

Obama vows to address VA allegations

President says he supports Shinseki while calling for department accountability

By MATTHEW DALY
AND JULIE PACE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Seeking to head off a growing furor over veterans' health care, President Barack Obama declared Wednesday that al-

legations of misconduct at Veterans Affairs hospitals are "dishonorable" and will be not be tolerated by his administration.

"I will not stand for it — not as commander in chief but also not as an American," Obama said following an Oval Office meeting with em-

battled VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

His administration is under mounting pressure from Capitol Hill to address troubling allegations of treatment delays and preventable deaths at VA hospitals. The VA Inspector General's office said late Tuesday that 26 facilities are being

investigated nationwide — up from 10 just last week — including a Phoenix hospital where 40 veterans allegedly died while waiting for treatment and staff there kept a secret list of patients waiting for appointments to hide delays in care.

SEE VA ON PAGE 8



Shinseki



— CALCULATING THE — COST OF WAR

Computing VA disability claims a cold numbers game | **Page 14**

MATT MCCLAIN/The Washington Post

Army Staff Sgt. Sam Shockley gets ready for another round of physical rehabilitation at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. Shockley, who lost his legs and sustained other injuries from a bomb blast in Afghanistan, is in the process of filing disability claims through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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Winners crowned on 'Dancing with the Stars,' 'Voice' finales

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Immigration bill hits roadblock in the House

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DODDS PACIFIC

Kadena, Osan division champs in Far East tourney

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The numbers of troops and armor are quite large, and their pullout requires serious preparation. If the weather is good, they will see it all from space.”

— Russian President Vladimir Putin on the withdrawal of Russian forces that have been deployed near the border with Ukraine

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COMING SOON

Music

New album from Coldplay



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MILITARY

Military amnesty bill hits roadblock

Majority leader says he will block attempts to add immigration measure to Defense budget bill

By Travis J. Tritten
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — House lawmakers and undocumented immigrants rallied Tuesday in front of the Capitol, urging Majority Leader Eric Cantor to drop opposition to a 2015 defense bill amendment granting citizenship to those who live in the country illegally if they serve in the military.

The proposal by Rep. Jeff Denham, R-Calif., has won some bipartisan support in the House. But it appears in deep legislative trouble because Cantor, a Republican from Virginia, has said he will block any attempt to add the immigration measure to the must-pass Department of Defense budget bill for the coming year.

Immigrants and supporters say the Enlist Act would provide a path to citizenship for thousands of undocumented residents who were brought to the United States when they were children and need to serve their country and become legal citizens. The military now bars enlistment by most who do not have a social security number, but the services have leeway on the rule and nearly 3,000 foreign nationals with sought-after language and medical skills have been inducted since 2009. “These men and women want to serve the only country they know” and a shift in the military enlistment rules should be included in the National Defense Authorization Act, Denham said standing before the Capitol dome with about a dozen undocumented residents.

Abraham Diaz, 20, of San Juan, Texas, said he was 9 years old when he came to the U.S. and has since earned a 4.0 grade point average through high school and college, but his top goal is to serve in the military.

“There are thousands out there who are doing this, who are fighting for this,” he said. “We want this legislation to go on to fulfill these dreams.”

The NDAA is set for a vote on the House floor this week and supporters want a vote on whether to add an amendment to include the



CARLOS BONGIOANNI/Stars and Stripes

Members of Dream Act Coalition, a group lobbying for Congress to pass immigration reform, lines up before a press conference outside of the Capitol in Washington on Tuesday.

immigration reform. Meanwhile, a companion bill called the Dream Act has been introduced in the Senate by Dick Durbin, D-Ill., who on Monday held a hearing in Chicago to urge Congress to support immigration reform that would allow undocumented residents to serve.

The DOD is also looking at changing military induction rules for undocumented residents. Officials indicated this week that its current program to allow foreign nationals could be expanded to those in the United States.

On Tuesday, fellow Republican Rep. Mike Coffman of Colorado and two Democrats — Rep. Luis Guterierrez of Illinois and Rep. Joaquin Castro of Texas — stood beside Denham to support the immigration bill.

“With so many youths in our communities encouraged to go down the wrong path, we should encourage the youth who want to go down the right path,” Gutierrez said.

Castro said Congress members have sometimes left candidate positions open at military academies because even high-performing undocumented immigrants cannot be tapped to fill them.

“Congress has a chance to change that this week,” he said.

But Cantor’s office said Friday that the House will not attach an immigration amendment to the defense budget, seriously weakening any chances of Denham’s bill passing the House. Typically, hundreds of amendments are added to the massive piece of legislation but Cantor controls which are considered.

Conservatives have come out hard against Obama Administration efforts at immigration reform. Heritage Action, the influential lobbying arm of the Heritage Foundation that keeps scorecards rating lawmakers on conservative values, has been applying pressure to Congress to reject any loosening of the law

and specifically targeting the Enlist Act in the House, urging the foundation’s 700,000 members to call their representatives.

The group called the effort to write reform into the defense budget “deplorable” and “simply terrible policy” as interest in the bill ballooned in recent weeks.

“The Enlist Act creates radical and perverse incentives that will have a negative impact on our military and our immigration system,” Heritage Action Chief Executive Officer Michael Needham said in a released statement. “It has no place in a debate over the future of our military, which is currently reducing personnel.”

But the debate may not be over despite the conservative blowback.

The proposal could still be introduced as a stand-alone bill in the House — one not attached to a massive military budget that must be passed, Coffman said.

“I just don’t think this issue is dead,” he said.

Such a bill would face an uphill battle attracting enough Republicans in the GOP-controlled House to pass.

These men and women want to serve the only country they know.

Rep. Jeff Denham
R-Calif.

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MILITARY

NATO chiefs review readiness in light of tensions with Russia

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

BRUSSELS — As NATO defense chiefs convene Thursday for a second day of talks on the Ukraine crisis, reaching agreement on specific steps to counter a more assertive Russia will likely prove elusive as national interests sometimes diverge.

For NATO, the heart of the challenge is bridging a gap between allies in the east, who seek a more muscular regional military posture to deal with Russia, and those in the west, notably Germany, who have urged a more cautious approach toward Moscow.

"It's no secret where the differences are, and there have been tough discussions," said one military official from eastern Europe, who asked not to be identified while describing the mood at the outset of talks in Brussels on Wednesday. "The outcome and final effect is what matters, but this is a marriage of 28 nations and consensus can be hard."

NATO's crisis response capabilities were a primary focus of the closed door discussions on Wednesday as defense chiefs examined how tensions with Russia will shape NATO in the future.

"One of the most pressing issues which the chiefs of defense will consider is the implications of Russia's actions in and around Ukraine," Gen. Knud Bartels, chairman of the NATO Military Committee, said in an opening statement Wednesday. "Russia's annexation of territory in a sovereign nation on NATO's borders has to cast a shadow of insecurity across the Alliance's eastern flank and has potentially serious implications for the region and beyond."

Defense chiefs also met on Wednesday with Ukrainian military officials, where closed-door discussions focused on NATO support for Ukrainian military reform efforts.

The turmoil in Ukraine comes as NATO is winding down its combat mission in Afghanistan, which will conclude at the end of the year. While planning continues for a small, post-2014 training mission in the

country, the downsizing in Afghanistan means NATO can turn more attention to other regions, Bartels said.

"The end of NATO's ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) operation this year brings with it a potential strategic inflection point and the opportunity and capacity for the alliance to refocus its military capability towards a broader range of potential future threats," Bartels said. "As we have seen in recent months, the global security situation remains fragile and unpredictable, and the alliance is increasingly surrounded by an arc of instability from Ukraine, to Syria to the Sahel."

Meanwhile, questions have emerged over NATO's readiness to respond should Russia seek to flex its muscle in other parts of the Continent.

If Russia were to launch a surprise attack on a country bordering a NATO nation, the alliance would struggle to generate an immediate response, according to an internal alliance memo obtained by the German magazine Der Spiegel.

Russia's ability to undertake significant military action with little warning presents a wider threat to the maintenance of security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area," according to the memo, which Spiegel stated was prepared ahead of the defense ministers meeting. "Russia can pose a local or regional military threat at short notice at a place of its choosing. This is both destabilizing and threatening for those allies bordering or in close proximity to Russia."

Most security experts consider a Russian incursion into the Baltics as highly unlikely. But its ability, at the least, potentially to stir unrest has those countries, which were annexed by the Soviet Union during World War II, nervous. Although as NATO members they are covered by Article Five of the NATO charter, which calls for alliance members to respond to an attack on a member state, that's hardly reassuring with Russia's forces so close and NATO's so far.

NATO's eastern members with proximity to Russia and Ukraine have been urg-



Courtesy of NATO

Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey and NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe Gen. Philip Breedlove chat Tuesday at the start of two days of talks at NATO headquarters in Brussels, where defense chiefs are meeting on a range of security challenges facing the 28-nation alliance.

ing NATO to bulk up its presence in the region. In Poland, top government officials have called on NATO to permanently base troops in its country. Baltic allies also have been eager for more military support.

NATO has responded with increased air and sea patrols, led by the U.S., throughout the region as well as bolstering the presence of ground troops, on a rotational basis, who have been busy conducting war games and other training exercises.

Also on Wednesday, the White House confirmed that it would extend the military's "augmented presence" in eastern Europe through at least 2014. Other measures also under consideration include bolstering the readiness of the Texas-based Air brigade that serves as the U.S. contribution to the NATO Response Force.

Germany, Europe's economic powerhouse and politically most assertive nation, has already indicated that it would oppose the permanent basing of troops in the region, arguing it would violate a 1997 agreement with Russia not to base troops in Russia's former backyard. But others argue Russia already has violated that agreement by annexing Crimea from Ukraine.

As a whole, the Western alliance currently maintains an overwhelming superiority to Russia in terms of troop numbers, modern equipment and conventional fire-

power. Furthermore, in the more than two decades since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Moscow's defense budget has always been a fraction of the combined military spending of NATO nations. However, recently Russia has been beefing up its military while most NATO countries have been looking to cut theirs.

NATO's supreme allied commander, U.S. Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove, has stated NATO needs to examine how its forces are aligned in light of Russia's actions in Ukraine. The issue of NATO force posture is likely to be a major subject of debate leading up to a NATO summit in September in Wales.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is also attending the meeting.

Going forward, Bartels said, NATO must retain lessons learned during more than a decade of combat in Afghanistan while also investing to ensure readiness against new threats.

"Both collectively and individually, NATO nations will also need to invest in the capabilities and training necessary to develop [the] Alliance's readiness and maintain its qualitative advantage, which are its greatest deterrent to potential adversaries," Bartels said.

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At least 21 killed in Taliban attacks across Afghanistan

By RAHIM FAIEZ
The Associated Press

KABUL — Taliban fighters launched attacks in several Afghan provinces on Wednesday, killing at least 10 policemen and three civilians, officials said. Villagers also found the bodies of eight slain policemen who were abducted by militants two weeks ago.

The violence comes as the Islamic militant group has launched its annual spring offensive promising to step up attacks against Afghan security forces in a bid to undermine the Western-backed government as foreign combat

troops prepare to withdraw by the end of the year. The Taliban also have pledged to disrupt voting as Afghans prepare for a second round of presidential elections on June 14.

Insurgents ambushed several police checkpoints in the north-eastern Badkhashan province, prompting gunbattles that left six policemen dead in the Yangan district, provincial police chief Gen. Fazeluddin Ayar said. The fighting started late Tuesday and lasted into Wednesday.

Reinforcements were sent to the site, but the police were forced to pull back from the area and were

fighting the Taliban forces from surrounding mountains as army helicopters flew overhead, Ayar said. Five insurgents also were killed, and three policemen were wounded, he added.

The Taliban said its fighters had raised the movement's white flag above the district headquarters.

Militants disguised as women wearing all-encompassing burqas also fired machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades at a district base in the Alingar area of Laghman province, killing four policemen, provincial government spokesman Sarhadi Zwak said. He said the Taliban

also suffered casualties.

In a statement to media, the Taliban claimed responsibility for both attacks.

In other violence Wednesday, a suicide bomber walked into a district building in Hasarak in the eastern Nangarhar province and blew himself up, killing two civilians and wounded seven other people, including a senior district official, Abdul Khaliq, said Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the spokesman for the provincial governor.

A woman was killed and eight civilians wounded when a bomb hidden in a bag exploded at a bazaar in the Pashtun Kot district

of the northern Faryab province, police said.

And a sticky bomb attached to a local bus wounded a woman in Bagram district in Parwan province, police said.

In Zabul province in southern Afghanistan, residents found the bodies of eight slain police officers who had been kidnapped almost two weeks ago by Taliban insurgents were found.

The policemen — seven local and one from the national force — were snatched by militants after an attack on their convoy two weeks ago from the same province, police said.

MILITARY

Senate backs DOD pay plan

Budget draft sets lower increase, preserves some benefits

By Travis J. Tritten
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Senate is so far backing the Pentagon's proposed 1 percent cap on troop pay raises as it drafts the country's 2015 defense budget.

The bill — still in its early stages — would also freeze military housing allowance rates below inflation and require higher co-pays on some medication prescriptions, according to a subcommittee meeting Wednesday of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

However, the subcommittee version bucks the Department of Defense proposal to slash commissary subsidies and reform the Tricare health care system.

The House is set to vote this week on its version on the defense budget that keeps pay raises at 1.8 percent and preserves military supermarket subsidies, current BAH and Tricare. The military's top brass has urged Congress to support reforms to troop pay and benefits as a way to reduce costs and balance budgets that are shrinking due to sequestration. Lawmakers on Capitol Hill have balked at the cuts during the budget process and have

instead opted to fully fund the popular programs.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., who chairs the military personnel subcommittee, said even the proposed changes to housing allowances and prescription costs should be reversed when the annual defense bill is heard in the full Senate.

"I want to be clear — the cuts included are required because the lower levels required by sequestration," Gillibrand said during the meeting Wednesday. "I hope to be able to repeal some or all of these provisions once this bill is on the floor, and I welcome that debate."

She declined to comment further on the defense budget, known as the National Defense Authorization Act.

Under Senate rules additional spending on pay raises, housing and health care must be paid for by cuts elsewhere in the budget. The NDAA was scheduled to be heard in a closed-door meeting later in the day by the full Armed Services Committee.

Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, warned the subcommittee to further discuss the decision to fund the programs and its potential

effects on the military's ability to fight wars.

"We are in the position of having to approve or not approve some very significant changes that cause problems elsewhere," he said. "Probably the somewhere else is [military] readiness, which is probably not where we should be cutting."

Earlier this month, all members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff testified in a rare gathering before the Senate Armed Services Committee to warn of the dangers of a shrinking defense budget and press for support of a 1 percent pay raise and reductions to commissary, housing and health care benefits.

In addition to the 1 percent pay raise, the DOD proposes cutting subsidies to base supermarkets from \$1.4 billion to \$400 million annually, reducing housing allowances until servicemembers pay about 5 percent for residences and utilities, and consolidating the Tricare health care system.

Overall, the reforms would save the military about \$2 billion in the 2015 fiscal year and \$31 billion over five years.

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Navy's top enlisted leader at Va. base relieved of duty

By Brock Vergakis
The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The top enlisted leader at a Navy base in Virginia Beach was relieved of his duties after acknowledging he committed adultery, according to documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

Master Chief Petty Officer Yves Raynaud was relieved of his duties as command master chief at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Port Story in February. The base at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay is home to Navy special warfare forces as well as ships that transport Marines, among others.

At the time, the Navy said in a statement that the installation's commander relieved Raynaud due to a loss of confidence in his ability to serve as the command's senior enlisted adviser. The Navy did not elaborate about what led to that loss of confidence.

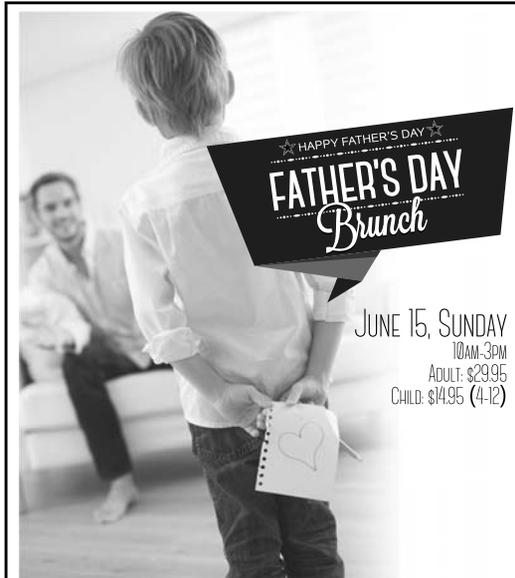
In the military, adultery is considered a crime. It wasn't immediately clear Tuesday whether Raynaud would face

any military criminal charges. Commanders have discretion whether to prosecute and have other disciplinary measures available to them.

Documents obtained by The Associated Press through the Freedom of Information Act show Raynaud developed a sexual relationship within the past year with a woman he met 20 years earlier while stationed in Japan.

Navy investigators were first alerted that there may be a problem when a person whose name was redacted told a neighbor about an inappropriate relationship involving Raynaud and her friend. The woman provided investigators with text exchanges from her Facebook account and the woman, whose name was also redacted. The investigative report says that the woman was contacted by Navy investigators and confirmed that she had a sexual relationship with Raynaud on four separate occasions in hotels.

The report also says Raynaud's Navy.mil email account also provided additional details about their sexual relations.



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MILITARY

Petraeus promotes troop financial causes

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — An era of back-to-back combat deployments and enlistment bonuses may be over, but the financial ramifications of a turbulent decade linger for many servicemembers.

Mortgage troubles, outstanding payday loans and credit card debt continue to plague military families, said Holly Petraeus, head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's office for servicemembers and the wife of retired Army general David Petraeus.

Meanwhile, many for-profit colleges see only dollar signs when they look at the military, she said, and new scams are hitting veterans as they seek work or help obtaining benefits.

Speaking here Wednesday, Petraeus said that while her office and its nine-person staff continue to draw attention to new schemes and scams, existing measures aimed at protecting servicemembers must be strengthened and new ones formulated.

One measure now being re-

originally defined the law as applying to loans of \$2,000 or less at a term of no more than 91 days.

Lenders responded by tweaking loan criteria to just fit the requirements, and sometimes by adding new fees. Critics protested, spurring the Pentagon to draft a new definition, now expected in the coming months, Petraeus said.

"The Military Lending Act was positive when it came out, but the definition of consumer credit that it used was quite limited," she said. "I think with time it's been very easy for lenders to just get around that by lengthening the term of their loan or making it open-ended credit and then it's not covered."

Another law authorities have struggled to enforce is the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003, which limits interest on debt before a military member's service at 6 percent and requires lenders, landlords and financial companies to recognize the hardships faced by active-duty and deployed servicemembers. The act requires, for example, that banks consider a home owned by a military family to be occupied even if the family does not live there.

The National Mortgage Settlement reached between the U.S.



Holly Petraeus

government and major banks in 2012 revealed that many lenders failed to follow the law when considering programs like loan modifications and short sales. A GAO report in the same year catalogued 15,000 instances in which financial institutions failed to reduce servicemembers' mortgage interest rates as required and more than 300 improper foreclosures.

Petraeus said those mistakes were often due to coding errors in software used by the institution or by customer representatives unaware of the law's requirements.

"You need to have scripts for them that work, and I think you

need to emphasize that if you don't know the right answer, don't make one up," she said. "And we saw that too often."

Petraeus said enforcement of the SCRA depends on servicemembers' making official complaints. She pointed to last week's announcement of the \$97 million settlement with student loan servicers Sallie Mae and Navient, which were accused of not providing military members with accurate information about repayment options and of denying interest rate deductions required by the law. The Justice Department acted after CFPP received numerous complaints, Petraeus said.

Other concerns for Petraeus include closing a loophole that encourages for-profit colleges to target servicemembers' tuition. Federal law prohibits the schools from taking more than 90 percent of their funding from federal student aid, a category that excludes the military's tuition assistance programs and the post-9/11 GI Bill. An attempt by Congress to close that loophole failed in 2012, and Petraeus said she hopes a new attempt at legislation will succeed.

Veterans and those being separated from the services face

their own challenges, Petraeus cautioned. Some scams promise to help veterans retrieve benefits from Veterans Affairs, while others try to hijack pension payments.

Those being separated from the services as the military pares down, meanwhile, are facing an unexpected loss of income, one made harder after years of wartime financial incentives.

"It does concern me that it is going to become more challenging for families to make ends meet that have gotten used to having combat pay and allowances and the income tax relief that comes with that," she said.

Petraeus was in Naples as part of a two-week tour of bases across Europe. In the three years since she was named head of the military office of the CFPP in 2011, she estimates she has visited more than 80 bases worldwide in an effort to talk to servicemembers and take their concerns to Congress.

"I do get asked back in Washington quite frequently what are the issues, and I want to be sure that I'm answering not just what I think but also what I've heard," she said.

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Celebrate the Week With Yokosuka MWR



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PACIFIC

Plaintiffs to get \$70M over Atsugi noise issues

By ERIK SLAVIN AND CHIYOMI SUMIDA
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, JAPAN — The Japanese government must pay \$70 million to residents living near Naval Air Facility Atsugi as compensation for noise created by aircraft at the base, a Yokohama District Court ruled Wednesday.

The court also barred Japan Self-Defense Forces aircraft from flying between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., in a ruling believed to be the first time such a ban has been imposed at that court level, officials said.

The court threw out an argument made by lawyers for the case's 7,054 plaintiffs to ban U.S. night operations at Atsugi.

The United States is supposed to pay 75 percent of the costs associated with the verdict, according to the U.S.-Japan treaty obligations — but only if the U.S. agrees to pay, Japanese Ministry of Defense officials said on Wednesday.

In past noise lawsuits, the Japanese government has always paid the full amount, Japanese officials said. However, the \$70 million verdict represents the largest known compensation figure for a noise lawsuit since World War II, and the plaintiffs called on the U.S. to contribute on Wednesday.

"We ask the U.S. government, therefore, to pay their responsibility this time, by taking seriously the fact that the Japanese court acknowledged the serious health and the noise has been inflicting on residents in the neighboring communities," Tokio Kaneko, deputy leader of the plaintiff's group, said.

U.S. Navy officials at Atsugi were unavailable for comment.

A spokesman for the Japanese Defense Ministry's South Kanto Defense Bureau said the government would review the ruling and determine whether to appeal.

"It is regrettable that we could not obtain the understanding of the court," the spokesman said.

It remained unclear how much the ruling would actually lessen airplane noise in the densely populated communities neighboring Atsugi. The Japanese Self-Defense Forces generally operate their F-18 fighter jets there, though it tries to reserve late flights for essential operations. The Navy also flies at higher altitudes in the base vicinity to lessen noise.

Oral arguments in began in the lawsuit in 2008. At the time, plaintiffs had been asking for about \$53 million, a ban on all flights from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., and no engine noise exceeding 70 decibels.

By comparison, a California Department of Transportation chart equates 70 decibels with normal speech from three feet away.

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Erik Slavin/Stars and Stripes

A Navy F-18 flies over Iwo Jima as part of required field carrier landing practice. In the foreground is the U.S. monument at Mount Suribachi.

Navy jets train on Iwo Jima as Japan searches for better option

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

IWO JIMA, Japan — Japan is increasing its efforts to move critical flight training for U.S. Navy pilots off historic Iwo Jima — a relocation encouraged by military officials but opposed by residents of an island near the proposed replacement site.

At least once per year, the Navy sends its fighter aircraft from the Japanese mainland to the island, called Iwo To by the Japanese, for a series of field carrier landing practice flights.

