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Free to Deployed Areas

Inside

US looks to bolster Afghan railway

Work on the country's sole freight line falls to 5 soldiers

By **HEATH DRUZIN**
Stars and Stripes

PORT HAIRATAN, Afghanistan — This is the end of the line for all trains in Afghanistan.

None had far to go, though. The entirety of the country's working rail system is a single lonely track that runs for 47 miles, piercing a vast, desolate landscape of dust and dunes from the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif to this river port on the Uzbek border.

If Afghanistan is ever to cash in on the

estimated trillion dollars' worth of mineral deposits in the country's rugged mountains and bleak deserts, that mileage will need to grow exponentially. For now, it's mostly U.S. and European military gear, not iron and copper, that is riding the rails north.

This is part of the so-called Northern Distribution Network, which is a key transport route from Kabul to the Uzbek border and beyond. The route is used by the international military coalition, which is moving out materiel ahead of the Dec. 31 deadline for all combat troops to leave the country.

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HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

Army Capt. Donald Moyer is part of a five-man team working to teach Afghans how to maintain the country's rail system.

NATION

Gunman kills 6 in drive-by shooting near southern Calif. college

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Coldplay wallows in romantic misery on 'Ghost Stories'

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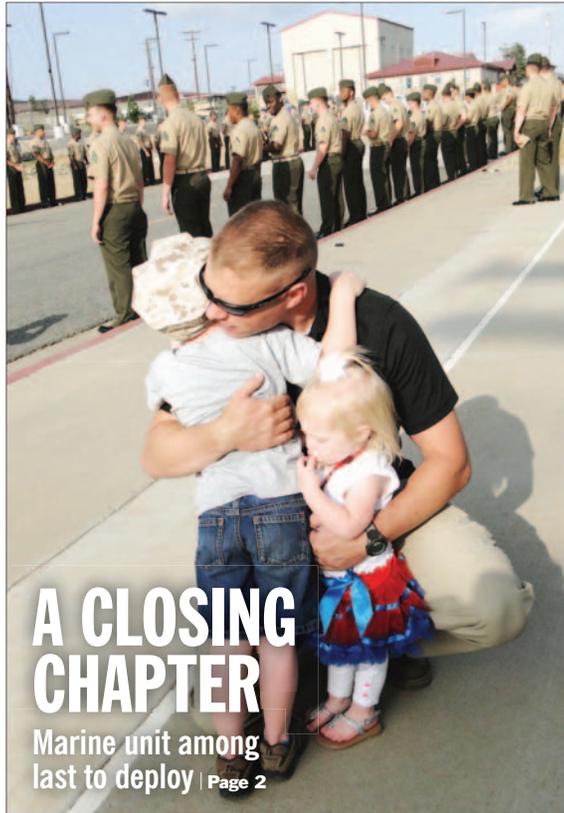
Ex-Delta Force leader hit with reprimand by Army over book details

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Presidential election likely to mark turning point with Russians

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A CLOSING CHAPTER

Marine unit among last to deploy | Page 2

JENNIFER HAD/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Benjamin Reading hugs his children, Liam and Zoey, before deploying to Afghanistan with 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company from Camp Pendleton, Calif., on Friday.

BOKO HARAM

US weighs many issues in Nigerian involvement

By **TERRY ATLAS, GOPAL RATNAM AND TONY CAPACCIO**
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration isn't asking the Pentagon to develop options for a mission to free Nigerian schoolgirls taken hostage by the Boko Haram terrorist group, said two U.S. officials familiar with the discussions.

American military personnel are advising and supporting the Nigerians, but the administration isn't actively considering sending U.S. forces to join in a rescue operation, said a White House official who requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the mission publicly.

The situation, like the Syrian civil war and the South Sudan and elsewhere, pits humanitarian instincts against hard realities for a U.S. administration wary of foreign entanglements in the wake of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

A larger U.S. role in rescuing the girls may not be in America's national interest, said Brian Jenkins, a counterterrorism analyst at the Rand Corp. and a former U.S. special operations officer.

SEE NIGERIA ON PAGE 6

“These are Nigerian hostages, held by Nigerian terrorists in Nigeria ... I think we want to tread carefully.”

Brian Jenkins
counterterrorism analyst

QUOTE
OF THE DAY

"You know, generally, the person you're going to do business with, you don't sue them."

— Gen. William Shelton, concerning legal action designed to gain SpaceX a bigger share of government business

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MILITARY

Families, vets help send off Marine unit

By JENNIFER HLAJ
Stars and Stripes

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Veterans who served in 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company in Vietnam and Korea stood shoulder to shoulder Friday evening to shake the hands of 20 Marines deploying to Afghanistan this Memorial Day weekend.

The elder Marines patted their younger counterparts on the back and told them to keep their heads down as the men boarded a bus to the airport.

The Marines of 1st ANGLICO's Supporting Arms Liaison Team Charlie are likely the last such unit to deploy to Afghanistan, and may be among the last Marines to come home from the conflict at the end of the year.

Cpl. Jeremy Schacht said he volunteered to extend his contract so he could deploy to Afghanistan with the unit a second time. ANGLICO Marines were among the last American troops to leave Vietnam, he said, and the current ANGLICO Marines recognize that it's "pretty cool" to be closing out another chapter in the book.

ANGLICO teams typically attach to non-Marine units — including other branches of the U.S. armed services and other nations' militaries — and serve as liaisons between those units and Marine aviation, artillery and other firing capabilities.

Though the Marines have a general idea of what they'll be doing once they're in Afghanistan, they also expect a lot of changes, said Capt. Michael Bezerides, the officer in charge of SALT-C.

"As the drawdown happens, everyone's mission is going to be changing," he said.

Lt. Col. Brian Russell, commander of 1st ANGLICO, is staying at Camp Pendleton this time, but was part of the unit that built Camp Leatherneck in Helmand province in 2009. His Marines will be part of Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, which will close down the base later this year.

"I suspect [the Marines] won't be as busy as they'd like to be," but that's a good thing, Russell said.

Family members and fellow Marines gathered outside the barracks to wish the deploying men well. They snacked on brownies and nachos on the cool, windy evening as chil-



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HLAJ/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Colin Culkin says goodbye to his girlfriend, Lindsay Birtcil, and their dog, Whirley Bird, before deploying to Afghanistan on Friday at Camp Pendleton, Calif.



Marines with 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company shake hands with veterans who served in the unit in Korea and Vietnam.

dren and dogs played nearby.

Staff Sgt. Antonio Henderson's 3-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter began to cry as the bus pulled up to take their father to the airport. Henderson's wife, Marie, said it is his third or fourth deployment, but it never gets any easier.

"You prepare yourself as much as you can," she said.

It's particularly hard when they are living in a state far from family, so they have to rely on the kindness of strangers, she said. Marie is from New York, while Antonio is from South Carolina.

Obdulia Sierra said this is the fourth deployment for her husband, Sgt. Carmelo Sierra, and it has become almost a routine — though that hasn't kept her from being sad. The couple's daughter, Juliana, 7, had a particularly rough week after a schoolmate brought up the possibility that her father could be killed overseas.

Obdulia and Carmelo pulled her out of school for a few days and had a big talk with her, Obdulia said, and she was smiling and playing before the bus arrived.

"She's taking it well right now," Obdulia said. After rounds of hugs and tears from Marines and their families, the men shook the hands of those who had gone before and boarded the bus. They drove away past two lines of fellow Marines, who sent them off with a salute.

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MILITARY

Army reprimands former Delta Force commander

By DAN LAMOTHE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When retired Lt. Gen. William “Jerry” Boykin, the former commander of the U.S. Army’s elite and secretive Delta Force, published a book in 2008, it detailed some of the Pentagon’s most sensitive operations of the 20th century. Among them were the 1979 hostage crisis in Iran and the tragically flawed 1993 mission in Somalia that killed 18 U.S. troops and was later depicted in the book and movie “Black Hawk Down.”

Retired military personnel who write about such sensitive issues commonly submit their works to the Pentagon for advance review to ensure that they don’t divulge classified information. But Boykin followed a criminal path ahead with publication of “Never Surrender: A Soldier’s Journey to the Crossroads of Faith and Freedom.”

The Army struck back last year, quietly issuing him a scathing reprimand following a criminal investigation that concluded he had wrongfully released classified information, according to an Army document obtained by The Washington Post through a Freedom of Information Act request.

According to the Jan. 23, 2013, memorandum, the Army determined that Boykin’s book disclosed “classified information concerning cover methods, counterterrorism/counter-profil-

“Any reprimand has to be taken seriously, so I don’t want to come across as flippant about it. But at this stage of my life, it really hasn’t had any impact on my life like it would have if it had happened when I was on active duty.”

Retired Lt. Gen. William “Jerry” Boykin
former commander of Delta Force



eration operations, operational deployments, infiltration methods, pictures, and tactics, techniques and procedures that may compromise ongoing operations.”

The reprimand is the latest in a series of embarrassing incidents in which senior military officers have faced scrutiny for alleged wrongdoing.

But Boykin says it’s not so simple in his case. The Defense Department first launched an investigation into his book shortly after it was published and determined in 2010 that he had not released any classified information, he said. The Army then reopened the investigation about two years later, after he publicly voiced objections to several Pentagon policies, including the ongoing integration of women into more jobs in the military, he said.

The general, who retired in 2007, has a history of making controversial statements in which

he has depicted U.S. military operations against Islamic extremist organizations such as al-Qaida as a Christian fight against Satan, riling religious rights groups and organizations dedicated to the separation of church and state.

Asked why he was reprimanded, Boykin questioned the Army’s motivation, insisting that he had received approval to write his book before it was released and that all information in it had been disclosed previously in other books, movies and news reports.

“You draw your own conclusions,” Boykin told The Washington Post. “Why would they reopen it? What was the purpose of reprimanding me basically five years after they started an investigation? Did it take that long to determine whether I had written anything classified?”

A spokesman for the Army, George Wright, declined to comment on Boykin’s comments or to

explain why the service waited so long to issue a reprimand for a book published in 2008. “The memo obtained through the Freedom of Information Act speaks for itself,” Wright said of the allegations against Boykin.

The memo, signed by Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, then the Army’s vice chief of staff, does not specify which information in the book was considered classified. Instead, it cites the disclosure of such information and accuses Boykin of “unprofessional behavior” that “reflects poorly on your character.” Austin, one of the most powerful generals in the military, said in the memo that Boykin would not face criminal punishment but that the reprimand was meant to underscore the seriousness of releasing classified information.

“Your decision to disregard legal advice and allow ‘Never Surrender’... to be published without seeking classification review re-

flects a gross lack of judgement,” Austin told Boykin, now executive vice president of the Family Research Council in Washington, a conservative Christian organization that lobbies for traditional family values.

Controversy around Boykin’s book has arisen before. Shortly after publication, a 2008 Army Times article suggested that Boykin had been named “persona non grata” in Delta Force. Adm. William McRaven, then a three-star officer overseeing Joint Special Operations Command, told lower-ranking commanders to avoid Boykin, the report said. McRaven is now the top officer overseeing U.S. special operations. His spokesman, Ken McGraw, told The Washington Post there is no official “persona non grata” list, but he acknowledged that some individuals working in special operations may have had issues with Boykin’s book.

Boykin told The Washington Post that if he “realized there would be this many accusations hurled against me,” he probably would have submitted the book for a Pentagon review. He didn’t fight the reprimand because he was retired, he said. “Any reprimand has to be taken seriously, so I don’t want to come across as flippant about it,” he said. “But at this stage in my life, it really hasn’t had any impact on my life like it would have if it had happened when I was on active duty.”

CEO of SpaceX calls for investigation into contract involving Air Force official

By CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT
AND JOEL ACHENBACH
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — SpaceX chief executive Elon Musk, waging an increasingly ferocious battle to gain a larger share of the national security launch business, has accused one of his main competitors of hiring a high-ranking Air Force acquisitions official in exchange for awarding a lucrative contract without competition.

In a series of tweets Thursday night, the billionaire entrepreneur drew attention to the hiring of the former Air Force official, Roger Correll, by Aerjet Rocketdyne, which supplies rocket engines to United Launch Alliance. Even though they are separate companies — ULA has many different suppliers — Musk conflated them in his statements and once again called for an investigation into the contract.

A likely AF official Correll was told by ULA/Rocketdyne that a rich VP job was his if he gave them a sole source contract,” Musk tweeted. “Reason I believe this is likely is that Correll first tried to work at SpaceX, but we turned him down. Our competitor, it is not hard to find.”

Glenn Mahone, a spokesman for

Aerjet Rocketdyne, said the allegations “are completely without merit” and that Correll received “the necessary clearances and approvals from the Department of Defense.”

Last month, Musk, the co-founder of PayPal and Tesla Motors, sued the government over a multi-billion-dollar contract for 36 rockets to launch defense payloads,



Musk

such as spy and GPS satellites, into space. The contract was awarded to ULA, a joint venture between Boeing and Lockheed Martin. But Musk has said the contract should have been competitively bid and has called on the Air Force to cancel the contract and to allow SpaceX to compete for it.

Although SpaceX is still in the process of acquiring the proper certification to allow its Falcon 9 rocket to participate in the program, Musk said his company could perform the work far more cheaply.

In a statement, ULA said: “At the



Ricky Carnoti/The Washington Post

Employees walk beneath a Dragon spacecraft hanging from the ceiling of the factory floor at rocket manufacturer SpaceX in Los Angeles.

time of the initial acquisition process in 2012, the contract award in June 2013, and even today, ULA is the only government certified launch provider that meets all of the unique ... requirements that are critical to supporting our troops and keeping our country safe.”

The Air Force, citing the ongoing

litigation, declined to comment. The tension over the contract produced a couple of zingers this week in Colorado Springs, Colo., at the 30th Space Symposium, the premier annual event bringing together the national security and civilian space industry.

On Tuesday Gen. William Shelton, commander of the Air Force

Space Command, was asked in a news conference about the lawsuit by SpaceX seeking to reopen the bidding on the contract for national security launches.

“You know, generally, the person you’re going to do business with, you don’t sue them,” Shelton said. When asked to elaborate, he said he wanted to leave it at that.

MIDEAST

Afghan refugees losing welcome in Pakistan

By TIM CRAIG
The Washington Post

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — After three decades of hosting the world's largest refugee population, Pakistani authorities have started to crack down on the flow of Afghans, as fears mount that the U.S. pullout from their war-torn neighbor could trigger chaos on the border.

Pakistan and Iran absorbed more than 7 million Afghan refugees after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 touched off years of fighting. Many of the refugees went home after U.S.-backed Afghan forces dislodged the Taliban in 2001.

Now officials here worry that the rapid U.S. drawdown and a decline in Western aid could lead to growing violence and desperation in Afghanistan, prompting residents to flee to Pakistan again.

"I believe this influx is already here," said Mohammad Abbas Khan, a commissioner at Pakistan's Office of Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees. "We are in a very tight situation ourselves, so having this influx is not desirable to anyone in the world."

There are no firm figures on the number of new arrivals. But in recent weeks, Pakistani officials say, they have been fielding calls from frantic local authorities about new illegal settlements.

To discourage the immigrants, local officials in northwestern Pakistan are implementing policies that could make it harder for Afghans to rent apartments or erect new squatter camps. In the southern city of Karachi, new police squads are tasked with hunting down illegal Afghan immigrants. And along Pakistan's 1,500-mile border with Afghanistan, federal officials are preparing to implement new screening procedures.

The crackdown is occurring as Iran is increasingly pressuring the 800,000 Af-

ghan refugees there to leave, according to human rights groups.

In Pakistan, the tightening of controls reflects concerns about the fragile situation in Afghanistan and about this country's own stability. There are about 1.6 million legally registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan, but officials think that 1 million to 3 million more are in the country illegally.

"We want them to go back to their own country," said Sartaj Aziz, the national security and foreign affairs adviser to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Aziz said that the refugees are a burden on the weak economy and that their presence makes it easier for Islamist militants with ties to Afghanistan to operate undetected in this nation.

Friction fueled by ethnicity

When Afghans started flooding into Pakistan after 1979, they were greeted as Muslim brothers who shared the goal of driving the Soviets from Afghanistan.

They were housed in sprawling camps near the border. Pakistan worked with countries such as the United States to line up food and other support for the refugees, some of whom would cross back into Afghanistan as mujahideen fighters to battle the Soviets.

But over time, most of the remaining Afghan refugees moved to Pakistani cities in search of jobs. With most new arrivals also flocking to urban areas, friction between Afghans and Pakistanis has intensified.

Many Afghan refugees are Pashtun, an ethnic group whose rapid growth is altering the demographic makeup of a country that had been dominated by ethnic Punjabis. Pashtuns are now Pakistan's second-largest ethnic group, eclipsing the Sindhis, who primarily reside in southern Pakistan.

The backlash against the Afghan settlers appears to be driven in part by suspicion



MAX BECHERER, POLARIS IMAGES/The Washington Post

An elderly Afghan refugee covers her face from the rain and flies as she sleeps in the open in Peshawar, Pakistan, on April 18.

that they are more tolerant of Pashtun-dominated militant groups, such as the Pakistani Taliban, which have carried out a campaign of terror in recent years.

In a sign of that concern, in early March authorities sent bulldozers to destroy a settlement on the outskirts of Islamabad, the capital, that housed more than 100 Afghan families. Many residents said they had lived there for nearly three decades.

Islamabad officials said they were under pressure from the property owner to clear the settlement, which they noted included some non-Afghan families. But officials also said such Afghan-dominated camps are unsightly and pose a growing security risk, so they might dismantle similar ones in coming months.

Nasreen Ghufuran, an international relations professor at the University of Peshawar, said the Pakistanis blame Afghans immigrants for "a lack of social order" — in particular, crime and unsanitary conditions.

After an intense national debate last year, Pakistan's national assembly decided

to allow the 1.6 million legally registered Afghans to stay at least until the end of 2015. But Pakistani authorities are afraid that the number of illegal immigrants could jump if violence surges in Afghanistan after most NATO troops leave this year.

An even bigger concern, Pakistani leaders say, is that Afghanistan's economy could weaken considerably as Western troops and contractors return home, prompting a flood of job-seekers to cross the border.

Already, Afghan refugees seem increasingly wary of going back to their native land.

While 83,000 Afghan residents returned home from Pakistan in 2012, less than half that number made the trip last year, and so far this year fewer than 2,000 have repatriated, said Abbas Khan, the refugee official.

He said that Pakistan will voluntarily accept large numbers of new refugees only in the event of a "humanitarian catastrophe."

Rail: With US pulout looming, time running out to get Afghan railroad on track

FROM FRONT PAGE

At a small military outpost next to the railroad's terminals, near the banks of the wide, meandering Amu Darya river, a team of U.S. soldiers works to improve Afghanistan's nascent rail system while monitoring operations at the border crossing. Roughly 80 percent of the fuel used by coalition forces comes into the country via the crossing, which is also the point through which much of the forces' materiel leaves as the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force mission winds down.

Currently, ISAF moves 5 percent of its gear out of Afghanistan via the Northern Distribution Network, through Central Asia and Russia and onward to Europe. In 2013, about 40 percent of ISAF gear and fuel transited in and out via the route. Despite escalating tensions between the West and Russia over the crisis in Ukraine, Russia has not imposed any restrictions on that route, a NATO official confirmed.

Potentially more important is



Leaving Afghanistan

to teach Afghans how to maintain trains and tracks and develop comprehensive rail safety regulations.

The rail team's mission is crucial to the international military effort in Afghanistan. Besides advising the Afghan government on all aspects of the border crossing, it deals with shipping and road traffic, as well.

While there is relatively little fighting in northern Afghanistan, one of the main missions for international troops stationed in the Regional Command-North, which encompasses nine provinces, is keeping north-south road traffic flowing between Kabul and the Uzbek border, as well as protecting the railway, said RC-North deputy commander Marine Gen. Craig Timberlake.

"The Northern Distribution Network is still a focal point," he said.

In addition to the rail line, the port is also the main entry point for goods coming down the river from Uzbekistan, such as wheat and grain destined for Afghan markets, and for trucks plying the highway from across Central Asia, which bring much of the fuel that comes into the country for ISAF. As important as the port is to coalition forces, it is also a lynchpin for the Afghan economy, and rail, in particular, is seen by many as a key to Afghanistan eventually standing on its own economically.

For now, Afghanistan must rely on Uzbekistan to run the country's rail line, which means Afghan officials must request Uzbek locomotives and cars, which ply both sides of the border. In addition, Uzbekistan still handles customs collections on the line for its neighbor. Moyer estimates that Afghan rail is still at least a decade away from being self-sufficient.

In their 10 months at Port Hairatran, the five rail team members say that while much has

improved, it's been challenging to get Afghans to buy into the concept of the railroad as part of an interconnected transportation system, instead of an independent entity. Their work has been slowed, too, by bureaucracy: Several ministries are trying to have a say about the future of Afghan rail.

"One of the issues is, everyone wants a slice of the pie," said Master Sgt. Brian Haake, a rail team member and locomotive engineer.

While Moyer and his team continue to work on improving rail safety and positioning the national railway to get an international certification that would bring it a step closer to independence, time is running out: When the team packs up in a couple of months, the Port Hairatran base will close and the team won't be replaced.

"What we've trained (the Afghans) on is what they're going to get," Moyer said.

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Navy personnel chief addresses promotion issues

By **MATTHEW M. BURKE**
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Changes to the promotion system were necessary to ensure the Navy was taking care of its top chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Bill Moran told troops in Okinawa on Wednesday.

Moran, who has held the post since August, met with various commands including the Seabees, corpsmen and hospital staff.

The Navy's personnel man on personnel issues said that while it may be getting together to advance now — following a focus on staffing un-filled sea billets — the promotion process was stabilizing for future years and the methods of testing sailors' proficiency were improving. He also said that programs such as tuition assistance would remain fully funded, and the size of the Navy would remain unchanged for at least the next five years.

"We're not getting smaller," Moran told the audience of a couple hundred sailors in the Foster Fieldhouse gymnasium. "I don't see significant changes in any ratings."

Moran kicked off the town hall by acknowledging the large number of sailors in the audience who had deployed down range in support of Marine units in recent years. He said that while those assignments would be drying up as the United States prepares to leave Afghanistan, they will never completely evaporate as long as corpsmen serve hand in hand with America's fighting force, the U.S. Marine Corps.

