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Free to Deployed Areas

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Wider range of options weighed

Obama might seek authority for more vigorous assault on Islamic State

By KAREN DEYOUNG
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is considering seeking congressional authorization for military action against the Islamic State under a revamped counterterrorism strategy President Barack Obama announced last year.

A mandate from Congress could provide domestic legal justification for the unlim-

ited use of force against the Sunni Muslim group across Iraq and Syria, a senior administration official said. Congress last formally authorized such action in 2001, against al-Qaida and its associates, and 2002, against Iraq under Saddam Hussein.

The authorization is one of several alternatives under active discussion as the administration grapples with whether and how to try to militarily defeat the Islamic State, which controls a wide swath of terri-

tory between Damascus and Baghdad.

The range of options for direct use of the U.S. military includes temporary authority under the War Powers Resolution, constitutional authority for emergency action to protect U.S. citizens and "having that discussion with Congress" about a more open-ended authorization to combat the Islamic State, the official said.

SEE OBAMA ON PAGE 7



Fearing the future

Progress in girls' education threatened as troops, international organizations prepare to leave Afghanistan | Page 4

HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

A girl puts on a burqa as she leaves the Kandahar Institute of Modern Studies in June. The school, like many in Afghanistan that focus on girls' education, is having major financial difficulties as international organizations scale back operations ahead of the Dec. 31 deadline for the departure of all foreign combat troops.

Marines train for fast-moving future

By JENNIFER HLAD
Stars and Stripes

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — Beyond the dusty berms, concertina wire and armed guards, in the center of adjoining tents set up like spokes on a wheel, Marines sat at computers, monitoring incoming communications while huge screens full of blue and red icons illustrated the positions of friendly and enemy forces.

The icons were updated in real time, but not all of the "troops" were real.

In the command operations center, Marines prepared for the arrival of a fictitious Army unit. The air support coming to the aid of the real and virtual troops was being flown in simulators 150 miles away. The enemy's movements were being controlled by Marines in the next tent.

The high-tech training exercise — Large Scale Exercise 2014 — integrated troops on the ground, Marines in simulators and virtual forces, as part of the Marine Corps' aggressive

SEE MARINES ON PAGE 2



JENNIFER HLAD/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Luisa De La Cerdá monitors communications during Large Scale Exercise 2014.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Falafel is a world food now. ... We see ourselves to be the next Chipotle."

—Kevin Shoaito, owner of the Fremont, Calif., franchise of United Arab Emirates-based Just Falafel.

See story on Page 11

MILITARY



Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, prepare to fire an M777 A2 light Howitzer during a large-scale training exercise Friday at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif. The training mimicked a peer-on-peer conflict and incorporated live and virtual training.

JENNIFER HAD
Stars and Stripes

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COMING SOON

Wired world

Evolution of the tech job



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Marines: Change in crises leads to change in training

FROM FRONT PAGE

10-year plan to prepare units to deploy anywhere, anytime.

"We're talking about a lean, agile and responsive force that provides options to senior military leaders and national command authorities in times of crisis," said Brig. Gen. Carl "Sam" Mundy III, commander of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

That kind of readiness requires training — and trying something new.

New standing units

Traditionally, 2,200-person Marine Expeditionary Units go through six-month training cycles to prepare for a range of scenarios, then deploy on ships for six or seven months, responding to crises as they arise.

Larger units, including Marine Expeditionary Forces that can number in the tens of thousands, train for major campaigns that have been identified.

But in March, the Marine Corps released a restructuring plan designed to make the Marines "the right force in the right place at the right time." The plan includes having a third of the operating forces deployed at any given time, having forces ready for rapid crisis response, and creating standing units larger than

MEUs and smaller than MEFs, called MEBs.

The Marine Corps has used MEBs off and on for years; the Marines of Task Force Tarawa at the start of the Iraq War were an MEB, as were the Marines who surged into Afghanistan's Helmand province in 2009 and those who responded to the deadly typhoon in the Philippines last year. But while these units were created for specific purposes, the new MEBs are supposed to be ready for anything.

However, as the first MEB began to plan, leaders realized that putting together a 12,000-strong unit and sending it the Corps' combat training center in the middle of the California desert wasn't feasible or fiscally responsible.

So the unit decided on a new approach, combining about 5,000 Marines on the ground with thousands more virtual troops.

'Ready for whatever'

One of the smaller units participating in the August training was the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, which is based here and spends much of its time training in the desert. The first morning of the exercise, as the sun beat down on the camouflage netting shielding their gun trucks

and they readied their M777 A2 light Howitzers to fire at the enemy over the mountains, the Marines said the only real difference from their usual training was the name of the larger unit they fall under.

Several miles away, in an air-conditioned building, Marines were "traveling" in modified Humvees and seven-ton trucks attached to a computer simulator, as turret gunners manned rubberized weapons and scanned a virtual image of the actual route outside.

The big-screen graphics are closer to early Nintendo than "Call of Duty," but the weapons and vehicles looked and felt almost the same as the real thing.

The MEB's headquarters camp and combat operations center, out of sight from the other outposts and surrounded by stark desert and mountains, had the feel of a base in Afghanistan.

And like recent operations, the training incorporated joint and combined elements, including a handful of Air Force and special operations troops, plus about 100 soldiers from the 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, who traveled here to participate.

However, unlike training for Iraq and Afghanistan, the exercise wasn't focused on counter-

insurgency. Marines called their training enemy a "peer force," a foe with similar strengths and capabilities.

In the scenario, the military of one country, Dakota, had pushed into another, Acadia, cutting off access to the ocean for Acadia and a third country. The Marines' job was to kick out the Dakotans.

The scenario is just the first of several possibilities that the MEB will train for under the new organizational structure, Mundy said. Future exercises will include more amphibious operations and partnering with the Navy.

The Marine Corps "is still America's 9-1-1 force," said Lt. Col. Doug Luccio, the MEB's operations officer. "I've got to be ready for whatever the world throws at me."

Col. Dany Fortin, commander of the 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said that while troops should draw on the lessons learned from Iraq and Afghanistan, it's critical they prepare for other scenarios and for doing joint operations with other countries.

"It's hard to say where we're going next," he said, but it has become increasingly hard for one military branch or one nation to go it alone.

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DODDS SPORTS

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



MIDEAST

Election stalemate hurting Afghan economy

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY
AND ZUBAIR BABAKRKHAI
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — It's wedding season here, but the colorful dresses in Eral Hamidzada's small shop in central Kabul are in deep discount. Purchases have fallen off in recent months, he said, despite his efforts to tempt customers.

"If I told you there was no business, I'd be lying," said Hamidzada, 26. "It's next to nothing."

Small businesses and large investors alike have been hit hard in Afghanistan as spending remains tight amid uncertainty over the country's future. The approaching withdrawal of NATO combat forces and the unclear status of foreign military assistance going forward — and whether aid agencies will stay if foreign troops go — have led many Afghans to reconsider purchases like dresses and new cars and keep their money within close reach.

Now an election impasse and the growing tensions surrounding it are adding to the hesitation, according to business leaders and merchants like Hamidzada. The drop in business suggests that whatever government eventually assumes office could face an economic crisis in addition to political and military crises, raising further questions about the legacy left by U.S. intervention in the country.

"This kind of election should not affect businesses like it has," said Hashem Rasouli, a spokesman for the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries. "But Afghan people have a very bad and very negative experience from the past election."

July surveys conducted by the chamber found that many businesses had closed or downsized, paring employees by 10 percent compared to the previous survey in March. The overall business climate — a measure of business owner feelings about their current situation and the outlook for the next six months — fell dramatically in every region.

The survey, given out across the country, coincided with Afghanistan's annual fighting season, which begins in spring and runs through summer. It also came as one of the presidential candidates protested early results from the June 14 presidential runoff election, drawing fears of unrest.

Foreign and domestic investment fell 2 percent in the first half of 2014 from a similar period in 2013, according to Rohullah Ishrat Ahmadzai, a spokesman for the Afghanistan Investment Support Agency. The drop, which Ahmadzai said paralleled the election process beginning in 2014, fol-



STEVEN BEARDSLEY/Stars and Stripes

Eral Hamidzada, 26, owner of a dress shop in central Kabul, Afghanistan, said customers are reluctant to spend money in the country's current climate of political uncertainty.

lows a 26 percent increase in investment between the first halves of 2012 and 2013, he said.

Delegations of foreign business owners have stopped coming to Afghanistan as they wait out the current crisis, Ahmadzai said. And Afghan business delegations have likewise stopped looking at business opportunities abroad.

"The investors are waiting on the situation," Ahmadzai said. "And if they see a positive change, or the election is peacefully resolved, then we have [plans] to support them and encourage them to invest."

Less spending has resulted in fewer imports, which, in turn, has lowered Afghanistan's take of customs duties and taxes, said Finance Ministry spokesman Abdul Qadir Jaillani.

As it is, Afghanistan is able to raise very little of its own revenue, with foreign donations accounting for roughly 90 percent of its annual budget, including most of the salaries for the army and police. Income from customs is a major part of the country's domestic revenue, yet it has regularly fallen

below the expectations of international donors due to corruption and inefficiency.

Under the Tokyo Framework adopted by international donors two years ago, Afghanistan agreed to raise its revenue collection from 11 percent of its gross domestic product in 2012 to 15 percent in 2016. But last year, revenues accounted for only 9.5 percent of GDP, according to the International Monetary Fund.

Jaillani said the election season could account for an additional 15 percent to 20 percent loss in customs, expanding the existing revenue shortfall.

"If the election process takes longer, three months from now we will start being concerned with how to pay government employees," Jaillani said.

Aghan government representatives have already briefed State Department officials on the revenue shortfall, according to an emailed statement from a U.S. Embassy official. Reasons for the gap vary, according to the statement, "including the economic downturn, poor revenue collection, and weak budgeting capacity, and may be com-

pounded by the ongoing political situation."

The economy is one of many pressures on rival presidential candidates Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah to resolve an audit from June's runoff vote and form a joint government. Agreements to keep foreign military forces in the country must be signed soon. U.S. and NATO leaders have warned, if a follow-on military mission is to remain next year.

Civil unrest also remains a possibility if either campaign believes the process is flawed. Both candidates have pledged to sign if elected.

Rasouli said many Afghans remember the financial impact of the civil war in the 1990s, when sudden unrest in Kabul left them little time to get their money from the banks and escape the country.

"People think perhaps Afghanistan will face tough conditions and all this will begin again," he said.

Hamidzada, the dress shop owner, said he spent \$10,000 remodeling his property last year, assuming he would make his money back in the next year. He hasn't, he said, and he is now holding off on buying a car.

"Definitely, in this kind of situation you don't want to spend a lot of money," he said. "If you want to borrow money, you can't be sure someone will lend."

A peaceful transition to a new government could help boost flagging numbers, said Ahmadzai, of AISA. When Secretary of State John Kerry first visited Kabul in July to broker a deal between the two presidential candidates, Afghanistan's currency, the afghani, improved against the dollar, Ahmadzai said.

"It gave a kind of psychological boost to investors," he said.

Yet problems continue to dog the effort to declare a winner. The candidates have created a 30-member joint committee to flesh out details of a new government, but the two sides appear far apart on the role and authority of the new structures.

The election audit also remains behind schedule due to challenges by the candidates' representatives. The audit was supposed to be finished in time for the NATO summit Sept. 4-5 in Wales.

As of Tuesday evening, auditors had finished only 53 percent of the nearly 23,000 ballot boxes from the runoff election.

"We can't give a guarantee of when it will finish," said Independent Election Commission spokesman Noor Mohammad Noor.

Zubair Babakrkhai contributed to this report. bit.ly/13vripes.com
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Afghan medical tourists boost Indian airline

Bloomberg News

NEW DELHI — Bibhaji Zia, 54, plans to return to Kabul next week after knee surgery in New Delhi. She'll fly with SpiceJet Ltd., part of a surge in Afghan medical tourism that's a silver lining for the indebted Indian airline.

"There are hospitals in Afghanistan, but the quality of medicine is the biggest issue," said Zia's son, Sediq, who organized the ticket. "Getting Indian visas is easy. The alternative, Pakistan, is less secure and less friendly."

SpiceJet is the only private Indian carrier with direct flights to Afghanistan, a route that's busy even after Taliban militants fired rockets at Kabul airport and the Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 disaster

in Ukraine underscored risks in conflict zones. The number of Afghans seeking treatment, up 21 percent last year to more than 32,000, is set to climb further after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi relaxed visa rules.

SpiceJet's data show it flies about 1,000 Afghan medical tourists and their relatives each month from Kabul to New Delhi, which may earn the company about \$2.6 million a year based on average ticket prices. The carrier said the route is "very positive" when asked about profitability, without giving more details. That contrasts with the mounting costs and competition in India's skies that led SpiceJet to lose \$20.5 million in the April-June period, its fourth

straight quarterly loss.

Sediq Zia, who like many Afghans watched Bollywood films while growing up and speaks Hindi, said he paid \$3,700 for his mother's knee replacement at Saket City Hospital in India's capital. The same procedure costs about \$19,200 in Singapore and \$34,000 in the United States, according to Patients Beyond Borders. Zia, 24, studies in New Delhi and stays in the city's Lajpat Nagar neighborhood, a "Little Afghanistan" that draws Afghan medical tourists and is dotted with travel agencies and restaurants bearing Pashto signboards.

"Demand is quite high for Delhi-Kabul flights," said Mehtab Singh, a manager at Welcome Travels in



KUNI TAKAHASHI/Bloomberg News

Store signs written in English and Pashto stand in the Lajpat Nagar area of New Delhi.

Lajpat Nagar. "We book 20-25 tickets to Kabul every day during peak season."

Afghan patients are part of an Indian medical tourism industry

that will double in value to \$6 billion by 2018 with 400,000 arrivals, up from about 230,000 currently, the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry estimates.

MIDEAST

Afghan schools in a struggle for survival

As coalition's presence fades, education gains face setback

By **HEATH DRUZIN**
Stars and Stripes

EKANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Ehsanullah Ehsan's dream of higher education was shattered by war, and he's spent most of his adult life making sure Afghan children, especially girls, avoid the same fate. At the time, the end of a military intervention imperils the dream he has braved death threats in the Taliban's heartland to achieve.

In the spare classrooms of Ehsan's school, the Kandahar Institute of Modern Studies, visitors witness a rarity in Afghanistan: girls and boys learning together. For many, it's a daily escape from a rural life in which a woman often ventures no farther than the mud walls of her compound.

The roughly 2,000 students, more than half of them girls, study subjects such as English, computer science and business. Many have lofty goals.

"I plan to finish medical school and run a hospital," 15-year-old Zakira Rasuly said. "In Afghanistan, we can't make any predictions about the future, so it is the time to study hard, get an education and serve your country."

For the institute and many others like it, the evaporation of international money that has accompanied the withdrawal of international military forces threatens to shutter their doors and reverse one of the few tangible achievements of a controversial war: a vast improvement in girl's education.

'Education is light'

After five years of Taliban control, during which girls' education was virtually nonexistent, the number of girls going to school since the U.S. military evacuated the country in 2001 had increased dramatically. The Afghan Ministry of Education says 4.5 million girls are in school, though the reliability of such statistics is fiercely debated.

"If we educate a boy it means we can't do a single man's work we educate a girl, it means we have educated a family and a society," said Mohammad Kabir Haqmal, spokesman for Afghanistan's Education Ministry. "Because in Afghanistan mostly women take care of the house, so if we have educated women they will focus on their children's education, too."

Still, deep problems remain, despite more than a decade of intensive international efforts to improve education for girls in a country where the female literacy rate is an abysmal 18 percent, ac-



PHOTOS BY HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

Girls study in one of the spare classrooms of the Kandahar Institute of Modern Studies, a co-educational school aimed at preparing Afghan girls and boys for college. Like many other private schools in Afghanistan, the institute is struggling financially.

ording to United Nations figures. Rural areas, where the majority of Afghans live, have been disproportionately affected by the war. Insurgents use violence to keep students and teachers away from schools.

"Female teachers are not willing to work in insecure places, and we are trying to bring them to insecure places by offering them good salary and services," Haqmal said.

Conservative traditions, too, are still a big obstacle in a country where 46 percent of girls are married before the age of 18, according to U.N. statistics.

"Still in some places, there are family who are not fully ready to accept sending their girls to schools because of cultural issues," said Sayed Naem Alami, an education expert and the head of the literature university of Kabul. For 12 years, Ehsan has been battling conservative views and Taliban threats to prepare children like Zakira, many of them girls from poor villages, for professional life.

"Education is light; education is the backbone of a nation," he said.

As a teenager, Ehsan was intent on going to college and focusing on his education, but his dream vanished as Soviet troops rolled into Afghanistan and his family eventually fled to Pakistan as refugees. He never made it to a university, and he's been working his entire adult life to help children of war avoid the same fate, first opening schools for refugees in Pakistan in the 1990s.

"I'm not highly educated, and I'm not a rich man, but I thought I could do something," he said.

Then, with the 2001 U.S. military invasion and subsequent ouster of the ultraconservative Taliban government, which had



Students take a computer science class at the Kandahar Institute of Modern Studies in June.

largely banned women's education, Ehsan saw his opportunity to continue the work in his own country. In early 2002, he began work in one of the most conservative corners of Afghanistan on what would become the Kandahar Institute of Modern Studies.

He immediately faced resistance.

"The intimidations were many, not only from the extremists, but also from the warlords and the tribal lords," Ehsan said.

Slowly, though, he convinced tribal leaders from villages where resistance to the education of girls often predated Taliban rule that there was value in educating everyone. He brought them to the school to show them there was nothing sinful about his classrooms, and he plugged the economic benefits of educated women.

"Civilization, a peaceful life, progress, development, a better life can come through education," he said. "And that cannot happen

without women."

Ehsan has passed on his passion for learning: His daughters, Nargis and Balqis, are students at KIMS and two of the school's fiercest defenders.

"Education is the only thing, the only weapon, the only power that can change the world," 17-year-old Balqis said. "We are tired of war — we want to change this situation, these wars, through education."

Playing hide-and-seek

The Taliban are not convinced, though they have softened their public stance. They continue to threaten teachers and target schools throughout the country, and educators like Ehsan are prime targets.

Ehsan says he receives intimidating letters at night, often with a bullet attached, and phone calls threatening death for him and his family. Family members have

been badly beaten and his school buses pelted with rocks.

"I have to play hide-and-seek. Otherwise they would kill me," he said.

The threat he worries about most today is the fallout from the end of NATO's combat mission and the accompanying exit of international organizations and funding so key to projects like his. For five years he received funding from the Canadian government, a source that dried up when Canadian troops left Kandahar in 2011. Since then he has worked to obtain funding from different entities, from the U.S. State Department to charities, and even received help from a British comedian, but each year he must work harder for less.

Aid to his school has dropped from \$16,000 per year to \$9,000. That means canceling school days because he can't afford to keep classrooms cool in the searing summertime heat of the Kandahari or warm on frigid winter days. It means he can't pick up the tab for as many poor students, and he can't always maintain the buses that pick up students from outlying villages and bring them to Kandahar city each morning.

"If the transportation stops, then the women cannot come out at all because they come from far away, and they cannot walk on those conservative streets," he said.

Ehsanullah's school is not the only one facing problems: The Watan Education System of Afghanistan, another co-educational institute in Kandahar, is also feeling the pinch. Though the school is privately funded by a mix of fees and local businessmen, an economy worsened by the withdrawal of international money means fewer families able to afford the school, founder Ghosadin Protan said.

"Of course, when there is a bad economy, we lost some students, and families are unable to afford fees," he said. "Some of the families who were sending four or five students to our school ... are sending one or two now."

In addition to less funding, educators like Ehsan and Protan also worry about the Taliban gaining strength and the implementation of Afghanistan — long beset by corruption — must bear more of the burden of battling an entrenched insurgency.

"The government is weak because they don't have the support of the people," he said. "They are corrupt; there are warlords in the government. When the government is not supported by the people, it is hard to fight the insurgents."

Despite the threats, financial problems and uncertainty, Ehsan says he is optimistic the international community won't forget Afghanistan. Whatever happens, he says, he's determined to keep the school doors open as long as he can: "We will continue the education until we can't."

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report from Kabul and M.S.S. from Kandahar.
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MILITARY

USS Dewey's top NCO fired over 'personal conduct'

Stars and Stripes

The command master chief of the guided-missile destroyer USS Dewey has been relieved because of "loss of confidence in his ability to fulfill his role," the Navy announced Friday.

Master Chief Petty Officer Joe Grgetich was relieved Thursday by Capt. Lyle Stuffle, commodore of Destroyer Squadron 1, the service said in a news release.

A Naval Service Force Pacific spokesman told NavyTimes.com that the firing was related to "personal conduct" that occurred before Grgetich became senior enlisted leader of Dewey, based in



Grgetich

San Diego. Last week, the commanding officer of San Diego-based Coastal Riverine Squadron 3 was removed after an investigation into "personal issues and actions."

Senior Chief Petty Officer Katy Willidig temporarily will take over Dewey's CMC duties.

news@stripes.com

Fort Hood NCO to face court-martial in prostitution case

The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — A noncommissioned sexual abuse prevention officer at Fort Hood accused of operating a prostitution ring will be court-martialed, the central Texas Army base said Friday.

Sgt. 1st Class Gregory McQueen's case will be tried in a general court-martial, reserved for the military's most serious cases, and he will face a military judge and at least five military court members acting as a jury.

The attorney who previously represented McQueen told The Associated Press that the soldier now will be presented by military attorneys. Fort Hood officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment about McQueen's legal representation.

