Anderson-led Carolina and Austin Davis-

SEE BREAKING ON PAGE 29