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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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MIDEAST EDITION

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Free to Deployed Areas

## A-10s LIVE TO FLY ANOTHER DAY



House OKs defense bill amendment to block 'Warthog' retirement | Page 2

SIERRA DOPPEL/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

A-10 "Warthogs" from the 188th Fighter Wing at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., fly earlier this month. On Thursday, the House rejected the Pentagon's plan to retire the aircraft, which has plenty of allies on Capitol Hill. The 300-114 vote reversed the Appropriations Committee's initial backing for the administration's cost-cutting move.

## General demoted 2 grades after sex scandal

By LOLITA C. BALDOR  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Army is stripping a brigadier general at the center of a sexual misconduct case by two grades for his retirement, in a rare move that will slash his benefits and force him to retire as a lieutenant colonel.

Army Secretary John McHugh announced the decision Friday, saying that Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair "displayed a pattern of inappropriate and at times illegal behavior both while serving as a brigadier general and a colonel."

The move comes three months after Sinclair pleaded guilty at a court-martial to

adultery and conducting inappropriate relationships with two other women. Over the past year, his case has been a central topic in Congress in the debate over whether the military has adequately handled sexual assault cases.

Sinclair had a three-year affair with a female captain who accused him of twice forcing her to perform oral sex on him. The former deputy commander of the 82nd Airborne Division was originally brought up on sexual assault



Sinclair

charges punishable by life in prison. Sinclair was spared prison and fined \$20,000.

He was believed to be the highest-ranking U.S. military officer ever court-martialed on such charges. And, the Army said this is the first time in a decade that the service has reduced a retiring general officer by two ranks.

While retirement benefits are mandated by federal law, there is a requirement that an individual must have served satisfactorily in rank before receiving those benefits, McHugh said in a statement. McHugh determined that Sinclair's actions as both a one-star general and colonel provided enough evidence to reduce his retirement by two grades.



### MEDAL OF HONOR GOES TO FORMER MARINE

With the ribbon around his neck, Kyle Carpenter feels weight of a nation  
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# QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Since the United States started getting involved with Iraq in the 1970s, we have often been a part of the problem, not a part of the solution to Iraqi political, ethnic, religious and resource issues."

— Matt Southworth, an Iraq War veteran and member of Veterans for Peace, in warning against further U.S. military intervention in Iraq

See story on Page 11

# MILITARY

## Lawmakers vote no to A-10 retirement

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The A-10 "Warthog" survived a key budget vote in Congress on Thursday, increasing chances that lawmakers will reject Air Force plans to retire the aircraft beginning next year.

The House passed an amendment to its \$570 billion defense spending bill that would bar the service from axing the venerable A-10, officially known as the Thunderbolt. The full appropriations bill was expected to be passed on Friday. The Senate has yet to pass its version of the spending bill but previously has voted to keep the aircraft as well.

The Air Force has proposed to retire the A-10, a battlefield stalwart since it was introduced in the mid-1970s, and leave close-air support operations to the F-15 and F-16 fighter jets and B-1 bombers while it develops the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter over the coming decade.

Getting rid of the Warthog would save the Air Force about \$4.3 billion over the next five years.

But opposition has swelled in Congress. Supporters including Rep. Ron Barber, D-Ariz., whose district includes Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, said the Warthog has unique capabilities and is preferred by ground troops.

"Our troops deserve the best close-air support we can provide, and there is no better close-air support than the A-10," said Barber, whose Arizona district includes the largest concentration of the aircraft in the world.

The amendment to save the Warthog was also sponsored by Rep. Candice Miller, R-Mich., whose state is home to Selfridge Air National Guard Base, where about 20 A-10s are based.

"When our troops on the ground hear it, they know what is coming," Miller said. "But you know what? So do our enemies, they know pain is coming."

Now the Senate must craft its version of the



SIERRA DOPPEL/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

A pair of A-10 "Warthogs" from the 188th Fighter Wing from Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., fly in formation behind a KC-135 Stratotanker from McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

defense spending bill, which is expected this summer.

Congress has so far bucked the A-10 retirement and a raft of spending cuts proposed by the military services and supported by top brass.

The Budget Control Act of 2011, also known as sequestration, mandates steep cuts in the coming years, and leaders say they fear the military's ability to fight wars might be diminished without reduced spending.

Aircraft, ships and personnel spending — including base grocery stores, housing benefits and health care — were put on the chopping block in the Department of Defense budget for the coming fiscal year. President Barack Obama also included the cuts in his proposed budget.

To preserve the A-10, supporters passed an amendment on the House floor Thursday that bars the Air Force from using any money to retire it.

The amendment drew criticism from fiscal hawks on the House defense appropriations subcommittee, which passed the earlier draft

bill that would have retired the A-10.

Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-N.J., chairman of the subcommittee, said the A-10 has executed only about 20 percent of close-air support operations since 2008 and that its time is coming to an end.

"The money that we save (from the A-10 retirement) will allow us to procure the next generation of aircraft," he said. "It's time we look to the future."

Rep. Peter Visclosky, R-Ind., the ranking member of the subcommittee, said the amendment will require the Air Force to spend at least an additional \$539 million to keep the A-10 flying next year — \$339 million for crews and fuel, and \$200 million for spare parts and modifications.

"The author of the amendment and those who support it have not shown where that money is going to come from in the bill," he said. "We have to begin to make some tough decisions. There is a finite amount of money in this bill."

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4. House OKs defense bill amendment to block retirement of A-10
5. Taliban threats bring 7-year-old Afghan girl back to US

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## House backs limits on Obama's Gitmo authority

By DONNA CASSATA  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In an election-year challenge to President Barack Obama, the Republican-led House on Friday overwhelmingly approved a \$570 billion defense bill that halts any Guantanamo transfers for a year in the furor over the American-for-Taliban swap and pulls back government spying.

The vote was 340-73 for the legislation that provides money for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, personnel, ships and

aircraft. An unusual coalition of libertarian Republicans and liberal Democrats pushed through new limits on National Security Agency surveillance as the year-old revelations of bulk collection of millions of Americans' phone records still roll the debate of security vs. privacy.

Pushing through the bill over three days, Republicans rallied against Obama's decision last month to swap five Taliban leaders who had been held at Guantanamo for more than a decade for Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, a cap-

itive for five years in Afghanistan. The Taliban were transferred to Qatar, where they must remain for a year.

Republicans said Obama broke the law failing to notify Congress within 30 days, and increased the terrorism risk to the United States with the exchange.

"Our brave men and women in uniform have fought too hard and have sacrificed too much to have the president release these detainees who will likely return straight to the battlefield," said Rep. Ted Yoho, R-Fla.

Several Republicans and Democrats said the legislation fell short in curbing NSA surveillance. They joined forces and scored a decisive win late Thursday on new limits on the agency.

The bill would prohibit the agency from searching for the communications of specific American accounts within the vast trove of Internet data it has collected while targeting foreigners.

Critics say that tactic amounts to improper "backdoor" searches because it is conducted without warrants.

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## MILITARY

# 'Three times he flat-lined'

## After incredible survival, inspiring recovery, Carpenter receives Medal of Honor

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — "Cpl. William 'Kyle' Carpenter should not be alive today," President Barack Obama told those gathered at the White House Thursday to witness the severely wounded Marine receive the Medal of Honor.

The nation's highest award for military valor was bestowed on Carpenter for pouncing on an enemy grenade to save a fellow Marine who was standing watch with him on a rooftop in the Marjah district of Helmand province, a Taliban stronghold, on the morning of Nov. 21, 2010.

Carpenter was serving as an automatic rifleman with Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines Regiment, when an insurgent tossed a grenade near him and his battle buddy, Lance Cpl. Nicholas Eufrazio.

The blast seat of the grenade was found under Carpenter's torso, indicating that he had smothered it intentionally.

"Hand grenades are one of the most awful weapons of war," Obama said when recounting Carpenter's bravery. "Even at a distance, the spray of shrapnel can inflict devastating injuries on the human body. Up close, it's almost certain death."

Carpenter was found lying face down directly over the blast area, his helmet riddled with holes and his gear melted. He was "literally wounded from the top of his head to his feet," according to one of the doctors who treated him.

"My last thought was to make peace with God. I asked for his forgiveness. I was trying to make the best and most of my last few seconds here on Earth," Carpenter later recalled, according to Obama.

Carpenter was on the brink of death many times after suffering "catastrophic" injuries.

While being treated, he went into cardiac arrest, and three times, doctors brought him back," Obama said.

Carpenter's parents call their son's survival "our miracle."

An account of the medically remarkable recovery of the Marine — from his war wounds received almost as much attention at the ceremony as his combat heroism.

"The Medal of Honor is presented for gallantry on the battlefield, but today we also recognize Kyle Carpenter for his valor since in the hard fight for recovery," Obama said.

Carpenter, the youngest living recipient of the Medal of Honor, spent five weeks in a coma and more than 2½ years in the hospital undergoing nearly 40 surgeries — including brain surgery. Doctors had to remove shrapnel from his head and repair a collapsed lung, fractured fingers and a right arm that was broken in more than 30 places. He received a prosthetic eye, a new jaw, new teeth and multiple skin grafts.

The doctors at Walter Reed in



Carpenter's mother, Robin, listens as her son speaks to reporters in the White House briefing room Thursday.

For additional stories, photos and video, go to [stripes.com/medalofhonor](http://stripes.com/medalofhonor)

Bethesda, Md., "put me back together well," Carpenter has said.

In a moment of levity, Obama said Carpenter is reaping unexpected benefits from his wounds.

"You'll notice that Kyle doesn't hide his scars. He's proud of them and the service that they represent. And now he tells me ... the girls definitely like them," so "he's working an angle on this thing," Obama joked.

Doctors Debra Malone and Lauren Greer and other members of Carpenter's medical team were on hand, and Obama took a moment to honor them.

"So many of our wounded warriors from today's wars are alive not just because of remarkable advances in technology but primarily because of the extraordinary dedication and skill of our military and our VA medical professionals," Obama said. "I see their amazing work ... every time I visited Walter Reed. It's pretty rare where you get a job where you just know you're doing God's work every single day. And they do an



PHOTOS BY JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

Retired Marine Corps Cpl. William "Kyle" Carpenter, President Barack Obama and military aide Marine Maj. Steven Schreiber listen as Carpenter's Medal of Honor citation is read at the White House in Washington.

incredible job."

Carpenter wasn't the only Marine honored during the ceremony. Two unit mates who were killed during that deployment — Lance Cpl. Timothy Jackson and Lance Cpl. Dakota Huse — were singled out for recognition, as was Eufrazio, the Marine whose life Carpenter saved on the rooftop.

Eufrazio was Carpenter's best friend. The two had met in training, and they later patrolled together through the battlefields of Afghanistan.

Obama described their relationship as "a friendship forged in fire."

"He was my point man, and I loved him like a brother," Carpenter said, according to Obama.

Although Carpenter bore the brunt of the grenade blast, Eufrazio still suffered traumatic brain injury and couldn't speak for more than a year. After enduring multiple surgeries, he is still recovering, and lives at home with his family in Plymouth, Mass. Unable to attend the ceremony, he

was watching it on TV, according to Obama.

"As I stand before you today, I am truly honored and humbled. Yet I accept this honor with a heavy heart," Carpenter told reporters during the ceremony. "I think about the Marines who were with me in Marjah. If I close my eyes today, I can still hear their desperate medevacs being called over the radio as they bled out in the fields of Afghanistan. Today, I accept the medal for them."

Carpenter ended his remarks with some advice: "Be thankful for what you have, appreciate the smaller and simpler things, be kind and help others, let the ones you love know you love them and when things get tough, trust there's a bigger plan and that you will be stronger for it."

**"I think about the Marines who were with me in Marjah. If I close my eyes today, I can still hear their desperate medevacs being called over the radio as they bled out in the fields of Afghanistan. Today, I accept this medal for them."**

Retired Marine Corps Cpl. William "Kyle" Carpenter  
Medal of Honor recipient



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## MIDEAST

386 VEHICLES. 563 CONTAINERS. 1 SHIP.



# How the Lopez conquers nightmare game of Tetris

By HENRICK SIMOES  
Stars and Stripes

**ABOARD THE USNS 1ST LT. BALDOMERO LOPEZ** — The vehicles are parked so tightly in the cavernous hold of the giant cargo ship that it's difficult to walk between them. In some places it's actually impossible — although the ship's 38 civilian mariners take pride on how tightly they can park them.

The Lopez, and other maritime prepositioning force ships like it, is the Marine Corps version of a well-packed piece of luggage. There are seven levels aboard the ship, with everything a Marine Expeditionary Brigade might need to conduct a humanitarian assistance mission or fight a war.

The ship was carrying 386 vehicles, including Humvees, tanks and howitzers, and 563 20-foot containers, stocked with ammunition and supplies. All of it carefully positioned aboard the ship, like a puzzle, so that essential equipment can be offloaded first — a sort of nightmare game of Tetris in which a mistake can add hours to the task.

There is enough equipment, fuel, ammo and supplies aboard to sustain 16,000 Marines for as many as 30 days. And most of it can be unloaded in as little as 16 hours.

Around the globe, there are 10 of these self-sustaining maritime prepositioning force ships. Military Sealift Command operates the ships with civilian crews, with

For an interactive tour of the Lopez that includes videos and interviews with the crew go to [stripes.com/go/msc](http://stripes.com/go/msc)



space aboard to embark about 100 military personnel to provide security or offload the gear.

"It's a national strategic asset that allows us to rapidly deploy a force anywhere in the world, whether it be for humanitarian assistance or for a regional conflict," said Col. Bruce Pitman, in charge of the embarked San Diego-based Marines tasked with offloading and unloading the equipment. Pitman's experience with these ships goes back to his days as a young lieutenant in the 1991 Gulf War. Today, the MSC operates 26 prepositioning ships in support of the Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Defense Logistics Agency.

But the ships were used relatively little in more than a decade of war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Now however, with Navy and Marine Corps officials deeply concerned about the health of the Navy's fleet of amphibious ships, there is a resurgence of the prepositioning concept within the Marine Corps as the service plans alternative strategies to respond to potential future conflicts.

With so much military hardware aboard a ship like the Diego Garcia-based Lopez — named after the Marine who posthumously received the Medal of Honor for smothering a grenade with his



PHOTOS BY HENRICK SIMOES/Stars and Stripes

**The USNS 1st Lt. Baldomero Lopez is docked in Aqaba, Jordan, for a large-scale multilateral exercise earlier this month. The Lopez is a maritime prepositioning force ship that carries enough supplies to sustain 16,000 Marines for up to 30 days.**

own body during the Korean War — the ship is well-suited for use in an invasion or a large-scale humanitarian relief operation.

President Barack Obama announced this week that 275 U.S. troops will be deployed to provide security for the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, as Sunni militants pushed closer to Baghdad. If the need arises, a prepositioning ship could hypothetically offer military planners the ability to quickly bring large amounts of U.S. military hardware into Iraq.

At a multilateral exercise in Jordan earlier this month, the Lopez

mander of Task Force 51/59 and in charge of the amphibious forces deployed to U.S. 5th Fleet, called the ships complementary to the amphibious force capability. They are complementary because unlike amphibious ships, prepositioning ships cannot conduct forced-entry operations into a hostile environment. Instead, the ships require a friendly or secure port to offload equipment.

But the ships also have the capability to dock with other transports to transfer equipment at sea.

Olson said there are a number of different ways to increase the utility of the prepositioning force.

The Marine Corps has been experimenting and exploring several platforms, such as littoral combat ships, joint high-speed vessels, the mobile landing platform, and high-speed transports.

The new mobile landing platform ships are afloat-staging bases — essentially piers in the ocean — capable of transferring equipment from prepositioning ships onto landing crafts. As mobile landing platform ships enter service beginning in the next fiscal year, the Marine Corps intends to assign one to each maritime prepositioning ship squadron, according to the service's Expeditionary Force 21 report, which outlines the Marine Corps vision for designing and developing the force.

Olson said the effort to "reinvigorate" the effort to conduct more exercises as the Corps transitions from its focus on Afghanistan, he said.

Brig. Gen. Gregg Olson, com-

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MILITARY

# Lawmakers blast VA over bonus system

By TRAVIS J. TRITTE  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — House lawmakers said Friday a pay bonus system in which senior executives essentially wrote their own performance evaluations might have fueled patient scheduling abuses and dysfunction at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Between 2010 and 2013, not one of the more than 400 VA senior executives received a performance rating of less than "Fully Successful," even as hospitals and clinics hid wait times with secret lists, some veterans died from disease outbreaks, and many more waited months for basic health care, said Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

"Bonuses are not an entitlement," he said. "They are a reward for exceptional work. VA's current practice only breeds a sense of entitlement and a lack of

accountability."

Congress has been searching for answers over the past two months after revelations employees throughout the VA falsified wait lists to mask long waits. About 57,000 veterans nationwide have waited over a month to receive health care guaranteed as part of their military service, and whistleblowers have claimed delays have led to deaths.

A VA inspector general investigation found the wait times — falsified at 70 percent of facilities — were used to issue rewards and bonuses to department management.

"It seems the only thing the Department of Veterans Affairs

is effective at doing is writing bonus checks to each other," said Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., calling the VA the most mismanaged department in the federal government.

Miller said the bonus awards were given out in some questionable cases. An administrator overseeing a Pittsburgh VA hospital where a deadly outbreak of legionnaire's disease was given a one-time, \$65,000 bonus.

The director of the Phoenix VA, where the department's ongoing scheduling scandal began in April, was awarded bonuses for high performance, though the VA has taken the rare move of rescinding the money after mis-

management at the hospital was made public.

"I would argue it runs far deeper than just Phoenix," Miller said.

About 80 percent of VA executives were rated as exceptional in performance review last year, according to the committee.

The VA system allows executives to write at least part of their own performance evaluations and goals, and that is then approved by a director supervisor, said Rep. Dan Benishke, R-Mich.

"I'm starting to think there is not a real rating going on," he said, "just everybody is getting a good rating."



Miller



Coffman



Benishke

Some evaluations were not included in the overall ratings, said Gina Farrissee, assistant VA secretary for human resources and administration who testified before the House Friday.

The VA has fired six executives during the past two years, according to department documents turned over to the House committee this week.

Farrissee said the department was not aware of the deep problems throughout its health care system, which serves 6.5 million vets per year and constitutes the largest integrated system in the country.

"If we knew what we know today, it is unlikely the performance reviews would reflect what they reflected," she said at the hearing. "I think we need to be more stringent and precise on our performance standards."

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# Half of vets with PTSD got treatment, report says

By KEVIN FREKING  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Only about half of the veterans diagnosed with PTSD last year after serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere received the recommended therapy, despite efforts by the Department of Veterans Affairs to beef up its mental health staffing, the Institute of Medicine said in a report released Friday.

About 40 percent of the veterans whose primary diagnosis was PTSD got at least eight psychotherapy sessions within a 14-week period in 2013. But that is significantly short of the department's target of 67 percent, according to the report.

The Institute of Medicine also found issues with the way active members of the military dealing with PTSD are treated. It described the Department of Defense's treatment programs as "ad hoc, incremental, and crisis-driven, with little planning devoted to the development of a

long-range approach to obtaining desired outcomes."

Together, the two departments spent nearly \$3.3 billion in 2012 to treat patients with PTSD. And while both are making strides to identify and treat people with PTSD, many obstacles remain before they will have an "integrated and higher-performing" system, the report said.

One of the biggest problems is a lack of data to measure which treatments patients are receiving and whether the patients are getting better, said the study's chairman, Sandro Galea of the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.

"Given that the DOD and VA are responsible for serving millions of servicemembers, families, and veterans, we found it surprising that no PTSD outcome measures are used consistently to know if these treatments are working or not," Galea said. "They could be highly effective, but we won't know unless outcomes are

tracked and evaluated."

Galea said tracking does occur with veterans participating in a specific VA program that involves intensive therapy, but that program serves only 1 percent of veterans who have PTSD, and the data suggest the program yields only modest improvement in symptoms.

The VA has come under fire recently because of the troubles some new patients have had getting access to care. The IOM's study has been taking place for years, however. The first phase of study, released in 2012, recommended that soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan undergo annual screening for PTSD and that federal agencies conduct more research into which treatments were working.

For active-duty military, the report notes that each service branch has established its own prevention programs, trains its own mental health staff, and has its own programs and services

for PTSD treatment. It said the service branches lacked an overarching authority to enforce policies related to preventing, treating and screening for PTSD.

The report also said DOD leaders aren't consistently held accountable for implementing policies and programs to manage PTSD effectively.