He explained that the medical community's rate of advancement was in step with the Navy's overall rate, and had decreased by about 4 percent since the last cycle. He said more high quality sailors are staying in, making it tougher to advance. However, he said that the Navy is looking at ways to improve the process, by constantly reviewing advancement exams to ensure the most important things are being tested for, reducing the values of certain tests, coupled with giving leadership more sway in the advancement process, and also possibly crediting points towards advancement for exceptional physical fitness scores in the future.

"We're making it very clear performance matters," Moran said. "We want to keep the best sailors and we want to promote the best sailors."

Fleet Master Chief April Beldo, Moran's senior enlisted adviser, has been telling sailors on the admiral's tour of Japan bases that they will have to be exceptional to advance and that they will no longer be able to just "hang around" to make rate.

Moran also explained fresh opportunities to leave the Navy early that are being afforded to specific ratings combat engineers and certain aviation positions.

When Moran and Beldo turned the floor over to sailors, they heard a range of concerns including length of tour disparities, criticisms of the current system that rewards sailors who marry and have families with increased benefits but not single sailors, questions about Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Michael Barrett's comments regarding pay reductions, the situation with martial law being declared in Thailand and even the apparent loophole where maternity leave is authorized for married male sailors but not single fathers.

Moran took note of the issues and promised to not only look at them more closely but to also advocate for the fleet in Washington. He said the biggest thing he took away from his meetings with various commands across Japan, including Sasebo Naval Base earlier this week, regarded frustrations in the overseas screening process for sailors and families assigned to forward deployed naval forces as well as processing delays.

"I don't think we're being as efficient as we might want to be or that we could be," Moran told

Stars and Stripes. "We need to look at our process and make sure we're doing everything we can."

Moran also pledged to supplement Sasebo Naval Base's small medical presence and to address shortages of senior enlisted female sailors on its ships.

For the future, Moran said his focus would be on decreasing administrative burdens and empowering command triads so that they have more time to train for deployments.

"I think most commanding officers that I talked to say, 'Hey, I don't have enough time to do what

I need to do to train my unit to get ready to deploy. I need time back,'" Moran said. "So we're making a concerted effort on the (General Military Training) front, on a lot of the recording requirements, to try and reduce that so they have more time to focus on what they're out here to do. So my lens is looking at it through the commanding officer's field of view to make sure that when we do policy and we try and make changes its to empower them more and not make it harder for them."

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Moran



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MILITARY

Judge allows force-feeding of Gitmo detainee

By DAN LAMOTHE

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has determined that the U.S. military can force-feed a Syrian detainee at the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to prevent him from dying, but she urged authorities to consider alternative methods and ordered them to release potentially embarrassing videos depicting the man's treatment.

U.S. District Court Judge Gladys Kessler said she was faced with an "anguishing" choice: issuing another temporary restraining order that would prevent the military from force-feeding detainee Abu Wa'el Dhiab "despite the very real probability" that he will die, or refusing to extend the order "at the possible cost of great pain and suffering" to the prisoner.

"The Court is in no position to make the complex medical decisions necessary to keep Mr. Dhiab alive," Kessler said in a three-page ruling issued late Thursday. She added that because of the Pentagon's "intransigence" or refusal to compromise, "Mr. Dhiab may well suffer unnecessary pain from certain enteral feeding practices and forcible cell extractions. However, the Court simply cannot let Mr. Dhiab die."

Kessler's rulings promise to keep attention on the Pentagon's controversial force-feeding practices for weeks to come. The judge said in a scheduling order issued Friday that the U.S. government must release to Dhiab's lawyers by June 13 videos of the detainee being removed from his cell and force-fed. It will mark the first time that individuals not affiliated with the U.S. government have

'It's particularly worth noting here that we only apply enteral feeding in order to preserve life.'

Lt. Col. Todd Breaeseale
Pentagon spokesman

seen the videos.

Dhiab, 42, was arrested in Pakistan in 2002 and has been detained since without any charges being filed against him. He was cleared for transfer by the Obama administration in 2009, but the government has not been able to repatriate him, first because of fears about how he would be treated at home and then because of the Syrian civil war.

Dhiab is among the many Guantanamo prisoners who have staged hunger strikes to protest their prolonged detention; 154

detainees remain at the facility, and about half of them have been cleared for transfer to their home countries or to third countries.

Force-feeding involves restraining a detainee in a chair, inserting a tube through his nose and down his throat, and pumping a nutritional drink directly into his stomach. The process is uncomfortable at best and agonizing at worst, human rights advocates say.

A Pentagon spokesman, Lt. Col. Todd Breaeseale, said Friday that the Defense Department has long

held that it should not allow "the detainees in our charge to commit suicide.

"It's particularly worth noting here that we only apply enteral feeding in order to preserve life," he added.

In court papers filed Wednesday, attorneys for another detainee, Ahmed Rabhani, said their client had contracted a chest infection that led him to vomit blood repeatedly as a result of the force-feeding process. They alleged that he endured several botched force-feeding attempts. In one of them, the tube was pointing up, rather than down into his throat, causing him to feel as if it was being pushed into his brain, they said. In another attempt, his airways were blocked by the feeding liquid pooling in his throat, preventing him from breathing, his attorneys alleged.

Nigeria: Some in Congress press for wider US role in search for missing schoolgirls

FROM FRONT PAGE

"Without sounding cynical, these are Nigerian hostages, held by Nigerian terrorists in Nigeria who are possibly making demands on Nigeria's government," he said. "I think we want to tread carefully in insinuating ourselves into that matter, thereby assuming responsibility for outcomes."

The 80 Air Force personnel sent to neighboring Chad for a drone reconnaissance mission and the 16 military participants in a U.S. advisory group in Nigeria are the only U.S. armed forces assigned to assist Nigeria for now, U.S. Army Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, told reporters Thursday.

Nevertheless, more than a month after the abduction of some 250 girls and young women, President Barack Obama is coming under pressure from some members of Congress to devote more military assets to helping Nigeria hunt for them and support its fight against Boko Haram, which has killed more than 4,000 people in recent years.

"Everybody knows what needs to be done — find those girls and bring the people leading and involved with Boko Haram to justice," Texas Republican Mike Conaway, chairman of the House Intelligence Subcommittee on Terrorism, said following a closed-door House briefing on the situation yesterday. "But that's easier said than done."

The U.S. will be flying an unarmed Predator drone from Chad over an area of northeastern Nigeria the size of West Virginia, even though U.S. intelligence officials think many of the girls have been sold off, split into small groups or taken to the hostess countries in Boko Haram kidnapped the girls April 14 in a raid on a school in the northeastern town of Chibok near the border with Chad.

"It would be hard to overestimate the complexity, first of locating the hostages, and then, considering how that might be re-



SUNDAY ALAMBA/AP

Demonstrators in Abuja, Nigeria, call on the government Thursday to rescue the girls kidnapped from a secondary school in Chibok.

solved successfully," said Amanda Dory, deputy assistant secretary of defense for African affairs.

"They may or may not all be in Nigeria," she told the House Foreign Affairs Committee earlier this week. "The sheer number of individuals involved, the complexity of the terrain — jungle for a great part of it — and the movement that could be associated over the weeks that have elapsed, creating a greater area of operations, make this a very difficult environment."

Jenkins said it was unlikely that the U.S. would attempt a rescue effort without receiving a request from the Nigerian government. "It's a very risky course for the U.S.," he said. "While a successful rescue would win applause all around, it could easily lead to a situation where the U.S. would be blamed for any injuries or deaths among the hostages."

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said that the U.S. lacks solid evidence pinpointing where the girls are. "There are about five countries in there, in that area," Hagel said in an interview with the "Charlie Rose" program on

PBS. "They may be, some of those girls, in other countries. We don't know."

If the girls were taken to Cameroon, Niger or Chad, there would be a chance the U.S. military could carry out an operation, a congressional staff member said, asking not to be identified due to the sensitivity of the issue.

In addition to the 16 military personnel, the U.S. has assembled an advisory task force in Nigeria with about 30 specialists in areas such as intelligence analysis, communications, civil security and counterterrorism.

"The Nigerians, of course, remain in the lead, and we continue to lend our unique assets and capabilities to assist the search," White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters. "We'll continue to evaluate what additional resources we might bring to bear in support."

John Campbell, senior fellow for Africa policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, said he sees potential for "mission creep" as Congress presses for more involvement.

For instance, Campbell said Republican Sen. Marco Rubio

of Florida "is trying to link Boko Haram with persecution of Christians; others point to women being deprived education; and all of that implies some sort of action. The most important aspect is tying Boko Haram to al-Qaida, and that seems to imply there's more American activism likely."

Another concern constrains U.S. involvement, though: The Nigerian military has a poor record on human rights and corruption. U.S. military aid is restricted by the Leahy Amendment, a 1997 legal provision that prohibits the U.S. from providing training or equipment to foreign troops or units identified as having committed serious human-rights violations.

"We continue to have concerns that corruption and human-rights violations by government forces, particularly those forces that have operated in the northeast, continue to undermine the government's attempts to defeat Boko Haram militarily," Sarah Sewall, under secretary of state for civilian security, democracy and human rights, told the House Foreign Affairs Committee last week. "It's abundantly clear that if

we are to move to address Boko Haram as an enduring threat beyond the question of these 200-plus schoolgirls that the Nigerian government itself has to make changes," she said. "It has to address corruption. It has to address the excessive use of violence."

Rep. Ed Royce, the California Republican who heads the House Foreign Affairs Committee, is urging the administration to seek a waiver of the Leahy amendment if it's an obstacle to helping Nigeria.

"We're not doing what we need to be doing on the ground in order to track and rescue these girls," he said.

Sen. Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat and chairman of the Armed Services Committee, however, said the American public would not support military action in Nigeria.

"They would not welcome Seal Team Six, I believe," or "boots on the ground," Levin said, referring to the U.S. Navy counterterrorist unit that killed Osama bin Laden. "But they do welcome what we can do without going that far."

NATION

6 killed by gunman near Calif. university

BY RAQUEL MARIA DILLON AND JULIE WATSON
The Associated Press

GOLETA, Calif. — A drive-by shooter went on a nighttime rampage near a Santa Barbara university campus that left seven people dead, including the attacker, and seven others wounded, authorities said Saturday.

The gunman got into two gunbattles with deputies Friday night in the beachside community of Isla Vista before crashing his black BMW into a parked car, Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown said. Deputies found him dead with a gunshot wound to the head, but it wasn't immediately clear whether he was killed by gunfire or if he committed suicide, he said.

A semi-automatic handgun was recovered from the scene near the University of California, Santa Barbara. Investigators took the gunman's name, but Brown said he couldn't release it pending notification of relatives.

On Saturday, an attorney for a Hollywood director said the family believes his son is responsible for the shootings.

Alan Shifman said that the family had not seen his body. But they have been told he was killed and believe he killed six people. Shifman is the attorney for Peter Rodger, who was an assistant director on "The Hunger Games."

A disturbing YouTube video posted that shows a young man describing plans to shoot women appears to be connected to the attack, police said. Officials would not say whether the person in the video was a



PAUL WELLMAN, SANTA BARBARA (CALIF.) INDEPENDENT/AP

A body lies covered Friday after a mass shooting near the campus of the University of Santa Barbara in Isla Vista, Calif.

suspect in the shooting.

In the video, posted Friday, the man sits in a black car and looks at the camera, laughing often, and says he is going to take his revenge against humanity. He describes loneliness and frustration because "girls have never been attracted to me," and says, at age 22, he is still a virgin. The video, which is almost seven minutes long, appears scripted. The identity of the person in the video could not be independently confirmed.

"We're analyzing both written and videotaped evidence that suggests that this atrocity was a premeditated mass murder," Brown said.

The shooting started about 9:30 p.m. in Isla Vista, a roughly one-half-square-mile community next to UC Santa Barbara's campus and picturesque beachside cliffs.

Alexander Mattered, 23, said his friend, Chris Johnson, was walking out of an improv comedy show when he was shot in front of a popular pizza place. He stumbled into a nearby house.

"He walked into these random guys' house, bleeding," he said.

Mattered was sitting at a bonfire with friends when at least one gunshot whizzed overhead. The friends ran for cover when they heard the barrage of gunfire.

"We heard so many gunshots, it was unbelievable. I thought they were firecrackers. There had to have been at least like two shots. There were a lot of shots," he said.

The shooting occurred at several sites, resulting in nine crime scenes, police said.

A visibly shaken student told the station she was approached by the driver of a black BMW who flashed a handgun and asked "Hey, what's up?" The student, who didn't provide her full name, said she thought he was carrying an airsoft gun and kept walking. She said seconds later, she felt something buzz by her head and quickly realized they were bullets.

Kathrin Schirazi Rad got a call from her son, Adrian Timothy Petersson, 21, who told her in a shaky voice that he had been

knocked off his skateboard by a BMW being chased by police about 9 p.m. Friday. He hurt his shoulder, but he went home after being checked by first responders to the scene.

"He was in shock," said Rad, who lives in Sweden. "He saw some plastic bags and said somebody must have died. He couldn't confirm anything, he was pretty shaken up. It was so many things happening at the same time."

The victims' identities were not immediately released. The injured were being treated for gunshot wounds and traumatic injuries, including at least one person who underwent surgery for life-threatening injuries, Brown said.

Isla Vista has a reputation for excessive partying. Last month, an annual spring bash spiraled into violence as young people clashed with police and tossed rocks and bottles. A university police officer and four deputies were injured and 130 people were arrested.

Jurors to weigh sentence in ex-soldier's murder case

BY JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Jurors in Hawaii are set to begin considering whether a former soldier should be sentenced to death or life in prison for killing his 5-year-old daughter.

Jurors deliberated for about a day before announcing a verdict Friday, finding Naem Williams eligible for the death penalty in the first capital case in the history of Hawaii's statehood.

The jury returns to court on Wednesday to begin hearing testimony about whether he will be sentenced to death or life in prison with no possibility for release.

That phase in the case will include a new round of opening statements and deliberations. The defense is expected to present witnesses testifying about Williams as a person while the prosecution is expected to con-

tinue arguing that the crime was especially heinous and deserving of the death penalty.

The same jury last month convicted Williams of murder in his daughter Talia's 2005 beating death. The draw-out case has gained attention in part because it involves a capital offense in a state that doesn't have the death penalty.

Hawaii's territorial government abolished capital punishment in 1957, before Hawaii became a U.S. state in 1959. But Williams was tried in the federal system — which allows for the death penalty — because the crime occurred on military property.

Lawyers for both the prosecution and the defense declined comment Friday after the jury's eligibility decision was read.

Williams' defense team argued he was not eligible for a death sentence because of his low IQ.

Mental health experts testified about intellectual impairments and low test scores.

The prosecution contended factors such as Talia's age and vulnerability made the killing so heinous that the death penalty was warranted.

Jurors decided Williams met all key conditions to be eligible for the death penalty: He was an adult, his actions were intentional that resulted in the girl's death, the crime was especially heinous, and the victim was vulnerable because of her youth.

One juror appeared to cry as jurors were polled.

Williams and Talia's stepmother, Delilah Williams, testified during the guilt phase of the trial that they beat her almost daily with hands and belts during the seven months she lived with them in Hawaii.

Naem Williams blamed the

beatings on the child's bowel- and bladder-control issues, coupled with frustrations he faced in his marriage.

His wife testified against him as part of a deal with prosecutors for a 20-year sentence. She provided graphic and disturbing details of abuse that included withholding food from the girl for days at a time, beatings while the child was

duct-taped to a bed, pulling her so hard by the hair that she was left with a bald spot, and stomping on her until bone cracked.

Prosecutors say she died on July 16, 2005, after her father dealt a blow so hard it left knuckle imprints on her chest. Naem Williams said he beat the girl that day partly because of toothpaste she spit onto the bathroom sink.

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NATION

Poll: Most Americans not fans of health care law

BY RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR AND JENNIFER AGUISTA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama celebrated when sign-ups for his health care law topped 8 million, far exceeding expectations after a slipshod launch. Most Americans, however, remain unimpressed.

A new Associated Press-GfK poll finds that public opinion continues to run deeply negative on the Affordable Care Act, Obama's signature effort to cover the uninsured. Forty-three percent oppose the law, compared with just 28 percent in support.

The pattern illustrates why the health care law remains a favored target for Republicans seeking a Senate majority in the midterm elections.

The poll shows a bright spot for the administration: Those who signed up for coverage aren't reeling from sticker shock. Most said they found premiums in line with what they expected, or even lower.

But even that was diminished by another finding: More than one-third of those who said they or someone in their household tried to enroll, were ultimately unable to do so. For the White House, it's an uncomfortable reminder of the technical problems that paralyzed the HealthCare.gov website for weeks after it went live last fall.

The example of business owner Henry Kulik shows some of the cross-currents of public opinion.

Kulik is disabled as a result of Lou Gehrig's disease, a condition that destroys the brain's ability to control muscle movement. His family runs several stores that sell ice cream and other summer refreshments in the Philadelphia area.

Kulik says he doesn't believe

the federal government should require people to carry health insurance, as the law does. And he can understand worries about the cost to taxpayers. On the other hand, he's been able to slash what his family pays for health insurance

“I can see if some of the kinks can be worked out this could be a very positive thing in the long run.”

Greg Freeman
insurance holder

dollars. And Kulik says the insurance for himself, his wife, and three children is comparable to what they had before.

“I think there is a lot of misinformation,” he says.

Obama's health care law offers subsidized private coverage to middle-class people who have no health plan on the job, and it expands Medicaid to pick up low-income uninsured adults. But last fall's launch of new health insurance markets was paralyzed technical problems. The debacle contributed to the departure of health secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

After Congress approved the law in 2010, a political backlash over its Medicare cuts, tax increases and new regulations helped Republicans win the House. This fall the GOP is following a similar strategy with the Senate at stake.

“Republicans hold an advan-

tage on this issue among people who feel strongly about it,” said Robert Blendon of the Harvard School of Public Health, who follows opinion trends on health care.

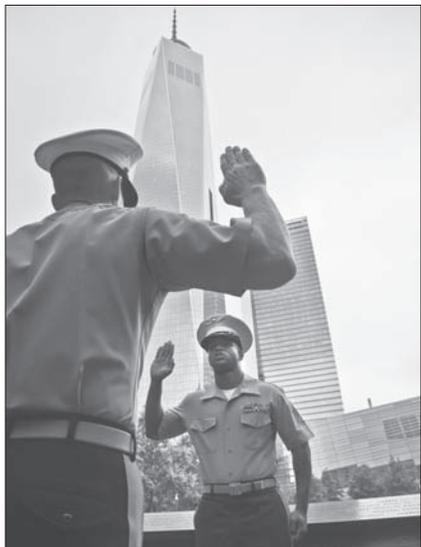
Still, just 17 percent of poll respondents said the law will be completely repealed. While that represents an increase of 5 percentage points from March, the poll found that 67 percent believe the health law will be implemented with changes, whether major or superficial.

In Wallhalla, S.C., digital publisher Greg Freeman says he's no big fan of the president. But now into his late 30s, Freeman thought it would be a good idea to get health insurance through the new law. It took several tries to navigate the federal enrollment website, but Freeman says he's generally satisfied. His main complaint is that his new doctor is about an hour away, in a bigger town to the east.

“I can see if some of the kinks can be worked out this could be a very positive thing in the long run,” Freeman said. “We should be in a position to be the healthiest country in the world.”

The poll found that sign-up success translated into higher approval for the health care law. Among those who succeeded in purchasing coverage, 51 percent back the law, compared with 30 percent among those who tried to sign up and weren't successful.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted May 16-19, 2014 using KnowledgePanel, GfK's probability-based online panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. It involved online surveys with 1,354 adults, and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points for all respondents.



BRETO MATTHEWS/AP

Marine Lt. General William Faulkner, left, swears an oath of allegiance before Marine Staff Sgt. Brandon King, during a re-enlistment and promotion ceremony on Friday at the National September 11 Memorial Museum site in New York.

17 re-enlist at 9/11 site

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Seventeen servicemembers from the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard participated in a re-enlistment and promotion ceremony Friday at the National September 11 Memorial Museum in Manhattan.

Rear Adm. Scott A. Starney, commander of Carrier Strike Group 4, presided over the ceremony in front of one of the reflecting pools where the twin towers once stood.

Navy Lt. Christopher Mikell's

2-year-old daughter Addyson attached her dad's new lieutenant bars to his dress white uniform. Mikell said his promotion ceremony at the memorial was moving.

Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Alejandro Diaz said he was happy to re-enlist.

“I love my job,” Diaz said. “I love it every day, what I do.”

The servicemembers were in town as part of Fleet Week New York, a weeklong celebration of military services by sea when active ships dock in the city.

Obama breaks free of security bubble in search of fresh air



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALES/AP

President Barack Obama stops to greet tourists during a surprise walk Wednesday across the ellipse behind the White House in Washington as he headed toward the Department of the Interior.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama seems to have caught a bad case of cabin fever.

Since taking office, Obama has periodically grumbled about the claustrophobia that sets in when his every move is surrounded by intense security, rendering it nearly impossible to enjoy the simple pleasures that private citizens take for granted. But in recent days, the president has made more of a point to get out.

“The bear is loose!” Obama declared this week after leaving the White House on foot, ditching his motorcade and his suit jacket in favor of fresh air as he headed to the Interior Department.

Tourists milling about near the White House were incredulous,

never having expected to see the leader of the free world on the flesh on a steamy Wednesday afternoon. One woman squealed with delight, another suggested she thought it might be an Obama impostor.

“It's good to be out,” Obama said.

Traditionally, whenever the president leaves the White House, he travels by motorcade or helicopter, insulating him from the sights around him. Before he arrives at his destination, Secret Service agents have already prepared layer upon layer of security that generally keeps Obama at a distance from anything unpredictable.

Life in this bubble can feel suffocating, as many presidents have attested. For Obama, relief

frequently comes in the form of a weekend golf outing where, from the secure confines of a military base, he can at least look from left to right without his view being obscured by barricades, reporters or enough police officers to defend a small country.

But every once in a while, the golf course just doesn't cut it.

“I don't get a chance to take walks very often,” Obama quipped this week. “Secret Service gets a little stressed. But every once in a while I'm able to sneak off.”