The training is necessary for the pilots, who must maintain qualifications that would allow them to land the Navy's top fighter jets on aircraft carriers, such as the Japan-based USS George Washington.

The practice has gone on for decades at Iwo Jima, but always with a caveat: The island was meant to be only a temporary solution.

This year, Japan allocated \$1 million for an environmental survey of Mageshima, an island south of Kyushu. The Japanese government says it would build a runway there for Navy carrier landing practices, and use it as a disaster relief hub for its self-defense forces.

In December, Japan sent a high-level Defense Ministry official to make the government's case to residents of nearby Tanegashima island, many of whom oppose the noise they fear a new airport would bring.

From the Navy's point of view, Mageshima is better than Iwo Jima due to its proximity to several other airports and Ma-

Watch an F-18 perform a touch-and-go on Iwo Jima
Stripes.com/go/iwojimajets



rine Corps Air Station Iwakuni — where Carrier Air Wing 5 is scheduled to move in 2017.

Iwo Jima's tropical weather and isolation make it a riskier place to train than normally allowed by the Navy, said Capt. Dennis Mikeska, assistant chief of staff for operations, plans and training for Commander Naval Forces Japan.

"When the weather's good, there's no more realistic training ... but the weather can change very quickly," said Mikeska, who is also an F-18 pilot and graduate of the Naval Fighter Weapons School, otherwise known as TOPGUN.

He related a tale of five fighter jets attempting to land several years back, when a fast-moving cloud mass blanketed the island.

"Three landed, but there were still two aircraft in the air — and I was one of them," he recalled.

Mikeska and another pilot were forced to emergency land on the airfield's taxiway, he said. Then the planes couldn't go anywhere due to near-zero visibility.

Hallowed ground, best option

Service members working on the island still display respect for the place where approximately 22,000 U.S. and Japanese fighters died during World War II.

They continue to walk up Mount Suribachi, leaving their dog tags and name tape at the spot where

the American flag was raised on Feb. 23, 1945. A short walk from the American monument, visitors also leave gifts at a memorial for Japanese war dead.

However, as much as sailors appreciate Iwo Jima's hallowed status, they'd rather have more safety options.

No matter how poor the conditions, there isn't any other choice for fighters but to land on the island. The closest alternate landing site is 643 miles away at Atsugi. The F-18s training at Iwo Jima typically don't have enough fuel to make it back.

"They could only get about halfway before they run out of fuel," Mikeska said.

The military could use Naval Air Facility Atsugi or another mainland base for the landing practices in case of an emergency, but it is reluctant to do so.

If it did, the Navy would be forced to choose between unrealistic training and political headaches.

At Atsugi, planes fly a higher pattern to minimize noise in the densely populated communities nearby.

Even so, Atsugi is a magnet for noise complaints. On Thursday, a Yokohama court awarded \$70 million to 7,054 plaintiffs seeking government compensation for noise there.

A realistic carrier landing requires a considerably lower, noisier flight pattern than those now used at Atsugi.

"Field carrier landing practice, when flown in accordance with Navy standards, is very loud," Mikeska said.

Using Iwo Jima, which has no

civilian residents and the right elevation for landings, removes about 150 hours of noise from the communities surrounding Atsugi.

Residents from towns on Tanegashima, near Mageshima, are well aware of the Atsugi noise complaints. Multiple local governments on the island have banded together to oppose plans for the new airfield.

"The military training facility does not fit into our communities, where people have led peaceful lives by engaging in agriculture and fishing," Mayor Chikara Nagano said, according to a spokesman.

Tanegashima communities have collected more than 220,000 signatures from throughout Japan opposing the airfield since 2011, according to local officials.

However, with the move of Carrier Air Wing 5 to Iwakuni looming, Tanegashima officials say they expect the Japanese government to accelerate its efforts at Mageshima.

Stars and Stripes reporter Chiyomi Sumida contributed to this report. slavin.erik@stripes.com

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MILITARY

Sailor guilty in bribe case

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A Yokosuka sailor pleaded guilty in San Diego federal court Monday to a bribery charge, making him the third man to be convicted in a classified information-for-gifts scandal involving an Asia-Pacific Navy contractor.

Petty Officer 1st Class Dan Layug, 27, made the plea bargain on one count of conspiracy to commit bribery after prosecutors agreed to drop additional bribery counts. He admitted to accepting cash, travel perks and high-end electronics in exchange for funneled ship schedules and other data to Glenn Defense Marine Asia.

A GDMA employee in Japan paid Layug \$1,000 each month for his help. Layug asked for and received cameras, computers and other equipment from GDMA as well, according to email traffic cited in court documents.

Layug will face up to five years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 2.

Layug first began sending clas-

sified information while working as a storekeeper and government purchase card program coordinator aboard the USS Blue Ridge, the 7th Fleet flagship based in Yokosuka. He continued the relationship through 2013 after transferring to Yokosuka's Fleet Logistics Center, where he administered logistics requests for 7th Fleet vessels.

Layug helped arrange fuel and supply replenishments at ports in the Pacific where GDMA could overbill the Navy by millions of dollars for services, according to court documents.

He also provided proprietary information on competitor bids, giving GDMA an unfair advantage, the documents said.

Layug becomes the second Navy official to plead guilty.

On Dec. 17, 2013, Naval Criminal Investigative Service supervisory special agent John Bertrand Balvoun II, 44, pleaded guilty to bribery charges for regularly tipping off GDMA owner Leonard Glenn Francis to the status of the government's investigation into GDMA.

Francis, also known by the nickname "Fat Leonard," was arrested last year and has pleaded

not guilty to bribery charges. Leonard's cousin and co-worker, Alex Wisadigama, pleaded guilty to a bribery charge in March.

Cmdr. Michael Yannak Khem Misiewicz, a captain-select who commanded the USS Mustin, and later served as deputy operations officer aboard the USS Blue Ridge, was the first Navy officer arrested for his alleged role in the bribery ring.

Cmdr. Jose Luis Sanchez has also been charged. Both officers have pleaded not guilty.

Vice Adm. Ted Branch, Rear Adm. Bruce Lovelless and former USS Bonhomme Richard commander Capt. Daniel Dusek are all under investigation in relation to the scandal but have not been charged, Navy officials have stated. The allegations leveled at the two admirals involve "inappropriate conduct" prior to their current ranks, officials said in December.

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Events mark Memorial Day

Stars and Stripes

Memorial services will be held at cemeteries across Europe and in Tunisia this weekend to mark Memorial Day. Below is a list of scheduled events:

Saturday

- Ardennes American Cemetery, Belgium, 10 a.m.
- Luxembourg American Cemetery, Luxembourg, 2 p.m.
- Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery, Belgium, 4 p.m.

Sunday

- Aisne-Marne American Cemetery, France, 9:45 a.m.
- Rhone American Cemetery, France, 10 a.m.
- Normandy American Cemetery, France, 10:30 a.m.
- Lorraine American Cemetery, France, 11 a.m.
- Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, France, 11 a.m.
- Suresnes American Cemetery, France, 2:30 p.m.

- Brookwood American Cemetery, England, 3 p.m.
- Epinal American Cemetery, France, 3 p.m.
- Flanders Field American Cemetery, Belgium, 3 p.m.
- Netherlands American Cemetery, 3 p.m.
- Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, France, 3 p.m.
- Somme American Cemetery, France, 3 p.m.
- St. Mihiel American Cemetery, France, 4 p.m.

Monday

- Cambridge American Cemetery, England, 11 a.m.
- Florence American Cemetery, Italy, 11 a.m.
- North Africa American Cemetery, Tunisia, 11 a.m.
- Sicily-Rome American Cemetery, Italy, 11 a.m.
- Brittany American Cemetery, France, 3 p.m.

Bill would let GIs keep same car policy wherever they go

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — New auto insurance would be one less worry for servicemembers who transfer to new duty stations and are sent on temporary assignments, under a proposal introduced this week in the House.

The bill, called the Servicemembers Insurance Relief Act, allows active-duty troops as well as National Guard and Reserve members to keep their current insurance policy when they get permanent change-of-station or temporary duty assignment orders. It is sponsored by Rep. Ed Royce, R-Calif., and Rep. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill.

Under the proposal, insurers would be required to allow military customers to continue with

the same policy if they choose, though rate adjustments could be made depending on the risk of damage at their new duty location.

USAA, which provides insurance and financial services to more than 10 million servicemembers and veterans, announced Tuesday that it is supporting the legislation.

"The hassle and confusion of changing auto insurance every time they move to a new state is one burden they don't need," Brian Conklin, vice president of federal government relations for USAA, said in a released statement. "This bill would let servicemembers choose a single policy that could follow them throughout their military career."

US fighter jet fuel tanks dropped, land by school

SEOUL, South Korea — A U.S. fighter jet dropped two fuel tanks over Gimje City on Wednesday during an in-flight emergency, according to the 8th Fighter Wing.

The Kunsan Air Base F-16C Fighting Falcon was conducting a training mission when the incident took place around 11:35 a.m.

The fuel tanks were dropped about 7 miles southeast of the base and landed in a rice paddy about 200 yards from an elementary school.

Emergency crews responded to the scene, and no injuries were reported.

Wing commander Col. Kenneth Ekman went to the site and apologized for the incident.

The pilot followed proper procedures during the incident, although having the fuel tanks land in a rice paddy was a coincidence, wing spokeswoman 1st Lt. Son Lee said.

"We got really lucky, and we're really happy that no one was hurt and the pilot is OK," she said.

The incident is under investigation.

From staff reports

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MILITARY

Navy chief warns carrier cuts would hurt ships, sailors

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Extending deployments to compensate for a smaller carrier fleet would result in burnout of ships and sailors, the Navy's top officer said Wednesday.

The Pentagon is considering retiring the USS Washington if Congress doesn't lift the budget caps that have been imposed on the Defense Department. Such a move would cut the carrier fleet from 11 to 10 ships.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert said going down to 10 carriers would create readiness gaps that couldn't be filled by new weaponry or longer deployment time lines.

"We need 11 [carriers] when you add [general combatant commander requirements] with the contingencies that we are tasked to respond to, in the time that we

have to respond, and the capabilities that we have out there. I mean, it would be wonderful if we had a 'doomsday device' and magical things that could come off [fewer] carriers and flew further and be invisible, but we don't have that now. We have what we have. And so when I look out into the future, we need at least 11 carriers," he told reporters Wednesday.

Greenert said leaving the remaining carriers and their crews out at sea longer in an attempt to maintain the existing force presence with fewer ships could backfire.

"Some folks say, 'Well, deployments will just be longer.' I say not necessarily, [because] there's a limit to that. There's an optimal response that you can provide that would be to come back and you do maintenance and train again and go out there. And we have to take care of our sailors ... and the equipment. So if you just turn the crank faster, for lack



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The aircraft carrier USS Washington conducts a replenishment-at-sea in the Coral Sea off of Australia during the Tailsman Saber 2013 exercise July 13. The Pentagon is eyeing the ship for retirement if budget cuts force the Navy to reduce its fleet of aircraft carriers from 11 to 10.

of a better term, in the cycle of deployment, the ship gets older faster [and] the uranium burns out faster [and] you don't get [to keep the ship in service] for 50 years," he said.

Greenert said the Navy would be forced to rethink the way it operates.

"We would have to change the way we do presence and the way we think about contingency response if we go to 10 aircraft carriers," according to the service chief. "It's either a [coverage] gap as you compare it to today, or you say you need to change the pres-

ence model and what you need where you need it."

When asked whether a new Chinese anti-ship weapon — the DF-21D missile — might render carriers obsolete in the Pacific, Greenert said the U.S. is developing countermeasures to protect the prized vessels from the weapon that is sometimes referred to as a "carrier killer."

"It's a good weapon that they've developed. But there's nothing that doesn't have vulnerabilities, and we continue to pursue ideas in that regard. ... We're working quite feverishly on that, and I'm

pretty comfortable with where we can operate our carriers," Greenert said.

The Navy chief said the U.S. has "lots of intelligence" on the Chinese weapon, but wouldn't elaborate, nor would he discuss what specific steps the military is taking to counter it.

In the future, Greenert said that new electromagnetic weapons, unmanned aircraft and other standoff weapons will help mitigate the threat of anti-ship missiles.

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VA: President stands by Shinseki as he addresses furor over health care

FROM FRONT PAGE

Shinseki, a retired Army four-star general, is facing calls for his resignation from some lawmakers. Obama spoke warmly of Shinseki on Wednesday, saying the secretary had poured his heart and soul into his job, but said there would be accountability if the allegations of misconduct are proven to be true.

"We are going to fix whatever is wrong and so long as I have the privilege of serving as commander in chief, I'm going to keep on fighting to deliver the care and the benefits and the opportunities that you and your families deserve, now and for decades to come," Obama said.

The president spoke hours before the House was scheduled to vote on a bill that would grant the VA secretary more authority to fire or demote senior executives. The White House has said it shares the goals of the House measure — to ensure accountability at the VA — but has concerns about some of the details.

Obama's statement marked his first public comments on the matter in more than two weeks. Last week, he dispatched his

deputy chief of staff, Rob Nabors, to the VA to oversee a review of department policies, with a preliminary report due next week and a full report scheduled to be turned to the White House in June.

The president's remarks did little to quell the anger over the alleged misconduct.

Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain, a military veteran, said Obama's comments were "wholly insufficient in addressing the fundamental, systemic problems plaguing our veterans' health care system." Paul Rieckhoff, the head of the organization Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, called the president's words "a tremendous disappointment."

"Speeches and excuses will not solve this problem," Rieckhoff said. "Only decisive leadership, bold change and strong accountability will repair decades of failure."

Nabors, who also took part in the Oval Office meeting Wednesday, was heading to Phoenix later in the day to meet with staff at the VA hospital at the center of the allegations. His meeting will include interim director Steve Young and other hospital administrators.

The current director of the Phoenix VA Health Care System, Sharon Helman, has been placed on leave indefinitely while the VA's inspector general investigates the claims raised by several former VA employees. Investigators probing the claims say they have so far not linked any patient deaths in Phoenix to delayed care.

The allegations have sparked election-year outrage on Capitol Hill. The House bill would target about 450 career employees at the VA who serve as hospital directors or executives in the agency's 21 regions.

Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, sponsored the measure, saying VA officials who have presided over mismanagement or negligence are more likely to receive bonuses or glowing performance reviews than any sort of punishment.

The VA's "widespread and systemic lack of accountability is exacerbating all of its most pressing problems," including revelations that the department maintained secret waiting lists to cover up long delays in patient appointments and a mounting toll of preventable deaths of veterans, Miller said.

Miller accused the VA of a "well-documented reluctance to ensure its leaders are held accountable for mistakes" and he said Congress has an obligation to "give the VA secretary the authority he needs to fix things. That's what my bill would do."

Shinseki and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel met with the House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday to discuss how the Veterans Affairs and Defense departments can improve interactions between their health records systems. The two Cabinet members said in a joint statement that the meeting was productive and said both men share the same goal: to improve health outcomes of active-duty military, veterans and beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, two Republican senators introduced legislation to prohibit payment of bonuses to employees at the Veterans Health Administration through next year. Sens. Richard Burr, of North Carolina, and Deb Fischer, of Nebraska, said the VA should focus its spending on fixing problems at the agency, "not rewarding employees entrenched in a failing bureaucracy."



Who Won? Find out who was voted the Best of the Pacific by Stars and Stripes readers!

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NATION

GOP avoids past mistakes in Senate races

BY CHARLES BABINGTON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tuesday's elections are the best evidence yet that Republicans are avoiding previous mistakes and improving their chances of controlling the Senate during President Barack Obama's final two years in office.

ANALYSIS

GOP voters again chose solidly conservative nominees while rejecting the most extreme and outlandish types who led the party to painful losses in 2010 and 2012.

The simple way to view this year's results, thus far, is to say "establishment" Republicans are outperforming tea party insurgents. That's largely true. But it

blurs the extent to which nearly all Republican candidates — including those who have been in Congress for decades — have shifted rightward to stay in step with ardently conservative voters who helped create the tea party in 2009 and still dominate GOP primaries.

The differences between tea party and non-tea party Republicans are shrinking. Often it's merely tone and experience that separate them. Tone and experience matter, however, and Tuesday's GOP voters chose the less bombastic and unpredictable conservatives in most cases.

In Kentucky, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell easily dispatched tea party challenger Matt Bevin. As a 30-year sena-

tor and party leader, McConnell is about as establishment as they come. He has predicted that he and other mainstream Republicans will "crush" tea party candidates this year.

Bevin initially excited anti-establishment Republicans. But his campaign eventually collapsed under rookie mistakes and McConnell's overwhelming advantage in money, experience and organization.

In Georgia, Republican voters rejected the two most outspoken tea party proponents, Reps. Paul Brown and Phil Gingrey. They set up a July 22 Senate runoff between two men who constantly emphasize their conservative credentials but leave their rhetoric by wooing corporate support. Dollar General

CEO David Perdue and Rep. Jack Kingston claimed the top two spots Tuesday and now begin a two-month runoff campaign.

Establishment Republicans once feared that Brown, who called embryology and evolution "lies straight from the pit of hell," would win the nomination and become the type of gaffe-prone, over-the-top candidate who killed great GOP Senate chances in Delaware, Indiana, Missouri and other states in 2010 and 2012.

In Oregon, Republicans chose pediatric neurosurgeon Monica Wehby, who supports abortion rights, to run against first-term Democratic Sen. Jeff Merkley this fall. Her opponents included state Rep. Jason Conyer, who was endorsed by the Tea Party Nation

and former presidential candidate Rick Santorum.

Arkansas' two uncontested Senate primaries officially set up a fierce November showdown between two-term Democratic Sen. Mark Pryor and freshman Republican Rep. Tom Cotton.

Tuesday's Republican elections continued earlier trends from states such as North Carolina. There, Republicans nominated state House Speaker Thom Tillis for the Senate, rejecting a tea party leader and a Baptist minister who were making their first runs for office.

North Carolina Democrats scoffed at the notion that Tillis is "moderate," citing his self-described "conservative revolution" in the closely divided state.



MATT ROURKE/AP

Peg Welch, center left, and her wife, Delma Welch, gather with others at a gay marriage rally on the steps of the state Capitol in Harrisburg, Pa., on Tuesday after Pennsylvania's ban on gay marriage was overturned by a federal judge.

Pa. same-sex couples rush to get marriage licenses as ban is lifted

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Same-sex couples in Pennsylvania clamored for marriage licenses after a judge ruled to allow the state to join the rest of the Northeast in legalizing gay weddings, with Philadelphia offices staying open late to handle a rush of applications.

Under state law, couples must wait three days after their application to get married unless a sympathetic judge grants a waiver. Before three days pass after Tuesday's ruling, Republican Gov. Tom Corbett could appeal and effectively put it on hold, though he didn't immediately indicate whether he would.

Joe Parrisi, 30, and Steven Seminnelli, 28, live in Philadelphia and were among the first to get a license Tuesday. They texted each

other during work and decided they had to get a license as soon as they could, Parrisi said.

A torrent of celebration was met by criticism from state Republicans, who as recently as 2012 endorsed a platform defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

"An activist judiciary has substituted its judgment in place of the law created by the elected representatives of Pennsylvania and has stifled the ongoing debate of people with differing points of view," party Chairman Rob Gleason said, citing a 1996 ban on gay marriage instituted by state legislators.

The federal judge who issued the ruling, John E. Jones III — a Republican and an appointee of former President George W. Bush — also ordered the recognition of

same-sex marriages performed elsewhere.

Corbett's office was left to defend the ban last year after Democratic Attorney General Kathleen Kane refused to do so. A spokesman for Corbett's office said it was reviewing the legal issues presented in the opinion.

State marriage bans have been falling around the country since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act last year.

On Monday, Oregon became the 18th state to recognize same-sex marriage after a federal judge invalidated its voter-approved ban. Also Monday, a federal judge in Utah ordered state officials to recognize more than 1,000 gay marriages that took place in the two weeks before the U.S. Supreme Court halted weddings there.

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NATION

Privacy groups rail over NSA bill revisions

By ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Legislation in the House aimed at ending the National Security Agency's mass collection of Americans' records has been revised to win Obama administration approval, leading privacy advocates on Tuesday to withdraw their support.

The USA Freedom Act has been significantly watered down and undermines a recent deal between the intelligence and judiciary committees, civil liberties advocates charge.

"This legislation was designed to prohibit bulk collection, but has been made so weak that it fails to adequately protect against mass, untargeted collection of Americans' private information," said Center for Democracy and Technology President Nuala O'Connor. "The bill now offers only mild reform and goes against the overwhelming support for definitively ending bulk collection."

U.S. officials say the revised bill, which is scheduled for a floor vote Thursday, still honors the deal crafted by lawmakers two weeks ago to protect privacy and the intelligence community's ability to detect terrorist attacks. They say it ends the NSA's holding of hundreds of billions of phone records. "The amended bill successfully addresses the concerns that were raised about NSA surveillance, ends bulk collection and increases transparency," said a House GOP aide, who was not authorized to speak for the record.

4 dead, several injured in California bus crash

BLYTHE, Calif. — Four people were killed and several more suffered serious injuries when a passenger bus overturned on Interstate 10 in Southern California near the Arizona border, authorities said.

The crash occurred around 2:15 a.m. Wednesday just west of Blythe when a big rig traveling east jackknifed onto the median and spilled a load of steel pipes into all lanes in both directions, said Terri Kassinga of the California Department

of Transportation. The westbound bus either swerved to avoid the pipes or struck them and overturned onto its side, sliding across the shoulder and 50 feet down a slight embankment, Kassinga said. The bus, with 32 confirmed passengers, was traveling from El Paso to Los Angeles.

Four vehicles in the eastbound lanes also crashed and several people were taken to hospitals in unknown conditions. "Four people from the bus were killed, Kassinga said.

From The Associated Press

U.S. officials familiar with the negotiations expressed surprise at the reaction. "I can't imagine what scenario they're thinking about," said one official, who was not authorized to speak for the record. "There's definitely no desire anywhere in any part of the government to keep some door open to large-scale collection."

U.S. officials familiar with the negotiations expressed surprise at the reaction. "I can't imagine what scenario they're thinking about," said one official, who was not authorized to speak for the record. "There's definitely no desire anywhere in any part of the government to keep some door open to large-scale collection."

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PHOTOS BY THE WILMINGTON (DELA.) NEWS-JOURNAL/AP

Honeybee highway

Top: Beekeepers worked with firefighters Tuesday after a tractor-trailer carrying 16 million to 20 million bees overturned near Newark, Del., on an on-ramp to Interstate 95. The ramp was closed for more than 12 hours after the crash, and police cited the driver for unsafe shifting of load or cargo. Adolfo Guerra, 55, of Miami, and two passengers were taken to a local hospital with minor injuries as well as 50 to 100 slings each. State transportation officials are warning motorists to keep windows up and avoid unnecessary stops. Left: A few fugitive bees gather in a dumpster on Wednesday.



GM announces another recall: Aveo

The Associated Press

DETROIT — General Motors has added yet another recall to its growing list for the year.

The recall of 218,000 Chevrolet Aveo subcompact cars is the company's 29th this year, bringing the total number of recalled GM vehicles in the U.S. to around 13.8 million. That breaks GM's previous annual record of 10.75 million set in calendar year 2004.

The new recall, posted Wednesday on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website, covers Aveos from the 2004 through 2008 model years. The daytime running light module in the dashboard center stack can overheat, melt and catch fire. GM is aware of an unspecified number of fires due to the problem, but spokesman Alan Adler says it does not know of any injuries or deaths.

GM says it is still developing a plan to fix the problem and

will provide details as soon as possible.

The high number of recalls this year is fallout from a deadly ignition switch problem in compact cars that is responsible for at least 13 deaths. GM has admitted knowing about the problem for at least a decade, yet it didn't recall the cars until February of this year.