Initial charges were filed in March against McQueen alleging 21 criminal charges including pandering, adultery and sexual assault.

Another soldier at the Army base in central Texas, Master Sgt. Brad Grimes, already was demoted and reprimanded in the case for conspiring to patronize a prostitute and solicitation to com-

mit adultery.

During a June hearing, two soldiers said that McQueen recruited them and other cash-strapped female soldiers to join a prostitution ring.

A private testified that McQueen arranged for her to have sex with Grimes for \$100.



McQueen

The lieutenant general who presided over the hearing consulted McQueen's chain of command and the case's investigating officer before recommending that McQueen stand trial, according to Fort Hood.

A trial date has not been set.

The case has brought renewed focus on the prevalence of sexual assault within the military. In March, the U.S. Senate blocked a bill that would have stripped military commanders of their authority to prosecute or prevent charges for alleged rapes and other serious offenses.

Senators seek AF Academy sex assault cases review

By DAN ELLIOTT
The Associated Press

DENVER — Two U.S. senators called for an outside investigation of how the Air Force Academy handles sexual assaults, including an allegation that agents were blocked from speaking to football coaches.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Sen. John Thune of South Dakota asked the Defense Department inspector general and the civilian U.S. Office of Special Counsel on Wednesday to look into claims by a former Air Force criminal investigator, Staff Sgt. Brandon Enos.

In a 12-page memo to members of Congress dated May 17, Enos alleged that former academy superintendent Michael Gould barred military investigators from speaking to football coaches about allegations of sexual assault and illegal drug use by players. Gould, who retired as a three-star general, has denied doing anything improper. He did not immediately respond to a message left by The Associated Press with family on Thursday.

Enos also said the Air Force's criminal investigation arm, the Office of Special Investigations, undermined an academy initiative that encouraged cadets to report if they were sexually assaulted.

Enos' allegations are serious and should be investigated, said

Glen Caplin, a spokesman for Gillibrand, a vocal critic of the military's handling of sexual assault cases.

Sexual assaults at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and at the Army and Navy academies are under close congressional scrutiny. A Department of Defense report in January identified sports and club teams as an area where the academies needed to expand training on preventing sexual misconduct.

Enos belonged to an Office of Special Investigations unit based in Colorado Springs responsible for investigating crimes at the academy and other facilities.

He did not immediately respond to multiple requests for comment through his attorney. Gillibrand's staff spoke with Enos and confirmed he wrote the memo, Caplin said.

Enos wrote that he received credible information from people he did not identify that football coaches were aware of sexual assault and drug allegations involving players. He did not say when the alleged incidents occurred.

"These sources further stated the coaching staff held a meeting with the football players in approximately December 2012 and told them to lay low and they would take care of them while this investigation 'blew over,'" Enos wrote.

Gould would not let investi-

gators interview football coach Troy Calhoun or his staff but said he would speak to them himself, Enos wrote.

"He (Gould) stated he found the coaching staff had done nothing wrong and they had no knowledge of any drug use or sexual assaults despite our multiple sources of information," Enos wrote. "I have doubt (about) the authenticity of the interview the former superintendent conducted due to the multiple sources of information previously mentioned."

No phone listing could be found for Calhoun.

Enos suggested there had been other instances of alleged interference by academy officials, but he did not elaborate.

Gould told The New York Times the allegation that he interfered with an investigation was preposterous.

Air Force Academy spokesman Lt. Col. Brus Vidal said the allegations had been reviewed numerous times by multiple agencies, and all concluded the academy handles sexual assault cases appropriately.

Enos also wrote that the Office of Special Investigations issued a policy in July 2012 requiring agents to interrupt interviews with sexual assault victims and read them their rights if they acknowledged they had illegally drunk alcohol or committed other infractions before they were assaulted.

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MIDEAST

At least 30 dead in multiple bombings in Iraq

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN
AND VIVIAN SALAMA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Bombings in Baghdad and the northern city of Kirkuk killed at least 30 people on Saturday as the Iraqi government investigated a deadly attack on a Sunni mosque the day before that has heightened sectarian tensions amid a fragile political transition.

In oil-rich Kirkuk, long disputed by Baghdad and the Kurdish regional government, three bombs went off in a crowded commercial district, killing 19 people and wounding another 112, Kirkuk deputy police chief Tarhan Abdel-Rahman said.

One witness said he heard “an explosion

between the cars, and then we started carrying out the dead bodies from there while people were burning inside the shops and cars.” The witness asked not to be named for fear of retribution.

In Baghdad, a suicide bomber had earlier driven an explosives-laden car into the gate of the intelligence headquarters in Karrada district, killing six civilians and five security personnel, a police officer said. He said 24 other people were wounded.

A medical official confirmed casualty figures. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to brief the media.

The attacks came after parliament speaker Salim al-Jabouri said that a com-

mittee of security officials and lawmakers were probing Friday’s attack against a village mosque in Diyala province, northeast of the capital, which killed more than 60 people. The results of the investigation are expected in two days’ time.

It remained unclear whether the attack in the village of Imam Wais was carried out by Shiite militiamen or insurgents from the Islamic State group.

The leader of one of the country’s largest Shiite militias on Saturday denied any role in the attack.

“What happened yesterday is a crime that we cannot turn a blind eye to,” said Qais al-Khazali of the Iranian-backed Asaib Ahi al-Haq, or League of the Righteous, which has been accused of attacks

on Sunnis in the past.

Al-Khazali described the killing as “barbaric,” adding: “It is something we do not accept and we categorically condemn.”

Iraqi President Fouad Massoud, a Kurd, condemned Friday’s attack and appealed “to all for self-restraint and to act wisely.” He promised the incident would be “properly investigated and its perpetrators held to account.”

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he’s “deeply concerned about the impact such acts of sectarian violence will have on the already grave security situation and on the political process.” The European Union said the “heinous crime” should not stand in the way of government formation and urged Iraqis to unite against violence.

Family’s flight reveals depth of grievances among Iraq’s Sunnis

By VIVIAN SALAMA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — For nearly a decade Abu Omar has been fleeing Iraq’s many conflicts, but they always seem to catch up to him.

In his Sunni family’s ancestral home in Fallujah it was the heavy shelling — first by the Americans in 2004 and then again this past January, when the walls shook and the roof caved in over their heads. In the Baghdad neighborhood where they have twice sought refuge, it is the persistent fear of a late-night knock on the door by shadowy sectarian militias.

Abu Omar’s grim odyssey was shared by countless members of Iraq’s once-dominant Sunni minority, who felt maligned by the Shiite-led government in Baghdad, hounded by its security forces and increasingly threatened, once again, by the militias that terrorized them during the darkest days of sectarian bloodletting in 2006 and 2007.

Their grievances have metastasized since the U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003 and handed power to the long-oppressed Shiite majority. Their anger fueled the rampage of Sunni militants across northern and western Iraq this summer, and the militant onslaught has aggravated sectarian tensions elsewhere, again driving Iraq to the brink of civil war.

After a humiliating retreat from much of the north in June, the Iraqi military managed to halt the offensive by the Islamic State extremist group on the outskirts of Baghdad. But in the mostly Sunni neighborhood of Adhamiyah in the heart of the capital, Abu Omar feels he is under a different kind of siege.

The patriarch of a 13-member family says he’s afraid to let his sons leave Adhamiyah because their names give them away as Sunni. “They hear Omar and Othman and right away think they are with Daesh,” he said, using the Arabic acronym for the

Islamic State group. “The (Shiite) militias want to make trouble for anyone who is Sunni.”

The family, which asked that their last name not be published for fear of harassment, first fled to Adhamiyah from Fallujah in 2005, when U.S.-led forces launched a massive assault on the restive western town aimed at rooting out insurgents.

Two years later they returned to Fallujah, fleeing the sectarian violence then engulfing the capital, when Sunni and Shiite militants abducted and killed scores of people every day, leaving the streets littered with corpses, many bearing signs of torture.

The worst of the sectarian violence subsided in the following years under the leadership of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who deployed the military against Sunni insurgents and Shiite militias and briefly united Iraqis under the banner of security.

But Sunnis, who supplied the country’s rulers from Ottoman times until the 2003 invasion, say the grievances underpinning the insurgency — the discrimination, the mass arrests and the prosecution of top Sunni leaders — only grew worse, eventually paving the way for the militant takeover of nearly one-third of the country.

Late last year the Islamic State group and allied Sunni militants seized Fallujah, and in a grim repeat of 2005 the Iraqi military surrounded the city and began bombarding it. The shelling was even worse this time, Abu Omar said, and when the roof collapsed, he and his family returned to Baghdad — again seeking what can only be described as relative safety.

The decision by al-Maliki to step down earlier this month in favor of Haider al-Abadi, a fellow member of his Shiite Islamic Dawa Party, has raised hopes for a more inclusive government that can address Sunni grievances and present a united front against the Islamic extremists.

Sunni lawmaker Ahmed al-



VIVIAN SALAMA/AP

Residents go about their business in the Adhamiyah section of Baghdad, where many Iraqi Sunnis have flocked seeking security among fellow members of their sect. However with heightened tensions brought about by the rise of Sunni militants in northern and western Iraq, many say even this Sunni stronghold is becoming unsafe for them.



AP

Sunni protesters wave Islamist flags and chant slogans at a rally against the Shiite-led Iraqi government in Fallujah in April 2013. Late last year Fallujah was seized by the Islamic State group and allied Sunni militants.

Misari told The Associated Press al-Abadi has a “historical opportunity” to reverse tensions that have festered under the previous Shiite-led governments. But he said al-Abadi must respond to Sunni demands, including “abolishing anti-terrorism laws, ending the discrimination against

people and letting the people in Sunni provinces handle their own security.”

Whether Shiite leaders can meet such demands at a time of war, and following years of near-daily car bombs and other attacks by Sunni insurgents, many targeting Shiite civilians, remains to be seen.

Little is known about al-Abadi, a longtime lawmaker who until now had largely avoided the spotlight.

And events on the ground may defy his best intentions.

When al-Maliki and other leaders called on Iraqis to join the security forces after Sunni militants seized Iraq’s second-largest city Mosul in June, long-dormant Shiite militias mobilized yet again, holding parades in the capital in which they brandished heavy weapons.

Human Rights Watch said last month that government-backed militias have been kidnapping and killing Sunni civilians in Baghdad and surrounding provinces over the past five months. The rights group has also accused the government of carrying out “indiscriminate airstrikes” on four Sunni-majority towns and cities, including Fallujah and Mosul, which killed at least 75 civilians.

“The government seems to think that if people blame militias for killings it can wash its hands of the matter,” Joe Stork, deputy Middle East and North Africa director at Human Rights Watch, said in a statement. “The government needs to rein in these militias and call a halt to killing people just because of their sect.”

MIDEAST

Obama: Legal justification for military action under debate

FROM FRONT PAGE

Obama has ordered airstrikes in Iraq under the first option, good for 60 days until early October. The second option was used this summer to launch a failed rescue attempt of American hostages held by the Islamic State in Syria. The third would entail a debate with an uncertain outcome among lawmakers with widely divergent views on presidential powers and overseas military action.

The official did not rule out the limited use of airstrikes or other action in Syria if necessary to protect U.S. citizens. The recent military raid, which was unsuccessful in locating four hostages, was followed by last week's videotaped beheading of one of the captives, journalist James Foley.

Foley's execution "represents a terrorist attack against our country," deputy national security adviser Benjamin Rhodes told reporters Friday. The administration believes that it provides international legal justification for military action under self-defense doctrines.

The Iraq policy

While contingency plans for broader airstrikes in Syria have been prepared for presidential review should Obama ask for them, so far he has not. Nor has the intelligence community drawn up a list of high-value targets among individual Islamic State leaders, as it did with al-Qaida, the senior official said.

"We're obviously trying to find them," the official said. But "we haven't made a decision" on whether to target individuals. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss closed-door policymaking and intelligence matters.

While it formulates a more comprehensive, long-term policy, the official said, the administration is focused on driving the extremists out of Iraq and containing them in Syria. The Iraq policy is "a convergence of U.S. airstrikes, more air and training for the Sunni and Kurdish force, and persuading Sunni communities to reject the militants, the official said.

"There are going to be gaps to fill" in that strategy, "and that's what we are looking at now," the official said.

Islamic State forces advanced into Iraq from Syria in the spring, quickly capturing the northern city of Mosul and rapidly moving south to within 60 miles of Baghdad. While the administration sent additional assistance to the Iraqi military, it used the proceeds to still more air leverage to force a change in Iraq's government.

But while the government formation process was still underway, the extremists switched their focus toward Iraq's Kurdish region, threatening to overrun one of the most peaceful areas



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, left, meet with members of the National Security Council on Monday in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington.

of the country, where hundreds of American diplomats and civilians were present.

On Aug. 7, Obama authorized airstrikes against Islamic State fighters who were moving toward Irbil, the Kurdish capital in northern Iraq, and who had encircled and threatened to kill tens of thousands of members of the minority Yazidi sect.

Success of strikes

The success of those ongoing strikes is now numbering nearly 100 over the past two weeks — and progress in forming a new, more inclusive version of Iraq's Shiite-led government, have encouraged policymakers. The belief is that neighboring Sunni-led forces, including Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Turkey, will help persuade Iraq's Sunnis to turn away from the extremists and join their government's fight against them.

For its part, the administration expects to continue airstrikes in Iraq for the foreseeable future, although it is "mindful" that it will soon have to address the 60-day war powers restriction, the senior official said. "We always know that as we evaluate how long we may need to take military action, there are limits on what can be done under war powers."

"Separately," the official said, "we have to make a similar judgment about any action in Syria." The situation in Syria is far more complicated. In Iraq, where the administration believes local forces can push the Islamic State back with some American assistance, airstrike objectives are limited to protection of U.S. personnel and facilities and humanitarian missions. U.S. action was requested by the Iraqi government.

In Syria, where a full-scale civil war is raging, the United States supports a weak rebel force that is fighting the government of President Bashar Assad as well as the Islamic State and other extremist groups.

The Syria dilemma

Obama, who has ruled out U.S. ground forces in Syria or Iraq, has resisted any direct U.S. military action in Syria and has limited the aid he is prepared to provide rebel forces out of concern that it would fall into the hands of extremists. Although the CIA is training and equipping a number of rebel fighters, a larger program that would allow the U.S. military to assist is

held up in congressional consideration of the defense budget.

An expanded covert program that would allow Islamic State forces to be targeted by drones, such as the CIA effort against al-Qaida and the Taliban in Pakistan, is deemed risky. Not only do the extremists have surface-to-air missiles but Assad's forces control the air over Syria.

Authority for any military action, should it be seen as feasible and desirable, could theoretically be found under the existing 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force, or AUMF, against al-Qaida.

‘We always know that as we evaluate how long we may need to take military action, there are limits on what can be done under war powers.’

senior administration official
anonymously

not certain whether that is a case worth making.

The administration has said it favors repeal of the Iraq AUMF as "outdated" with the dwindling power of al-Qaida, and some lawmakers have said the same about the measure.

At the time, administration officials said the goal was to eliminate the broadly worded measure — which has been used to justify U.S. military action against groups labeled al-Qaida "associates" in Yemen and Somalia — as a way of narrowing presidential power.

Authority to deal with new, more specific threats could be sought from Congress on a case-by-case basis, the officials said.

U.S: Borders won't impede fight vs. extremist group

By ROBERT BURNS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A senior White House official raised the possibility Friday of a broader American military campaign that targets an Islamic extremist group's bases in Syria, saying the U.S. would take whatever action is necessary to protect national security.

"We're not going to be restricted by borders," said Ben Rhodes, President Barack Obama's deputy national security adviser. The White House said the president has received no military options beyond those he authorized earlier this month for limited airstrikes against the Islamic State group in Iraq and military aid to Iraqi and Kurdish forces. Thus far, the United States has avoided military involvement in Syria's three-year civil war. But faced with the Islamic State making gains across the region and the beheading of an American journalist, the administration's resistance may be weakening.

Rhodes spoke a day after Obama's top military adviser warned the extremists cannot be defeated without "addressing" their sanctuary in Syria.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Thursday the Islamic State militants can be contained only so long and at some point their Syrian sanctuary will have to be dealt with.

"Can they be defeated without addressing that part of their organization which resides in Syria? The answer is no," he told a Pentagon news conference where Hagel called the group a dire threat that requires an international, not just an American, response.

"That (sanctuary) will have to be addressed on both sides of what is essentially at this point a non-existent border," Dempsey added. "And that will come when we have a coalition in the region that takes on the task of defeating ISIS over time," he said, using an alternate acronym for the group. "ISIS will only truly be defeated when it's rejected by the 20 million disenfranchised Sunni that happen to reside between Damascus and Baghdad."

Many prominent Republicans

and some Democrats have called on Obama to hit back harder at the Islamic State militants.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., a prospective 2016 presidential candidate, said in an interview Friday that attacking their supply lines, command and control centers and economic assets inside Syria "is at the crux of the decision" for Obama. The risk of "getting sucked into a new war" is outweighed, he said, by the risk of inaction.

To hit back at the group, Obama has stressed military assistance to Iraq and efforts to create a new inclusive government in Baghdad that can persuade Sunnis to leave the insurgency. He also has sought to frame the Islamic State threat in terms that convince other coun-

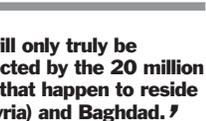
tries — not just in the Mideast but also in Europe — of the need to create a broad coalition against the extremists.

In an op-ed for The Washington

Post, Vice President Joe Biden said the U.S. was prepared to help Iraq pursue a federal system that would decentralize power away from Baghdad. While saying that Iraq is making progress in forming a new government, Biden warned that sectarian divisions were fueling extremist movements like the Islamic State.

Lukman Faily, the Iraqi ambassador to Washington, said in an interview last week that Baghdad's new leadership has been told to expect additional military help once the new government is seated, possibly in early September. But an Iraqi counteroffensive may yield only temporary gains if the Islamic State retreats to areas of Syria beyond the government's control.

"The U.S. can't defeat the Islamic State terrorist army in Iraq if it does not strike its leadership and core base in Syria simultaneously," said Qubai Shabandar, a Washington-based senior strategist for the Western-backed opposition Syrian National Coalition group. "A real strategy requires linkage of the military effort in Iraq with Syria," he said.



Gen. Martin Dempsey chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

‘ISIS (Islamic State) will only truly be defeated when it's rejected by the 20 million disenfranchised Sunni that happen to reside between Damascus (Syria) and Baghdad.’

NATION

Search for shelters for child immigrants ends

By ANITA KUMAR

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration has quietly abandoned its aggressive, monthlong search for emergency shelters across the nation as the number of children illegally crossing the southern border alone continues to drop.

At the same time, three facilities at military bases in Texas, California and Oklahoma set up as shelters are no longer housing children from Central America.

An official with the Department of Health and Human Services, which led the search for shelters, said there's been a decrease in the number of children apprehended at the border and an increase in the number of children sent to live with families or friends.

"We have begun to see some initial signs of progress along our southwest border," said Kenneth Wolfe, a spokesman for HHS' Administration for Children and Families.

The number of unaccompanied children traveling from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, most through the Rio Grande Valley in Texas, surged this year. But officials say the influx slowed this summer likely because of many factors, including the weather, a media campaign urging parents not to send their children to the U.S. and the arrest of some bringing children over the border.

Advocacy groups that work with immigrants cautioned that there is always a dip in the numbers during hot summer months and that they could spike again.

"It's seasonal," said Megan McKenna of Kids In Need of

Defense, an organization that provides legal services to unaccompanied immigrant children. "We'll see what happens when it becomes cooler."

President Barack Obama asked Congress to approve nearly \$4 billion to help with the higher numbers of immigrants crossing the border — including more Border Patrol agents, judges and lawyers and more beds at detention centers — but lawmakers left town for their annual summer recess without acting.

Marshall Fitz, director of immigration policy at the left-leaning Center for American Progress, said the administration may have dropped the search for new shelters because it didn't have the money.

"Obviously this will become an issue if the numbers climb up again, but without the resources

they can't put into place the infrastructure that might be needed in the future," Fitz said.

The federal government has been housing unaccompanied minors at nearly 100 shelters across the nation, which will continue. For example, a pair of shelters have operated for years in the Miami area. Those standard shelters are significantly less costly than temporary emergency shelters, Wolfe said.

The administration began a frenetic search for more shelters, in many cases thousands of miles from the border, in May. But the facilities were hard to come by in part because the administration failed to consult — or even notify — state and local leaders of potential sites. In many cases, facilities eventually were rejected after an uproar ensued when the public learned about the location.

The decision to abandon the search altogether was made this month after the administration released statistics that showed the number of unaccompanied minors dropped by nearly half in July from the previous two months.

About 5,500 children were apprehended in July, down from more than 10,000 in May and June. Nearly 63,000 children were taken into custody since October, officials said.

This month, children left the three shelters on military bases that opened in May and June: a 1,100-bed facility at Joint Base San Antonio, a military facility in Texas; a 600-bed facility at Naval Base Ventura County-Port Hueneme in California; and a 1,200-bed facility at Fort Sill in Oklahoma.

Clinton's shadow in Iowa no threat to some Democrats

By THOMAS BEAUMONT

The Associated Press

ALTOONA, Iowa — Democrats with presidential dreams are coming to Iowa with little fanfare, entourage or recognition.

They are undeterred by talk of a Hillary Rodham Clinton candidacy in 2016 or her plans to visit the leadoff caucus state next month to honor retiring Sen. Tom Harkin.