Former White House staffers said it's always gratifying to depart from the norm by allowing the president to interact more directly with citizens, even if it's a major headache for those responsible for making it happen.

NATION



PHOTOS BY CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Above: In a photo shot from video provided by the Detroit police, car thieves take the tires off a Ford Fusion. Detroit police reported 720 carjackings last year in the city of 700,000 people. That's down from nearly 850 in 2011 and 1,231 in 2008. Right: About to become a carjacking victim, Greg Champion wears a handgun on his hip whenever he's pumping gas.



From Motor City to Carjack City?

Armed car thieves so prevalent, many Detroit motorists fear leaving their cars

By COREY WILLIAMS
The Associated Press

DETROIT — When they pull up to a gas station these days, Detroit drivers are looking beyond the price per gallon at a far more threatening concern: carjackers.

The armed auto thieves have become so common here that parts of the bankrupt metropolis are referred to as “Carjack City,” and many motorists’ fear getting out of their vehicles even for a few moments to fill a tank.

So gas stations are taking steps to protect customers, and the city has formed a special police team to go after suspects. Convicted carjackers will even get their faces and prison sentences plastered onto billboards.

“You need to catch these people and make a good example of them,” said Mousa Bazzi, who owns a gas station in a semi-desolate neighborhood bordering Detroit’s east riverfront. He keeps his business well-lit and continually has two to four employees inside to ensure “there’s always an extra hand or two” in case of trouble.

Authorities blame many of the carjackings, ironically, on improvements in vehicle security. Anti-theft equipment, GPS systems and advanced locks now prevent many vehicles from being driven without a key in the ignition.

That makes it difficult or impossible for thieves to steal parked cars, leading them to target vehicles that are occupied, said Jonathan Parnell, of Detroit’s auto-theft squad.

Also contributing to the thefts is a strong demand for stolen wheels and tires, police said.

Bazzi’s station displays pale-green decals depicting a lighthouse — a symbol that his business has joined the city’s anti-carjacking effort. To be part of the program, stations must have security cameras, good lighting, be open 24 hours and have clerks willing to help motorists and provide a phone for emergency calls. “There is a waiting list,” Sgt. Michael Woody said. “We have so many gas stations that want to become a lighthouse. You get better protection with that big sticker in the window that tells criminals there is proper equipment that will help police investigate these crimes.”

Detroit police reported 720 carjackings last year in the city of fewer than 700,000 people. That’s down from nearly 850 in 2011 and

1,231 in 2008.

The decline may partly be due to Detroit’s freefalling population, but the thefts still exceed the carjackings in some comparably sized U.S. cities.

Sharlonda Buckman, executive director of a Detroit nonprofit, was at a gas station on an October morning when she ran inside for aspirin. Back inside her SUV, she was just closing the door when she saw a carjacker shove his gun inside.

She screamed and jumped out of the vehicle. The carjacker jumped in and drove off. Three other customers gave chase in their vehicles. One caught up to the SUV and got shot in the leg by the carjacker, who was later arrested.

Now, Buckman said, she tries

not to pump gas at all.

“If the night catches me, I won’t pump gas in the city,” she said. “Or I’ll call somebody to meet me.”

It’s difficult to know how Detroit’s carjackings rank nationally because many police agencies lump carjackings with all armed robberies in annual reports to the FBI.

Newark, N.J., with a population of 280,000, had 382 carjackings last year, giving it a per capita rate that is actually higher than Detroit’s. Memphis, Tenn., with a population of 655,000, had slightly more than 400 carjackings over three years from 2011 through 2013. El Paso, a rapidly growing western Texas city of 670,000, reported only 15 carjackings last year and 18 in 2012.

Through May 19, Detroit has recorded 191 carjackings in 2014, including the Feb. 24 shooting death of CVS security guard Courtney Meeks, who rushed toward a car being taken by three men, and the Feb. 4 slaying of Donald Bradshaw, 68, who was beaten to death with a tire iron after he was carjacked at an intersection.

Prosecutors, the FBI and Detroit police recently announced a campaign to spread the word about stiffer federal penalties for carjacking, which can include the death penalty if someone is killed. A similar campaign that includes billboards with photos of convicted carjackers started last summer in Newark.

Detroit police have also announced a partnership with General Motors’ OnStar roadside assistance service to track down stolen vehicles and promote rewards tied to an anonymous tip line.

To avoid becoming a victim, security guard Greg Champion wears a handgun on his hip whenever he’s pumping gas.

“I don’t want to surprise you,” Champion said. “I want you to know I’m armed, and I want you to know I can defend myself, and I want you to go somewhere else.”

Christine Reed takes the opposite approach. The 27-year-old mother of two won’t stop for gas in Detroit. She lives north of the city in Warren and works four days a week cleaning offices downtown.

If she’s in a bad section of town, Reed said, she passes through red lights because it’s tougher to carjack a moving target.

“It’s not a safe place anymore,” Reed said. “It’s dangerous.”



Detroit-area gas-station owner Mousa Bazzi, displays pale-green decals depicting a lighthouse — a symbol that his business has joined the city’s anti-carjacking effort.

UKRAINE UNREST

Vote could mark turning point in Russia relations

Election result could spur end of crisis or broader upheaval

THE KAREN DEYOUNG
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Sunday's election in Ukraine could be the beginning of the end of the crisis that has enveloped the West's relations with Russia over the past three months. Or, if Russian-inspired violence breaks out, it could be the start of far more serious and widespread international upheaval.

The United States and its European allies believe they have taken every possible step to ensure a free and fair presidential choice. By their calculations, peaceful voting should be possible in 200 of about 215 Ukrainian electoral districts. More than 1,000 international observers are in place.

"So far, a senior European diplomat said this week, prospects look "surprisingly good." Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has called Ukraine's current, Western-backed government illegitimate, appeared to blink Friday. Moscow will respect the choice made by the people of Ukraine," he said, and is prepared to "work with the new authorities after the election."

Western governments express deep uncertainty at what Russia will do, and it was symptomatic of their equally deep mistrust of Putin that few took him at his word. U.S. officials parsed his

language as leaving a hole big enough to drive a brigade of Russian soldiers through.

"Pull the rest of your troops back, then," said State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf, repeating demands that Putin end the threatening deployment of Russian military forces along Ukraine's eastern border. "Put your money where your words are. Come on."

Russian Gen. Valery Gerasimov, chief of the general staff, said Friday that the troops have started to withdraw, a claim Putin has made several times in recent weeks.

The Pentagon agreed for the first time that there had been some "small-scale" troop movement away from Ukraine and evidence of preparations for more. But "tens of thousands of ready troops along that border ... still are escalating the tension there in Ukraine, and we continue to call for the removal of all those troops," said Rear Adm. John Kirby, the Pentagon's press secretary.

Fighting continued in at least two areas of eastern Ukraine on Friday, where pro-Russian separatists — armed, financed and directed by Moscow, according to Washington and its allies — have occupied public buildings and have declared an independent republic.



ALEXANDER ZEMLIACHENKO/AP

Pro-Russia militants guard a checkpoint under a Russian flag outside Sloviansk, Ukraine, on Saturday. Ukrainians vote Sunday in an early presidential election that could be a crucial step toward resolving the country's crisis, but separatists in the east are threatening to block the vote.

Last week, Secretary of State John Kerry said the United States and its principal European partners agreed that "if Russia or its proxies disrupt the election, the allies would "impose sectoral economic sanctions as a result."

The Obama administration has said it is "ready" with a new round of greatly increased punitive measures against major Russian economic sectors, including defense, energy, banking and mining. U.S. officials said that action, if warranted, could come as soon as late next week.

But on the eve of the vote, the allies offered no firm definition of what would constitute sanctionable disruption and whether it would have to be undertaken by the Russians, themselves, or their Ukrainian "proxies." What Russia says after the vote, in terms of fulfilling Putin's pledge to work with a future government, is seen as equally important, even if there is no direct interference in the election itself.

Finding common ground in Europe on sanctions has been "extremely difficult," said the senior diplomat, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the situation frankly. While values unite the two sides of the Atlantic, he said, interests sometimes diverge. The United States does about \$25 billion in annual trade with Russia; the European Union about \$450 billion.

Former Soviet satellites, including the Baltic states and Poland, are eager for harsh measures. Some E.U. members, including Greece and other smaller states whose economies are still suffering the effects of near-bankruptcy, fear the fallout from a cutoff of Russian tourism and trade.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, whose leadership is seen as decisive, said in a visit to Washington early this month that her government is committed to sanctions against major Russian economic sectors if necessary.

Despite extensive business lobbying against them, Germany's leading industrial group said last week that it would go along with sanctions, albeit with a "heavy heart."

Beyond the West's reluctance to punish itself by punishing Russia, there is trans-Atlantic agreement on the eventual need to bring relations with Moscow back on an even footing.

"We have to deal with Russia in the future" beyond Ukraine's elections, the European diplomat said. "There is concern that the Ukraine crisis does not contaminate future cooperation," including on issues such as Syria and Iran. "So far, it has not."

Putin made the same point Friday. "We still hope that common sense and the realization of their national interests will push all our partners in Europe and the U.S. into continuing their partnership with Russia," he said at a conference in St. Petersburg, according to the Russian news agency Interfax.

Official: Election under threat in eastern Ukraine



EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Ukrainian presidential candidate Petro Poroshenko is welcomed by his supporters during a rally Tuesday in Uman, Ukraine.

The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pro-Russian insurgents have prevented at least half of the election districts in the embattled east of the country to prepare for Sunday's presidential election, a Ukrainian official says.

Volodymyr Hryniak, chief of the public security department at the Ukrainian Interior Ministry, said Saturday that 17 out of 34 district election commissions in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions are not operating because their offices have either been seized or blocked by armed men. Hryniak's update was reported by the Interfax news agency.

The insurgents have controlled parts of Ukraine for weeks. Following their declaration of independence earlier this month, they pledged to derail the vote which they regard as an election in "a neighboring country."

They remain defiant although Russian President Vladimir Putin said Friday that he is prepared to work with the election winner.



Tymoshenko

Twenty-one candidates are competing to become Ukraine's next leader. Polls show billionaire candy-maker Petro Poroshenko with a commanding lead, but short of the absolute majority needed to win in the first round. His nearest challenger is Yulia Tymoshenko, the divisive former prime minister who is far behind.

Most polls suggest Poroshenko would win a runoff ballot, which would be held on June 15.

Fighting was reported Friday between pro-Russian separatists and government forces in eastern Ukraine as Kiev continued an offensive to try to halt the uprising.

Associated Press reporters saw two dead Ukrainian soldiers near the village of Karlivka, and another body near a rebel checkpoint, both in the Donetsk region. A rebel leader said 16 more people died Friday in fighting there — 10 soldiers, four rebels and two civilians — but there was no immediate way to verify his statement.

In Kiev, the Defense Ministry said 20 insurgents were killed in an attack on a convoy of government troops Thursday by about 500 rebels, the largest insurgent assault yet reported. The clash could not be independently confirmed and it was unclear why such a large attack in a populated region would have gone unreported for more than a day.

WORLD

Ex-Thai PM to be held; Senate dissolved

By **THANYARAT DOKSONE**
AND **KAY JOHNSON**
The Associated Press

BANGKOK — Thailand's coup leaders said Saturday that they would keep former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Cabinet members and anti-government protest leaders detained for up to a week to give them "time to think" and to keep the country calm. Outspoken academics also were summoned to report to the junta.

The ruling military council also dissolved the country's Senate on Saturday, stripping away the last democratic institution in the country.

The moves appear aimed at consolidating power and preventing any high-profile figures from rallying opposition to the military, which seized power Thursday after months of sometimes violent street protests and deadlock between the elected government and protesters supported by Thailand's elite establishment.

For a second day, hundreds of anti-coup protesters defied the military's ban on large gatherings, shouting slogans and waving signs Saturday outside a Bangkok cinema before moving on to Victory Monument, a major city landmark several miles away.

The demonstrators briefly confronted rows of soldiers and police who were lined up with riot shields on a road leading to the monument, with a few scuffles breaking out before most of the protesters broke away. They later were seen streaming onto the city's Skytrain elevated transit system, apparently riding over police lines to the monument.

By late afternoon, about 500 demonstrators had gathered at Victory Monument. Army and police presence was low key.

Most of Bangkok, however, remained calm on Saturday, and

there was little military presence on the streets.

Deputy army spokesman Col. Weerachon Sukondhantipik said that all those detained by the junta were being well-treated and that the aim of the military was to achieve a political compromise. He said later that "at least 100" people were in military custody, but he could not provide exact numbers or names.

"This is in a bid for everybody who is involved in the conflict to calm down and have time to think," Weerachon said. "We don't intend to limit their freedom, but it is to relieve the pressure."

The military leaders also summoned 35 other people, including more politicians, political activists and, for the first time, outspoken academics, to "maintain peace and order." It was not immediately clear whether they would be detained.

One of those on the list, Kyoto University professor of Southeast Asian studies Pavin Chachavalongpong, said by phone from Japan that he would not turn himself in. He said the summons meant the junta felt insecure.

"The military claiming to be a mediator in the Thai conflict, that is all just nonsense," he said. "This is not about paving the way for reform and democratization. We are really going back to the crudest form of authoritarianism."

The junta announced in a televised statement Saturday evening that it would assume all lawmaking power and that the Senate would be dissolved.

It had left the Senate in place when it suspended the constitution and dissolved the lower house of Parliament on Thursday, presumably in hopes that the upper house might later approve some of its measures and provide a vestige of democracy. The reason for Saturday's about-face was not known.



WASON WANICHAKORN/AP

A protester is detained by Thai soldiers during an anti-coup demonstration Saturday at the Victory Monument in Bangkok.

US halts \$3.5M in military aid to Thailand

By **MATTHEW PENNINGTON**
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is suspending \$3.5 million in military aid to Thailand, its first punitive step against the Asian country following a military coup, the State Department announced Friday.

Spokeswoman Marie Harf said the department is still reviewing a further \$7 million in direct U.S. assistance to Thailand, and an undetermined amount of aid from other global and regional programs.

The department on Friday also

recommended Americans reconsider any nonessential travel to Thailand, particularly Bangkok, due to political and social unrest and restrictions on movement, including a nighttime curfew.

Secretary of State John Kerry announced the review hours after Thursday's military takeover in Thailand, a U.S. treaty ally and close military partner. Kerry said Thursday there was no justification for the coup and urged the immediate restoration of civilian government and a return to democracy.

Harf said the suspended programs pay for weapons sales and

training for military officers.

Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Gen. Raymond Odierno spoke with his Thai counterpart, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, the coup leader, by phone late Thursday and held a "constructive conversation," said Pentagon press secretary, Rear Adm. John Kirby.

"The general made it clear that we certainly expect a return to democratic principles in Thailand just as soon as possible," Kirby said.

But the declaration of the coup has underscored the limited leverage the U.S. has with Thailand, despite their longstanding ties.

Pope opens Mideast trip lamenting Syrian conflict

By **NICOLE WINFIELD**
The Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — Pope Francis called on Saturday for an "urgent" end to the Syrian civil war and lamented the refugee crisis it has spawned as he opened a three-day trip to the Middle East.

During his first stop in Jordan, Francis also urged greater religious rights for minority Christians across the region, thanking King Abdullah II for encouraging a "climate of serene coexistence" between Christians and Muslims.

"Religious freedom is in fact a fundamental human right and I can not fail to express my hope that it will be upheld throughout the Middle East and the entire

world," he said in an opening speech to Abdullah and Jordan's religious and political leaders.

Francis' plane touched down at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport, where he was met by an honor guard, Catholic leaders and Prince Ghazi bin Mohammed, the king's chief adviser for religious and cultural affairs. He immediately headed to the king's palace in a simple, four-door sedan, a group of motorcycles riding alongside him. Small groups of people waving Jordanian and Vatican flags cheered him as he passed.

At the palace, Francis met with Abdullah, Queen Rania and their children. In his palace speech, Francis said Jordan's "generous welcome" to Syrian refugees warranted international appreciation



ANDREW MEDICHINI/AP

Pope Francis is greeted by King Abdullah II of Jordan, left, as they meet Saturday in Al Husseinii Royal Palace in Amman, Jordan.

and support.

Jordan last month opened a third refugee camp for Syrians who fled the civil war at home, evidence of the strains the conflict is creating for the coun-

try. Jordan is currently hosting 600,000 registered Syrian refugees, 10 percent of its population, but Jordanian officials estimate the real number is closer to 1.3 million.

Clinic confirms Toronto mayor Ford is in rehab

TORONTO — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford is indeed undergoing treatment at a rehab facility, the clinic in a small Ontario town has confirmed.

GreenStone Clinic Muskoka in Bala, Ontario, said in a news release Friday that Ford consented to having the facility confirm his stay.

Ford announced late last month that he was seeking treatment for an alcohol problem after a new video surfaced that appeared to show Ford smoking a crack pipe late last month. It was only the latest twist in the ongoing saga of Ford, whose notorious and frequently filmed behavior led the city council to strip him of most of his powers after he admitted last year that he had smoked crack in a "drunken stupor" and was depicted on video threatening to "murder" someone.

From The Associated Press

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

Don't get hung up on your cellphone

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
 Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
 John Panasiewicz, General Manager, Pacific
 Lt. Col. Jeff Myer, Europe commander
 Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander

By GINA BARRECA
 If your phone is smarter than you, it is not time to get a new phone: It's time to get a new life.

Many of us have a more intimate relationship with our devices than we have with members of our immediate family. We're more attached to our devices, more fond of them, responsive to them and attuned to every nuance of their tiny, soulless selves than we are to, say, our first cousins.

We remember the day we got our first computer or iPad but forget the exact year our nephew got married. We know how to upload apps but don't have a current mailing address for our best friend from high school. We've bookmarked cute puppy-meets-dolphin videos from "HappyPlace" but erased the performance by our neighbor when she sang in the community theater production of "The Fantasticks."

We know how to play "Candy Crush" but we don't know how to make folks feel comfortable by talking to them when they enter a room; we know how to Instagram our meal but have lost the art of making conversation one dinner.

I'll admit that I have a severe allergic reaction to seeing people using electronic devices at meals. It's like being allergic to nuts. Actually, as far as I'm concerned, it is being allergic to nuts.

We've seen whole groups sitting around a lovely table at a nice restaurant where every family member ages 7 to 70 is holding a square piece of plastic, eyes down, thumbs going like mad (OK, Grandpa might be using a stylus) and saying, in terms of spoken language, exactly nothing. Zip, Zoro. Nada. It's unnerving, right? If you sit at a table nearby, you find yourself speaking in low voices because the group almost looks lost in prayer, heads bowed as if their devices were hymnals.

The only person using her normal voice near that table is the server, who's been instructed by management to memorize the menu because to read the daily special from a sheet of paper might be considered unsophisticated by the patrons. Since none of the patrons bothers to look up at the server, of course, she could be crossing her eyes and sticking both index fingers in



LIPO CHING, (SAN FRANCISCO) BAR AREA NEWS GROUP/MCT

Randy Moore, right, and Dylan Moore talk about how they use their smartphones at their home in San Jose, Calif.

her ears while wiggling them around as she explains how the scrod is prepared. So much for ambience. Who'd know?

And don't tell me that little Riley is having more interaction with Grandpa via "Pet Rescue Saga" than she would be if they were talking to each other. You know that's ridiculous.

That's like saying, "I'm not fat, I'm big-boned" or "I'm on a gluten-free diet not to be thin but for health reasons." Sure, in some cases it is true — but you know what I'm saying, right? How many people would be on a gluten-free diet if it immediately made you gain, say, 100 pounds? Some would, but not as many. And sometimes Grandpa and Riley are better off not talking, but not usually.

But right now in our culture we justify an odd collection of behaviors effectively as efficiently enough to make them appear ordinary and convincingly "normal."

We look up information we should know and we rely on a kind of technological exoskeleton to keep us upright rather than strengthening the core of our knowledge. As we overmedicate ourselves and become less physically resilient, so we become less

intellectually resilient when we overtech ourselves.

When we rely on a computer to remember the name of that actress from that movie, we miss out on the glorious feeling when we retrieve it on our own. Here's how George Eliot described it: "That action of memory had suddenly completed itself without conscious effort — a common experience, agreeable as a completed sneeze, even if the name remembered is of no value."

It's too easy, there's no fun. And it's our fault. Technology, like nature, is neither friend nor foe. It is profoundly and astonishingly indifferent; human beings are no smarter, and no less smart, than we once were or will ever be.

Technology is simply there — to be made our servant or our master, as we see fit — and we are responsible choosing how we use it.

Now that you've finished reading, please look up.

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Take a skeptical view of telecom merger mania

The Miami Herald

It's hard to blame consumers if their initial reaction to the proposed \$48.5-billion merger of AT&T and DirecTV is to reach for their wallets and hold on tight. Mergers usually leave the public with fewer choices and lead to higher prices.

What makes this merger of vital importance to consumers is the near universal demand for the companies' services. Turned off by airline mergers and rising fares? In a pinch, there are still road and rail alternatives. But these days, almost everyone buys service from a telecom company, unless they're completely off the grid, which is both unlikely and impractical, or go back to rabbit ears (LOL).

And, in most cases, there are all the rage in the telecom world. The business of providing pay TV, Internet connections and phone service is coming down to a handful of industry giants.

The Comcast-Time Warner deal, worth \$45 billion, was announced three months ago. In that agreement, which is awaiting government approval, both partners made much of the fact that although they are both cable systems, each serves different geographical areas, with little overlap.

Thus, they argued, a merger would not amount to decreased competition for individual consumers.

The proposed consolidation between AT&T, the No. 2 seller of high-speed Internet service, and DirecTV, the largest satellite video provider, is a different deal. They compete head-to-head for TV viewers in 10 of the 20 largest metropolitan markets.

To the claim that this would reduce choices for the affected consumers, executives at both firms argue that there are benefits for both sides. AT&T's wireless customers, for example, would be able to tap into DirecTV video on their smartphones. And DirecTV customers would get better broadband, wireless and national bundle services.

To sweeten the offer for regulators and members of Congress, AT&T promised to expand its broadband service to 15 million new customer locations in rural parts of its service areas, as well as offering stand-alone broadband for three years to those who choose to go without bundled services — "over the top," or OTT, in telecom jargon.