On Tuesday, GM announced it would recall 2.4 million vehicles in the U.S. In May alone, GM has recalled about 5.5 million cars and trucks.

Last week the company agreed to pay a \$35 million federal fine for concealing deadly defects in small-car ignition switches. Although the company says the death toll from the ignition switches is at least 13, trial lawyers suing the company say it's at least 53.

The Detroit automaker said it will take a \$400 million charge

for repairs on all vehicles recalled so far this quarter. That's on top of a \$1.3 billion charge the automaker took for recalls in the first quarter.

Jeff Boyer, the company's new safety chief, said in a recent interview that the ignition switch recall led the company to examine all of its safety issues, and that has resulted in the spate of recalls. GM has added 35 safety investigators and has moved Boyer's position up to the level of vice president.

"We're not waiting for warranty trends to develop over time," he said in the interview. "It's not only about frequency, it has to be about the seriousness of the potential defect as well."

Adler said the Suzuki Forenza, which GM made under contract for the Japanese car company, also is affected by the recall. Details of that recall will come from Suzuki, he said.

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WORLD

Boko Haram kill dozens in attack on 3 villages

JOS, Nigeria — Boko Haram militants attacked three villages in Nigeria, killing 48 people, residents said Wednesday, as rescue workers in the central city of Jos searched for the missing a day after two car bombs killed more than 100.

One of the villages that were attacked on Tuesday night and early Wednesday lies near the town of Chibok, where more than 300 schoolgirls were kidnapped last month.

The reports came from residents and were confirmed by a state intelligence agent who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to give information to reporters.

Apagu Maidaga, of Alagorua village, said residents hid in the bush and watched while the extremists set ablaze their homes of thatched mud huts. In Jos, where 118 people were killed in twin car bomb attacks Tuesday on a bustling bus terminal and a market, rescue workers armed with body bags on Wednesday dug into the rubble of destroyed buildings.

Most victims were women and children who were vendors, said Mohammed Abdulsalam of the National Emergency Management Agency.

Egypt's Mubarak convicted of graft

CAIRO — A Cairo court on Wednesday convicted ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak of embezzlement, sentencing him to three years in prison.

The graft case against Mubarak, 86, who is kept in custody at a military hospital, is one of two against the former president who was ousted in a popular uprising in 2011 after nearly three decades in power. He is being retried over the killings of hundreds of protesters during the uprising.

Mubarak's two sons, one-time heir apparent Gamal and wealthy businessman Alaa, were also convicted Wednesday of graft and sentenced to four years in prison each in the same case.

Four other defendants in the case were acquitted.

Bird eggs found in man's pants in Sydney

SYDNEY — Australians call tiny swimming trunks "budgie smugglers," but the term might have new meaning after customs officials at Sydney's airport said Wednesday that they found 16 wild-bird eggs in the crotch of a passenger's pants.

The 39-year-old Czech man arrived Tuesday on a flight from Dubai when customs officials selected him for a baggage examination. Australian Customs and Border Protection Service said in a statement.

"Officers conducted a frisk search of the man and allegedly found 16 small eggs concealed in his groin area," the statement said. The species has yet to be identified.

From The Associated Press

Putin: Troops en route to home bases

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday he ordered troops to pull out from the regions near Ukraine to help create a positive environment ahead of the nation's presidential vote, but added the continued fighting will make it hard for the Kremlin to deal with the winner.

The pullout announced Monday was meant to create "favorable conditions for Ukraine's presidential vote and end speculation," Putin told reporters in Shanghai, China, where he attended a security summit.

In comments broadcast on Russian television, Putin referred to U.S. and NATO remarks that they aren't seeing any sign of the withdrawal, saying "those who aren't seeing it should look better." He said the pullout will be clearly visible in satellite images.

"The numbers of troops and armor are quite large, and their pullout requires serious preparation. If the weather is good, they will see it all from space," Putin said.

The Russian Defense Ministry said that its military units in the regions near Ukraine have started moving to railway stations and airfields en route to their home bases, which they are expected to reach before June 1.

NATO, which estimates that Russia has 40,000 troops along the border with Ukraine, repeated Wednesday it could not yet see any signs of a Russian withdrawal.

Putin's pullout order and his statement welcoming the election, which he had previously urged be postponed, has suggested that he has no immediate intention to send the Russian army into Ukraine, where pro-Russia insurgents have seized govern-

ment buildings and clashed with Ukrainian government forces in weeks of fighting that has left dozens dead.

Putin's moves reflected an apparent desire to ease tensions with the West over Ukraine and avoid further sanctions.

But the Russian leader also said Wednesday it will be "very difficult for us to develop relations with people who come to power amid a punitive operation in southeastern Ukraine."

Putin added that Russia has helped establish a dialogue between the central government in Kiev and people in the southeast, but didn't give any details.

Many in eastern Ukraine resent the new authorities in Kiev, which came to power after the toppling of Ukraine's pro-Russian president after months of protests. They see the new government as a group of nationalists bent on repressing Russian-speakers.

Russia supports a peace plan brokered by Switzerland and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe which envisages a broad amnesty and the launch of a national dialogue that focuses on decentralization of government and upholding the status of the Russian language.

Meanwhile, clashes between the rebels and Ukrainian government forces continued on Wednesday in eastern Ukraine.

The insurgents have faced a challenge from Ukraine's richest man, metals tycoon Rinat Akhmetov, who demanded an end to the mutiny which he said was destroying eastern Ukraine and called on workers to hold protests.

They have also faced angry local residents, increasingly exasperated over being caught in crossfire that has destroyed their housing and endangered their lives.

Countries can't pay for costly cleanup

By AIDA CERKEZ
AND JOVANA GEC
The Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Floodwaters receded Wednesday in Bosnia and Serbia, just enough to reveal the next shock: recovery from the historic flood will cost billions of euros that neither of the countries has.

EU and NATO officials visited Bosnia on Wednesday to talk to local officials about what steps need to be taken next.

Bosnian authorities say they fear the damage may exceed that caused by the entire 1992-95 war. Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic has said that the damage in his country has exceeded 0.64 percent of GDP, meaning that Serbia can apply for EU solidarity funds.

Both countries say they will need international help, and international experts will be touring the devastated areas as soon as the water goes down to estimate the damage.

Bosnian officials said a quarter of Bosnia's population of 4 million has been affected by the six days of floods that covered a quarter of the country's territory. Some 100,000 homes and 230 schools were destroyed by the torrents and 2,100 landslides.

"The extent of the damage is so horrific that it is better not to reveal any details before we have a clear picture," Bosnian Foreign Minister Zlatko Lagumdzija said Monday.

The country lost roads, bridges,



SULEJMAN OMERHASI/AP

Residents try to dig out a car trapped in the mud caused by a landslide in Topcic Polje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, on Tuesday. Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia have been hit by the worst flooding in more than 100 years, forcing half a million people out of their homes and leading to more than three dozen deaths.

water supply and sewage systems as well as the few businesses some towns and villages had.

Almost no one had property insurance in the country with one of the lowest GDPs in Europe and an unemployment rate of up to 44 percent.

Bosnia's northern flatland was focused on agriculture and the flood broke the region's economic

backbone.

On Wednesday a mine exploded near the village of Cerik where the water had moved one of the more than 9,000 mines left from the war. Nobody was hurt.

In Serbia, Infrastructure Minister Zorana Mihajlovic said 2,200 miles of roads have been destroyed or damaged and about 30 percent of railway lines still

cannot be accessed.

Serbia, like much of the Balkans, is poor. The country has failed to fully recover its economy following the wars and international sanctions in the 1990s, and is marred by mismanagement and widespread corruption. The unemployment rate officially stands at 20 percent, but is much higher in reality.

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Ernie Gates

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OPINION

What college kids don't want to hear

Los Angeles Times editorial

Why did former University of California, Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau cancel his commencement address at Haverford College in Pennsylvania?

Last week, Birgeneau joined a growing group of prominent public figures who have declined invitations to speak at college commencement ceremonies because of protests. Birgeneau — and the students who might have been offended by his remarks — are victims of a shortsighted censoriousness that is becoming a familiar feature of graduation season.

Birgeneau withdrew after some students there sent him a letter threatening to oppose his appearance unless he apologized (again) for the use of force against Occupy movement protesters at UC Berkeley in November 2011, and unless he complied with a long list of other demands.

One was that he write an open letter to Haverford students "explaining your position on the events of Nov. 9, what you learned from them, how you have put what you learned into practice and how your actions have or have not been in line with the values of peace, nonviolence and political participation." As a grace note, the students conceded that Birgeneau had done admirable work on behalf of "LGBT rights, affordable education and the plight of undocumented students."

Not surprisingly, Birgeneau sent his regrets. He follows former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who declined an offer to speak at commencement ceremonies at Rutgers University, and International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde, who withdrew as the commencement speaker at Smith College.

Rice's appearance was opposed by some students and professors because of her role in what the Rutgers Faculty Council called the George W. Bush administration's "effort to fund two astonishing sentences that changed the course of my life."

I was a disaffected student, attending community college because I didn't have the grades, the money or the motivation to attend a four-year university. I had no real interest in business — my major — but my mother, a typical immigrant, had convinced me it would be the most practical course of study.

My parents didn't know much about college. My mother never had the opportunity to go, and my father's plans to attend college were derailed by World War II.

I might not have finished college myself if it hadn't been for a required class in which I had little interest. On a fall morning during my sophomore year, I was seated in a large lecture hall for Econ 1. As the professor lectured about macroeconomic theory, I propped up my textbook, slipped the novel "John Barleycorn" by Jack London inside, and began reading.

After about 20 minutes, the professor pushed aside his notes and began walking toward my side of the classroom. Every student turned to me. I was told later, watched him traverse the aisle toward the back of the lecture hall. I was engrossed in the novel.



HYOSUB SHIN, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/MCT

2013 Georgia Tech graduates move their tassels during commencement in Atlanta.

IMF development programs in poor countries have "led directly to the strengthening of imperialist and patriarchal systems that oppress and abuse women worldwide."

It's true, as one of Rice's critics has pointed out, that academic freedom doesn't guarantee the right to be a commencement speaker or receive an honorary degree. Colleges are free to invite whom they please to address students at their graduation, and may have good reasons not to choose particularly partisan or polarizing figures. And students certainly have a right to respectfully protest a speaker with whom they disagree.

Still, the cascade of canceled speeches is worrying for several reasons. First, there is the uncompromising nature of the opposition: the demand that a speaker agree 100 percent with the protesters. This insistence on doctrinal purity is antithetical to the notion that a university ought to be an environment in which students, far from being protected from opposing views, are challenged to engage with them.

Second, as is often the case with the politics of denunciation, the rhetoric is strident and overblown. Even if one believes that the Bush administration exaggerated the

evidence that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction, that doesn't mean Rice is a liar (or, as some students claimed, a war criminal). And while the IMF's proposals for financial reform in the developing world are a legitimate subject of debate, the demonization of the agency as an agent of imperialism is absurd.

Attempts to pre-empt speech on campus aren't limited to graduation ceremonies, and come mostly, but not exclusively, from students and faculty who think of themselves as progressive.

For example, last fall, protesters at Brown University who were outraged over the New York Police Department's "stop and frisk" policy prevented Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly from delivering a lecture on "Proactive Policing in America's Biggest City." Their assumption was that Kelly had forfeited his right to speak because he presided over a "racist" police department.

The notion that free speech and tolerance of opposing views are values that can be sacrificed in the cause of freedom and equality has a long pedigree.

But it has no place on a college campus, on graduation day or at any other time.

Humanities play important role in education

When I reached my desk, he slipped behind me, leaned over and snatched the book from my hands. I suddenly realized that every single student in the class was staring at me. I was mortified.

The professor leaped through a few pages of the novel. The absolute silence in the classroom was terrifying.

Finally, he held the book above his head, waved it and announced in a stentorian tone: "This student won't be spending the rest of his life studying columns of debits and credits. He's interested in literature." He pronounced the last word with genuine reverence.

He handed the book back to me, strolled back down the aisle and resumed his lecture.

I was so stunned, I spent the rest of the class in a daze.

During the next few weeks, I pondered his reaction. If an economics professor valued literature as much as or even more than economics, perhaps there was some real value in all the reading I was doing outside of class.

I changed my major to English, raised my grades and transferred to UC Santa Barbara. I appreciated school for the first time, and I discovered that a love of reading translated to an affinity for writing.

I attended graduate school in journalism and embarked on a career as a newspaper reporter, including two decades at the Los

Angeles Times. I eventually left daily journalism to write books.

Last month, after telling this story to a group of college students, I decided to give the professor a call. I could only recall his last name, so I contacted a member of the faculty alumni association. He put me in touch with David Kaplan, who is 83; he retired 14 years ago.

The first thing I asked Kaplan was whether he remembered our encounter. He did not.

"But it doesn't surprise me that I'd respond like that," he said. "It reflects what I was thinking about at the time and what I was going through, personally."

Kaplan took literature classes but continued teaching economics, and to believe in the need for practical majors such as business. But he also began to think that university officials who de-emphasized the humanities, and students who dismissed their significance, were misguided.

"I probably reacted to you the way I did because I believe that reading a novel is as valuable as a dry economics lecture," he said, "and the themes might resonate more and, ultimately, have a greater impact on your life."

Miles Corwin's most recent book is the crime novel "Midnight Alley." He teaches literary journalism at the University of California-Irvine. This article first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

OPINION

It's time for the US to reset relations with India

By MICHAEL KUGELMAN

The outcome of India's national election — a resounding triumph for the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party — has put the United States in an awkward position.

The BJP's Narendra Modi will soon be India's prime minister. In 2005, Washington revoked his U.S. visa, citing a law banning visits by foreign officials responsible for egregious violations of religious freedom. Modi, the chief minister of Gujarat state, had been accused of not doing enough to stop deadly communal riots in 2002 that left at least 1,000 people dead, most of them Muslims.

Predictably, Washington and New Delhi are abuzz about the implications of the BJP's victory for the U.S.-India relationship, which has suffered in recent months. Such talk, however, misses a larger point.

Despite much giddy rhetoric about a deeper partnership in recent years, U.S.-India relations have suffered for decades — far beyond last December, when the arrest and strip-search of Devyani Khobragade, a New York-based Indian diplomat, plunged relations into deep crisis.

Bilateral ties were abysmal for much of the Cold War era, when India signed a treaty of friendship with Moscow. India's liberalization reforms in the early 1990s ushered in a period of smoother ties, but several decades' worth of mistrust and hostility have lingered.

New Delhi is uncomfortable about Washington's efforts to deepen ties with Pakistan, and each side accuses the other of promoting protectionist policies. More broadly, New Delhi believes the U.S. fails to appreciate India's rising global clout, even as Washington wants India to do more to promote regional stability.

Yet that hasn't stopped the two nations from pursuing deeper ties. In the years following the 9/11 attacks, President George W. Bush and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh spoke of strategic partnership, and called a 2008 civil nuclear agreement a cornerstone of this closer rapport. Later, President Barack Obama opined that the U.S.-India relationship would be one of the 21st century's defining partnerships.



MANISH SWARUP/AP

Outgoing Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, right, Congress party President Sonia Gandhi, center, and her son and party Vice President Rahul Gandhi attend a meeting of the Congress Working Committee to review the party's defeat in the general elections in New Delhi on Monday.

Such ambitions have fallen short. The much-ballyhooped nuclear accord has amounted to little because U.S. firms believe India provides insufficient liability protection.

Obama has sought to recapture goodwill through symbolic gestures. His first state dinner was for Singh, and in 2010 he endorsed the idea of a permanent Indian seat

on the U.N. Security Council. Yet other factors — including the intensified U.S. involvement in the war in Afghanistan and the Khobragade episode — have stymied efforts to deepen the relationship.

It's time to lower expectations, to start acknowledging the obstacles and stop talking about strategic partnership.

This is not meant to diminish the rela-

tionship's importance. Washington would be silly to spurn the world's largest democracy. India and the U.S. share core values and strategic interests (including mutual concern about militancy in Pakistan and the rise of China).

Additionally, the relationship has success stories. Those include robust economic relations, maritime cooperation and a 3 million-strong Indian American diaspora.

In fact, a BJP-led government could help reinvigorate U.S.-India ties. Modi has referred to the two nations as natural allies. And with his reputation as a bold economic reformer, Modi is well-qualified to tackle the trade-related tensions in the relationship.

Nonetheless, the visa issue, and Modi's grudge over it, will linger. U.S. officials have suggested that a Prime Minister Modi would experience no problems visiting the United States. Still, to get off on the right foot, Washington should pull out all the ceremonial stops, including a high-level diplomatic visit to New Delhi.

Most important, Washington needs to appoint a new ambassador to India (Nancy Powell resigned this year). It should be a prominent name with unassailable pro-India credentials — in the mold of Nicholas Burns, a top diplomat who negotiated the nuclear accord.

The timing is right for reconciliation. Obama's recent trip to Asia underscored the White House's continued commitment to rebalancing to that region, and by extension to countering China's increasing regional influence, thereby accentuating a core U.S.-India interest. Additionally, the U.S. military withdrawal

from Afghanistan creates strategic space to better engage an India that, in recent years, has been victimized by an "AfPak"-dominated U.S. strategic lens.

The U.S. and India aren't destined to be strategic partners. Yet they can and should enjoy healthy relations, no matter who is in power.

Michael Kugelman is the senior program associate for South Asia at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. This article first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

The virtues of environmental law are grounds for a fight

By STEVE PAUL

The Endangered Species Act was established in 1973, during the presidency of a Republican, Richard Nixon, and at a time of increasing awareness of ecological degradation. Following previous efforts at conservation policy, it clarified the connection between behavior and industrial activity could have harmful effects on wildlife and wild lands.

The results have not been uncontroversial, and amendments in subsequent years have clouded some of that clarity. A fight over the Northern spotted owl upturned the act, it inspired the conservationist North-west in the 1990s. Now, in an era of exceedingly polarized politics, the law's mandates are probably more divisive than ever.

Opponents of environmental regulations like to use the term "overreach" as if their free-market liberties were under siege by a rampant federal invasion of suits and black helicopters. They rarely seem willing to accept the notions of stewardship and wildlife conservation and that perhaps, in the long run, unregulated exploitation of natural resources — land, water, air, wildlife, etc. — has consequences perhaps even more serious than whatever short-term economic adaptations environmental laws

Opponents of environmental regulations like to use the term "overreach" as if their free-market liberties were under siege by a rampant federal invasion of suits and black helicopters.

might require.

Consider these current collisions of policy, emotion, law and conflicting values:

- Kansas Republicans as well as farm, ranch and fossil-fuel interests, led by Gov. Sam Brownback and U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp, are resisting an effort to protect the dwindling population of the lesser prairie chicken. Huelskamp — speaking of overreach — has threatened to dock the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's budget if it doesn't retract the bird's listing as "threatened." Environmental groups are fighting to reverse that decision, too, hoping to force the wildlife service to list the species as "endangered."

Biodiversity, extinction avoidance and habitat protection are hallmarks of wildlife conservation and the Endangered Species Act. Holding the federal government to its commitments under the act should be

a virtue, but too often it's the starting point of a fight.

- The Kansas experience with the lesser prairie chicken (shared by a handful of neighboring states) is a mere sliver of a case compared with the one involving the sage grouse.

Eleven Western states have come together to try to forestall a possible endangered listing of the species, contending such a status would halt development opportunities on millions of acres in the vast region. The Fish and Wildlife Service has been considering the fate of the sage grouse and various sub-species for more than 15 years; when it failed to label the fowl endangered in 2005, environmentalists sued, and a federal judge overturned the federal decision in 2010. The Fish and Wildlife Service has until the end of next year to work out a deal, according to a recent story in The

Washington Post.

The costs of protecting the birds would be huge, though private interests often fail to consider that much of the land involved is owned not by them but by us — federal taxpayers. The consequences for land-use are complicated, and the opportunities for compromise remain to be seen.

- Rancher Cliven Bundy's armed and grandstanding circus in Nevada — and his refusal to pay grazing fees and fines for the use of federal lands — dates to 1993, when the Fish and Wildlife Service put the desert tortoise on the endangered list, thus restricting cattle grazing in certain areas.

- The fate of migratory birds and some endangered bats is under question in Missouri in light of a power company's plan to build a wind-energy operation in close proximity to the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge.

I haven't even mentioned the Environmental Protection Agency, which is an automatic hot-buttoned, centrifugal force. What the nation needs is a serious conversation about conservation, one driven more by reason and science and less by politics and knee-jerk ideology.

Steve Paul is a columnist for the Kansas City Star.

MILITARY



MATT McCLAIN/The Washington Post

Army Staff Sgt. Sam Shockley pauses during his physical rehab work at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

VA CALCULATES WAR'S TRUE COST, ONE DISABLED VET AT A TIME

By GREG JAFFE ■ *The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON

It had taken a while, but Army Staff Sgt. Sam Shockley had meticulously compiled a list of all of his war wounds, including his diminished memory, only to leave it sitting in his bedroom as he went rushing off to his appointment.

There was no time to go back and grab it. He would have to do the best he could. “We’ll start from the head and work our way to the bottom,” Shockley told Reggie Washburn, a Department of Veterans Affairs benefits counselor who in the next few hours would help Shockley figure out the true cost of his war. “As long as I go from head to toe I’m pretty sure I’ll remember all my points.”

One year earlier, Shockley, then 25, was leading his squad through a field in southern Afghanistan when he stepped on a buried bomb that shot him into the air and sheared off his legs. Now, after 40 surgeries, he had come to the small VA office in Bethesda, Md., at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to start the process that would determine the monthly disability payments that he’ll receive for the rest of his life.

War can be a series of cold calculations: the distance a bullet travels, the blast radius of a bomb, the number of minutes it takes to reach a soldier bleeding out on the battlefield. For wounded troops leaving the military, there is one more: the price paid for a broken body, a missing limb, a lost eye, a damaged brain.

The longest stretch of fighting in American history is producing disability claims at rates that surpass those of any of the country’s

previous wars. Nearly half of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are filing for these benefits when they leave the military — a flood of claims that has overwhelmed the VA and generated a backlog of 300,000 cases stuck in processing for more than 125 days. Some have languished for more than a year.

“We’re not where we need to be,” President Barack Obama has said of the glut, which peaked last year at 611,000 claims. “But

we’re making progress.” The backlog has become one of several issues that have drawn the ire of veterans and lawmakers, leading to calls for the resignation of VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

How do you solve a problem that has been called a “national embarrassment,” “a mess,” and yet another instance of Washington “bureaucracy run amok”? If the backlog is going to be fixed, the solution will come one soldier

at a time in small offices such as this one at Walter Reed.

“So we’ll start with the head portion,” Shockley said. “I know I had a ruptured eardrum.”

30 “Is that the right ear?” asked Washburn.

He sat behind a metal government-issue desk with a window overlooking Tranquility Hall, the dorm where Shockley lives with his fiancée while he learns to walk on prosthetic legs and rehabilitates his body.

“Left ear,” Shockley said. “It was a perforation.”

SEE COST ON PAGE 15

MILITARY

Cost: Claims process involves placing dollar amounts on injuries

FROM PAGE 14

Computer keys clacked as Washburn logged the information. A big cardboard box containing Shockley's medical records rested on the floor behind Washburn's desk.

"I guess we'll move on," Shockley said. "Concussion, obviously from the blast."

He continued down his body: One of Shockley's lungs collapsed when his chest cavity filled with blood. His lower back is chronically sore. There's scarring and nerve damage on his forearm. "I don't sweat too much right there, so I guess that's an advantage," he said. There's a metal plate in his wrist. He's missing parts of his middle and index fingers. There's a missing right testicle. One leg is gone one inch above the knee and the other just below the hip.