But former Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia, Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and a few other Democrats have nothing to lose if Clinton runs, and lots to gain if she doesn't.

"I'm here to listen to people and think about things," Webb told The Associated Press with a grin.

Webb's answer, matched with his schedule, has the ring of someone on a political fact-finding mission.

The former Navy secretary spoke Thursday to the Iowa Federation of Labor's annual conference, an important gathering of Democratic opinion leaders. He also campaigned for Rep. Dave Loebsack and Senate candidate Bruce Braley and dined in Des Moines with prominent Democrats, all the while guided by Iowa-based political operative Jessica Vandenberg.

Webb's first such foray. He used it to set himself apart from President Barack Obama, whose job approval nationally has been below 50 percent since last year.

Webb's president's use of executive authority "has gone way too far away from the legislative branch," Webb told the 100 labor leaders at a conference center outside Des Moines. "It certainly is outside all precedent, and the Congress should have stepped in," he added later in the interview.

But Webb, a decorated former Marine whose serious tone hardly makes the pulse race, mixed in a little humor, a time-honored political icebreaker. "I'm the only person elected to the United States Senate with a union card, two Purple Hearts and three tattoos," he told the labor conference to chuckles and applause.

On the GOP side, some potential candidates are further along in Iowa, with paid staff on the ground.

Klobuchar's scheduled trip to Iowa on Saturday was to be her third since the 2012 election. She said she would support a Clinton candidacy. But if Clinton weren't in the race, Klobuchar would have proximity to Iowa on her side.

"Right now, I'm focused on this job and I think a lot of the work I'm doing in the Senate has national implications," she told The Des Moines Register while in Iowa last week.

Other Democrats who have visited Iowa include Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley and former Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who is supported largely by Democrats, will be in Iowa when Clinton attends Harkin's annual fundraiser.

Making early visits before better-known prospects has its advantage, said former Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh. He spent 2006 cultivating Democratic support in Iowa, and Indiana Gov. Warner, then a former Virginia governor and now a U.S. senator. Both abandoned the idea of a presidential bid after seeing Obama emerging as likely the most promising alternative to Clinton in the 2008 race.

"I reached the conclusion that I could run, but I couldn't win," Bayh told the AP.



SCOTT KEELER, THE TAMPA BAY (FLA.) TIMES/AP

New Americans

New U.S. citizens take the oath of allegiance at a naturalization ceremony prior to a Tampa Bay Rays-Detroit Tigers baseball game at Tropicana Field on Thursday in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Hackers hit up to 25K federal workers

By STEPHEN BRAUN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The internal records of as many as 25,000 Homeland Security Department employees were exposed during a recent computer break-in at a federal contractor that handles security clearances, an agency official said Friday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details of an incident that is under active federal criminal investigation, said the number of victims could be greater. The department was informing employees whose files were exposed in the hack-

ing against contractor USIS and warning them to monitor their financial accounts.

Earlier this month, USIS acknowledged the break-in, saying its internal cybersecurity team had detected what appeared to be an intrusion with "all the markings of a state-sponsored attack." Neither USIS nor government officials have speculated on the identity of the foreign government. A USIS spokeswoman reached Friday declined to comment on the DHS notifications.

USIS, once known as U.S. Investigations Services, has been under criticism in Congress in recent months for its performance

in conducting background checks on National Security Agency systems analyst Edward Snowden and on Aaron Alexis, a military contractor employee who killed 12 people during shootings at the Navy Yard in Washington in September 2013.

Private contractors perform background checks on more than two-thirds of the 4.9 million government workers with security clearances, and USIS handles nearly half of that number. Many of those investigations are performed under contracts with the Office of Personnel Management, and the Homeland Security and Defense departments.

NATION

Daily life difficult for residents of upended Ferguson

BY RYAN J. FOLEY
The Associated Press

FERGUSON, Mo. — Life in this working-class St. Louis suburb of modest brick homes and low-rise apartments hasn't been the same since Angela Dickens' son tearfully told her, "The police shot a boy."

Since that news two weeks ago, she has been afraid to leave her apartment at night as protesters clash with police in sometimes violent confrontations. She's stopped going to her job at a call center after it took two hours to navigate police barricades and street closings to get home.

Walking down Canfield Drive, Dickens looks right and sees Missouri state troopers assembled outside a boarded-up barbecue joint. She looks left and sees media satellite trucks. Ahead, volunteers pick up trash along the commercial district where throngs gather nightly to protest the Aug. 9 shooting of Michael Brown, 18, by a white officer.

For the rest of the nation, this is the setting for seeing the angry tensions between young African-Americans and white police officers in predominantly black neighborhoods. Protesters and reporters have flocked here from around the nation.

For protesters, it's also the place they live. They're struggling over how to do that, no matter how strongly they feel about the issues being fought over.

"Hopefully, I can get up Monday

and start a fresh week at work," said Dickens, 55, who's turning to charities for help pay her rent and utilities this month. "I'm hoping all this can die down and I can go back on with my life."

As of Friday, it appeared Dickens' hopes might be realized: The streets were peaceful for the third night in a row as tensions between police and protesters continued to subside.

The lives of the people who live near where Brown was shot have

'I care about Michael Brown, but I still have to live.'

Kris Holt
Ferguson, Mo., resident

been upended by the protesters and the police, and they wonder how much of the disruption will be temporary. Their closest gas station was burned down during looting. Several stores were damaged.

Many of the barber shops and restaurants along West Florissant Avenue commercial strip are boarded up to prevent looting.

Dellena Jones hasn't seen customers at her hair salon, where the glass door was shattered by a concrete block.

"If we keep doing this, we are part of the terror," said Jones, 35.

But elsewhere in Ferguson, a suburb of 21,000 where "I Love Ferguson" yard signs are common, signs of unrest are rare.



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

People watch protesters from inside a restaurant during a rally Tuesday in Ferguson, Mo.



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

A young boy tosses a football on Monday as people walk past a business boarded up to protect against looting in Ferguson.

The city is the "small, relatively quiet community" about 10 miles from downtown St. Louis where retired social worker Carolyn Jennings, 69, moved 30 years ago. Her neighborhood was mostly white then. Now, it's almost all black, with only a few elderly whites left. Amid the closing of manufacturing plants and decline of property values, white residents moved to more distant suburbs.

These days, Jennings sits near City Hall holding a sign that reads, "Execution by Ferguson police is penalty for walking while black." All day, drivers honk in support of protesters calling for the arrest of officer Darren Wilson.

Lt. Jeff Fuesting, of the St. Louis County Police Department, said officers will have to find a way forward with residents who were sympathetic with the protests and

were subjected to tear gas in the demonstrations.

"It's too early to tell how we'll do that," he said.

Karon Johnson, 22, moved into a Canfield Green apartment Aug. 5 with his pregnant girlfriend and 14-month-old son, hoping it would be safer than their previous neighborhood. His girlfriend gave birth to a girl the day before Brown was killed in the street, and they returned home days later to what felt like a war zone.

"Helicopters overhead. Police everywhere," Johnson said, stroiling his son. Now his concern is getting the dishwasher job he was interviewing for at Red Lobster. "S!t an hour," he said.

Kris Holt, 24, a rental car business employee, said he supports the protests, but worries they will "create some bitterness" with residents if they continue much longer. He and his wife had to sleep on his parents' couch one night this week after being unable to make it through police barricades to get home.

"I care about Michael Brown," Holt said, "but I still have to live."

Police officer in Okla. accused of sex assaults on patrol

BY KRISTI EATON
The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — An Oklahoma City police officer arrested on charges of serial sexual assault preyed on women in the rundown neighborhoods he was assigned to patrol — picking some up off the street, pulling others over at traffic stops and in one case, taking a woman to a nearby school, police documents show.

Former star football player Daniel Ken Holtzclaw, 27, raped one woman and either fondled others or forced them to expose themselves, investigators said Friday. He made others perform sex acts on him. Three were assaulted in his car, and one was taken to a school in the Spring Lake Division where he worked, according to the affidavit.

Police said there could be more victims than the seven already identified.

They're retracing all of his contacts, as many as they can, es-



COURTESY OF THE OKLAHOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT/AP

Oklahoma City police officer Daniel Holtzclaw has been arrested on charges of serial sexual assault.

pecially traffic stops," said police spokesman Capt. Dexter Nelson.

The investigation began — and Holtzclaw was immediately placed on leave — when police said a woman complained in June that Holtzclaw had sexually assaulted

her during a traffic stop on a boulevard about 2 miles north of the state Capitol. The alleged incident prompted police to check other contacts Holtzclaw had with the public since beginning street patrols about 18 months ago.

Officers identified seven victims and eight incidents before accusing Holtzclaw of crimes including rape, sexual battery and indecent exposure. Police Chief Bill City published Holtzclaw's photograph with the hope that other women would step forward, he said.

District Attorney David Prater said formal charges could be lodged by Aug. 29. Holtzclaw had not been previously disciplined in his three years with the department.

He was being held at the Oklahoma County Jail late Friday in lieu of \$5 million bond, according to jail records. No attorney is listed for him, and jail staff said they could not provide attorney information.

Police reports said the victims were all black women between the ages of 34 and 58, though police said it wasn't clear if Holtzclaw targeted victims because of their race.

"All of the victims were black, but that is probably because the

area where he worked," Nelson said, referring to the mixed-race neighborhood of mostly black, Hispanic and Vietnamese residents.

Holtzclaw joined the force after graduating with a criminal justice degree from Eastern Michigan University. He was also a standout football player. In high school, he was an all-state player in his senior year at Enid, leading the team with 123 tackles.

His former high school football coach, Tom Cobble, said the allegations were "absolutely a shock." "It's so totally out of character. It's unbelievable," said Cobble, who retired from coaching in Chickasha, Okla., last year.

He tried out for the Detroit Lions after he was not taken in the NFL draft, but he was cut from the team.

Nelson said Holtzclaw's colleagues were upset at the allegations against a police officer.

"Most of us see it as a black eye to our profession and our department," he said.

WORLD

Egypt urges Israel, Hamas to return to negotiating table

By SARAH EL DEEB
and MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt on Saturday called for an open-ended cease-fire in the Gaza Strip, urging the Palestinians and Israel to return to indirect talks.

The call from the foreign ministry came shortly after Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas met with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi in Cairo. Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev had no immediate comment on the Egyptian call.

A temporary cease-fire collapsed earlier this week, bringing the Egyptian-brokered talks to a halt. More than 2,090 Palestinians, including nearly 500 children, have been killed since the Gaza war began on July 8.

Meanwhile, the Islamic militant group Hamas — the war's main Palestinian participant — has signed a pledge to back any Palestinian bid to join the International Criminal Court. Palestinian acceptance of the court's jurisdiction could expose Israel — as well as Hamas — to war crimes investigations.

Hamas' written consent could further increase domestic pressure on Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to turn to the court. Such pressure has been

mounting since the start of the Israel-Hamas war on July 8, in which more than 2,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza.

A hesitant Abbas has debated for months whether to join the international court, a step that could transform his relations with Israel from tense to openly hostile, could strain his ties with the United States and could deprive his government of badly needed Western financial support.

Last month, Abbas said he would not make a move without the written consent of all Palestinian factions. He obtained such support from all groups represented in the Palestine Liberation Organization, while Hamas, not a PLO member, said it would study the idea.

With Hamas now pledging its support in writing, Abbas likely will face even stronger pressure at home to turn to the court, though it's still not clear if and when he might do so.

In a new twist, the Iranian-backed Islamic Jihad group, also not a PLO member and one of the factions fighting in Gaza, said Saturday it would not approve going to the international court.

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declined comment. Israel opposes involving the court, arguing that Israel and the Palestinians should deal with any issues directly.



ADEL HANA/AP

Palestinians pass Saturday by a site of an Israeli strike late Friday in the Sabra neighborhood of Gaza City in the northern Gaza Strip.



SERGEI GETTS/AP

Trucks marked as being from a bitterly disputed Russian aid convoy to Ukraine wait in line Saturday as they return to Russia on the border post at Izvayne, eastern Ukraine.

Aid trucks leave Ukraine

By ALEXANDER ROSLYAKOV
The Associated Press

DONETSK, Russia — Hundreds of trucks from a bitterly disputed Russian aid convoy to rebel-held eastern Ukraine rolled back across the border Saturday into Russia but questions about alleged Russian artillery in Ukraine still remained.

NATO said Friday it has mounting evidence that Russian troops are operating inside Ukraine and launching artillery attacks at Ukrainian troops from Ukrainian soil as well as from Russia. Moscow's ambassador to the U.N. vehemently rejected that accusation.

Paul Picard, head of the border observation mission for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, told journalists in the Russian town of Donetsk that all the vehicles that had crossed into Ukraine had returned to Russia by mid-afternoon. Deputy Emergencies Minister Eduard Chizhkov was quoted as saying 227 vehicles had taken part.

An AP reporter on the Ukrainian side of the border was able to look inside about 40 of the white-

tarpaunched tractor-trailers and confirmed they were empty. Russia said the trucks carried only food, water, generators and sleeping bags to the hard-hit rebel stronghold of Luhansk.

Russia had unilaterally sent the trucks into Ukraine through a rebel-held border point Friday, saying it had lost patience with Ukraine's delaying tactics. Ukraine promptly called the act an invasion.

Ukraine and others—including the U.S., the European Union and NATO — denounced the Russian move as a violation of Ukraine's sovereignty. Kiev and Western countries also suggested the convoy could be used to smuggle supplies and reinforcements to pro-Russian separatists fighting the government.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has advocated a measured EU response to Russia's aggressive policies in Ukraine, met Saturday in Kiev with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and urged a political solution to the crisis.

Poroshenko will be meeting Russian President Vladimir Putin in Minsk on Tuesday in their first

encounter since June. Merkel said she was looking forward to the outcome of those talks and expressed "hope that at least a step forward will be reached there."

Poroshenko said Ukraine is anxious to bring peace as soon as possible and solve the conflict by talks, but "not at the expense of sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine."

The rebels in the east have declared the region independent and some have sought to be annexed by Russia.

It remained unclear Saturday what the Russian convoy had actually delivered, since it only arrived late Friday afternoon. Unloading hundreds of trucks in just a few hours in a war-battered region represents a sizeable task. AP journalists following the convoy to Luhansk said rattling sounds Friday from some of the trucks indicated they were not fully loaded.

At the United Nations in New York, Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin rejected NATO's accusations that Russian troops and artillery were inside Ukraine. Russia has steadfastly denied supporting and arming the rebels.

UN: 4 countries face humanitarian crises; worst since World War II

By ALEJANDRO DAVILA FRAGOSO
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — With the crisis in Iraq, four countries are now experiencing severe humanitarian emergencies involving the displacement of millions of people, something experts and relief groups say hasn't been seen in decades.

Iraq, Syria, the Central African Republic and South Sudan are all going through Level 3 emergencies, the United Nations' highest classification of a humanitarian crisis.

It is the first time that the world has experienced four simultaneous emergencies of this caliber since at least World War

II. More experts note that the number of displaced people is worse than after the Rwanda genocide of 1994, during which between 500,000 and 1 million people were killed and up to 2 million people fled their homes.

"In terms of major humanitarian responses, this is about as big as I can remember," said Jarrod Goentzel, director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Humanitarian Response Lab.

Just in Iraq, about 1.2 million people have been displaced, according to the American Red Cross. In Syria, the displacement toll is 9 million.

The diamond-rich Central African Republic has 2.5 million people in need, according to U.N. estimates. In that country, a rebel coalition has been fighting the government in a conflict that has dragged on since the ousting of President Ange-Felix Patasse in 2003. The conflict has become increasingly sectarian since then, pitting Muslims against Christians.

And in nearby South Sudan, clashes between rebel groups led by its former vice president, Riek Machar, who opposes President Salva Kiir, have persisted almost since the country achieved autonomy in 2011. The oil-rich country of 3.8 million

faces a myriad of problems, including potential famine.

"We are definitely stretched," said Chris Palusky, senior director of humanitarian and emergency affairs for World Vision USA, one of many organizations responding to all Level 3 emergencies that concentrates on providing food, water and shelter to children and women.

"We all have a fear in the back of our minds. What if there's a big earthquake?" he said. "It's going to be hard to meet the needs of those that are affected by the disaster, because there is so much going on right now."

WORLD

Mideast food chains expand abroad

By ADAM SCHRECK
The Associated Press

TDUBAI, United Arab Emirates — he super-sized malls that dot Dubai and other Gulf Arab cities are stuffed with foreign restaurants, from Burger King and Subway to suburban sit-down staples such as IHOP and Red Lobster.

Mideast entrepreneurs who have taken on that international competition are now turning the tables, spreading restaurant chains serving local cuisine like falafel overseas and proving that the globalization of food isn't a one-way drive-thru lane.

A United Arab Emirates-based chain called Just Falafel opened its first branches in the U.S. and Canada earlier this year. Started in Abu Dhabi in 2007, the privately owned company is pushing ahead with a rapid international rollout that has already brought its fried chickpea balls to Cairo, Istanbul and London.

It aims to expand from 52 branches to more than 900 in the years ahead, including new locations in Europe and North America.

The company's enthusiastic British-Lebanese CEO, Fadi Malas, sees a big potential market for the company's wraps and other Mediterranean offerings, such as hummus and tzatziki, a yogurt and cucumber dip. He says he's not worried about consumers being scared off by a food many have never heard of, let alone tried.

"It would be crazy to think that we'd all be eating sushi so casually 20 years ago," he said during an interview in one of his Dubai branches. "I think it will be silly not to assume that everybody will

be consuming falafel sometime down the road, you know, as we consume sushi and everything else."

Just Falafel isn't afraid to innovate. Its more traditional Lebanese and Emirati offerings share menu space with Mexican, Japanese and Indian-themed sandwiches.

One of its latest creations — including beets and salsa — is the Californian, a nod to the launch of its first American outpost in the Bay Area town of Fremont. The company has deals to open more franchises in New York, New Jersey, Kentucky, Texas and Los Angeles.

"Falafel is a world food now. ... We see ourselves to be the next Chipotle," said Kevin Shoaito, owner of the Fremont franchise. After more than two decades in the restaurant business, much of it at Olive Garden, he became Just Falafel's first U.S. franchisee and plans to open three more branches by next year.

Shoaito sees a gap in the falafel market, which he described as dominated by mom-and-pop operations lacking consistency. He said the initial reaction to his store has been strong, drawing a diverse range of customers.

Another Emirati company serving up traditional Middle Eastern street food, Man'oushe Street, got its start in Dubai selling oven-baked flatbreads covered with cheese, thyme and sesame seeds, or minced meat.

With eight existing Dubai locations, founder and CEO Jihad El Eit plans to expand in the Middle East and Europe, opening the first four stores in Egypt and announcing a deal last month for 12 branches in the Gulf nation of Qatar. The company also reached a deal with Egyptian franchisee Wadi Degla — which also has a franchise deal with Just Falafel —

that includes plans for 35 branches in the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, the first of which are expected to open later this year.

El Eit estimates that 40 percent of his clientele is non-Arab, and the chain offers items like pepperoni pizza to reach a broader audience.

He credits the company's home of Dubai — with its cosmopolitan feel and Western-level standards — for helping fuel the growth.

"Dubai is a city that ... pushes you to be perfect in every single step of the process," he said at a branch tucked amid newly built high-rises. "With the tourism that you have here, a lot of people might try to eat something they haven't tried before."

Premium date purveyor Bateel also sees potential in Europe. So too does Dubai hospitality company Jumeirah Group, which earlier this year opened a branch of its Asian-inspired The Noodle House chain in London's West End.

Bateel sells its sweet fruits — harvested from 160,000 Saudi palm trees — and other date-based products in boutiques similar to those of luxury chocolatiers.

It is increasingly building up its café business, where offerings such as quiche, risotto and couscous draw inspiration



from both East and West. It already has two shops in London, and recently opened a branch in Moscow.

"From the very beginning, we knew we wanted to have something that has potential to develop internationally. ... That's why we never made it a very ethnic, Arabic style," Managing Director Ata Atmar said. "You don't need to really be a European country to come up with a good concept."

Bateel plans to open several new branches in the Emirates and in the nearby Gulf countries of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait over the next two years. It is also looking to expand in markets on the edges of Europe, such as Russia and Turkey, as well as in the Far East.

Darren Tristano, an analyst at Chicago-based food industry research firm Technomic, said there are opportunities for Mideast brands to showcase "more authentic, ethnic foods" as younger consumers seek out new tastes.

Falafel TO GO



“ It would be crazy to think that we'd all be eating sushi so casually 20 years ago. I think it will be silly not to assume that everybody will be consuming falafel sometime down the road.... ”

Fadi Malas
Just Falafel chief operating officer

PHOTOS BY KAMRAN JEBRELI/AP

People dine at one of the branches of the Man'oushe Street restaurant in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in May. Mideast entrepreneurs are now exporting local foods including falafel and premium dates overseas. Above, employees work in a Man'oushe Street kitchen.

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OPINION

Not all religious wars comparable

By PETER H. WILSON

In recent weeks, politicians and pundits have likened the Syrian and Iraqi civil wars to the Thirty Years' War and the other so-called religious wars that divided Europe in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. It's easy to see what gave rise to the comparisons. In Europe, the warring parties were mostly Christians, but often one side supported Protestantism and the other Catholicism. In today's Middle East wars, the combatants are mostly Muslims, but Sunnis and Shiites tend to be on opposite sides.

There are several dangers in making these comparisons, however.