The panel pointed out that the VA has at least established minimum care requirements nationally. Still, it's unclear whether staff adheres to the standards. The VA's computer health records system allows clinicians to track what medications the patients are receiving, but it does not allow for more complete tracking of the types of therapy being used. A new template was supposed to be available for clinicians beginning last November but was not operational as of late January, the report said.

In a statement, VA officials said they were briefed on the findings this week and will address

the recommendations, but they did not go into more detail about how they would do so. A formal response to Congress is due Jan. 31, 2015.

The Defense Department said it's been taking steps to address problems cited in the report.

"We agree with the IOM that although great strides have been made, critical gaps remain. We are already taking practical steps to address many of these issues," said Lt. Col. Cathy Wilkinson, a Defense Department spokeswoman.

For example, she said, beginning in September, all services were directed to begin collecting symptom severity and outcome data for PTSD, anxiety, and depression at all points of service using standardized measures.

The report recommended that the two departments work together to develop and enact a management system that would document a patient's progress over the course of their treatment, regardless of where they get care.

# GAO: Veterans are already eligible for private health care

By KELLY KENNEDY  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — Veterans facing long wait times, long distances or lack of specialty care are already eligible for medical care outside Veterans Affairs, calling into question the need for a law that allows private care, the Government Accountability Office said Wednesday.

However, there's no way to determine whether veterans will receive timely care through private facilities because VA does not collect that data.

"VA is authorized to obtain health care services from non-VA providers to help ensure that

veterans are provided timely and accessible care," said Randall Williamson, director of health care at GAO, at a House Veterans Affairs Committee hearing. "It is not only important to ensure that veterans will obtain timely treatment from non-VA providers but also to ensure that non-VA medical care is a reliable and cost-effective means for VA to deliver services."

Both the House and the Senate passed bills that would allow veterans access to private care if they faced long waits, but the bills also provide some extras, such as money to hire providers and the ability to fire inefficient VA employees.

Williamson said VA has an-

nounced its intent, in response to scandals about thousands of veterans dying while waiting for a first appointment, to allow more veterans to use non-VA providers.

But VA is unable to determine how sending veterans to private care could cut down wait times and costs because it does not collect data on wait times data or on all health services provided, he said.

A 2013 report found VA does not collect data to determine that information, and a 2014 report found "non-compliance" at four VA facilities because they did not provide emergency care to veterans, as required by law, even if the care was not for service-con-

nected issues. About 20 percent of claims were denied inappropriately, GAO found. Veterans also do not know they are eligible for that care.

GAO made numerous recommendations to fix the problems, and VA agreed to the recommendations, but they have yet to be implemented, Williamson said.

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## NATION

## Congress probes disappearance of IRS emails

BY EILEEN SULLIVAN  
AND JACK GILLUM  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Eight federal employees connected to the tea party investigation experienced hard drive crashes, resulting in an unknown number of lost emails, Internal Revenue Service Commissioner John Koskinen told lawmakers Friday in an unusually tense congressional hearing.

A week ago, the IRS acknowledged it could not produce some of the emails of the IRS executive at the center of the probe because her computer crashed in 2011. Koskinen acknowledged to lawmakers that the hard drive was recycled and presumably destroyed.

"I want that hard drive and I want the hard drive of every computer that crashed," said the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Dave Camp, R-Mich.

Koskinen said the IRS took extra measures to try to retrieve the lost emails. But he was unapologetic about the computer crashes or the period when the IRS advised Congress that emails it had sought were lost.

"I don't think an apology is owed," Koskinen said.

Koskinen said it's not clear whether all eight of the hard drive crashes resulted in lost emails.

Koskinen also said appointment of a special federal prosecutor to investigate the IRS handling of tax-exempt applications would be a "monumental waste of taxpayer funds."

The congressional investigation has been highly politicized because of allegations that the IRS improperly singled out tea party groups seeking tax-exempt status. Friday's hearing was unusually tense, as Camp and other Republicans occasionally interrupted Koskinen and continued to ask other questions before Koskinen had an opportunity to answer.

The senior Democrat on the committee, Rep. Sander Levin of Michigan, chided his colleagues that, "Witnesses deserve some respect."

An FBI investigation is ongoing. The former IRS official at the center of the investigation, Lois Lerner, has invoked her Fifth Amendment right at least nine times to avoid answering lawmakers' questions. Lerner did not learn that IRS staffers were improperly reviewing applications of tea party and other conservative groups for tax-exempt status until weeks after her computer crashed, according to an earlier audit by the Treasury Department inspector general for tax administration.

Lerner's computer crashed sometime about June 13, 2011, according to emails provided to Congress. She first learned about the tea party reviews on June 29, according to the inspector general.

Koskinen told Congress that Lerner's hard drive was unavailable to them because it had been recycled.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Then-House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., leaves House Speaker John Boehner's office on Capitol Hill in Washington last week. McCarthy was selected by House Republicans as their majority leader Thursday.

# McCarthy to lead House GOP

BY ERICA WERNER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Not so long ago, Kevin McCarthy was working as an aide to his local congressman in hot, dusty Bakersfield, Calif. Now the genial 49-year-old is a new face of the GOP, selected by House Republicans as their majority leader after a whirlwind round of politicking prompted by last week's primary election upset of Majority Leader Eric Cantor of Virginia.

McCarthy's lightning-fast ascent to the No. 2 House job in just his fourth term is a testament to his political skills and talent for forming and maintaining relationships. Now he has the daunting challenge of working to unite a fractious House Republican caucus that's still in upheaval after Cantor's loss, with the most conservative lawmakers smarting over McCarthy's quick rise.

"I'll make one promise: I will work every single day to make sure this conference has the courage to lead with the wisdom to listen," McCarthy said Thursday after his victory in the secret ballot elections.

McCarthy has served as majority whip, the No. 3 job, and will be replaced in that post by Steve Scalise of Louisi-

ana, the chairman of a caucus of conservatives in the House. Scalise adds a Southern, red state voice to a GOP leadership team otherwise populated by establishment-aligned Republicans from the West Coast and the Midwest.

"I'm looking forward to bringing a fresh, new voice to our leadership table," Scalise said.

But some of the most conservative lawmakers questioned Scalise's bona fides and groused that the new team is much like the old one. That could spell troubles ahead in a caucus in which conservative rebellions have become routine and McCarthy and other leaders are sometimes at a loss to quell them.

"People told us they wanted a significant change in our leadership team, they wanted us to pursue a more conservative agenda, and I don't think grass-roots Republicans are going to be satisfied," said Rep. Justin Amash, R-Mich., who supported McCarthy's opponent, tea party Rep. Raul Labrador of Idaho.

Conservatives could mount a new challenge after the November midterm elections, including taking aim at Speaker John Boehner, but Amash said that would be a tough climb.

Thursday's changes were set in motion by Cantor's surprise defeat last

week at the hands of Dave Brat, a little-known college economics professor. Brat's victory registered with a jolt of excitement to conservatives, yet the purists didn't have the organization to capitalize on their success, and McCarthy moved quickly.

Developing an organization developed since he became whip more than three years ago when Republicans took control of the House, he swiftly contacted lawmakers over the phone and on the House floor, locking in their support and scaring off the competition.

One potential rival, Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, decided against joining the race, while another, Rep. Jeb Hensarling of Texas, deferred to a second Texan, Rep. Pete Sessions. Sessions quickly dropped out, saying it was obvious that a successful campaign would have created painful divisions within the party.

By the time Labrador jumped in, the California front-runner had amassed support from across the rank and file. He was aided by the fundraising prowess he has displayed since joining the leadership, doling out hundreds of thousands of dollars through his PAC to Republican House candidates and organizations.

## Republicans court religious conservatives

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Describing a nation "in a full-blown spiritual crisis," Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul on Friday vowed to fight against abortion for the rest of his political career, joining a parade of ambitious Republicans courting religious conservatives as they jockey for the next presidential contest intensifies.

"What America needs is a revival," Paul declared while addressing the Faith and Freedom Coalition.

Paul, a libertarian favorite who often downplays the Republican Party's focus on social issues, plunged into an aggressive defense

of "unborn children."

The tea party favorite joined a packed agenda Friday that also included New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie; the GOP's 2012 vice presidential nominee, Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan; and former presidential candidate Rick Santorum. Each is weighing a 2016 presidential run.

This week's conference highlights the changing of the guard. Republicans face as they work to bridge internal divisions and improve the Republican Party's image. While religious conservatives continue to wield influence in the GOP, just last year the Republican National Committee released an exhaustive report calling on Republicans to

adopt an "inclusive and welcoming" tone on divisive social issues.

But like Paul, Santorum aggressively endorsed conservative social priorities. The former Pennsylvania senator said that Republicans aren't fighting hard enough to protect "the most basic institution that holds the family together — that's the institution of marriage."

On Thursday, GOP Sens. Marco Rubio of Florida and Ted Cruz of Texas insisted that America's leaders must do more to defend Christian values at home and abroad, blaming President Barack Obama for attacks on religious freedom as they addressed the conference led by Christian activist Ralph Reed.



MOLLY RILEY/AP

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., speaks Friday at Faith and Freedom Coalition's Road to Majority event in Washington.

## NATION

# Most health exchange customers were uninsured

By ALEX WAYNE  
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — More than half the people who bought insurance through new Affordable Care Act exchanges were previously uninsured, according to a survey that runs counter to reports earlier this year.

About 57 percent of customers in the exchanges, government-run marketplaces created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, lacked insurance at the time they bought a plan, the Kaiser Family Foundation said Thursday in a report.

A separate study predicted modest increases in 2015 premiums.

The issue is of political significance to President Barack Obama, who pushed the health law through Congress with the promise it would reduce the nation's population of uninsured people, about 48 million strong. Republicans have complained that the law largely forced millions of Americans to change their insurance plans.

"There are many aims of the Affordable Care Act, but arguably the most important is it reduced the number of Americans uninsured," Larry Levitt, a senior vice president at Kaiser, said in a phone interview.

The Obama administration hasn't offered any estimate on the law's impact on the U.S. unin-

57

surured population, instead pointing to outside surveys that have found a reduction since the beginning of the year. Gallup has reported that the U.S. uninsured rate reached its lowest level in five years, 13.4 percent, and attributed the reduc-

tion to the health law. "There are still some missing pieces to the puzzle in knowing that number," Levitt said, including how many previously uninsured people enrolled in Medicaid and how the law affected health plans provided by employers. The Kaiser survey "gives us a good sense that the exchanges have certainly made a difference in covering people who were uninsured," he said.

Republicans have remained critical of the law. "We still don't know who paid, who qualifies for their subsidies, who had their plan canceled under Obamacare, who is still able to see their trusted doctor, and if there's

anyone actually saving the \$2,500 per year the president promised," Rep. Marsha Blackburn, a Tennessee Republican who is vice chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said in an email from a spokeswoman.

Newly insured Americans in many states are expected to see their premiums rise modestly next year, Avalere Health, a consulting firm in Washington, said yesterday in a separate study. Rate increases proposed by insurers and made public in nine states so far average 8 percent for "silver" plans, mid-level coverage that has been the most popular option under the health law.

## Prosecutors: Gov. Walker in criminal scheme

By SCOTT BAUER  
The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, a potential 2016 Republican presidential candidate, took part in a nationwide criminal scheme to coordinate fundraising with conservative groups, prosecutors said in court documents unsealed Thursday.

No charges have been filed against Walker or any member of his staff, and both sides are arguing in court over whether the activities are covered by election laws. The documents, some written in December as prosecutors defended their investigation, for the first time publicly put Walker himself at the center of the examination of campaigns in 2011 and 2012.

The investigation into fundraising involving Walker and his campaign, the Wisconsin Club for Growth, the state Chamber of Commerce and other groups began in 2012. Walker, who rose to fame by passing a law that effectively ended collective bargaining for most public workers, was facing a recall election. But the probe has been on hold since May, when a federal judge ruled it was a breach of Wisconsin Club for Growth's free speech rights and temporarily halted it.

State prosecutors said in the December filing that Walker, former chief of staff Keith Gilkes, top adviser R.J. Johnson and campaign operative J. Deborah Jordahl discussed legal fundraising and coordination with national political groups and prominent Republican figures, including GOP strategist Karl Rove.

"The scope of the criminal scheme under investigation is expansive," lead prosecutor Francis Schmitz wrote in a Dec. 9 court filing objecting to an attempt by Walker's campaign and other conservative groups to quash subpoenas. "It includes criminal violations of multiple elections laws," including filing false cam-



Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker speaks at a Water Council conference at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center on Thursday.

campaign finance reports, Schmitz wrote.

Walker suggested that the documents mean little or nothing, given that his campaign's position has already prevailed twice in court.

**‘It (the scheme) includes criminal violations of public elections laws.’**

**Francis Schmitz**  
lead prosecutor

aggressive in telling those folks to stop proceeding with that because they didn't think it was right."

The uproar over the collective-bargaining law led to the recall, which Walker won, making him the first governor in U.S. history to defeat a recall.

"The evidence shows an extensive coordination scheme that

permeated nearly every aspect of the campaign activities" during 2011 elections that decided control of the state Senate and the 2012 recall election, Schmitz said in the December filing.

Under Wisconsin law, third-party political groups are allowed to work together on campaign activity, but they are barred from coordinating that work with actual candidates. The Wisconsin Club for Growth has argued the prohibition does not apply to it because it does not specifically tell people how to vote, or run ads with phrases like "vote for" a certain candidate. The federal judge who halted the investigation and the judge overseeing it both agreed with that argument.

Prosecutors, including Schmitz and Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm, have appealed the matter to the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. Chisholm is a Democrat, and Schmitz has described himself as a Republican who voted for Walker.

Both men have declined to comment about the probe, which is sanctioned under a law that allows prosecutors to compel people to testify and turn over documents, but bars them from discussing the matter publicly.

## Obama moves to ensure gay couples allowed family leave

By JOSH LEDERMAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration will work to ensure that gay and lesbian Americans are eligible to take leave from their jobs to care for a same-sex spouse, regardless of whether they live in a state that recognizes gay marriage, the White House said Friday.

President Barack Obama is directing the Labor Department to start drafting rules making clear that the Family and Medical Leave Act applies to same-sex couples, allowing gay and lesbian employees to take unpaid leave to care for a sick spouse regardless of where they live. The move comes three years after the Obama administration stopped defending the Defense of Marriage Act, which lets states refuse to recognize gay marriages performed in other states.

The White House is promoting the move as part of Obama's push

to expand protections for gays and lesbians by allowing same-sex couples to take advantage of the same federal benefits available to married heterosexual couples.

To that end, the Justice Department also plans to announce it has completed a review that Obama ordered to assess what legal benefits can be extended to gay couples. Already, Obama has moved to ensure gay couples have equal access to health insurance, immigration privileges and tax benefits, the White House said.

But the White House says there are a few benefits that current law prohibits the federal government from granting to same-sex couples. Hoping to end that limitation, the Obama administration is calling on Congress to pass legislation removing those prohibitions.

Democratic members of Congress already have introduced bills expanding protections for gays and lesbians related to Social Security and veterans' benefits, the White House said.

## Presbyterian assembly votes to recognize gay marriages

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The top legislative body of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. has voted to allow members to recognize same-sex marriage as Christian in the church constitution, adding language that marriage can be the union of "two people," not just "a man and a woman."

The amendment approved Thursday by the Presbyterian General Assembly requires approval from a majority of the 172 regional presbyteries, which will vote on the change over the next year. But in a separate policy change that takes effect at the end of this week's meeting, delegates voted to allow ministers to preside at gay weddings in states where the unions are legal and local congregational leaders approve.

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia recognize same-sex

marriage.

In Detroit, during a national meeting in Detroit, there was a sweeping victory for Presbyterian gay rights advocates. The denomination in 2011 eliminated barriers to ordaining clergy with same-sex partners, but ministers were still barred from celebrating gay marriages and risked church penalties for doing so. Alex McNeill, executive director of More Light Presbyterians, a gay advocacy group, said the amendment was "an answer to many prayers."

The Rev. Krystin Granberg — a member of the New York Presbytery — a state that recognizes gay marriage — said she receives requests "all the time" from friends and parishioners to preside at their weddings.

"They want to be married in the church they love and they want me to do it," Granberg said during the debate. "I want pastoral relief."

NATION



DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP

**Darlene Knoll, 53, rests in the sleeping area of her battered 1978 motor home in Los Angeles in 2008. A federal appeals court on Thursday struck down a 31-year-old Los Angeles law that bars people from living in parked vehicles.**

# Possible anthrax exposure at CDC

By MISTY WILLIAMS

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ATLANTA — About 75 employees at the Atlanta-based U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are being monitored or given antibiotics after possibly being exposed to anthrax, the federal agency said Thursday.

No one has shown symptoms of anthrax following the accidental exposure, CDC spokesman Tom Skinner said in an email to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. There is no risk of exposure to the deadly bacteria for other CDC staff, family members or the general public, according to a separate statement released by the agency. Anthrax is not contagious and cannot be caught like the cold or flu.

“Out of an abundance of caution, CDC is taking aggressive steps to protect the health of all involved, including protective courses of antibiotics for potentially exposed staff,” the agency stated.

Investigators found that the unintentional exposure occurred sometime between June 6 and 13 — the day it was discovered. Staff took environmental samples and decontaminated the labs and hallways. The agency is investigating the incident and plans to review safety protocol with all employees.

The exposure happened after workers in a lab at the CDC’s Clifton campus failed to fully inactivate the bacteria while preparing samples for research. The samples were then sent to be used for experimentation to three other campus labs not equipped to handle live bacteria, according to the statement. Assuming the bacteria were inactive, lab workers handled the samples without wearing proper safety gear.

The problem was discovered when live colonies of bacteria were found on the original bacterial plates. Workers were using the samples to find new ways of detecting dangerous pathogens, the agency stated.

Anthrax is an infectious disease caused by bacteria known as *Bacillus anthracis*. The bacteria are found naturally in soil and commonly affect animals such as cattle, sheep and goats more than people, according to the National Institutes of Health. Symptoms of anthrax can include fever, chills, shortness of breath, confusion and body aches, among other conditions.

## Court strikes down LA ban on living in cars

By LISA LEFF

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court on Thursday struck down a 31-year-old Los Angeles law that bars people from living in parked vehicles, saying the vaguely written statute discriminates against the homeless and poor.

The ruling by a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals involved a 1983 law that prohibits the use of a vehicle

“as living quarters either overnight, day-by-day, or otherwise.”

The court said the law was unconstitutional because its ambiguous wording does not make clear what conduct would constitute a violation and “criminalizes innocent behavior.”

The decision came in a case brought on behalf of four people who were cited and arrested in the Venice area by Los Angeles police officers who concluded the numerous belongings in their RVs and cars meant they were violat-

ing the law.

“Is it impermissible to eat food in a vehicle? Is it illegal to keep a sleeping bag? Canned food? Books? What about speaking on a cellphone? Or staying in the car to get out of the rain?” Judge Harry Pregerson wrote for the panel. “These are all actions plaintiffs were taking when arrested for violation of the ordinance, all of which are otherwise perfectly legal.”

The officers were part of an LAPD homelessness task force

charged with enforcing the ordinance in response from community complaints about people living in their cars.

The panel’s ruling overturned a lower court judge who had sided with the city and dismissed the case without a trial.

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer, whose office defended the law before the 9th Circuit, said the city would not appeal. Instead, Feuer said he would work with other officials to write a replacement ordinance.

### Probe sought in Calif. inmate sterilizations

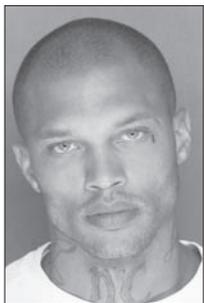
SACRAMENTO, Calif. — State auditors found 39 cases where female state prison inmates may not have understood they were submitting to medical procedures that would leave them sterile, according to a report released Thursday that recommended authorities investigate the doctors and hospitals involved.

State law prohibits inmates from elective sterilizations as methods of birth control. However, prison officials allow sterilizations in cases deemed medically necessary.

The audit was prompted by the Center for Investigative Reporting, which last year found that doctors sterilized nearly 150 female prisoners without obtaining proper consent.

The report identified 39 “unlawful” cases with apparent violations of state rules.

From The Associated Press



STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT/AP

**This booking photo of Jeremy Meeks had garnered more than 33,000 “likes,” and 10,400 comments, and had been shared more than 3,300 times on Facebook as of Thursday afternoon.**

## Mug steals hearts online

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A mug shot of a Northern California man arrested on felony weapons charges has gone viral on social media, attracting more than 33,000 “likes” and drawing comments praising his high cheekbones, chiseled face and striking blue eyes.