Shockley moved on to the less visible wounds. He sometimes suffers from migraines, though they have waned in recent months.

"Is that something you want me to list?" Washburn asked.

"Might as well," Shockley said. He has trouble sleeping most nights, he said. The heavy narcotics he was given following his surgeries wreaked havoc on his digestive system. "I have a real sensitive stomach," he said. "I have to take nausea medicine every once in a while."

"How about memory loss?" asked Washburn, thinking of the concussion from the bomb blast and the forgotten list.

"Real memory loss," Shockley said. "Quite a bit of short-term memory loss."

Shockley paused and ran through his wounds one more time quietly under his breath to make sure she wasn't forgetting anything important. "A arm, finger, lung. We got the lower back," he said. He shot a quick glance down at the place where his legs used to be. "I really can't say anything about knees or ankles," he said.

"Anything else you can think of?" Washburn asked.

Shockley paused. He looked around the room, and that's when he noticed an old picture of himself, poking out of a manila folder on Washburn's desk. The photo was taken during Shockley's first Army physical, before he had shipped off to basic training.

"Can I see that real quick?" he asked.

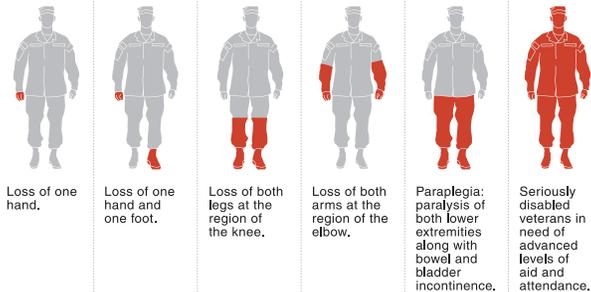
'Id never take it back'

When the picture was snapped in 2005, Shockley was still a high school senior. In it, he's staring straight into the camera. His eyes are wide open. He looks young, uncertain and scared.

"That was the start of it," Shockley said of the moment, right on the edge of all that was to come for him. He was looking at the picture. Washburn, meanwhile, was seeing where this conversation was headed. Shockley was his third interview of the day, his 25th of the month and one of hundreds that

The price of being wounded

The Department of Veterans Affairs' method of compensating severely wounded veterans uses a grading system based on the person's injuries. The higher the grade, the larger the amount per month. Some rough examples:



Special monthly compensation

* All numbers for veterans alone without spouses or dependents. Special monthly compensation rates are added to monthly disability payments. A veteran with a 100 percent rating is paid \$2,858.24 a month.

SOURCES: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Code of Federal Regulations

ALBERTO CUADRÀ/THE WASHINGTON POST

he's done since coming to Walter Reed 18 months ago.

He has seen some troops grow angry in his office as they think about how their war injuries have changed their lives. "You don't understand the frustration," railed one Marine as he talked about being unable to open his car door wide enough in a crowded parking lot to load his wheelchair. Some troops choose to laugh. "Taco Bell tonight!" joked one when Washburn told him that his missing foot and ankle would earn him an extra \$101.50 a month in disability payments.

Some, such as Shockley, want to talk, turning appointments that could take 30 minutes tops into something much longer. "I didn't know what was going on," he said, still looking at the photo. "You're like cattle, moving along the big, long lines."

"No sleep, right?" said Washburn. His voice was easy and encouraging, an invitation to keep talking.

"It didn't really get any better, but you got used to it," Shockley said. "The bad thing is that I made it past all of the lower ranks. I made it to right where life starts to get a little better in the military."

On the day he stepped on the hidden pressure plate, triggering the explosion, Shockley was walking point, sweeping the path in front of his squad with a handheld metal detector. As the most experienced soldier, he figured that he had the best chance of finding any buried bombs.

"The decision I made I'd never take it back," he said. "If it wasn't me, it would've been somebody else."

"That's right," said Washburn.

"I was probably the lightest one in my platoon," he said.

"Really?" said Washburn.

"Yeah. The lightest. If I had triggered it, everyone else would have triggered it. That's for sure," Shockley said. "So it was definitely good that it was me."

As Shockley handed the picture back, his shirt sleeve slid up his arm, revealing a tattoo of a battlefield cross — empty boots, a rifle and a helmet. He got it to honor one of his fellow soldiers.

"I would've rather stepped on it than anyone else," Shockley said, repeating something that he'd said to himself so many times over the past year that it had almost become a mantra.

Shockley had been sitting across from Washburn for almost an hour, and his lower back was beginning to throb. The incision from his last surgery, just two weeks earlier, was starting to sting. He grabbed a low-dose Oxycontin pill from the pouch hanging from the front of his wheelchair and placed it on his tongue. He didn't have any water, so he snapped his head back with

a practiced jerk, and the pain pill slid down his throat.

'I came to terms'

In the year since the explosion, Shockley had come to know people throughout Walter Reed, including the military doctors upstairs who had operated on him so many times and who sometimes wondered about the lives they were now able to save. Advances in combat medicine were keeping alive soldiers and Marines who would have bled out on the battlefield only a few years earlier. Some were surviving with three and even four missing limbs. In Afghanistan, the doctors had debated whether they should even be saving these troops. What kind of lives could they lead?

Today, these doctors ask different questions: How will these veterans cope when pressure sores force them back into their wheelchairs? What will happen

to their battered bodies as they age? Will they grow depressed or despondent?

In the small VA office, Shockley offered one answer. "I always think it could be worse," he said.

His list of wounds now done, Shockley rattled off a list of blessings and accomplishments. "I would say I came out of this with my head on my shoulders," he said. "I came to terms with what happened to me early on." He had served three tours of Iraq and Afghanistan and had been promoted faster than many of his peers. Most important, he had made it home alive. "That's one thing I'm glad of," he said. "I'm glad I didn't die in that hell."

Washburn finished up the last of Shockley's paperwork as Shockley talked about some of the things he hoped to do in the years ahead: Get married. Go back to school. Maybe he'd find a career in the private sector and retire at 50 in an island in the Caribbean. "That's where I want to be," he said.

Washburn nodded and then began telling Shockley about the benefits he would be receiving. He would almost certainly be judged 100 percent disabled, entitling him to a minimum monthly payment of \$2,858. He'd also receive special monthly compensation. "That's something we pay above the basic monthly rates because of your amputations," Washburn said.

Special monthly compensation payments vary widely and can be tough to estimate. The loss of a single foot, hand or eye is worth \$101.50 a month. Two missing legs can generate an additional payment of about \$1,000-\$1,300 a month. Missing arms are worth an extra \$1,600-\$1,900. The highest rate of disability compensation is typically reserved for veterans requiring near-constant assistance — is \$8,179 a month.

Washburn passed Shockley a spreadsheet with the categories and rates.

"You know there was another thing I kind of forgot to mention," Shockley said, fumbling a bit to find the right words. "I know on my ... We talked about the ... " He paused and took a breath. "It was complete damage to that testicle region," he said. "One testicle made it through, but I am completely infertile."

"OK," Washburn said.

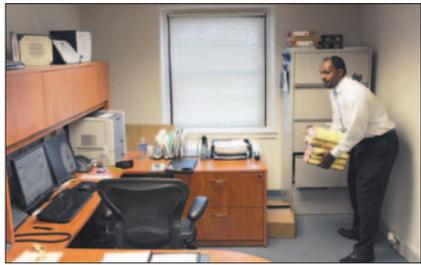
"I can never have kids, you know," Shockley said. "I would put that down because that's big. I just recently found that out."

"OK," Washburn said. "I can definitely add that on there."

Washburn hit print on his computer and handed Shockley the final list. Shockley signed and dated it when Washburn explained the next steps. In a couple of weeks, Shockley would be examined by a series of VA doctors who would assess the severity of the wounds on his list and compile a "narrative summary" of his condition. A VA claims processor in Seattle would review the doctors' reports, along with Shockley's military medical files, and propose a disability rating.

The entire process, if everything went smoothly, would take about six months, Washburn said. Whenever it was complete, Shockley would return to Washburn's office for one last meeting.

There, Shockley would learn exactly how much his war was worth, and the VA backlog would consist of one less soldier.



MATT McCLAIN/The Washington Post

Reggie Washburn, a Department of Veterans Affairs benefits counselor, is helping Army Staff Sgt. Sam Shockley with his claim. Washburn has worked with hundreds of troops at Walter Reed.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Driver runs over seal on beach; injuries fatal

WA OCEAN PARK — A beach driver ran over a mother harbor seal in the dunes at Ocean Park on the Washington coast and caused a fatal injury. KBKW reported that local wildlife rescuers spotted the seal and newborn resting April 20 and put signs on the beach to alert drivers to avoid the area. The next morning, they found the mother had been hit. She was paralyzed and had to be euthanized. Her pup was gone.

Harming a harbor seal is a violation of the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Humane Society of the United States is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the conviction of the driver.

Ad company removes pro-secession billboard

AL MONTGOMERY — An advertising company has removed a highway billboard in Alabama advocating a second Southern secession from the United States.

The neo-Confederate League of the South said Lamar Advertising Co. took down the billboard along Interstate 85 in Montgomery following complaints.

The billboard had the word "secede" in capital letters, along with the group's name and website. It went up Friday and was removed over the weekend.

The Alabama-based league said it received a message from the advertising company saying the billboard was being removed and that the group will receive a refund.

Biden turns down prom invite, sends corsage

DC WASHINGTON — What happens when you invite Vice President Joe Biden to your prom? Chances are he won't show. But he doesn't ignore it, either.

That's what happened when Talia Maselli invited Biden to her high school prom in Newington, Conn. The student reached out last fall knowing Biden's dance card would likely fill up.

Biden couldn't make it, but he sent a handwritten card and a corsage — a baby's breath, white roses and red, white and blue ribbons. Biden's office said he was touched by the invitation and personally picked out the corsage so Maselli would feel special.

Biden said in the note that he was flattered but his schedule wouldn't let him attend. Biden's office also is arranging for Maselli to visit the White House to meet with him in July.

Man leaves bar, notices he's been shot in leg

RI PROVIDENCE — A Rhode Island man has told police he was leaving a bar when he noticed he'd been shot.

Police told the Providence Journal that Hector Aguayofuentes, 27, of Providence, was shot in the leg early Saturday.

THE CENSUS

1M

The approximate number of honeybees removed from downtown Danville, Ky., on Monday. Emergency crews were called because customers were trapped in a store and afraid to leave. First responders contacted a couple from Perryville, Ky., who are experienced in bee removal. Fire crews shut down part of the road while the couple, Gary and Joyce Taylor, safely removed the hive. The (Danville) Advocate Messenger reported.



set to capture a black bear that was causing problems in October. They said they thought Nevada wildlife officials had set the trap illegally.

Pet turtle snatched from public library

MA FALL RIVER — Fall River police are seeking the man seen on surveillance video snatching the city library's pet turtle.

The 13-year-old turtle, named Franklin, was taken from the children's room of the Fall River Public Library on Saturday night.

Police said the man hid in the library until closing time and was caught on camera stealing the pet.

The library said on its Facebook page that Franklin was the library's "beloved turtle mascot," and staff are hoping for his safe return.

The turtle has been valued at approximately \$80.

500-pound church bell missing for 2nd time

PA HOOKSTOWN — A tiny western Pennsylvania church said its 500-pound brass bell is missing, and police suspect someone has stolen it for scrap — the same thing that happened to the same bell two years ago.

The bell at the Frankfort Presbyterian Church in Hookstown, Beaver County, wasn't rung or kept in the church's steeple. Rather, it sat beneath the church's sign on its front lawn.

Two years ago, police called around to local scrap dealers and arrested three men as they tried to sell the bell to a metal recycler just across the border in East Liverpool, Ohio.

After that, the church welded the bell to a metal stand, which was then attached to a concrete pad buried under the ground.

Despite that, someone managed to take the bell after cutting the welds over the weekend.

City says surf but no turf for local goats

CA PISMO BEACH — Pismo Beach is on board with surfing goats. But grazing goats can be a bummer.

Three goats — Grover, Pismo and Goate — have become celebrities in the city on California's Central Coast and on YouTube after owner Dana McGregor taught them to surf.

But McGregor has gotten pricey tickets recently for letting them graze within city limits, and he's violating codes by keeping them at all.

Goats are allowed on larger lots and for temporary clearing of plants, which is why McGregor got a goat in the first place.

The San Luis Obispo Tribune reported Tuesday that the city is considering allowing up to three goats on smaller lots and allowing them in parks on leashes.

They remain legal and welcome at the beach.

From wire reports



CHRIS RUTTLE/AP

9/11 flag unfurled

With 1 World Trade Center in the background, the National 9/11 Flag is unfurled during a ceremony in New York on Wednesday, the first day the 9/11 Memorial Museum was opened to the public.

He told police he was leaving the bar with a friend shortly after 1 a.m. Saturday when they both noticed he was bleeding.

They went to Hernandez's house but were unable to stop the bleeding. He was eventually taken to a hospital, and police were notified.

Police said Aguayofuentes hasn't provided any other details or explained how he might have been shot.

2 convicted of bear trap tampering in state first

NV RENO — A mother and daughter have been convicted of tampering with a bear trap at Lake Tahoe in an effort to thwart wildlife officials' efforts to capture the animals.

The Reno Gazette-Journal reported that it is the first such case prosecuted in Nevada.

Cheryl Ann Morrison, 63, of Truckee, Calif., and Season Morrison, 35, of Reno, each now faces up to \$3,000 in fines.

Incline Village Justice Court Judge E. Alan Tiras found them guilty Monday of obstructing or interfering with a state wildlife officer and tampering with a vehicle.

The two women admitted during a trial last month that they deliberately tripped a bear trap

FACES

McCartney still ill, cancels another concert

Paul McCartney has canceled his concert in South Korea next week due to the virus-caused illness that forced him to call off his entire Japan tour, organizers said Wednesday.

The former Beatle, who turns 72 next month, had planned to hold concerts in Japan and South Korea as part of his world tour.

"I was really looking forward to visiting and playing in South Korea for the first time and I'm sorry to be letting fans down," McCartney was quoted as saying in a statement released by Seoul-based Hyundai Card Co. Ltd., an organizer for his South Korea concert. "I'm very disappointed by this and hope to be able to visit soon."

The statement said that "Paul is still not feeling better and this cancellation is unavoidable."

Organizers said McCartney's side didn't give them details about his illness. Representatives for McCartney declined to comment to The Associated Press about his condition Wednesday.

Hyundai Card officials said they would offer a refund on the tickets, which range from about \$55 to \$290.

McCartney was scheduled to perform at a Seoul stadium on May 28. It would have been his first concert in South Korea.

McCartney is scheduled next month to take his act to the U.S., where he'll hit several venues over two months.

Kardashians, Kanye converge on Paris

Working out, shopping, getting together with family — Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are doing it all in Paris this week.

Could they be readying for a rumored weekend wedding extravaganza?

The rapper and reality TV star aren't saying. But they've gathered quite a crowd in the French capital, including Kardashian's mother, grandmother and sisters.

In Italy, the Florence mayor's office says the pair will wed and host a reception at a fort there Saturday.

Back in France, the Chateau of Versailles says it's hosting a special visit for the couple and their guests Friday night. Kardashian representative Ina Treutikias says that's a fabrication but isn't commenting further.

'Tonight Show' taking 1st road trip to Florida

Late-night talk show host Jimmy Fallon is taking the "Tonight Show" on a road trip to Florida.

The show announced Tuesday that Fallon's first road trip since taking over for former host Jay Leno is to Orlando, and shows will be taped June 16 through 19 from Universal Orlando Resort.

Scheduled guests include Jennifer Lopez, Pitbull and Tracy Morgan.

The trip will also be a first look at the new Wizarding World of Harry Potter Universal Studios theme park ride.

From The Associated Press

Usher nabs first 'Voice' victory

BY NICOLE EVATT
The Associated Press

Soulful rocker Josh Kaufman has the winning voice.

The 38-year-old from team Usher was crowned the season six winner of NBC's "The Voice" Tuesday. "It was a lot of nerves and heart-racing and it felt like forever," Kaufman said during a post-show press conference.

This is the first win for Usher, who also coached during season four. Usher relished his triumph over previous winners Adam Levine and Blake Shelton. He joked that the Maroon 5 frontman was likely "behind the stage counting votes."

Shelton's country crooner Jake Worthington came in second place, and singer-songwriter Christina Grimmie took third.

Gwen Stefani and Pharrell Williams will join Levine and Shelton for the sing-off's seventh season.

Josh Kaufman, left, is the latest winner of "The Voice." Usher, right, was Kaufman's coach.

NBC/AP



ABC

Champions — finally!

Meryl Davis, right, and Maksim Chmerkovskiy were crowned the winners of the 18th season of "Dancing with the Stars" on May 20. The Olympic athlete and her partner beat Amy Purdy and her dance partner Derek Hough and Candace Cameron Bure and her dance partner Mark Ballas. It was Chmerkovskiy's first win after 14 seasons as a dancer on the show. "It's just plastic," he said of the mirror ball trophy, "but it means so much. ... To do it with Meryl is a dream come true."

Rascal Flatts lip-syncs lip-syncing apology

When multiplatinum country group Rascal Flatts appeared to be lip-syncing during a performance at this year's Academy of Country Music Awards, the trio handled the aftermath — including a promotional round for new album "Rewind" just a month later — with a little honesty and a lot of humor.

Lead singer Gary LeVox said the band had played two shows and done several hours of interviews in the days leading up to the April 6 show in Las Vegas and his voice was affected by the dry desert air. Bass player Jay DeMarcus joked that when they decided to lip-sync to their new single, it was clear they weren't very good at it.

They were still making light of the situation as the group sat down for a recent interview. At one point, DeMarcus crouched down behind LeVox and spoke like a bad ventriloquist, promising to never lip-sync at an awards show again as LeVox moved his lips out of time. "And for anybody that was offended by that, we sincerely apologize and hope to redeem ourselves in the near future on the next live performance," DeMarcus said for LeVox.

Humor's been one thing that's kept the band together since they first got together back in 1999 at a little club in Nashville's tourist district. They laughed together as they recounted the show, which was captured only on VHS tape.

On "Rewind," released last week, the group tries to look back at some of its better moments while also looking forward by updating its sound and trying new approaches with a group of co-producers.

"We've exceeded all of our goals by a long shot," guitarist Joe Don Rooney said. "But I think you just go look at the landscape of where we're headed. We don't know what's in store, but we're excited about it. Once again, we still feel like those three guys in that club just down the road that are still hungry; still want to make a difference."

From The Associated Press



Rascal Flatts

Abu Dhabi firm says 'Star Wars' shoot has started

The rumors began swirling a long time ago. Now the United Arab Emirates is finally acknowledging it is standing in for George Lucas' galaxy far, far away.

A media company backed by the Gulf federation's capital of Abu Dhabi announced Wednesday that the next installment of "Star Wars" is currently filming in the oil-rich Middle Eastern emirate.

It was the first definitive word from the

Mideast nation that filming had begun. Officials previously had refused to confirm any involvement with the seventh installment of the galactic franchise, even after a government-owned paper reported on the preparations.

The media company, known as twofour54, said director J.J. Abrams and cast arrived in early May.

It made no mention of any specific droids or Jedi involved.

"We are extremely excited about being part of such a huge movie," Paul Baker, executive

director of twofour54 Intaj, the company's production services division, told The Associated Press. "It's a good demonstration that we are well on the way to establishing a long-term production environment in Abu Dhabi."

Abu Dhabi has invested heavily in trying to establish itself as a center of media production and a destination for filmmakers from around the world. So has the nearby Emirate city of Dubai, which played a central role in the 2011 blockbuster "Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol."

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Rule would make airlines detail fees

By Joan Lowy
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Going to bat for confused passengers, the government is proposing that airlines be required to disclose fees for basic items like checked bags, assigned seats and carry-on bags so consumers know the true cost of flying.

Under new regulations proposed Wednesday by the Transportation Department, detailed fee information would have to be provided wherever passengers buy tickets, whether online, on the phone or in person.

Currently, airlines are required to disclose only bag fees, and even then they don't have to provide an exact price. Some airlines provide a range of possible fees in sometimes complex charts. The proposed rule would require the disclosure of the exact amount of fees for basic services, including first and second checked bags. The rule doesn't cover fees for early boarding, curbside check-in

and other services.

The government also wants to expand its definition of a "ticket agent" so that consumer regulations like the fee-disclosure requirement apply to online flight search tools like Kayak and Expedia even though they don't actually sell tickets.

Many consumers are unable to determine the true cost of a ticket because fees are often hard to find or decipher, the government says. "A customer can buy a ticket for \$200 and find themselves with a hidden \$100 baggage fee, and they might have turned down a \$250 ticket with no baggage fee, but the customer was never able to make that choice," Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said in an interview.

"The more you arm the consumer with information, the better the consumer's position to make choices," Foxx said.

The public has 90 days to comment on the proposal. Foxx said he hopes the rule will become final within the next year.

The effort is partly a response to changes in airline industry business strategy since 2008, when carriers started taking services out of the price of tickets, beginning with checked bags.

More recently, some airlines have begun offering consumers not only a stripped-down "base" airfare, but also a choice of several packages with some of the one-free services added back into the cost of a ticket, but at higher prices. With packages and a la carte fees multiplying, comparison shopping for airfares is becoming more difficult, consumer advocates say.

The department also proposes expanding the pool of airlines required to report performance measures like late flights, lost bags and passengers bounced from flights due to overbooking. The proposed regulations would include carriers that account for as little as 0.5 percent of the market. That would bring in discount carrier Spirit Airlines and many regional air carriers.

The proposed rules are the Obama administration's third wave of consumer protections for airline passengers.