We particularly like the latter promise. These are undeniable benefits for some consumers, for a limited time in some instances. But there are significant con-

cerns, as well, in the rapidly changing telecom world from all of these proposed combinations.

If the Comcast-Time Warner merger is approved and AT&T/DirecTV's is not, that would leave one behemoth in the telecom world standing alone, with an ability to overwhelm its competitors while hapless consumers watch impotently from the sidelines. If that merger is approved, then finding an equally robust competitor would only make sense.

Green-lighting both, however, would provide an incentive for all the other players to get into the chat. That includes Sprint and T-Mobile, Charter, Verizon and the Dish Network, among others. It's hard to see how consumers benefit as individual companies morph into telecom giants. Consider, as well, that much of the innovation in the telecom world, which began with the breakup of the old Bell System more than 30 years ago, has been driven by competition.

For regulators, that should be the bottom line. The promised benefits have to be weighed against the obvious risk to consumers. Do so, they may well conclude that it's time to hit the pause button on merger mania.

OPINION

Should Syria's Assad face trial as a war criminal?

Los Angeles Times

Reports have circulated over the last several weeks that Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces are gaining the upper hand in that nation's ugly civil war — and are once again committing atrocities using internationally banned chemical weapons. This time, the allegation is that the regime is dropping chlorine gas bombs from helicopters over civilian targets.

If an investigation underway by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons confirms the latest allegation — leveled by France, among others — it will be time to bring Assad before the International Criminal Court to answer war crimes charges.

Why now? Why not a year ago, when Assad used chemical weapons, including deadly sarin gas? Because until recently, there remained a chance — slim though it was — for a diplomatic solution to the Syrian crisis and for Assad's negotiated exit.

Knowing that a jail cell awaited him at The Hague if he left the country would have been a disincentive for Assad to leave voluntarily. But the closer Assad comes to prevailing in the war, the less need there is to keep that diplomatic exit open.

Members of the U.N. Security Council are reportedly drafting a letter to refer Assad's actions to the ICC. One challenge will be to win the backing of the United States; to that end, the letter has apparently been written specifically to allay U.S. concerns that American troops or the Israeli government will somehow end up before the tribunal.

The second — and far greater — challenge will be to win Russian support. As one of the council's five permanent members, Russia has a veto, and President Vladimir Putin has been in Assad's corner from the start of the civil war. As his behavior in Ukraine demonstrates, Putin clearly doesn't mind flouting international conventions. We hope he at least rec-



COURTESY OF THE ALEPPO MEDIA CENTER/AP

Buildings are destroyed by a Syrian government airstrike in Aleppo, Syria, on May 17.

ognizes that the world must stand united against chemical weapons, and that Assad needs to be called to account.

There is narrow cause for optimism. It was Russian intervention (after the threat of U.S. military action) that led Assad to admit last fall that he had chemical weapons and to accept their supervised removal from his country. That process has

progressed more slowly than anticipated. Although the last shipment remains stalled, international monitors are hopeful that the stockpiles will be gone.

Chlorine, because of its pervasive use in industry, is not covered under the reporting requirements of the international Chemical Weapons Convention. But that convention, which Syria signed when it

promised to give up chemical weapons, does ban using chlorine gas as a weapon. If the investigation finds the gas was used, Assad must be held accountable. The Security Council should put the war crimes referral to a vote and force Russia's hand. If Russia vetoes it, then at least the world will be able to see who stands for humanity and who stands against it.

Why the US must update use-of-force authorization

By BOB CORKER

One week after the 9/11 attacks, Congress authorized the president "to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001."

More than 12 years later, the president continues to rely on this 60-word authorization to fight terrorist organizations around the world. This week, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on this subject, the first step in an effort to reassert congressional oversight of this issue, which has fundamentally changed from the initial hunt for Osama bin Laden.

A recent State Department report revealed how the diminishment of al-Qaida's central leadership corresponds with the growing strength and proliferation of its affiliates and other terrorist groups, contributing to a 43 percent increase in global terrorist attacks in 2013. Today's terrorists may invoke the brand and methods of al-Qaida, but they have evolved in ways that suggest that our legal foundation for conducting drone strikes or raids is outdated and inadequate.

For example, al-Qaida's recent expulsion of its ruthless Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant from its ranks has forced the Obama administration's lawyers to ques-

tion whether, under the auspices of the 9/11 law, the president still has the authority to target that group.

In other words, there are legitimate doubts about whether the president can take necessary actions against the most dangerous terrorist group in Syria in a conflict that — according to recent congressional testimony from the director of national intelligence — has attracted more than 7,000 foreign fighters from 50 countries, some with aspirations to attack the U.S. homeland.

This follows the testimony of Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who conceded that the terrorists responsible for killing four Americans in Benghazi are not covered under the current resolution.

These incidents seem to suggest that the September 2001 Authorization on the Use of Military Force is too narrow and that the president is hamstringing by stale semantic distinctions. But there are also legitimate reasons to believe it is too broad. Both the Obama and Bush administrations have stretched the resolution's authority well beyond its words to go after groups that have little to no connection to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Aware of these problems, the Obama administration has hinted that the 9/11 AUMF might expire, at least in part, once

combat operations ease in Afghanistan and the president draws down U.S. forces. Yet the administration has offered no legal justification for how important counterterrorism operations could then continue in places such as Somalia and Yemen — nor has it explained what would happen to enemy combatants held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Given the complexity and importance of these issues, I welcomed President Barack Obama's May 2013 speech in which he aptly pointed out that "the threat has shifted and evolved from the one that came to our shores on 9/11" and pledged to work with Congress on revising the 12-year-old resolution.

Unfortunately, the president has since failed to engage Congress on the issue.

Two of his top lawyers went before the Senate this week and said they had been cleared to discuss the issue with senators but then refused to do so. The administration's witnesses could not say whether the president acknowledges any limits on his executive power to use force without congressional authority, and they refused to identify which groups are and are not covered by the 2001 law.

Instead, they offered some support for repealing the 2002 Iraq AUMF. However, this doesn't address the more important challenges facing us in the evolving conflict against al-Qaida and other terrorist

groups.

An issue this critical to U.S. national security demands a robust debate to ensure that counterterrorism efforts reflect American values and laws, while respecting the president's authority and preserving the flexibility to employ covert action in appropriate circumstances. The existing authority should be both narrowed and broadened — to create a mechanism for regular congressional oversight and reporting from the administration, including a possible sunset date to revisit the law and to allow for the addition of organizations that were not involved in 9/11 but nonetheless pose a direct threat to the United States and our interests.

Absent congressional action, the president will continue to operate under an outdated authorization, leaving the door open for future presidents to claim undue and unbundled powers that will, over time, erode the balance of power fundamental to our constitutional system.

Terrorist groups with global reach will continue to present a serious threat for the foreseeable future. Rather than abdicating the responsibility for confronting them and leaving it to the executive branch — as it has done too often — Congress should take advantage of this unique opportunity to act in a bipartisan fashion.

Bob Corker, a Republican, represents Tennessee in the Senate, where he is the ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee. This article first appeared in The Washington Post.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Students nabbed for releasing crickets

PA BRIDGEVILLE — Several students will be disciplined for releasing hundreds of crickets in a western Pennsylvania high school as a senior prank. Charters Valley School District told KDKA-TV that the students involved in Thursday's prank at the high school in Bridgeville have been identified and will be disciplined. The district spokeswoman, Kara Droney, didn't say what that would entail.

School officials aren't saying how many Charters Valley High School seniors were involved, though the television station said it was about six.

School janitors and teachers were enlisted to help round up the bugs. Some of the prank was caught on school surveillance cameras.

Court allows pink slime lawsuit to proceed

SD SIOUX FALLS — ABC's news anchor Diane Sawyer, two of the network's correspondents and other defendants in a \$1.2 billion defamation lawsuit against the company related to its coverage of a meat product could be deposed following a ruling by the South Dakota Supreme Court.

The state's high court on Thursday denied a petition by the network and other defendants to review the case and largely dismiss it. The court also lifted a stay issued in April that had prevented the lawsuit's discovery process, including depositions, to begin.

The court did not express an opinion as to the merits of the appeal.

Well-behaved orphan bear cub charms police

OR PORTLAND — Police in southern Oregon held an unlikely suspect overnight: a well-behaved black bear cub.

Police Chief Don Brown said a teenage boy and his parents brought the cub to the police station in a large plastic storage bin on Monday. The boy found the cub whimpering in the bushes outside his house in the town of Myrtle Creek. He said the mother bear was nowhere in sight.

Still, Brown said it was dangerous to pick up the cub because the mother bear could have spotted him and attacked. Adult female black bears can weigh up to 300 pounds. The 12-pound female cub was "very well behaved" while spending the night at the station, Brown said.

Police and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife officials looked for the cub's mother the next day using a device that mimics a cub's distress call, but couldn't find her.

Police: Dust storm crash kills at least 6

NM DEMING — Several vehicles were involved in a crash on an interstate

THE CENSUS

115

The age of the oldest living American, Jeralean Talley is a member of a select group of the living to have been born in the 19th century. She celebrated her birthday on Friday with family and friends at a local church. Talley was born on May 23, 1899, and is the second-oldest person in the world, according to the Gerontology Research Group, which tracks the world's longest-living people.



RANDY SWALLOWS, COURTESY OF THE U.S. PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION/AP

Swooping

Greg Windmiller participates in a speed course at the United States Parachuting Association National Championships of Canopy Piloting in Zephyrhills, Fla. About 75 of the nation's best canopy pilots — also called "swoopers" — were competing.

highway in southwestern New Mexico during a dust storm, killing at least six people, the state patrol said.

The crash occurred about 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 10 in Hidalgo County, several miles from the Arizona border.

"Initial investigation has revealed that due to a severe dust storm, several vehicles, both passenger vehicles and Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV), were involved," police said in a news release.

They said six people have been confirmed dead, but the brief statement did not include any details about injuries.

Diner plans fundraiser after offensive post

WV CHARLESTON — After a customer suggested that servers at a West Virginia restaurant needed to "show more skin," the owner became offended and decided to do something about it.

Owner Daniel McCawley, of Atomic Grill in Morgantown, is

donating all proceeds from the sale of loaded potato skins this holiday weekend to a West Virginia rape crisis center network.

McCawley, who opened the barbecue restaurant last June, said a customer made the anonymous suggestion in a now-deleted post on an online review site.

McCawley, who has a wife, a 12-year-old daughter and five sisters, said the post "just kind of hit home."

Man arrested, caught with 1K pills in vehicle

RI CRANSTON — Rhode Island State Police said they arrested a Massachusetts man when they found more than 1,000 pills of suspected oxycodone in the glove compartment of his vehicle after stopping him on Interstate 95.

Christopher Legrand, 28, of Brockton, was arrested Thursday in Cranston. He was charged with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance and with driving in possession of a controlled substance.

State troopers say they pulled

Legrand over after his vehicle was seen swerving on the highway. Authorities said they searched the car after smelling marijuana and found 1,017 pills in the glove box.

Legrand was arraigned in court and ordered held without bail pending a status review on May 29. It's not clear if he has a lawyer.

Bus driver finds toddler in busy intersection

OR PORTLAND — A bus driver negotiating a busy Gresham intersection Friday spotted a toddler wearing only a diaper and T-shirt.

The child had gotten out of his apartment after his mother left for work and his father slept after a late shift.

The driver stopped and stayed with the boy until police and a social worker arrived. The social worker took the boy into temporary custody until he could be reunited with his parents two hours later.

The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled on a similar situation in

March, saying the parents of a wandering toddler were not at fault criminally after their child managed to get outside.

Surprise delivery — baby raccoons at doorstep

NY WHITE PLAINS — Someone left five well-fed baby raccoons on the doorstep of the Westchester County Health Department Friday morning, and the department said that person should call immediately to be assessed for the possibility of rabies.

The month-old raccoons were delivered to the department's office in Mount Kisco in a cage with bottles of milk, blankets and toys, the department said.

"They appear to have been well cared for and nurtured, which means that there was direct contact between these raccoons and the person or people who were caring for them," said Dr. Sherita Amler, the county health commissioner. "That's why it's important that we talk to the individual or individuals who left them to determine if they may have been potentially exposed to rabies."

From wire reports

MUSIC

NEW COUNTRY ALBUMS

Brantley Gilbert

Just As I Am (Valory)

Everybody in Nashville has been predicting Brantley Gilbert will be the next big thing in country music for a couple of years now. His new album, the long-awaited "Just As I Am," is engineered to make that little bit of soothsaying a reality.

The tracks on "Just As I Am" follow the blueprint for modern country success. There's the drinking song — first single "Bottoms Up" already is a No. 1 hit. There's a song about his hometown called "Lights of My Hometown."

He makes sure he defines himself for his female fans on the opener, "If You Want a Bad Boy," pays tribute to friends and family members who died too young ("One Hell of an Amen") and doesn't forget the all-star team-up "Small Town Throwdown" with labelmates Justin Moore and Thomas Rhett.

Gilbert had a lot to do with this formula's popularity as the writer of some of Jason Aldean's biggest hits, including "My Kinda Party" and "Dirt Road Anthem." Since then, there's been a debate about the direction of country, and Gilbert's third album is certainly fodder for the discussion.

There's a difference between following a formula and becoming cliché, however, and Gilbert easily skirts that line with his songwriting, his sonic choices and a more varied vocal approach on the Dann Huff-produced album. Gilbert co-wrote all 11 tracks with the help of some of Nashville's more distinctive songwriters, and feels more invested than some of his songwriting peers.

"Bottoms Up" is more melancholy love song than a sloppy drunk anthem, and Gilbert's vocal is subtle. The laid-back guitar line on that leads off opener "Bad Boy" is an invitation to listen for interesting instrumentation throughout. "Hometown" builds powerfully with a gospel choir wrapped around a towering guitar solo. And a melancholy line throughout the album finds a home in album-closing "My Faith in You," a song that reaffirms Gilbert's faith after a difficult period that's included the end of his engagement and struggles with alcohol.

If you have bought into mainstream country's modern sound, "Just As I Am" will be one of your year's biggest albums. If not, settle in — this one's going to be on the radio for a while.

— Chris Talbott
The Associated Press



CHARLES SYKES, INVISION/AP

Dolly Parton emphasizes banjo, fiddle and gospel-style harmony — a sound that has served her well in the past — on "Blue Smoke."

Bringing back the bluegrass

Parton turns out her best album in years

Dolly Parton, at age 68, creates her best album in more than a dozen years by returning to the bluegrass-flavored sound that worked so well for her at the turn of the century.

"Blue Smoke" succeeds partly because the Country Music Hall of Fame member's songwriting pen remains sharp. "Unlikely Angel" and the family melodrama "Miss You-Miss Me" join the three-part harmony of the title cut in adding to Parton's considerable legacy as a songwriter. The emphasis on banjo, fiddle and gospel-style harmony is reminiscent of 1999's "The Grass Is Blue," a Parton career highlight. Her update of the traditional murder ballad "Banks of the Ohio" fits the bill, too.

Parton expands her musical palette with two risky covers. She gives Bob Dylan's "Don't Think Twice" a bluegrass treatment, turning Dylan's bitter sneer into a melancholy fatterwell. She also transforms Don Jovi's "Lay Your Hands On Me" into a surprisingly effective Baptist

**Dolly Parton**

Blue Smoke (Sony Masterworks)

rave-up.

The album could have done without the silly "Lover Du Jour" and the tacked-on duets "You Can't Make Old Friends" with Kenny Rogers and "From Here To The Moon And Back" with Willie Nelson that previously appeared on other albums. But overall, "Blue Smoke" is another triumph from one of American music's most treasured artists.

— Michael McCall
The Associated Press

Hunter Hayes

Storyline (Atlantic)

At 22, Hunter Hayes isn't one for subtlety on his sophomore album: His up-tempo songs ("Tattoo," "Storyline") race with breathless rushes of lyrics and fast, busy arrangements; his ballads are intensely dramatic, whether he takes on self-esteem (the Top 10 country hit "Invisible") or the mysteries of attraction ("Still Fallin").

The Grammy-nominated rising star is following up his 2011 successful self-titled introductory record by once again co-writing, co-producing and playing several instruments on "Storyline."

To his credit, Hayes avoids contemporary country clichés: There are no pickup trucks, dirt roads or beer drinking in these songs. Still, even though the opening "Wild Card" boasts that he's a crazy guy, Hayes could be forgiven for loosening up and showing some of that wildness on record.

That said, Hayes is an inventive country-pop songwriter and



performer. He and co-producer Dann Huff cram songs with clever sonic twists; they even include a couple of short musical interludes, as if the other dozen tracks don't provide room for all of the instrumental ideas.

Hayes is striving for something more distinctive than radio hits; he wants to inspire, to create something spectacular. "Storyline" doesn't quite fulfill that ambition, but fans will find the collection entertaining. And there's enough to suggest that the multitalented boy wonder still packs plenty of potential.

— Michael McCall
The Associated Press

Sturgill Simpson

Metamodern Sounds in Country Music (Thirty Tigers)

The album title is an intriguing one, and the first number, "Turtles (All the Way Down)," is certainly a trippy affair, with its mentions of "reptile aliens" and mind-altering substances, as well as Jesus, Buddha, and the Devil. But don't be fooled: On his second album, Sturgill Simpson remains hard-core country at heart — more Waylon than way out.

Simpson might have more on his mind than the average honky-tonk or new-country hunk — "Gonna transmigrate to my destination/Far beyond time in an eternal dream," he sings on "Just Let Go." But his musings are tethered mostly to chip-kicking barroom twang, and



he's not above delivering such age-old sentiments as this from the swaggering "Life of Sin": "Gonna drink myself silly/Only way for this hillbilly." Like any good country boy, Simpson can also deliver a dose of straight-up gospel, as he does with "A Little Light Within."

— Nick Cristiano
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Rascal Flatts

Rewind (Big Machine)

Rascal Flatts named its ninth album "Rewind," but musically the country-pop trio takes a much-needed step forward.

Punching up arrangements with rock energy ("Payback") and synth-pop flourishes ("Honeyuckle Lazy"), the band undergoes a contemporary country makeover as it celebrates its 15th year. The result makes for a more fun, mature and diverse sound — washing away the stale taste of recent outings.

On "Rewind," lead singer Gary LeVox, bassist-pianist-singer Jay DeMarcus and guitarist Joe Don Rooney take a bigger hand in their production, cutting more than half of the album on their own.

Led by Demarcus, who has co-produced albums by Jo Dee Messina and the rock band Chicago, the trio moves the needle forward on the engaging "DJ Tonight" and the title cut, a recent



country Top 10 hit.

The group also brought in pop veteran Howard Benson, who produced five cuts, including the dance floor-ready "Powerful Stuff." Old hand Dann Huff, who had produced the band since 2006, worked with the group on the catchy "Life's a Song," which sounds more like the old Rascal Flatts. But what makes "Rewind" exciting is that Rascal Flatts has fast-forwarded into the future.

— Michael McCall
The Associated Press



MUSIC



Courtesy of The Fun Star

Telling Ghost Stories

Martin works through his feelings on Coldplay's gloomy new album

Ghost Stories" is Coldplay's first album since lead singer Chris Martin's separation from Gwyneth Paltrow launched a thousand "conscious uncoupling" jokes. Some of the best albums in history have been born out of such domestic strife. But for Coldplay, which has always treated romantic misery as an all-you-can-eat buffet, an album full of gloomy songs about love gone wrong is in itself unremarkable — the band was making divorce albums before anybody actually got married.

"Ghost Stories" is stripped down and slippery, a pointed desecration from their last album, "Mylo Xyloto." Both incredibly popular and intensely disliked, "Mylo Xyloto" was outsized and overproduced, a helium balloon of an album that existed in a state of peak Coldplay. The band's basic formula — ringing anthems, earnest-but-vague lyrics — was inflated to the point of absurdity.

In its preference for acoustic ballads instead of stadium-ready electro-pop, "Ghost Stories" is a retrenchment, a conscious return to the relative simplicity of



Coldplay
Ghost Stories (Parlophone Records)

the band's debut, "Parachutes." There's a great exercise in Technicolor dubstep-like pop courtesy of Avicii ("A Sky Full of Stars"), but everything else feels like a retreat. It's as if Coldplay has decided they want to be less like U2 in 1991 and more like Coldplay in 2001, as if no time had elapsed, and no real artistic progress had been made, in the years since.

There is less of a sense of puffed-up grandeur than any of the band's recent outings, but grandeur was something Coldplay did well, if too often. Grandeur can cover a multitude of sins. These Spartan songs — elongated, intimate and quiet — lay bare every weakness of melody (Martin used to write superlative ones; he seems to have given up) and songwriting.

Literally, "Ghost Stories" is

fascinating (in theory, at least) for the same reasons it's so vicariously depressing. This isn't Coldplay's usual conspicuous mopery; this is a public bloodletting. "True Love" is a raw, synth-driven mid-tempo ballad about the disintegration of a relationship, driven by Martin's spectral falsetto ("Tell me you love me/If you don't, then lie"). The similarly themed "Ink," loping and percussive, feels like something Jack Johnson might make if he were British and sad all the time. Its lyrics read like bad "Twilight" fan fiction ("All I know/Is that I'm lost/in your fire below").

Martin is as polarizing a figure in his world as Paltrow is in hers, and "Ghost Stories" humanizes them while still managing to be universal in its reach. Sometimes it does this too much: Martin is a master of lyrical generalities, adept at telegraphing basic emotions — I'm lonely, I'm sad, I'll meet you in the rain. I'll fly away like a bird — but unequal to the deep dive a truly classic breakup album requires.

Still, there has never been such a revealing relationship album written by one celebrity we felt as if we knew about another celebrity we also felt as if we knew, even if its revelations might not all be intentional. This isn't just an album of garment-rendering breakup songs, it's an album with giddy newfound love songs. Songs writ-

ten about someone who clearly isn't Gwyneth Paltrow, by someone who was married to Gwyneth Paltrow at the time.

So it's awkward. "A Sky Full of Stars" ("Cause you get brighter the more it gets dark/I'm gonna give you my heart"), an unofficial sequel to "Yellow," is as anthemic, and as happy, as things get, which is to say, not very. "Magic" rides the mildest electro pulse imaginable, but it's one of the few tracks that feels like it was made by a band. "Ghost Stories" can come uncomfortably close to resembling a Chris Martin solo album.