Jeremy Meeks, 30, a felon, was arrested Wednesday on five weapons charges and one gang charge, according to Officer Joseph Silva, a spokesman for the Stockton Police Department.

No previous arrest photo has garnered so much positive attention since the department set up the Facebook page in March 2012, Silva told The Associated Press.

“I have not seen that many likes for a photo before,” he said.

By late Thursday, Meeks’ arrest photo had garnered more

than 33,000 “likes,” and 10,400 comments, and had been shared more than 3,300 times.

“Wow. That is one good looking mug shot!” one person wrote.

“Momma, I’m in love with a criminal,” another joked. Others were disapproving, such as one observer who said, “He may be a tad bit cute, but with six felonies, he ain’t that cute.”

Meeks was one of four men taken into custody during a multi-agency mission to curb a recent increase in shootings and robberies in Stockton, Calif., a city of about 300,000.

Silva called Meeks “one of the most violent criminals in the Stockton area,” though he declined to provide any details on the crimes that Meeks is believed to have been involved in.

Meeks, who is being held in lieu of \$300,000 bail, was scheduled to be arraigned Friday afternoon.

## WORLD

# US official: Russia to send more arms to rebels

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — As fierce clashes between Ukrainian security forces and pro-Russian separatists continue, the Russian military is preparing to provide more heavy weaponry to the rebels who are battling the Ukrainian government, according to a senior U.S. official.

“We are confident that Russia last week sent tanks and rocket launchers from a deployment site in southwest Russia to eastern Ukraine. We have information that additional tanks have been prepared for departure from the same deployment site. We also have information that Russia has accumulated artillery at a deployment site in southwest Russia ... and we believe that Russia may soon provide this equipment to separatists,” a senior administration official told reporters on condition of anonymity. The official was not authorized to speak on the record about Russian military movements.

Some of these tanks have departed from a deployment site in the past 24 hours, according to the official.

“Much of this is equipment that Ukrainians have in active service but that Russia no longer uses, leaving the impression that the desire here is to mask the Russian hand and to allow the separatists to assert ... that this is materiel that they’ve captured



DMITRY LOVETSKY/AP

**Pro-Russian troops prepare to travel by tank Friday near Yanakúyev, Ukraine. Pro-Russian fighters moved in a column with two tanks and three armored personnel carriers toward Horivka in the separatist Donetsk region. The tanks flew small flags of a pro-Russia militia but otherwise had no markings.**

on the battlefield from the Ukrainians, when in fact it was not on that battlefield to begin with,” the official said.

Ukrainian troops were to start a unilateral, seven-day cease-fire Friday as a first step in efforts to de-escalate the conflict with pro-Russia separatists in the country’s east, the president said.

Meanwhile, Russia has renewed its troop buildup.

On Thursday, NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said at least “a few thousand” Russian troops had redeployed to

the border and were conducting military maneuvers in the area.

The U.S. official said that Russian forces are within a few miles of Ukrainian territory, the closest they’ve been since Russia annexed the Crimea region of Ukraine with the assistance of Russian paramilitary forces. The official said that the U.S. government has information that suggests that more troops are due to arrive on the border “in coming weeks.”

Dmitry Peskov, a spokesman for President Vladimir Putin,

was quoted by the Itar-Tass news agency as saying the concentration of forces was merely a measure to “tighten border controls.”

The U.S. official dismissed that idea.

“We have not seen this force deploy in positions consistent with border patrol,” the official said. “We have seen disturbing evidence that these forces are supporting the acquisition of materiel” and sending it across the border.

The official said that Russian special forces units are also

maintaining points along the border to provide support to separatist fighters, and there is evidence that the Russians have provided surface-to-air missiles to the rebels.

The official was asked by a reporter why the Russian government was increasing its military activities now.

“We have long ago stopped trying to speak for Putin’s intentions, or what’s inside his head,” the official said.

“The tactic that Russia is using is one I would describe as proximate coercion, subversion and misinformation,” Gen. Martin Dempsey, the top U.S. military officer, told senators at a budget hearing on Wednesday. “Proximate coercion (by choosing to) array your forces on a border and threaten the use of force; subversion ... by the introduction of surrogates and proxies; and misinformation, to get ethnic populations stirred up.”

Dempsey said he doubted there would be a “full-blown invasion” by Russian forces.

Vladislav Seleznev, a spokesman for Ukrainian forces in the east, said that seven government troops were killed in overnight fighting, and another 30 troops were injured. He claimed that 300 rebels were also killed, according to news reports.

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## AFRICOM: US-Uganda diplomatic moves will not affect partnerships

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A White House decision to cancel an aviation exercise in Uganda, among other measures, in connection with that country’s anti-gay law will not affect other key U.S. military partnerships with the Ugandan military, U.S. Africa Command officials said Friday.

Among the missions that will press forward are efforts to train forces for operations in Somalia, where Ugandan troops have played a key role in countering the Islamic militant group al-Shabab, according to AFRICOM.

The training of African Union forces has been a centerpiece of U.S. strategy in Somalia, where militants at one time threatened to overrun the capital, Mogadishu. Though al-Shabab remains a threat, U.S.-trained Ugandan troops and other African Union forces have been widely credited with bringing a measure of security to the area.

In addition, Ugandan troops have been key to international efforts to track down members of the Lord’s Resistance Army, a rebel group on the loose in central Africa. U.S. support for those efforts, which includes the deployment of special operations forces, will also continue, AFRICOM said.

AFRICOM was unable to say precisely how many exercises are now taking place in Uganda. The training schedule can shift from day to day as small teams of trainers move in and out of the region. U.S. Army Africa and a special task force of Marines

have been among the elements that have led training efforts in the country.

On Thursday, the Obama administration announced it was canceling an aviation exercise and imposing a host of other penalties, such as preventing entry to the United States of Ugandan officials accused of human rights abuses. Funding also will be cut or redirected for certain programs connected to the Ugandan police. Regarding military cooperation, penalties have been limited to the one planned aviation exercise.

After Uganda’s passage of anti-gay legislation in February, the U.S. launched a review of its relationship with the country, as Secretary of State John Kerry said at the time, “ensure that all dimensions of our engagement, including assistance programs, uphold our anti-discrimination policies and principles and reflect our values.”

While the Obama administration has called on Uganda’s political leadership to overturn the law, those requests have been ignored. However, Uganda’s prominent role as a provider of security in the region is likely to be one reason the close military alliance remains intact.

Uganda isn’t the only country with anti-gay laws with which the U.S. maintains close ties.

Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Nigeria all have such laws on the books.

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## Karzai backs calls for UN to help with election

By HEATH DRUZIN  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL — President Hamid Karzai has endorsed a call for the United Nations to step in to mediate an escalating election dispute, as Afghanistan braced for demonstrations Saturday called by a presidential candidate claiming fraud.

The candidate, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah, took to the airwaves the day after the June 14 runoff election, claiming not only that the vote was rigged, but that Afghanistan’s main election body was complicit in the fraud. He ordered all of his election observers to stop their work and called for vote counting to cease.

He also called for the UN get involved, which Karzai endorsed on Friday, while also offering to have the country’s two vice presidents oversee negotiations between Abdullah and his election opponent Ashraf Ghani, a former finance minister.

“If this action by the UN can put an end to the problems, we not only accept it, but we welcome it,” Karzai said in a statement.

The winner of the contest between Abdullah and Ghani would succeed Karzai in what would be Afghanistan’s first democratic transfer of power.

A peaceful succession is seen as key to the Afghan government’s legitimacy and to any continuing international military mission in the country. Karzai has refused to sign a security agreement with

the United States that would pave the way for a small international military contingent to stay in the country past 2014. That contingent would train and assist Afghan forces as well as conduct counterterrorism operations. Both Abdullah and Ghani have promised to sign the agreement if elected.

Preliminary results from the runoff are not expected until July 2. The announcement of final results is scheduled for July 22.

But with Abdullah heatedly contesting the fairness of the election, many experts worry that political bickering could turn violent, and on Friday Abdullah supporters were setting up camp throughout Kabul in anticipation of Saturday’s rallies. Abdullah said any protests would be lawful.

Heightening fears of violence Friday, security guards of the governor of Paktia province, a Ghani supporter, engaged in a deadly gun battle with police in Balkh province, an Abdullah stronghold. The governor, Juma Hamdard, said three of his bodyguards were killed and four injured when police opened fire on his convoy at a checkpoint south of Mazar-e-Sharif. A Balkh province security official confirmed the shootout and said one police officer was also killed.

Spokesmen for Abdullah and Ghani could not be reached for comment Friday.

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## CRISIS IN IRAQ

# T Shiite cleric calls for new government

BY SAMEER N. YACOB  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The spiritual leader of Iraq's Shiite majority called for a new, "effective" government Friday, increasing pressure on the country's prime minister a day after U.S. President Barack Obama challenged him to create a more inclusive leadership or risk a sectarian civil war.

Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani's comments at Friday prayers contained thinly veiled criticism that Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, in office since 2006, was to blame for the nation's crisis over the blitz by Sunni insurgents led by an al-Qaida splinter group that seeks to create a new state spanning parts of Iraq and Syria and ruled by its strict interpretation of Islamic law.

Al-Sistani's remarks come as U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is expected to travel to Iraq soon to press its government to share more power.

While al-Maliki's State of Law bloc won the most seats in parliament in the Iraq's April 30 election, his hopes for a third term are now in doubt with rivals challenging him from within the broader Shiite alliance. In order to govern, his bloc must first form a coalition with other parties.

As with Iraq asking the U.S. for airstrikes to temper the militants' advance — especially as the insurgents were said to be preparing Friday for another assault on the country's biggest oil refinery — al-Maliki appears increasingly vulnerable.

"It is necessary for the winning political blocs to start a dialogue that yields an effective government that enjoys broad national support, avoids past mistakes and opens new horizons toward a better future for all Iraqis," al-Sistani said in a message delivered by his



Iraqi men line up for physical examinations Friday at the main army recruiting center to volunteer for military service in Baghdad after authorities urged Iraqis to help battle insurgents.

representative, Ahmed al-Safi, in the Shiite holy city of Karbala.

The Iranian-born al-Sistani, who is believed to be 86, lives in the Shiite holy city of Najaf south of Baghdad. A recluse, he rarely ventures out of his home and does not give interviews. Iraq's majority-Shiites deeply revere him, and a call to arms he made last week prompted thousands of Shiites to volunteer to fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, which was once part of al-Qaida.

Al-Sistani's call to arms has given the fight against the ISIL militants the feel of a religious war between Shiites and Sunnis. His office in Najaf dismissed that charge, and al-Safi on Friday

said: "The call for volunteers targeted Iraqis from all groups and sects. ... It did not have a sectarian basis and cannot be."

Al-Maliki has been seeking to place the blame for the chaos on the ISIL and not his perceived exclusion of the Sunnis. However, questions persist on how much support, if any, the ISIL enjoys among the Sunni population in areas it now controls.

Ali Hatem al-Salman, a prominent tribal Sunni leader and a critic of al-Maliki, said Sunni tribesmen would eventually fight the extremist ISIL.

Using the commonly used Arabic acronym for the ISIL, he told The Associated Press on Thursday: "Daash, themselves, know

that the tribes will push them out. ... There can't be any trust given to Daash."

Al-Maliki's Shiite-led government long has faced criticism of discriminating against Iraq's Sunni and Kurdish populations. But it is his perceived marginalization of the once-dominant Sunnis that sparked recent violence reminiscent of Iraq's darkest years of sectarian warfare after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Iraq's newly elected parliament must meet by June 30 to elect a speaker and a new president, who in turn will ask the leader of the largest bloc to form a new government within 15 days.

Shiite politicians familiar with the secretive efforts to remove

al-Maliki said two names mentioned as possible replacements are former vice president Adel Abdul-Mahdi, a French-educated economist who is also a Shiite, and Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite who served as Iraq's first prime minister after Saddam Hussein's ouster.

With Iraq in turmoil, al-Maliki's rivals have mounted a campaign to force him out of office, with some angling for support from Western backers and regional heavyweights. On Thursday, their effort received a boost from Obama, who said: "Only leaders that can govern with an inclusive agenda are going to be able to truly bring the Iraqi people together and help them through this crisis."

An "inclusive agenda" has not been high on the priorities of al-Maliki, however. Many of al-Maliki's former Kurdish and Shiite allies have been clamoring to deny the prime minister a third term in office, charging that he has excluded them from a narrow decision-making circle of close confidants.

Al-Maliki's efforts last year to crush protests by Sunnis complaining of discrimination under his Shiite-led government sparked a new wave of violence by militants, who took over the city of Fallujah in the western, Sunni-dominated province of Anbar and parts of the provincial capital, Ramadi.

## Latest developments

■ Poll: 74 percent of American voters oppose sending U.S. troops to Iraq, while 16 percent favor it.

■ Iraq's Shiite leader Sistani calls for the creation of a new, "effective" government.

■ Fight for Beiji oil refinery, northern city of Tal Afar rages on.

■ U.S. House rejects amendment that would have prohibited funds for U.S. combat operations in Iraq.

# US history shows military advisers also fight

BY CALVIN WOODWARD  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's announcement that he's sending military advisers to Iraq raises questions — in some quarters, red flags — about whether that could mean a return to warfare under another name.

Obama says flatly: "American combat troops are not going to be fighting in Iraq again." Yet the mission as he's defined it — sending up to 300 military advisers to assess how we can best train, advise and support Iraqi security forces" — is open-ended enough to chance putting at least a limited number of Americans back into the thick of battle.

Modern American history has examples of military advisers limiting themselves to just that job, such as times during the Cold War when the U.S. helped arm and train military forces in de-

veloping countries aligned with Washington. It also has examples of mission creep, most infamously in Vietnam.

A glance at some missions, past and present:

■ **After World War II:** U.S. military officers at the highest level led the restructuring of the German and Japanese governments after World War II. The use of senior military advisers to work alongside foreign political leaders and government officials, not just armed forces, has been seen in Korea, Haiti, Bosnia, Afghanistan and other countries.

■ **Vietnam:** U.S. involvement began with the deployment of fewer than 1,000 military advisers by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and mushroomed. U.S. personnel increased to more than 16,000 in 1963 and 23,000 in 1964, according to CQ's Guide to the Presidency and the Executive Branch. And while they were

still called advisers at that point, they were in combat. More than 500,000 Americans were fighting in Vietnam by 1968 in a conflict that became known as America's quagmire.

■ **Central America:** During the Cold War, the U.S. trained thousands of Latin American soldiers as part of an effort to secure the alliance of states in the region. In Ronald Reagan's era, Americans offered training to Costa Rica's national police force against threats from Nicaraguan-trained socialists, poured advisers into Honduras and El Salvador and hatched an ill-fated plan to use proceeds from illicit arms sales to Iran to help Nicaraguan rebels as part of an effort to free U.S. hostages held by Iranians.

■ **Worldwide:** Today, teams of U.S. military advisers, specifically Army Green Berets, Navy SEALs and Air Force special op-

erations teams, perform a limited mission all over the world, year after year. The mission falls into the category of "foreign internal defense" — helping foreign armies develop the skills, tactics and firepower needed to defend their country against internal threats such as insurgencies. But generally these missions do not unfold in the heat of hostilities.

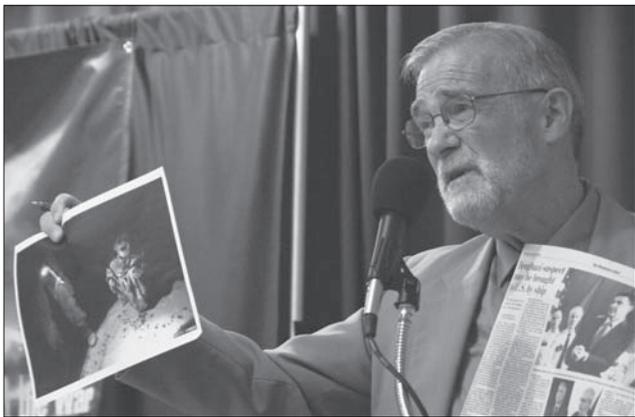
■ **Afghanistan:** Besides conducting their own operations, U.S. troops have increasingly been partnered with Afghan troops to advise, train and mentor the developing ranks of the police and army. Other American forces have worked within the Defense, Interior and other ministries to develop the nation's ability to defend itself without international forces. The U.S. currently has about 32,800 troops in Afghanistan, but Afghan forces have increasingly taken the lead in the fight. After the NATO combat

mission ends this year, Obama has announced a desire to have 9,800 troops remain in the country to train, advise and assist the Afghan forces.

■ **Iraq 2014:** U.S. officials say up to 300 military advisers, mostly Green Berets, are to be deployed in teams embedded with Iraqi security forces at the brigade level and above. They are but one element of a stepped-up U.S. presence. Among other elements: the creation of what Obama called "joint operations centers" in Baghdad and northern Iraq to share intelligence and coordinate planning; intensified intelligence gathering and additional U.S. military assets in the region.

Against that backdrop, Obama said "we will be prepared to take targeted and precise military action, if and when we determine that the situation on the ground requires it."

## CRISIS IN IRAQ



PHOTOS BY C.J. LIN/Stars and Stripes

While speaking Friday in Washington to warn against sending more troops to Iraq, Ray McGovern, an Army veteran and former CIA intelligence analyst, holds up a photo of an Iraqi girl, 6, whose family he said was shot by U.S. troops.

# Veterans' groups: Don't deploy more troops to Iraq

By C.J. LIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — As President Barack Obama announced Thursday that military advisers would be sent to Iraq, some veterans of the Iraq War railed against more military intervention in the country, warning that it would add to the violence and destruction.

More U.S. intervention will only prolong the current conflict and further destabilize the country, said Matt Southworth, an Army veteran who in 2004 deployed to Tal Afar and is a member of Veterans for Peace.

"My experience taught me that any foreign military intervention, especially if led by the United States, will only harden the resolve of the radical groups and unite the less-religiously motivated into one fight against what they view is an illegitimate Iraqi government with considerable U.S. support," Southworth said.

A former intelligence analyst, Southworth suggested five steps for the U.S. to quell the violence in Iraq.

- Reject another U.S. military intervention
  - Stop unconditional military aid to Iraq
  - Convene a conference to establish an arms embargo to Iraq and Syria
  - Increase humanitarian efforts and funding to address the basic needs of Iraqis affected by war
  - Publicly support a comprehensive political settlement among the key parties in the conflict
- "Since the United States started getting involved with Iraq in the 1970s, we have often been a part of the problem, not a part of the



Tim Kahlor, a father of an Army veteran who served two tours in Iraq and was diagnosed with PTSD, speaks Friday at the National Press Club in Washington against sending more U.S. troops to Iraq.

solution to Iraqi political, ethnic, religious and resource issues," Southworth said.

The veterans, speaking at the National Press Club, questioned the morality of U.S. involvement in the region.

"Any continued support for the [Iraqi] government, or military intervention in any way, is unacceptable and incredibly immoral," said Ross Caputi, a Marine veteran who fought in the second siege of Fallujah. He is a member of Iraq Veterans Against the War and is on the board of directors of ISLAH, a group focusing on reparations for Iraqis. In Arabic, "islah" means repair, or reform.

The Iraqi government has been suppressing political dissent with U.S. support, said Caputi, who said the U.S. instead should focus on humanitarian efforts for Iraqis who were injured or suffer from health issues as a result of

the war.

For Tim Kahlor, the father of an Army veteran who served two tours in Iraq and has post-traumatic stress disorder, the reason not to send more troops to Iraq is simple: The U.S. should focus on its own, he said.

"On this side, our kids are coming back ... in bad shape and we don't even have the funding to take care of them," Kahlor said. "And we're talking about spending more money on more people going into Iraq and keeping people in Afghanistan when we can't take care of the vets on the street?"

"I don't know all the politics and stuff (of the Iraq War)," Kahlor said. "I just know as a parent, I see what happens when we bring them back and they're not right anymore."

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# US aversion to action evident in Obama's restraint

By JONATHAN S. LANDAY  
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's decision to send up to 300 U.S. military advisers to Iraq is a limited move to stiffen the beleaguered Iraqi government and army against an Islamist extremist-led revolt that reflects the aversion of the president and the American public to U.S. intervention in the sectarian

## ANALYSIS

blooding. Obama "is trying to minimize U.S. engagement, and that's not surprising. His predilection is not to get involved," said Daniel Serwer, a Middle East Institute fellow and former senior U.S. diplomat who was involved in a review of Iraq War strategy for the Bush administration.