The effort began with a ban on so-called tarmac strandings in which passengers were cooped up in planes for hours, sometimes in miserable conditions. Facing the prospect of fines of as much as \$27,500 per passenger, airlines have nearly eliminated such incidents by canceling flights in advance of severe weather.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (May 22)	\$1.4049
Dollar buys (May 22)	€0.7118
British pound (May 22)	\$1.713
Japanese yen (May 22)	99.00
South Korean won (May 22)	999.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6884
Canada (dollar)	1.0934
China (Yuan)	6.2348
Denmark (Krone)	5.4643
Egypt (Pound)	7.1223
Euro	\$1.3663/37.227
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7528
Hungary (Forint)	232.17
Israel (Shekel)	3.4896
Japan (Yen)	101.45
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2818
Norway (Krone)	5.9528
Philippines (Peso)	43.79
Poland (Zloty)	3.06
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2531
South Korea (Won)	1,026.70
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8946
Taiwan (Dollar)	32.50
Turkey (Lira)	1,006

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

MARKET WATCH

May 20, 2014	
Dow Jones industrials	-137.55
	16,374.31
Nasdaq composite	-28.93
	4,096.89
Standard & Poor's 500	-12.25
	1,872.83
Russell 2000	-16.53
	1,097.90

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	3.38

WEATHER OUTLOOK

THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



THURSDAY IN EUROPE



FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC



Thursday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	89	65	Pcldy	Fort Wayne	70	46	Pcldy	Louisville	81	57	Cldy	Pocatello	77	48	Pcldy	Sioux City	75	54	Cldy
Ablene, Texas	85	68	Cldy	Cheyenne	69	49	Cldy	Fresno	88	62	Pcldy	Lubbock	82	64	Cldy	Portland, Maine	59	47	Pcldy	Sioux Falls	73	52	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	69	49	Cldy	Chicago	67	49	Cldy	Goodland	81	55	Rain	Madison	91	66	Pcldy	Portland, Ore.	79	56	Cldy	South Bend	66	45	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	65	52	Rain	Cincinnati	77	52	Pcldy	Grand Junction	75	54	Cldy	Madison	70	47	Pcldy	Providence	60	51	Rain	Spokane	76	55	Cldy
Albuquerque	80	56	Pcldy	Cleveland	68	51	Cldy	Grand Rapids	65	45	Cldy	Medford	87	56	Pcldy	Pueblo	81	51	Cldy	Springfield, Ill.	76	56	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	74	53	Rain	Colorado Springs	77	47	Cldy	Great Falls	80	60	Pcldy	Memphis	90	68	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	92	64	Pcldy	Springfield, Mo.	86	64	Pcldy
Amarillo	81	59	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	95	66	Pcldy	Green Bay	69	49	Pcldy	Miami Beach	84	72	Cldy	Rapid City	79	52	Cldy	Tampa	88	60	Pcldy
Anchorage	61	43	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	91	68	Pcldy	Greensboro, N.C.	80	62	Pcldy	Midland-Odessa	84	63	Cldy	Roanoke	86	58	Pcldy	Tallahassee	96	65	Cir
Ashville	83	58	Pcldy	Columbus, Ohio	74	50	Pcldy	Hartford	77	53	Cldy	Milwaukee	62	49	Cldy	Richmond	89	60	Pcldy	Tampa	88	72	Cldy
Atlanta	88	68	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	60	49	Rain	Hartford	77	53	Rain	Mpls-St Paul	68	49	Pcldy	Rochester	69	49	Pcldy	Toledo	74	49	Pcldy
Atlantic City	73	55	Cldy	Corpus Christi	86	71	Cldy	Helena	80	51	Pcldy	Missoula	80	47	Pcldy	Rockford	71	47	Cldy	Topeka	88	63	Cldy
Austin	89	68	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	87	69	Pcldy	Honolulu	88	73	Cir	Mobile	83	72	Cir	Sacramento	89	56	Cir	Tucson	91	62	Cir
Baltimore	82	56	Cldy	Dayton	74	50	Pcldy	Houston	86	70	Pcldy	Montgomery	90	66	Cir	St. Louis	87	71	Cldy	Tulsa	88	66	Cldy
Baton Rouge	89	68	Cir	Daytona Beach	90	70	Cir	Huntsville	90	65	Pcldy	Nashville	89	65	Pcldy	St. Petersburg	87	75	Cldy	Tupelo	90	65	Cir
Bilings	79	53	Pcldy	Denver	75	49	Cldy	Indianapolis	79	54	Cldy	New Orleans	86	69	Cir	St. Thomas	87	78	Pcldy	Waco	86	66	Cldy
Birmingham	89	67	Cir	Des Moines	76	56	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	90	63	Cir	New York City	67	54	Rain	St. Thomas	87	78	Pcldy	Washington	83	51	Cldy
Bismark	75	52	Cldy	Detroit	71	50	Cldy	Jacksonville	92	69	Pcldy	Newark	66	56	Rain	Salem, Ore.	79	54	Pcldy	W. Palm Beach	84	69	Cir
Boise	78	53	Pcldy	Duluth	62	42	Cir	Janeau	59	42	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	86	65	Pcldy	Salt Lake City	80	55	Pcldy	Wichita	89	66	Cldy
Boston	56	50	Rain	El Paso	87	68	Pcldy	Kansas City	78	61	Cldy	North Platte	76	56	Cldy	San Antonio	85	68	Pcldy	Wichita Falls	89	70	Pcldy
Bridgeport	85	64	Rain	Elkins	73	51	Cldy	Key West	78	61	Cldy	Omaha	75	56	Cldy	San Diego	68	62	Cldy	Wilkes-Barre	72	51	Rain
Brownsville	86	74	Cldy	Erie	87	68	Cldy	Knoxville	86	63	Cldy	Orlando	93	70	Cir	San Francisco	71	56	Cldy	Wilmington, Del.	77	56	Cldy
Buffalo	63	49	Cldy	Eugene	78	52	Pcldy	Lake Charles	86	66	Pcldy	Paducah	86	63	Cldy	San Jose	78	55	Cldy	Yonkers	83	51	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	67	53	Cldy	Evansville	82	59	Cldy	Lansing	66	46	Pcldy	Pendleton	80	53	Pcldy	Santa Fe	77	48	Cldy	Youngstown	68	47	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	63	45	Cldy	Fairbanks	57	38	Cldy	Las Vegas	83	65	Pcldy	Pensla	75	54	Cldy	St. Marie	54	42	Cldy				
Casper	76	45	Cldy	Fargo	72	50	Cir	Lexington	79	53	Pcldy	Peoria	75	54	Cldy	Seattle	73	55	Cldy				
Charleston, S.C.	93	70	Cir	Flagstaff	64	35	Pcldy	Lincoln	75	58	Cldy	Philadelphia	76	58	Rain	Savannah	94	70	Cir				
Charleston, W.Va.	81	55	Cldy	Flint	68	47	Cldy	Little Rock	88	64	Cir	Phoenix	92	67	Pcldy	Seattle	73	55	Cldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	89	65	Pcldy	Fort Smith	87	63	Cir	Los Angeles	73	59	Pcldy	Pittsburgh	69	51	Cldy	Shreveport	87	66	Pcldy				

National temperature extremes
Hi: Tue., 103, Childress, Texas
Lo: Tue., 21, Bryce Canyon, Utah

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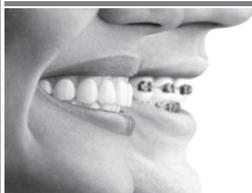
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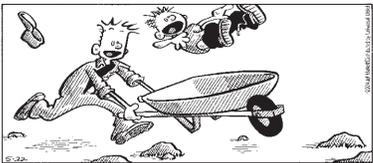
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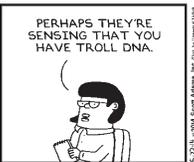
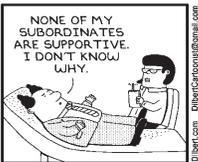
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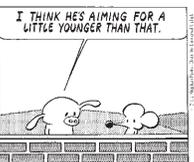
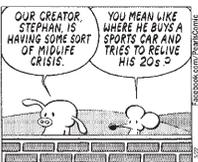
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
18								19	20			
			21			22	23					
24	25	26			27			28		29	30	
31					32					33		
			35		36			37				
		38			39			40				
41	42							43		44	45	46
47					48	49	50					
51					52					53		
54					55					56		

ACROSS

- Spiked club
- Hindu royal
- Journey segment
- Mosque VIP
- Praiseful poetry
- Irving Berlin's "What'll I—?"
- Sky
- Card table call
- At will
- Give a speech
- Scale member
- Play the guitar idly
- Entanglement
- Course number
- Alpha follower
- Blunder
- Eggs in a lab
- Neither mate
- Mom's mom
- Prune
- Tiny bit
- Shady shelter
- Fashionable
- Cajun recipe
- Game show loot
- Exist
- Eucharist, e.g.
- Dry red wine, for short
- Hodgepodge
- Bohemian
- Superlative suffix
- Prescriptions, briefly
- Misplace

DOWN

- Anger
- Eastern potentate (Var.)
- Give a darn
- Legendary clown Kelly
- Michele's movie pal
- Citric quencher
- Ms. Aniston
- "Maltese Falcon" actress Mary
- Connecting tissue
- Rewrite, maybe
- No longer around
- Clay, today
- Abraze
- Taste
- Snare
- Barbie's
- companion
- Gun lobby, org.
- Decoration
- Horse-play?
- Overly
- Get ready to rumble
- Wall St. wheeler-dealer
- Beast
- Center of emotions
- Retirement plan acronym
- Stare
- "Experts" author
- Experts
- Nil
- Tolkien tree-dwellers
- Eyelevel woe
- Hearty brow
- Div. of Scotland Yard

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

5-22

CRYPTOQUIP

G S L T Y J N W G J H E W D K S
 U Y G E J H A Y W E R S A J G D G R S T J
 G T J K H E H L Y U E D H T H E .

G ' L S N W G H J H A A G Y J H A .
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF FOLKS BECAME
 INEBRIATED FROM GULPING A BIG CLUSTER
 OF GRAPES, I'D SAY THEY GOT BUNCH-DRUNK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals M

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Classified EUROPE

Announcements 040

SCAM FADS

Classified scams can target both sellers and buyers with classified advertisements.
Be aware of the common red flags.
Some of the latest Scam Fads:
• Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
• People saying Free Dog (and other) breeds for adoption.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Auto - Quality Pre-owned US SPEC Vehicles
Free Europe-wide delivery

BMW 328i, 1997 \$3500.00 US Spec. 107,000 miles. 2014 US SPEC. 2000 cc. 172 hp. 4 door. 4 speed automatic. 2014 US SPEC. 2000 cc. 172 hp. 4 door. 4 speed automatic. 2014 US SPEC. 2000 cc. 172 hp. 4 door. 4 speed automatic.

BMW 328i, 1997 \$4000.00 Available on or around 7 MAY. 2014 US SPEC. 2000 cc. 172 hp. 4 door. 4 speed automatic. 2014 US SPEC. 2000 cc. 172 hp. 4 door. 4 speed automatic.

BMW 530i, 2008 \$15000.00 Monaco. 3 door metallic. 727 miles. leather. AWD. Keyless entry & start. sunroof. midsize. 2008 BMW 530i. 2008 BMW 530i. 2008 BMW 530i.

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Automotive 140

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Individuals placing classified advertising should be aware of the fact that in concluding the sale of their property, NOT all potential buyers are reputable. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is NOT liable for the contractual relationship between the seller and the buyer of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. 2008 \$5900.00. 107,000 miles. 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT.

Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 \$15000.00. 107,000 miles. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT.

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Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 \$15000.00. 107,000 miles. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT. 2007 Dodge Nitro RT.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Deep Grand Cherokee 4x4. 2007 \$5900.00. 107,000 miles. 2007 Deep Grand Cherokee 4x4. 2007 Deep Grand Cherokee 4x4.

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Smart Fortwo. 2007 \$6500.00. 107,000 miles. 2007 Smart Fortwo. 2007 Smart Fortwo.

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

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Smart Fortwo. 2007 \$6500.00. 107,000 miles. 2007 Smart Fortwo. 2007 Smart Fortwo.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Yuko Saito saito.yuko@stars.com
Mari Matsumoto SPMatsumoto@stars.com

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Furniture 510

Large Leather Couch Corner in excellent condition.
German Kitchen For Sale \$350.00.
Furniture/Appliances 511

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German Kitchen For Sale \$350.00.
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Furniture/Appliances 511

Motorcycles 164

BMW Monaco. 2013 \$8000.00. 107,000 miles. 2013 BMW Monaco. 2013 BMW Monaco.

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Motorcycles 164

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on TV

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College baseball

Tuesday's scores

FAR WEST
UC Riverside 8, Cal State Fullerton 1
Oregon 6, Albion 1

TOURNAMENTS
Atlantic Coast Conference
North Carolina 4, Wake Forest 3
Big South Conference
Winthrop 4, Charleston Southern 0
Coastal Carolina 3, Campbell 2
Liberty Gardner-Webb 0
High Point 2, Radford 2
Missouri Valley Conference
Illinois St. 6, Wichita St. 5
5 Illinois 9, Evansville 5
Bradley Baptist 3, Missouri St. 2, 10 innings
Dallas 6, Indiana St. 2

Southeastern Conference
Arkansas 4, Tennessee 2
Vanderbilt 4, Texas A&M 0
Alabama 4, Auburn 1
Mississippi St. 5, Georgia 4, 10 innings
Southern Conference
Furman 10, Oglethorpe 5, 11 innings
Citadel 10, Elon 7

Pro soccer

MLS

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
1	0	2	17	16	10
2	1	2	17	16	10
3	2	2	14	19	14
4	2	2	14	18	19
5	3	2	12	19	18
6	4	0	12	9	9
7	4	0	12	9	9
8	4	1	15	20	12
9	5	0	15	20	12
10	5	0	15	20	12
11	5	0	15	20	12
12	5	0	15	20	12
13	5	0	15	20	12
14	5	0	15	20	12
15	5	0	15	20	12
16	5	0	15	20	12
17	5	0	15	20	12
18	5	0	15	20	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
1	0	2	17	16	10
2	1	2	17	16	10
3	2	2	14	19	14
4	2	2	14	18	19
5	3	2	12	19	18
6	4	0	12	9	9
7	4	0	12	9	9
8	4	1	15	20	12
9	5	0	15	20	12
10	5	0	15	20	12
11	5	0	15	20	12
12	5	0	15	20	12
13	5	0	15	20	12
14	5	0	15	20	12
15	5	0	15	20	12
16	5	0	15	20	12
17	5	0	15	20	12
18	5	0	15	20	12

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday, May 17
Toronto FC 1, New York 0
New England 5, Philadelphia 3
FC Dallas 1, Montreal 1
Houston 1, Los Angeles 0
FC Dallas 1, Chicago USA 1, tie
Real Salt Lake 2, Colorado 1
Seattle FC 1, San Jose 0
Portland 1, Columbus 1, tie

Sunday, May 18
Chicago 2, Sporting Kansas City 1
Houston at D.C. United
FC Dallas at Los Angeles 1
Friday's game
Toronto at Sporting Kansas City
Saturday's games
Portland at New York
Chicago at Columbus
FC Dallas at Los Angeles
Chicago at Real Salt Lake
Colorado at San Jose
Philadelphia at Los Angeles
Houston at San Jose

NWSL

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
1	0	2	16	14	4
2	1	2	13	10	5
3	2	1	7	10	12
4	2	1	11	15	15
5	3	2	11	15	15
6	3	2	11	15	15
7	3	0	9	11	13
8	3	0	9	11	13
9	3	0	9	11	13
10	3	0	9	11	13
11	3	0	9	11	13
12	3	0	9	11	13
13	3	0	9	11	13
14	3	0	9	11	13
15	3	0	9	11	13
16	3	0	9	11	13
17	3	0	9	11	13
18	3	0	9	11	13

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday, May 17
Washington 3, Indiana 1
Sunday, May 18
FC Kansas City 2, Houston 2, tie
Chicago 4, Boston 1
Wednesday's games
Sky Blue FC at Washington
Seattle FC at FC Kansas City
Western New York at Portland
Friday's game
Chicago at Houston
Saturday's games
Sky Blue FC at Washington
FC Kansas City at Boston
Western New York at Seattle FC
Monday's game
Houston at Washington

Tennis

Strasbourg International
Tuesday
At Centre Sportif de Hautepierre
Nice, France
Purse: \$250,000 (Int'l.)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Peng Shuai (7), Slovakia, def. Ashley Barz (Australia), 7-5, 7-5.
Christina McHale, United States, def. Alexandra Cadanot, Romania, 6-1, 6-2.
Silvia Scarpetta, Spain, def. Stefania Voglietti, Switzerland, 6-2, 6-0 (5).
Julia Goerges, Germany, def. Bojana Stepanic (1), United States, 6-2, 6-0 (5).
Mirjana Lucic-Baroni, Croatia, def. Slojana Zvezdana (6), Serbia, 6-4, 6-0 (5).
Marion Peleg, Puerto Rico, def. Johanna Larsson, Sweden, 6-5, 7-6 (5).
Lauren Davis, United States, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-2, 6-4.
Camilla Giorgi, Italy, def. Alize Cornet (2), France, 6-4, 1-6, 6-2.

Doubles
First Round
Francoise Schiavone, Canada, and Alicia Rossini, Poland, def. Misaki Doi, Japan, and Xu Yi-Yan, China, 3-6, 7-6 (6), 10-7.
Amandine Hesse and Kristina Mladenovic, France, def. Raquel Kops-Jones and Albargi Spears (1), United States, 6-4, 6-3.
Chan Hao-ching and Chan Yung-jan, Taipei, Taiwan, def. Tatjana Malek and Paula Ormaechea, Argentina, 6-3, 6-2.

Nuremberg Cup
Tuesday
At Tennis-Club 1. FC Nuremberg eV
Nuremberg, Germany
Purse: \$250,000 (Int'l.)
Surface: Reclay-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Angelique Kerber (1), Germany, def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 6-4, 6-2.
Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, def. Alison Van Uytvanck, Belgium, 7-5 (6), 6-3.

Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, def. Kurumi Nara (6), Japan, 6-4, 6-4.
Karin Knapp, Italy, def. Polina Herczeg, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-4.
Eugenie Bouchard (2), Canada, def. Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, 6-0, 6-1.

Doubles
First Round
Raluca Olaru, Romania, and Shahar Peer, Israel, def. Iona Kremen, Belarus, and Tatjana Stepanovic, Serbia, 6-0, 7-5.
Kristina Barrois, Germany, and Eleni Daniilidou, Greece, def. Andrea Gamiz, Spain, and Beatriz Garcia Vidarrey, Spain, 6-1, 4-6, 10-7.
Vesna Pesenti, Slovenia, and Kataryzyna Piter (4), Poland, def. Polina Pekhov, Russia, and Sandra Zaner, Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Quarterfinals
Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, and Caroline Garcia, France, def. Shoko Aoyama, Japan, and Sandra Klimesova (5), Austria, 7-1 (2), 6-2.

Golf

PGA Tour statistics
Through May 18

1. Stacy Lewis, 69.50, 2. Michelle Wie, 69.59, 3. Inbee Park, 69.94, 4. Lixi Thompson, 70.00, 5. Azahara Munoz, 70.00, 6. Suzann Pettersen, 70.39, 7. Lydia Ko, 70.45, 8. Cristie Pedersen, 70.50, 9. Chella Choi, 70.57, 10. Karrie Webb, 70.79.

Driving Distance
1. JoAnn Kluttz, 278.0, 2. Lixi Thompson, 275.5, 3. Gerina Pillay, 274.5, 4. Amy Alvarez, 272.5, 5. Laura Davies, 271.8, 6. Yanyan Tang, 271.4, 7. Alena Sharp, 270.3, 8. Jordita Candano, 269.2, 9. Kim Knaub, 267.6, 10. Brittany Lincicome, 266.8.

Iron
1. Michelle Wie, 79.0%, 2. Suzann Pettersen, 78.60%, 3. Stacy Lewis, 77.90%, 4. Lixi Thompson, 77.1%, 5. Gerina Pillay, 76.90%, 6. Azahara Munoz, 75.80%, 7. Karrie Webb, 74.2%, 8. Chella Choi, 74.20%, 9. Chella Choi, 73.80%, 10. Lydia Ko, 73.80%.

Putting Average
1. Stacy Lewis, 1.752, 2. Sandra Gal, 1.776, 3. Jennifer Kupcho, 1.782, 4. Yanyan Tang, 1.772, 5. Laura Davies, 1.772, 6. Karrie Webb, 1.782, 7. Morgan Pressel, 1.782, 8. Paula Creamer, 1.795, 9. Michelle Wie, 1.782, 10. Karrie Webb, 1.783.

Birdie Average
1. Stacy Lewis, 4.69, 2. Suzann Pettersen, 4.67, 3. Lixi Thompson, 4.67, 4. Sandra Gal, 4.22, 5. Morgan Pressel, 4.13, 6. Azahara Munoz, 4.09, 7. Kim Carter, 4.09, 8. Karrie Webb, 4.07, 9. Anna Nordqvist, 4.07, 10. Jenny Shin, 4.06.

Eagle Average
1. Michelle Wie, Carolina Ciocanda, Karrie Webb, Kristin Kim, and Gerina Pillay, 0.19, (1), Paula Creamer, Brittany Lincicome and Jessica Korda, 0.16, (1), tied with 0.11.

Sand Save Percentage
1. Megan McHale, 67.3%, 2. Lydia Ko, 65.38%, 3. Sydney Mitchell, 64.71%, 4. Sarah Kemp, 62.22%, 5. Karrie Webb, 61.11%, 6. Brittany Lincicome, 60.71%, 7. Lizette Salas, 60.71%, 8. Karrie Webb, 60.71%, 9. Anna Nordqvist, 60.71%, 10. Karrie Webb, 57.50%.

Strokes Under Par
1. Stacy Lewis, 86.1, 2. Michelle Wie, 83.3, 3. Lixi Thompson, 80.0, 4. (tie), So

Nice Open

Tuesday
At The Nice Lawn Tennis Club
Nice, France
Purse: \$655,000 (W750)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Martin Klizan, Slovakia, def. Bernard Tomic, Australia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Robin Haase, Netherlands, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 6-2, 6-2.
Carlos Berlocq, Argentina, def. Julien Benneteau, Switzerland, 6-3, 6-2.
Jack Sock, United States, def. Kenny De Schep, Belgium, 6-3, 6-2.
Dominic Thiem, Austria, def. Steve Johnson, United States, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 7-5.

First Round
Daniele Bracciani, Italy, and Oliver Matheo, Austria, def. Gael Monfils and Benoit Paire, France, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 10-2.
Ken and Neal Skupski, Britain, def. Jean-Julien Roquet, Netherlands, and Horac Tecau (2), Romania, 7-5, 8-7, 10-6.
Martin Klizan, Slovakia, and Philipp Oswald, Austria, def. Lee Hsin-han and Wang Chi-hui, Taiwan, 6-3, 6-4.
Rohan Bopanna, India, and Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi (1), Pakistan, def. Matthew Ebden, Australia, and Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, 6-4, 6-2.

Andre Begemann, Germany, and Robin Haase, Netherlands, def. Eric Butorac, United States, and Renzo Klaseen (4), South Africa, 7-6 (6), 6-4.
Carlos Berlocq and Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, def. Somdev Devvarman and Puru Rawat, India, 6-2, 6-2.

Julien Benneteau and Edouard Roger-Vasselin (3), France, def. Rameez Junaid, Australia, and Michael Venus, New Zealand, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

Duesseldorf Open

At Roschusclub
Duesseldorf, Germany
Purse: \$665,000 (W750)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Mate Delic, Croatia, def. Michal Przysielny, Poland, 7-5, 7-5.
Nicol Pietrangeli, Argentina, def. Dudi Sela, Israel, 6-3, 6-1.
Nicola Pietrangeli, Argentina, def. Benjamin Becker, Germany, 6-2, 6-1.

Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Jarkko Nieminen (5), Finland, 6-7 (3), 6-2, 6-2.
Alessandro Giannini, Italy, vs. Jason Kubler, Germany, 5-7, 8-6, 10-8.

Doubles
First Round
Marcel Granollers and Pere Riba, Spain, def. Treat Huey, Philippines, and Dominic Inglot, Great Britain, 6-4, 6-0, 10-7.
Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Scott Lipsky, United States, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, and Yen-Hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-3 (5), 6-0, 6-2.

Marcel Granollers and Pere Riba, Spain, def. Treat Huey, Philippines, and Dominic Inglot, Great Britain, 6-4, 6-0, 10-7.
Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Scott Lipsky, United States, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, and Yen-Hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-3 (5), 6-0, 6-2.

Pablo Carrero Busta, Spain, and Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Dustin Brown, Germany, and Philipp Knaeuper, Austria, 4-6, 10-8, 6-1.

Yeon Yur, Suzann Pettersen and Azahara Munoz, 7-5, 7. Lydia Ko, 7-2, 8. Karrie Webb, 7-14, 9. Inbee Park, 6-88, 10. Chella Choi, 6-84.