With sometime collaborator Brian Eno (he produced the fine "Viva la Vida," and contributed to the tolerable parts of "Mylo Xyloto") absent, and guitarist Jonny Buckland unwisely mimicked ("Ghost Stories" belongs to his synths, pianos and bass), Martin is left to his own devices. The result is a great premise chained to an album of modest pleasures, its lyrics too ethereal to carry much charge, its melodies too mild to prop them up. As a piece of art, "Ghost Stories" is an exercise in frustrated potential. As a historical document of a celebrity divorce as a slow-motion car crash, it's not much either, but it's the best we have.

— Allison Stewart

Special to The Washington Post

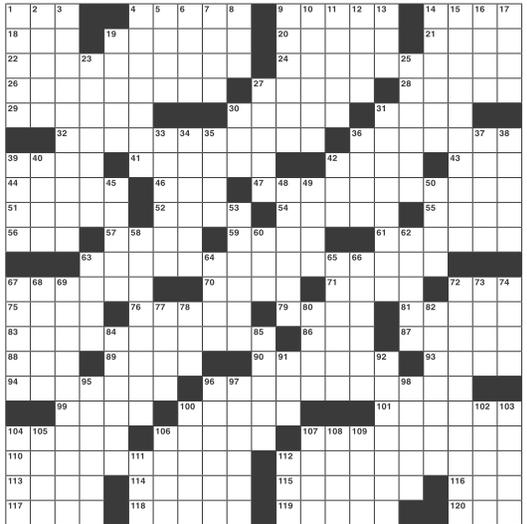
CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

OH, WHO?

BY JOE DIPIETRO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pat
 - 4 Nosed around
 - 9 Univ. divisions
 - 14 Early third-century year
 - 18 Univ. in Troy, N.Y.
 - 19 Quarter back, possibly
 - 20 Like some workers
 - 21 Edison's middle name
 - 22 Irish chemist?
 - 24 Irish arborist?
 - 26 Harvey of Hollywood
 - 27 China's Zhou ____
 - 28 How pastrami is usually ordered
 - 29 Serenaded
 - 30 "Scary Movie," for one
 - 31 Love letters?
 - 32 Irish secretary?
 - 36 Targets for a delivery
 - 39 One may take you in
 - 41 Mists
 - 42 Bird on a Canadian dollar
 - 43 All-human bridge?
 - 44 Barely bite
 - 46 When the day's done, to Domne
 - 47 Irish algebra teacher?
 - 51 Missile Command maker
 - 52 Nodoges
 - 54 Big name in restaurant reviews
 - 55 "Hard ____" (nautical command)
 - 56 Digs of pigs
 - 57 When the day's done, to Denis
 - 59 End of a game?
 - 61 Long, angry complaint
 - 63 Irish woodworker?
 - 67 Lie
 - 70 Part of a dishwasher
 - 71 California county or its seat
 - 72 Beat
 - 75 Jack-in-the-pulpit, e.g.
 - 76 Finger-pointer
 - 79 ____ City (Baghdad area)
 - 81 Lie
 - 83 Irish mountain climber?
 - 86 Family nickname
 - 87 Canadian blockhead
 - 88 Suffix with zinc
 - 89 Victory goddess
 - 90 Set crowd, maybe
 - 93 Where the Storting meets
 - 94 Light reddish-brown horses
 - 96 Irish dogsled racer?
 - 99 1979 Roman
 - 101 Places for fuel
 - 101 Places for panels
 - 104 Fall shade
 - 106 Some investment bonds, for short
 - 107 Band with the 1974 No. 1 hit "The Night Chicago Died"
 - 110 Irish health care worker?
 - 112 Irish painter?
 - 113 Do sometimes called a "natural"
 - 114 Support
 - 115 "So true"
 - 116 Yard filler, maybe
 - 117 Smokeling locale
 - 118 Director von Sternberg
 - 119 Put up with
 - 120 "____, not!"
 - 16 Tony-winning actress Judith
 - 17 Still-life subject
 - 19 Jalai basket
 - 23 ____ Johansson, 1959-60 world heavyweight champion
 - 25 AAA service
 - 27 Protestant denom.
 - 30 One who bugs people?
 - 31 Riddles with bullets
 - 33 Christmas Day
 - 34 Compact
 - 35 Positive principle
 - 36 Versatile bean
 - 37 Pith helmet
 - 38 Voiced some pleasure
 - 39 Breeze
 - 40 Quote
 - 42 Advantage, with "up"
 - 45 "Tony n" ____ Wedding"
 - 48 Springfield Plateau area
 - 49 Pour
 - 50 Numismatist's classification
 - 53 Preinstalled iPhone browser
 - 58 Setting set
 - 60 Montreal suburb
 - 62 Hard drive malfunction
 - 63 Peep or quince
 - 64 Utah city
 - 65 One of the Gandhis
 - 66 Foot bone
 - 67 Indian princesses
 - 82 Got sick
 - 84 "I'll be right with you"
 - 85 Some distance races
 - 91 Marks (out)
 - 92 Depressed-looking
 - 95 Cover with new shingles
 - 96 She married Bobby on "The Sopranos"
 - 97 Social welfare org.
 - 98 Eastern wrap: Var.
 - 100 Bonito relatives
 - 102 Possible water contaminator
 - 103 Tailored
 - 104 Barbra's "Funny Girl" co-star
 - 105 ____ noir
 - 106 "The Hunter (Catalan Landscape)" painter
 - 107 Fertilizer ingredient
 - 108 Bit of stagnant-water growth
 - 109 Lucrative Internet biz
 - 111 War on Poverty prez
 - 112 What can open files?



- 68 Orphic hymn charmer
- 69 "Let's shake!"
- 72 Prepare the first course, say
- 73 Pitcher Hershey
- 74 Lighting expert?
- 77 "Great!" birds
- 78 Marie Curie, e.g.: Abbr.
- 80 About
- 82 Got sick
- 84 "I'll be right with you"
- 85 Some distance races
- 91 Marks (out)
- 92 Depressed-looking
- 95 Cover with new shingles
- 96 She married Bobby on "The Sopranos"
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- 112 What can open files?

GUNSTON STREET



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

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE



KNOWLEDGE

IS POWER.

THE RUPTURED DUCK

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PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG

PACIFIC STORM TRACKER

OMBUDSMAN

GADGETS & CHARTS



Kyodo News/AP

The April 28 issue of the popular manga comic "Oishinbo," right, features a character who develops a nosebleed after visiting Fukushima. The edition is setting off a public debate in Japan about the health effects of radiation after the 2011 nuclear disaster.

Radiation debate reignites as manga shows nosebleed

By YURI KAGEYAMA
The Associated Press

A journalist finds his nose doesn't stop bleeding after visiting the meltdown-stricken Fukushima nuclear plant. He also learns others suffer similar symptoms.

The scene from popular manga comic "Oishinbo," published last month, has set off a hot public debate in Japan — a nation still traumatized by the world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

Local governments immediately protested the comic, saying it fosters unfounded fears of radiation.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe chimed in over the weekend, reassuring the public there was no proof of a link between radiation and such illnesses. "The government will make the best effort to take action against baseless rumors," he said.

Undeterred by the ruckus, Tokyo-based publisher Shogakukan added a special 10-page segment to weekly Big Comic Spirits magazine, published May 19, featuring criticism it had received as well as opinion from radiation experts.

Editor Hiroshi Murayama acknowledged he had been unsure about publishing the manga, subtitled "The Truth of Fukushima," because he anticipated people would be offended. But he had

decided that voice needed to be heard, he said.

"We hope the various views on the latest 'Oishinbo' will lead to a constructive debate into assessing our future," he said in the special segment.

So far, there has been no radiation illnesses related to confinement around nuclear plant workers or residents of Fukushima. The nuclear disaster began three years ago in March 2011, when a giant tsunami disabled backup generators at three reactors. Entire towns around the plant remain no-go zones.

The Fukushima prefectural government issued a protest against "Oishinbo," slamming it as misleading and fanning the fears about the safety of the area's fish and agricultural products.

Although nosebleeds might be related to radiation, people outside the evacuation zone in Fukushima are not being exposed to such high levels of radiation, it said in a statement.

Also featured was Ikuro Anzai, honorary professor at Ritsumeikan University and radiation expert, who said he was aware of talk in Fukushima about nosebleeds but stressed there was no scientific data to draw conclusions.

Fukushima is monitoring the health of its residents, and carrying out thyroid checks on those ages 18 and under.

GADGET WATCH

Devices worthy of dear ol' Dad

By GREG ELLMAN
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

I guarantee that any of the three products you will read about below will make a great present for most any dad on next month's Father's Day.

Logitech's Harmony Smart Keyboard is a one-touch streaming media control, universal remote and a keyboard that replaces the need for a set-top box system. The keyboard eliminates the usual irritation most of us experience when using a set-top box such as Apple TV or Roku, when we're forced into the cumbersome process of inputting username and passwords with a remote, scrolling around for one letter at a time.

Think of the smart keyboard as a control center, which works off of a pair of AA batteries. Use it like any other keyboard, although it does take just a few minutes to get used to since you are essentially using it as your remote.

All the keys you would expect are there with letters and numbers across the top. A trackpad replaces numbers on the right side.

Also included is the Harmony Hub, the brain of the system, which accepts signals from the keyboard and turns them into wireless commands (Bluetooth, IR or Wi-Fi) that your existing devices understand. Logitech states this will support more than 225,000 devices including program services such as Netflix or Hulu on devices such as Apple TV, Xbox, or PS3, to name just a few.

The Harmony app makes your iOS or Android smartphone an entertainment remote control for your personal favorites and up to 50 of your favorite channels.

Since I'm not a gamer, I'm pretty much locked into DIRECTV and Apple TV. So I tested the keyboard system out with my Apple TV and it was as simple as advertised.

Logitech's tech support is right there on the

page for the Smart Keyboard. This includes videos on setup, forums and a knowledge base.
Online: logitech.com, \$149.99

The AwoX Strimlight B-10 light bulb and Bluetooth speakers were demonstrated for me at a trade show earlier this year, but it's a whole lot cooler trying it out in my own house with my own music. Just plug the LED bulb into any lamp. Voila! You now have a speaker lamp.

The multifunctional, eco-friendly LED light bulb measures just short of 3.5 inches in diameter and has an integrated Bluetooth speaker in the center to stream wireless music right from the light fixture.

The speaker's specs are: 10 watts, 80hm (range: 2000Hz to 20,000Hz), 2 inches in diameter.

An included IR remote controls the light (on/off/dimming) along with the speaker volume. The setup consists of screwing in the light bulb (standard E26 or E27 socket) and then pairing the speaker with any Bluetooth enabled-device.

As for the long-lasting LED lighting, it's 110-240v, a 40W incandescent equivalent.
Online: awox.com, \$99

The Jabra Rox Wireless (Bluetooth 4.0) ear-phones are worthy of the Jabra name.

The pair of speakers are at opposite ends of a wire, which has a three-button remote integrated into the cable. Each speaker has a built-in magnet enabling them to be attached and turned off. Just separate them to turn back on.

An omni-directional microphone with a noise filter is also built into the wireless headphones for hands-free calling. There's a USB charging port on the left year and a battery status indicator.

You get a bunch of different sized ear tips to get the right fit along with a carrying case.

Online: jabra.com; \$129.99, available in black or white



MCT

Logitech's Harmony Smart Keyboard offers one-touch streaming media control, a universal remote and a keyboard, replacing the need for a set-top box system.

ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 albums on the iTunes Store for May 21:

1. "Ghost Stories," Coldplay
2. "Just As I Am," Brantley Gilbert
3. "The Fault In Our Stars," (Music From the Motion Picture), Various Artists
4. "Turn Blue," The Black Keys
5. "Behind the Light" (Deluxe Version), Phillip Phillips
6. "Native," OneRepublic
7. "XCAPE" (Deluxe), Michael Jackson
8. "...And Then You Shot Your Cousin," The Roots
9. "5 Seconds of Summer" (Bonus Track Version), 5 Seconds of Summer
10. "The New Classic" (Deluxe Version), Iggy Azalea

— Compiled by MCT

SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify for May 21-18:

1. Iggy Azalea, "Fancy"
2. Ariana Grande, "Problem"
3. Calvin Harris, "Summer"
4. John Legend, "All of Me"
5. DJ Snake & Lil Jon, "Turn Down for What"
6. Disclosure, "Latch"
7. Katy Perry, "Dark Horse"
8. Jason Derulo, "Talk Dirty" — feat. 2 Chainz
9. Am I Wrong, "Nico & Vinz"
10. Bastille, "Pompeii"

— Compiled by The Associated Press

ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for May 21:

1. "The LEGO Movie"
2. "Lone Survivor"
3. "The Monuments Men"
4. "3 Days to Kill"
5. "RoboCop"
6. "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit"
7. "Her"
8. "That Awkward Moment"
9. "The Bling Ring"
10. "Pompeii"



— Compiled by MCT

VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer rank the top 10 Wii U games for May:

1. "Mario Kart 8," Nintendo
2. "Child of Light," Ubisoft
3. "Donkey Kong Country: Tropical Freeze," Nintendo
4. "Super Mario 3D World," Nintendo
5. "CastleStorm," Zen Studios
6. "Lego The Movie Videogame," Warner Bros.
7. "Dr. Luigi," Nintendo
8. "Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag," Ubisoft
9. "Deus Ex: Human Revolution — Director's Cut," Square Enix
10. "Lego Marvel Super Heroes," Warner Bros.

— Compiled by MCT

APPS

Top 5 paid apps for May 21:

- ANDROID
1. Monument Valley
 2. B.B.I. Baseball 1/4
 3. TV Portal Chromecast Plugin
 4. Magazine Mogul
 5. Icebreaker: A Viking Voyage
- Top 5 paid apps for May 21:
- APPLE
1. Minecraft — Pocket Edition
 2. GoodReader 4
 3. Table Tennis Touch
 4. LEGO Batman: DC Super Heroes
 5. Blek

— Compiled by MCT

LIFESTYLE



PHOTOS BY PATRICK FARRELL/Capital News Service

Each day, goats eat approximately 20 percent of their body weight, making them ideal for clearing property. They also provide free fertilizer for the farm.

A grass-roots effort

More farmers turn to goats as a natural way to clear vegetation

By PATRICK FARRELL
Capital News Service

Have you herd? Goats will soon be munching their way through spring lawns, as property owners trade machinery and labor crews for hungry, four-legged landscapers ready to decimate any vegetation in their way.

Mary Bowen, owner of Green Goats and Prosperity Acres farm in Sunderland, Md., is putting her herd of more than 70 goats to work from May to October, using them to clear overgrown vegetation in private and public areas.

Unlike traditional land-clearing methods such as herbicide treatments and excavation services, which can have adverse effects on the environment, goats offer an environmentally friendly alternative.

Poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac are some of the goats' favorite vegetation choices, making the animals perfect for jobs in highly concentrated areas of poisonous plants that humans wouldn't dare tackle themselves.

Bowen founded Green Goats three years ago, with the intention of providing a service that would benefit both the environment and the state.

For years the Bowen family had been showing goats, along with cattle and horses, at local 4-H shows around Maryland. "I wanted to be able to do something with the goats other than showing them," Bowen said. "I actually wanted to utilize them to do what they naturally do, which is forage."



Mary Bowen, owner of Green Goats and Prosperity Acres farm in Sunderland, Md., hopes to emulate the success of goat businesses in other parts of the country.

After linking up with Enrique Escobar, a small ruminant specialist and assistant professor at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, Bowen was able to make her plan a reality.

During a workshop in which Escobar recounted his experience with using goats for land clearing projects in Oklahoma, Bowen saw the potential in bringing the practices to Maryland.

"I decided I wanted to be able to develop this business, because I had heard in other states, particularly California, where they use the goats to clear out for fire-breaks in the park services. And that was what I really wanted to be able to start doing," Bowen said. "Something that is good for our community ... good for our state."

Bowen noted that when using goats, there is no need to dispose of debris, no pollution from machinery and no need to acquire land clearing permits that might be required for a traditional excavation crew. In addition, the goats provide free fertilizer.

"Sometimes you have to use herbicides ... there's just no other way to get around it, I understand that," she said, "but if we can reduce the amount of herbicides that are used to almost nothing, that's what I prefer — and the goats can obliterate any job we've put them on so far."

Brian Knox, owner of Eco-Goats, based in Davidsonville, Md., uses his herd to run a vegetation control and land clearing business much like Bowen's.

As a natural resource consul-

tant and the president of Sustainable Resource Management Inc., Knox started his business after one of his clients mentioned that they were looking for a way to put their livestock to use.

Knox says what followed was an "experiment that was wildly successful" — one that would eventually take over his summers as a full-time business. According to Knox, the popularity of these businesses is on the rise.

Knox said he has consulted goat owners from all over the country, including Indiana, Oregon and Pennsylvania, to help farmers establish similar businesses.

Goats eat up to 20 percent of their body weight every day, and the length of each project depends on property size and the amount of vegetation — also dictating



Jacqueline Bowen, 14, who helps her mother, Mary, run Green Goats, holds a baby goat. Jacqueline is in charge of naming every goat in the herd.

how many goats are needed.

Bowen runs the business with her two children, Jacqueline, 14 and Jacob, 12, who help take care of the goats and set up each job — which is fairly simple, as Bowen only needs to fence in the goats, provide water and leave the animals to take care of the rest.

In the past, the goats have worked on a variety of projects ranging from historic sites to golf courses. With publicity surrounding goat landscapers on the rise, both Bowen and Knox are anticipating a busy summer.

"I certainly am seeing a lot of inquiries this year from all over the place," Knox said. "I usually get some, but right now it seems that there is way more interest than past years. To most people, goats are pretty cool!"

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Visa, MasterCard push for chip cards

By BREE FOWLER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Visa and MasterCard are renewing a push to speed the adoption of microchips into U.S. credit and debit cards in the wake of recent, high-profile data breaches, including this week's revelation that hackers stole consumer data from eBay's computer systems.

Card processing companies argue that a move away from the black magnetic strips on the backs of credit cards would eliminate a substantial amount of U.S. credit card fraud. They say it's time to offer U.S. consumers the greater protections microchips provide by joining Canada, Mexico and most of Western Europe in using cards with the more advanced technology.

Chips aren't perfect, said Carolyn Balfany, MasterCard's group head for U.S. product delivery, but the extra barrier they present is one of the reasons criminals often choose to target U.S.-issued

cards, whose magnetic strips are easy to replicate.

"Typically, fraudsters are going to go to the path of least resistance," Balfany said.

The chip technology hasn't been adopted in the U.S. because of costs and disputes over how the network would operate. Retailers have long balked at paying for new cash registers and back office systems to handle the new cards. There have been clashes between retailers, card issuers and processors over which processing networks will get access to the new system and whether to stick with a signature-based system or to move to one that requires a personal identification number instead. These technical decisions impact how much retailers and customers have to pay — and how much credit card issuers make — each time a card is used.

The disputes have now largely been resolved. And the epic breach of Target's computer systems in December, which involved

the theft of 40 million debit and credit card numbers, helped garner support for chip-based cards among retailers who were previously put off by the costs.

Chip cards are safer, argue supporters, because unlike magnetic strip cards that transfer a credit card number when they are swiped at a point-of-sale terminal, chip cards use a one-time code that moves between the chip and the retailer's register. The result is a transfer of data that is useless to anyone except the parties involved. Chip cards, say experts, are also nearly impossible to copy.

For its part, Target is accelerating its \$100 million plan to roll out chip-based credit card technology in its nearly 1,800 stores. New payment terminals will appear in stores by September, six months ahead of schedule. Last month, the retailer announced that it will team up with MasterCard to issue branded Target payment cards equipped with chip tech-

nology early in 2015. The move will make Target the first major U.S. retailer with its own branded chip-based cards.