One is that they reinforce prejudices. Westerners tend to see history as linear, with the passing of years representing progress. Comparing 17th century Europe with today's Middle East suggests the latter is trailing far behind the West's historical "progress," in that it is still struggling with the kind of religious differences that were resolved centuries ago in Europe. That is a dangerous and erroneous assumption.

A view of today's Middle East as yesterday's Europe also suggests that the region should be pushing for an "Arab Westphalia," a settlement similar to the one that ended the terrible Thirty Years' War in 1648. Unfortunately, Westphalia, or rather what it has come to symbolize, is part of the current problem.

The Westphalian international order is based on the belief that the world should be divided into sovereign nation states, each responsible for its own internal affairs, while also adhering to common values enshrined as international law. Religion, in this construct, is removed from politics, with the state as neutral guardian for religious rights, which are seen as part of wider human rights. For many in the Middle East, these ideas are simply part of Western imperialism and at odds with a different conception of the relationship between faith and politics.

Another danger with the comparison is that it is based on a faulty and far-too-simplistic understanding of European history. Early-modern European conflicts such as the Thirty Years' War are often thought of as "religious wars." But in 17th century Europe, as in the Middle East today, the reality was more complicated.

The tensions that led to the Thirty Years' War had been building for a long time, but the war itself dates to the famous Defenestration of Prague in May 1618. Protestants in Bohemia were angry that their Catholic king, a supporter of the Catholic Counter-Reformation, was interfering with the construction of Protestant churches. In response, the Protestants threw two Catholic imperial regents and their secretary out a window.

The wars that followed that act were as much about power and economics, however, as about religion. One chief cause was the refusal of the German Protestant princes and aristocrats to accept their exclusion from the wealth and political influence of the German church, which remained reserved for Catholics under the Holy Roman Empire's constitution.

And at least three other major wars overlapped with the Central European one. Spain was locked in a losing battle against Dutch independence, a struggle that also had religious elements because independence was primarily desired by Dutch Protestants. Spain also fought a separate war with France from 1635 to 1659. Finally, Sweden, Denmark, Poland and Russia were engaged in a series of struggles over dominance of the Baltic and its lucrative trade routes.

All these conflicts were accompanied by widespread efforts to rally international support along the lines of "my war is also your war." Religious solidarity proved extremely weak, however, which is why none of the factions in the Thirty Years' War emphasized religion in their propaganda.

This provides a major contrast with the

present conflicts, which have used religion as a primary motivator. Though contested, the imperial constitution remained acceptable to all parties precisely because it was simply Christian rather than exclusively Protestant or Catholic. Rather than taking religion out of politics, Westphalia continued the line already adopted in the Peace of Augsburg in 1555 of adding to the complexity of the imperial constitution, making it harder for local disputes to polarize around simple, clearly defined issues.

A second striking contrast between the European wars of old and today's conflicts is the virtual absence in the 17th century of "holy war" arguments. All the belligerents fought using professional soldiers. Even when hard-pressed, the Protestant Bohemian rebels preferred to negotiate with the Muslim Ottoman sultan for regular troops rather than arm their own peasants in a holy war.

The war was still religious in the sense that it was interpreted by clergy of all hues as divine punishment for their congregants' sins. Instead of taking up arms against their neighbors, parishioners were urged to fight their inner demons, reforming their behavior to correspond to official ideals of piety and obedience.

This suggests at least one commonality between the conflicts in the 17th and 21st centuries. Secularism was, and is, a minority belief. Seventeenth-century Europeans could divide sharply between militants and moderates. The latter were more pragmatic and appear more reasonable to us today, but they rarely accepted tolerance as anything other than a necessary evil to avoid further bloodshed.

Ultimately, it was pragmatism that prevailed in 1648, even though genuine tolerance proved elusive for centuries. Sometimes half-measures are enough.

Peter H. Wilson is a professor of history at the University of Hull and the author of "The Thirty Years War: Europe's Tragedy." He writes this for the Los Angeles Times.

Oregon keeps government workers honest

By REID WILSON

The Washington Post

Nearly 20 million Americans are employed by state and local governments across the country. With so many workers, it's almost impossible to keep everyone honest. Waste, fraud and abuse can cost taxpayers millions.

But in Oregon, strong oversight and audit rules ensure that state officials keep their hands out of the cookie jar. Data from the Justice Department, compiled by political scientists at Indiana University at Bloomington and the City University of Hong Kong, show that, over a period of 32 years, there were fewer corruption convictions in Oregon than in any other state, when controlling for the number of state workers.

Oregon registered 1.28 corruption convictions per 100,000 public employees between 1976 and 2008. Washington, Minnesota, Nebraska and Iowa also had fewer than two convictions per 100,000 employees.

Those states score well because of robust

transparency laws, according to ethics watchdogs. Oregon's rules for campaign finance disclosures are among the toughest in the country, and lobbyists and special interest groups cannot give gifts worth more than \$50 to state employees. Oregon also requires most public-improvement contracts to be awarded based on competitive bidding, avoiding no-bid contracts, which can be a major source of corruption.

"An awful lot of corruption comes from government contracts," said Melanie Sloan, a former federal prosecutor who runs Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. "You can't have no-bid contracts. You have to have transparent contracting procedures."

At the bottom of the list, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee all registered more than four times more convictions than the least-corrupt states.

More than 7,000 state and local officials were charged with corruption between 2003 and 2012, the Justice Department said in a 2013 report to Congress. The U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia

reported 336 federal convictions over that time period; New Jersey's U.S. attorney reported 428 convictions; and the four U.S. attorneys who oversee Texas reported 775 convictions. By contrast, Oregon registered just 42 convictions during that period.

The bill for all that wrongdoing adds up: Corruption forces states to spend more on everything from construction and highways to corrections and police. But the authors of the study, John Mikesell and Cheol Liu, also found that states with higher rates of corruption tend to spend less on education, public welfare, health and hospitals. So more corruption costs taxpayers — in terms of money and the social services the government provides.

Nine of the 10 most corrupt states, the authors found, could have saved \$1,308 per resident if their corruption rates fell to the national average. Those states should look to Oregon, home of the most honest government workers in the country.

Wilson is the author of Read In, The Washington Post's new morning tipsheet on politics.

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OPINION

Still time for US to get tougher for Ukraine

By JOHN BOLTON

American and European stock markets have been jumpy for weeks as they contemplate possible armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Inside Ukraine, certainly, Kiev's forces have been pushing back separatists supported by Moscow, and they've been surprisingly successful in the eyes of many, perhaps including Moscow, and have thus increased fears of a more direct Russian intervention. But while rumors of recent clashes contributed to the latest burst of market volatility, evidence of actual hostilities between national armies is scarce.

Ironically, while Western capital markets remain attentive to Ukraine's future, President Barack Obama seems detached and uninterested. Indeed, the president appears removed not only from Ukraine, but from the chaos across the Middle East. But lazy summer days on Martha's Vineyard cannot obscure the reality of Russia's continuing efforts to dominate the independent countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union.

The stakes remain extraordinarily high for the United States, Russia and Europe. Ukraine's size, potential economic strength and strategic location make it a big prize for Russian President Vladimir Putin, determined as he is to reassert Russia's "rightful" role on the world stage. Though Putin is hardly prevailing in Ukraine today, his position will significantly improve if the West loses its focus, its willpower or both. And that is exactly what's now happening.

Despite the attention received by Putin's apparent propaganda gambit of an "aid convoy" for Ukraine, and the speculation about whether the trucks were actually ferrying weapons to the separatists, Russia's Plan A is not to acquire more Ukrainian territory by force. Instead, Putin wants Kiev's government to be compliant with Russian interests and demands, to not drift too far from Moscow economically or



PETRO ZADORCHNYV/PAP

Ukrainian soldiers evacuate a wounded comrade close to Luhansk, eastern Ukraine, on Thursday. During fighting near Luhansk, the military captured two vehicles from the Pskov military division, who were from the Russian Federation paratroopers division.

politically.

Despite the subsequent annexation of Crimea, Putin misplayed his hand in November when he caused the basically pro-Russia Viktor Yanukovich government to fall from power, thus necessitating, after considerable turmoil, elections that produced a far less submissive government in Kiev. He has been trying to recoup his losses, knowing he has the high cards economically, given Russia's critical oil and gas sales to Ukraine. Western sanctions have barely altered Putin's calculus. Instead, Europeans fret about sanctions' negative effects on their own economies, and recently, Ukraine's currency fell to a record low against the dollar.

But just because Putin isn't interested in formally acquiring more territory, it doesn't mean he isn't arming, financing and probably directing the pro-Russia separatists.

His aim is to raise the specter of partition but not to actually precipitate it unless, in his view, it becomes the only feasible way to protect Russia's frontier interests. Putin must know that if he seizes more territory, the rump Ukraine would inevitably join NATO and the EU, remaining implacably hostile to Moscow for the foreseeable future. Instead of annexing half and making an enemy of the rest, he prefers a neutered but whole Ukraine on Russia's western border. That is what Putin will seek when he meets this week with Petro Poroshenko, Ukraine's new president.

So why did Putin annex Crimea? It certainly didn't solve his Ukraine problem, because it altered Ukraine's electoral balance to Russia's disadvantage. On the other hand, it was hugely popular in Russia, thus strengthening Putin at home. Unfortunately, the West's pathetically in-

adequate response to Crimea's annexation undoubtedly convinced Putin that, if it came to that, he could get away with hiving off more Ukrainian territory, at an acceptably low cost, even if that represents a less-attractive Plan B.

According to White House briefings, Obama has repeatedly upbraided Putin for violating international law. Coupled with sporadic, unsystematic, poorly enforced economic sanctions, this may impress Obama's acolytes, but it has precisely the opposite effect on Putin. He sees American weakness and retreat.

Although the hour is very late, the U.S. still has time to respond unequivocally, staking out a position of strength. Dismembering Ukraine against its wishes is unacceptable. Washington should supply Kiev with weapons and other assistance, while also reviving President George W. Bush's 2008 plan to fast-track Ukraine for NATO membership.

By so doing, the U.S. would eliminate the zone of ambiguity between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Russia that Putin is exploiting, even if Obama's flaccid leadership has tragically lost Crimea for good. Precisely by establishing the kind of effective deterrence that has convinced Russia not to use military force against NATO since its creation, we can prevent future outbreaks of Russian aggressiveness, as yet unanswered in today's crisis, elsewhere along its borders.

And there is more than just Russia to consider: China, making territorial claims in the South and East China seas, nuclear-weapons proliferators like North Korea and Iran, regional troublemakers like Venezuela, and terrorists and their state sponsors worldwide all see the same pattern. A weak America does not lead to a more peaceful world, but to exactly the opposite.

John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the U.N., is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Foley's killer only showed Islamic State's weakness

By DAVID IGNATIUS

WASHINGTON

The propagandists of the Islamic State are so confident in their brutal video of the beheading of journalist James Foley would intimidate and terrorize the world. But people aren't built that way, not in Muslim countries or anywhere else. When they see sadistic, uncivilized behavior, they are disgusted — and angry.

President Barack Obama spoke with special precision and moral clarity in his reaction to the video's release Wednesday. The Islamic State, he said, "speaks for no religion. Their victims are overwhelmingly Muslim, and no faith teaches people to massacre innocents. No just God would stand for what they did yesterday, and for what they do every single day."

The videotaped beheading was a sign of the Islamic State's weakness, not its strength. "People are not ultimately fools," Obama explained. "They fail, because the future is won by those who build and not destroy." He spoke, as a president must, about the consequences of killing U.S. civilians. "We will be vigilant and we will be relentless. When people harm Americans, anywhere, we do what's necessary to see that justice is done."

The life and death of Osama bin Laden illustrate why the terrorist strategy is destined to fail — if civilized nations maintain

Bin Laden was haunted by al-Qaida's mistakes. Its wanton killing had alienated Muslims, and he wondered if the group should rebrand itself as a less toxic force.

their will. Obama authorized the mission that pursued the al-Qaida leader to his lair in Abbottabad, Pakistan. But in the months before his death, bin Laden knew he had failed.

Documents taken from his hideout show that in his final days, bin Laden was haunted by the mistakes al-Qaida had made. The organization's wanton killing had appalled and alienated Muslims, to the point that bin Laden wondered if the group should rebrand itself as a less toxic force. He even suggested 10 alternative names that might sound better to the world's ears.

Bin Laden reflected in a draft letter about "miscalculations" and "unnecessary civilian casualties" that were hurting the jihadist cause. "Making these mistakes is a great issue," he said, noting that taking "Muslim blood" had resulted in "the alienation of most of the nation [of Islam]." Local al-Qaida leaders should "apologize and be held responsible for what happened."

Last week's macabre executioner, robed in black, traces his jihadist lineage to the very people bin Laden was condemning, the leadership of al-Qaida in Iraq.

Call their successor ISIL, or ISIS, or the Islamic State — the group has chosen to debase itself with the most extreme and bloodthirsty version of Muslim revolt. Its actions and boasts are a kind of jihadist fantasy, celebrating the pornographic violence of religious killing with beheadings and crucifixions and genocidal assaults on Shiite Muslims, Yazidis, Christians and dissenting Sunnis.

We can see evil through the eye slits of the ski mask worn by Foley's killer. But stopping that evil is a harder task. As America has witnessed over the past decade, the obsession to counter terrorism can drag a country into unwinnable wars and immoral acts.

For months, Obama has been struggling with the question of how to get it right this time — how to contain and eventually eradicate the Islamic State without making America the Muslim world's enemy. Obama's voice could have been clearer and more emphatic, early on, but I think the basic course of his policy has been correct. He has moved strategically, step by step, gathering the tools that will be needed to

confront this malignancy.

Consider how this policy has come together: Knowing that Iraqis must lead the fight against the killers in their midst, Obama refused American air support until Iraqis had endorsed a more inclusive government. Recognizing that the mission should have limited initial goals, he focused on rescuing the Yazidis trapped atop Mount Sinjar. Calculating that Iraqi Kurdistan would be a crucial platform for U.S. projection of power, he pledged to defend Irbil.

A crucial turn was the campaign to win back Mosul Dam. Understanding that jihadist control of the massive dam amounted to a dagger at Iraq's throat, Obama said on Aug. 9, "there's key infrastructure inside of Iraq that we have to be concerned about." Few noticed. This month, 57 of the 80 U.S. airstrikes have been in support of Iraqi forces at Mosul Dam.

Knowing that the jihadists were holding American journalists hostage, Obama ordered a raid earlier this summer to free them. This bold action failed, but it was correct. Even though he knew that European governments had paid huge ransoms to free their hostages, Obama refused. Those were difficult but sound decisions, and a principled start to a long campaign against brutal killers.

David Ignatius is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Teacher suspended after shooting lesson

AL SELMA — An Alabama schoolteacher is suspended without pay after being accused of having students re-enact the deadly police shooting in Ferguson, Mo., and the Trayvon Martin killing in Florida.

The Selma Times-Journal quoted Dallas County School Superintendent Don Willingham as saying the social studies teacher used poor judgment during a lesson on current events. School officials haven't identified the teacher, who teaches sixth grade.

Willingham said the teacher told students to research and re-enact a current event of their choosing. He said they picked the killings of Michael Brown and Trayvon Martin, and that students used paper guns and bullets, and students portraying victims fell on pillows.

Woman enters plea to DUI, hitting cruiser

MI HOWELL — A Howell woman accused of being drunk when she sidswiped a police cruiser has reached a plea deal in the case.

The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus said Sarah Marae Robson, 27, pleaded no contest Thursday to operating under the influence of alcohol. She also entered a plea to failing to stop after a collision and failing to use due care when passing a stationary emergency vehicle.

Robson faces up to six months in the county jail when she's sentenced Oct. 1.

According to police, a Hamburg Township officer was seated inside his patrol car last month, processing a driver's license information, when Robson's car struck his. The officer wasn't hurt.

Lawmaker apologizes for Soviet medals in ad

NJ WOODLAND PARK — A New Jersey congressman's office is red-faced over a Facebook ad about veteran benefits that featured Soviet military medals.

Rep. Scott Garrett's spokeswoman said in an emailed statement that the office was sorry an initial review did not catch the use of the stock photo. Maggie Seidel said the ad was produced by an outside vendor and is no longer running. The ad asked people to like Garrett's page to learn what he has to bring to support veterans' benefits.

Two veterans who live in the Republican's district complained about the ad. One of them, Eugene Romanick, told The Record newspaper that the medals are Soviet, and have red stars with hammers and sickles all over them.

Man named Stoner arrested for pot plants

VA ORANGE — A Virginia man with the last name Stoner is facing drug charges after police found more than \$10,000 worth of marijuana plants at his home.

The Orange County Sheriff's



PAUL M. WALSH, THE COUNTRY TODAY (EAU CLAIRE, Wis.)/AP

Promoting the art of clowning

Brad Roberts, of Greenville, S.C., center, gets hit by two pies wielded by Bill Kauffman, of Minersville, Pa., during the annual Great Pie Fight at the American Clown Academy in Newark, Ohio. The academy is a weekend event for those interested in the art of clowning.

THE CENSUS

400K

The amount in dollars of a payout to the former Westhampton Beach, N.Y., police chief for unused sick, vacation and personal days. The sum includes pay for future such days that the chief, Ray Dean, was allotted through the end of his contract on May 31, 2015, according to Mayor Maria Moore. Dean, 53, retired on June 30 after serving 15 years as chief. The new mayor said it will be the last payout of its kind if she can help it.



Office said Paul Scott Stoner, 42, of Unionville, is charged with growing marijuana and having a firearm while in possession of more than a pound of marijuana.

Media outlets reported that the charges stem from an ongoing investigation related to the alleged sale of marijuana to children in Orange County. Further charges are pending.

Authorities say they acted on a tip that Stoner was selling to children, and during the Aug. 14 search, they seized marijuana, marijuana plants, drug paraphernalia, prescription drugs, needles, spoons and guns.

Stoner is free on bond. A hearing is set for Aug. 27.

Ban on grain alcohol upsets violin makers

MD ANNAPOLIS — Binge drinkers and frat boys aren't the only ones despairing over Maryland's new ban on grain alcohol: Violin makers who used the liquor to make varnish are also affected.

Silver Spring violin maker Howard Needham told The Wash-

ington Post that nothing works better than Everclear grain alcohol for making the varnishes he uses to repair chipped or broken musical instruments. He's been hoarding whatever grain alcohol he can get his hands on since the ban took effect last month.

Other violin makers report similar concerns.

Maryland became one of several states to ban sales of alcohol at 190 proof or higher.

Casino cheated by 4 geriatric poker players

MN SHAKOPEE — A geriatric foursome ran a quick and nominally profitable cheating scheme while playing poker at a casino one night last summer, according to charges.

One of the four out-of-staters was hunted down and jailed Wednesday, while the whereabouts of the others are unknown.

All four have rap sheets with convictions for cheating while gambling in other states spanning many years.

Although the cheating at Canterbury Park in Shakopee netted

the four barely more than \$200 over the 45 or so minutes that they were at the card room on July 4, 2013, a Canterbury spokesman said that vigorously pursuing this nefarious activity is vital to the business' credibility.

Charged with felonies and being held in the Scott County jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail is Duane L. Racle, 75, of Lake City, Fla. Also charged are James P. Minehan, 75, of Tamarac, Fla.; Wildred Sanchez, 74, of Pembroke, Fla.; and Nicholas R. Crowder, 77, of Ferridale, Mich.

City seeks removal of teacher for playing song

GA ATLANTA — The Atlanta school district is attempting to remove a teacher for a long list of alleged failings, including playing the Beyonce song "Drunk in Love."

But Beyonce might have been the least of sixth-grade teacher Nikki Turner's problems. Atlanta Public Schools officials cited dozens of reasons they sought not to renew her contract. They include

failing to present material clearly, demonstrate knowledge of the sixth-grade math concepts and student needs, provide feedback to students during class and properly plan lessons.

Turner taught at Coan Middle School. Her lawyer, Ann Brumbaugh, declined to comment on the allegations but said Turner was "a dedicated, passionate teacher." Turner is not currently working for The Atlanta schools, Brumbaugh said.

Shopping scooter ride leads man to jail

NM ALBUQUERQUE — An Albuquerque man is facing charges after police say he drove a stolen electric shopping cart to meet with his probation officer.

KOAT-TV reported that court papers say Michael Johnson, 18, rode the electric shopping cart last week to make his scheduled visit. When the probation officer asked Johnson where he got the cart, court documents say Johnson admitted taking it from an Albuquerque Walmart.

Johnson was arrested and charged with larceny and receiving stolen property. He also violated his probation when he was arrested and was ordered held on a \$500 bond.

Albuquerque police spokesman Tanner Tixier said the cart is worth more than \$1,800.

From wire reports

LIFESTYLE

The power of the pump

Gas pump museum houses a fortune in all things related to 'petroliana'

By SAM McMANIS
The Sacramento Bee

He might not think of himself as a philosopher, being a proud grease monkey at heart, but Mark Mendenhall of Buellton, Calif., was downright profound when he looked around and took stock of all he surveyed.

"You can have 4,000 signs," he said, a quick head-nod left and right to walls covered floor-to-ceiling with what collectors call "petroliana." "But if you don't got a place to display 'em, you just gotta garage full of junk."

Junk? Hardly. Decades of work and toil, of bargaining and barnstorming, have gone into the Mendenhall Museum of Gasoline Pumps & Petroliana, which is a sentimental trip back to the days when gas prices were under two bucks and customers were greeted by attendants who promised "service with a smile."

