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STARS AND STRIPES

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'HE CONTINUED TO FIGHT'

Soldier in storied Battle of Wanat to be given Medal of Honor

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes



WASHINGTON — Former Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Pitts, a forward observer who fought through critical injuries to help turn the tide in one of the deadliest attacks of the war in Afghanistan, will receive the Medal of Honor next month, the White House announced Monday.

Pitts, 28, will become the third member of 2nd Battalion, 503 Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team to receive the nation's highest award for valor, joining former Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta and former Sgt. Kyle White. With the award for Pitts, a Lowell, Mass., native who now lives in Nashua, N.H., a total of 12 Medals of Honor will have been conferred for combat in Afghanistan.

HEROES
Stars and Stripes tells the stories of courage and camaraderie, celebrating the lives and deaths of those who gave nothing less than everything for others.

Online exclusively at: stripes.com/heroes

Pitts earned his on July 13, 2008, in what came to be known as the Battle of Wanat. His unit was in the final weeks of a 14-month deployment and had been ordered to close down a heavily embattled combat outpost known as Bella and move operations to the outskirts of the village of Wanat in the Nuristan province.

SEE WANAT ON PAGE 2

Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Pitts, shown in Afghanistan, will be awarded the Medal of Honor on July 21.

Courtesy of the U.S. Army



Watchdog slams VA's downplay of deficient care

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A veteran admitted to a long-term VA mental health care facility in Massachusetts waited eight years for his first comprehensive psychiatric evaluation by staff.

Another patient with a 100 percent service-connected psychiatric condition was committed at the same Brockton facility for seven years before a single psychiatric note was placed on his medical chart.

The cases are among dozens of incidents whistleblowers in the Department of Veterans Affairs have reported out

■ Senator: Over 1,000 vets have died as a result of VA misconduct
■ Phoenix VA clerk: Records were altered to hide patient deaths

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Barack Obama on Monday by the U.S. Office of Special Counsel.

The VA has instead claimed such incidents were "harmless errors," according to the OSC, an independent federal watchdog charged with protecting whistleblowers and fielding complaints.

"This approach has prevented the VA from acknowledging the severity of systemic problems and from taking the necessary steps to provide quality care to veterans," according to the letter by Carolyn Lerner, head of the OSC. "As a result, veterans' health and safety has been unnecessarily put at risk."

The OSC letter, which was also sent to Congress, comes after revelations that the VA systematically falsified patient wait lists to mask long delays. About 57,000 veterans nationwide have waited more than a month to receive health care guaranteed as part of their military service, and whistleblowers have claimed delays have led to deaths.

SEE DEFICIENT ON PAGE 4

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“No one is reporting them missing. Hence, no one is looking for them. But for operations like this, these children would never have been found.”

— John Ryan, CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, commenting on children rescued from the sex trade by the FBI in a nationwide crackdown last week

See story on Page 8

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COMING SOON



Music

Jennifer Lopez doing it all

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MILITARY

Obama taps Campbell to lead ISAF

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has nominated Army Gen. John F. Campbell to command NATO's International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces Afghanistan.

If confirmed by the Senate, Campbell will likely be the final U.S. commander of NATO combat troops in Afghanistan. Combat operations there are scheduled to end Dec. 31. Earlier this month,

the current ISAF commander, Gen. Susan Dunford Jr., was nominated to lead the Marine Corps as commandant.

Campbell has served as vice chief of staff to the U.S. Army since 2013. Previously, he commanded the 101st Airborne division in Afghanistan from 2010 to 2011 and also commanded Combined Joint Task Force 101. Before that, he served in Iraq as deputy commanding general for the 1st Cavalry Division.

Obama also on Tuesday nominated Adm. Bill Gortney, commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command, to helm U.S. Northern Command and NORAD. Army Lt. Gen. Joseph Votel, currently commander of Joint Special Operations Command, would receive a fourth star and become commander of U.S. Special Operations Command if approved by the Senate.