Yet by dispatching U.S. military advisers, intensifying the collection and sharing of intelligence with the Iraqi government and keeping open the option of launching U.S. airstrikes against the insurgents, Obama risks getting sucked deeper into a new Middle East maelstrom.

"The slippery-slope concern is a very valid concern, and some of what we are seeing in the president's policy reflects that that is very much a concern inside the administration," said Paul Pillar, a former chief U.S. intelligence analyst for the Middle East.

Obama's announcement on Thursday came amid growing pressure on him to act.

In Iraq, Sunni Muslim fighters led by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a brutal militant group on the U.S. terrorism list, pressed an advance on Baghdad that threatens to break the oil-rich country apart. In Washington, Republicans stepped up rhetorical assaults on Obama for what they decry as his feeble policies on the wars in Syria and Iraq and the Russia-backed uprising in Ukraine.

"The president has weakened the national security posture of the United States," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declared during a series of coordinated Republican speeches on the Senate floor.

Yet only hours after Obama stepped into the fray, a new Reuters-IPSON poll reaffirmed that a majority of Americans oppose intervention of any kind on behalf of Iraq's Shiite Muslim-dominated government and army.

The distaste for intervention is in step with Obama's own views. He campaigned for the presidency in 2008 on a vow to complete a pullout of U.S. forces from Iraq by the end of 2011, which he upheld. And in outlining his national security strategy in a May 28 speech to the U.S. Military Academy, Obama made clear that

the U.S. military should only get involved in overseas crises that put American lives and interests directly at risk.

"When crises arise that stir our conscience or push the world in a more dangerous direction but do not directly threaten us, then the threshold for military action must be higher," he said. Instead, we must mobilize allies and partners to take collective action."

He added that the U.S. must "broaden its tools to include diplomacy and development, sanctions and isolation, appeals to international law and, if just, necessary and effective military action."

The crisis in Iraq, however, represents a foreign policy conundrum that doesn't fit neatly with Obama's strategy.

No U.S. allies or partners have offered to join the United States in helping to bolster the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki — Obama is dispatching Secretary of State John Kerry this weekend to Europe to try to drum up that support — while the only regional power that is backing Baghdad is the biggest U.S. rival in the Middle East, Shiite-dominated Iran.

U.S. diplomacy failed to stop al-Maliki from repressing minority Sunnis and using his posts as prime minister, interior minister and defense minister to place favored Shiites in powerful positions to the exclusion of Sunnis and minority Kurds. As a result of his sectarian policies, disaffected Sunni tribes and former members of the late dictator Saddam Hussein's security forces joined the ISIL-led revolt.

Finally, the billions of dollars invested over the years by the United States to build Iraq's capacity to fight terrorism went down the drain in a matter of hours last week as tens of thousands of Iraqi troops fled Mosul, the country's second-largest city, shedding their uniforms and weapons.

In bolting, the Iraqi ceded much of northwestern Iraq to the ISIL and its allies, unleashing a new flood of refugees in a country already struggling to cope with an influx of Syrians who fled the civil war in their country.

The army's flight also allowed the Kurds to take control of the disputed, oil-rich city of Kirkuk and other territory that they have coveted as part of a long dreamed of independent country of Kurdistan, and raising the specter of a three-way partition of Iraq that the U.S. occupation sought to avert.

Now, the ISIL is the world's richest, most powerful terrorist group, having seized hundreds of millions of dollars in cash and untold millions of dollars' worth of U.S.-supplied weapons and equipment, vastly increasing the threat it poses.

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TED S. WARREN/AP

The new Amazon Fire phone can send a movie or TV show wirelessly to a compatible television while the phone serves as a "second screen" to display information about actors, locations and scenes. The gadget was unveiled Wednesday in Seattle.

# A case of operating system overload

By BARRY RITHOLTZ  
*Bloomberg News*

Wednesday, Amazon.com announced its new mobile phone, the Fire. Just in case the phones that run on Apple's iOS or Google's Android or BlackBerry or Windows don't do it for you. The phone has some sort of a 3D holographic imaging, for whatever that's worth. Also, you can take a picture of some product, and if Amazon has it in stock, they will send you one (for a price, of course). I'm sure there are other features as well that will create a compelling reason to switch from your favorite phone to this one.

And there's the rub. I can't speak for the rest of the technology-consuming public, but the last thing in the world I need to think about is learning yet another operating system. As is, I already suffer from a bad case of interface confusion.

These days, everything has an operating system, aka OS. Throughout most of human history, our creations didn't require an operating manual to understand how to use them. The operating system for a knife or a spear is pretty self-explanatory: Hmmm, sharp point. Got it. No 64-page PDF required.

This was true for many millennia. Even more recent technology, such as radios and televisions, were easy to understand. Two knobs, one for on-off and volume, one for channel selection. If you had to, you could move the metal antenna around via trial and error. Who couldn't handle that?

Also self-explanatory was the rotary phone. Indeed, most household appliances required no operating manual. By the time automobiles went in mass market, they too were easy and short.

This all began to change on Nov. 18, 1963. That was when the push-button phone was introduced. Thus began the dividing line between operating systems that needed no explanation, and the world we live in

today.

I blame the octothorpe — also known as the "number sign," pound key" or "hashtag." Since that push-button phone was introduced a half-century ago, the pound key along with the star key has allowed unintuitive programming to dominate our world. The concept of symbology — code that represents something else — has come to dominate our world and thus our need to constantly learn new operating systems.

Whether it's your car, your computer, your thermostat or your phone, everything has an OS. They all come from different design perspectives. The concept of human-interface design guidelines was unimaginable 50 years ago; today it's a college class.

The inscrutability of operating systems reached a peak in the Microsoft DOS era. It was an entirely new language, based on a form of line code that was foreign to humans and invading aliens alike. Windows was only marginally better.

Apple invented the better mousetrap — much easier to use, more intuitive. If you didn't know what to do, a guess more often than not landed you at the right place. But Microsoft had enough marketing clout (and anticompetitive monopolistic contracts) that Apple never gained more than a marginal presence on the desktop in the 1980s and '90s.

In the 2000s, the Apple troika of products — iPod, iPhone and iPad — changed the way people interacted with computers. The learning curve was shallower, and one could almost get by without RTFM. The public approved en masse, rewarding Apple by making it the world's most highly valued company.

Lots of other companies followed suit, often staffed with former Apple engineers. TiVo, Nest, Square, Pinterest and much of Silicon Valley is littered with them. The Apple design ethos is finding its way into

lots of products, even ones without the Apple logo on them.

These innovative companies produce products that are somewhat different from one another. And that's my problem. I suffer from interface confusion. This is happening more and more.

I tried to rewind the radio the other day in the car, as if it were a TiVo. I have also tried to fast forward live TV, something that turns out not to work. Have you ever tried to swipe a laptop screen like an iPad? (Oops.) All of the bathroom fixtures in the modern high-rise office building where I work are driven by motion detectors. It's confusing to me when I'm in a men's room that requires me to turn on a faucet, or heaven forbid, flush by myself. If you have ever expected specific behaviors from technologies, only to be stymied by a different OS, then congratulations, you suffer from interface confusion.

What is interface confusion? It is simply the mistaken expectation of one type of technological interaction instead of another. It is becoming increasingly common, and shows no signs of ending anytime soon. Indeed, the competition among companies for your dollars makes it unlikely this will ever end.

I love the fact that I am lucky enough to live in an era of tremendous technological advances. Interface confusion is simply part of the complex, technologically interrelated world we live in.

That brings me back not just to Amazon's Fire phone, and the hurdle that any innovative company or start-up must overcome if it wants its product adopted by the masses. We have achieved OS saturation. The last thing anyone really wants is to have to learn a new operating system.

Barry Ritholtz is a Bloomberg View columnist writing about finance, the economy and the business world.

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## OPINION

## ISIL so extreme it's uniting opposing forces

By DOYLE MCMAUS  
Los Angeles Times

Just how terrifying is the Sunni Muslim extremist group that's swept over a huge swath of territory in northern Iraq? Here are some clues:

After seizing Iraq's second-largest city, the group, known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL, boasted of massacring 1,700 prisoners in cold blood.

ISIL leaders have announced that they intend to assassinate Iraq's Shiite Muslim religious leaders and destroy their shrines.

ISIL is so extremist that even al-Qaida expelled the group earlier this year for being too violent against fellow Muslims.

"This is al-Qaida on steroids," Ryan Crocker, the former U.S. ambassador to Iraq, said this week.

But the group's brutality and extremism may, in the end, contain the seeds of its destruction.

ISIL is so frightening that it is driving some of the Middle East's traditional adversaries together in a de facto coalition to stop its advance: the United States and Iran, Turkey and the Kurds, and — if the Obama administration's diplomacy succeeds — even moderate Iraqi Sunnis and Shiites.

The danger, as these unlikely alliances seek to begin, is that ISIL could take over all of Iraq; the group has fewer than 15,000 fighters, and the areas it hasn't entered — including Baghdad — are overwhelmingly Shiite.

Rather, the goal is to block ISIL's proclaimed goal of touching off a sectarian Sunni-Shiite war across the entire Arab world, beginning with Syria and Iraq.

"The most important challenge is reversing the momentum in Iraq that could tip the country back into civil war," said Colin Kahl, a former top Pentagon official in Iraq who now teaches at Georgetown

University. "There are plenty of actors in the region who share an interest in that not happening."

The first step, which President Barack Obama has already begun, involves nudging Iraq's Shiite prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki, to brood his government to include more participation by Sunni leaders.

Iraq's 2005 constitution calls for considerable decentralization of government authority among the country's regions, and it was designed to encourage power-sharing among the country's three major groups, the Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds. But al-Maliki has ignored those provisions, centralizing power in Baghdad and arresting major Sunni leaders — policies that have driven many Sunnis closer to ISIL, despite its brutality.

Obama has demanded that al-Maliki reverse those policies as the price of significant military aid from the United States. "In the absence of this type of political effort, short-term military action ... won't succeed," Obama said last week.

That political effort, officials say, rather than any proposal for joint military action, was at the heart of the talks U.S. officials had this week with Iraq. The United States hopes the Tehran government will put similar pressure on al-Maliki.

"Our interests and Iran's interest are pretty congruent in Iraq — not perfectly congruent, but close enough," Kahl said. "Iran doesn't want Iraq to be overrun by ISIL. They don't want Iraq to slide back into civil war, and it doesn't want Iraq to be a failed state."

Meanwhile, in northern Iraq, the crisis has helped cement ties between an increasingly autonomous Kurdish area and neighboring Turkey after years of tension.

Once Turkey feared the growth of an independent Kurdistan in Iraq out of fear it would fuel separatist sentiments among Turkey's large Kurdish minority. But in recent years, the Iraqi Kurdish regional government of Massoud Barzani has



struck an economic alliance with Turkey, routing new oil pipelines across the northern border.

Now, with the rise of ISIL, Iraqi Kurdistan is acting as a kind of security buffer between Turkey and Iraq's divided south. There's one more pair of adversaries who aren't talking yet but who also might find themselves uncomfortably on the same side: al-Maliki and Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah. The men are said to loathe each other; Abdullah considers the Iraqi prime minister little more than an Iranian puppet.

But in May, Saudi officials announced that they had discovered a terrorist cell in Saudi Arabia that was planning anti-government attacks, and they said it was linked to ISIL, which has been partly funded by Saudi donors. The dilemma for Abdullah is deciding whom he fears more:

ISIL in Saudi Arabia or al-Maliki in Iraq. "The Saudis aren't going to help Maliki, but they can help by not making things worse," Kahl said. "And they can play a positive role by encouraging the Sunni tribes in Iraq to respond if Maliki reaches out to them in a constructive way."

Obama hoped he was done with Iraq after the last U.S. forces withdrew in 2011. "We're leaving behind a sovereign, stable and self-reliant Iraq," he said at the time.

But the prospect of a terrorist-ruled mini-state sprawling across much of Syria and Iraq gives him little choice. It will take deft diplomacy as well as military aid to keep Iraq from sliding back into civil war. Much as most Americans, like the president, would prefer to stay out, the only country capable of providing both is the United States.

Doyle McMaus is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

## Pakistan decries drones' return — but only in public

By EMILY SCHNEIDER  
AND BAILEY CAHALL  
Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON  
For the first time in nearly six months, U.S. drone strikes hit Pakistan's tribal region three times in less than a week, killing at least 20 militants with suspected ties to the Haqqani network. The hiatus was the longest pause in the controversial CIA program since 2006, and the drones' sudden return begs the questions: Why now? And is this the beginning of a renewed drone campaign in Pakistan?

As the Pakistani Taliban have long been the primary target of these strikes, it seems the answer to the first question is partially tied to the release of U.S. Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who was held by the Haqqani network for more than five years after being captured in Afghanistan. A former U.S. military commander told The New York Times that with Bergdahl's release on May 31, the United States suddenly had more freedom to operate against militants in the region, particularly the Haqqanis, who have found a sanctuary within North Waziristan for years.

But Bergdahl's release isn't the only reason for the resumption of strikes. Pakistan has been fighting a losing battle with the various militant groups operating in the country's autonomous tribal regions ever since peace negotiations with the Taliban fell through earlier this year. The Pakistani

**While some Pakistani officials would admit that the U.S. drone campaign was effective, they always pointed out the strikes were not formally approved by Pakistan.**

military has been itching to take the fight to the militants, but the civilian government, led by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, wanted to let them talk to their coupe. That seemed to end June 8, when members of the Pakistani Taliban and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) launched a major assault on Karachi's Jinnah International Airport, rocking the country. Ten militants stormed the airport and killed at least 24 people before being killed by security forces; the next day, militants attacked the airport's security training facility, though no casualties were reported.

Coming days after those attacks — and ahead of a long-expected Pakistani military campaign in North Waziristan — it seems unlikely that the U.S. drone strikes were not somehow sanctioned by the Pakistani government, especially since one strike killed at least four ethnic Uzbek fighters. To be sure, Islamabad has spo-

ken out against the strikes, calling them a violation of Pakistan's sovereignty, but it is hard to believe that the succession of events is somehow sheer coincidence.

Yet it is also hard to believe that this is the start of a renewed drone campaign on the part of the United States.

In the lull between these most recent strikes and the last, which occurred on Dec. 25, 2013, many analysts speculated that growing tensions between Pakistan and the United States over the drone campaign were behind the slowdown. There had been increasing public outrage among Pakistanis at the alleged high number of civilian casualties caused by U.S. drones, although according to data collected by the New America Foundation, there were only an estimated 3 to 5 civilian casualties caused by U.S. drone strikes in 2013 (down from a record high of 87 to 99 in 2006).

But there was also growing pushback from the Pakistani government. While some Pakistani officials would admit that the U.S. drone campaign was effective, they always pointed out that the strikes were not formally approved by the Pakistani government and violated the country's territorial integrity. The country's parliament even unanimously demanded an end to the strikes in April 2012 when negotiating the terms of the two countries' counterterrorism partnership. (Just days later, a drone strike killed three suspected militants in North Waziristan.)

This pattern of U.S. strikes and Paki-

stani condemnation continued until last December, when the strikes stopped. With some room to breathe, Pakistan took matters into its own hands by entering into peace negotiations with the Taliban, and when that failed, conducting military operations in the tribal areas. More than 150 militants — some from Uzbekistan — have been killed during the Pakistani military's current offensive in which the military has been using American-made F-16 fighter jets that are, by definition, less discriminate in their targeting than drones.

Though the three drone strikes may have signaled the start of the military's assault on North Waziristan, the "comprehensive operations" will likely allow the United States to dial back its drone campaign even more, which is not insignificant when you consider that 373 drone strikes in Pakistan over the past decade have killed somewhere between 2,097 to 3,449 people.

Since 2004, the United States has launched drone strikes in Pakistan under the "unwilling or unable" doctrine, arguing that if Pakistan wouldn't fight the militants living in the country's tribal regions, the CIA would. That calculus, however, seems to have finally changed with a Pakistani military that is eager take control of the tribal belt and kick up where the United States left off, and a civilian government that is willing to let it.

Emily Schneider, a research associate, and Bailey Cahall, a policy analyst, both work in New America's International Security Program and are associate editors for the South Asia Channel.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Small dog, great deed: Maltese finds wallet

**AK** JUNEAU — A 7-month-old Maltese puppy owned by Bonnie and Brad Gruening likes to retrieve. On Monday, Lady Bunny came home with an unexpected prize — a wallet its owner didn't know was lost.

The puppy found and brought home a wallet belonging to Rudy Vonda, a sanitation worker with Pacific Waste Management, who drives a route in the Gruenings' neighborhood.

The Gruenings called Vonda to report their pooch had found his property.

"I didn't even know my wallet was missing. I checked my back pocket to make sure," Vonda said.

Vonda figured his wallet fell as he slid out of his truck cab to adjust a can for pick-up. The wallet's drab olive green color could easily have kept it lost.

"That was a real surprise," Vonda said of its return. "It was like a dog from heaven."

## Man cited for warning drivers of checkpoint

**OH** CLEVELAND — A suburban Cleveland man says police violated his First Amendment rights to free speech when they cited him for holding a sign warning motorists to turn if they wanted to avoid a drunken-driving checkpoint.

Douglas Odolecki, 43, warned motorists with the sign Friday night in Parma that said: "Check point ahead! Turn now!"

Parma police spokesman Kevin Riley said officers cited Odolecki after he refused to remove the "Turn now!" portion of the sign. Officers previously had consulted with city attorneys to determine if Odolecki violated any laws by displaying the sign, Riley said.

Odolecki plans to fight the citation for obstructing official business.

## Town's 'redneck' theme for parade irks some

**NY** SALEM — You might be a redneck if you don't object to a rural upstate New York town's theme for its annual Fourth of July parade.

But some people around Salem aren't amused by parade organizers' decision to go with "Redneck Summer" for this year's theme.

The volunteer fire department stages the annual holiday parade in Salem, a farming community located on the Vermont border 40 miles northeast of Albany.

One organizer said that the number of groups participating had decreased, so they decided on the redneck theme to "spice it up a little bit."

A few people have objected, including Mary Greene. She called the theme "disturbing" and said "redneck" doesn't have a good connotation.

## Army veteran, 79, fights off would-be robber

**FL** ORLANDO — Authorities say a 79-year-old

## THE CENSUS

# 73

The number of years that passed before an Albuquerque man who left high school to serve in World War II finally received his diploma. Dennis Baca, 89, graduated Wednesday evening during a special ceremony at Albuquerque High School. Albuquerque Public Schools Superintendent Winston Brooks said it's a way to thank Baca for his service. Baca was close to graduating when he opted to enlist in the army to fight in the Pacific.



WILL DICKEY, THE (JACKSONVILLE) FLORIDA TIMES-UNION/AP

## Sticker shock

Darrell Cookman School of the Medical Arts student Natalie Rodriguez, 16, reacts to the size of an intravenous needle during a medical camp Tuesday at the Naval Hospital at the Jacksonville Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla.

U.S. Army veteran fought off a would-be robber at an Orlando gas station.

The confrontation was caught on surveillance camera on Saturday morning.

Orange County Sheriff's deputies say Marvin Lail was filling up his car when a man came from behind the gas pump and demanded his wallet. But Lail fought back, even after the man pulled out a gun.

Lail believes the man targeted him because of his age, saying, "give it up, old man." Lail told Orlando television stations the man would have had to kill him to get the wallet.

Eventually, a gas station employee intervened and the would-be robber fled before deputies arrived.

Deputies are searching for the man.

## Pair to stand trial over girl's smiley face tattoo

**PA** CENTERVILLE — A Pennsylvania couple has been ordered to stand trial on charges they tattooed a smiley

face and a derogatory word on a 12-year-old girl who spent the night at their home.

Randall Charlton III, 33, and Melissa Becker, 30, both of Centerville, on Tuesday waived their rights to preliminary hearings on child endangerment and related charges over the May 14 tattooing.

Crawford County prosecutors said Charlton and Becker didn't contact the girl's mother for permission to be tattooed. That's against the law in Pennsylvania.

The girl was visiting children who were being supervised by Charlton and Becker at the time.

According to the affidavit, the girl identified Charlton as the one who tattooed the smiley and the vulgar term toward women on her left forearm.

## Off-duty firefighter missing in forest

**CA** FILLMORE — Authorities in Southern California have resumed the search for an Arcadia firefighter who went missing Friday in Los Padres National Forest after chasing his dog

during a backpacking trip.

Sheriff's Capt. Rob Davidson says searchers fanned out again early Wednesday, looking in rugged terrain for Michael Herdman, 34.

Herdman was hiking with a friend near the Tar Creek trail when he went running after his dog and disappeared. He was barefoot and wearing only shorts and a T-shirt.