LPGA Tour money leaders

Through May 18

Rank	Player	Money
1	Stacy Lewis	\$1,883,617
2	Michelle Wie	\$1,878,633
3	Lixi Thompson	\$1,641,875
4	Karrie Webb	\$884,941
5	Lydia Ko	\$878,633
6	Anna Nordqvist	\$854,204
7	Cristie Pedersen	\$854,204
8	Lizette Salas	\$740,615
9	Brittany Lincicome	\$737,633
10	Paula Creamer	\$1,041,028
11	Chella Choi	\$1,380,456
12	Anna Yang	\$1,380,456
13	Christina Kim	\$1,380,456
14	Jessica Stanford	\$1,380,456
15	Angella Stanford	\$1,380,456
16	Michelle Wie	\$1,380,456
17	So Yeon Cho	\$1,380,456
18	Nao Yeon Choi	\$1,380,456
19	Shanna Finlay	\$1,380,456
20	Morgan Pressel	\$1,380,456
21	Paula Creamer	\$1,380,456
22	Morgan Phaul	\$1,380,456
23	Meena Lee	\$1,380,456
24	Amy Yang	\$1,380,456
25	Eun-Hee Lee	\$1,380,456
26	Christina Kim	\$1,380,456
27	Suzann Pettersen	\$1,380,456
28	Christina Kim	\$1,380,456
29	Yanyan Tang	\$1,380,456
30	Miranda Gal	\$1,380,456
31	Sandra Gal	\$1,410,010
32	Christina Kim	\$1,410,010
33	Hee Young Park	\$1,410,010
34	Hee Young Park	\$1,410,010
35	Hee Young Park	\$1,410,010
36	PK. Kwonphrang	\$1,317,288
37	Carolina Masson	\$1,115,881
38	Hee Young Park	\$1,115,881
39	Lin Vedei	\$1,115,881
40	Hee Young Park	\$1,115,881
41	Mina Harigane	\$99,250
42	Hee Young Park	\$99,250
43	Thidapa Wannanaporn	\$99,250
44	Devi Claire Schreier	\$99,250
45	Hee Young Park	\$99,250
46	Katherine Kir	\$86,399
47	Dori Carter	\$85,250

College softball

NCAA Division I super regions

(Best-of-three, r-f necessary)
1. Visit school in home town for Game 1; 2. Visit school in home town for Game 2; 3. coin flip determines home town for Game 3

At Tallahassee, Fla.
Thursday Michigan (46-13) vs. Florida State (46-13)
Friday Michigan vs. Florida State
At Tusculooa, Ala.
Thursday Nebraska (44-16) vs. Alabama (44-16)
Friday Nebraska vs. Alabama

At Athens, Ga.
Friday Baylor (45-14) vs. Georgia (49-13)
Saturday Baylor vs. Georgia
At Lafayette, La.
Friday Arizona (44-15) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (47-8-1)
Saturday Arizona vs. Louisiana-Lafayette

At Norman, Okla.
Friday Oklahoma (48-10) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (45-10)
Saturday Oklahoma vs. Tennessee (45-10)
At Eugene, Ore.
Saturday Oregon (50-15) vs. Minnesota (45-9)
Sunday Oregon vs. Minnesota

Sunday Oregon vs. Minnesota
Sunday Oregon vs. Minnesota
Sunday Florida (48-11) vs. Washington (36-13)
Sunday Florida vs. Washington

Los Angeles
Saturday UCLA (51-6) vs. Kentucky (47-10)
Sunday UCLA vs. Kentucky

College lacrosse

NCAA Division I tournament

Play-In Round
Monday, May 17
Bryant 9, Siena 8
Air Force 10, Richmond 5

First Round
Monday, May 19
Albany (N.Y.) 13, Loyola (Md.) 6
Notre Dame 13, Harvard 10
Maryland 10, Cornell 9
Denver 9, North Carolina 5
Johns Hopkins 14, Virginia 8
Virginia Tech 10, Wake Forest 11
Duke 20, Air Force 5
Bryant 10, Syracuse 5

Quarterfinals
Saturday, May 18
At Hampden, N.Y.
Maryland 16, Bryant 8
Notre Dame 10, Albany (N.Y.) 13

Sunday, May 18
At Newark, Del.
Duke 19, Virginia 11
Denver 15, Drexel 6
At M&T Bank Stadium
Duke vs. Denver
Baltimore vs. Maryland

Semifinals
Saturday, May 24
At M&T Bank Stadium
Baltimore vs. Maryland
Semifinal winners

AP spotlight

1902 - Massachusetts ridden by John Bullman, wins the Belmont Stakes with two lengths over Renard.

1906 - William Miller, the favorite ridden by Walter Miller, wins the Preakness Stakes by 1 1/2 lengths with 47 points and Bird has 34 with 20 of his points on a ride that was the longest in the game's shoot at combined USA members from the field, the second-highest mark in play-off history.

1993 - Ridick Bowe successfully defended his USA heavyweight title with a second-round knockout of Jesse Ferguson at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C.

1989 - The Chicago Bulls win the lowest-scoring playoff game in NBA history, a 75-68 victory over the Miami Heat. The Bulls' 1991 victory over the Miami Heat was the previous post-season low set by Syracuse's 68-67 win over the Pistons.

2005 - Paula Creamer, 18, makes a 15-foot birdie putt on the final hole to win the U.S. Women's Open, becoming the youngest first-time winner on the LPGA Tour.

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	2	0	1.000
Chicago	2	0	1.000
New York	1	1	.500
Washington	0	2	.000
Connecticut	0	2	.000
Indiana	0	2	.000

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC

FAR EAST SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Division I
Kadena 8
Guam 1

By **DAVE ORNAUER**
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan – One of coach Kelli Wilson's calculated gambles in trying to recede Kadena's softball team was inserting Brianna Wilson into the lineup at midseason, hoping to give the Panthers a jolt offensively.

The move paid off handsomely, no more so than on Wednesday, when the freshman had three hits and drove in three runs to power the Panthers back to the Far East Division I softball tournament title.

"She's a great kid, she works very hard," Kelli Wilson said after the Panthers downed Guam 8-1 in Wednesday's final, winning their third Division I title since 2010. Kadena's played for the title every year.

"She hasn't had a lot of experience, but I can't wait to see her in a couple more years. She's a great kid and we're excited to have her. She makes good contact. She's not scared of anything."

The title game was the only D-I game played Wednesday, when rain fell much of the day and organizers moved both the D-I and D-II finals to Yokosuka's turfed Berkeley Field. ASU, a first-year program, was awarded third place in the shortened schedule.

Kadena wasted no time going ahead with a first-inning unearned run. Then Wilson went to work, leading off the second with an inside-the-park home run to deep right-center field. Tori Sego's RBI single made it 3-0. Wilson's RBI single and another unearned run made it 5-0 in the third.

Guam answered against Kadena right-hander



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Kadena shortstop Macalah Daniels gets ready to tag out Guam's Savannah Solang in the Division I title game on Wednesday. Kadena won 8-1.

Peyton Lettkeman, as Kianni Martinez belted an inside-the-park home run to right field. But that was all it could manage against Lettkeman, who allowed three hits and struck out six.

Lettkeman drove in a run with a fielder's choice groundout in the fifth, then Wilson capped the scoring with an infield RBI single following another unearned run. Guam committed six errors.

"It feels great," Kelli Wilson said of bringing the banner back to Okinawa, following a nearbreakaway loss in last year's final. "We think about this year alone and coming back, doing our thing and putting Kadena back up there."

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DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Osan right-hander Ciera Farias delivers against Kadena in the Far East Division II softball tournament final. Farias struck out 11 and gave up two hits in Osan's 2-1 victory and was named the tournament's outstanding player.



Division II
Osan 2
Daegu 1

By **DAVE ORNAUER**
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan – Wind up and deliver. Strike out Warrior batter. Repeat.

That was Ciera Farias' narrative Wednesday, as the freshman starter was awarded third place, as was American School In Japan in D-I; each are first-year programs.

Coach Betty Brazill called Farias "an all-star player" following Osan's 2-1 dethroning of 2013 champion Daegu at Yokosuka's turfed Berkeley Field.

Farias has also seen time at first base, third base, shortstop and behind the plate this season.

"We expect big things from her," Brazill said.

Wednesday's D-II and D-I title games had originally been scheduled to be played at Naval Air Facility Atsugi. But morning-rain rendered the fields at Ranger Complex unplayable. On short notice, both were moved to Berkeley.

It was the only game played Wednesday; the remaining elimination games were scrapped and the tournament reduced to a one-game single-elimination final. Humphreys was awarded third place, as was American School In Japan in D-I; each are first-year programs.

While Farias pitched big, the Cougars played small ball in getting their only runs in the fourth inning without the benefit of a hit. Two errors on one play allowed Reneley Paat to score from first base, then Alexis Delveau plated Farias with a fielder's choice groundout.

Only one Daegu batter reached on a hit, Rachel Wyche, who had two hits. The Warriors' lone run came in the bottom of the fourth when Rheagan Wyche reached on an error, stole second and third and came home on an overthrow by the catcher.

Brazill expressed pride in the Cougars' performance the last three weeks. "Girls who haven't been catching balls are now catching balls, girls who haven't been hitting are now hitting. They're fabulous. They're amazing," she said.

Healthy territory for a team that began the season with 10 players new to the game, seven of them cheerleaders. "And look what they've accomplished," Brazill said.

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Far East scoreboard

Soccer
Division I
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Division II
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Thursday's matches
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Wednesday at Misawa Air Base, Japan
Double-elimination
Humphreys 2, King 0
Osan 3, Daegu 1
Edgren 2, Perry 1
Sacred Heart 2, Zama 1
Zama 4, Humphreys 0
Osan 2, Perry 1
Edgren 4, Sacred Heart 0
Zama vs. Osan, 8:15 a.m., loser finishes fourth
Sacred Heart vs. Zama-Osan winner, 11:30 a.m., loser finishes third
Championship
Edgren vs. TBD, 4 p.m.

Softball
Division I
Championship
Kadena 8, Guam 1
Wednesday at Yokosuka Naval Base
Guam 000 100 0-1 3 6
Kadena 122 010 2 5 9
Peyton Lettkeman, 7 IP (3 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 2 BB, 6 SO, 2 WP); L - Kayla Blond, 6 IP (5 H, 8 R, 5 ER, 5 BB, 2 SO, WP). Batting - Kadena: Brianna Wilson 3-3 (HR, 3 RBI).

Most Outstanding Player: Lettkeman
All-Tournament team: Julia Ring (three-time selection), Kelly Fajrot, Seoul American; Beverly Smithers (three-time selection), Kelly Osterbrink (two-time selection), Kinnick; Asia Abdul (two-time selection), Lettkeman, Wilson, Kadena; Caera Hirsch, Allie Rogers, ASU; Deja Martinez, Courtney Sax, Yokota; Blend, Kianni Martinez, Guam.

Division II
Championship
Osan 2, Daegu 1
Wednesday at Yokosuka Naval Base
Osan 000 200 0-2 4 4
Daegu 000 000 0 2 5 9
Ciera Farias, 7 IP (2 H, R, 0 ER, 3 BB, 11 SO, L)
Christina Henry, 7 IP (4 H, 2 R, 0 ER, 4 BB, 2 SO, WP, HP). Batting - Daegu: Rachel Wyche 2-3 (2B, 2 SB).

Most Outstanding Player: Farias
All-Tournament team: Christina Henry (two-time selection), Rachel Wyche (two-time selection), Daegu; Farias, Reneley Paat, Alexis Delveau, Osan; Selene Castro, Emily Cox, Humphreys; Kianni Martinez, Kadena; Saaya Gomez, Heidi Thomas, Perry; Shinya Sakai, Allie Charnas, Zama; Natasha Weimer, Edgren.

Division I
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Division II
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Soccer
Division I
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.

Division II
Consolation
Kadena vs. Guam, 8 a.m.
Seisen vs. Seokul, 10 a.m.
Seoul American vs. Kadena-Guam loser, 10 a.m.
Yokota vs. Kinnick, 10 a.m.
Seisen vs. Kadena-Guam loser, noon
CAJ vs. Kadena-Guam winner, noon
Championship
ASU vs. Kubasaki, 2 p.m.



MAREK OSUMIA/Special to Stars and Stripes

Seoul American's David Neaverth, left, and Kadena's Matthew LeMasters ready for the ball. The teams played to a scoreless tie.

Hosts reach finals in soccer

Stars and Stripes

If home cooking exists in the world of high school sports, the finals of the four Far East soccer tournaments would be a poster-child example.

All four host teams will play for championships Thursday in the Far East tournaments, after each won key matches Wednesday.

For the fourth straight year, Kubasaki's and American School In Japan will tee it up in the girls D-I final. The Mustangs edged pre-tournament favorite Kinnick in a penalty-kick shootout, while the Dragons shut out Yokota 1-0 in semifinal action. The title match kicks off at 4 p.m. at Kubasaki's Mike Petty Stadium.

Kadena and Kubasaki finished with the best records in the boys

D-I three-day round-robin format and will face one another with Far East title honors on the line for the first time since 2006. The match kicks off at 2 p.m. at Ryukyus Middle School Haby Field.

In girls Division II action, host Edgren blanked Sacred Heart 4-0 and now awaits the outcome of knockout bracket action Thursday morning to see who it will play for the title. It would be the first for the Eagles.

Perry's boys are no stranger to championships. They've won the past two Division II titles and are gunning for a third straight and fourth in school history, after blanking Zama 3-0 in the championship bracket final. They'll take on whomever emerges from the consolation rounds in hopes of a three-peat.

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wiesbaden's Little primed for boys 100 field

By GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

The 2014 DODDS Europe track and field championships will be held Friday and Saturday at Kaiserslautern High School. Here's a look at the top contenders in the boys events.

100 meters: Wiesbaden's Anthony Little sprinted to the title of DODDS Europe's fastest man last spring with a blistering time of 10.92 seconds, and he's stayed right on that pace all season. But he'll find a hungry field and a thin margin for error at Kaiserslautern. Vicenza's Karl Bulgin, Kaiserslautern's David Zarzycki, Ramstein's Johnny Pack and Gregory Desulme, Hohenfels' David Vidovic and Warrior teammate Dequan Reed are among the biggest threats at Little's heels.

200 meters: Little is back to defend his title as well, with a similar group of contenders. Desulme, who finished second to Little in both short-distance events last May, is foremost among them.

400 meters: Ramstein's Eric Carter finished second in Europe in wrestling last season before winning a title this year. He'll try to complete the same trick in track this weekend after finishing as runner-up in this event last spring. Carter leads a pack of contenders such as Marymount's Riccardo Cirilli, Wiesbaden's CJ Pridgen and Vilseck's Khayree Fyles.

800 meters: Kaiserslautern's Michael Lawson won this event last spring and Michael Close will attempt to keep the title in the program this spring. Count Cirilli, Wiesbaden's Kelsey Thomas, Baumholder's Isak Giesler and Lakenheath's Andre Bowser among his primary adversaries.

1,600 meters: Wiesbaden's Thomas is a strong contender for this event as well after a fourth-place finish last spring, but he's no shoo-in for the title. Teammate Alex Wieman, Patch's Alexander Bowman, Ramstein's John Casey and Vilseck's Ben Nelson and Michael Nelson present Division I opposition; Marymount's Garbis

Chekerdjian, Bitburg's Jamal Braxton and Naples' Rackwon Sallywhite might pull the upset from the Division II level.

3,200 meters: The Ramstein Royals and Patch Panthers are on a collision course on multiple fronts this spring and the clash might spill over into this long-distance event. Ramstein's Casey and Patch's Bowman finished within a second of each other in a May 10 showdown, with Casey inching out a win. SHAPE's Colin McLaren and Wiesbaden's Jesse Hendrix will seek to complicate matters.

110 hurdles: A pair of familiar names will square off in this race, Reyroi Lewis, Wiesbaden's All-Europe quarterback, and David Harris, the All-Europe center-fielder of basketball semifinalist Vilseck, have run neck-and-neck all year and this weekend should be no different. Naples' Nick Snider is in range and could pass both.

300 hurdles: Lewis, Harris and Snider will all be in the mix at this distance as well, but they've got company with Ansbach's Brian

Debel and Wiesbaden's Anthony Sterling among others.

High jump: Both Ramstein's Jon Waarvik and Baumholder's Demonte Fisher have posted a jump of 6 feet, 2 inches this spring, a height equal to last year's European-winning effort by Aviano's Andrew Bert. Fyles and Ramstein's Jamael Kingsberry have also cleared 6 feet this spring.

Long jump: A leap of 20-plus feet lands one in range of a title in this event, a feat accomplished this season by Waarvik, Schweinfurt's Timo Togafau, Naples' Austin Bain and Wiesbaden's Lewis and Dan Fyles.

Triple jump: The springy Waarvik has a chance to sweep the trio of jumping events. His competition here could come from teammate Kingsberry and Wiesbaden's Ernis Carter and Tim Cuthbert.

Discus: Three of the top five finishers in last year's event runner-up Drake Harness of Ramstein, third-place Julian Byles of Hohenfels and fifth-place finisher Hunter Lusinasi of Wi-

esbaden — return. Vilseck shot-put specialist Armando Saldana, meanwhile, will make a run at a strongman sweep.

Shot put: This event belongs to reigning champion Saldana until proven otherwise. Fellow European wrestling champion Lusinasi and Ramstein's Drake Harness will challenge his reign.

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Naples' Forte looks for gold in 200, 400

By GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

The 2014 DODDS Europe track and field championships will be held Friday and Saturday at Kaiserslautern High School. Here's a look at the top contenders in the girls events:

100 meters: SHAPE's Ryan Paine and Kaiserslautern's Autumn Collins and Jada Bostic have all outperformed last year's European-winning time this spring; Ramstein's D'Myia Thornton, Wiesbaden's Marquela Scott and Amelya Hempstead, Lakenheath's Jaelyn Freeman and Kristen Reed and Bamberg's Katie Funcheon have all come within fractions of a second.

200 meters: An equally tight field will line up for this race, with many of the same participants as the 100 meters, adding Kaiserslautern's Deaja Hubbard, Ramstein's J'amelia Richardson and Naples' Ashley Forte.

400 meters: While Forte is a contender at 200, the Wildcat might be the runner to beat in this race. Bitburg's Theresä Gatterburg is right with her, while SHAPE's Paine, Ramstein's Deneae Lawrence and Jewel Beji and Ansbach's Kelly McCaskill are all within two seconds of overtaking her.

800 meters: Reigning European champion Julia Lockridge of Patch and 2013 runner-up McCaskill are back for a rematch this spring, but there are plenty of capable runners ready to overshadow them. Ramstein's Madison Morse, Lakenheath's Michah Fontenot and McKayle Boden, IBF's Ayden Eickhoff and Kaiserslautern's Shance Harmon have



JASON DUMR/Stars and Stripes

Naples' Ashley Forte, right, won the 100 in a meet in Creazzo, Italy, earlier this month and is considered a strong contender in the 200 and 400 at the DODDS European Track and Field Championships Friday and Saturday in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

all hung with Lockridge and McCaskill this spring.

1,600 meters: Ramstein's Morse won this event last spring and has been the class of Europe again this year, making her a runaway favorite to repeat. Patch's Kelleen McGinness, Wiesbaden's Gabrielle Elliot and Lakenheath's Boden will be there to seize on any slippage.

3,200 meters: As in the 1,600-meter race, Ramstein has fielded a definitive favorite in the meet's longest-distance race. Royal runner Nicole Leondike posted a 12:28.75 on May 10, by far the best score of the regular season. A repeat performance will give

her the nod over a field including Naples' Caroline Bracken, Patch's Michelle Gelacio and Kaiserslautern's Harmon.

100 hurdles: Returning champion Phylecia Faublas won convincingly last spring, but she's got some formidable competition in Kaiserslautern's Jasmyin Bostic, who turned in a 15.76 time May 10 that would have bested Faublas' title-winning time last year.

300 hurdles: Ansbach's Mykala Bazem burst onto the scene last spring to win this event and she's spent her senior season racing mostly against her own high standards as the field falls further behind. But Kaiserslautern's Jas-

myn Bostic and Jada Bostic, Lakenheath's Reed and Alconbury's Olivia Sealey lurk as threats.

High jump: Ramstein's Krys-tions Meek and Wiesbaden's Kristin Alepado have each flirted with the 5-foot mark that won Ansbach's Caprice Lockett the European title last year. Division II Black Forest Academy fields a pair of contenders in Phoebe Robinson and Erin Fortune.

Long jump: While Division III teams often struggle against Division I neighbors, the individual nature of track events can even the field. That's the case for Brussels' Olivia Sadler, who has outjumped the large-school likes of Kaiserslautern's Rhea Harris, Wiesbaden's Hempstead and Faublas and Ramstein's Samantha Carbon this season.

Triple jump: Italy has a good shot at a rare European track title in Vicenza's Gabriel Moore, who turned in a jump of 33 feet, 5 inches on May 3 to set the DODDS Europe regular-season standard. But Kaiserslautern's Harris isn't far behind, and she finished second at last year's European meet.

Discus: Barring the unforeseen, this event is the exclusive property of Bamberg's Darnique Lamons, who is poised to put a powerful finishing touch on the brief but eventful saga of Bamberg's athletics before the school shuts down this summer.

Shot put: Lamons, the defending champion in both power events, is the prohibitive favorite to win this event as well after finishing second last spring. Nobody has come within 6 feet of her best totals this spring.

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PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Marymount's Francesco Izzo, left, and SHAPE's Adian Domijan fight for the ball in a Division II semifinal game Wednesday at the DODDS Europe soccer championships in Reichenbach, Germany, Wednesday. The three-time defending champion Royals won 3-1 and will meet AFNORTH for the title Thursday.

DODDS Europe scoreboard

Soccer
DODDS Europe championships
Wednesday
In and around Kaiserslautern, Germany
Boys
Division I
Pool A
 Ramstein 2, Lakenheath 1
Pool B
 Kaiserslautern 2, ISB 1
 Patch 2, Wiesbaden 0
Semifinals
 Ramstein vs. Patch, late
 Kaiserslautern vs. Lakenheath, late
Thursday's matches
Championship
 TBD, 6:45 p.m.
Third
 TBD, 3 p.m.
Division II
Quarterfinals
 AFNORTH 3, American Overseas
 School of Rome 2
 Naples 4, Aviano 3
 MARYMOUNT 1, Bahrain 0
 SHAPE 2, Black Forest Academy 1
Semifinals
 Marymount 3, SHAPE 1
 AFNORTH 5, Naples 1
Thursday's matches
Championship
 AFNORTH vs. Marymount, 3 p.m.
Third
 Naples vs. SHAPE, 1:30 p.m.
Division III
 Incirlik 2, Menwirth Hill 2
Pool A
 Brussels 1, Sigonella 1
 Lajes 4, Ankara 1
Semifinals
 Sigonella 5, Menwirth Hill 4
 Brussels 2, Incirlik 0
Thursday's matches
Championship
 Sigonella vs. Brussels, 10 a.m.
Third
 Menwirth Hill vs. Incirlik, 8:15 a.m.
Girls
(Round robin play)
 Kaiserslautern 4, Wiesbaden 1
 Wiesbaden 4, Vilsack 0
 Ramstein 7, Lakenheath 0
 Patch 7, Vilsack 0
Thursday's matches
 Kaiserslautern 4, Lakenheath 2 in
 shootout
Thursday's matches
(Round robin play at Reichenbach)
 1 Ramstein vs. 6 Vilsack, 10:30 a.m.
 2 Lakenheath vs. 5 Wiesbaden, 10:30
 a.m.
Championship
 3 Patch vs. 4 Kaiserslautern, 1:30 p.m.
Championship
 TBD, 4:45 p.m.
Third
 TBD, 3:45 p.m.