Even so, the protections chips provide only go so far, according to opponents who note that chips don't prevent fraud in online transactions, in which consumers often enter credit card numbers into online forms. Some opponents also point to other technologies, such as point-to-point encryption, as better long-term solutions.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (May 26)	\$1,3980
Dollar buys (May 26)	€0.7153
British pound (May 26)	£1.73
Japanese yen (May 26)	¥99.00
South Korean won (May 27)	₩998.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.6832/0.5941
Canada (Dollar)	1.0872
China (Yuan)	6.2368
Denmark (Krone)	5.4752
Egypt (Pound)	7.1375
Euro	\$1.3632/0.7236
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7534
Hungary (Forint)	221.63
Israel (Shekel)	3.4851
Japan (Yen)	101.97
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2824
Norway (Krone)	5.9607
Philippines (Peso)	43.65
Poland (Zloty)	3.105
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7206
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2523
South Korea (Won)	1,024.88
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8955
Thailand (Baht)	32.57
Turkey (New Lira)	0.0819

(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 your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one euro, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

MARKET WATCH

May 23, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials	63.19
	16,606.27
Nasdaq composite	31.47
	4,185.81
Standard & Poor's 500	8.04
	1,900.53
Russell 2000	12.32
	1,126.19

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.51
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	3.40

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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

Sunday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	85	60	Cldy	Fort Wayne	88	59	Clr	Louisville	85	59	Clr	Pocatello	73	48	Pcldy	Sioux City	83	63	Cldy
Ablene, Tex	82	66	Cldy	Cheyenne	65	48	Cldy	Fresno	90	66	Clr	Lubbock	79	65	Clr	Portland, Maine	63	48	Clr	Sioux Falls	81	61	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	76	49	Clr	Chicago	79	53	Clr	Goodland	79	55	Cldy	Macon	87	66	Clr	Portland, Ore.	70	50	Cldy	South Bend	81	50	Pcldy
Albany, N.Y.	77	49	Clr	Cincinnati	82	55	Clr	Grand Junction	70	50	Cldy	Madison	87	75	Clr	Providence	68	51	Rain	Syracuse	73	48	Cldy
Albuquerque	72	54	Cldy	Cleveland	75	51	Clr	Grand Rapids	79	50	Clr	Medford	82	51	Clr	Pueblo	79	47	Cldy	Springfield, Ill.	83	57	Pcldy
Allentown, Pa.	78	51	Pcldy	Colorado Springs	71	45	Cldy	Great Falls	76	47	Pcldy	Memphis	89	69	Clr	Raleigh-Durham	84	56	Clr	Springfield, Mo.	82	64	Cldy
Amarillo	76	52	Pcldy	Columbia, S.C.	86	61	Pcldy	Green Bay	80	57	Clr	Miami Beach	87	75	Rain	Rapid City	74	54	Rain	St. Louis	83	60	Cldy
Anchorage	60	45	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	89	68	Cldy	Greensboro, N.C.	82	55	Clr	Midland-Odessa	80	65	Rain	Roanoke	89	54	Clr	Tallahassee	93	67	Pcldy
Ashville	79	51	Pcldy	Columbus, Ohio	79	54	Cldy	Hartford	79	54	Cldy	Milwaukee	72	49	Clr	Richmond	85	57	Pcldy	Tampa	90	75	Pcldy
Atlanta	82	58	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	73	47	Cldy	Hartford Springfield	73	52	Pcldy	Minneapolis-St. Paul	82	59	Clr	Rochester	78	53	Clr	Toledo	82	65	Cldy
Atlantic City	78	53	Pcldy	Corpus Christi	87	73	Cldy	Helena	79	47	Pcldy	Missoula	78	43	Pcldy	Rockford	78	51	Clr	Tucson	88	59	Pcldy
Bakersfield	73	54	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	87	68	Cldy	Honolulu	88	73	Clr	Mobile	83	60	Clr	Rockford	78	51	Clr	Tulsa	80	52	Cldy
Baltimore	83	55	Clr	Dayton	80	56	Clr	Houston	86	69	Clr	Montgomery	92	67	Clr	Sacramento	96	60	Clr	Tulsa	88	59	Pcldy
Baton Rouge	89	66	Clr	Daytona Beach	89	70	Pcldy	Huntsville	88	64	Pcldy	Nashville	86	60	Pcldy	St. Louis	83	61	Cldy	Tupelo	89	63	Cldy
Bilings	77	48	Pcldy	Denver	70	49	Cldy	Indianapolis	81	57	Clr	New Orleans	87	68	Clr	St. Petersburg	89	77	Clr	Washington	83	60	Cldy
Birmingham	89	68	Pcldy	Des Moines	80	60	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	81	63	Pcldy	New York City	78	58	Pcldy	St. Thomas	88	78	Clr	Waco	86	67	Cldy
Bismark	79	59	Rain	Detroit	79	55	Clr	Jacksonville	87	69	Clr	Newark	80	57	Clr	Salem, Ore.	79	47	Cldy	W. Palm Beach	88	74	Clr
Boise	82	51	Clr	Duluth	78	56	Pcldy	Janeau	65	41	Clr	Norfolk, Va.	80	60	Clr	Salt Lake City	79	53	Clr	Wichita Falls	87	67	Cldy
Boston	67	51	Cldy	El Paso	86	63	Pcldy	Kansas City	81	63	Cldy	North Platte	80	58	Clr	San Angelo	83	65	Cldy	Wichita Falls	87	67	Cldy
Bridgeport	73	54	Pcldy	Elkins	75	53	Clr	Key West	72	50	Cldy	Oklahoma City	86	65	Cldy	San Antonio	88	70	Clr	Wilkes-Barre	77	49	Cldy
Brownsville	86	74	Pcldy	Erie	71	49	Clr	Knoxville	83	56	Pcldy	Omaha	82	62	Cldy	San Diego	72	61	Pcldy	Wilmington, Del.	79	54	Pcldy
Buffalo	75	43	Clr	Eugene	73	47	Cldy	Lake Charles	86	68	Pcldy	Orlando	93	72	Pcldy	San Francisco	79	56	Clr	Wilmington, N.C.	76	49	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	74	48	Pcldy	Fargo	83	57	Pcldy	Lansing	80	62	Clr	Paducah	84	59	Pcldy	San Jose	86	55	Clr	Youngstown	76	46	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	65	53	Cldy	Fairbanks	55	44	Clr	Las Vegas	96	71	Clr	Pendleton	78	48	Clr	Santa Fe	69	44	Cldy				
Casper, Wyo.	71	48	Cldy	Fargo	80	62	Rain	Lexington	83	56	Clr	Peoria	83	45	Clr	St. Louis	85	55	Clr				
Charleston, S.C.	85	64	Cldy	Flagstaff	67	39	Cldy	Lincoln	80	62	Cldy	Philadelphia	80	57	Pcldy	Savannah	86	66	Cldy				
Charleston, W.Va.	82	49	Clr	Flint	79	53	Clr	Little Rock	90	67	Clr	Phoenix	95	70	Clr	Seattle	64	53	Cldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	82	59	Pcldy	Fort Smith	85	66	Cldy	Los Angeles	73	62	Pcldy	Pittsburgh	75	47	Clr	Shreveport	87	66	Cldy				

National temperature extremes
Hi: Fri., 102, Death Valley, Calif.
Lo: Fri., 21, Stanley, Idaho



Independent News for the U.S. Military the Community

*Whenever They Fight
and Wherever They Live*



The first Stars and Stripes was produced by Union soldiers during the Civil War. In 1861, using the facilities of a captured newspaper office in Bloomfield, Mo., they ran off a one-page paper.

Stars and Stripes was revived during World War I. Our first edition appeared in Paris on February 8, 1918. Produced weekly by an all-military staff, the paper served the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), under General of the Armies John J. Pershing.

The newspaper ceased printing at the war's end, only to enjoy a second renaissance. Starting on April 18, 1942, a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (two English pence or about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first edition of Stars and Stripes published during World War II featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who said that Stripes had been a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes also found a special 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 as many as 32 separate editions, with page counts running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had up to 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).

In the years that followed World War II, Stripes reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field. Throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, Stars and Stripes published the news. The paper was there in the 1990s during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Provide Comfort 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.

As the "hometown newspaper" for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific, Stars and Stripes offers the same types of national and world news, sports and opinion columns found in newspapers in the United States.

Stripes.com coverage ranges from breaking military news reported from bases around the world to local DODDS high school sports. The paper is also available online in PDF format.

Stars and Stripes is available for iPhone and Android smartphones and a Tablet Edition is available for the Apple iPad.

Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where the editions are transmitted to printing facilities in Spain, Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, South Korea, Guam, Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, and Djibouti.

Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (in Okinawa, Guam, Kanto Plain and Korea) 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 launched in 2008 to serve servicemembers who have returned from overseas tours. The U.S. edition is published in partnership with commercial newspaper publishers who serve communities with large military populations.



RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

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 Headliner 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 Zimmernan

2006 NAA ACME Award of Excellence –
Youth Oriented Ad Series/Campaign:
Stripes GAMER;
Entertainment Promotions: Tales from the Crib

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

**2004 American Legion Excellence
in Journalism Award** –
Ground Truth Series

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



SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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

Tennis

Strasbourg International

At Centre Sportif de Hautepeurre Strasbourg, France
Singles
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Semifinals
Silvia Soler-Espinosa, Spain, def. Christina McHale, United States, 5-7, 7(6), 6-3.
Doubles
Ashleigh Barty and Casey Dellacqua (2), Australia, def. Chan Hoo-chang and Chan Yung-jan (3), Taiwan, 1-6, 7-6 (4), 10-5.

Nuremberg Cup

At Tennis-Club 1c Nuremberg eV Nuremberg, Germany
Purse: \$25,000 (W750)
Surface: Red Clay-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals
Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, def. Elena Svitolina (4), Ukraine, 2-6, 6-1, 6-69.
Eugenie Bouchard (2), Canada, def. Karin Knapp, Italy, 6-6, 6-4.

Duesseldorf Open

At Rodenbusch Duesseldorf, Germany
Purse: \$65,000 (W750)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals
Philipp Kohlschreiber (1), Germany, def. Mate Delic, Croatia, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1.
Ivo Karlovic (7), Croatia, def. Jiri Veselny, Czech Republic, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (7).

Nice Open

At The Nice Lawn Tennis Club Nice, France
Purse: \$65,000 (W750)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals
Ernest Gulbis (2), Latvia, def. Albert Montolio, Spain, 6-0, 6-3.
Nicola Pietrangeli, Argentina, def. Gilles Simon (4), France, 6-2, 6-4.

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Auto racing

Indianapolis 500 lineup

Verizon IndyCar Series
After May 18 qualifying; race Sunday
At Indianapolis Motor Speedway
Indianapolis

- Lap length: 2.5 miles
All cars Dallara chassis
1. (20) Ed Carpenter, Chevy, 2:35.7992, 231.067 mph.
2. (27) James Hinchinliffe, Chevy, 2:35.9628, 230.839.
3. (12) Will Power, Chevy, 2:36.0488, 230.697.
4. (3) Helio Castronoves, Chevy, 2:36.0914, 230.649.
5. (77) Simon Pagenaoui, Honda, 2:36.2614, 230.614.
6. (25) Marco Andretti, Honda, 2:36.1526, 230.544.
7. (64) Carlos Munoz, Honda, 2:36.4224, 230.146.
8. (72) Josef Newgarden, Honda, 2:36.5946, 229.893.
9. (21) J.R. Hildebrand, Chevy, 2:37.3938, 228.725.
10. (7) Juan Pablo Montoya, Chevy, 2:38.096, 231.007.
11. (9) Scott Dixon, Chevy, 2:38.5990, 230.928.
12. (80) Kurt Busch, Honda, 2:38.9913, 230.172.
13. (48) Jack Hawksworth, Honda, 2:36.779, 230.506.
14. (19) Justin Wilson, Honda, 2:36.3480, 230.649.
15. (7) Mikhail Aleshin, Honda, 2:36.0249.
16. (10) Tonyanaanue, Chevy, 2:36.5750, 229.922.
17. (1) Sebastien Bourdais, Chevy, 2:36.6259, 229.847.
18. (16) Oriol Servia, Honda, 2:36.6905, 228.725.
19. (28) Ryan Hunter-Reay, Honda, 2:36.7142, 229.120.
20. (15) Graham Rahal, Honda, 2:36.7142, 229.120.
21. (18) Carlos Huertas, Honda, 2:37.0325, 229.251.
22. (42) Pippa Mann, Honda, 2:37.0521, 229.222.
23. (44) Takuma Sato, Honda, 2:37.0671, 229.201.
24. (68) Alex Tagliani, Honda, 2:37.1038, 229.177.
25. (26) Townsend Bell, Chevy, 2:37.1090, 229.177.
26. (83) Charlie Kimball, Chevy, 2:37.2676, 228.953.
27. (53) Jacques Villeneuve, Honda, 2:37.2400, 228.949.
28. (33) James Davison, Chevy, 2:37.2977, 228.865.
29. (41) Martin Plowman, Honda, 2:37.2281, 228.811.
30. (8) Ryan Briscoe, Chevy, 2:37.4028, 228.670.
31. (22) Sage Karam, Chevy, 2:37.5931, 228.436.
32. (17) Sebastian Saavedra, Chevy, 2:37.8335, 228.088.
33. (91) Buddy Lazier, Chevy, 2:37.9501, 228.270.

Coca-Cola 600 lineup

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series
After Thursday qualifying; race Sunday
At Charlotte Motor Speedway
Concord, N.C.

- Lap length: 1.5 miles
All cars Dallara chassis
1. (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 1:54.281.
2. (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 1:54.567.
3. (14) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 1:54.673.
4. (10) Daniel Patrick, Chevrolet, 1:53.344.
5. (15) Clint Bowyer, Toyota, 1:53.244.
6. (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 1:53.119.
7. (14) Ryan Blaney, Toyota, 1:53.073.
8. (22) Jay Logan, Ford, 1:52.472.
9. (9) Marcos Ambrose, Ford, 1:51.673.
10. (88) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 1:51.272.
11. (4) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 1:53.959.
12. (20) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 1:52.898.
13. (43) Aric Almirola, Ford, 1:52.692.
14. (21) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 1:52.486.
15. (78) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 1:52.438.
16. (65) Brian Vickers, Toyota, 1:52.027.
17. (51) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 1:51.945.
18. (14) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 1:51.884.
19. (3) Brian Scott, Chevrolet, 1:51.825.
20. (47) A.J. Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 1:51.707.
21. (27) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 1:51.707.
22. (69) Carl Edwards, Ford, 1:59.98.
23. (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 1:59.206.
24. (16) Greg Biffle, Ford, 1:58.344.
25. (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 1:50.84.
26. (11) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 1:50.255.
27. (24) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 1:50.673.
28. (41) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 1:50.523.
29. (23) Alex Bowman, Toyota, 1:58.514.
30. (92) Michael McDowell, Ford, 1:58.148.
31. (65) Cole Whitt, Toyota, 1:59.115.
32. (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 1:58.062.
33. (46) David Gilliland, Ford, 1:58.732.
34. (13) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 1:58.732.
35. (34) David Ragan, Ford, 1:58.455.
36. (63) Ryan Truex, Toyota, 1:58.423.
37. (98) Josh Wise, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
38. (56) Joe Nemechek, Toyota, Owner Points.
39. (7) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
40. (40) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
41. (36) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
42. (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
43. (32) Blake Koch, Ford, Owner Points.
44. (44) Willieavel, Chevrolet, 1:58.062.
45. (77) Dave Blaney, Ford, 1:57.143.

College lacrosse

NCAA Division tournament

Semifinals
Saturday, May 24
At M&T Bank Stadium
Baltimore

Duke vs. Denver
Notre Dame vs. Maryland
Saturday, May 25
At M&T Bank Stadium
Baltimore
Semifinal winners

Deals

Friday's transactions

BASEBALL
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - Suspended Atlanta 25 Mike Reynolds 60 games for violating the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Options RHP Preston Gillmore to Norfolk (IL), Recalled LHP TJ McFarland from Norfolk.
DETROIT TIGERS - Signed LHP Robbie Ray (1B) from Pawtucket (IL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS - Sent 2B Jason Kipnis to Columbus (IL) for a rehab assignment.
DETROIT TIGERS - Options LHP Robby Ray (1B) from Pawtucket (IL). Selected the contract of RHP Corey Knebel from Toledo. Assigned Knebel to the Marlins outright to Eric LeComte.
HOUSTON ASTROS - Options RHP Justin Verlander to Omaha (PCL). Recalled LHP Rudy Owens from Oklahoma City.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS - Recalled OF Jirek Hladky from Omaha (PCL). Signed OF Josh Hamilton to Salt Lake (PCL) for a rehab assignment. Agreed to terms with 2B Malik Gonzalez on a minor league contract.
MINNESOTA TWINS - Placed OF Sam Fuld on the 15-day DL.
Texas Rangers - Placed 1B Prince Fielder on the 15-day DL, retroactive to May 19. Reinstated RHP Donny Orsatti from the 15-day DL.
MINNESOTA TWINS - Designated RHP Esmil Rogers for assignment. Sent Rogers to the contract of RHP Liam Hendriks from Buffalo (IL).
National League
CINCINNATI REDS - Informed INF Neftali Soto to Louisville (IL). Recalled INF Ryan Ludwick from Louisville (IL) on a rehab assignment. Agreed to terms with LHP Matt Maloney on a minor league contract.
MIAMI MARLINS - Options RHP Anthony Desclafani to New Orleans (PCL). Sent OF Adam Lind to Norfolk (IL) for a rehab assignment. Transferred OF Ryan Hanig to the Orioles.
NEW YORK METS - Named Harold Karpman executive director, communication and public relations.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS - Sent LHP Tom Gorzelac to Norfolk (PCL) and RHP Jim Henderson to Huntsville (IL) for rehab assignments.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES - Options C Ryan Crutcher from Norfolk (IL), Reinstated RHP Jason Grilli from the 15-day DL.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS - Requested outright release waivers of Joey Votto, Memphis pitcher Chris Carpenter was purchased by Orix (Pacific League).
SEASBOTH NATIONALS - Options RHP Ryan Mathews to Syracuse (IL). Sent OF Adam Lind to Norfolk (IL) for a rehab assignment. Agreed to terms with LHP Matt Maloney on a minor league contract.

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College baseball

Friday's scores

FAW WEST
Stanford 5, Utah 0
Southern 5, Oregon St. 2
Arizona 4, Abilene Christian 3
Arizona St. 12, Washington St. 8
UCR 4, West Virginia 1

TOURNAMENTS

American East - Final
Binghamton 6, Maine 3, Maine eliminated
Stony Brook 10, Hartford 6

American Athletic Conference

South Florida 5, Rutgers 2
Marshall 2, Louisville 1
HCU 4, Wake Forest 1

Atlantic Coast Conference

Georgia Tech 3, Clemson 0
Virginia Tech 3, North Carolina 1
SUN Conference
Stetson 5, ETSU 0
Florida Gulf Coast 3, Jacksonville 0, UJ eliminated

Atlantic 10 Conference

George Mason 3, VCU 0
Saint Louis 9, Saint Joseph's 1, SIU eliminated

Big East Conference

Xavier 8, Johns 2, SIU eliminated
Creighton vs. Seton Hall, ppn, rain
Washington State 10, Gonzaga 7
Campbell 15, Coastal Carolina 11
Liberty 4, Radford 0

Big Ten Conference

Michigan St. 11, Illinois 2, Illinois eliminated
Michigan 7, Iowa 1, Iowa eliminated

Big West Conference

UC Santa Barbara 6, UC Davis 5, UCI eliminated
Long Beach St. 6, UC Irvine 1, UCI eliminated

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Big West Conference

SCOREBOARD/SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 24

College softball

NCAA Division I super regional
(Best-of-three; x-if necessary)
Host school is home team for Game 1; visiting school is home team for Game 2; coin flip determines home team for Game 3

At Tallahassee, Fla.
Michigan 17, Florida State 3
Friday: Florida State 6, Michigan 0
Friday: Florida State 4, Michigan 2, FSU advances

At Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Alabama 5, Nebraska 5, 12 innings
Friday: Alabama 2, Nebraska 1, Alabama advances

At Athens, Ga.
Friday: Baylor 9, Georgia 1
Saturday: Baylor (46-14) vs. Georgia (49-14)

x-Saturday: Baylor vs. Georgia
x-Saturday: Baylor vs. Georgia
Friday: Louisiana-Lafayette 5, Arizona

3 Saturday: Louisiana-Lafayette (48-81) vs. Arizona (44-16)
x-Saturday: Arizona vs. Louisiana-Lafayette
At Norman, Okla.
Friday: Oklahoma 8, Tennessee 1
Saturday: Tennessee (65-11) vs. Oklahoma (49-10)
x-Saturday: Oklahoma vs. Tennessee
At Eugene, Ore.
Saturday: Oregon (52-7-1) vs. Minnesota (45-9)
Sunday: Oregon vs. Minnesota
x-Sunday: Oregon vs. Minnesota
At Gainesville, Fla.
Saturday: Florida (48-14) vs. Washington (36-13)
Sunday: Florida vs. Washington
x-Sunday: Florida vs. Washington
At Los Angeles (47-16)
Saturday: UCLA (51-5) vs. Kentucky
x-Sunday: UCLA vs. Kentucky
x-Sunday: UCLA vs. Kentucky

Golf

The Colonial PGA Tour
Friday
At Colonial Country Club Fort Worth, Texas
Purse: \$5.4 million
Yardage: 7,204; Par: 70 (8-man-turf)

Brice Garnett 67-66-133 - 7
Chris Stroud 70-64-134 - 6
Robert Streb 68-68-134 - 6
Bo Van Pelt 67-68-135 - 5
Dustin Johnson 65-70-135 - 5
Aaron Baddeley 68-67-135 - 5
Chad Campbell 68-66-135 - 5
Jimmy Walker 67-68-135 - 5
Tim Clark 67-68-135 - 5
Brian Davis 67-69-135 - 5
Jason Dufner 67-69-136 - 4
Jordan Spieth 67-69-136 - 4
Harris English 66-70-136 - 4
David Hearn 67-69-136 - 4
Brian Harman 69-67-136 - 4
Brandt Snedeker 70-66-136 - 4
Matt Jones 70-67-137 - 3
Hunter Mahan 66-71-137 - 3
Chris King 69-68-137 - 3
Marc Leishman 69-68-137 - 3
Nicholas Thompson 73-69-137 - 3
Tim Wilkinson 66-71-137 - 3
Heath Slocum 69-69-138 - 2
Brendon de Jonge 70-69-138 - 2
Fredlie Jacobson 67-71-138 - 2
Ryan Palmer 69-69-138 - 2
Brendon Todd 69-69-138 - 2
David Toms 69-69-138 - 2
Sean O'Hair 71-67-138 - 2
Billy Hurley III 70-68-138 - 2
Charlie Hoffman 69-69-138 - 2
Jim Furyk 70-68-138 - 2
Bill Haas 68-70-138 - 2
Robert Alленby 70-68-138 - 2
Hau Noruma 65-67-131 - 13
Charley Hull 65-67-132 - 12
Anna Nordqvist 68-66-134 - 10
Hee Young Park 67-67-134 - 10
Jessica Korda 68-67-135 - 9
Lexi Thompson 67-68-135 - 9
Jenny Shin 71-65-136 - 8
Hau Noruma 65-67-131 - 13

Christina Kim 70-66-136 - 8
Jodi Ewart Shadoff 69-67-136 - 8
Felicity Johnson 69-67-136 - 8
Erin Rak 67-69-136 - 8
Bae In-bee 66-70-136 - 8
Stacy Lewis 66-70-136 - 8
Suzann Pettersen 71-66-137 - 7
Michelle Wie 70-67-137 - 7
Kathryn Kirk 70-67-137 - 7
So Yeon Ryu 69-68-137 - 7
Chella Choi 69-68-137 - 7
Jennifer Kirby 69-68-137 - 7
Xi Yu Lin 69-68-137 - 7
Pannasong Phattum 69-68-137 - 7
Maira Diniz 67-70-137 - 7
Julietta Granada 70-68-137 - 7
Don Carter 70-68-138 - 6
Belen Mozo 70-68-138 - 6
Na Yeon Choi 69-69-138 - 6
Brittany Lincicome 69-69-138 - 6
Julia Eger 68-70-138 - 6
Jennifer Song 68-70-138 - 6
Mina Hariga 73-66-139 - 5
Hannah Jun Medlock 70-69-139 - 5
Paola Moreno 68-71-139 - 5

Senior PGA Championship
PGA of America
Friday
At Harbor Shores Golf Course Benton Harbor, Mich.
Purse: TBA (\$2 million in 2013)
Yardage: 6,822; Par: 72
Second Round

Kiyoshi Murota 67-65-138 - 4
Tom Watson 70-68-138 - 4
Greg Bruckner 69-69-138 - 4
Bernhard Langer 70-68-138 - 4
Bart Bryant 71-67-138 - 4
Steen Tinning 72-66-138 - 4
Dan Forsman 66-73-139 - 3
Russ Cochran 70-69-139 - 3
Mark Brooks 68-71-139 - 3
Stephen Ames 71-68-139 - 3
Steve Pate 69-67-140 - 2
Greg Bruckner 69-67-140 - 2
Joe Durant 69-70-140 - 2
Garry Halligan 70-70-140 - 2
Scott Simpson 71-69-140 - 2
Jay Haas 69-71-140 - 2
David Frost 72-69-141 - 1
Jeff Maggard 69-72-141 - 1
Drew Stender 69-72-141 - 1
Brad Foxon 67-74-141 - 1
Steve Lowery 69-74-142 - 0
Anders Forsbrand 70-70-142 - 0
John Cook 70-72-142 - 0
Frank Bonifazio 70-72-142 - 0
Tom Pernice, Jr. 72-70-142 - 0
Gary Wolstenholme 72-70-142 - 0

Briefly

Orioles trade Patton to Padres for Hundley

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The Baltimore Orioles addressed their lack of depth at catcher, acquiring Nick Hundley from the San Diego Padres on Saturday in a trade for left-handed reliever Troy Patton.