When you set foot into this wonderland celebrating America's love affair with fossil fuels, you find yourself immersed in a man's life work. That man is Mark's dad, Jack Mendenhall, whose profession may have been as a gas station owner, back when ARCO was Richfield and had that proud blue and gold eagle logo, but whose passion in retirement was collecting every bit of gas-station memorabilia he could haul in his truck.

He hauled it all, from glowing globes above old-fashioned pumps of long-forgotten oil companies, to porcelain highway road signs, to neon logos once perched atop beloved roadside stops, to license plates from every state in the union to all manner of hot rods and land-speed vehicles that he and Mark raced for kicks and big trophies.

And it's Mark's job, now that Jack has passed on, to do right by the old man and build a shrine to all things automotive. That meant finding enough space on the site of the family's former service station and auto yard to display nearly all of the mementos acquired over the years, as well as continuing the tradition by haunting "Gas Bashes" (a gearhead version of swap meets), combing the latest issue of *Collectors*, *Collectibles Monthly* and even going on eBay to buy, sell and trade his way to arguably one of the most comprehensive petroliana collections you'll ever see.

"What I did," Mark said, "is take our wrecking yard — see this place where the cars are — and I built all these outbuildings for the displays. We got all the walls covered, some of the ceilings, too, and we've got most of the collection out there for people to see. I still got some stuff in storage, but you know ..."

Maybe he'll have to make a few additions. But already he's taken a building that once was a



PHOTOS BY SAM McMANIS/SACRAMENTO BEE

The Mendenhall Museum of Gasoline Pumps & Petroliana in Buellton, Calif., boasts more than 4,000 vintage gas station signs.



Gas pumps and signs from long-forgotten companies are displayed at the museum.

gas station and another that was a church, as well as that vast expanse that once housed junked cars, and turned it into a semi-circle of nearly a dozen rooms gleaming with polished gas pumps from as early as the 1920s, porcelain signs ("they don't fade like these aluminum ones they got now") hyping petroleum companies like Seaside, Norwalk, Gilmore and Husky, and assorted other memorabilia.

No need to ask Mendenhall, 62, why he does it. He's not the type to babble about feelings, but you can tell the museum is a labor of love devoted to his father, whose image graces many of the walls.

One of Mark's most prized possessions is a 10-foot old-fashioned town-square-type clock he made with his dad's image on the face and the inscription, "Time for Jack."

"They used to call my dad 'Pack Rat Jack' and 'Cadillac Jack,' and he drank a lot of Jack" — as in Daniel's, whiskey — Mark said. "So I thought the clock with 'Time for Jack' was fitting."

Jack didn't know it at the time, but he was leaving an inheritance for his only son worth far more than mere nostalgia. This bric-a-brac is worth tens of thousands of dollars. Mark opened the cover of a petroliana trade magazine and

pointed to a sign showing Mobil's iconic flying red horse logo. It was selling for \$4,000. Mark has a corral full of flying red horses. He's also got rare pumps, including what he calls the first pay-at-the-pump — a bright red Beacon gas pump that had coin slots, silver dollar, half-dollar and quarters.

"Some of the signs you're looking at (that used to be \$5,000 are \$30,000 now)," he said. "A Harbor gas sign, porcelain, just sold for \$60,000."

With 10-foot high walls and signs out front showing two large dogs with the warning: "Can you make it to the fence in 3 seconds? We can," and even with signs like



A giant orange Union 76 ball is a highlight of the collection.

the giant orange Union 76 ball clearly visible on the main street a block away, Mendenhall is not worried about theft.

"If they can get over the walls, past my dog and past my Smith and Wesson, go ahead and take what you can," he said.

Mark doesn't fit the mold of museum curator, but he and wife Vickie decided to open their private collection, by appointment only, during the recession of 2008, when his work as a contractor dried up. He found that he enjoyed telling the stories behind the items. He's opened the place for weddings, class reunions and even funerals. His father had his memorial service on the grounds of the old junk yard.

"Everyone rode a street rod from here out to the cemetery," he said. "It was nice."

Jack Mendenhall may be buried a few miles away, but his legacy is clearly at this wrecking yard-turned-museum. As if to pay homage, Mark flipped a switch and that proud Richfield eagle became a brilliant blue and gold, looking as if at any moment it might take flight.

MUSIC

NEW ALBUMS



Billy Joe Shaver

Long in the Tooth (Lightning Rod)

Old cowboys love to lament that contemporary country music's in a sorry state and guilty of casting aside sage singers and songwriters — like Billy Joe Shaver. The crusty Texan trots out that trope at the start of his new album, then spends the rest of the record showing he still has plenty to say. “Long in the Tooth” covers a wide range of topics in 10 songs and 32 minutes. Shaver sings about politics, war, the lessons of Jesus and the Garden of Eden, and that's just in four verses on the tune “The Git Go.”

The title cut's a hoot, with Shaver noting that as his 75th birthday approaches, “what I used to do all night, it takes me all night to do.” He sings about the rails on “Sunbeam Special,” then rails against America's class divide on “Checkers and Chess.”

Best of all is “I'm In Love,” a ballad beautiful in its simplicity as Shaver pledges everlasting devotion. The song's a testament to this cowboy's staying power.

— Steven Wine
The Associated Press



Brian Setzer

Rockabilly Riot! All Original (Surfdog)

Brian Setzer deserves plenty of credit — for the '80s rockabilly revival with the Stray Cats, the swing revival of the '90s with the Brian Setzer Orchestra and classics like “Rock This Town.” But on “Rockabilly Riot! All Original,” he reminds us what a crafty lyricist he is, spinning memorable rockabilly tales about Elvis-influenced “Calamity Jane,” Flatfoot Sam (who went “looking for a job down in Alabama”) in “Vinyl Records”) and the car-obsessed narrator of “I Shoulda Had a V-8.” He's at his best in “The Girl With the Blues in Her Eyes,” where he channels Gene Vincent filtered through Paul McCartney for a should-be classic.

— Glenn Gamboa
Newsday

Revisiting a landmark

Artists cover Cash's Native American concept album

Throughout his career, Johnny Cash sang about the down-trodden, giving a voice to the voiceless. But his 1964 concept album, “Bitter Tears: Ballads of the American Indian,” started a new conversation about social awareness.

The collection of songs written by Cash and Peter La Farge provided strong commentary about the U.S. government's mistreatment of Native Americans. Cash's record label tried talking him out of releasing the album, fearing it would alienate his country music fan base, but his regard for speaking out against injustice was more important.

Kris Kristofferson, Emmylou Harris, Steve Earle, The Milk Carton Kids and others trans-



Various Artists

Look Again to the Wind: Johnny Cash's Bitter Tears Revisited (Sony Masterworks)

form Cash's political statement into a rootsy collection in the new album, “Look Again to the Wind: Johnny Cash's Bitter

Tears Revisited.”

Kristofferson handles the original album's biggest track, “The Ballad of Ira Hayes,” with help from Gillian Welch and David Rawlings. Other stand-out performances include Harris taking on “Apache Tears,” a heartfelt version of “The Talking Leaves” with Nancy Blake supported by Harris, Welch and Rawlings, and Rhiannon Giddens' haunting cover of “The Vanishing Race.”

The cover album also includes three additional tracks: reprises of “As Long as the Grass Shall Grow” and “Apache Tears,” and a track left off the original called “Look Again to the Wind.”

— John Carucci
Associated Press



Chase Rice

Ignite the Night (Duck Janiels/Columbia)

On “Do It Like This,” country singer Chase Rice suggests he and his friends prefer pulling out a fiddle at a back-country bonfire to dancing under a disco ball. But the track contradicts that sentiment by employing pop and hip-hop influences more befitting an urban dance floor than a rural, electricity-free setting.

“Do It Like This” from his new album “Ignite the Night” opens with the sound of a scratching turntable, a vocoder-altered voice track, and an electronic drum pattern — even the banjo sounds like a looped sample.

That isn't a big surprise, considering Rice is the co-writer of the monster crossover hit “Cruise.” Rice takes a wholly modern approach on his debut major-label album. Recent radio hit “Ready Set Roll,” uses the mix of rap and singing heard on hits by Florida Georgia Line, Jason Aldean and Luke Bryan.

Like those artists, Rice won't be heralded by tradition-loving country fans. But the huge crowds rallying behind his contemporaries will find plenty to like about “Ignite The Night.”

— Michael McCall
The Associated Press

TOP FLOPS OF 2014 ... SO FAR

There's been plenty of smash albums this year. Pharrell cashed in on last summer's “Happy” with his breakout sophomore effort this year. Coldplay may not notched another behemoth debut but provided a soundtrack to “conscious uncoupling” in the process. Eric Church and Brantley Gilbert both made it rain on the charts, and Michael Jackson even found a hit album from beyond the grave. But 2014 has also seen a number of epic failures. Here are 10 of our favorite flops from the year.

Robin Thicke, “Paula”

First-week sales: 24,000

Why it bombed: An album dedicated to your estranged wife sounds like a promising idea. Except when the record turns out to be a creepy, hastily crafted mea culpa like this one. From begging for his actress wife to take him back during every performance to teaming with 1-800-Flowers for branded bouquets, Thicke's follow-up to the massive “Blurred Lines” went down in flames.

Mariah Carey, “Me. I Am Mariah ... The Elusive Chanteuse”

First-week sales: 58,000

Why it bombed: Mariah has delivered indelible pop hits for more than 20 years, but the rollout for her latest album was nothing short of disastrous. She spent two years teasing the project with mediocre singles (“Triumphant [Get ‘Em],” “You're Mine [Eternal]”) and countless DVDs. That mouthful of an album title didn't help either.

Candice Glover, “Music Speaks”

First-week sales: 19,000

Why it bombed: One of “American Idol's” finest winners in recent years never had a chance. Her 2013 run on the series was overshadowed by sagging ratings, bitter judge rivalries and a pending reboot. And her album — a sturdy R&B offering — was issued when the series was deep into its new season. She suffered the lowest first-week sales of any previous winner, including the ones we can't remember.

Jennifer Lopez, “A.K.A.”

First-week sales: 33,000

Why it bombed: Lopez, like Carey, found out just how tough it is for veteran pop divas these days. Her latest album — packed with the pop, hip-hop and dance tunes you'd expect of her — showcased a more vocally confident singer. It still wasn't enough to win over the critics — or listeners, who had long written off “Jenny From the Block.”

Lea Michele, “Louder”

First-week sales: 62,171

Why it bombed: By the time this Broadway-favorite-turned-TV-star issued her long-anticipated debut, “Glee” had already lost most of its sheen. And while she handled the tragic death of her boyfriend and costar Cory Monteith with grace on “If You Say So” (written by Sia Furler), the rest of the album — although beautifully sung — lacked personality.

50 Cent, “Animal Ambition”

First-week sales: 47,000

Why it bombed: Fifty's business ventures have proved more compelling than anything he's recorded as of late. Aside from his core fan base, who even knew he had an album out?

Tessanne Chin, “Count on My Love”

First-week sales: 7,000

Why it bombed: Winning “The Voice” means what, exactly? The show has yet to yield an actual star. But for some reason, a new season of “The Voice” continues to air twice a year, and viewers can't invest in the previous winner before they are asked to vote for a new one.

Ashanti, “Braveheart”

First-week sales: 28,000

Why it bombed: The album's first single came out in 2011. Was the wait worth it? Absolutely not. “Braveheart” is an expired set of forgettable club stompers and tired ballads that lacked the sass and inspiration of her earlier work.

Mary J. Blige, “Think Like A Man Too”

First-week sales: 8,688

Why it bombed: An original album that served as a soundtrack. Great. The album's music barely had a presence in the actual film, so it served no purpose. Besides, the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul should never play second fiddle to a predictable rom-com.

Austin Mahone, “The Secret EP”

First-week sales: 46,000

Why it bombed: Despite the teen “phenom” being promoted as the second coming of Justin Bieber, none of his music won us over. The kid has a rabid fan base and yet he's still not a star? Weird. But we love that song from that ever-present sparkling water commercial anyway.

— Gerrick D. Kennedy/Los Angeles Times



Cory Branan

The No-Hit Wonder (Bloodshot)

Like all good country music, Cory Branan is hard, if not impossible, to define. That's probably because you could argue he weighs equally into at least three other genres: he's got a rollicking rock 'n' roll straightforwardness, a quick-witted punk-infused grittiness and the evocative songwriting prowess of a folk troubadour. On his fourth album, “The No-Hit Wonder,” Branan seems able to effortlessly bring it all together, creating a cohesive juggernaut of a record that's every bit as sharp and clever as it is melodic, catchy, and downright fun to listen to.

— Scott Recker
PopMatters.com

MUSIC



Various Artists

Warby Parker Presents Song Reader: 20 Songs by Beck (Warby Parker/Capitol 3)

What started life in 2012 as an elegantly old-timey volume of sheet music of new Beck songs published by McSweeney's blossoms into what was intended by its author: something purely interpretive, a chance for others to sing out, to bring their own voice to his music. Performers did not have to consider themselves obliged to follow Beck as the minifunkateer of "Odelay" or the melancholy apologist of "Sea Change." All they had to do was not be Beck. He in his sole appearance ("Heaven's Ladder") sounds more Canterbury folk than his usual California cool.

The high-profile indie likes of Jack White, Jack Black(!), and Laura Marling sound solely (and sorely, even glumly) like themselves. Norah Jones, too, comes across as timidly confused. By contrast, the art-pop band Sparks, folkie Loudon Wainwright III and glam elder David Johansen have spirited glee with their tracks while maintaining their individuality. The band fun, proudly lives up to its name, while Colombian pop sensation Juanes offers something rousing, anthemic and flavorful.

—A.D. Amorosi
The Philadelphia Inquirer



Lee Bains III & The Glory Fires

Dereconstructed (Sub Pop)

Alabama-born gospel-reared rocker Lee Bains spends a lot of time thinking about Southern identity on "Dereconstructed." You might not immediately notice the soul-searching nature of songs like "The Weeds Downtown" and "The Kudzu & The Concrete," however. That's because Bains, a former member of the much-loved Dixateens, rocks with such bracing abandon as he brings howling garage-punk intensity to the Southern rock lineage that runs from Lynyrd Skynyrd to the Alabama Shakes. The sonic assault can be too undifferentiated from track to track, but Bains' best intentions, in singing songs as a proud Southerner horrified by the bloodstained past of the land he loves, still comes ringing through, very loud if not always crystal clear.

—Dan DeLuca
The Philadelphia Inquirer

THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

STRETCHES ITS SOUND

The Gaslight Anthem

Get Hurt (Island)

The Gaslight Anthem's transformation is so complete that the first half of the new album, "Get Hurt," sounds like it came from an entirely different band.

The New Jersey quartet, led by Brian Fallon, built its major-label reputation on revved-up, Springsteen-drenched indie-rock anthems, with Fallon's voice often straining from emotional intensity.

But most of that is on hold on "Get Hurt." The opener, "Stay Vicious," blends heavy-metal guitar riffs and stomping verses, though Fallon does try to console freaked-out fans singing, "I still love rock and roll and I still call somebody baby."

On "1,000 Years," while Fallon



channels a bit of The Hold Steady, the rest of the band seems to channel Pearl Jam, circa "Ten."

There's a lot of early Pearl Jam references throughout "Get Hurt," as Fallon finds more of an Eddie Ved-

der-esque croon rather than his usual Springsteen-y howl, especially on the title track.

"Stray Paper" seems to capture the latest version of Gaslight Anthem best, aided by producer Mike Crossey, best known for his work with bands that use a range of styles, like Arctic Monkeys and The 1975. It takes the usual cadences of Fallon's vocals and places them in new surroundings, the approach they use for the winding "Helter Skeleton" and the restrained but ambitious "Underneath the Ground."

"Get Hurt" works as a transition album for Gaslight Anthem, a way to break out of a specific, successful style and spread the band's musical wings. They don't always soar, but they will soon.

—Glenn Gamboa/Newsday

The Gaslight Anthem, from left: Alex Levine, Alex Rosanilla, Brian Fallon and Ben Horowitz.

PAMELA LITVYK/Courtesy of Big Hassle Media

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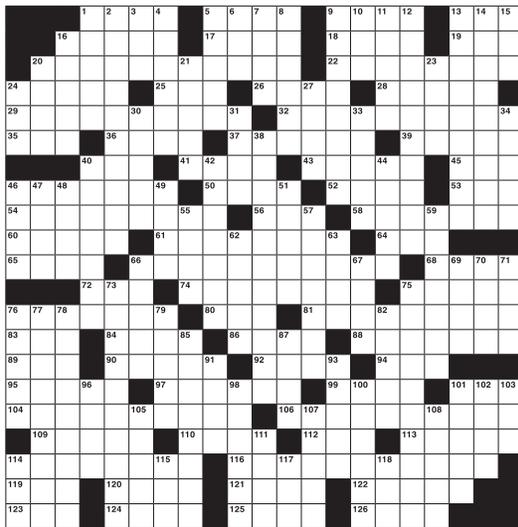
CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

SITTIN' SOLVE

BY CALEB MADISON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS
- 1 Word after say or now
 - 5 Initiator of a probe, maybe
 - 9 Mop
 - 13 Something five-star hotels provide, informally
 - 16 Detective Vance
 - 17 Mythological deity with two ravens
 - 18 Celebrity chef Matsuhisa
 - 19 Part of a titter
 - 20 Spellin' things incorrectly?
 - 22 Departing words
 - 24 Leonardo da Vinci, religiously y
 - 25 Platform for many apps
 - 26 Nosh on the trail
 - 28 R&B singer with the 2004 #1 hit "Goodies"
 - 29 Stealin' a hard drug?
 - 32 Pushin' some bread back and forth?
 - 35 Domain of Jupiter
 - 36 Beak
 - 37 Enwrap
 - 39 Parkinson's treatment
 - 40 Global finance org.
 - 41 ___ de boesuf
 - 43 ___ Fierce (Beyoncé alter ego)
 - 45 It's official: song is "Home on the Range": Abbr.
 - 46 Like some relations 50 Lie around
 - 48 Where she blows? 53 Suffix with glycer-
 - 49 Paper pusher?
 - 54 Was a bellwether
 - 58 Strike first
 - 60 Disciplines
 - 61 50 Cent piece
 - 64 Fair-hiring inits.
 - 65 H.S. dropouts' documents
 - 66 Not allowin' anyone to cook burgers and franks?
 - 68 Google alternative incorrectly?
 - 72 Mortal queen of Thebes who was transformed into a goddess
 - 74 Hardens
 - 75 Brother, in slang
 - 76 Like very few newspapers these days
 - 80 To be, in Tijuana
 - 81 "Are you done?"
 - 83 Place for lambs to frolic
 - 84 Wavy do
 - 86 Comedic Mort
 - 88 Bibliography listings
 - 89 Union formation?
 - 90 Hospital status, informally
 - 92 Each episode of "Law & Order," sby
 - 94 Roguish
 - 95 Tablet marking options
 - 97 Deeply impressed
 - 99 ___ Cooper
 - 101 1 1/2 of zero?
 - 104 Recheekin' with a stopwatch?
 - 106 Demonstratin' how to shoot an apple off someone's head?
 - 109 French nobleman
 - 110 California's Santa ___ Mountains
 - 112 Album with the 1978 hit "Deacon Blues"
 - 113 Hot spring?
 - 114 Accoutterment popularized by a "Seinfeld" episode
 - 116 Usin' less stickum?
 - 119 Pat choice
 - 120 Put in a bibliography
 - 121 ___ socks
 - 122 Madcap
 - 123 "Gangnam Style" stylis t
 - 124 Shipbuilder's starting point
 - 125 Orac'l e
 - 126 Certain recess
 - DOWN
 - 1 Egg beater
 - 2 Givin' a female casino patron another card?
 - 3 Iraq's Imam ___ Air Base
 - 4 Old-timey medicines
 - 5 Scandinavian language, to its speakers
 - 6 Hubbub
 - 7 Make a note of?
 - 8 Sweater material
 - 9 Medium for many selfies
 - 10 "I'm speechless"
 - 11 You can count on them
 - 12 Makin' some big purchases?
 - 13 2002 Dennis Quaid film about a struggling minor-league pitcher
 - 14 Places for briefs?
 - 15 Big cheese
 - 16 Steep
 - 20 Unconvincing
 - 21 Cyrano de Bergerac, famous y
 - 23 Certain charge
 - 24 Party entertainers, for short
 - 27 Breaks down
 - 30 Dieter's label
 - 31 This, in Tijuana
 - 33 Singer with the 2009 hit "TiK Tok"
 - 34 Track listings?
 - 38 Hopin' favor is bestowed?
 - 40 Moralist's comment
 - 42 Vets
 - 44 Panetta's successor as defense secretary
 - 46 Hitch
 - 47 Juin honoree
 - 48 Deeply impressed
 - 49 Log of "60 Minutes"
 - 51 Jumping-off point?
 - 55 Dealbreaker?
 - 57 Wrecks
 - 59 Engineering topic
 - 62 Popular six-second clips since 2013
 - 63 Much of the Guggenheim's collection
 - 66 Big goof
 - 67 W.W. II transports: Abbr.
 - 69 Old "There's no Step 3!" sloganer
 - 70 River through two world capital s
 - 71 Hardens
 - 73 Bitin' a friend of Robin Hood?
 - 75 Carryin' a load of grain?
 - 76 Title film locale in Springwood, Ohio
 - 77 Stats for basketball players
 - 78 "Get rich quick" promise
 - 79 Clark ___ "The Avengers" actor
 - 82 Egypt's Mubarak
 - 85 Coral-reef lurker
 - 87 ___ Zimmer, Oscar-winning composer for "The Lion King"
 - 91 Pest
 - 93 What you might use to put on a happy face?
 - 96 Not step so level y
 - 98 Some sweaters
 - 100 Lemmer!
 - 101 Like barbecue sauce
 - 102 Nobelist Wiesel
 - 103 Loop loopers
 - 105 Eagle's perch
 - 107 Hardly a yes man
 - 108 Sampl e
 - 111 Microsoft portable media player
 - 114 Plan (out)
 - 115 Sault ___ Mari e
 - 117 Shorts top?
 - 118 Little show, say



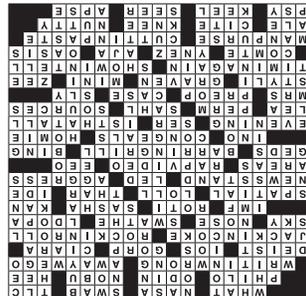
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GUNSTON STREET



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

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE



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OMBUDSMAN

GADGETS & CHARTS



JOSH RITCHIE, SUN SENTINEL/MCT

Russ Brunner brews his stout at home, in a spare bedroom. But after winning a contest sponsored by the Sam Adams brewery, his stout is part of a limited-release six-pack now in stores.