It took the friend two days to hike out of the area and to alert authorities.

## Officials approve ban on lionfish imports

**FL** FORT MYERS — State wildlife officials have given final approval to a ban on imports of lionfish for the aquarium trade in Florida.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission also has approved methods that make it easier for scuba divers to catch lionfish in the wild. Aquarium shops would be allowed to obtain new lionfish from divers.

The fish have venomous spines, but they are edible.

The commission gave preliminary approval to the lionfish ban in April. Officials finalized the ban Wednesday at the commission's meeting in Fort Myers. The ban takes effect Aug. 1.

## 600-year-old canoe on display at Parris Island

**SC** PARRIS ISLAND — A canoe thought to be almost 600 years old is going on display at Parris Island.

The new exhibit is scheduled to open Wednesday at the Parris Island Museum at the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot near Beaufort.

The Native American canoe is estimated to have been built between 1300 and 1420. A local historian found the canoe submerged in the marsh near Parris Island in 1988. It was pulled from the marsh the following year by a team of Marines and archaeologists.

The canoe was restored over 25 years by researchers from East Carolina University and now is ready to go on display.

From wire reports

## VIDEO GAMES

When he gets caught up in a burglary, Det. Ronan O'Connor's life is brought to an untimely end by a brutal and relentless killer. In order to escape from the limbo world of Dusk, he must track down his killer and bring him to justice in "Murdered: Soul Suspect."

Photos courtesy of Square Enix



# Over his dead body

## Detective stops at nothing in quest to find killer in 'Murdered: Soul Suspect'

By BRIAN BOWERS  
Stars and Stripes

Being dead definitely has its drawbacks. But it also has a few advantages in "Murdered: Soul Suspect."

The mystery game from Square Enix puts you in the shoes of Ronan O'Connor, a homicide detective in Salem, Mass. Within the first few minutes, you are thrown from a fourth-floor window and shot seven times with your own handgun. You are dead on the spot.

However, with a setting like the famous witch-hunt town of Salem, you have to suspect something supernatural will occur. And, sure enough, your spirit is up and investigating the scene of your own murder before your corpse is even cold.

You find out that you are trapped in a limbo world known as Dusk, where those with unfinished business are held until things can be set right. It seems that you need to find your killer before you can cross the bridge to eternity and join your deceased wife. And since your death occurred when you interrupted a suspected serial killer, there's a lot of investigating to do before you can make that trip.

Dusk is like an alternate dimension that overlaps the physical world. In addition to Salem's current buildings and residents, the otherworldly remains of previous structures and inhabitants fill the cityscape.

As a ghost, the spiritual portions of this world seem to have more substance than the material portions. In theory, you should be able to pass through all material objects but not the spiritual. In practice, you also can't pass through exterior walls because most of Salem's buildings have been consecrated over the years. However, once you get inside, you can pass through all material objects.

While walking through walls is a cool trick, the flip side is that you can't pick up material objects to examine them. And you definitely can't talk to anyone unless they happen to have psychic abilities. This makes investigating a crime scene or interviewing witnesses a bit tricky. Fortunately,



you meet a teenage medium named Joy who can help you out.

You quickly discover that you can do many unusual things in your ghostly state. In addition to passing through walls, you can teleport for short distances and possess the bodies of cats so you can climb to elevated areas blocked by obstacles.

Other abilities are very helpful when conducting an investigation. You can possess a living person to read their mind, see things through their eyes and even influence them to do something that will reveal a clue. For example, you can get someone to move a stack of papers to reveal evidence underneath. You can also interact with the spiritual residue of previous events and get them to replay for you.

Conducting an investigation works in a way similar to other detective games, such as "L.A. Noire" and "Heavy Rain." A magnifying glass will appear over items or people that might have information. Then, you need to select the item or person and gather the corresponding clue. In some cases, you need to consider a collection of clues and determine their significance or relationship. This will usually unlock additional information. After gathering all of the clues in an area, you need to determine their overall meaning and the next move in the case.

Use of your investigative skills isn't confined to your own case. You'll meet a number of other ghosts trapped in Dusk and you can offer to help them. In most cases, you'll need

Overall grade: **C+**

to gather clues in the usual manner to reveal something about the nature of the ghost's death. If you're successful, the ghost will be enveloped in light and depart the scene on the way to a happier place.

However, some of the spiritual inhabitants of Dusk are more menacing than ghosts in need of assistance. Demons roam the realm looking for souls to devour. When you encounter these critters, you can jump into a wispy blob of residue left by another spirit and wait until it gets bored and moves off. But in most cases, you will need to eliminate the menace by sneaking up from behind and dispelling it.

These occasional encounters with demons offer the only real action in the game. Its primary focus is on the detective work. Fortunately, the investigations and the storyline are interesting.

Unfortunately, the game isn't very long. I played it for about eight hours, and I spent more than half of that time repeatedly retracing my steps to ensure that I had found every clue and collectible available. In addition, "Murdered" offers virtually no replay value. You are going to find most of the collectibles during the course of your investigations and the story isn't going to change on a second playthrough.

These issues, and the fact that many of Salem's inhabitants look very similar and say the same things over and over, make the game feel a bit shallow.

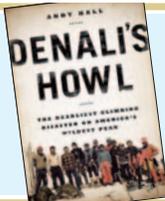
The graphics are somewhat disappointing. I suspect I would have been impressed on the Xbox 360, but the realism and detail seemed to be a bit lacking when compared to top games on the Xbox One.

The game earns its mature rating because of the disturbing nature of the crimes committed.

**Bottom line:** C+ "Murdered: Soul Suspect" is an enjoyable mystery game that ends much too quickly.

**Platforms:** Xbox 360, Xbox One, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, PC

**Online:** murdered.com



In 1967, twelve young men set out to climb Alaska's Mount McKinley—known as Denali—one of the world's most popular and deadly mountaineering destinations. At nearly 20,000 feet, they endured winds of up to 300 miles an hour, freezing flesh solid in minutes. Only five survived.

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## ENTERTAINMENT



GLEN WILSON, SOVI PICTURES/AP

A new mission takes officers Schmidt (Jonah Hill) and Jenko (Channing Tatum) to college to locate an on-campus drug supplier in the buddy cop sequel "22 Jump Street."

# Tatum and Hill: The bromance continues

## Stars of '22 Jump Street' talk partnership in parody

BY JAKE COYLE  
The Associated Press

**T**he comic duo of Channing Tatum and Jonah Hill began with an intentionally bad idea. Hill called up Tatum: "So I have this probably terrible idea, but I want to see if you're interested," he said. Adapting the 1980s TV show "21 Jump Street" was the pitch, and Tatum couldn't resist Hill's anti-sell.

The movie, a send-up of TV show adaptations while at the same time being one, was a hit. Now, Hill and Tatum are back with "22 Jump Street."

Beginning with a "previously on" clip reel and ending with a slew of mock sequel teasers, "22 Jump Street" again showcases Tatum and Hill's rapport in a self-aware comedy that sends up sequel-making and dissolves into such absurdity that, one point, it literally turns into "The Benny Hill Show."

In a recent interview, Hill and Tatum reflected on their partnership in parody.

**Hill:** I think we got lucky. We knew we would get along, but also the way we interact is luckily funny. It makes us laugh. I think it makes other people enjoy watching us hang out. When we're on set and we're hanging out and laughing, I can see people smiling.

**Tatum:** I definitely went into this, more than most films, with zero, zero ego. I was very insecure about trying to do a comedy. I was just sort of like: "Tell me what to do."

You guys might seem quite different, but you overlap in many ways. You have director Bennett Miller in common (Hill received his first Oscar nomination for Miller's "Moneyball," while Tatum stars in the upcoming "Foxcatcher"), and you both have terrible things done to you in "This Is the End."

**Tatum:** It was like 2 in the morning — they must have still been shooting — and I hear my email go off. I pick up my phone for whatever reason. I never do this. I don't email with Seth (Rogen), but it's Seth and he's like, "Don't be mad at me. We're sitting here and we have a crazy idea for a cameo for you that involves you, Danny McBride, a retractable dog leash and a Mexican wrestling mask." And I was like, "I'm in."

**In the time you've been making the "Jump Street" movies, your careers have both exploded.**

**Tatum:** When (Hill) got nominated (for "The Wolf of Wall Street"), it was so

insanely ... I felt like I got nominated. I'm not even kidding. It was one of those, like, "YES!"

**Hill:** I had a very similar experience with Cannes. I was in my bed at home and I got an email with the first "Foxcatcher" review from Cannes. It was like 6 or 7 a.m. in Los Angeles. And I knew what that meant for the road they're about to go on. I was screaming and I called him (Hanning) and Bennett. Neither of them picked up. They screened my calls.

**How did the end credits sequence of fake "Jump Street" sequels come about?**

**Hill:** We were screening the movie and it was testing really well and the audience was responding really well to it. We were sitting around going, "The movie plays great. I wish there was one more thing to send people off with a great feeling." One last jab at ourselves, too. One more: "We suck."

Channing Tatum, left, and Jonah Hill star in the action comedy "22 Jump Street."

Victor ia Will, Invision/AP



## ENTERTAINMENT

**"How to Train Your Dragon 2" revolves around Hiccup (voiced by Jay Baruchel), the shy but intelligent teenage son of a Viking chief.**

DREAMWORKS ANIMATION/3P



# An about a hero

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Canadians are easy to spot in Florida. Guys like Jay Baruchel don't have to open their mouths and drop an "about" or "I've never BEAN here before" to give away the game. They're pink.

"I'm like a Jane Austen character," the skinny, big-screen funnyman admits. "I need a parisol when I'm down here."

The 32-year-old Ottawa native has made his mark in indie films ("Fanboys," "I'm Reed Fish") and as a part of the ensemble of some of the biggest comedy hits in recent film history—"Tropic Thunder," "Knocked Up," "This is the End."

But the one part he truly owns is Hiccup, the hero of the "How to Train Your Dragon" movies, an animated character who is "the Jay Baruchel of the Viking World," Christine Champ noted at film.com. The character has Baruchel's "angsty sarcasm," his distinct, high-pitched voice, and his speaking style, which "Time Out London compared to 'the beguiling delivery of a young Christian Slater.'"

In "How to Train Your Dragon 2," Hiccup becomes downright — dare we say it? — Canadian.

"He's a peacemaker," Baruchel says of Hiccup, based on the hero of Cressida Cowell's "How to Train Your Dragon" books. "He wants reconciliation, across the board. He IS Canadian. In a way, He's a great moderator. He wants cooler heads to prevail, and he knows we're better off if we can all find a way to get along."

Baruchel revels in talking about the "Dragon" movies — the new "Dragon 2" and "Dragon 3," which is already in the planning stages. He bought into the franchise right away because of the character, who "represents people who are earnest in their beliefs, and who refuse to accept things the way they are. Just because this is how things have been doesn't mean this is how they have to be or will be forever and ever."

He connects Hiccup, a quirky tinkerer, blacksmith's apprentice and dragon-loving dreamer amongst the pillager Vikings of his family and village, to his own life.

"Hiccup is a great emblem for anyone who is wired differently. He's still all Viking, even though he's the least Viking of them all. So he's loyal. But I had a dad whose sole ambition for me was that I play hockey and live exactly the same life that he did.

And that was never going to be an option.

"... There's a lot of kids out there who face that ... Hiccup tells these kids that the things you've been told are failings can actually be virtues, and will be, if you give them time."

A Canadian child actor summoned to Hollywood by director Cameron Crowe for a role in "Almost Famous," Baruchel picked up on how he sounded — slightly nasal-voiced — and looked different from the standard issue movie stars or even character actors of his generation.

"They'd say 'You've got such a distinct voice!' And I was never sure how to take that. Maybe because they'd IMITATE me when they said it. But it's just another thing I'd have thought was a failing that has become a virtue."

And the beanpole appearance might make him a great foil for his beefier Canadian pal Seth Rogen, and a natural to star in a movie titled "She's Out of My League." But it can be limiting.

"I know. I KNOW. I've tried. I am working enough to eat. I swear. At some point, I'll just say 'tapeworm' and leave it at that. I weighed myself two days ago. I got up to 157. I was so proud, a new record!"

## Jay Baruchel lets his inner Canadian out with 'How to Train Your Dragon 2'



Jay Baruchel  
VIRGINIA MAYO/AP

## BOOKS

# James Patterson is getting kids to read

## Famed crime novelist aims to boost youth literacy through scholarships, website

By STEVE JOHNSON  
Chicago Tribune

James Patterson, king of the airport novelists, spent several days recently being celebrated by the nation's independent booksellers.

On its face, it seems like an irony: Author of unabashedly commercial fiction earns plaudits from snooty vendors of capital "L" Literature.

But when you dig deeper, there is, of course, more to the story than a couple of easy stereotypes clashing. Independent bookstores, the ones that survive, are doing a better job of not looking down their noses at a reader who just wants a good mystery or crime novel.

And Patterson is not "some numskull who writes numskull books," as he summed up the stereotype about him during interviews at Book Expo America, the nation's largest publishing trade show. His work to help the indies, including a \$1 million cash giveaway throughout 2014, stems from a long-standing commitment to boost reading, especially among children.

Time and again, people would approach him at the expo and say things like this, from a woman who has a store in Brooklyn:

"Can I just say hello? I'm an indie bookseller, and I want to say thank you for what you're doing." And Patterson, 67, would say things in response like, "Excellent. Wonderful. We never know unless we try stuff." And this, to a reporter accompanying him, as the onslaught of kudos grew, "They're all plants."

You could see him winning the Hudson News Prize, if such a thing existed. He's written or co-written about 100 books and sold



JAY L. CLENNIN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

**Author James Patterson urges parents to help kids find books they'll like to instill good reading habits.**

a reported 300 million. Eight of his titles, as writer or co-writer, are on the shelves of a Hudson News at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport. At the end of "Alex Cross, Run," the latest in the series about the Washington, D.C., detective that is the foundation of his empire, it takes almost four pages, in tiny print, to do the also-by-James-Patterson list.

But instead, Patterson, at BEA, got the Indie Champion Award given to the writer or illustrator

with "the best sense of the importance of independent bookstores to their communities at large and the strongest personal commitment to foster and support the mission and passion of independent booksellers."

The stores that get his funding, \$535,000 of it so far, at least have to have a children's section.

But Patterson also gives scholarships to prospective teachers; funds programs that set methods for boosting reading; hosts a

book-recommendation website, Read, Kiddo, Read; and co-writes his own series of young adult and middle grade novels, humor-laden books about alienated or misfit teens that are very far removed from the often lurid crime stories he aims at adults.

"I've done a bunch of books now with pictures in them (for kids)," Patterson said. "They're not dumb books. There's nothing wrong with pictures. Movies are all pictures. I don't know if you've

noticed, but museums have a lot of pictures in them. Pictures are just fine."

And, he says, they help make text more welcoming to those who might otherwise be intimidated: "Kids will go, 'Oh, I can do this,' and they've read two or three chapters before they notice."

The author, who lives in Florida, said his interest in young readers grew out of personal observation. He became a father late in life, and he saw that his son, Jack, now 16, and his friends had little regard for books.

"He was a smart boy," Patterson said. "He wasn't a big reader. And when he was 8, (wife) Sue and I, that summer, said, 'You're going to read every day, you know, unless you want to go live in the garage. We read in our house. That's the deal.'"

"But we're going to go out with you, and we're going to get good books." One of the messages I try to get into parents' heads is, it's your job. It's not the schools' job to get books for your kids. You know, if you don't go to the library, you don't go to bookstores, start. Or online, however you want to do it.

"And by the end of the summer, Jack had read, like, a dozen books. We got pretty cool books. They ranged from 'A Wrinkle in Time' to Rick Riordan (the Percy Jackson series) to 'Al Capone Does My Shirts.' Most of them were lively, good stories. And he liked all of them, actually. And by the end of the summer, he had gotten that into his system."

From watching that effort take hold, Patterson became convinced there was more to be done.

"I just became aware of how hard it is to get kids interested in books and how important," he said.

# 'Vacationers' takes readers on affecting, funny ride

By HANNAH SAMPSON  
The Miami Herald

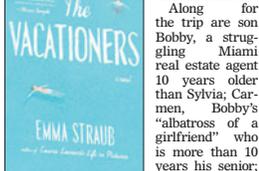
Readers meet a kindred spirit on the opening page of Emma Straub's winsome new novel when Jim Post worries about the contents of his suitcase: "Had he packed enough books?"

Yes, this is the sort of person you — or at least I — wouldn't mind passing a fictional vacation with. The fact that he is disgraced when the novel opens, forced to retire from his job as a men's magazine editor after an affair with a 23-year-old editorial assistant, dampens that sentiment only slightly.

Jim and Franny, a freelance food writer, are Upper West Side literati whose teenage daughter Sylvia is prone to babbling, when nervous, about which Brontë is most under-rated and who compares her mother's writing style to "Joan Didion, only with an appetite, or like Ruth Reichl, but with an attitude problem."

The novel centers on a long-planned

family vacation to Mallorca celebrating Sylvia's high school graduation; the secondary celebration, of Jim and Franny's 35th anniversary, is muted due to the circumstances.



who is Franny's best friend; and Lawrence, Charles's baby-crazy husband.

"The idea had been to be together, everyone nicely trapped, with card games and wine and all the fixings of satisfying summers at their fingertips," says the narra-

tor, who gives us a peek inside everyone's head.

Instead, the group coexists while dealing with personal crises that range from embarrassing (Sylvia's sloppy, drunken partying that ended up on Facebook) to momentous (Charles and Lawrence's adoption plans) to financially devastating (Bobby's six-figure debt) to personally ruinous (Jim's affair).

While the characters' days are mostly filled with humdrum vacation activities — with the exception of the hilarious, dramatic beach trip that injects some slapstick comedy — the plot is driven by the individual dramas and interactions between characters, who are perfectly sketched.

We love Franny because she loves to eat and cook, and she doesn't mind that her body reflects that: "... (it) was true that Franny had gotten thicker in the last decade, but that was what happened unless you were a high-functioning psychotic."

We love Lawrence because he gets away with being the catty outsider who thinks

Carmen "looked like one of the Spice Girls after a decade out of the spotlight, slightly worse for wear."

We do not love Bobby, who is kind of a jerk and an idiot. We even come to appreciate Carmen, whose grit serves as a reminder that the world of upper-middle-class Manhattanites is a bubble far removed from reality.

A few Mallorca locals and other tourists make appearances — all to comic effect — but the novel's magic lies in watching a once close-knit family try to find its way back to each other.

The finest moment of the novel comes near the end, during a routine pancake breakfast.

Straub, the author of the novel "Laura Lamont's Life in Pictures" and a short-story collection, infuses the scene with such wonderful nostalgia and hope. The vacation might be ending, but we're reminded that the journey — sometimes painful, often joyful — continues.

## HEALTH &amp; FITNESS



Sid O' Bryant, Ph.D., of Fort Worth, Texas, advises men to adopt broader fitness routines.

# 9 Health-saving tips men should know

BY LESLIE BARKER  
The Dallas Morning News

Does your doctor ask about your alcohol habits? Doing so could save lives. Let's take a deep breath here and say that we love men. We appreciate them. We cannot imagine a world without them. Thus, we can often overlook certain shenanigans that make us cringe a bit.

Unless such recklessness comes at the expense of their health. So in the interest of keeping men on the planet as long as possible (which is already, on average, five years shorter than for women), we've asked experts what they wish men knew — and would incorporate into their lives.

"Where do we start?" says Sid O'Bryant, Ph.D., associate professor of internal medicine at UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth. "There are a lot of things I want to convey, not only for men to understand they're not just important for the heart, but also for how your brain ages."

One of the key things he finds frustrating is how men don't think about brain health during aging.

"They wait till they're in their 80s and then say, 'I wish I would have done things differently,'" says O'Bryant, an Alzheimer's researcher. "Women plan better. Women plan to age. They actually think about it. We men plan for a financial future for our family. We think how our wives will be taken care of when we're gone, but not how we can be around longer."

If men pay attention to these nine things the experts want them to know, who's to say how much that life-span age gap can narrow?

## 1 Depression is nothing to be ashamed of

Depression is a real physiological event, says certified athletic trainer Ken Locker. But "most men don't think they have depression because they don't cry easily."

Men don't talk about depression, O'Bryant says. "And if we don't talk about it, it isn't real." But, he says, "it's this huge thing that's impacting so many men across the age range. Men think we'll tough it out because we don't want to talk about it: 'It might make things worse,' or 'I'm admitting weakness.'"

"That is a huge hurdle for men that couldn't be more wrong," he says. "Strength is acknowledging the problem."