Division II
Quarterfinals
 AFNORTH 2, SFA 0
 Alconbury 4, SHAPE 1
 Vicenza 5, Hohenfels 2
 Naples 3, Aviano 2, in shootout
Semifinals
 AFNORTH 5, Alconbury 4 in shootout
 Naples 5, Vicenza 2
Thursday's matches
Championship
 Naples vs. AFNORTH, 11:45 a.m.
Third
 Vicenza vs. Alconbury, 10 a.m.
Division III
(Round robin play)
 Brussels 2, Florence 1
 Sigonella 3, Menwirth Hill 2 in shootout
 Menwirth Hill 2, Ankara 0
 Florence 2, Sigonella 0
 Brussels 3, Incirlik 1, Brussels advances
 to finals
Thursday's matches
(Round robin play at Reichenbach)
 1 Florence vs. 6 Ankara, 8 a.m.
 2 Brussels vs. 5 Menwirth Hill, 8 a.m.
 3 Sigonella vs. 4 Incirlik, 9:15a.m.
Championship
 Brussels vs. TBD, 1:30 p.m.
Third
 TBD, 1:30 p.m.



Alconbury's Roni Tefti, left, and AFNORTH's Jena Solorzano chase down a ball in a Division II semifinal game at the DODDS Europe championships in Reichenbach, Germany, Wednesday. AFNORTH won 5-4 in overtime and will face Naples in the championship game on Saturday.

Briefly

Olivo allegedly bites off part of triple-A player's ear

From wire reports

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Dodgers infield prospect Alex Guerrero had a part of his ear bitten off Tuesday by triple-A teammate Miguel Olivo, according to Guerrero's agent, Scott Boras.

The alleged incident occurred during the Dodgers' Albuquerque-based affiliate's 7-4 defeat in Salt Lake City.

According to Boras, the altercation resulted from a seventeenth-inning throw Olivo, the catcher, made to Guerrero, the shortstop. "Olivo was stressed about it," Boras said. "They had some words going into the dugout.

"Guerrero was in the far end of the dugout. He went to the front to get his bat and helmet to hit. As he walked across, Olivo decked him."

Guerrero and Olivo had to be separated by teammates, according to Boras. When players pulled off Olivo, he had a piece of Guerrero's ear in his mouth, Boras said.

Guerrero was scheduled to undergo plastic surgery to reattach part of the ear.

Boras said he didn't know how long Guerrero would be sidelined. Guerrero, who is in the first year of a four-year, \$28-million contract, is batting .376 with 10 home runs and 29 runs batted in.

The Salt Lake City Police Department is uncertain whether Olivo will be charged with a crime, according to detective Greg Wilking.

Wilking said that's because Guerrero doesn't know if he wants to cooperate with the investigation.

"He wants to talk to a lawyer and talk to league officials," Wilking said. Dodgers General Manager Ned Colletti was evasive when asked about the incident, saying the organization was looking into what happened.



DAVID SANTIAGO, EL NUEVO HERALDO/MCT

Catcher Miguel Olivo allegedly bit off part of triple-A teammate Alex Guerrero's ear on Tuesday during a game in Salt Lake City.

The 25-year-old McIlroy and 23-year-old Wozniacki have been dating since 2011. They were engaged on New Year's Eve in Australia.

In the earlier statement, McIlroy took the blame for the breakup.

"The problem is mine. The wedding invitations issued at the weekend made me realize that I wasn't ready for all that marriage entails," McIlroy said. "I wish Caroline all the happiness she deserves and thank her for the great times we've had. I will not be saying anything more about our relationship in any setting."

At Wentworth, McIlroy is among the top players at the European Tour flagship event.

"I'm not going to lie. It's going to be very difficult," McIlroy said of playing this week. "But you know, at least when I get inside the ropes, just try and concentrate on the shot at hand. But yeah, it's obviously going to be difficult."

Rice enters program to be cleared of assault

MAYS LANDING, N.J. — Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice has received approval to enter a court program that could result in dismissal of an assault charge against him in New Jersey.

The decision announced Tuesday relates to an aggravated assault charge Rice faces following a Feb. 15 incident with his then-girlfriend in an Atlantic City casino elevator. The couple married a day after Rice was indicted.

Atlantic County acting prosecutor Tim McClellan said the decision was made after his office "considered all relevant information."

The pretrial intervention program allows for charges to be dismissed against first-time offenders who participate in it and meet certain conditions.

Hornets are officially back in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte Hornets are back.

The NBA franchise announced Tuesday at a press conference it has officially changed its name back to the Hornets after 10 years of being known as the Bobcats.

The change comes nearly one year after owner Michael Jordan indicated he wanted to change the name back to the Hornets.

The league approved the change last July.

Jordan didn't attend the press conference, but issued a statement saying it's a "historic day for our franchise, our city and our fans."

The Hornets resided in Charlotte from 1988-2002 before George Shinn moved the team — and name — to New Orleans after a messy divorce from the city. The name became available again when New Orleans owner Tom Benson changed his team's name from the Hornets to the Pelicans.

■ The NBA news
 Steve Kerr as their new coach Tuesday at a packed news conference at the team's downtown Oakland headquarters. Kerr signed with the Warriors for five years and about \$25 million after rejecting an offer from mentor Phil Jackson to coach the New York Knicks.

Kerr plans to finish his duties broadcasting the Western Conference finals for TNT before starting with the Warriors.

The former NBA guard cited Golden State's rapid rise the past three seasons and his family in California as his main reasons for taking the job. He replaces Mark Jackson, who was fired by the Warriors on May 6 after a 51-win season and back-to-back playoff appearances in large part because of his sour relationship with team management.

■ Sacramento's City Council on Tuesday approved a financing plan for the Kings NBA franchise, clearing the way for construction on a \$477 million downtown arena.

The council voted 7-2 on the package during a meeting that caps off the city's lengthy struggle to keep the team from moving to Seattle a year ago.

Under the 35-year deal, the city would be responsible for a \$223 million subsidy, much of it financed through a parking revenue bond. The city would pay an estimated \$21.9 million a year in debt service that would be paid through lease payments from the Kings and projected increase in parking revenue.

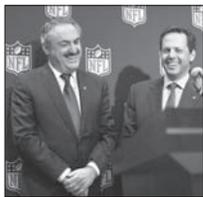
McIlroy calls off his engagement to Wozniacki

VIRGINIA WATER, England — Only a few days after sending out wedding invitations, golfer Rory McIlroy broke off his engagement to Danish tennis player Caroline Wozniacki on Wednesday.

Uncomfortable and subdued, the two-time major winner spoke about the decision ahead of the BMW PGA Championship, only a few hours after first announcing the split in a statement.

"It is quite a difficult time for Caroline and myself, and the statement really said it all this morning," McIlroy said at Wentworth. "It was mutual and we both thought it was the best for us, the best for both of us. Time to move on, and I've said all that I need to say."

NFL



DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

Minnesota Vikings owners Zygi Wilf, left, and Mark Wilf smile after Minneapolis was selected as the host for 2018 Super Bowl at the NFL's spring meetings on Tuesday in Atlanta.

Minneapolis to host 2018 Super Bowl

By BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — There are rewards for spending \$1 billion on a new stadium. Just ask Minneapolis, which probably sees the 10-figure sum as a bargain after being awarded the 2018 Super Bowl.

In a surprise that had the Twin Cities bid committee high-fiving and hugging as if Adrian Peterson had just broken another vintage touchdown run, Minneapolis beat New Orleans and Indianapolis in voting by the 32 NFL owners.

Everyone from Commissioner Roger Goodell to a variety of owners, including the Wilf family, to members of the other cities' bidding groups agreed on the decisive factor.

"The stadium project, the effort they had to bring that stadium to completion, the plans they have for it and the commitment that community has demonstrated was a positive influence on owners that I talked to," Goodell said.

The Super Bowl will be staged in the Twin Cities for the second time: It was there in 1992, when Washington beat Buffalo. Next year's Super Bowl is in Glendale, Arizona, followed by Santa Clara, Calif., then Houston.

In other business, the owners also tabled any vote expanding the playoffs by two teams to 14, but look for it to return — and probably pass — in October.

Ex-players: Pills given out 'like candy'

By JIM LITKE
The Associated Press

Former NFL lineman Jerry Newberry said he often hobbled into the 49ers locker room using a walking boot and crutches, then lined up behind as many as two dozen teammates for treatment — in his case, a shot of the painkiller Toradol. Ten minutes later, he sprinted onto the field to play.

The toughness of pro football players is part of the league's image, but a lawsuit filed Tuesday on behalf of more than 600 former players contends it was abetted by team physicians and trainers across the NFL who routinely dispensed powerful narcotics and other controlled substances on game days to mask the pain.

Although painkillers have been discussed around NFL locker rooms for decades, plaintiffs in this suit give details about which drugs they say teams persued them to use and how even severe injuries were covered up temporarily.

Painkillers Percodan, Percocet and Vicodin, anti-inflammatories such as Toradol and sleep aids such as Ambien were "handed out like candy at Halloween," according to lead attorney Steven Silverman. Sometimes, the lawsuit also charges, the drugs were given in combinations as "cocktails."

"The stuff works," Newberry, who played seven of his nine seasons in San Francisco before retiring in 2009, told The Associated Press in an interview. "It works like crazy. It really does."

Newberry, now 38 and one of the eight plaintiffs named in the lawsuit, said that because of the drugs he took while playing, he suffers from kidney failure, high blood pressure and violent headaches. Others — including three members of the NFL champion 1985 Chicago Bears: quarterback Jim McMahon, Hall of Fame defensive end Richard Dent and offensive lineman Keith Van Horn — reported a range of debilitating effects, from chronic muscle and bone ailments to permanent nerve and organ damage.

NFL Commissioner Roger

'We're saying this was intentional, putting profits ahead of players' health — and in violation of federal controlled substance laws, as well as state laws.'

Steven Silverman
Lawyer for NFL players



Goodell, in Atlanta for the league's spring meetings, said Tuesday that league attorneys had not yet studied the lawsuit.

Six of the named plaintiffs in the suit filed in federal court in San Francisco were also parties to the concussion-related class-action lawsuit less than a year ago. The NFL agreed to pay \$765 million to settle that case — without acknowledging it concealed the risks of concussions from former players. A federal judge has yet to approve the settlement, expressing concern the amount is too small.

"The difference is that the concussion case claimed the NFL knew or should have known," Silverman said. "We're saying this was intentional, putting profits ahead of players' health — and in violation of federal controlled substance laws, as well as state laws. You don't order hundreds of narcotic painkillers in their names without telling them."

Some of the players said they knew they were taking powerful drugs, but felt they would lose their jobs if they didn't take team officials' advice and use

the substances to get back on the field quickly.

The lawsuit covers the years 1968-2008. Silverman said a number of clients reported teams had "tightened up" dispensing procedures since then, including one incident in which a player said a trainer waited until the team plane on a flight home was 10,000 feet in the air before handing over a narcotic "to avoid violating any state laws."

McMahon and Van Horn were among several players who said they were never told about broken bones and fed pills to mask the pain. Toradol, which players called a "full-body numb-er" and "the current game-day drug of choice of the NFL" was prevalent enough that Newberry described frequently seeing teammates and opponents during warm-ups with blood spots on the buttocks of their pants — a telltale sign they'd taken a pre-game injection.

"There was a room set up near the locker room and you got in

line," said Kyle Turley, who played for three NFL teams in an eight-year career. "Obviously, we were grown adults and we had a choice. But when a team doctor is saying this will take the pain away, you trust them."

Newberry said he regrets that decision now, but never considered not taking the drugs during his career because he feared he'd be out of a job if he didn't play. After his retirement, a specialist who reviewed his medical records concluded the protein levels in his urine had been elevated — a precursor to kidney problems — for years. Newberry said he got blood work during a team-sponsored physical every year, but was never told about any problems.

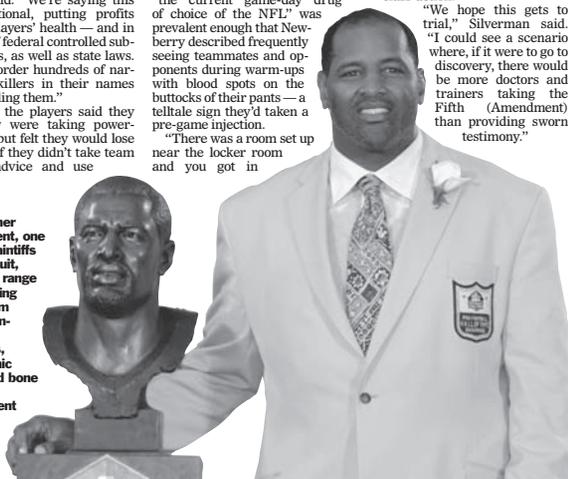
"They said, 'You're good to go, you passed another one. You're cleared to play,'" he said.

Silverman said he planned to serve the NFL with the lawsuit within the next 120 days, after which the league has 30 days to respond. The case could be significantly delayed if there are similar filings and the lawsuits are eventually consolidated into a single class-action.

"We hope this gets to trial," Silverman said. "If I could see a scenario where, if it were to go to discovery, there would be more doctors and trainers taking the Fifth (Amendment) than providing sworn testimony."

Hall of Famer Richard Dent, one of eight plaintiffs in the lawsuit, reported a range of debilitating effects from taking team-supplied pain killers, from chronic muscle and bone ailments to permanent nerve and organ damage.

TONY DEAN/AP



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American League

East Division	Pct	GB	
Baltimore	23	53%	27
New York	20	45%	25
Toronto	24	52%	24
Oakland	22	48%	24
Tampa Bay	20	41%	23

Central Division	Pct	GB	
Detroit	16	65%	—
Minnesota	22	51%	6
Chicago	22	48%	6
Kansas City	22	48%	7
Cleveland	22	48%	7

West Division	Pct	GB	
Oakland	29	54%	4
Los Angeles	26	46%	4
Seattle	22	50%	10
San Diego	20	46%	8
Houston	17	37%	12½

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	24	21	53%	1½
Washington	23	23	50%	3
Miami	20	25	44%	7
Philadelphia	20	25	44%	7
New York	20	24	45%	7

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	27	19	58%	—
St. Louis	20	25	45%	6
Cincinnati	18	26	40%	8
Pittsburgh	18	26	40%	8

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	26	16	62%	—
Colorado	26	16	62%	—
Los Angeles	24	22	52%	4
San Diego	21	25	45%	7
Arizona	19	28	38%	10½

Tuesday's games

Baltimore v Pittsburgh 2-1
Baltimore v Detroit 4-1
Oakland 3, Tampa Bay 0
Toronto 7, Boston 4
Chicago Cubs 6, N.Y. Yankees 1
Seattle 6, Texas 2
Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 1
L.A. Angels 9, Houston 3
San Francisco 10, St. Louis 4
Washington 9, Cincinnati 4
L.A. Dodgers 9, N.Y. Mets 4
St. Louis 8, Arizona 3
Philadelphia 6, Miami 5
St. Louis 8, Arizona 3
Colorado 5, San Francisco 4

Wednesday's games

Seattle at Cleveland
N.Y. Yankees at Chicago Cubs
Los Angeles at L.A. Angels
Oakland at Tampa Bay
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City
Minnesota at San Diego
Cincinnati at Washington
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets
Atlanta at Cleveland
Chicago White Sox at Miami
Arizona at St. Louis
San Francisco at San Diego

Thursday's games

Texas (Dwight Gooden) at Detroit (Ray 1-0)
Toronto (Buehler 7-1) at Boston (Lester 4-5)
Los Angeles (Travis Wood) at Tampa Bay (Archer 3-2)
Cleveland (Gray 5-1) at Baltimore (Wright 5-0)
N.Y. Yankees (Peiris 1-0) at Chicago White Sox (Nori Aoki) 0-1
Houston (Cosart 3-5) at Seattle (Clayton 3-0)
Philadelphia (Hamets 1-2) at Miami (Nolasco 2-3)
San Francisco (Hudson 4-2) at Colorado (J.D. De Rosa 5-3)
Cincinnati (Feltner 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Volpeuz 1-4)
Los Angeles (Greinke 7-1) at N.Y. Mets (Niese 2-3)

Friday's games

Milwaukee (Garza 2-4) at Atlanta (Harmon Killebrew 3-4)
Los Angeles (Milley 3-4) at St. Louis (Lynn 5-0)
Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 0-4) at San Diego (Stults 2-4)

Saturday

Philadelphia	at r h bi	Miami	at r h bi		
Rollins	4	2	2	2	2
Rizz	4	0	0	0	0
Howard	4	0	1	1	1
Asche	3	1	0	0	0
Gwyn	3	0	0	0	0
Arbitt	2	1	0	0	0
Hand	1	0	0	0	0
Dickm	0	0	0	0	0
Adams	0	0	0	0	0
Talpin	0	0	0	0	0

Sunday

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Dickman	7	2	0	0	1	3
Adams	5	1	1	1	1	3
Hand	2	0	0	0	0	1
Wolf	2	0	0	0	0	1
Cham	2	0	0	0	0	1

HPB—by A.Burnett (Dietrich), WP—Hand, T—330, A—18,699 (37,442).

Braves 5, Brewers 0

Milwaukee	at r h bi	Atlanta	at r h bi	
Gomez cf	5	0	1	0
Lynch 2b	4	0	0	0
Braun lf	4	0	0	0
Gentry cf	3	0	0	0
Overbay 3b	3	0	0	0
Seaver 3b	4	0	0	0
Kerrigan 3b	3	0	0	0
Blanch 3b	3	0	0	0
Enright ph	1	0	0	0
Thorp p	1	0	0	0
Rweks ph	1	0	0	0

Angels 9, Astros 3

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gallardo L-2.3	3½	4	4	1	1	1
Wsmith	1	0	0	0	0	1
Teheran W-2.0	9	6	0	0	2	8
Gallardo T-2.53A	21	24	0	0	0	28

Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 4

Milwaukee	at r h bi	Los Angeles	at r h bi		
Altuve 2b	5	1	3	0	1
Brantley lf	4	1	2	0	0
Fowler cf	4	1	2	0	0
Wright 3b	4	1	2	0	0
Mdmn 3b	3	0	0	0	0
Carier 1b	3	0	0	0	0
Hammer 1b	3	0	0	0	0
Presley ph-1	0	0	0	0	0
Hauter lf	3	0	0	0	0
Krauss ph	1	0	0	0	0
Villasis 1b	0	0	0	0	0

White Sox 7, Royals 6

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Feldman L-2.0	9	8	3	2	0	4
Dwight W-2.0	3	1	0	0	0	1
Williams	2½	3	1	0	1	1
Hudson	1	0	0	0	0	1

Rockies 5, Giants 4

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Rieckhoff W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Petrick H-3	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wright 3b	2	1	1	0	0	1
Francisco	2	1	1	0	0	1
Putnam H-4	1	0	0	0	0	1
Beltser L-2.1	1	0	0	0	0	1

Phillies 6, Marlins 5

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clayton W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TClinson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Crow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Garza	1	0	0	0	0	1

Cardinals 5, Diamondbacks 0

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Rockies 5, Giants 4

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arrieta W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Oakland 4, Tampa Bay 3

Oakland	at r h bi	Tampa Bay	at r h bi	
Crisp cf	4	1	2	0
Gentry cf	4	0	0	0
Jaso 1b	4	0	0	0
Dindon 3b	4	0	0	0
Moss 2b	4	0	0	0
Caspedi lf	4	0	0	0
Wright 3b	4	0	0	0
DNorris c	4	0	0	0
Punto ss	4	0	0	0
Schwartz 2b	4	0	0	0
Yescor ss	1	0	0	0
Delesch ph-1	0	0	0	0

Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 4

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Wright 3b	4	1	0	0	0	2
Gregerson H-4	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wright 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ozulidze L-2.4	4½	4	3	3	5	8
Clayton W-2.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Oviedo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wright 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lueke	1	0	0	0	0	1

Toronto 5, Red Sox 4

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Reyes ss	5	4	2	0	0	1
McCariff	5	4	2	0	0	1
Hauter lf	4	1	0	0	0	0
Encrne lb	2	2	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	2	0	0	0	0	0
DWarr dh	2	0	0	0	0	0
StHlnzb 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0
Jansen p	2	0	0	0	0	0
Pillar cf	2	0	0	0	0	0

Detroit 4, Yankees 3

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Harmon Killebrew W-2.0	4	5	5	3	2	2
Mujica	1	0	0	0	0	1
Baderoph	1½	0	0	0	0	1
Bazlow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Salas	1	0	0	0	0	1

Indians 6, Tigers 2

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Kinsler 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1
Hrntr Jr	4	1	1	0	0	1
Adkins 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1
Wmrnz dh	3	0	0	0	0	1
Adkins 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1
Wstns 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1
Wstns 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1
Wstns 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1
Rodrigz 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1
Dobbs 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1

Detroit 4, Yankees 3

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Harmon Killebrew W-2.0	4	5	5	3	2	2
Mujica	1	0	0	0	0	1
Baderoph	1½	0	0	0	0	1
Bazlow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Salas	1	0	0	0	0	1

San Francisco 10, Dodgers 9

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Burner	6	8	3	3	1	6
Castro	2	2	2	2	2	2
Castro	1	0	0	0	0	0
Castro	1	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles 10, Yankees 6

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Harmon Killebrew W-2.0	4	5	5	3	2	2
Mujica	1	0	0	0	0	1
Baderoph	1½	0	0	0	0	1
Bazlow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Salas	1	0	0	0	0	1

San Francisco 10, Dodgers 9

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Burner	6	8	3	3	1	6
Castro	2	2	2	2	2	2
Castro	1	0	0	0	0	0
Castro	1	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles 10, Yankees 6

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pdgrf 2b	4	1	0	0	0	1
Dwight 3b	4	2	1	0	0	1
Hrntr ss	4	1	0	0	0	1
AdgnJ 1b	4	1	0	0	0	1
Kemp cf	4	1	0	0	0	1
Hovell p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jansen p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crawford lf	4	3	2	1	0	0
Urbn 3						

MLB

AL roundup

Jays push Red Sox's skid to five

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Edwin Encarnacion continued his torrid run through May, which is only two-thirds over.

Encarnacion hit a pair of two-run homers for Toronto as the Blue Jays took a big lead early and held on to beat the slumping Boston Red Sox 7-4 on Tuesday night.

Encarnacion has hit nine of his 11 homers this season this month, which has 10 days left.

"He is pretty good," Toronto manager John Gibbons said. "But even last year I think he got off to a slow start somewhat. It's not going to hold him down. It's usually just a matter of time."

Melky Cabrera and Erik Kratz also homered for the Blue Jays, who won for the sixth time in eight games and extended Boston's losing streak to five straight.

J.A. Happ (3-1) struck out six in the first three innings and picked up his third win in four starts since joining the rotation.

Jonny Gomes hit a two-run homer for Boston. The losing streak is the longest for the Red Sox since 2012.

Casey Janssen picked up his fourth save, with a rocky ninth inning. Dustin Pedroia and Shane Victorino led off the ninth with consecutive singles. David Ortiz nearly tied it with a long fly ball that drifted foul, and then struck out. Janssen got Mike Napoli to ground into a double play to end it.

Athletics 3, Rays 0: Drew Pomeranz won his third consecutive start since moving from the bullpen into the rotation and曹翕翕 Crisp drove in two runs before departing with an injury as surging Oakland beat host Tampa Bay.

Pomeranz (4-1) allowed three hits, two walks and had three strikeouts in five innings. He has not given up a run in his three starts, all of which lasted five innings.

Indians 6, Tigers 2: Trevor Bauer outpitched former Cy Young Award winner Justin Verlander, leading host Cleveland past Detroit.

Bauer (1-1) was recalled earlier in the day for his second start this season, and the right-hander held the AL's top hitting team to just two runs and seven hits in six-plus innings.

Mariners 6, Rangers 2: Kyle Seager had three hits, including a two-run single that sparked a four-run third inning, as visiting Seattle beat Texas.

Robinson Cano, Dustin Ackley and recent call-up Nick Franklin added two hits each as the Mariners, last in the American League in hitting, had every member of the batting order reach base during the first four innings.