“All three are highly qualified officers who have devoted many

years of service to their country.” Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel said in a written statement. “If confirmed by Congress, they will be outstanding successors to Gen. (Charles) Jacoby, Gen. Dunford, and Adm. (William) McRaven, who have all been exemplary and highly effective commanders. I join the president in thanking all these leaders for what they have done and will continue to do for both our nation and our men and women in uniform.”

Wanat: Wounded and alone, soldier went all out against enemy

FROM FRONT PAGE

Ominously, the new location, named Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, was overlooked by parts of the village that were on higher ground. It also was surrounded by several “dead space” areas where enemies could gather undetected. In the enemy's crosshairs at Kahler were 48 soldiers, as well as 24 Afghan National Army troops and a handful of Marine Corps advisers.

The decision to place the base in such a vulnerable location would later be hashed over in multiple reports and investigations of the controversial battle. Reprimands to several commanders were issued and later revoked, and the Army concluded the matter essentially with praise for the valor of the men who lived and died that morning in eastern Afghanistan.

The attack came just after 4 a.m., when machine guns opened up from a building to the north. Then the entire valley erupted in fire, according to the Army's narrative of then-Sgt. Pitts' actions. About 20 Taliban fighters who had infiltrated the village had launched a coordinated attack with small-arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades and hand grenades tossed from covered locations nearby. The base's own heavy weapons were destroyed or neutralized early in the attack.

Pitts and eight other paratroopers were in an observation post, OP Topside, on a nearby ridge when the attack came; seven

were immediately wounded, and two men were killed.

Pitts had received grenade shrapnel wounds in both legs and his left arm. After crawling across the outpost, one of his comrades in arms, Cpl. Jason Bogar, applied a tourniquet to stop serious bleeding in one of Pitts' legs. Bogar would later be killed in the fighting.

Realizing that Taliban insurgents were close enough to throw grenades, Pitts crossed the observation post and began “cooking” grenades — allowing timers to tick down — before throwing them into a concealed area nearby. In doing so, Pitts risked being killed by a short fuse, but made it impossible for insurgents to toss grenades back into the observation post.

To save grenades, Pitts — at that point unable to stand — grabbed an M-240 machine gun and began firing blind over the wall. During the fight, Pitts stayed in radio contact with Capt. Matthew Meyer, company commander, who was fighting on the main vehicle patrol base.

Soon after, Pitts realized that he was alone on the observation post, and that all the other soldiers were either dead or had withdrawn to Kahler. Meyer told him by radio that no reinforcements were then available to reinforce the outpost.

Pitts, who believed death was certain, decided to take out as many enemy troops as possible, the official Army narrative stated.



Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Sgt. Ryan Pitts waits for a flight at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.

“Taking up the M-203 grenade launcher, Pitts began firing it almost directly overhead, straight up, placing grenades that would detonate just on the other side of the perimeter, where the insurgents had concealed themselves in the draw,” according to the Army account. “Pitts also called on the radio for any soldier with a sightline to the OP to begin firing over the sandbag wall at his position, to knock the enemy back if they breached the wall.”

Pitts was soon reinforced by a group of four soldiers, one of whom was killed in the effort. When attack helicopters arrived soon after that, Pitts was nearly unconscious, but stayed in touch by radio with Meyer and provided necessary information to allow the captain to guide airstrikes that

finally took some of the heat off of VPB Kahler.

Pitts was evacuated at 6:15 a.m., nearly two hours after the attack began and after fighting with critical injuries for more than an hour. Nine soldiers had been killed, primarily those who had been stationed in or had gone to relieve OP Topside, and 27 were wounded.

Pitts could have withdrawn from his position without shame, Meyer wrote in his official account soon after the battle. But that's not what he did.

“Despite life-threatening injuries — injuries that merited retreat from the [observation post] — he continued to fight,” Meyer wrote.