Depression doesn't just bring people down mentally; it hurts physically as well, he says. "If you're sick, depression makes it worse. If you have diabetes and depression, the diabetes is worse. It also increases the risk for Alzheimer's, and most people don't know that."

They also need to realize it's treatable, he says. "When depression gets better, other things get better. Diabetes can get better. The risk for Alzheimer's can go down."

**What to do:** Don't be ashamed to talk to your family doctor, who can recommend a professional counselor or prescribe medications.

## 2 You don't need a gym to be fit

"Gravity," Locker says, "was the first gym ever invented."

**What to do:** Walking, pushups, crunches and squats can be done anywhere.

## 3 Yoga isn't just a girl thing

Even in less than a year of being a certified chiropractor, Logan Sherman has witnessed plenty of examples of this belief not taken seriously.

"The big thing I see with a lot of male patients is that they potentially push past the minor things that could be caught at an earlier stage," he says, "and are now related to an injury."

Sherman, who is training for the 2016 Olympic Trials in the marathon, cites plantar fasciitis as an example.

"That's something that can really be avoided," he says. "Men say, 'Hey, I've experienced tightness in my calf the past couple of weeks.' They've heard from a buddy how he worked through it but never followed the steps. It ends up being a full-blown problem."

**What to do:** If you feel a twinge, rest. For plantar fasciitis, avoid going barefoot. Roll a tennis ball, golf ball or frozen water bottle under the foot several times a day. If the pain persists, check with your doctor.

## 4 Certain cancer screenings are imperative

"Prostate cancer is 'the easiest cancer to kill if it's detected,'" Locker says. But men, go figure, would happily skip that part of a physical, he says.

"They're afraid," he says. "Most men are ego-driven as far as their 'manhood,' but they need to take care of that manli-

hood part."

Another villain is colon cancer, which can be detected early, he says. "Men tend not to want to know, or to think they don't have any problems."

**What to do:** Schedule the screenings, for crying out loud.

## 5 'No pain, no gain' is stupid

Men need to realize that bench-pressing three days a week isn't going to cut it, work-out-wise, Locker says. They need cardio, and another good choice is yoga.

"As you age, yoga is really good because it helps balance," he says. "It works against gravity. You have to stop, to concentrate

when you're doing it. It's good for men, too, not just for women."

**What to do:** Ask friends for recommendations, then try a class. Get there a few minutes early. If you don't like it, talk to the instructor, or try another. Don't give up after one class.

## 6 Your job is not a workout

Even if you do manual labor for a living, "physical activity is above and beyond anything you do in daily life," O'Bryant says.

You do need to raise your heart rate on a regular basis.

"Physical activity has such broad-based

benefits for men," he says. "It can reduce depression, help your memory, help your brain at a basic biological level. It may actually reduce the risk for Alzheimer's."

**What to do:** Move. And switch it up, Sherman says.

## 7 Don't be afraid to ask for help

"If we don't vary the stress or stimulus we put on the body, we become bored, the activity becomes mundane, and we don't gain as much physiological benefit as we would with a varied activity," he says. "This is why I always encourage anyone to have faster, slower, longer, shorter, heavier, light, hard and easy days."

You don't automatically know what to do. "What men do that's the biggest problem in exercise is not asking for help," O'Bryant

says. "It's like that asking for directions thing. I go to the gym, and see people there for the first time and they think they automatically know what they're doing. But they're probably doing it wrong."

**What to do:** Use a trainer. Most gyms offer a free session with membership. Or research the correct way to work out efficiently. "By getting better at the exercises themselves, the outcomes have been better for me," O'Bryant says.

## 8 Sunscreen isn't for wimps

Yes, men get skin cancer, too. "If you're driving around a lot, you're getting sun rays on your face," Locker says. Ditto for your left arm, if you drive with your elbow out the window.

**What to do:** Use face cream with SPF of at least 15, Locker says. "It will keep your face looking younger and also prevent skin cancer."

Schedule a skin check once a year.

## 9 Exercising isn't a free license to eat anything

"Men who are successful getting into physical activity often think that's enough," O'Bryant says. "I work out so I can eat what I want." "I work out so I can drink whatever I want."

"Instead, you're negating the benefits,"

he says.

**What to do:** Think moderation. Also remember that diet "is not only related to heart health, but intimately related to brain health," O'Bryant says. "It's very, very powerful."

## NATION



Renee H.W. Chu/AP

Spectators take pictures of the historic locomotive Union Pacific Big Boy No. 4014 at Metrolink Station in Covina, Calif.

## Huge steam locomotive to be restored, come back to life after half a century

By DAN ELLIOTT  
The Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — In its prime, a massive steam locomotive known as Big Boy No. 4014 was a moving eruption of smoke and vapor, a 6,300-horsepower brute dragging heavy freight trains over the mountains of Wyoming and Utah.

It's been silent for half a century, pushed aside by more efficient diesels, but now it's coming back to life. The Union Pacific Railroad is embarking on a yearslong restoration project that will put No. 4014 back to work pulling special excursion trains.

"It's sort of like going and finding the Titanic or something that's just very elusive, nothing that we ever thought would happen," said Jim Wrinn, editor of *Trains*, a magazine that covers the railroad industry. "Something that's so large and powerful and magnificent, we didn't think any of them would ever come back," he said.

The American Locomotive Co. in Schenectady, N.Y., built 25 of the legendary monsters to Union Pacific's specifications between 1941 and 1944.

An unknown worker scrawled "Big Boy" on the front of one of the engines when it

was under construction.

"It came out one day, and it had 'Big Boy' in chalk on it. And from that day forward, it was Big Boy," said Ed Dickens Jr., Union Pacific's senior manager of heritage operations, who will oversee the restoration at the railroad's steam shop in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Dickens and his crew recreated the chalk inscription on No. 4014 when they began to move it.

The Big Boys were the largest steam locomotives ever to work the rugged terrain of the American West, and by most standards, the largest anywhere in the world, said Gordon McCulloh, a meticulous historian of Union Pacific steam power.

Big Boys are 132 feet long, including the tender, which carried coal and water. They weigh 1.2 million pounds with a full load of fuel. They are essentially two engines under one boiler, with two sets of eight drive wheels, each set powered by two enormous cylinders nearly 2 feet across.

And they aren't just big, McCulloh said. They were engineered to reach 80 mph, though the railroad never intended to run them that fast. The point was to fine-tune the locomotives so they stayed in balance at any speed and didn't beat themselves up

with their own powerful forces.

"You get all that machinery to live in harmony," McCulloh said.

Seventeen Big Boys were scrapped when they were pulled from service, but eight survived and are on display around the country. Union Pacific chose the 4014 for restoration because it spent more than 50 years in the friendly climate of Southern California, at the RailGiant's Train Museum at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds.

The museum took good care of the locomotive, Dickens said, and many of the original components are usable.

RailGiant's agreed to give the Big Boy back to the Union Pacific in exchange for some other equipment to display.

No. 4014 has been moved to a Union Pacific shop in Colton, Calif., where a crew is preparing to tow it across Nevada, Utah and Wyoming to Cheyenne, arriving May 8. The UP maintains two other working steam locomotives there, and Dickens and his crew of seven can manufacture almost anything they need.

"This equipment, nobody's going to come in and fix it when it breaks down," he said.

"We're it."

Restoration is expected to take three to

five years. The railroad would like to have the Big Boy operating by 2019 for the 150th anniversary of the driving of the Golden Spike in Utah, which linked the Union Pacific with the Central Pacific and completed the first transcontinental railroad.

Overjoyed railroad fans are following closely. Wrinn heard from a U.S. soldier serving overseas who was watching live video of the project. People have offered to donate money or even buy lunch for the Union Pacific steam crew, Dickens said, but he allowed that the Omaha, Neb.-based railroad — No. 138 on the Fortune 500 list — can afford the project on its own.

Dickens declined to say how much restoration will cost.

Pouring money into a 73-year-old mechanical relic makes good marketing sense, said Glen Gilmore, a digital and social media marketing expert who also teaches at Rutgers University.

"Nearly everyone has a fascination with trains," Gilmore said in an email to The Associated Press. "Giving people an image that immediately calls to mind so many good things about an industry and brand is a smart marketing move."

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

# Survey: Number of millionaires up 2M

By **BERNARD CONDON**  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Nearly 2 million people around the world became millionaires last year, a year-over-year increase of 15 percent, as surging stock and home markets lifted the fortunes of the wealthy. The increase raised the number of millionaires to a record 13.7 million.

A report from consultant Capgemini and the Royal Bank of Canada estimated the combined net worth of millionaires at \$53 trillion in 2013. That was up 14 percent from the year earlier — the second-biggest increase since the two companies began issuing wealth reports with comparable data in 2000.

The accelerating pace of wealth accumulation among the affluent coincides with a widening gap between the rich and everyone else in many developed countries.

Japan gained 425,000 millionaires — a rise of 22 percent, its biggest year-over-year increase since 2000. Japan's was the largest percentage gain among the 25 countries with the most millionaires.

A big reason for the jump in Japan was surging stocks. The Nikkei 225, the main stock index, rose 57 percent last year. By contrast, the Standard and Poor's 500, an index of big U.S. companies, rose nearly 30 percent.

Japanese millionaires totaled 2.3 million, second only to the United States. The number of U.S. millionaires rose 570,000, 17 percent, to 4 million.

Globally, a bigger increase in the number of millionaires and in combined wealth occurred in 2009, when many stock mar-

## In the United States, 80 percent of stock is owned by the wealthiest 10 percent of households.

kets began rising from multiyear lows.

Much of the world's stock wealth is concentrated among the rich. In the United States, for instance, 80 percent of stock is owned by the wealthiest 10 percent of households. Rising stock prices have helped boost the net worth of the wealthy and, thanks to dividends, their income.

By contrast, the middle class in many countries has struggled as millions of jobs wiped out in the financial crisis have yet to return. And wages, their primary source of income, have barely kept up with inflation.

In the United States, incomes for the highest-earning 1 percent rose 31 percent from 2009 through 2012, after adjusting

for inflation, according to data compiled by Emmanuel Saez, an economist at University of California, Berkeley. For everyone else, income rose an average of 0.4 percent.

The new wealth report tracks net worth of individuals, with assets defined as investments such as stocks, bonds, cash, and primary residences. The report is based on a survey this year of more than 4,500 people in 23 countries.

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

### MARKET WATCH

June 19, 2014

<b>Dow Jones Industrials</b>	<b>14.84</b>
	1,692,146
<b>Nasdaq composite</b>	<b>-3.51</b>
	4,359,333
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's 500</b>	<b>2.50</b>
	1,959.48
<b>Russell 2000</b>	<b>0.90</b>
	1,184.03

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 23)	\$1.3953
Dollar buys (June 23)	€0.7167
British pound (June 23)	\$1.75
Japanese yen (June 23)	100.00
South Korean won (June 23)	994.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.7022/0.5875
Canada (dollar)	1.0766
China (Yuan)	6.2245
Denmark (Krone)	5.4867
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.3583/0.7362
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7511
Hungary (Forint)	225.23
Israel (Shekel)	3.4473
Japan (Yen)	100.00
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2821
Norway (Krone)	6.1273
Philippines (Peso)	43.83
Poland (Zloty)	3.107
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7510
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2909
South Korea (Won)	1,022.41
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8565
Thailand (Baht)	32.48
Turkey (New Lira)	1,4479

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

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.10
3-month bill	0.04
30-year bond	3.47

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

### SATURDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### SATURDAY IN EUROPE



### SUNDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

### Saturday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	90	70	Cldy	Fort Wayne	82	64	Pcldy	Louisville	89	74	Cldy	Pocatello	83	50	Cldy	Slous City	87	68	Cldy
Ablene, Tex	91	72	Cldy	Cheyenne	83	52	Pcldy	Fresno	98	65	Cir	Lubbock	88	66	Pcldy	Portland, Maine	75	49	Cir	Slous Falls	86	65	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	79	60	Cldy	Chicago	80	64	Cldy	Goodland	92	61	Pcldy	Macon	95	70	Pcldy	Portland, Ore.	75	52	Pcldy	South Bend	79	63	Pcldy
Albany, N.Y.	76	53	Cir	Cincinnati	86	68	Cldy	Grand Junction	92	58	Pcldy	Madison	83	60	Cldy	Providence	78	57	Cldy	Spokane	75	50	Cir
Albuquerque	94	65	Pcldy	Cleveland	77	62	Cldy	Grand Rapids	79	61	Cldy	Medford	85	51	Cir	Pueblo	95	57	Pcldy	Springfield, Ill.	89	68	Pcldy
Allentown, Pa.	76	55	Pcldy	Colorado Springs	87	54	Pcldy	Great Falls	73	47	Pcldy	Memphis	91	74	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	92	70	Cldy	Springfield, Mo.	88	69	Pcldy
Anchorage	57	52	Rain	Columbia, S.C.	96	71	Pcldy	Greensboro, N.C.	90	70	Cldy	Miami Beach	87	75	Pcldy	Reno	88	58	Pcldy	Tallahassee	94	73	Pcldy
Asheville	84	64	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	95	73	Pcldy	Hartford	89	70	Cldy	Milwaukee	72	57	Cldy	Richmond	83	68	Pcldy	Tampa	91	76	Pcldy
Atlanta	91	73	Pcldy	Concord, N.H.	78	46	Cir	Harrisburg	79	55	Pcldy	Mpls-St Paul	89	65	Pcldy	Roanoke	86	70	Pcldy	Tucson	90	68	Pcldy
Atlantic City	79	59	Cldy	Corpus Christi	95	76	Cldy	Helena	78	50	Pcldy	Missoula	76	45	Pcldy	Rochester	77	55	Pcldy	Topeka	93	69	Pcldy
Austin	91	73	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	94	75	Cldy	Honolulu	87	73	Cldy	Mobile	87	73	Pcldy	Rockford	84	65	Cldy	Tulsa	92	72	Pcldy
Baltimore	79	65	Rain	Dayton	83	66	Cldy	Houston	92	77	Pcldy	Montgomery	94	72	Rain	Sacramento	92	58	Cir	Wichita Falls	97	73	Pcldy
Baton Rouge	94	72	Pcldy	Daytona Beach	92	71	Cldy	Huntsville	88	73	Pcldy	Nashville	90	71	Cldy	St Louis	92	72	Pcldy	Wilmington, Del.	78	61	Cldy
Bilings	80	54	Pcldy	Denver	88	57	Pcldy	Indianapolis	86	58	Pcldy	New Orleans	91	76	Pcldy	St Petersburg	90	78	Pcldy	Youngstown	79	56	Cldy
Birmingham	91	72	Rain	Des Moines	88	68	Pcldy	Jackson, Miss.	95	71	Pcldy	New York City	76	61	Pcldy	St Thomas	88	79	Rain				
Bismarck	85	57	Cldy	Detroit	76	59	Cldy	Jacksonville	93	71	Pcldy	Newark	76	62	Cldy	Salerno, Ore.	77	48	Pcldy				
Boise	83	52	Cir	Duluth	73	51	Cldy	Juneau	58	46	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	79	70	Rain	Salt Lake City	89	61	Pcldy				
Boston	76	57	Pcldy	El Paso	97	76	Pcldy	Kansas City	91	71	Pcldy	North Platte	89	62	Pcldy	San Antonio	92	71	Pcldy				
Bridgeport	95	57	Pcldy	Elkins	78	63	Rain	Key West	79	79	Cldy	Oklahoma City	92	71	Pcldy	San Diego	92	76	Pcldy				
Brownsville	93	78	Pcldy	Erie	75	58	Cldy	Knoxville	87	68	Cldy	Omaha	89	70	Pcldy	San Jose	74	65	Pcldy				
Buffalo	78	57	Pcldy	Eugene	77	64	Rain	Lake Charles	91	74	Pcldy	Orlando	94	73	Cldy	San Francisco	71	55	Pcldy				
Burlington, Vt.	76	50	Cir	Evansville	88	71	Cldy	Lansing	78	59	Cldy	Paducah	89	71	Pcldy	San Jose	79	59	Cir				
Caribou, Maine	70	46	Pcldy	Fairbanks	66	50	Rain	Las Vegas	104	79	Cir	Pendleton	79	49	Pcldy	Santa Fe	90	54	Pcldy				
Casper, Wyo.	85	50	Pcldy	Fargo	85	60	Pcldy	Lexington	85	71	Cldy	Peña	89	68	Pcldy	St Marie	75	46	Pcldy				
Charleston, S.C.	95	73	Pcldy	Flagstaff	82	47	Cldy	Lincoln	92	70	Pcldy	Philadelphia	79	63	Cldy	Savannah	95	73	Pcldy				
Charleston, W.Va.	85	68	Cldy	Flint	79	55	Pcldy	Little Rock	92	73	Cldy	Phoenix	108	83	Cir	Seattle	71	51	Pcldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	92	71	Cldy	Fort Smith	93	72	Pcldy	Los Angeles	79	63	Pcldy	Pittsburgh	80	61	Cldy	Shreveport	94	72	Cldy				

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Thu., not available  
Lo: Thu., 22, Bodie State Park, Calif.



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# SCOREBOARD

## Sports

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

## Deals

### Thursday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
**MINNESOTA TWINS** — Selected the contract of RHP Pino from Rochester (L). Placed RHP Daniel Hudson on the 15-day DL, retroactive to June 15. Traded RHP Mike Reilly to the 60-day DL.

**TORONTO BLUE JAYS** — Placed LHP Brett Cecil on the 15-day DL. Recalled RHP Steve Delabar from Buffalo (L).

**ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS** — Selected the contract of RHP Matt Stites from Reno (PL). Optioned OF Tony Campano to Reno. Placed RHP Daniel Hudson on the 60-day DL.

**CHICAGO CUBS** — Agreed to terms with LHP Justin Smoak and Carson Sands and RHPs James Norwood and Jake Street.

**PAN DE AZÚCAR** — Released 18-year-old Alonso on the 15-day DL, retroactive to June 17. Selected OF Jake Goejborth from El Paso (PL).

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**CHICAGO BEARS** — Signed DE Jamil Merritt and LB Connor O'Neil. Waived S Sean Cattouse. QB Jerrod Johnson and TE Fred Gibson. Terminated the contract of LB Israel Idonije.

**INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** — Signed NT Brandon Meeks.

**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS** — Released DE Jason Babin. Signed RB Matt Jones. RHP Nathan Slaughter and C Charley Hughlett. Released RB Kevin Smith and Brandon Wimberly.

**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Released WR Demaryius Thomas.

**NEW YORK JETS** — Signed K Andrew Foye. Released QB Ryan Fitzpatrick.

**MARLBOROUGH SUCCANEERS** — Signed TE Austin Seferian-Jenkins and WR David Gettleman.

**TENNESSEE TITANS** — Agreed to terms with TE Dorin Dickerson. Waived TE David Wrigley.

**HOCKEY**  
**CAROLINA HURRICANES** — Named Bill Peters coach.

**COLORADO AVALANCHE** — Signed LW Jamie McGinn to a one-year contract.

**TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING** — Re-signed F Alex Killorn to a one-year contract.

**EASTERN COLLEGE ATHLETIC CONGRESS** — Granted full membership to Pace, effective immediately.

**GEORGIA STATE** — Announced Kevin Ware was cleared by the NCAA to play immediately after transferring to the school.

**MAINE-FARMINGTON** — Announced the resignation of softball coach Cindy Pratt, effective immediately, to focus on coaching the field hockey team.

**NORTHWESTERN** — Announced fifth-year center Jeremiah Kangasberg will transfer from Yale.

**REGINA STATE** — Named Stephen Thompson men's assistant basketball coach.

**VANDERBILT** — Named Beth Hewitt women's assistant lacrosse coach.

## College baseball

### World Series

**AT TD Ameritrade Park Omaha**

**Omaha, Neb.**  
**All Times EDT**

**Double Elimination**

**1st Round**  
 Saturday, June 14

UC Irvine 10, Vanderbilt 5, Louisville 3

**2nd Round**  
 Sunday, June 15

TUJ 3, Texas Tech 2

Virginia 1, Mississippi 1

**Monday, June 16**

Texas 4, Louisville 1, Louisville eliminated

**Wednesday, June 18**

Texas 1, UC Irvine 0, UC Irvine eliminated

**Thursday, June 19**

Mississippi 6, TUJ 4, TUJ eliminated

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## AUTO RACING

## NASCAR's 'Big 3' keep rolling

Hendrick's on cruise control with Johnson, Gordon and Earnhardt

By NOAH TRISTER  
The Associated Press

**T**he NASCAR season is less than half over and already it is fair to ask if anyone can catch Hendrick Motorsports.

After five straight Sprint Cup victories — including three by defending champion Jimmie Johnson — Hendrick now holds the top three spots in the points standings, and even rival driver Brad Keselowski concedes that when it comes to engines, at least, nothing is likely to change.