White Sox 7, Royals 6: Adam Dunn hit a three-run homer as visiting Chicago defeated Kansas City.

Andre Rios (4-0) limited the Royals to two runs and five hits in six innings. He struck out a career-high eight.

Angels 9, Astros 3: David Freese had a season-high four RBIs after getting reinstated from the disabled list and Tyler Skaggs pitched seven solid innings as host Los Angeles scored five unearned runs against Scott Feldman to beat Houston.

Mike Trout had three RBIs in his second game of the season as a designated hitter, helping the Angels win for the ninth time in 12 games.



TODD KIRKLAND/AP

Atlanta starting pitcher Julio Teheran surrendered just six hits during Tuesday's 5-0 shutout of Milwaukee in Atlanta.

NL roundup

Braves win third straight

Teheran, Upton lead Atlanta to shutout of Milwaukee

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Talk about bouncing back.

Julio Teheran rebounded from the shortest start of his career with a six-hitter, leading the Atlanta Braves past the slumping Milwaukee Brewers 5-0 Tuesday night.

Justin Upton homered and had three RBIs, and Teheran (3-3) was the star of the night. He turned in his second shutout of the season, just six days after lasting only 3 1/3 innings in a 10-4 loss at San Francisco.

"He's proving himself to be the ace of the team," said Andrelin Simmons, who also homered for the Braves. "He had a bad outing. That's the best way to bounce back — a shutout."

It was another laugher in the matchup between first-place teams, the Braves jumping ahead with three runs in the third and cruising to victory after opening the series with a 9-3 rout.

The Brewers have lost four in a row overall, their longest skid of 2014.

Upton had a two-run single in the third and his 12th homer in the fifth, a solo shot.

Yovani Gallardo (2-3) took a painful loss. He left the game in the fourth after twisting his left ankle jumping for a high chopper up the middle, extending his winless streak to more than six weeks.

Rockies 5, Giants 4: Nolan Arenado hit a two-out, two-run double off the wall in

the ninth inning for host Colorado.

It was the second straight game the Rockies have won in walkoff fashion, with Justin Morneau hitting a two-run homer in the 10th against San Diego on Sunday.

Cardinals 9, Diamondbacks 0: Adam Wainwright allowed one hit as host St. Louis ended an eight-game home run drought with long balls from Matt Adams and Jhonny Peralta.

Working on six days' rest because of a rainout and day off, Wainwright (7-2) retired the first 11 batters before Paul Goldschmidt doubled off the wall in center with two outs in the fourth.

Nationals 9, Reds 4: Denard Span was at his disruptive best, getting three hits off the majors' top pitcher and forcing a pair of throwing errors to lead host Washington over Cincinnati.

Span finished 5-for-5 with two runs, two doubles, two RBIs and a stolen base as the Nationals accomplished a first for 2014: They made Johnny Cueto (4-3) look mortal.

Phillies 6, Marlins 5: Jimmy Rollins homered for the second game in a row to put visiting Philadelphia ahead to stay.

The Phillies began the night ranked 26th in the majors in homers, but they've hit seven in the past three games — all wins — while scoring 26 runs.

Dodgers 9, Mets 4: Adrian Gonzalez homered again in his second con-

secutive three-hit game and Yasiel Puig reached base five times to lead visiting Los Angeles.

Josh Beckett (2-1) helped himself with an RBI single in his second straight victory after 14 winless starts.

Interleague

Cubs 6, Yankees 1: Masahiro Tanaka had his regular-season unbeaten streak broken at 42 starts, allowing a career-high four runs in six innings as last-place Chicago beat visiting New York.

The Cubs honored the retiring Derek Jeter before the game, then handed Tanaka his first loss in nine major league starts. Tanaka (6-1) had been 34-0 in Japan and North America the past two seasons. He did drop Game 6 of the Japan Series last year before earning the save in Game 7. He hadn't lost a regular-season game since the Seibu Lions beat the Rakuten Golden Eagles on Aug. 19, 2012.

Orioles 9, Pirates 2: Chris Davis hit three home runs, doubling his season total, and drove in five runs to lead visiting Baltimore past Pittsburgh.

Davis hit a two-run blast during a four-run fifth inning that put the Orioles ahead 6-1 then hit a solo shot in the seventh and two-run homer in the ninth. It was Davis' second career three-homer game — the other came on Aug. 24, 2012 against Toronto — and seventh multi-homer game.

NHL PLAYOFFS/AUTO RACING



GRANHAN HUGHES, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

New York Rangers players Rick Nash, right, Derek Stepan, center, and Chris Kreider celebrate after a goal in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals against the Montreal Canadiens on Monday. The Rangers have a 2-0 lead in the best-of-7 series and can reach the Stanley Cup finals for the first time since 1994 with wins on Thursday and Sunday at home at Madison Square Garden.

Rangers back home at MSG just 2 wins from Cup final

By IRA PODELL
The Associated Press



**Eastern Conference finals:
Game 3
Montreal at N.Y. Rangers**
AFN-Sports
2 a.m. Friday CET
9 a.m. Sunday JKT

WHEN you are two wins from the Stanley Cup finals you can afford to be casual and coy. New York Rangers coach Alain Vigneault is playing the part perfectly.

Vigneault is all smiles Tuesday at the team hotel in Montreal hours after his surging club beat the Canadiens again to lead the Eastern Conference finals 2-0.

The Rangers are home for the next two games. Two wins at Madison Square Garden will put them in the championship round for the first time since they took the Cup 20 years ago.

Since falling in a 3-1 series hole against Pittsburgh in the second round, the Rangers have won five straight. Quite a turnaround from almost certain elimination to being the favorite to get to the finals.

"What we try to do is — and I know you get sick and tired of hearing it — but one game at a time, one shift at a time. We want to play the right way," Vigneault said. "That's what's gotten us here, and that's what's going to keep us here."

It is certainly working. New York is on its longest postseason winning streak since taking seven straight during the 1994 title run.

The Rangers have won four in a row on the road — two in Pittsburgh, two in Montreal — for their best playoff stretch since a five-game split from May 9, 1972-April 12, 1973.

They are the fourth team to win six consecutive playoff games against the Canadiens, dating to Game 3 of the 1996 first round. The Rangers are the second team to win five postseason games in a row in Montreal.

No club has won more than six straight against the 24-time Stanley Cup champion Canadiens. The Rangers can make it seven in Game 3 on Thursday at Madison Square Garden. It would give them a place in history, and put them in prime position to advance quickly after starting the playoffs with two seven-game series.

The Rangers put themselves in this spot with a stunning 7-2 series-opening win Saturday and followed with a 3-1 victory Monday when Henrik Lundqvist shined with a 40-save effort that Canadiens coach Michel Therrien twice called "phenomenal."

"You get on a roll because different things happen," assistant captain Brad Richards said. "Whether one night Henrik keeps you in, you get opportunistic goals, or something. We got a bunch of goals the

other night in the third period, and you get some confidence.

"But, really, it's forgotten about, and we have to really get ready for a great opportunity in our first game on home ice."

The Rangers were overtaxed in the first two rounds, partly by their own doing in needing to win in Game 7 both times, but also falling victim to the schedule that had them playing back-to-back stretches of three games in four days.

They have two days off before Game 3 and then will have another two-day break before Game 4 on Sunday. At this point, though, they might relish the chance to hop back on the ice sooner.

The Canadiens were the tired team this time, hosting Game 1 on Saturday afternoon after finishing off the Bruins on Wednesday night in Boston.

"The first game was tough for us," Therrien said Tuesday during a conference call. "Emotionally, it was tough for us. Physically it was tough for us. We didn't get much time between Game 7 and Game 1. Obviously, it showed with the result. But I thought we regrouped really well.

"I thought we were a team that's pushing the pace, and we played a solid game. It's good for us mentally to get a day off. I'm anxious to see my guys (Wednesday), and go to New York. We are looking for one win, and momentum can change quickly in the playoffs. I'm really optimistic.

Therrien hasn't said if he will go back to Dustin Tokarski in Game 3 after the 24-year-old goalie made his playoff debut Monday in place of Carey Price — who is out for the series — or Peter Budaj, who replaced the injured Price in the opener. Tokarski made 27 saves in just his 11th career NHL game.

Forward Derick Brassard, who was injured in the opener and sat out Monday, could play Thursday.

Indianapolis 500

Hinchcliff back after concussion

By JIM HOEHN
The Associated Press

WEST ALLIS, Wis. — While awaiting medical clearance to resume driving after a concussion, James Hinchcliff's thoughts of competing in the Indianapolis 500 went from apprehension to appreciation.

"It was the not knowing, that was the hard part," said Hinchcliff, who qualified second for the 500 after being cleared to return.

"As a racing driver, we're all control freaks basically, and not knowing and having your future in someone else's hands like that in a sense, it was very nerve-wracking."

Hinchcliff sustained a concussion when struck in the head by debris from another car in the inaugural Grand Prix of Indianapolis on May 10. He missed five days while waiting to be cleared and then qualified second, despite limited practice time.

"You feel like you're falling behind," the 27-year-old Canadian said Tuesday at an Indy Car event in Milwaukee, site of a race in August.

"The nature of this sport is, the guys that win are the guys that work harder than the other people. That's in life. That's a pretty universal truth. So, I've always lived by that and I've always worked very hard. I've always tried very hard. It was so counterintuitive that in this case, to do the best job and to try the hardest, it was to do nothing."

After most of Friday's practice was rained out, and one day of qualifying runs on Saturday, Hinchcliff averaged 230.839 mph in Sunday's qualifying, which was the fastest until Ed Carpenter averaged 231.067 mph as the last driver to attempt to qualify.

"Basically, I had a day," Hinchcliff said. "If I couldn't have a single run before attempting to qualify, they probably wouldn't have felt comfortable putting me in a car."

"But, I did get one run on Friday

and then I think we did one run on Saturday morning. So, I think my first qualifying attempt was like my ninth lap of the month."

Carpenter shared the Milwaukee appearance with Hinchcliff. Carpenter said he was glad that Hinchcliff was cleared to race.

"It would be torture," Carpenter said. "Honestly, all the drivers were so happy that he was able to make it back, because to have to miss that race of all races. Every one of us waits the whole year to get back to Indy every year."

"It wouldn't be fair for any driver to have to sit out for an injury."

Hinchcliff agreed that the fact that it was the Indianapolis 500 as opposed to another race made it more difficult.

"Racing is difficult to compare to other sports for a lot of reasons in a lot of ways," Hinchcliff said. "For us, this our playoffs, this is our Super Bowl, this is our World Series. Nobody wants to be sidelined for any race, but if you have to be sidelined for one, good god, anything but the 500."

As part of the event at the Milwaukee Mile, fans were allowed to walk the oval behind a slow-moving minivan carrying Carpenter and Hinchcliff. The drivers faced backward out of the van and answered questions from track officials and fans in an informal conversation.

"That was really impressive," said Hinchcliff, adding that he had never been part of an event like that.

"I think it gives the fans a unique perspective on everything and gave them an opportunity to ask a lot of questions, which was great. And actually get out on the racing surface. It was very cool."

Scott Gerloski, 51, who lives in the Milwaukee area and described himself as an avid race fan, appreciated the chance to meet and talk with the drivers in an informal setting.

"It's a great way to connect with the fans," Gerloski said. "Just made me have new favorite drivers in the sport."



TOM STRATTMAN/AP

James Hinchcliff looks over his car after his qualification run on Sunday for the Indianapolis 500 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. A week ago, there were questions that Hinchcliff would be able to race after suffering a concussion in the Grand Prix of Indianapolis. The 27-year old Canadian is not only cleared to drive, he's second on the grid for the most famous race in IndyCar.

NBA

James, Wade lead Miami's decisive surge

Duo sparks 12-2 run late in fourth quarter as Heat steal home-court edge from Pacers

By MICHAEL MAROT
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana thought it had taken control Tuesday night.

LeBron James and Dwyane Wade stole it right back.

The four-time MVP and perennial All-Star did what they always seem to — bailed out the Heat in a desperate moment. This time the two All-Stars spurred a decisive 12-2 fourth-quarter spurt that led Miami past Indiana 87-83 in the Eastern Conference series at 1-1.

"We're very confident coming down the stretch because we believe in our defense," Wade said. "When our defense is the way it should be we are moving around, running around, doing the things we should do offensively we got two guys that we can put the ball in their hands and they make the best play for the team. So you have confidence in that. That's why we don't break a sweat too much in those moments."

The two mainstays sure had to work hard, especially late, Tuesday.

Wade scored 10 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter, and James scored 12 of his 22 during the same 12-minute stretch. Together, they combined for Miami's final 20 points and all but three of the Heat's 25 points in the quarter — just enough to avoid falling into a 2-0 hole for the first time since the first round of the 2010 playoffs.

Miami has won 11 straight post-season games following a loss, a span covering 40 playoff games without back-to-back losses, and this one might have been their toughest job yet.

The odds were stacked against them when we want it," Wade said. "This wasn't about Xs and Os. It was

just about how bad do we want to win this game? We proved it. We showed it."

The Heat can take advantage of their opportunity when the series shifts back to Miami for Game 3 on Saturday.

Frustrated Indiana had plenty of chances, too.

After wiping out a 41-37 half-time deficit and building a 63-56 lead late in the third quarter, the Pacers allowing James to find Chris Bosh and Norris Cole for open threes that made it 63-62. When the Pacers rebuilt a 73-69 lead midway through the fourth quarter and had a chance to extend it, Roy Hibbert missed a 12-foot jumper. James and Wade dominated the rest of the game.

Indiana's Lance Stephenson tied his playoff career high with 25 points. Paul George had 14.

But it's the third straight series Indiana has lost home-court advantage in either Game 1 or 2 after fighting so hard to get the top seed in the East, and they know it won't be easy getting it back.

"We've got to go on their floor and take a game the same way they did," George said. "We gave this one away, so we have to work even harder on their floor."

If James has anything to say about it, the Heat won't give up anything easy.

"It's not going to be pretty. Not in the Eastern Conference," James said. "It's never pretty basketball in the Eastern Conference. It's about who can sustain runs. You know, who can get defensive stops? Who can not turn the ball over and who can get great shots? I think we did that in the fourth."

At times, on the rough-and-tumble night on the arena of a football game, especially late.

When George and Wade collid-

ed chasing a loose ball, the associated pay grinning.

Another time, James crashed hard to the floor when David West was called for a flagrant one foul in the fourth quarter, which was changed to a common foul following a replay review. There were hard picks, tight defense and James and Wade back in their old groove.

James hit a three to cut Indiana's lead to 73-72, and after Hibbert answered with a 6-foot hook shot, James scored six straight to start the decisive spurt.

Scoreboard

Conference finals

(Best-of-seven; x if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Indiana 1, Miami 1

Indiana 107, Miami 96

Tuesday, May 27, Indiana 83

Saturday, at Miami

Monday, at Miami

Wednesday, May 28, at Indiana

Friday, May 31, at Miami

x-Sunday, June 1, at Indiana

WESTERN CONFERENCE

San Antonio 1, Oklahoma City 0

San Antonio 122, Oklahoma City 105

Wednesday, at San Antonio

Sunday, at Oklahoma City

Thursday, May 29, Oklahoma City

x-Thursday, May 29, at San Antonio

x-Saturday, May 31, at Oklahoma City

x-Monday, June 2, at San Antonio

Tuesday

Heat 87, Pacers 83

MIAMI — James 9-8 16-22, Haslem 3-5 1-2 7, Bosh 4-9 0-0 9, Chalmers 2-4 0-6, Wade 10-16 3-4 23, RAllen 1-5 0-0 2, Anderson 1-4 1-2 3, Battier 1-2 0-0 3, Cole 3-4 4-11. Totals 34-67 11-18 87.

INDIANA — George 14-15 4-6 14, West 5-16 0-0 10, Hibbert 5-9 2-2 12, G.Hill 5-9 0-0 12, Stephenson 10-17 3-25, Mighami 0-0 2-3 0-6. Totals 32-80 10-15 83.

Miami 20 21 21 25-87

Indiana 21 16 26 20-83

Three-Point Goals—Miami 8-20

(Chalmers 2-2, Cole 2-2, Battier 2-2,

RAllen 1-3, Bosh 1-4, James 1-5, Wade 0-2,

Anderson 0-1), Indiana 9-19 (G.Hill 3-5,

Battier 2-3, Stephenson 2-4, George 2-5,

West 0-1, Watson 0-1). Fouled Out—None.

Rebounds—Miami 47 (Anderson 12), Indiana 46 (Hibbert 13). Assists—Miami 19 (James 6), Indiana 13 (Stephenson 7).

Totals Fouls—Miami 17, Indiana 16.

—18,165 (16,151)



AJ Mast/PAP

Miami Heat forward LeBron James, right, high-fives teammate Dwyane Wade late in the second half of Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals against the Indiana Pacers in Indianapolis on Tuesday.

T-wolves stuck at 13; work begins on coach, Love

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Now that the Minnesota Timberwolves have dispensed with their annual no-lock trip through the NBA's draft lottery, they can get down to business.

The Timberwolves received the 13th pick in the lottery on Tuesday night, which is exactly where they were slotted heading into the annual drawing. The Timberwolves have never improved their draft position in franchise history.

Today was stacked against them on Tuesday night, when they had a 2.18 percent chance of moving into the top three selections. But the suspense ended when their logo came up two picks into the process.

It wasn't all bad news for the Timberwolves, though. Had the Phoenix Suns moved into the top three from the 14th and final position in the lottery field, the Timberwolves would have lost their first-round draft pick altogether as part of the trade

that sent Wesley Johnson to the Suns two years ago. But the Wolves' draft pick was protected through the first 13 picks this year, allowing the Wolves to hold onto it.

President of basketball operations Flip Saunders burned incense at team headquarters in a tongue-in-cheek ploy to ward off the evil spirits that have plagued the Wolves in past lottery trips, but the trick didn't work.

Now that the Timberwolves know exactly where they stand, and exactly where every other lottery team stands, expect things to start getting interesting.

Saunders planned to wait until after the drafting to start narrowing the field of candidates for the team's coaching vacancy. Rick Adelman retired at the end of the season, and Saunders was met with a tepid response from some of the biggest names on his wish list when he started the search.

Saunders was hoping a lucky night and a top-three pick might make the job more attractive to some of the established coaches who are available, but most of those candi-

dates have been reluctant to engage the Wolves because of the uncertainty surrounding star forward Kevin Love, who can opt out of his contract after next season and become a free agent.

Love is expected to test the free-agent market after not making the playoffs in any of his first six seasons in Minnesota. The prospect of losing the second-best player in franchise history without anything to show for it has the Timberwolves at least considering trading him, if they can get a package that they feel would make the transition from the Love era to the next as painless as possible.

The way the lottery unfolded on Tuesday didn't provide as much intrigue as it could have. Cleveland won the lottery for the third time in four seasons, followed by Milwaukee and Philadelphia. But it is difficult to imagine Love agreeing to go to any of those three markets when he is looking to join a franchise that can contend right away.

Trade terms believed to be very interested in making a run at Love — the Celt-

ics, the Lakers and Suns — didn't get any help on lottery night. The Celtics finished with the sixth pick, the Lakers the seventh and the Suns at No. 14.

Even in a draft projected to be very deep, using selections that low as one of the primary pieces in a trade package for one of the elite offensive players in the league figures to be a tough sell.

The Wolves are in no rush to make a decision on Love. If they don't pull the trigger on a trade around next month's draft, they can go forward with a plan to improve the roster, hire an energetic new coach and get the team rolling enough to change Love's mind, much the way the Portland Trail Blazers did last year with previously disgruntled LaMarcus Aldridge.

They could also choose to hold on to him to try and get a better deal as the trade deadline approaches next February or keep him for the entire season and then use the roughly \$17 million in salary-cap room that his exit would create to go after big-name free agents in 2015.

SPORTS

LOTTERY TEAMS

2014 draft order

First round

1. Cleveland
 2. Milwaukee
 3. Philadelphia
 4. Orlando
 5. Utah
 6. Boston
 7. L.A. Lakers
 8. Sacramento
 9. Charlotte (from Detroit)
 10. Philadelphia (from New Orleans)
 11. Denver
 12. Orlando (from New York via Denver)
 13. Minnesota
 14. Phoenix
-
15. Atlanta
 16. Chicago (from Charlotte)
 17. Boston (from Brooklyn)
 18. Phoenix (from Washington)
 19. Chicago
 20. Toronto
 21. Oklahoma City (from Dallas via Houston and L.A. Lakers)
 22. Memphis
 23. Utah (from Golden State)
 24. Charlotte (from Portland)
 25. Houston
 26. Miami
 27. Phoenix (from Indiana)
 28. L.A. Clippers
 29. Oklahoma City
 30. San Antonio



AP

What now?

The Cavs can now choose among the likes of **Andrew Wiggins** and **Joel Embiid** of Kansas, **Duke's Jabari Parker**, or another player from what's considered a deep draft. "This means everything," Cavs vice chairman **Jeff Cohen** said. "This is the deepest draft arguably since **LeBron (James)** and **Dwyane Wade** and **Chris Bosh** and **Carmelo Anthony** came out."

Looking back at Cleveland's NBA lottery winnings



2003

LeBron James
Cleveland indeed hit the jackpot when it won the right to select prep star James with the top pick. He went on to become Rookie of the Year and led the Cavs to the playoffs five times. Alas, he left for Miami via free agency in 2010, and has the Heat in contention for their third consecutive championship.



2011

Kyrie Irving
Just the kind of player the Cavaliers needed after James took his talents to South Beach, the former Duke point guard is one of the best young players in the league. Irving, a two-time All-Star in his three NBA seasons, has career averages of 20.7 points and 5.8 assists per game.



2013

Anthony Bennett
The Cavs made Bennett, who played one season at UNLV, the first Canadian taken with the No. 1 overall pick. His first season was anything but a resounding success: In 52 games, he averaged 4.2 points and 3.0 rebounds in 12.6 minutes per game.

MORE LUCKY THAN GOOD

Cavs again draw No. 1 lottery pick

The Cleveland Cavaliers would prefer to be known for being good, not lucky. Maybe next year. For now, disappointment is replaced by disbelief, as even they are amazed by their remarkable run of lottery luck.

"It was incredible," general manager **David Griffin** said Tuesday night in New York. "When Cleveland didn't pop up at nine, I knew obviously we had moved up and I had to gather myself for a second. Just a remarkable feeling."

Familiar one, too. The city of Cleveland may be on a 50-year championship drought,

but it has this lottery thing figured out. The Cavs won the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft for the second straight year and third time in the past four. They moved up from No. 9, where they had a 1.7 percent chance of winning the top selection. The 2011 win was also a stunner, when the Cavs moved up from No. 8 with a pick they acquired from the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Cavs matched Orlando, which drew No. 1 in 1992-93. The latter win, after the Magic went 41-41 in Shaquille O'Neal's rookie season, caused the league to adopt a weighted format that gave the worst teams the most chances.

—**Brian Mahoney**
The Associated Press

Tanking talk

The expected strength of the class led to speculation that teams were tanking in hopes of getting a high pick. The tanking talk has led to discussions to change it again, something Commissioner **Adam Silver** has said will be discussed this summer. But he has also said that if there was an ideal solution, the league would have implemented it by now.

‘It seems surreal. This is three out of four years and we had a 1.7 percent chance of coming up with the first pick and we pulled it off again.’

Jeff Cohen
Cleveland Cavaliers vice chairman

2004

The last time the team with the best odds won the draft lottery (Orlando). The Milwaukee Bucks had a 25 percent chance of winning after a league-worst 15-67 record, but they fell to No. 2.

ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

SOURCES: The Associated Press, nba.com