The 30-year-old Hundley hit .271 with a home run and three RBIs in 33 games with the Padres this season. The Orioles are currently operating without starting catcher Matt Wieters, who's on the disabled list with a strained right elbow.

In seven seasons with San Diego, Hundley batted .238 with 47 homers and 195 RBIs in 510 games. He also has a .990 career fielding percentage and a 28 percent success rate in throwing out would-be base stealers.

"Hundley is a proven veteran catcher who handles pitchers well and has power," Orioles vice president of baseball operations Dan Duquette said in a text message to The Associated Press.

Patton was 0-1 with an 8.10 ERA in nine appearances with Baltimore. He missed April while serving a 25-game suspension for testing positive for a banned amphetamine last year.

In other baseball news:
■ The Colorado Rockies placed third baseman Nolan Arenado on the 15-day disabled list Saturday and recalled infielder Josh Rutledge from Triple-A Colorado Springs.

Arenado led Friday's 3-2 loss to the Atlanta Braves after breaking his left middle finger on a head-first slide into second.

Arenado is hitting .305 with six homers and 28 RBIs. He leads the team with 17 doubles.

Rosberg earns Monaco GP pole

MONACO — Nico Rosberg took the pole position for the Monaco Grand Prix ahead of Lewis Hamilton on Saturday after making a late error that left his Mercedes teammate visibly irate at missing out on a shot at qualifying in first place.

With Rosberg holding the best time, the Mercedes pair went out for one final qualifying lap with less than a minute remaining in the session, but the German lost control coming out of the Mirabeau turn, sliding down an escape road. After Rosberg backed out onto the circuit, a yellow flag came up — meaning the session was over and Hamilton could not im-

prove on his time.
Stewards cleared Rosberg of any wrongdoing after studying video and telemetry evidence of his maneuver.

It's the second pole of the season for Rosberg. Hamilton — who leads Rosberg by just three points in the overall standings — has the other four.

PGA rookie Garnett leads at Colonial

FORT WORTH, Texas — PGA Tour rookie Brice Garnett opened with an eagle Friday to take a 4-under 66 and the second-round lead at Colonial.
At 7-under 133, Garnett had a one-stroke lead over Robert Streb and Chris Stroud, who made five putts from more than 20 feet in a 64. Streb shot 68.

Adam Scott, playing as No. 1 in the world for the first time, shot a 68 to get to 1 under. He has made the cut his last 34 PGA Tour events, the longest active streak.

Matt Kuchar, ranked No. 4 in the world, had a chance to move to the top with a victory. But he missed the cut by a stroke, shooting 72-70. First-round leader Dustin Johnson had a 70 drop into a tie for fourth at 5 under.

In other golf news:
■ Catriona Matthew remained atop the Airbus LPGA Classic leaderboard Friday, birdieing four of the last seven holes to take a one-stroke advantage over Charley Hull into the weekend.

The 44-year-old Matthew had a 5-under 67 to reach 13-under 131 on the Crossings Course in Mobile, Ala. The 18-year-old Hull also shot 67.

Anna Nordqvist, Jessica Korda and Hee Young Park were 10 under. Nordqvist, the winner this year in Thailand and Carlsbad, had a 66.

Tom Watson shot a 3-under 68 on Friday for a share of the lead in the Senior PGA Championship with fellow Hall of Famer Bernhard Langer and Colin Montgomerie and three other players.

The 64-year-old Watson, playing alongside Langer and Montgomerie, had five birdies and a double bogey — on the par-4 12th — to reach 4-under 138 after two rounds at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Langer also had a 68, and Montgomerie shot 69 to finish on Saturday, Bart Bryant, Steen Tinning and Kiyoshi Murota atop the leaderboard.

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NHL PLAYOFFS/WORLD CUP



KATHY WILLENS/AP

New York Rangers center Derek Stepan lies on the ice Thursday after taking a hit from Montreal forward Brandon Prust during the first period of Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals in New York. Stepan has a broken jaw and underwent surgery on Friday. Prust was suspended two games for the hit.

Rangers' Stepan suffers broken jaw on Prust hit

By Ira PODELL
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Rangers' smooth ride to the Stanley Cup finals has suddenly become much rougher.

Not only did the Broadway Blueshirts let the Montreal Canadiens back into the Eastern Conference finals with a 3-2 overtime victory Thursday at Madison Square Garden, they might have to play without top forward Derek Stepan, whose broken jaw required surgery Friday.

The Rangers will carry a 2-1 series lead into Sunday's Game 4, but finishing off the Canadiens could be more difficult if Stepan is sidelined for long.

The center was injured 2:48 in when he was struck by a hard, blindside hit from Montreal's Brandon Prust, who wasn't penalized for the shot that left Stepan sprawled on the ice for several moments. Prust had a disciplinary hearing with the NHL on Friday, and was given a two-game suspension for interference by the league's department of player safety. He would be eligible to play in Game 6 should the series last that long.

Stepan got up after the hit, had X-rays taken that were negative, and returned to the game. But pain later Thursday night and again on Friday prompted the Rangers to send him to a specialist. Further tests and scans revealed the fracture.

His playing status is unclear, but Rangers coach Alain Vigneault said more would be known Saturday. With a two-day break before Game 4, both teams stayed off the ice Friday.

Vigneault had already proclaimed Thursday that the on-ice officials failed in not penalizing Prust. He hammered the point home Friday and took issue with Prust, who was critical of New York forward Chris Kreider's collision with Carey Price in Game 1 that knocked the Canadiens' No. 1 goalie out of the series.

"Four referees missed the call. Stepan is injured," Vigneault said.



SETH WENIG/AP

Montreal's Brandon Prust, right, and the New York Rangers' Derek Dorsett fight after Prust's hit on Derek Stepan.

Prust, a fan favorite when he previously played for the Rangers, was hit from behind at 5:51 of the first period by New York enforcer Daniel Carcillo, who was penalized for charging. That immediately led to Prust fighting Derek Dorsett. During that altercation, Carcillo twice elbowed linesman Steve Driscoll, who was trying to keep him out of the fray, and was ejected from the game.

Carcillo was given an automatic 10-game suspension by the NHL on Friday for physical abuse on an official without intent to injure.

NHL scoreboard

Conference finals
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
N.Y. Rangers 2, Montreal 1
N.Y. Rangers 7, Montreal 2
N.Y. Rangers 2, Montreal 1
Montreal 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Sunday: at NY Rangers
Tuesday: at Montreal
x-Thursday: at NY Rangers
x-Saturday, May 31: at Montreal
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Chicago 1, Los Angeles 1
Chicago 3, Los Angeles 1
Los Angeles 6, Chicago 2
Saturday: at Los Angeles
Monday: at Los Angeles
Wednesday: at Chicago
x-Friday: at Los Angeles
x-Sunday, June 1: at Chicago

Klinsmann opts for youth on US roster

By JOSH DUBOW
The Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — Julian Green first met most of his U.S. soccer teammates just a few months ago at a training session in Europe shortly before the German-American committed to playing for the United States.

DeAndre Medlin's two brief appearances for the national team came after the U.S. had already qualified for the upcoming tournament in Brazil.

John Brooks made his debut with the national team last summer and has just three exhibition appearances in his career.

Yet those three untested youngsters who have never played a World Cup qualifier much less on the bigger stage of the main tournament were picked for the 23-man roster ahead of more proven players like Landon Donovan, Maurice Edu and Clarence Goodson.

"They are up to the task," coach Jurgen Klinsmann said Friday. "Obviously, emotionally it's a lot to handle, but we have to run them through that process. They are ready for it."

They might need to be if the United States is to make it through a difficult group that features world powers Germany and Portugal and American nemesis Ghana.

The roster includes just five players who have played in a World Cup — Clint Dempsey, Michael Bradley, Tim Howard, Jozy Altidore and DaMarcus Beasley — and seven players 24 or younger.

Green, who turns 19 next month, is by far the most untested of the group despite being a heralded prospect on Bayern Munich's reserve team who was courted by both Germany and the United States for an international commitment.

He has just six minutes of first-team experience with Bayern Munich. He practiced two days with the U.S. team in Germany ahead of an exhibition in Cyprus

on March 5 and committed to the Americans later that month.

"I'm very happy," Green said.

"It was the right decision. I love playing here. I'm very happy."

He made his U.S. debut as a substitute in the 59th minute of an exhibition against Mexico on April 2. He got an invitation to this camp and eventually made the team ahead of Donovan, the U.S. record-holder with 57 international goals.

Klinsmann said he sees constant improvement every day from Green and that he has proven himself worthy of a spot for Brazil with his play at midfield that has impressed coaches and teammates during the training camp.

"In a soccer team, it is very simple," Klinsmann said. "They measure themselves with the quality you bring to the table, not with the age and not where you are coming from. They want to see that in the games. We played over the last 10 days a lot, a lot of small-side games, very competitive games and games that you can't hide. Julian didn't hide, not even one second."

Yedlin, 20, has only slightly more international experience than Green, getting called up for the first time for a January camp that included time in Brazil and playing as a second-half defensive sub in two exhibitions this year. He was recently pulled from a game for the Seattle Sounders for poor play.

"This has been a dream of mine since I was little," Yedlin said. "To be able to be here and be considered part of this group is amazing."

Brooks, a 21-year-old defender for Hertha Berlin in Germany, made his U.S. debut last summer. He was benched twice this season by his club team for a poor performance in December and being unable to train last month because he was hampered by a tattoo on his back.

AP Sports Writer Ronald Blum contributed to this report.



JEFF CHAU/AP

United States soccer coach Jurgen Klinsmann speaks about the World Cup team at a news conference Friday in Stanford, Calif.

MLB

Statistics

American League

TEAM BATTING												
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg	Castellanos Det	143	12	34	4	20	238
Detroit	1518	211	418	26	308	DeJennings TB	165	24	39	4	11	236
Baltimore	1618	199	430	45	194	266	136	14	16	2	23	232
Chicago	1737	243	454	54	228	265	172	22	40	6	27	233
New York	1629	200	423	45	184	265	157	24	39	4	16	232
Texas	1591	192	412	31	179	259	188	17	32	1	9	232
Toronto	1584	187	411	36	178	245	151	13	35	4	20	232
Los Angeles	1641	233	419	52	223	255	135	17	32	1	9	232
Kansas City	1591	182	403	20	169	253	150	20	32	3	7	217
Minnesota	1668	211	424	44	202	252	139	12	35	4	23	214
Oakland	1677	245	422	50	225	252	180	17	38	3	18	211
Minnesota	1549	204	383	35	188	247	147	18	31	5	15	211
Tampa Bay	1676	187	411	36	178	245	129	12	37	1	20	209
Boston	1690	185	389	37	175	243	137	19	28	0	14	204
Seattle	1579	196	373	38	185	243	151	25	36	6	18	205
Houston	1635	172	375	50	162	229	45	23	24	3	15	156

INDIVIDUAL BATTING												
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg	Castellanos Det	143	12	34	4	20	238
Kinsler Det	187	34	61	4	21	326	165	24	39	4	11	236
Cano Sea	184	22	60	2	28	326	136	14	16	2	23	232
MLB Career	175	24	57	7	42	326	172	22	40	6	27	233
Air Ramirez CWS	191	30	62	7	34	325	157	24	39	4	16	232
V Martinez Det	167	24	54	12	28	323	188	17	32	1	9	232
Altuve Hou	207	23	63	6	16	319	151	13	35	4	20	232
McCabe Tor	204	33	64	8	23	314	135	17	32	1	9	232
Hendrick LAA	183	30	67	22	31	311	153	18	34	7	21	213
Salarte NYY	148	20	46	5	24	311	150	20	32	3	7	217
Choo Tex	149	26	46	5	25	309	139	12	35	4	23	214
Rios Tex	189	20	47	6	30	308	180	17	38	3	18	211
Marks Bal	118	19	59	3	16	306	150	20	32	3	7	217
Mauer Min	182	25	59	9	37	302	139	12	35	4	23	214
Brantley Fla	182	25	59	9	37	302	180	17	38	3	18	211
K Suzuki Min	136	12	41	2	27	301	147	18	31	5	15	211
Nardone NYY	196	19	57	12	27	299	129	12	37	1	20	209
Bautista Tor	175	37	52	12	32	297	180	17	38	3	18	211
Moss Oak	162	26	48	11	21	296	137	19	28	0	14	204
Alonzo Bal	193	28	67	6	26	295	151	25	36	6	18	205
Hardy Bal	147	13	43	0	13	293	137	19	28	0	14	204
Alfonso Bal	171	24	49	4	16	287	46	50	15	25	3	156
Viciedo CWS	175	24	49	4	16	287	58	59	3	4	20	209
NCruz Bal	171	24	49	4	16	286	58	59	3	4	20	209
Torres Det	144	14	44	0	14	284	58	59	3	4	20	209
Aoki KC	181	25	51	0	9	282	58	59	3	4	20	209
Joyce Tex	128	16	36	2	20	281	58	59	3	4	20	209
Molina NYY	150	15	42	1	14	280	58	59	3	4	20	209
Hosmer KC	190	20	53	1	21	279	58	59	3	4	20	209
R Davis Det	130	22	36	1	15	277	58	59	3	4	20	209
Ortiz Bos	170	22	47	11	25	276	58	59	3	4	20	209
Dav Murphy Cle	152	19	42	5	31	276	58	59	3	4	20	209
Troul Fla	178	30	49	3	12	275	58	59	3	4	20	209
Bogaerts Bos	190	14	44	3	9	275	58	59	3	4	20	209
Pedroia Bos	193	28	53	2	14	272	58	59	3	4	20	209
Asencior KC	165	21	45	17	27	272	58	59	3	4	20	209
YGomes Cle	147	22	40	6	18	272	58	59	3	4	20	209
Donaldson Oak	193	28	53	2	14	272	58	59	3	4	20	209
Pujols LAA	189	31	51	13	20	270	58	59	3	4	20	209
Garland KC	175	23	47	3	25	269	58	59	3	4	20	209
Jeter NYY	157	13	42	3	8	268	58	59	3	4	20	209
Aybar LAA	176	24	47	2	23	267	58	59	3	4	20	209
CDavis Bal	120	25	32	7	14	260	58	59	3	4	20	209
Fowler Hou	167	44	3	13	63	263	58	59	3	4	20	209
Longoria TB	187	25	49	4	24	262	58	59	3	4	20	209
SPence KC	153	14	40	12	26	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
Dozier Min	180	42	47	11	25	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
Yescobar TB	165	6	43	3	11	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
Jabre CWS	155	23	35	1	26	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
AJackson Det	150	21	39	3	15	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
Zobrist TB	154	24	42	3	26	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
SPence KC	153	14	40	12	26	261	58	59	3	4	20	209
Elisbury NYY	150	22	44	1	15	259	58	59	3	4	20	209
AJaxey Sea	147	17	41	3	8	258	58	59	3	4	20	209
ACabrera Cle	174	27	45	3	14	259	58	59	3	4	20	209
Encarnacion Tor	190	30	49	13	29	258	58	59	3	4	20	209
Kubel Min	137	12	35	1	11	255	58	59	3	4	20	209
Lowrie Oak	171	25	43	3	18	251	58	59	3	4	20	209
Alfonso Bal	175	24	49	4	16	251	58	59	3	4	20	209
BButler KC	188	25	42	1	25	250	58	59	3	4	20	209
MDominguez Hou	173	18	43	7	20	249	58	59	3	4	20	209
Alfonso Bal	175	24	49	4	16	249	58	59	3	4	20	209
Fielder Tex	150	19	37	3	16	247	58	59	3	4	20	209
Andrus Tex	184	27	45	2	11	245	58	59	3	4	20	209
Alfonso Bal	152	14	36	2	12	245	58	59	3	4	20	209
Seager Sea	157	17	38	6	28	242	58	59	3	4	20	209
ASoriano NYY	163	19	39	6	17	239	58	59	3	4	20	209

TEAM BATTING													
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg	Castellanos Det	143	12	34	4	20	238	
Colorado	1695	250	544	28	299	269	288	25	141	135	170	6	9
Milwaukee	1664	232	438	53	224	263	364	368	166	145	350	1	13
Los Angeles	1714	210	445	52	203	260	350	369	166	126	350	4	13
San Diego	1631	154	365	37	147	224	365	349	163	163	385	10	10
Pittsburgh	1618	185	401	43	175	248	348	343	185	145	386	0	10
Philadelphia	1556	178	385	34	169	247	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
Washington	1560	188	406	44	174	246	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
San Francisco	1636	209	57	20	215	247	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
Cincinnati	1545	165	374	37	155	242	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
St. Louis	1564	178	371	46	148	237	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
Chicago	1581	180	371	39	173	235	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
New York	1582	185	370	32	177	234	343	343	185	145	386	0	10
San Diego	1631	154	365	37	147	224	343	343	185	145	386	0	10

INDIVIDUAL BATTING												
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg	Castellanos Det	143	12	34	4	20	238
Tulowitzki Col	154	44	58	13	35	377	68	51	23	55	5	1.99
Puig LAD	166	25	57	10	38	343	67	63	18	40	8	2.16
Utzschigk Mil	166	24	56	3	22	335	61	49	19	7	1	2.75
Smith SD	135	19	45	6	20	323	64	58	6	4	6	3.26
Y Molina STL	171	19	56	4	22	327	57	46				

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

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

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Cleveland, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago. Rows include Cleveland, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago.

Brewers 9, Marlins 5

Table with columns: Milwaukee, Miami. Rows include Milwaukee, Miami.

White Sox 6, Yankees 5

Table with columns: New York, Chicago. Rows include New York, Chicago.

National League

Table with columns: Team, East Division, W, L, Pct, GB. Rows include Atlanta, Miami, Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Central Division, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Chicago, West Division, San Francisco, Colorado, Los Angeles, San Diego, Arizona, Thursday's games, Texas 9, Detroit 2, Toronto 7, Boston 2, Cleveland 8, Oakland 2, 11 innings, Seattle 3, Houston 1, Miami 4, Philadelphia 4, San Francisco 2, San Francisco 2, tie 6, innings, sup., Washington 1, N.Y. Mets 5, L.A. Dodgers 3, Atlanta 5, Milwaukee 4, St. Louis 4, Arizona 2, Chicago Cubs 5, San Diego 1.

Table with columns: Team, Oakland, Cleveland, Baltimore, Toronto, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago. Rows include Oakland, Cleveland, Baltimore, Toronto, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago.

Table with columns: Team, Baltimore 8, Cleveland 4, Toronto 3, Oakland 2, Tampa Bay 1, Boston 0, Chicago White Sox 5, Yankees 5, L.A. Angels 6, Kansas City 1, Seattle 6, Houston 1, Philadelphia 0, Pittsburgh 4, Washington 3, Arizona 5, Miami 2, Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 3, Arizona 4, New York, p.p.d., Atlanta 4, Colorado 2, San Diego 1, Chicago Cubs 1, San Francisco 5, Minnesota 2. Saturday's games, Cleveland at Baltimore, Oakland at Toronto, N.Y. Yankees at Chicago White Sox, Boston at Detroit, Boston at Tampa Bay, Kansas City at L.A. Angels, Houston at Seattle, L.A. Dodgers at Philadelphia, Arizona at N.Y. Mets, Colorado at Atlanta, Milwaukee at Miami, Minnesota at Cincinnati, Washington at Pittsburgh, Chicago Cubs at San Diego, Tampa Bay at St. Louis. Sunday's games, Oakland (1P) at Toronto (Happ 3-1), Lewis (3-3) at Detroit (Verlander 5-3), Boston (Baker 1-1) at Baltimore (M.Gonzalez 2-3), Washington (Worner 1-0) at Tampa Bay (Olerud 2-1), N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 6-1) at Chicago White Sox (Reizo 4-0), Houston (Lester 4-0) at L.A. Angels (Richards 4-1), Arizona (Beuchle 5-2) at Seattle (Iwakuma 3-0), Atlanta (Arroyo 4-3) at N.Y. Mets (Nelson 0-2), Milwaukee (Nelson 0-4) at Miami (L.A. Dodgers (Beckett 2-1) at Philadelphia (A.Burnett 3-3), Houston (Fister 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Liriano 0-4), Cincinnati (Nolasco 2-4) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 5-3), Arizona Cubs (Hammel 5-2) at San Diego (Kendryk 2-5), Chicago (Undecided) at N.Y. Mets (Hester 3-0), Colorado (Morales 3-3) at Atlanta (Hester 3-0), Houston (Walbridge 1-2) at Cincinnati (Leake 2-3). Monday's games, Cleveland at Chicago White Sox, Texas at Minnesota, Tampa Bay at Oakland, L.A. Angels at Seattle, Tampa Bay at N.Y. Mets, Houston at Kansas City, Boston at Atlanta, Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, Miami at Washington, St. Louis at Milwaukee, Chicago Cubs at San Francisco, N.Y. Yankees at St. Louis, Philadelphia at Cincinnati, Cincinnati at L.A. Dodgers, San Diego at Arizona.