"We all have got a little bit of work to do because it's pretty obvious that the Hendrick engines are way ahead of everyone else," said Keselowski, who drives for Roger Penske. "Usually that's not something you catch up with in one season. As far ahead as they are right now, they're probably a full season ahead of everyone."

Johnson's victory at Michigan on Sunday was the fifth in a row for Hendrick in a points-paying Cup race, and that doesn't tell the whole story of how dominant the team was. Kasey Kahne, points leader Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt Jr. also finished in the

top seven for Hendrick.

Even other Chevrolet drivers also benefited from using Hendrick motors. Kevin Harvick (Stewart-Haas) and Kyle Larson (Chip Ganassi) finished second and eighth.

"I think we were a little off early in the year, and we've been kind of clicking here lately," owner Rick Hendrick said. "Everybody is really putting out a lot of effort right now, and it's paying off."

This is the third time Hendrick has won five straight races. The team accomplished the feat twice in 2007, including a six-race streak. Johnson, of course, has been the series' dominant driver in recent years, with six Cup titles to his credit. He won the championship last year and has surged back into second place in the standings with three wins in the last four races.

Gordon, meanwhile, is atop the standings at age 42, and Earnhardt has two victories this season, his four-year winless stretch from 2008-12 now a distant memory.

"I just know our cars are fast," Johnson said. "The cars are all pretty equal aero-wise with what the rules are on NASCAR, but I'm not good enough to

pick it out and tell you that we've got people beat in just one area. It's a team effort. Our engine shop is very strong. We've always known that."

Keselowski won the Cup championship for Penske in 2012, so he's among the drivers best positioned to challenge Hendrick's impressive group. After two straight second-place finishes, he was third at Michigan.

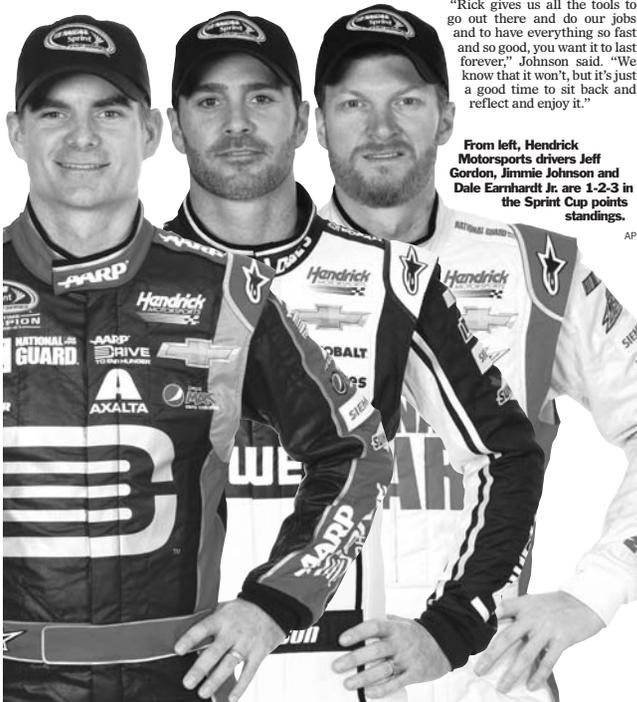
Although he expects Hendrick will continue to have the best engines, that doesn't mean all hope is lost for everyone else.

"I think the way this year's package has kind of come together, where we are right now is where we're going to be for the remainder of the year. You might see some small gains from some teams but I don't see anything significant coming," Keselowski said. "I think right now the Penske cars are probably the best when it comes to balanced track to track. The Hendrick cars are probably the best where it takes power to run."

Michigan may have been a sign of things to come — Johnson, Gordon and Earnhardt in contention, with Keselowski and the rest of the drivers doing their best to keep up.

"Rick gives us all the tools to go out there and do our jobs and to have everything so fast and so good, you want it to last forever," Johnson said. "We know that it won't, but it's just a good time to sit back and reflect and enjoy it."

From left, Hendrick Motorsports drivers Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr. are 1-2-3 in the Sprint Cup points standings.



## Around the track

## SPRINT CUP

**This week:** Toyota-Save Mart 350 at Sonoma, Calif.

**TV:** AFN-Xtra, 9 p.m. Sunday, Central European Time.

**Track:** Sonoma Raceway (road course, 1.99 miles).

**Race distance:** 218.9 miles, 110 laps.

**Last year:** Martin Truex Jr. snapped a 218-race winless streak to give Michael Waltrip Racing its second straight victory at the track. Clint Bowyer won in 2012.

**Last week:** Six-time series champion Jimmie Johnson won at Michigan International Speedway for his third victory in the last four races.

**Next race:** Quaker State 400, June 28, Kentucky Speedway, Sparta, Ky.

Online: [nascar.com](http://nascar.com)

## DRIVER STANDINGS

1. Jeff Gordon	537
2. Jimmie Johnson	522
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	514
4. Matt Kenseth	513
5. Brad Keselowski	490
6. Carl Edwards	462
7. Joey Logano	454
8. Kyle Larson	454
9. Kevin Harvick	447
10. Kyle Busch	446
11. Ryan Newman	440
12. Danny Hamlin	435
13. Paul Menard	420
14. Clint Bowyer	417
15. Greg Biffle	409
16. Tony Stewart	402
17. Austin Dillon	400
18. Ryan Vickers	394
19. Kasey Kahne	391
20. Jamie McMurray	384

## Driver to watch

**Martin Truex** is the defending champion at Sonoma, but he'll bring a new team, different car and new sense of desperation as he tries to force his way into the Chase. Truex was booted from the Chase last season in the aftermath of the Richmond scandal. In his first season driving the No. 78 Chevrolet for Furniture Row Racing, Truex hasn't come close to sniffing a checkered flag, buried at 25th in the points standings with only three top-10 finishes and no top-fives. He posted consecutive top-10's at Dover and Pocono before an early race accident last week at Michigan knocked him out of the race.

## NATIONWIDE SERIES

**This week:** Gardner Denver 200 at Elkhart Lake, Wis.

**TV:** AFN-Xtra, 8:45 p.m. Saturday, Central European Time.

**Track:** Road America (road course, 4.048 miles).

**Race distance:** 202.4 miles, 50 laps.

**Last year:** AJ Allmendinger won for owner Roger Penske, holding off Justin Allgaier on the second attempt at a green-white-checkered finish.

**Last week:** Sprint Cup driver Paul Menard won at Michigan. Sam Hornish Jr. was second.

**Next race:** John R. Elliott Hero Campaign 300, June 27, Kentucky Speedway, Sparta, Ky.

Online: [www.nascar.com](http://www.nascar.com)

## CAMPING WORLD TRUCK

**Next race:** UNOH 225, June 26, Kentucky Speedway, Sparta, Ky.

**Last week:** Darrell Wallace Jr. raced to his second career victory, holding off German Quirgo at Gateway in Madison, Ill.

Online: [www.nascar.com](http://www.nascar.com)

## NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

**This week:** New England Nationals at Epping, N.H.

**TV:** AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m. Monday (delayed), Central European Time.

**Track:** New England Dragway and Motorsports Park.

**Last year:** Courtney Force beat father John Force in the Funny Car final. Spencer Massey won in the Top Fuel, Allen Johnson in Pro Stock, and John Hall in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

**Last week:** Shawn Langdon raced to

his first victory of the year in Top Fuel, beating points leader Doug Kalitta at Bristol, Tenn. Tommy Johnson Jr. won in Funny Car final and Erica Enders-Siebert won her first F1 victory, ending Mercedes' winning streak at six.

**Next race:** British Grand Prix, July 6, Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, England.

Online: [www.nhra.com](http://www.nhra.com)

## FORMULA ONE

**This week:** Austrian Grand Prix at Spielberg, Austria.

**Track:** Red Bull Ring (road course, 2.69 miles).

**Race distance:** 190.1 miles, 71 laps.

**Last race:** Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo won the Canadian Grand Prix on June 9 for his first F1 victory, ending Mercedes' winning streak at six.

**Next race:** British Grand Prix, July 6, Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, England.

Online: [www.formula1.com](http://www.formula1.com)

## VERIZON INDYCAR

**Next race:** Grand Prix of Houston, June 28 and 29.

**Last race:** Ed Carpenter won at Texas Motor Speedway on June 7, holding off Will Power in a two-lap shootout.

Online: [www.indycar.com](http://www.indycar.com)

## OTHER SERIES

**ARCA RACING**  
Akona 250, Saturday, Elko Speedway, Elko, Minn. Online: [arcaracing.com](http://arcaracing.com)

## WORLD OF OUTLAWS

**Sprint Car:** Friday, River Cities Speedway, Grand Forks, N.D.; Saturday, 1.94 Speedway, Ferguson Falls, Minn. Online: [worldofoutlaws.com](http://worldofoutlaws.com)

## U.S. AUTO RACING CLUB

**Sprint Car:** Friday, Amsoil Speedway, Superior, Wis.; Saturday, Deer Creek Speedway, Spring Valley, Minn.; Sunday, Angell Park Speedway, Sun Prairie, Wis. Online: [usacracing.com](http://usacracing.com)

— Series capsules

by The Associated Press

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

Table with columns: Team, East Division, West Division, Central Division. Rows include Toronto, New York, Baltimore, Boston, Tampa Bay, Kansas City, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Minnesota, Oakland, Los Angeles, Seattle, Texas, Houston.

National League

Table with columns: Team, East Division, West Division, Central Division. Rows include Washington, Atlanta, Miami, Philadelphia, New York, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Colorado, San Diego, Arizona.

Thursday

Table with columns: Team, Indians, Angels. Rows include Los Angeles, Calhoun, Trout, Pujols, J. Martinez, Kinsler, Abreu, Cronin, Pomeroy, Freese, J. Martinez, Lopez, J. Martinez.

Cleveland

Table with columns: Team, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Colorado, San Diego, Arizona.

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Saturday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Sunday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Monday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Tuesday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Wednesday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.



Atlanta shortstop Donald Simmons throws first base for the out on Washington's Andre Spivey during the first inning of Thursday's game at Nationals Park in Washington. Atlanta won the game 3-0.

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Thursday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Saturday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

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Monday

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Tuesday

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Orioles, Rays, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Brewers, Cardinals, Pirates, Cubs, Astros, Mariners, Dodgers, Padres, Giants, Braves, Mets, Marlins.

Phillies & Cardinals 1

Table with columns: Team, Phillies, Cardinals. Rows include Philadelphia, St. Louis, Phillies, Cardinals.

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Atlanta shortstop Donald Simmons throws first base for the out on Washington's Andre Spivey during the first inning of Thursday's game at Nationals Park in Washington. Atlanta won the game 3-0.

Pirates 4, Reds 3 (12)

Table with columns: Team, Pirates, Reds. Rows include Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Pirates, Reds.

Yankees 6, Blue Jays 4

Table with columns: Team, Yankees, Blue Jays. Rows include Toronto, New York, Yankees, Blue Jays.

Braves 3, Nationals 0

Table with columns: Team, Braves, Nationals. Rows include Atlanta, Washington, Braves, Nationals.

Rays 5, Astros 0

Table with columns: Team, Rays, Astros. Rows include Houston, Tampa Bay, Rays, Astros.

Philadelphia

Table with columns: Team, Phillies, Cardinals. Rows include Philadelphia, St. Louis, Phillies, Cardinals.

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MLB

# Swisher's blast saves day for Cleveland

## 6th walk-off win of season for Tribe

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Nick Swisher was having a bad day. One swing changed it.

It began Thursday morning when he got stuck in traffic on his way to Progressive Field for the Indians' 12:05 p.m. game against the Los Angeles Angels, turning a short trip into a 45-minute drive.

Things didn't get any better once the game started as he was hitless with three strikeouts in his first four times up.

Swisher's afternoon took a dramatic turn when his two-out grand slam off Ernesto Frieri in the 10th inning gave Cleveland a 5-3 win.

"One at-bat can turn a whole day around," he said.

Several players and coaches ran into the late-morning traffic jam, which was the talk of the clubhouse before the game.

"I almost called in saying I would be late," Swisher said. "I was freaking out."

Swisher belted a 1-2 pitch into the right-field seats to cap an improbable comeback after Albert Pujols' two-run single put the Angels ahead in the top of the inning.

Swisher threw his arms in the

air when the ball cleared the wall and was mobbed by his teammates when he reached home plate.

"When I first hit it, I said, all right, that's a double," he said. "The next thing you know, it went out. I flipped my bat. I was going crazy."

Pujols' single with two outs gave the Angels a 3-1 lead, but the Indians responded off rookie Cam Bedrosian (0-1).

Michael Bourn drew a leadoff walk and took third on Jason Kipnis' one-out double. Carlos Santana walked to load the bases and Frieri replaced Bedrosian.

David Murphy flied out before Swisher, who heard boos from the crowd earlier in the game, delivered.

Swisher's blast was the ninth walk-off grand slam in the history of Progressive Field, which opened in 1994. It was also the Indians' sixth walk-off win this season.

"I've never hit a walk-off grand slam," Swisher said. "I'm giddy. I love being in those spots because it can only go two ways — either you're the goat or you're the hero."



MARK DUNCA/PA

The Indians' Nick Swisher celebrates his walk-off grand slam in the 10th inning Thursday against the Los Angeles Angels in Cleveland. The Indians won 5-3.

## Roundup

# Sanchez sharp as Tigers end Royals' win streak

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Anibal Sanchez pitched seven sharp innings, and the Detroit Tigers ended Kansas City's 10-game winning streak with a 2-1 victory over their AL Central rivals.

J.D. Martinez hit a tiebreaking homer in the fourth for the Tigers, who avoided a four-game sweep and pulled within a half-game of the AL Central-leading Royals. Sanchez (4-2) allowed five hits and a walk, keeping the Kansas City offense quiet even though he failed to strike out a batter.

Joba Chamberlain pitched the eighth, and struggling closer Joe Nathan struck out the side in the ninth for his 14th save in 18 chances.

**Pirates 4, Reds 3:** At Pittsburgh, Russell Martin drew a bases-loaded walk from Tony Cingrani with two outs in the 12th inning to avoid a three-game sweep.

In the Pittsburgh 12th, Gaby Sanchez singled with one out and moved up on a balk by Cingrani (2-8). Josh Harrison was intentionally walked and Clint Barmes was hit by a pitch with two outs, loading the bases.

Martin drew his walk-off walk on a 3-1 pitch. Normally a starter, Cingrani was Cincinnati's seventh pitcher of the game.

**Brewers 4, Diamondbacks 1:** Yovani Gallardo outpitched Chase Anderson in seven strong innings, and Carlos Gomez extended his hitting streak to 15 games.

A day after losing to Arizona on a walk-off hit, the visiting Brewers beat the Diamondbacks for the third time in four games behind Gallardo (5-4). The right-hander held Arizona to a run over seven innings for his 86th career win, tying Ben Sheets for sixth on Milwaukee's all-time list.

**Phillies 4, Cardinals 1:** Ryan Howard



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Kansas City Royals designated hitter Clint Butler beats the tag of Tigers second baseman Ian Kinsler for a double during the sixth inning of Thursday's game in Detroit.

homered and drove in three runs and rookie David Buchanan pitched into the eighth inning, sparking Philadelphia to a victory over host St. Louis.

Buchanan (3-3) made his deepest start yet, pitching 7½ innings. He allowed four hits and a walk while striking out four.

**Braves 3, Nationals 0:** Gavin Floyd, recently returned from Tommy John surgery, pitched six scoreless innings before leaving with a broken elbow, the latest setback for an injury-riddled Atlanta rotation and one that tempered a victory over host Washington.

The win moved the Braves within a half-game of the first-place Nationals atop the NL East as the division rivals opened a four-game series.

**Mets 1, Marlins 0:** Zack Wheeler tossed his first shutout and made David Wright's first-inning home run hold up in New York's victory over host Miami.

**Mets 1, Marlins 0:** The No. 6 pick in the 2009 draft, struck out eight. He allowed three hits and one walk as 70 of his 111 pitches went for strikes.

**Rays 5, Astros 0:** Chris Archer allowed three hits in 6½ innings, Kevin Kiermaier

and Evan Longoria homered on consecutive pitches, and host Tampa Bay beat Houston.

Archer (4-4) struck out eight and walked two to help the Rays win for the sixth time in the last 23 games.

**Yankees 6, Blue Jays 4:** David Phelps pitched seven strong innings, Carlos Beltran drove in two runs and New York beat Toronto for its 16th consecutive home win over the Blue Jays.

The Yankees earned their first three-game sweep at home this season and sliced Toronto's lead in the AL East to 1½ games.

**Padres 4, Mariners 1:** Rookie Jesse Hahn pitched seven strong innings and pinch-hitter Chris Denorria singled in the go-ahead run in a four-run seventh for host San Diego, which rallied for the second straight game to beat Seattle.

Robinson Cano had three singles for the Mariners, who beat the Padres in Seattle on Monday and Tuesday.

**Athletics 4, Red Sox 2:** Scott Kazmir pitched seven innings to win his fourth straight start, Yoenis Cespedes hit his 14th home run of the season and Oakland beat visiting Boston.

Stephen Vogt had two hits and two RBIs, Jed Lowrie scored twice and John Jaso singled in an insurance run in the seventh to move the A's a season-high 17 games over .500.

**Twins 4, White Sox 2:** Joe Mauer drove in two runs, including the go-ahead double in the eighth inning, to push host Minnesota past Chicago.

Casey Fien (4-4) earned the victory that really belonged to Yohan Pino.

Pino at age 30 became the oldest Twins player to make his major league debut, holding the White Sox to two runs in seven innings.

## COLLEGE WORLD SERIES/SPORTS BRIEFS



TED MIRKA/AP

Mississippi closing pitcher Aaron Greenwood reacts after the last out against TCU in Omaha, Neb., on Thursday.

## Ole Miss advances past TCU

By ERIC OLSON  
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — All TCU coach Jim Schlossnagle could do this time was credit the team that eliminated his Horned Frogs from the College World Series.

In losing 6-4 to Mississippi on Thursday night, the Frogs left the bases loaded in one inning, went 0-for-9 with two outs and failed to get another hit after Kevin Cron homered to tie it in the fifth inning.

"We set the table a couple of times and Derek (Odell) smoked a ball that was run down, and we had other opportunities," Schlossnagle said. "Just wasn't meant to be."

Two nights earlier, after a 15-inning loss to Virginia, Schlossnagle expressed his frustration over the factors that have made it a struggle to produce offense in college baseball, especially against the prevailing winds at the massive TD Ameritrade Park.

"I thought today was a really clean college baseball game," he said. "There were some walks and hit batters, but I felt like when the ball got hit hard, it went out of the ballpark. When it didn't quite get hit hard enough, it stayed in the ballpark. And that's the way it's supposed to be."

Ole Miss (48-20) advanced to play No. 3 national seed Virginia on Friday night. The Rebels would need to beat the Cavaliers (51-14) on Friday and again Saturday to reach next week's best-of-three championship series.

The other bracket has unbeaten Vanderbilt (51-14) against Texas (45-20).

Will Allen and Sikes Orvas combined for six of Ole Miss' 11 hits against the Frogs. Allen, the Rebels' regular catcher who was the designated hitter to rest a sore shoulder, snapped out of a mini-slump with three hits and three RBIs.

## Briefs

# Top-ranked Lewis leads with 67

The Associated Press

PINEHURST, N.C. — The tougher the course, the more Stacy Lewis enjoys it.

She's having a blast on Pinehurst No. 2 so far.

The top-ranked Lewis took an encouraging first step toward her third major title Thursday, shooting a bogey-free, 3-under 67 to take a one-stroke lead over Michelle Wie at the U.S. Women's Open before play was halted because of severe weather with 30 players still on the course.

"Once you get one under your belt, it's contagious," Lewis said. "You just want to win more and more. And a lot of times you're announced on a tee or introduced as how many Solheim Cups you've played on and how many majors you've won. Winning all of them is something I'd like to do some time down the road."

That means finally winning a Women's Open.

She hasn't finished in the top 10 at one since she was tied for third at Mission Hills in 2008, and her major victories have come at the 2011 Kraft Nabisco Championship and at last year's Women's British Open.

She called this "an easy day" — a reflection on her game, not the Pinehurst No. 2 course.

"I just have geared my game towards majors," Lewis said. "I love it when it's hard. I love it when you have to grind. I love it when you have to make 8- and 10-footers for par. It suits me and my game."