Home brewer's stout now part of six-pack

By JOHN TANASYCHUK
Sun Sentinel

Last fall, Russ Brunner of Pompano Beach, Fla., entered his home-brewed stout into the Samuel Adams LongShot American Homebrew Contest. Shortly after sending his beer, he saw "Boston" on his caller ID.

"There's absolutely no way," he remembers saying to himself. "It's a bill collector. But I answered it anyway, and it turned out to be Sam Adams."

Brunner made the semifinals and eventually took one of two top prizes for what is now called Russ Brunner's American Stout. His mug is on every bottle, part of a limited-release six-pack in stores now featuring two bottles

of Brunner's stout and two bottles each from two other winners.

Brunner also won \$5,000 and trips to the Great American Beer Festival in Denver and the Sam Adams Boston brewery.

Hard to believe that Brunner started home brewing only four years ago after he tried St. Bernardus Abt 12, which has been brewed in Belgium since 1946.

Until this big Belgian, Brunner was strictly a light lager consumer of Miller Lite and Yuengling.

These days, one bedroom of his and wife Liz's apartment has been turned over to brewing. "Now she's got the bug. She's making cigars and weed."

For information on the Samuel Adams home brew contest, visit SamuelAdams.com/longshot.

GADGET WATCH

Camera bag makes airport maneuvering a breeze

By GREGG ELLMAN
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

I guess it dates me a little when I say that the Roller Derby is coming back. The Think Tank Photo's new Airport Roller Derby rolling camera bag (\$389.75) helps you maneuver through crowded airports without elbowing your fellow passengers in the face.

The four-wheeled roller can turn on a dime and is extremely easy to maneuver, reducing the amount of effort needed to pull it when it's filled to capacity. The newly designed wheel system even improves the contents' weight distribution when it's on the move.

When I first opened the roller, I was pushing it around my house with one finger and hardly heard the wheels on my hardwood floors. Each wheel is actually a dual wheel, totaling up to eight wheels on the bottom.

The handle allows the bag to tilt and roll on two wheels. In addition to the well-designed wheel system, other top-notch features include high-quality hardware, water-resistant zippers and exterior fabric along with replaceable wheels with sealed steel bearings.

Storage compartments include dedicated pockets to hold a tablet and laptop (up to 15 inches) and dividers to fit just about any combination of gear, including a pair of DSLR bodies and about seven lenses, flash or other accessories.

When empty, the bag weighs 11 pounds and measures 14-by-22-by-9 inches.

According to Think Tank, the new Roller Derby roller "meets US domestic and most international carry-on requirements."

Also new from Think Tank Photo is the My 2nd Briefcase,

available in 13- (\$129.75) and 15-inch (\$144.75) laptop-friendly sizes. Think Tank has given them the nickname of "mobile offices," since they keep your mobile tech life so organized.

Both inside and outside pockets accommodate every accessory you could possibly need,



DIGITAL TREASURES/MCT

The Jive, an all-in-one Bluetooth speaker and speaker phone, is completely waterproof so you can enjoy your favorite tunes or hands-free calling in any environment.

including power cords, cables, hard drives, headphones, tablets, pens, keys, smartphones and your laptop. A pair of exterior side zippered pockets can hold a water bottle and a compact umbrella.

The Airport Roller Derby and the new briefcases include a Think Tank rain cover.

Online: thinktankphoto.com

The superCUBE and superCUBE flip from Scosche are items that everyone should have tucked in their travel bag.

The superCUBE is a one-inch cube with nothing but AC prongs and a USB port. It's advertised to be up to 40 percent smaller than most similar USB 12W charging adapters.

Its big brother, the superCUBE flip, is a little bigger but has folding AC prongs so they can be tucked away when not in use.

Online: scosche.com, \$19.99 each

Digital Treasures Jive wireless speaker really lets you take your music and phone calls anywhere.

The Jive is a Bluetooth speaker with a mic for hands-free calls, but what makes it special is the built-in suction cup enabling the waterproof speaker built with silicone-based materials to go anywhere and everywhere, including your shower.

Obviously your media source (tablet, smartphone, etc.) doesn't have to be in the water; just make your Bluetooth connection and keep it within 32 feet of the speaker.

It features a one-touch talk button, a 3-watt full-range speaker and an internal rechargeable battery good for up to four hours.

Online: digitaltreasures.com; \$19 at Amazon, available in blue, green, black, orange and purple



MCT

With the new Airport Roller Derby, you can maneuver nimbly through crowded spaces and minimize muscle fatigue.

ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 songs on the iTunes Store for August 20:

- "Shake It Off," 1989 Taylor Swift
- "All About That Bass - Single," Meghan Trainor
- "Bang Bang," Jessie J, Ariana Grande & Nicki Minaj
- "Rather Be featuring Jess Glynne," Clean Bandit
- "Break Free (feat. Zedd)," Ariana Grande
- "Chandelier," Sia
- "Stay With Me," Sam Smith
- "Rude," MAGIC!
- "Burnin' It Down," Jason Aldean
- "Cool Kids," Echsmoth

— Compiled by MCT

SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify from Aug. 11-17:

- "Stay With Me," Sam Smith
- "Rude," MAGIC!
- "All About That Bass," Meghan Trainor
- "Chandelier," Sia
- "Fancy," Iggy Azalea
- "Bang Bang," Jessie J
- "Break Free," Ariana Grande
- "Shower," Becky G
- "Problem," Ariana Grande
- "Maps," Maroon 5

— Compiled by The Associated Press

ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for August 20:

- "The Amazing Spider-Man 2"
- "Divergent"
- "Neighbors"
- "The Other Woman"
- "Draft Day"
- "Philomena"
- "Mrs. Doubt-Fire"
- "Muppets Most Wanted"
- "Dead Poets Society"
- "Blended"



— Compiled by MCT

VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer ranks the Top 10 downloadable games for August:

- "Divinity: Original Sin"
- "Shovel Knight"
- "Dark Souls II: Crown of the Sunken King"
- "The Swapper"
- "Guacameleon Super Turbo Championship Edition"
- "Titanfall: Frontier's Edge"
- "Call of Duty: Ghosts - Nameless"
- "Oddworld: New 'n' Tasty"
- "Valiant Hearts: The Great War"
- "The Walking Dead Season 2 Episode 4 - Amid The Ruins"

— Compiled by MCT

APPS

Top 5 new paid apps for August 20:

- ANDROID
- Ignore No More
 - Afterlight
 - Time Tangle - Adventure Time
 - Modern Combat 5: Blackout
 - Facelife

Top 5 paid apps for August 20:

- APPLE
- Heads Up!
 - Minecraft - Pocket Edition
 - Card Wars - Adventure Time
 - Afterlight
 - Videoshop - Video Editor

— Compiled by MCT

MOVIES

Summer flicks: The good, the bad and the ugly

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Summer's spent, cinematically. So it's time to tally up the take, pat a few folks on the back and pass the buck of blame around Hollywood for the cinema season that was.

The sequels showed up in droves, and some — from "Spider-Man: Less Amazing Than Ever" to "X-Men: How MANY of These Xes Can We Stuff Into One Movie?" — were hits; others, not so much. Every week had a potential blockbuster; many weeks, those films fell short.

But an August box office rally lessened the pain of a season that lagged 20 percent behind last summer's epic numbers.

Some films are remembered, many will be forgotten. And since the Academy of Motion Arts and Sciences is loathe to recognize or even remember summer films come Oscar time, let's hand out another summer's load of Summer Oscars, "Sumoscars," naming names and spreading the love as we do.



Warner Bros. Pictures

Worst acting

The cast of "Into the Storm," for which director Steven Quale should take the credit.



WARNER BROS./AP

Most in need of a fresh gag

Melissa McCarthy, "Tammy." Watch "The Fluffy Movie," dear, if you want to know how short the shelf life on fat jokes is.



SONY PICTURES/AP

Biggest laughs

"22 Jump Street" mocked its very existence and got away with it — hilariously.



SUNDANCE INSTITUTE/AP

Best curtain call

Philip Seymour Hoffman, "A Most Wanted Man." It's a pity he has to turn up in tiny doses in future "Hunger Games." This le Carre adaptation was a fitting exit.



WARNER BROS./AP

Worst curtain calls

Woody Allen's tin-eared "Magic in the Moonlight," Clint Eastwood's tone-deaf "Jersey Boys." Does either still have the patience for rewriting jokes or retakes of flatly played scenes?



IFC Films

Best sequel

"The Trip to Italy," in which all these years of comical bickering, and now two road-trip movies further into their collaboration, Rob Brydon finally gets Steve Coogan to crack up with laughter.



Paramount Pictures

Worst sequel

"Transformers: Age of Extinction," because "Planes 2" at least tried harder.



DREAMWORKS ANIMATION/AP

Worst-served genre

Animation. A tired and joke-starved "How to Train Your Dragon 2," and an improved-but-still DOA "Planes: Fire & Rescue." Kids deserve better.



WARNER BROS./AP

Best career move

Dying on screen. Tom Cruise did it scores of times, to the delight of fans and especially haters, in "Edge of Tomorrow."



Paramount Pictures, Nickelodeon Movies

Loudest

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," a Michael Bay production, got a Michael Bay soundtrack.



DISNEY/AP

Most likely to succeed as a new Disney princess

"Maleficent." Bad girls need a tiara, too.



Twentieth Century Fox Film

Most prescient

"Let's Be Cops," about two goofs who dress up as police to get girls and find purpose and machismo.



UNIVERSAL PICTURES/AP

Biggest marketing fail

"Get on Up." A stunning star turn by Chadwick Boseman could have been an Oscar contender, but Universal rolled the film out to the sounds of silence in early August.



Lionsgate

Biggest suckers

Ticket-buyers to "America," a documentary-length whine by convicted liar Dinesh D'Souza proclaiming himself a martyr for being caught lying and facing jail time for it.



IFC FILMS/AP

Real Oscar nominee

"Boys n the Hood," a possible best director, best screenplay and/or best picture contender.



MARVEL STUDIOS/MCT

Best popcorn picture

The jokey-retro-cool "Guardians of the Galaxy," because "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" was all about the animated apes as humans sat around waiting for better characters and dialogue.



OPEN ROAD FILMS/AP

Best food film

"Chef." Jon Favreau's scruffy food truck road-trip comedy trumped the bloated Oprah/Spielberg-backed "The Hundred-Foot Journey." French cuisine and Helen Mirren bested by Cubanos and a Le-guizamo.



THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY/AP

Best movies you missed

"Firth," with James McAvoy as a twisted, tormented Scottish cop; "Belle" with rising star Gugu Mbatha-Raw as the daughter of a slave, raised among aristocrats; and "Begin Again" (pictured), a tuneful, wistful New York romance where the love is all about the music.

INDEPENDENT NEWS FOR THE U.S. MILITARY COMMUNITY

Whenever They Fight and Wherever They Live

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

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

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

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

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

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefield to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published over 30

separate editions, running up to 24 pages per issue.

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

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

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

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

The print newspaper is still available for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in



Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific—and in contingency areas. Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where daily editions are transported to printers in Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Djibouti, as well as in Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, and South Korea. Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (Stripes Guam, Japan, Korea and Okinawa), designed to serve the

needs of their respective military communities.

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

STARS AND STRIPES RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2004 American Legion Excellence in Journalism Award – Ground Truth Series

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

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Retailers warned of hacking software

BY ALICIA A. CALDWELL AND JEFF HORWITZ
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 1,000 U.S. retailers could be infected with malicious software lurking in their cash register computers, allowing hackers to steal customer financial data, the Homeland Security Department said Friday.

The government urged businesses of all sizes to scan their point-of-sale systems for software known as "Backoff," discovered last October. It previously explained in detail how the software operates and how retailers could find and remove it.

Earlier this month, United Parcel Service said it found infected computers in 51 stores. UPS said it was not aware of any fraud that resulted from the infection but said hackers may have taken customers' names, addresses, email addresses and payment card information.

The company apologized to

customers and offered free identity protection and credit monitoring services to those who had shopped in those 51 stores.

Backoff was discovered in October, but according to the Homeland Security Department the software wasn't flagged by antivirus programs until this month.

Jerome Segura, a senior security researcher at cybersecurity firm Malware Bytes, said that the way that Backoff works is not unique. The program gains access to companies' computers by finding insufficiently protected remote access points and duping computer users to download malware, tricks that have long been in use and are often automated.

What has changed, Segura said, is that the hackers deploying it have become increasingly sophisticated about identifying high-value computer systems after they've broken into them.

"Once the bad guys realized they were able to penetrate larger networks, they saw the opportunity to develop malware that's

specifically for credit cards and can evade antivirus programs," he said.

By using Backoff selectively, rather than distributing it widely on the Internet, the hackers likely managed to escape detection for longer. Following Homeland Security's warnings in July, however, companies are much better able to probe their own computers for Backoff.

The battle between retailers and hackers is an ongoing one. Retail giant Target, based in Minneapolis, was targeted by hackers last year and disclosed in December that a data breach compromised 40 million credit and debit card accounts between Nov. 27 and Dec. 15. On Jan. 10, it said hackers stole personal information — including names, phone numbers and email and mailing addresses — from as many as 70 million customers.

Target, the third-largest retailer, has been overhauling its security department and systems in the wake of the pre-Christmas data breach, which hurt profits,

sales and its reputation among shoppers worried about the security of their personal data. Target is now accelerating its \$100 million plan to roll out chip-based credit card technology in all of its nearly 1,800 stores.

So-called chip-and-pin technology would allow for more secure transactions than the magnetic strip cards that most Americans use now. The technology has already been adopted in Europe and elsewhere.

MARKET WATCH	
Aug. 22, 2014	
Dow Jones Industrials	-38.27
Nasdaq composite	6.45
Standard & Poor's 500	-3.97
Russell 2000	0.31
Dollar buys (Aug. 25)	€0.7334
British pound (Aug. 25)	\$1.70
Japanese yen (Aug. 25)	101.00
South Korean won (Aug. 25)	994.00

EXCHANGE RATES	
Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 25)	\$1.3635
Dollar buys (Aug. 25)	€0.7334
British pound (Aug. 25)	\$1.70
Japanese yen (Aug. 25)	101.00
South Korean won (Aug. 25)	994.00
Commercial rates	
British (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6577/0.6932
Canada (dollar)	1.0947
China (Yuan)	6.1515
Denmark (Krone)	5.6301
Egypt (Pound)	7.1515
Euro	\$1.3241/0.7552
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.7560
Hungary (Forint)	236.60
Israel (Shekel)	3.5322
Japan (Yen)	103.93
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2843
Norway (Krone)	6.1654
Philippines (Peso)	43.85
Poland (Zloty)	3.16
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2487
South Korea (Won)	1,019.68
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9138
Taiwan (Dollar)	31.95
Turkey (New Lira)	2,175.90

(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.)

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.09
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	3.16

WEATHER OUTLOOK



Sunday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	93	72	Cldy	Fort Wayne	87	69	PCldy	Louisville	93	70	Cldy	Pocatello	70	46	PCldy	Sioux City	88	59	PCldy
Ablene, Tex	99	74	Cir	Cheyenne	75	50	PCldy	Fresno	94	65	Cir	Lubbock	95	70	PCldy	Portland, Maine	78	46	PCldy	Sioux Falls	82	57	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	85	64	PCldy	Chicago	88	73	Cldy	Goodland	87	61	PCldy	Macon	93	72	Rain	Portland, Ore.	80	58	PCldy	South Bend	88	70	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	82	57	PCldy	Cincinnati	88	71	Cldy	Grand Junction	82	58	PCldy	Madison	89	72	Cldy	Providence	78	59	Cldy	Spokane	77	55	Cldy
Albuquerque	87	65	PCldy	Cleveland	85	66	PCldy	Grand Rapids	85	66	Cldy	Medford	90	57	Cir	Pueblo	86	56	PCldy	Springfield, Ill.	94	73	PCldy
Allentown, Pa.	79	55	PCldy	Colorado Springs	81	52	Cldy	Great Falls	89	63	Rain	Memphis	98	76	PCldy	Raleigh-Durham	83	63	Cldy	Springfield, Mo.	100	72	Cldy
Amarillo	94	67	PCldy	Columbia, S.C.	89	68	Cldy	Green Bay	86	69	Cldy	Miami Beach	93	81	Cir	Reno	86	58	PCldy	St. Louis	93	82	PCldy
Anchorage	59	52	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	94	75	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	81	62	Cir	Midland-Odesa	97	73	PCldy	Reno	86	58	PCldy	St. Thomas	88	79	PCldy
Asheville	81	64	Rain	Columbus, Ohio	87	68	PCldy	Harrisburg	80	69	Cir	Milwaukee	81	69	Cldy	Richmond	81	61	Cldy	Tampa	94	74	PCldy
Atlanta	90	72	Rain	Concord, N.H.	83	68	PCldy	Hartford-Spfd	83	59	PCldy	Mpls-St Paul	73	66	PCldy	Roanoke	76	62	Cldy	Tulsa	101	76	PCldy
Atlantic City	78	59	PCldy	Corpus Christi	97	76	PCldy	Helena	65	45	Cldy	Missoula	71	46	Cldy	Rochester	79	61	Cir	Topeka	99	74	PCldy
Baltimore	82	62	PCldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	91	75	PCldy	Honolulu	76	61	PCldy	Mobile	76	61	PCldy	Rockford	60	50	Cir	Tucson	97	76	PCldy
Baton Rouge	99	77	Cir	Dayton	86	69	PCldy	Houston	97	77	PCldy	Montgomery	98	75	Cldy	Sacramento	87	60	Cir	Tulsa	101	76	PCldy
Bilings	63	50	Cldy	Daytona Beach	93	78	PCldy	Huntsville	94	73	PCldy	Nashville	95	73	Cldy	St. Louis	98	77	Cir	Tupelo	97	74	PCldy
Birmingham	95	73	Rain	Denver	80	56	Cldy	Indianapolis	88	72	Cldy	New Orleans	96	80	PCldy	St. Petersburg	93	82	PCldy	Waco	101	74	PCldy
Bismarck	63	50	Cldy	Des Moines	93	71	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	99	74	PCldy	New York City	80	63	PCldy	St. Thomas	88	79	PCldy	Washington	81	67	PCldy
Boise	77	57	Cir	Detroit	82	67	Cldy	Jacksonville	93	76	PCldy	Newark	83	63	PCldy	Salem, Ore.	81	54	Cldy	W. Palm Beach	91	79	Cir
Boston	77	57	Cir	Duluth	80	61	Rain	Juneau	64	51	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	78	66	PCldy	Salt Lake City	76	59	PCldy	Wichita	99	74	PCldy
Bridgeport	77	62	Cir	El Paso	92	71	PCldy	Kansas City	96	73	Cir	North Platte	84	60	PCldy	San Antonio	99	74	PCldy	Wichita Falls	101	75	PCldy
Brownsville	97	78	PCldy	Elkins	79	58	Cldy	Key West	92	82	PCldy	Oklahoma City	90	74	PCldy	San Diego	99	78	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	79	57	PCldy
Buffalo	81	63	PCldy	Eugene	82	52	Cldy	Lake Charles	94	76	PCldy	Orlando	96	77	PCldy	San Francisco	74	60	PCldy	Wilmington, Del.	79	59	PCldy
Burlington, Vt.	83	62	PCldy	Evansville	82	62	PCldy	Lansing	82	64	Cldy	Paducah	85	74	PCldy	San Jose	79	60	PCldy	Youngstown	81	61	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	83	55	PCldy	Fairbanks	70	49	PCldy	Las Vegas	98	76	Cir	Pendleton	80	57	PCldy	Santa Fe	85	56	PCldy				
Casper, Wyo.	89	66	Cir	Fargo	81	55	Cldy	Lexington	91	71	Cldy	Peoria	93	73	PCldy	St. Marie	77	61	Cldy				
Charleston, S.C.	89	70	Cldy	Flagstaff	74	50	PCldy	Lincoln	91	66	PCldy	Philadelphia	80	61	PCldy	Savannah	92	73	Cldy				
Charleston, W.Va.	84	66	Cldy	Flint	83	64	Cldy	Little Rock	97	75	Cir	Phoenix	102	81	Cir	Seattle	76	58	PCldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	82	67	Cldy	Fort Smith	100	74	Cir	Los Angeles	77	65	PCldy	Pittsburgh	82	62	PCldy	Shreveport	98	74	PCldy				

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.
National temperature extremes: Hi: Fr., 112, Death Valley, Calif. Lo: Fr., 27, Chertouf, Ore.