Table with columns: Team, Boston, Red Sox, Tampa Bay. Rows include Boston, Red Sox, Tampa Bay.

Table with columns: Team, Boston, Tampa Bay. Rows include Boston, Tampa Bay.

Table with columns: Team, Houston, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago. Rows include Houston, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago.

Table with columns: Team, Houston, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago. Rows include Houston, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Miami, New York, Chicago.

Reds 5, Cardinals 3

Table with columns: St. Louis, Cincinnati. Rows include St. Louis, Cincinnati.

Table with columns: St. Louis, Cincinnati. Rows include St. Louis, Cincinnati.

Table with columns: St. Louis, Cincinnati. Rows include St. Louis, Cincinnati.

Table with columns: Team, Texas, Detroit. Rows include Texas, Detroit.

Table with columns: Team, Kansas City, Los Angeles. Rows include Kansas City, Los Angeles.

Table with columns: Team, Kansas City, Los Angeles. Rows include Kansas City, Los Angeles.

Table with columns: Team, Kansas City, Los Angeles. Rows include Kansas City, Los Angeles.

Braves 3, Rockies 2

Table with columns: New York, Atlanta. Rows include New York, Atlanta.

Table with columns: New York, Atlanta. Rows include New York, Atlanta.

Table with columns: New York, Atlanta. Rows include New York, Atlanta.

Table with columns: Team, Padres 11, Cubs 1. Rows include Padres 11, Cubs 1.

Table with columns: Team, Chicago, San Diego. Rows include Chicago, San Diego.

Table with columns: Team, Chicago, San Diego. Rows include Chicago, San Diego.

Table with columns: Team, Chicago, San Diego. Rows include Chicago, San Diego.

Atlanta catch Gerald Laird, front, catches a pop-out by Colorado's Charlie Culberson, back, during the sixth inning of Friday's game in Atlanta.

Table with columns: Team, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh. Rows include Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: Team, Washington, Pittsburgh. Rows include Washington, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: Team, Washington, Pittsburgh. Rows include Washington, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: Team, Washington, Pittsburgh. Rows include Washington, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: Team, Washington, Pittsburgh. Rows include Washington, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: Team, Minnesota, San Francisco. Rows include Minnesota, San Francisco.

Table with columns: Team, Minnesota, San Francisco. Rows include Minnesota, San Francisco.

Table with columns: Team, Minnesota, San Francisco. Rows include Minnesota, San Francisco.

DAVID TULSA/AP

MLB

NL roundup

Dodgers knock off Philadelphia

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Clayton Kershaw limited Philadelphia to two hits in six innings and Carl Crawford hit a solo homer as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Phillies 2-0 in the National League on Friday.

Kershaw (3-1) bounced back from his roughest outing in two years with an excellent performance, striking out nine. The two-time Cy Young Award winner allowed seven runs in 1½ innings — the second-shortest outing of his career — in an 18-7 loss to Arizona last Saturday.

Roberto Hernandez (2-2) allowed two runs and seven hits in 6½ innings in his first start since May 9. Hernandez pitched out of the bullpen the past two weeks because the Phillies didn't need a fifth starter.

The Dodgers have won three of four. The Phillies have lost three in a row, tying their season low of five games under .500.

Brewers 9, Marlins 5: Mark Reynolds hit a pair of two-run homers as Milwaukee won a record-setting slugfest on the road.

Giancarlo Stanton and Garrett Jones hit two solo homers apiece for Miami, and Khris Davis homered for Milwaukee.

The teams combined for seven

homers, the most since pitcher-friendly Marlins Park opened in 2012.

Reds 5, Cardinals 3: Todd Frazier hit a three-run homer off Shelby Miller and Devin Mesoraco added a solo shot as host Cincinnati beat St. Louis to tighten the top of the NL Central division.

The Reds moved within three games of the second-place Cardinals, who have won seven of their last nine games while staying right behind division-leading Milwaukee.

Pirates 4, Nationals 3: Charlie Morton worked into the sixth inning to end a lengthy losing streak as Pittsburgh beat visiting Washington.

Morton (1-6) allowed one run on five hits in 5½ workmanlike innings for his first victory since September. Pedro Alvarez hit his ninth home run of the season after being dropped from fourth to sixth in the lineup. Ike Davis, who replaced Alvarez as the cleanup hitter, went 2-for-4 with two runs scored.

Braves 3, Rockies 2: Gerald Laird drove in two runs with two hits, including a tiebreaking single in the eighth, and host Atlanta beat Colorado after the visitors lost third baseman Nolan Arenado to a broken finger.

Arenado left the game in the



MATT SLOCUM/AP

Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws during the first inning of Friday's game against the Phillies in Philadelphia.

second inning after fracturing his left middle finger on a head-first slide into second base.

Padres 11, Cubs 1: Yonder Alonso and Yasmani Grandal homered, and Chase Headley drove in three runs as host San

Diego ended a four-game skid. The Padres set a season-high in runs and had 12 hits.

Interleague

Giants 6, Twins 2: Pablo Sandoval and Brandon Hicks homered

to back a wild Tim Lincecum in host San Francisco's win.

Lincecum (4-3) struck out four and walked six in six innings. He allowed five hits and also had two wild pitches, escaping trouble in nearly every inning.

AL roundup

Streaking Blue Jays top A's

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Liam Hendriks won his season debut and Steve Tolleson hit a two-run home run as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Oakland Athletics 3-2 in the American League on Friday for their ninth victory in 11 games.

Brandon Moss homered for the seventh time in 18 games for the Athletics, who lost their second straight following a five-game winning streak. Oakland's loss was just its third in the past 14 games overall.

Hendriks (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in 5½ innings. The right-hander walked three and struck out three.

Tolleson hit Toronto's MLB-leading 68th home run when he connected off Scott Kazmir (5-2) in the second, his first of the year. The drive also scored Brett Lawrie, who reached on a fielder's choice.

Kazmir allowed three runs and five hits in seven innings. He walked one and struck out two.

Tigers 7, Rangers 2: Anibal Sanchez gave his team a much-needed good-quality start as host

Detroit ended its four-game losing streak with victory over Texas.

Austin Jackson and Andrew Romine homered for Detroit, and Ian Kinsler doubled three times against his former team. Sanchez (2-2) allowed two runs and five hits over seven innings.

Angels 6, Royals 1: Mike Trout homered and threw out a runner at third base and Chris Iannetta also went deep as host Los Angeles moved to a season-best seven games over .500.

C.J. Wilson (6-3) allowed a run and four hits in 6½ innings, striking out three and walking four. Wilson also hit two batters, including leadoff man Nori Aoki with his 105th and final pitch. Aoki had two singles and a double.

Rays 1, Red Sox 0: Pinch-hitter Cole Figueroa had an RBI double in the bottom of the ninth inning to lead Tampa Bay past visiting Boston.

John Lackey gave up five hits, including three by Evan Longoria, in seven-plus shutout innings for the Red Sox, who have lost eight in a row. Boston has only scored 16 runs during its longest skid since dropping the final eight games of the 2012 season.

Orioles 8, Indians 4: Chris Davis homered and had four RBIs and Adam Jones had three hits and scored three runs as Baltimore ended visiting Cleveland's four-game winning streak.

Nelson Cruz hit his 15th homer for the Orioles, who have 38 runs and 62 hits in their last five games.

White Sox 6, Yankees 5: Adam Dunn hit a two-run homer off David Robertson in the ninth inning, and host Chicago beat New York.

Alexei Ramirez also went deep, and Chicago came away with the win after wiping out an early three-run deficit and then rallying again.

Mariners 6, Astros 1: Felix Hernandez struck out nine over eight strong innings for his third straight victory and Willie Bloomquist hit his first home run since 2011 for Seattle.

Hernandez (6-1) allowed only five hits and continued a strong last two weeks on the mound. After going more than a month between victories, Hernandez has struck out 21 and walked just two over his last three starts.



FRANK TUNNE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Blue Jays second baseman Steve Tolleson takes to the air as he turns a double play after forcing out Oakland's Nick Punto during the seventh inning of Friday's game in Toronto. Toronto won 3-2.

NBA PLAYOFFS/AUTO RACING

OKC's Ibaka may play in Game 3

By Cliff Brunt
The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — The San Antonio Spurs never believed Serge Ibaka was out for the Western Conference finals, even after the Thunder said they expected him to miss the rest of the playoffs with a calf injury.

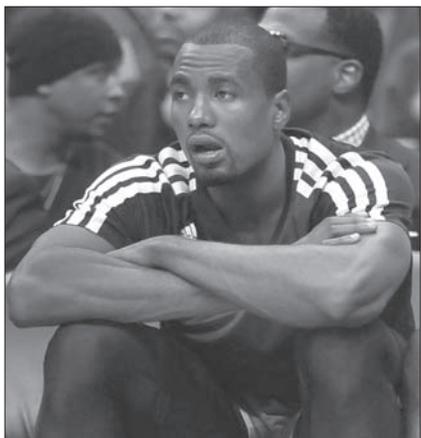
Looks like the Spurs might have been on to something. The Thunder said Friday that their defensive standout now is day-to-day after his strained left calf showed improved movement and stability and a significant decrease in swelling. The Thunder have missed Ibaka badly as San Antonio has raced to a 2-0 lead in the series, and his possible return gives the Thunder hope as they prepare for Game 3 on Sunday.

"His progress in the last several days has been surprising," Thunder general manager Sam Presti said. "I don't think any of us thought we'd be standing here talking about this. We're grateful that we are."

Well, maybe no one with the Thunder expected it. The Spurs certainly did.

"We knew he would be back, and that's good," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "Nobody would wish that on anybody to miss a playoff. We've had guys miss playoffs before. It's obviously a downer. If he gets back in — and I'm sure he will, as I've said from the beginning — I think it's great."

Ibaka was injured in Game 6 against the Los Angeles Clippers, a Western Conference semifinals series-clinching win on May 15. He is averaging 12.2 points, 7.3 rebounds and 2.2 blocks in the



MARK GALL/MCT

After initially being ruled out for the remainder of the playoffs due to a calf injury, the Oklahoma City Thunder have announced that center Serge Ibaka could play in Game 3 of the Western Conference finals on Sunday in Oklahoma City.

Scoreboard

Conference finals

(Best-of-seven; x if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Indiana 1, Miami 1
Indiana 107, Miami 96
Miami 97, Indiana 85
Saturday, at Miami
Monday, at Miami
Wednesday, May 28: at Indiana
Thursday, May 29: at Miami
x-Sunday, June 1: at Indiana
x-Tuesday, June 3: at Indiana
WESTERN CONFERENCE
San Antonio 2, Oklahoma City 0
San Antonio 122, Oklahoma City 105
Wednesday: San Antonio 112, Oklahoma City 77
Sunday, at Oklahoma City
Tuesday, at Oklahoma City
x-Thursday, May 29: at San Antonio
x-Saturday, May 31: at Oklahoma City
x-Monday, June 2: at San Antonio

NBA Finals

(Best-of-seven; x if necessary)

Thursday, June 5: East champion at San Antonio or Oklahoma City
Sunday, June 8: East champion at San Antonio or Oklahoma City
Tuesday, June 10: West champion at Indiana or Miami
Thursday, June 12: West champion at Indiana or Miami
x-Sunday, June 15: East champion at San Antonio or Oklahoma City
x-Tuesday, June 17: West champion at Indiana or Miami
x-Friday, June 20: East champion at San Antonio or Oklahoma City

playoffs while shooting 62 percent from the field.

Presti did not say if Ibaka would be available for Game 3, just that he could not be ruled out. Presti said he felt it best to be forthcoming with the change in the situation.

"It would be convenient to not provide the information, and if he were ever healthy enough to play in a game, to release that an hour before the game," he said. "But in this case, we don't think that was the way to handle it, because previously, we had deemed him out. And we can't deem him out."



MIKE MCCARR/AP

From left, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Martin Truex Jr., Tony Stewart, Kevin Harvick and Dave Blaney chat as they sit on pit wall Thursday before qualifying for Sunday's Sprint Cup series race at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C.

Five things to watch

'Happy' Harvick on a roll

Two-time champ looking to win third 600 in four years

By Pete Jacobelli
The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — Happy Harvick has lived up to his nickname this season, and hopes the good times with new team Stewart-Haas Racing roll on at Charlotte.

Kevin Harvick heads into the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday night coming off a win and three top-10s in the last four races. He was in position to win last week's All-Star race until a slow final pit stop caused him to finish second at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Now he goes into the Coca-Cola 600 looking for his third win in four years at NASCAR's longest race of the season. Harvick won the 600-miler in 2011 and 2013, and feels he's got another shot with his new No. 4 Chevrolet.

Harvick, who won 23 races in 13 seasons driving for Richard Childress Racing, said there's something different and special about his new Rodney Childers-led crew, and Stewart-Haas, too.

"The bottom line is the organization from a whole has given us every resource that we have asked for," Harvick said. "You never talk about money. It's just what do you need and how do we get it for you?"

Five things to watch during Sunday's race:

1 Eyes on Kurt: Fans won't be the only ones watching Kurt Busch's try at the grueling, 1,000-mile double of the Indianapolis 500 and Coca-Cola 600. Busch's colleagues in NASCAR will be following very closely. Clint Bowyer said he can't wait to get up Sun-



TERRY RENNA/AP

Kurt Busch will attempt to become just the second driver to complete the grueling 1,000-mile double of the Indianapolis 500 and the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday.

day and watch the Indy 500 so see how Busch is doing. "Fans are paying attention to that and we're paying attention, everybody in this room and everybody in this garage area is paying attention to it," Bowyer said. "That's a big story for us."

2 Johnson's season: It's been a long, dry season for defending Sprint Cup champion Jimmie Johnson, who's been winless this season through 11 races to match his longest drought, at the start of the 2003 season. But Johnson showed some signs he's ready to break back on top, collecting his first pole of the

season for Sunday's race. Johnson has had success at Charlotte Motor Speedway with a record-tying six previous wins, including three in the Coca-Cola 600.

3 Super Dale Jr.: Dale Earnhardt Jr. will be running with Superman as his No. 88 machine as part of a multi-year sponsorship deal between Hendrick Motorsports and DC Comics. Earnhardt was asked what super power he'd most like to have. "Super-human strength would be the best one to have, I think. Being able to pick stuff up and throw it across the yard would be fun," he said.

4 Long, long race: In NASCAR's longest event, it doesn't pay to take chances early on. Harvick said he keeps telling himself to stay patient because the extra 100 miles gives teams that much more time to get the car perfectly tuned for the last stretch. It's also about nutrition, said Jamie McMurray: "It's always about trying to get enough food in your system so that you're not hungry or feel weak toward the end."

5 Military salutes: Few sports honor the military as well as NASCAR and expect another big show at Charlotte. Goodyear again will adorn its race tires with "Salute Our Troops" and will match funds up to \$50,000 raised through charity auction. Tommy Baldwin Racing teams are also involved in a "Salute The Troops" letter writing initiative where people can send notes, cards and letters of thanks and support to military personnel. Count on flyovers and military vehicles, too.

INDY 500

Indy: Double bid overshadowing wide-open field

FROM BACK PAGE

Fans will be treated to one of the most wide-open races in recent memory.

No single driver or team has risen to the top this season. And with so much attention on Busch, who will become just the fourth driver in history to compete in both the 500 and NASCAR's Coca-Cola 600 on the same day, so many other elements of this magical race at historic Indianapolis Motor Speedway have been somewhat overlooked.

"I don't know that there's a favorite at all this year," said Graham Rahal. "I feel like it is extremely wide open at this point, even as a driver myself, I couldn't even tell you who I would pick. I have no clue."

Indy is a race in which three owners — Andretti, Ganassi and Penske — typically have the cars to beat. That, at least, is no different this year as Andretti Autosport put three of its five entries in the top 10, while Team Penske got all three of its cars in.

"I'm sure we've got the winner sitting here," Roger Penske said of Helio Castroneves, Juan Pablo Montoya and Will Power.

But Andretti feels just as strongly about his chances, especially after James Hinchcliff qualified in the middle of the front row three days after he was medically cleared to drive following a concussion. He leads the five-car Andretti stable, which has Marco Andretti and Carlos Munoz in the two rows behind Hinchcliff.

Further back in the field is Hunter-Reay and Busch, the former NASCAR champion who will start 12th in Marco Andretti's backup car because he crashed his primary on Monday.

If one had to pick a favorite from that group, it would be Marco Andretti, who will make a ninth attempt at ending the family heartache in this race. His grandfather, Mario, won just once, in 1969, while father and car owner Michael never had the chance to drink the celebratory milk in victory lane.

Boy, does Marco want this. "This is the biggest race in the world and I have so much respect for it and I want nothing more in my life than to add my name to the list of champions," Andretti said. "I feel like I have the car and the team and the crew to do it, but being the ninth year in it and seeing everything under the sun go wrong, I can't be overconfident."

Why? Start with the sudden emergence of the Ganassi cars, which finally showed the speed they'd been lacking for two weeks on Carb Day. After lagging behind and failing to move into the final round of qualifying, defending race winner Tony Kanaan and defending IndyCar champion Scott Dixon went 1-2 in Friday's final practice session.

"I think as we all know the competition is extremely tough and it looks like there's many good cars out there," said Dixon, noting that the Ganassi organization has a penchant for dragging through race preparations and then showing up on Carb Day and race day. "We definitely don't do it on purpose. But, yes, last year we kind of did the same thing. There are many drivers in the field who feel this could be their year. From Ed Carpenter, who starts from the pole for the second consecutive Indy 500, to dark horses Josef Newgarden, Justin Wilson and Buddy Lazier, one of six former race winners in the field.

"Last year, there were nine guys that could win this race, this year I think it is double," Kanaan said. "We simply don't know how this thing is going to play out."

200 of the biggest laps in auto racing

The 98th Indianapolis 500 will be run, weather permitting, May 25, featuring drivers from 10 countries. Indianapolis Motor Speedway is regarded as the largest-capacity sporting facility in the world, and the 500 is one of the plums of the racing world, with a total purse exceeding \$12 million in 2013.



The 2013 starting grid

1 Ed Carpenter Car No. 20	2 James Hinchcliff Car No. 27	3 Will Power Car No. 12
4 Helio Castroneves Car No. 3	5 Simon Pagenaud Car No. 77	6 Marco Andretti Car No. 25
7 Carlos Munoz Car No. 34	8 Josef Newgarden Car No. 67	9 J.R. Hildebrand Car No. 21
10 Juan Pablo Montoya Car No. 4	11 Scott Dixon Car No. 9	12 Kurt Busch Car No. 26
13 Jack Hawksworth Car No. 98	14 Justin Wilson Car No. 19	15 Mikhail Aleshin Car No. 7
16 Tony Kanaan Car No. 10	17 Sebastien Bourdais Car No. 11	18 Oriol Servia Car No. 16
19 Ryan Hunter-Reay Car No. 28	20 Graham Rahal Car No. 15	21 Carlos Huertas Car No. 18
22 Pippa Mann Car No. 63	23 Takuma Sato Car No. 14	24 Alex Tagliani Car No. 68
25 Townsend Bell Car No. 6	26 Charlie Kimball Car No. 63	27 Jacques Villeneuve Car No. 5
28 James Davison Car No. 33	29 Martin Plowman Car No. 41	30 Ryan Briscoe Car No. 8
31 Sage Karam Car No. 22	32 Sebastian Saavedra Car No. 17	33 Buddy Lazier Car No. 91

The track

- Built in 1909
- Has been resurfaced many times since
- Has more than 250,000 seats

The 'Brickyard'

- Track originally paved with 3.2 million bricks; a 1-yard strip of them remains
- Winner kneels and kisses the yard of bricks

Speed records

- Single lap average 236,103 mph, Eddie Cheever, 1996
- 200-lap average 187,433 mph, Tony Kanaan, 2013

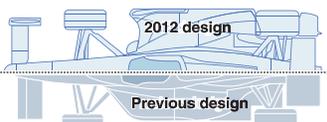
IndyCar chassis

IndyCar Racing created a new chassis, designed to boost safety, for drivers to use during the 2012 circuit; driver Dan Wheldon helped to begin testing it before the crash at Las Vegas Motor Speedway in 2011 that claimed his life; a look at its major new features:

Safety upgrades

- Larger cockpit**
If a wreck occurs, this will make extraction easier, and drivers can turn wheel without arms touching sides of cockpit tub
- Wider sidepods**
These now extend farther, over formerly open wheel structure
- Vertical wings**
Extend 12 inches above side panels to keep wheels from hitting sidepods in a crash
- Smaller engines**
Built by Honda, Chevy, at most 2.2 liters, down from 3.5, turbocharged for first time since 1996; deliver 550 to 700 horsepower
- Wheel guards**
New body extensions up over the front of the rear wheels, to minimize wheel-to-wheel contact
- Thicker foam pads**
3 inches of foam behind driver's seat, and another layer under it to absorb shocks
- Guards behind rear wheels**
Also designed to limit wheel-to-wheel contact, which can cause cars to take flight

New and old chassis side-by-side



SOURCES: Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Dallara Automobili, SPEED, Crash.Net ROBERT DORRELL/MCT

SPORTS



Serge back

Thunder center set to return for Game 3 | NBA playoffs, Page 30

INDIANAPOLIS 500

Center of attention

Busch's Double bid has NASCAR stars' eyes on Indy

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

Dale Earnhardt Jr. is going to watch. So will Jimmie Johnson, Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart and Clint Bowyer. NASCAR's biggest names all plan to tune in to the Indianapolis 500 to watch

Kurt Busch

run the first leg in his attempt to complete The Double.

Millions of other casual fans will also turn their attention to Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Sunday, where Busch's debut will bring new eyeballs to the "Greatest Spectacle In Racing." Although the Indy 500 has always been the crown jewel of motorsports, the slumping IndyCar Series struggles to gain much traction outside the showcase race.

"I think he does bring

attention, and I think the series does need that added attention," 2012 series champion Ryan Hunter-Reay said of Busch. "The racing in the IndyCar Series has been called the best kept secret in racing, and it is some of the best action out there, so I think it's a great opportunity for some fans who wouldn't necessarily tune in to check it out and see what it's all about and how good the racing is."

SEE INDY ON
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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN VENABLES/Stars and Stripes