## Kansas C Embiid has stress fracture in foot

Kansas center Joel Embiid, one of the top prospects in the upcoming NBA Draft, has a stress fracture in his right foot and is scheduled to have surgery on Friday.

Embiid's agent, Arn Tellem, made the announcement on Thursday, a day before the draft. Tellem says Embiid fractured the navicular bone in his right foot and will be unable to participate in any additional workouts. He also will not attend the draft in New York.

Embiid was widely considered to be the favorite for the No. 1 overall draft pick held by the Cleveland Cavaliers.

But Embiid missed a chunk of last season with a back injury as well as that combined with the foot injury could cause him to slide some on draft night.

In other NBA news: ■ The Cleveland Cavaliers offered successful European coach David Blatt its coaching job on Thursday and are discussing a contract with him, said a person who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team is not commenting.

After an exhaustive, five-week search, the Cavaliers zeroed in



BOB LEVERONE/AP

Michelle Wie watches her tee shot on the 13th hole during the second round of the U.S. Women's Open in Pinehurst, N.C., on Friday. Wie birdied the final two holes on Friday for a 2-under 68.

on Blatt to make him their third coach in three years.

The 55-year-old Blatt recently resigned as coach of Maccabi Tel Aviv, this year's Euroleague champion, to pursue his dream of coaching in the NBA. He was coveted as an assistant by Minnesota and Golden State.

Blatt, who was born in Massachusetts and played at Princeton, is regarded as one of the game's best offensive strategists. Cavaliers general manager David Griffin set out to find an offensive-minded coach after the club fired Mike Brown on May 12.

■ A judge has refused Shelly Sterling's request for an injunction against husband Donald Sterling and his lawyers in their dispute over the planned sale of the Los Angeles Clippers.

Shelly Sterling's attorneys filed a petition on Thursday alleging threats by Donald Sterling and his counsel.

But Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Levanas ruled in writing that the statements cited in the petition did not "rise to the level of great and irreparable injury."

The judge also commented that the case may involve "high emotions and some litigation posturing" and he asked all parties to tone down their communications.

## Collusion case kept alive by appeals court

MINNEAPOLIS — A players' union lawsuit accusing NFL team owners of setting a secret salary cap in 2010 was kept alive by a federal appeals court Friday.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals partially reversal a federal judge's order that had rejected NFL Players Association's collusion claim.

The three-judge appeals court panel that heard oral arguments in January disagreed with U.S. District Judge David Doty on one of the NFLPA's two arguments for pursuing damages despite the 2011 collective bargaining agreement that was supposed to settle such lawsuits.

The appeals court sent the case back to Doty's jurisdiction in Minneapolis for further proceedings.

In other NFL news: ■ The Chicago Bears player who was on the team for more games than any one in team history is retiring.

Long snapper Patrick Mannelly announced Friday that he is retiring after a 16-year-career with the Bears, a span in which he played in a team record 245 games and snapped the ball 2,282 times.

## US judge rules against Lance Armstrong

WASHINGTON — A U.S. judge has refused to dismiss the government's lawsuit against disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong and associates for alleged doping and use of banned performance-enhancing techniques.

From 1999 to 2004, Armstrong was the lead rider on a team sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service, and he won the Tour de France every year during that period.

On Thursday, Judge Robert Wilkins ruled in favor of the government's position that Armstrong and associates owed an obligation to pay money due to the alleged breach of the sponsorship agreements with the Postal Service.

The Postal Service paid about \$40 million to be the title sponsor of Armstrong's teams for six of his seven Tour de France victories.

The judge said the government's complaints are rife with allegations that Armstrong had knowledge of the doping and that he made false statements to conceal it.

The Justice Department says the cyclist violated his contract with the U.S. Postal Service and was "unjustly enriched" while cheating to win the Tour.

## WORLD CUP

## Japan, Greece stay alive after 0-0 draw

By JIM VERTUNO  
The Associated Press

NATAL, Brazil — Greece promised goals that didn't come. Japan pressed for a victory that eluded it yet again.

The ultimate result of what has turned out to be a rarity at this World Cup — a 0-0 draw — is that Colombia is guaranteed to move on to the knockout rounds and Greece and Japan are still clinging to life in Group C.

Reduced to 10 men after captain Costas Katsouranis was sent off in the 38th minute with his second booking, Greece held on for a critical result in the group by relying on rock-solid defense.

"My players were brilliant," said Greece coach Fernando Santos. "They worked hard after the red card. Without the red card we probably would have won the game."

Both teams inserted new strikers in search of goals and a first victory, but ultimately the main objective was survival and both achieved that with one match left in group play. Japan would have been eliminated with a loss.

Once Katsouranis was sent off after a rough challenge on Makoto Hasebe, Greece withdrew into a defensive setup and held firm. Even short-handed, Greece was better organized against Japan and avoided any critical mistakes.

Japan defender Atsuto Uchida said he could sense Greece building a wall around the goal as soon as Katsouranis was sent off.

"I had a bad feeling about it. It happens a lot in soccer, when a team goes down to 10, they know exactly what they need to do. And that also happens to be exactly Greece's way to fighting — to fight by defending," Uchida said.



HASSAN AMMAR/AP

Greece's Dimitris Salpingidis, left, and Japan's Yoshito Okubo challenge for the ball during the Group C World Cup soccer match between Japan and Greece at Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil, on Thursday.



THEMBA HADEBE/AP

Colombia's Pablo Armero celebrates after Thursday's group C World Cup soccer match against Ivory Coast at Estadio Nacional in Brasilia, Brazil. Colombia won 2-1 to earn a spot in the second round.

## Colombia secures 2nd-round spot with win over Ivory Coast

By STEVE DOUGLAS  
The Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil — Starved of World Cup action for 16 years, Colombia — and its fanatical traveling supporters — are certainly making the most of being back on football's biggest stage.

Driven on by a partisan Colombian crowd that turned the Estadio Nacional into a sea of yellow, the South Americans scored through James Rodriguez and substitute Juan Quintero in a devastating six-minute spell in the second half to beat Ivory Coast 2-1 on Thursday.

A second victory in Group C, following a 3-0 win over Greece, helped Colombia qualify for a place in the last 16. A 0-0 draw between Japan and Greece in the later group match ensured Colombia would progress to the next stage.

"We have had two wins with players who are playing their first World Cup," Colombia coach Jose Pekerman said. "We're happy to have defeated such a good opponent. We have a lot of young players, and this is going to help them grow."

Known for his midfield artistry, playmaker Rodriguez showed his prowess in the air by getting

clear of Ivory Coast captain Didier Drogba — again only used as a substitute — at a corner to head in Colombia's opener in the 64th minute, lighting up a disappointing match.

**"We have a lot of young players, and this is going to help them grow."**

**Jose Pekerman**  
Colombia coach

clear of Ivory Coast captain Didier Drogba — again only used as a substitute — at a corner to head in Colombia's opener in the 64th minute, lighting up a disappointing match.

The celebrations had hardly died down among the vast hordes of Colombia supporters by the time a defensive mistake by Ivory Coast midfielder Serey Die allowed Teofilo Gutierrez to play in Quintero, and the midfielder slotted home a low finish.

Ivory Coast replied with a brilliant 73rd-minute solo goal by Gervinho, his second of the World Cup, but couldn't find a second despite a strong finish. The Ivorians remain at three points after their 2-1 opening win over Japan.

Instead of Radamel Falcao, the country's star striker who was ruled out through injury before the tournament, the most important factor in Colombia's march through the group stage has ar-

guably been its amazing support. With supporters wearing yellow shirts dominating the stadium, it was effectively an away game for the Ivorians.

"It was extraordinary," Rodriguez said. "It was very much in our favor that Colombia could win."

The crowd roared with relief at the final whistle, with Drogba's introduction in the 60th minute helping pep up Ivory Coast's attack that had previously looked rudderless with Wilfried Bony as the lone striker.

"I must say that we didn't deserve to lose," Ivory Coast coach Sabri Lamouchi said. "It was very experienced Colombia team who waited for us to make mistakes."

Drogba may start the next match but Lamouchi will also be looking for more from the squad's top player, Yaya Toure, who seems like a shadow of the player who starred for Manchester City in the English Premier League last season.

There was no mistaking the passion of the Ivory Coast lineup — Die was in tears during the national anthem — but the team's undoubted attacking quality has been lacking so far at this World Cup and Colombia looked more threatening going forward.

## WORLD CUP

# Suarez scores twice in win over England

## Uruguay's victory could be end for Brits' Cup dreams

By ROB HARRIS  
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Dropping to the turf on the left knee that was surgically repaired less than a month ago, Uruguay striker Luis Suarez was euphoric. Scoring a second goal against England sealed a 2-1 win on Thursday to revive Uruguay's World Cup campaign and cap a remarkable recovery.

But it meant even more than that to the Liverpool player. Vilified after being banned by the English Football Association for racially abusing one opponent and biting another in two separate incidents in the Premier League, Suarez seemed to revel in inflicting England's second successive loss in Brazil.

"I dreamt this," Suarez said at the Itaquero Stadium. "I'm enjoying this moment, because of all I suffered, the criticism I received. So, there you go."

English hopes of advancing from Group D to the round of 16 are now in real jeopardy after the team's worst World Cup start in more than half a century. While England is stuck on zero points, Uruguay is off the mark after Suarez made an instant impact after his return from surgery.

"Before the game, too many people in England laughed about my attitude over the last few years," Suarez said. "This is a very good time for me. I want to see what they think now."

Of Uruguay's six efforts on target, five were from Suarez — including the two that beat goalkeeper Joe Hart as England's slack defending was exploited.

Suarez headed Uruguay in front before halftime and, after seeing his opener canceled out by



FRANCOIS XAVIER MARTI/AP

Uruguay's Luis Suarez celebrates scoring his team's second goal during Thursday's Group D match against England at the Itaquero Stadium in Sao Paulo. Suarez had surgery on his left knee less than a month ago.

Wayne Rooney's first-ever World Cup goal, lashed in the winner in the 85th minute.

"It's a demonstration of my strength," Suarez said. "There were many doubts about my physical condition, but ... in these games, I can be brave and show courage."

Having also lost against Italy, England now faces the prospect of not advancing from the group

stage for the first time since 1958.

"We are a team that is making progress but results decide everything and both results have been negative," coach Roy Hodgson said.

"Our chances (of progressing) are unbelievably slim," added Hodgson, who is relying on Italy to beat Costa Rica on Friday and Uruguay on Tuesday.

Group D leader Italy, Costa Rica and Uruguay all have three points.

But anything is possible in football — even Rooney finally scoring at a World Cup, tapping the ball home from close range in the 75th minute after connecting with Glen Johnson's pass.

But it was rendered meaningless by Suarez's devastating final touch.

Suarez, for all his glee about beating England, did express sympathy for Liverpool teammate and English captain Steven Gerrard, whose slip during the Premier League run-in led to them both missing out on the title.

"He's the best player I've played with on the pitch," Suarez said. "This is an unlucky moment for him. I don't like it when he hurts like this."

## Sing it loud, sing it proud

By TALES AZZONI  
The Associated Press

TERESOPOLIS, Brazil — Go ahead, FIFA, stop the music if you want. Fans will keep singing anyway.

FIFA limits anthems to 90 seconds so they can get the World Cup games going quickly. But many national songs last much longer, and the fans — particularly South Americans proud to have the Cup in their territory — are loudly taking over with a cappella renditions of the anthems that are bringing tears to the eyes of players.

Unintentionally, FIFA has created some of the most emotional and patriotic moments of the World Cup.

"When we hear the anthem being sung like that, we get extra motivated, there's no doubt about

that," Brazil captain Thiago Silva said. "It shows that the fans are with us. It has become part of the national team and that has had a great influence on how we play."

Brazilian fans started doing it last year, and supporters of Chile and Colombia have picked up on the idea.

With no music in the background, hearing tens of thousands of fans singing together has caused goose bumps for many in the stadiums and shocked players from opposing teams.

Before both of Chile's World Cup games, fans sang for nearly 30 seconds after FIFA cut off their anthem — the chorus of which says Chile will be the tomb of the Free or the refuge against oppression.

"The way they sing the national

anthem is impressive, spectacular," Chilean federation president Sergio Jadue said.

Brazil's anthem normally lasts almost four minutes and has an introduction of nearly 20 seconds before the lyrics start. FIFA said the Brazilian federation provided a 60-second version.

After the music ends, Brazilian players and fans continue singing even louder for nearly a minute, belting out the lyrics, which include a reference to "the resounding cry of a heroic people." The sing-a-long ignites the crowd and motivates the team.

"The reaction from the fans to the anthem has been amazing," goalkeeper Julio Cesar said after the opener against Croatia in Sao Paulo. "It brings them closer to us and we get closer to them."



PETR DAVID JOSEK/AP

Japanese fans listen to their national anthem last week before their team's Group C match against Ivory Coast in Recife, Brazil. FIFA limits anthems to 90 seconds so they can get the World Cup games going quickly. But many national songs last much longer, and the fans, particularly South Americans proud to have the Cup in their territory, are loudly taking over with a cappella renditions of the anthems that are bringing tears to the eyes of players.

# WORLD CUP



PAULO DUARTE/AP

Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo controls the ball Thursday during a training session in Campinas, Brazil.

# Ronaldo key for Portugal

BY CHRIS LEHOURTRES  
The Associated Press

MANAUS, Brazil — With Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal still has a chance to reach the second round at the World Cup. Without him, the advantage might just switch to the United States.

Ronaldo has been carrying an injury to his left knee and the world player of the year wore a brace on it during Friday's final workout. But he is still expected to play against the Americans on Sunday in a match that Portugal can't afford to lose.

"Cristiano is 100 percent fit to play," backup Portugal goalkeeper Beto said this week. "Every match, if he starts to play, it is because he is fit to play."

The Portuguese lost 4-0 to Germany in their opening Group G match, with Ronaldo playing despite the injury.

The United States, however, is going in the other direction. After being knocked out of the last two World Cups by Ghana, the Americans beat the African team 2-1 in their opening match and could even secure a spot in the second round this weekend.

If Germany beats Ghana on Saturday, and the Americans find a way to win on Sunday, then Portugal and the Ghanaians will be eliminated.

Ronaldo could have something to say about that, however.

"We have to be ready for him," United States defender Fabian Johnson said.

## Scoreboard

### First round

GROUP A	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Brazil	1	0	1	3	1	4
Mexico	1	1	0	5	0	3
Croatia	1	1	0	5	0	3
Cameroon	0	2	1	0	5	0

GROUP B	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Netherlands	2	0	0	8	3	6
x-Chile	2	0	0	5	1	6
Australia	0	2	0	3	6	0
Spain	0	2	0	1	7	0

GROUP C	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Colombia	2	0	0	5	1	6
Italy	1	1	0	2	3	3
Japan	0	1	1	2	2	1
Greece	0	1	1	0	3	1

GROUP D	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Costa Rica	2	0	0	4	1	6
Uruguay	1	1	0	3	4	3
England	0	1	0	3	4	0

GROUP E	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
France	1	0	0	1	0	3
Switzerland	0	1	0	1	0	0
Ecuador	0	1	0	1	0	0
Honduras	0	1	0	0	3	0

GROUP F	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Argentina	1	0	0	2	1	3
Iran	0	1	0	0	0	1
Bosnia-Herzegovina	0	1	0	2	0	0

GROUP G	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
USA	1	0	0	2	1	3
Ghana	0	1	0	0	1	0
Portugal	0	1	0	1	2	0

GROUP H	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	1	0	0	2	1	3
Russia	0	0	1	1	1	1
South Korea	0	1	0	1	2	0
Algeria	0	1	0	1	2	0

GROUP I	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Germany	1	0	0	4	0	3
United States	0	0	2	1	3	0
France	0	1	0	1	2	0
Portugal	0	1	0	0	4	0

GROUP J	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	1	0	0	2	1	3
Russia	0	0	1	1	1	1
South Korea	0	1	0	1	2	0
Algeria	0	1	0	1	2	0

GROUP K	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
USA	1	0	0	2	1	3
Ghana	0	1	0	0	1	0
Portugal	0	1	0	1	2	0

GROUP L	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	1	0	0	2	1	3
Russia	0	0	1	1	1	1
South Korea	0	1	0	1	2	0
Algeria	0	1	0	1	2	0

# Wall: Brooks' game-winner showed back line has depth

## FROM BACK PAGE

that they are more than capable of handling different things, and we have size, strength, speed back there as well."

While starter Matt Besler was removed for the second half of Monday's victory in Natal as a precaution because of a tight right hamstring, John Brooks showed he is a reliable fill-in — and delivered the game-winner on a header in the 86th minute. Besler's leg is expected to be fine by Sunday, coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

Left back DaMarcus Beasley became the first U.S. player to appear in four World Cups. In a wide-open game, right back Fabian Johnson didn't show quite the same ability to get forward as he did in warm-up matches. Center back Geoff Cameron was a steady force.

"I thought they did extremely well with the unexpected changes. I think all of the guys did very well together," midfielder Graham Zusi said. "I thought Cam was an absolute monster back there for us. He found himself in great spots to clear some really dangerous balls. (Besler), when he was in there, was as solid as ever, and Brooksie came in and obviously did his part as well, and got that eventual game-winner. And the outside guys, Beas and Fabian, were their old selves, getting up and down the line, as dangerous as ever."

For many of the Americans, being a bunch of World Cup first-timers hardly seems to matter. Only six players on Klinsmann's 23-man roster were on the 2010 U.S. team in South Africa.

That attitude stems partly from the fact Klinsmann has downplayed the youth issue from Day 1, refusing to let it be an excuse or something to even give a second thought. Klinsmann insisted from the moment his team reported to training camp at Stanford, Calif., on May 14 that he was uncon-

## By the numbers

# 6

Number of players on the United States' 23-man World Cup roster who were on the team during the 2010 tournament in South Africa.

cerned about the back four's lack of experience.

"There's always a first time in life in whatever you do," said Klinsmann, who gave the Americans a day off from training Wednesday to enjoy time with family and friends in Sao Paulo before returning to the field Thursday. "It's for some the first World Cup, though it's the first of hopefully many World Cups to come for them."

After Clint Dempsey scored 30 seconds in, Ghana was forced into attack mode — making the defense work.

Cameron has shifted to center back from his position on the right for Stoke and seems unfazed by the change in responsibilities. Sporting Kansas City defender Besler had experience playing alongside Cameron previously.

The defensive unit keeps making strides the more it's on the field together.

"Just with practicing, experience, the different movements, understanding each other's game," Besler said. "All three games of the sendoff series were important, but the Nigeria game was most important, with the way that we played, the way that we came out, defended as a team. We gained confidence from that game."



RICARDO MAZALAN/AP

Center back Geoff Cameron was a steady force for the U.S. as it opened Group G play with a 2-1 victory over Ghana on Monday.

# SPORTS



Hendrick Motorsports' Big 3 are cruising  
Auto racing, Page 25

## WORLD CUP



Alejandro Bedoya



Matt Besler

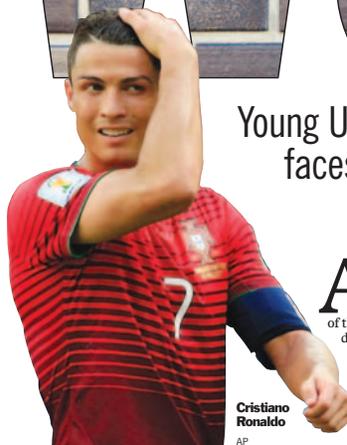


John Brooks



Fabian Johnson

# BUILDING A WALL



## Young US defense does job against Ghana, faces stiff test from Portugal's Ronaldo

By JANIE McCAULEY  
The Associated Press

**A**fter one game and one impressive victory, the U.S. defense is holding its own. Slowing down world player of the year Cristiano Ronaldo on Sunday in Manaus figures to be a far stiffer test for this young group. For all the times the Americans heard how inexperienced their back line would be heading into the World Cup, they're riding high with confidence after Monday's 2-1 opening



Group G  
US vs. Portugal  
AFN-Sports  
11:30 p.m. Sunday CET



win against Ghana. The victory greatly increased their odds of advancing out of a talented Group G, which earned the nickname "Group of Death" the moment the draw came out.

"These 23 players, I think we all deserve to be here, really," midfielder Alejandro Bedoya said Tuesday. "We've earned that right to play here. All these players have shown throughout training camp in Stanford and all that

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## Inside

Luis Suarez scores twice as Uruguay puts damper on England's hopes

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FIFA's time limit on anthems not deterring fans

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Group C: Colombia moving on; Japan, Greece stay alive

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Cristiano Ronaldo  
AP