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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

Tennis

Winston-Salem Open

A U.S. Open Series event
At The Wake Forest Tennis Center
Winston-Salem, N.C.
Purse: \$683,705 (WT250)
Surface: Hard/Outdoor
Singles
Lukas Rosol (C), Czech Republic, def. Yeh-Shen Lu (T), Taiwan, 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.
Krzysz Janowicz, Poland, def. Sam Querrey, United States, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4.
Doubles
Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah, Colombia, def. Florin Mergea, Romania, and Jamie Murray, Britain, 6-2, 6-3.
Marcel Granollers and John Peers (C), Australia, def. Pablo Andujar and Marcel Granollers, Spain, 7-6, 6-2, 10-8.

Connecticut Open

A U.S. Open Series event
At the Connecticut Tennis Center at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Purse: \$710,000 (Premier)
Surface: Hard/Outdoor
Singles
Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, def. Camilla Giorgi, Italy, 6-2, 6-4.
Nicola Pietrangeli, Italy, def. Czech Republic, def. Sam Stosur, Australia, 6-3, 6-1.
Dimitry Pavluchenko, Russia, def. Daria Jurak-Croatia, and Megan Moulton-Levy, United States, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4.
Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, and Andrej Golubev, Kazakhstan, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-2, 5-7, 11-9.

Youth baseball

Little League World Series

At South Williamsport, Pa.
UNITED STATES
GREAT LAKES, Chicago; MID-ATLANTIC, Philadelphia; MIDWEST, Rapid City, S.D.; NEW ENGLAND, Cumberland, R.I.; NORTHWEST, Lynnwood, Wash.; SOUTH EAST, Nashville, Tenn.; SOUTHWEST, San Diego.
INTERNATIONAL
ASIA-PACIFIC, Seoul, South Korea; AUSTRALIA, Perth, Canada, Vancouver, B.C.; CARIBBEAN, Guadalupe, Puerto Rico; EUROPE, Africoma, Czech Republic; JAPAN, Tokyo; LATIN AMERICA, Guadalajara, Mexico; GULF STATES, Muscat, Oman; NEW LEAGUE, New York.

Double Elimination

Thursday, Aug. 14
Chicago 10, Brno 5
Seoul 10, Lynnwood 2.5 innings
Humaco 16, Perth 3.4 innings
Rapid City 7, Rapid City 4
Friday, Aug. 15
Guadalajara 10, Rapid City 4
Philadelphia 4, Nashville 0
Tokyo 1, Maracaibo 0
Pearland 6, Cumberland 4
Saturday, Aug. 16
Perth 10, Brno 6
Lynnwood 7, Rapid City 5, Rapid City eliminated
Maracaibo 10, Vancouver 0.5 innings
Vancouver eliminated
Cumberland 8, Nashville 7, Nashville eliminated
Sunday, Aug. 17
Seoul 8, Humaco 5
Chicago 13, Chicago 2.4 innings
Tokyo 9, Guadalajara 5
Philadelphia 7, Pearland 6
Monday, Aug. 18
Consolation: Rapid City 5, Brno 3
Guadalajara 5, Perth 2, Perth eliminated
Pearland 11, Lynnwood 4, Lynnwood eliminated
Maracaibo 2, Humaco 1, Humaco eliminated
Cumberland 8, Cumberland 7, Cumberland eliminated
Tuesday, Aug. 19
Consolation: Nashville 10, Vancouver 9
Guadalajara 5, Pearland 1, Pearland eliminated
Wednesday, Aug. 20
Seoul 4, Chicago 1
Las Vegas 8, Philadelphia 1
Thursday, Aug. 21
Tokyo 12, Guadalajara 1.5 innings
Guadalajara eliminated
Chicago 6, Philadelphia 5, Philadelphia eliminated
Friday, Aug. 23
International Championship
Game 27: Seoul vs. U.S.
United States Championship
Game 28: Las Vegas vs. Chicago

PGA TOUR
At The Barclays
PGA TOUR
At Ridgewood Country Club
Paradise, N.J.
Purse: \$1.3 million
Friday, 7:30P; P: 71
Cameron Tringali 66-68-134-8
Adam Scott 69-65-134-8
Pearland 69-68-137
Brendon Todd 69-66-135-7
Matt Kuchar 69-68-135-7
Henrik Stenson 72-64-136-6
Eric Cole 68-68-136-6
Russell Knox 67-69-136-6
Kevin Na 70-66-136-6
Patrick Reed 69-68-137
Eric Compton 68-69-137-5
Hunter Mahan 69-67-137-5
Paul Casey 71-66-137
Brendon de Jonge 70-68-138-4
Matt McQuinn 69-68-138-4
Justin Rose 68-70-138-4
Rickie Fowler 68-70-138-4
Matt Kuchar 68-70-138-4
Danny Lee 67-71-138-4
Scott Langley 68-70-138-4
Robby Watson 68-70-138-4
Hideki Matsuyama 69-69-138-4
Jeff Johnson 69-69-138-4

Golf

Pro football

NFL preseason

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	1	0	.667	62	62
New England	1	1	.500	78	63
Miami	2	0	.667	30	30
Buffalo	1	2	.333	49	34

NFC

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	1	1	.500	52	39
Tennessee	1	1	.500	44	37
Jacksonville	1	2	.333	47	43
Indianapolis	1	0	.667	36	40

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	2	0	1.000	60	33
Pittsburgh	2	0	1.000	57	37
Cincinnati	2	0	1.000	56	66
Cleveland	2	0	1.000	57	64

West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	2	0	1.000	55	16
Kansas City	2	0	1.000	57	67
San Diego	1	1	.500	41	48
Oakland	1	1	.500	53	67

East

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	0	1.000	79	79
New Orleans	4	0	1.000	77	79
Philadelphia	1	2	.333	94	97
Dallas	2	0	1.000	37	64

South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	4	0	1.000	57	48
Atlanta	1	1	.500	23	42
Carolina	2	0	.667	53	66
Tampa Bay	2	0	1.000	24	26

North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	2	0	1.000	40	34
Chicago	2	0	.667	60	81
Green Bay	2	0	.667	68	48
Green Bay	2	0	.667	68	48

West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	2	0	.667	91	71
Arizona	1	1	.500	60	30
San Francisco	2	0	1.000	37	64
St. Louis	2	0	1.000	31	47

Thursday, Aug. 21
Philadelphia 31, Pittsburgh 21
Friday, Aug. 22
New England 30, Carolina 17
N.Y. Giants 35, N.Y. Jets 24
Atlanta 13, Jacksonville 10
Green Bay 31, Oakland 21
Saturday, Aug. 23
Tampa Bay at Buffalo
Dallas at Miami
Tennessee at Atlanta
Washington at Baltimore
Minnesota at Kansas City
San Francisco at Indianapolis
St. Louis at Cleveland
Houston at Denver

Sunday, Aug. 24
San Diego at San Francisco
Atlanta at Jacksonville
Chicago at Green Bay
Detroit at Buffalo
Kansas City at Cincinnati
N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia
St. Louis at Miami
New England at N.Y. Giants
Arizona at Pittsburgh
Washington at Tampa Bay
San Francisco at Houston
Baltimore at New Orleans
Denver at Dallas
Minnesota at Tennessee
Chicago at Cleveland
Arizona at San Diego
Seattle at Oakland

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Sporting KC	12	5	41	30	26
D.C.	9	8	35	34	34
Toronto FC	9	8	35	34	34
Chicago	9	9	30	32	32
New York	6	10	28	35	34
Philadelphia	6	9	27	36	39
Philadelphia	6	9	27	36	39
Houston	7	12	25	25	35
Montreal	4	14	15	27	41

Western Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Seattle	12	7	42	45	33
FC Dallas	12	7	42	45	33
Real Salt Lake	11	5	39	30	30
Portland	10	7	37	39	36
Vancouver	7	4	33	29	29
Portland	7	10	25	25	35
Colorado	8	11	30	37	39
San Jose	7	10	25	25	35
Chivas USA	6	11	24	21	36

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

MLS

Wednesday's games

Los Angeles 4, Colorado 3
Seattle FC 1, San Jose 1, tie

Friday's games

FC Dallas 2, Real Salt Lake 1
Saturday's games

Montreal at New York
Chicago at Toronto FC
Chicago at New England
Houston at Columbus
D.C. United at Sporting Kansas City
Portland at Los Angeles

Sunday's games

San Jose at Philadelphia
Seattle at Sporting Kansas City
D.C. United at Houston
Houston at Los Angeles

Friday, Aug. 22

Thursday, Aug. 21
Colorado 4, Colorado 3
New England at Toronto FC
Columbus at Montreal
FC Dallas at Chicago
Real Salt Lake at San Jose
Portland at Vancouver

Sunday, Aug. 24

New York at D.C. United
Los Angeles at Chivas USA

AP spotlight

Aug. 24

1908 — Tommy Burns knocks out Bill Squires in the 13th round at Sydney, Australia, to retain the world heavyweight title.

1929 — Helen Wills wins her sixth U.S. Open tennis title for the first time. Her 1929 title was the first of her two titles.

1963 — Don Schollander becomes the first swimmer to break the two-minute barrier in the 200-meter freestyle with a 1:58.4 time in a meet at Osaka, Japan.

Auto racing

Food City 300

NASCAR National Series
Friday
At Bristol Motor Speedway
Bristol, Tenn.
Lap length: .533 miles
(Start by lap position in parentheses)
1. (2) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 300 laps, 114.6 laps, 1:58.135
2. (1) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 300, 142.8, 0, 1:46.750
3. (4) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 300, 120.1, 42, 3:35.925
4. (7) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 300, 115.8, 40, 3:43.400
5. (12) Ryan Blaney, Chevrolet, 300, 106.2, 39, 3:50.050
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8. (6) Eric Jones, Toyota, 300, 88.9, 0, 2:26.895
9. (16) James Buescher, Toyota, 300, 81.3, 36, 3:27.850
10. (17) Dillon Buescher, Ford, 300, 87.9, 34, 3:26.775
11. (9) Brian Scott, Chevrolet, 300, 94.1, 33, 3:25.275
12. (2) Jeffery Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 300, 73.2, 32, 3:25.175
13. (23) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 300, 81.6, 20, 3:25.010
14. (19) Ryan Reed, Ford, 300, 72, 30, 3:20.570
15. (17) Cale Conley, Chevrolet, 300, 81.3, 30, 3:20.570
16. (20) Ryan Sieg, Chevrolet, 300, 77.4, 28, 3:24.595
17. (16) Mike Bliss, Toyota, 300, 71.5, 27, 3:18.885
18. (29) John Wes Townley, Toyota, 298, 53.2, 0, 3:19.040
19. (10) Matt DiBenedetto, Chevrolet, 298, 51.8, 25, 3:24.805
20. (31) Eric McClure, Toyota, 295, 51, 25, 3:24.700
21. (35) Jamie Dick, Chevrolet, 295, 45, 23, 3:24.700
22. (17) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 294, 62, 22, 3:24.500
23. (18) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 290, 49.5, 21, 3:24.590
24. (14) Dan Wheldon, Toyota, 290, 49.5, 21, 3:24.590
25. (22) Hermie Sadler, Toyota, 290, 49.5, 21, 3:24.590
26. (14) Dan Wheldon, Chevrolet, 290, 49.5, 21, 3:24.590
27. (34) Joe Gase, Chevrolet, transmission 186, 40.2, 1:24.060
28. (17) Kevin Ligon, Ford, rear gear 184, 41.7, 35, 3:24.590
29. (5) Elliott Sadler, Toyota, accident, 261, 59.5, 3:24.215
30. (21) J. J. Yeley, Dodge, 238, 54.5, 14, 3:24.470
31. (40) David Starr, Toyota, 220, 49.1, 13, 3:24.130
32. (34) Joe Gase, Chevrolet, transmission 186, 40.2, 1:24.060
33. (38) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge, 184, 41.7, 35, 3:24.590
34. (32) Timmy Hill, Chevrolet, accident 181, 42.5, 0, 3:24.670
35. (37) Blake Koch, Chevrolet, vibration 181, 42.5, 0, 3:24.670
36. (26) Tanner Berryhill, Dodge, accident 109, 48.5, 3:16.955
37. (14) Kevin Ligon, Dodge, transmission 17, 30.9, 6, 1:56.556
38. (38) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge, overheating 16, 32, 5, 1:56.455
40. (29) Jeff Green, Toyota, vibration 3, 30, 4, 4:45.490

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3. (4) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 300, 120.1, 42, 3:35.925
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SPORTS BRIEFS

US picks 12-man roster for World Cup

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. has picked the 12 players it believes can defend its world basketball title.

The Americans kept Derrick Rose and cut All-Star Damian Lillard and three others early Saturday morning, getting their roster down to the limit for the FIBA World Cup of Basketball.

Though team officials had previously said they might carry extra players when they left for Spain on Saturday, and final rosters aren't due until next Friday, the Americans decided there was no need to wait.

Kyle Korver, Gordon Hayward and Chandler Parsons also were cut, shortly after the Americans beat Puerto Rico 112-86 in their final home exhibition game.

The rest of the roster is: Stephen Curry, Anthony Davis, James Harden, Kyrie Irving, DeMarcus Cousins, Klay Thompson, Andre Drummond, Rudy Gay, DeMar DeRozan, Kenneth Faried and Mason Plumlee.

The Americans can still change the roster in event of injury or withdrawal before Friday, a day before the World Cup opener.

Blaney steals 1 from Busch on final restart

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Ryan Blaney bolted past Kyle Busch on a restart with six laps remaining and won the NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Bristol Motor Speedway on Friday night for his second career victory.

Blaney's victory was a surprise after Busch, seeking to become the first driver ever to win four consecutive races in the series on the 0.533-mile oval, had dominated, especially on restarts.

Battling at various times against the youngest and brightest stars in the series, Busch generally made quick work of them. He led 161 of the 300 laps and seemed poised for his record 67th



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

Guard Damian Lillard, left, didn't make the final roster Friday when it was reduced to 12 heading into the World Cup of Basketball.

victory in the series.

But on the final restart, Blaney darted to the lead from the inside, and Busch never quite caught up.

In other auto racing news:

Nico Rosberg will start the Belgian Grand Prix from pole position after holding off a strong challenge from his Mercedes rival Lewis Hamilton during qualifying on Saturday in Spa, Belgium.

Rosberg clocked 2 minutes,

5.591 seconds in difficult conditions, with the Spa track drenched following a heavy downpour shortly before qualifying started.

Phelps wins gold, Ledecy sets record

GOLD COAST, Australia—The second coming of Michael Phelps gained momentum with another gold medal at the Pan Pacific championships on a night when

U.S. teenager Katie Ledecy set yet another world record.

The old and the new faces of world swimming delivered on expectations Saturday, with 29-year-old Phelps following up on his relay gold by winning his first individual title since returning to international competition following 1½ years in retirement. The most decorated Olympian in history won the 100-meter butterfly in 1:51.29 seconds, edging long-time U.S. teammate Ryan Lochte.

In the next final, 17-year-old Ledecy won her fourth gold medal of the meet, lowering her world record in the 400 freestyle to 3 minutes, 58.37 seconds.

O's Machado to have season-ending surgery

CHICAGO — Baltimore third baseman Manny Machado will have season-ending surgery on his ailing right knee.

Dan Duquette, the vice president of baseball operations for the Orioles, says Machado told the team on Friday that his knee wasn't responding to rest. Duquette says Machado conferred with his doctors and felt surgery was the best option.

It's a difficult blow for the AL East-leading Orioles, who are going for their first division title since 1997. They had an eight-game lead over the New York Yankees heading into Saturday's action.

Mann filed \$12,000 for middle finger flip

CLEVELAND — Johnny Manziel has been slapped on the finger.

The NFL fined the Browns rookie quarterback \$12,000 on Friday for flipping his middle finger at Washington's sideline, a person familiar with the penalty told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the ruling has

not been made public.

Manziel said he was reacting to incessant taunting by the Redskins during Monday night's nationally televised game when he made the gesture while running back to Cleveland's huddle.

Green-Beckham to sit after NCAA decision

NORMAN, Okla. — Dorial Green-Beckham will not be allowed to play for Oklahoma this season after the NCAA denied the school's request for a waiver that would have made the talented receiver eligible to play immediately.

"The University of Oklahoma has learned that the waiver request it entered on behalf of Dorial Green-Beckham has been denied by the NCAA," the university said in a statement released Friday night. "The University accepts that decision and will continue to provide the appropriate assistance to Dorial, just as it does with other students in helping him grow personally from the many opportunities available to him at OU."

Green-Beckham transferred to Oklahoma after being dismissed by Missouri in April after several run-ins with the law during his two years at the school.

Scott, Tringale tied for the lead at Barclays

PARAMUS, N.J. — Now that the majors are over, Adam Scott is going after the one big prize remaining this year — a shot at the \$10 million FedEx Cup prize.

Scott ran off four straight birdies in the middle of his round and finished with a tap-in birdie Friday for a 6-under 65 to share the 36-hole lead with Cameron Tringale at The Barclays.

Scott is the defending champion at the first FedEx Cup playoff event. He won last year at Liberty National.

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LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES/WNBA PLAYOFFS

Despite loss, Davis still inspirational

By RUSTY MILLER
The Associated Press

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. — Mo'ne Davis will look like a typical eighth-grader when she begins classes at Philadelphia's Springside Chestnut Hill Academy in a couple of weeks.

Thick braids? Check. Bright smile? Yep.

But Davis is anything but your average 13-year-old.

'Mo'ne will shape her own future, and it's going to be terrific.'

Alex Rice handed Davis' Little League coach

hearts while leading the East Region champion Philadelphia Taneys Dragons on an entertaining ride through the Little League World Series. Their trip ended Thursday night with a 6-5 loss to Chicago's Jackie Robinson West — but that setback after two weeks in the spotlight didn't diminish Davis' impact or dim her future.

For certain, her life will never be the same.

"Mo'ne will shape her own future," said her coach, Alex Rice, "and it's going to be terrific."

There's also little doubt she'll get an A when she writes what she did on her summer vacation.

Her 4-0, eight-strikeout, no-walk gem against Nashville thrust her into the national spotlight.

First Lady Michelle Obama tweeted: "Congrats to Mo'ne

Davis on becoming the first girl to pitch an #LLWS shutout. When girls succeed, we all succeed."

"Mo'Ne Davis ... goosebumps. You're awesome! Unbelievable," rapper Lil Wayne tweeted.

"Talk about groundbreaking." DeGeneres posted to her Twitter account.

ESPN's ratings soared when the 5-foot-4 Davis toed the pitcher's slab. A record crowd of 34,000 watched her and her team in one game in South Williamsport.

Davis appeared on the SI cover — conjuring up more talk of a cover jinx in the wake of the loss. But the 13-year-old's future is bright in every respect.

"I think Mo'ne is going to be talked about for years to come, especially each August when the (Little League) World Series rolls around," said Roland Watkins, a coach for Mountain Ridge of Las Vegas, which will meet Jackie Robinson West for the U.S. title on Saturday. "She's got a bright future. She's a very, very talented athlete."

She's also a smart one.

Priscilla Sands, president of Springside, said Davis is an honor-roll student with "laser focus."

To get to the private school of 1,100 students, Davis has to ride a bus for 90 minutes from South Philadelphia.

She was already popular with her teachers and fellow classmates.

"I just thought she was such a great kid," Sands said.

Her exploits have drawn interest around the globe, even though Davis grabbed the world's attention on the diamond, she actually prefers basketball. Someday she would like to play for the juggernaut University of Connecticut women's program.

It's probably unwise to bet against her.



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Philadelphia pitcher Mo'ne Davis' Little League career may be over, but the possibilities ahead seem unending for the girl with the big braids who captured the imagination of a nation.



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

The Mercury's Diana Taurasi slaps hands after making a foul shot during the second half of Game 1 of the WNBA Western Conference semifinals against the Los Angeles Sparks on Friday in Phoenix. The Mercury defeated the Sparks 75-72.

WNBA roundup

Taurasi, Phoenix beat LA

Mercury star scores personal playoff-best 34 points

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Diana Taurasi hit four straight free throws in the final 40 seconds, and the Phoenix Mercury beat the Los Angeles Sparks 75-72 on Friday night in the first round of the WNBA playoffs.

Taurasi had a personal playoff-best 34 points and DeWanna Bonner added 13 for the Mercury, who had the league's best record during the regular season at 29-5.

"I think all year that's the way it's been with our team," said Taurasi, who averaged a WNBA-best 5.6 assists per game this year. "You can't always have a great game, you can't always get the shots you want, especially on a talented team like this. Today was just my day and luckily they went in."

Taurasi, who became the first player in league history to lead the WNBA in points in one season and assists in another, was 10-for-15 from the field. She went 6-for-9 from beyond the arc.

"She does what she needs to do for this team to win," Phoenix coach Sandy Brondello said. "Some days, it's scoring, other days, it's creating, distributing, just getting other people involved."

Candace Parker, who led the Sparks with 22 points, threw too high for Kristi Tolliver with 71 seconds left, giving Phoenix the ball with a 73-70 lead. Bonner hit

her third and fourth straight foul shots in the final seconds to help secure the win.

"We have a lot of confidence going into games down the stretch, we've actually played in a lot of them this year where they have come down to two or three possessions, especially against L.A.," Taurasi said. "Today we grinded it out. Today was a big grind."

It was the sixth win of the season for Phoenix over Los Angeles, which faces elimination in the best-of-three series on Sunday.

"Down the stretch, unfortunately, like I told Ms. Parker, 'It doesn't come down to one play, there were a couple more plays before that where we should have gotten the rebound,'" Sparks coach Penny Toler said.

The Sparks, who went 16-18 during the regular season, got two quick baskets to take a 68-65 lead with 2:57 to go, but struggled to score in the final minutes.

Bonner's foul shots with 18 seconds left put the Mercury up by three. Parker then answered with a driving shot in the lane with 11 seconds remaining, trimming Phoenix's lead to 71-70.

Armintie Herrington fouled Taurasi with 9.3 seconds left.

Parker scored seven points during a 9-0 fourth-quarter run that gave Los Angeles a 62-58 lead with 6:23 left.

Nneka Ogwumike had 12 points

and six rebounds for the Sparks, and Tolliver finished with 13 points.

Phoenix star Brittney Griner was 2-for-11 from the field for six points. She also had seven rebounds and blocked two shots.

The Mercury made three of their first four shots of the second half on their way to a 54-44 lead, taking advantage of Los Angeles foul trouble. But Tolliver hit a three-pointer and Parker found Tolliver with an outlet pass to cut the lead to 54-51 with 1:03 left. Phoenix led 56-53 going into the fourth quarter.

Sky 80, Dream 77: Courtney Vanderoost led a tiebreaking jumper from the top of the key with 20 seconds left, leading visiting Chicago to the win.

The decisive shot came after officials reviewed a loose ball scramble under Atlanta's basket and then called for a jump ball that Sky center Sylvia Fowles won over Dream center Erika de Souza with 42 seconds left. The playoff game was tied at 77 at the time.

Elena Delle Donne led Chicago with 21 points, though she did not score in the fourth quarter. Epiphany Prince added 14 points, and Fowles had 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Angel McCoughtry scored 24 points for Atlanta, including seven straight late in the fourth quarter.

MLB

AL roundup

Athletics hold off Angels

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Sonny Gray ended a monthlong losing streak, pitching into the ninth inning and leading the Oakland Athletics over the Los Angeles Angels 5-3 Friday night in a matchup of AL West rivals.

Coco Crisp hit his 15th career leadoff home run and Stephen Vogt added a solo shot for Oakland in the opener of a three-game series. Sam Fuld hit a go-ahead triple in the sixth inning and the A's pulled within one game of the division-leading Angels.

Mike Trout and Josh Hamilton homered for the Angels.

Gray (13-7) allowed three runs and six hits over 8½ innings. Sean Doolittle recorded the final two outs for his 19th save, fanning pinch-hitter Chris Iannetta with the bases loaded to end it.

Fuld tripled off reliever Jason Grilli (1-2), and a crowd of 33,810 roared its approval.

Yankees 4, White Sox 3: Martin Prado hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting host New York over Chicago.

Facing a full-count pitch from Daniel Webb (5-4) with the bases loaded, Prado lined a hit up the middle to complete the Yankees' comeback from three runs for their fourth win in 11 games.

Rays 8, Blue Jays 0: Drew Smyly pitched a two-hitter and retired his final 19 batters for the first complete game of his career, leading visiting Tampa Bay over struggling Toronto.

Evan Longoria homered and drove in three runs, and Wil Myers also connected as the Rays began a stretch of 26 straight games against AL East opponents.

Astros 5, Indians 1: Jon Singleton hit a three-run homer in the ninth inning, and visiting Houston took advantage of sloppy defense to beat Cleveland.

Singleton's home run off Cody Allen (4-3) capped the four-run inning that began with two errors by the worst defensive team in the majors.

Mariners 5, Red Sox 3: Austin Jackson's bases-loaded double with two outs in the ninth inning keyed a five-run rally, and visiting Seattle sent Boston to its sixth straight loss.

Red Sox closer Koji Uehara (5-4) held a 3-0 lead with two outs and a runner on first before the Mariners broke loose.

Twins 5, Rangers 3: Rookie right-hander Yordano Ventura struck out six in six innings for his 10th victory, and Billy Butler and Josh Willingham had inning-starting homers in AL Central-leading Kansas City's win over host Texas.

The hard-throwing Ventura (10-9) allowed one run, four hits, and three walks. **Twins 20, Tigers 6:** Eduardo Escobar had a career-high five hits, including a homer and a triple, and host Minnesota batted around twice in a rout of Detroit.

Danny Santana had a homer and four RBIs, and Oswaldo Arcia and Trevor Plouffe also homered for the Twins, who scored six runs in the second inning and nine in the sixth to drop the Tigers to 2½ games behind Kansas City in the AL Central race.



AL BEHRMAN/AP

Atlanta's Justin Upton hits a two-run home run off Cincinnati relief pitcher Manny Parra during the 12th inning of Friday's game.

NL roundup

Upton's homer lifts Atlanta Braves win in 12th to take sting out of lost no-hitter

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Justin Upton made the lost no-hitter a little easier to take.

Upton hit a two-run homer in the 12th inning Friday night, rallying the Atlanta Braves to a 3-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds after left-hander Mike Minor came up four outs short of quiet the gem.

Upton's 25th homer off Manny Parra (0-1) gave Atlanta its seventh victory in eight games, a resurgence that has kept the Braves in the wild-card chase.

"Right now, we're hot," catcher Gerald Laird said. "Our guys are swinging the bat well. The big guys are driving in some clutch runs that we need."

David Hale (4-4) pitched out of a two-on threat in the 11th. Craig Kimbrel got the last three outs for his 38th save in 42 chances.

The Reds managed only two hits — a pair of singles by Billy Hamilton — in their seventh consecutive loss. They fell seven games under .500 for the first time since 2009. Cincinnati (61-68) has dropped out of contention by going 10-24 since the All-Star break.

Minor has only one complete game in his career, but he held the Reds without a hit into the eighth, bidding to become the first Braves pitcher to throw a no-hitter since Kent Mercker in 1994.

Zack Cozart drew Minor's fourth walk and advanced on a groundout. Hamilton lined an RBI single to center with two outs

to end the no-hitter on Minor's 107th and final pitch.

Phillies 5, Cardinals 4: Ryan Howard drove in a pair of runs, and Kyle Kendrick overcame a rocky first inning to lead host Philadelphia over St. Louis.

Ben Revere, who entered the day second in the National League in hitting, went 3-for-4 to raise his average to .315. Chase Utley and Marlon Byrd also drove in runs for Philadelphia, which won its third in four games.

Adam Wainwright (15-8) failed in his bid to become the first 16-game winner in the big leagues. He allowed five runs, four earned, and six hits in six innings. Wainwright is 2-3 with a 6.49 ERA in five starts this month.

Pirates 8, Brewers 3: Josh Harrison homered and drove in a career-high five runs, leading visiting Pittsburgh past Milwaukee.

Andrew McCutchen also homered for Pittsburgh, which had lost nine of 12 going into the series against the NL Central-leading Brewers.

Jeff Locke (5-3) pitched six strong innings, giving up two runs and two hits. He walked six, but stranded five runners.

Padres 5, Diamondbacks 1: Josh Colmlenter came two outs away from a complete game, holding visiting San Diego without an earned run on four hits over 8½ innings in Arizona's win. The Diamondbacks snapped a six-game

losing streak.

Marlins 13, Rockies 5: Marcell Ozuna hit a grand slam for his third homer in three games, Giancarlo Stanton had three hits and three RBIs, and visiting Miami beat Colorado.

Henderson Alvarez (10-5) withstood a pair of homers over six innings to win his fourth consecutive decision. He was making his second start since returning last week from a stint on the disabled list because of right shoulder inflammation.

Dodgers 6, Mets 2: Dan Haren overcame a leadoff homer by Curtis Granderson and a pair of failed sacrifice bunt attempts to help host Los Angeles beat error-prone New York.

Haren (11-10) allowed a run and three hits in seven innings, striking out six and walking none. The victory was his third in four starts after going 0-5 with a 10.03 ERA in his previous five outings.

Interleague

Cubs 4, Orioles 1: Jake Arrieta shut down his former team, holding visiting Baltimore to four hits in seven innings, and Javier Baez homered again in Chicago's win.

Baez hit his sixth homer in his 18th game since getting called up from Triple-A, Luis Valbuena also homered, and Logan Watkins and Arismendy Alcantara each drove in runs with singles as the Cubs snapped AL East leading Baltimore's four-game winning streak.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



DANIEL WALLACE, TAMPA BAY TIMES/MCT

Miami Hurricanes defensive lineman Anthony Chickillo (71) wraps up South Florida quarterback Steven Bench during a game last season. This season Chickillo, a senior, has his eyes set on leading the Hurricanes to the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship game.

Future is now for 'Canes

Miami seniors Perryman, Chickillo aiming for ACC title

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — It seems like Denzel Perryman and Anthony Chickillo were destined to play at Miami.

They met for the first time eight years ago, that initial encounter taking place in the Miami weight room that would eventually become their hangout as Hurricanes. Perryman is a linebacker from Coral Gables, the suburb the university calls home. Chickillo is a defensive lineman and third-generation Hurricane, his college plans basically set in the instant that someone turned to his parents and said, "It's a boy."

"They've been through a little of everything in their time together. Well, almost everything.

For as talented as Perryman and Chickillo are — both should be playing on NFL Sundays starting in 2015, and probably for many years after that — neither has appeared in an Atlantic Coast Conference championship game. Their last chance has arrived, and both insist on making the most from this final opportunity.

"I try to take things one day at a time, focused, try to stay in the moment," Chickillo said. "Not think about the future, not think about the past."

Starting Sept. 1, when the season begins at Louisville in a rematch of a Russell Athletic Bowl that saw the Hurricanes get blown out to end the 2013 campaign, the defense — and its two primary leaders — will be under the microscope once again.

"I can't waste any time, man," Perryman, already projected as a possible first-round pick in 2015, said with sweat falling off him following practice on a recent steamy morning. "Every day is an opportunity to get better."

The Hurricanes made some strides defensively last season. In 2012, they gave up 486 yards per game, the fifth-worst average among major college teams and part of a season where the unit rewrote the Miami record book in plenty of ways that aren't good. A year ago, that was down to 426 yards per game, still in the lower third of the national rankings but a clear improvement nonetheless.

This season, if that number keeps falling, Miami's stock — and that of Perryman and Chickillo, too — should be rising.

Beer: Schools looking at bottom line in allowing beer sales

FROM BACK PAGE

The NCAA does not sell alcohol to the general public at its championship events. Schools and conferences are allowed to make their own policies.

According to an Associated Press survey of the 21 beer-selling schools that own and operate their stadiums, about half their concessions revenue is derived from alcohol. All but four of those schools are in conferences outside the Power 5 that don't earn significant television money.

Troy athletic director John Hartwell estimated beer would bring his Alabama school about \$200,000 in commissions this season. According to its contract with concessionaire Sodexo, Troy will receive 43 percent of gross beer sales at its 30,000-seat stadium, or better than \$2 for every \$5 beer.

"That's more impactful to a bottom line for a Troy than it is for a Texas or West Virginia or institutions similar to that," said Hartwell, whose program runs on a \$20 million budget. Alcohol proceeds will be used to pay debt on a \$25 million expansion of Troy's football facilities.

The Big 12's West Virginia, with a budget of more than \$80 million, began beer sales in 2011 in part to counter a problem with drunken fans coming and going from tailgate parties during games. Fans no longer are allowed to re-enter the stadium once they leave.

Beer sales have produced no less than \$516,000 each of the last three years for West Virginia, and campus police report alcohol-related incidents at Mountaineer Field have declined sharply.

Troy football season ticketholder Brian Ross, who also attends the Trojans' road games, said he sees worse behavior at stadiums where alcohol isn't sold. Troy is among five Sun Belt Conference schools selling beer this fall.

Ross said a lot of tailgate par-



DAVID JONES, THE STAR TRIBUNE/AP

TCF Bank Stadium worker Earreon Valiant takes a couple of beers to a customer during a college football game between Minnesota and New Hampshire at TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minn.

"You do it because, yeah, we want to make some money on it. But in this day and age, we're going to fight the 60-inch high-def TV since every game is available on an ESPN broadcast or on the high-quality Internet. How do we keep people coming to the stadium for the in-stadium experience?"

Tom Wistrick

Akron athletic director, on allowing beer sales at collegiate sporting events

tiers chug as much beer as they can before entering no-alcohol venues so they can "keep their buzz" throughout the game.

"Now these people will realize they can get one in the stadium and they don't need that last beer at the tailgate," Ross said.

Selling alcohol at college football games might seem counter-intuitive at a time when there

is so much concern about binge drinking on campuses. Mothers Against Drunk Driving national president Jan Withers said her organization opposes any alcohol in a college environment because most of the students are under 21.

"Kids are watching adults all the time," Withers said. "If they see the only way to have fun is to

drink a lot, then they're going to model after that. That's not the message we want to be sending to them."

SMU reported no change in crowd behavior after alcohol was introduced at basketball games last season but saw huge gains in attendance. The average of 5,653 — the highest since 1984-85 — was up 64 percent over 2012-13.

SMU student body president Ramon Trespalacios said having beer available could help boost football attendance, too. The Mustangs drew an average of 18,724 to their 32,000-seat stadium last season, a drop of 12 percent from 2012 and the lowest since 2008.

"Sometimes if you wanted to go to a game and were used to drinking beer, people chose to go to a bar instead of the venue," said Trespalacios, a 22-year-old graduate student. "It's good to bring everyone together and enjoy the same environment."

Still, just a handful of college stadiums are giving students and fans the chance to buy a brew. Most remain opposed to it. The Southeastern Conference and the 23-school California State University system, for example, have policies banning alcohol from general seating areas.

"I know why the question is relevant for some," said Nebraska athletic director Shawn Eichorst. "For me, the bottom line does matter. But at what point does it outweigh what you're trying to do, trying to keep the civility?"

Safeguards are used in an effort to keep drinking under control. A fan who wants to drink must obtain and wear a wristband indicating he or she is at least 21. Fans are limited to buying two beers at a time, and sales are cut off at halftime or in the third quarter.

Using an oft-repeated sports marketing catchphrase, Akron athletic director Tom Wistrick said offering beer is a way to "enhance the fan experience."

"You do it because, yeah, we want to make some money on it," Wistrick said. "But in this day and age, we're going to fight the 60-inch high-def TV since every game is available on an ESPN broadcast or on the high-quality Internet. How do we keep people coming to the stadium for the in-stadium experience?"

NFL



MICHAEL PEREZ/AP

Pittsburgh's LeGarrette Blount, right, is tackled by Philadelphia's Trent Cole (58) and others during the first half of Thursday's preseason game in Philadelphia.

Preseason roundup

Patriots hammer Panthers

The Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady's offense and the New England Patriots' defense dominated the Carolina Panthers.

Brady threw for 204 yards and two touchdowns. Stephen Gostkowski kicked a 60-yard field goal and the Patriots shut down Cam Newton and the Panthers 30-7 on Friday night.

The third preseason game for both teams was no contest as the Patriots outgained the Panthers 405-271.

Brady led the Patriots (2-1) to scores on three of his five series and completed 17 of 21 passes. Newton was 8-for-12 for 88 yards and was sacked three times. All five of his possessions for the Panthers (1-2) ended in punts.

Both quarterbacks left after their first series of the third quarter.

Coach Ron Rivera would like to limit Newton's running, despite his skill, and one dash appeared to stun him. He was tackled after running 7 yards when he couldn't find a receiver. Trainers went on the field to check on him, and he was replaced by Derek Anderson before returning after one play.

Giants 35, Jets 24: East Rutherford, N.J. Geno Smith and Michael Vick each threw for a touchdown with the New York Jets starters, and the defense mostly shut down Eli Manning before the New York Giants' backups rallied.

Rex Ryan announced that Smith will be the starting quarterback for the Jets (2-1) after a solid preseason. He was 9-for-14 for 137 yards, including a 1-yard scoring toss to rookie Jace Amaro.

Seahawks 34, Bears 6: Russell Wilson threw for two touchdowns and ran for another score, helping host Seattle to the easy win.

Already with a defense expected to be among the best in the NFL again, Wilson and the Seahawks can only hope the offensive efficiency of the past two weeks continues into the regular season.

Packers 31, Raiders 21: Aaron Rodgers threw for two touchdowns, Eddie Lacy rumbled for a 1-yard score on his team's opening drive and prized free agent acquisition Julius Peppers recorded his first sack of the preseason in host Green Bay's victory over Oakland.

The game was stopped for several minutes in the second quarter after Raiders linebacker Sit Moore was taken off the field with a neck injury. He gave a thumbs-up sign while the crowd gave him a standing ovation. Moore was taken to a hospital.

The Raiders (1-2) also lost two other defensive starters to head injuries in cornerback Tarell Brown and linebacker Nick Roach.

Lions 13, Jaguars 12: Allen Park, Mich., Reggie Bush broke free for an 86-yard touchdown run in the first quarter; one of only a few offensive highlights as Detroit edged Jacksonville in a penalty-filled game.

Calvin Johnson played for the first time this preseason, catching two passes for 27 yards, but Matthew Stafford was intercepted once and the Lions (2-1) struggled in the red zone.

The teams combined for 27 penalties.

Pittsburgh taking stock

Steelers rattled after loss to Eagles

By WILL GRAVES
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH The Pittsburgh Steelers have just over two weeks to get ready for the regular season.

At the moment, it hardly looks like enough time.

Pushed around by the starters and knocked over by the subs, the Steelers were no match for the Philadelphia Eagles in a 31-21 exhibition loss on Thursday night.

The Eagles raced to a 24-0 lead, piled up 482 yards and were rarely challenged by a team that appeared to be a toxic mix of disinterested and disorganized.

"Everything went wrong," defensive end Cameron Heyward said. "Missed tackles, execution, a lack of energy. On top of that we played terrible on the defensive side."

It was the third straight week of indifference played by a defense eager to wash away the memory of a 2013 in which it finished outside the top 10 in yards allowed for the first time in 14 years.

The starters gave up a 73-yard touchdown run to the New York Giants in the preseason opener, allowed the Buffalo Bills to roll up over 200 yards in one half last week and did little to slow down Chip Kelly's hyperkinetic offense.

"There's a lot of room for improvement," safety Troy Polamalu said. "Whether or not we improve, time will only tell."

It's unlikely the bold-faced names will

get much of an opportunity to make amends when the Steelers (1-2) face Carolina in the exhibition finale next Thursday. The finale is a game where the first string typically stands on the sidelines in baseball caps while the players fighting for the final roster spots take the field.

Then again, there were moments on Thursday when the line between starter and scrub was hard to distinguish. Four Philadelphia quarterbacks completed 31 of 43 passes for 300 yards and a touchdown while only getting sacked once.

Coach Mike Tomlin stressed his team had to "own" its lackluster play while refusing to look for excuses. The poor showing came barely 24 hours after running backs Le'Veon Bell and LeGarrette Blount were cited on drug charges in a northern Pittsburgh suburb while driving on their way to meet the team plane.

Bell and Blount played on Thursday, combining for 55 yards on 16 carries. Both players offered apologies to the coaching staff and their teammates in the aftermath but declined to elaborate.

The running backs face a misdemeanor charge of marijuana possession while Bell has also been charged with driving under the influence.

"What happened (Wednesday) or whatever had nothing to do with how we performed," Tomlin said.

Pittsburgh's issues were more widespread than the running game. Quarter-



MICHAEL PEREZ/AP

Pittsburgh's Markus Wheaton (11) can't hold onto a pass as Philadelphia's Bradley Fletcher (24) defends.

back Ben Roethlisberger — so crisp a week earlier in a win over the Bills — failed to get into a rhythm. He finished 15 of 24 for 137 yards with a touchdown and an interception. The score came against Philadelphia's backups in the third quarter with the game already well out of hand.

"I feel like that we have a lot to work on as far as our pass game and our run game, just our offense in general," Blount said. "We are going to go back, we are going to evaluate the film and we are going to work on it and we will definitely get better."

SPORTS



Panik attack
Rookie goes 4-for-5 as Giants
snap Nats' win streak | **Page 27**



COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Keg stands?

Schools are increasingly allowing beer to be sold at football at stadiums

By ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

Walk through the tailgate area at a college football stadium, and beer drinking is as common a sight as fans adorned in jerseys of their favorite players.

A growing number of schools are bringing the party inside, opening taps in concourses that traditionally have been alcohol-free zones.

North Texas, SMU and Troy University will begin beer sales to the general public this season. They're among 21 on-campus football stadiums where any fan of legal age can grab a brew. That's more than twice as many as five years ago.

Most schools continue to keep alcohol restricted to premium seating areas, if they allow it at all. But of-

fering alcohol is increasingly attractive for some campuses, especially for cash-strapped athletic departments outside the Power 5 conferences. Those schools, especially, are looking for ways to keep fans coming to their stadiums instead of sitting in front of their HD TVs at home or at sports bars.

They're also encouraged by the schools that were among the first to sell alcohol and didn't report an increase in bad behavior from students and other fans.

"Every institution is looking at how they can increase revenue streams, and alcohol is one of those," said Jeff Schemmel, president of the consulting firm College Sports Solutions LLC. "Everything is on the table."

There are 11 municipal stadiums where FBS teams are tenants and alcohol is available to the general public. The municipality usually keeps most, if not all, of the alcohol proceeds.

SEE BEER ON PAGE 30



A growing number of schools are capitalizing on fans' taste for the suds by bringing the party inside, opening taps in concourses that traditionally have been alcohol-free zones.

DAVID JONES, THE STAR TRIBUNE/AP

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