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MILITARY

Air Force hails S. Korea drinking ban as a success

By Ashley Rowland
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The 7th Air Force called last weekend's ban on drinking a "success," with no alcohol-related incidents recorded during the 66-hour period.

The ban on alcohol purchase and consumption was in place for all airmen in South Korea from noon Friday through 6 a.m. Monday. Violators could have faced punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Command spokeswoman Maj. Richelle Dowdell said the alcohol stand-down was successful because it gave airmen a chance to reflect on their mission, gave them "time to consider what we must do to change — not only as individuals but to promote a culture of responsible drinking," and to explore off- and on-base activities.

While most airmen regularly behave themselves, "it's not a bad idea to occasionally reflect on our core values and our responsibilities as airmen," Dowdell said in an email. "Change will not come from the top down. Airmen must

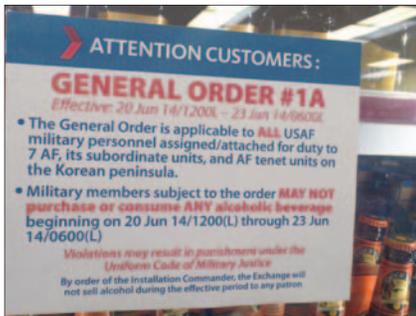
understand and embrace a responsible drinking culture that balances the privileges we all enjoy with the need to be ready to 'Fight Tonight.'"

For now, there are no plans to extend the drinking ban, Dowdell said; however, commanders at all levels retain the authority to implement measures to ensure health, welfare and mission readiness.

Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, the 7th Air Force commander, announced the ban in an editorial published last Friday in the *Crimson Sky*, the command newsletter, saying an increasing number of serious alcohol-related injuries in recent months led to the decision.

"It's not just three near-fatalities that drove this ban on drinking — it's also the number of arrests for assault or drunk and disorderly conduct; the almost daily emergency room admissions for excessive drinking; the number of careers, marriages, and lives destroyed; and most critically, the impact on our mission and readiness to fight tonight," the editorial said.

More than 100 Osan-based



ARMANDO R. LIMON/Stars and Stripes

A sign at the Osan Air Base shopette informs customers that alcohol would not be sold during last weekend's ban on alcohol consumption and purchase for all airmen on the Korean peninsula.

personnel, most of them airmen, were treated in emergency rooms for alcohol-related incidents in the past year, Dowdell said last week. Two airmen were medevaced to Seoul with extremely high blood-alcohol levels.

In the entertainment district outside Osan, a number of usually hopping bars were empty over the weekend, and taxis back to base — normally difficult to get on weekend nights — were plentiful.

Airman 1st Class Joe Fussell, who is stationed at Osan, said he thought the temporary drinking ban was fair, because if you "do something wrong, you should be punished for your actions." "I don't think anything of it because it was only for two days," he said. "For me, it wasn't the end of the world."

Danny Choi, head of the Korea Foreigner Tourist Facility Association's Songtan branch, which represents the entertainment and shopping district outside Osan, said bar owners understand the purpose of the drinking ban, but even the single weekend of lost alcohol sales could prove financially devastating.

Many saw their weekend sales drop nearly 90 percent. The lost revenue will hurt them when it comes time to pay their monthly rents.

"The servicemembers left the city and drank in other places because of the ban," he said. "The local economy was hit hard beyond description."

Stars and Stripes' Armando R. Limon and Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this story.
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Congress renews focus on military smoking

By Walter Picus
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Congressional efforts to limit or even stop men and women in the military from smoking cigarettes or using other tobacco products could create a major morale problem for front-line troops.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff see it coming and have to get out in front of it.

Last Wednesday, during the Senate Appropriations defense subcommittee hearing on the fiscal 2015 defense budget, the panel's chairman, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., questioned the discount prices for tobacco products sold within the Defense Department. "We spend \$1.6 billion a year on medical care of servicemembers from tobacco-related disease and loss of work," he said.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, responded: "We've asked a lot of our men and women in uniform, and we lead an uncommon life by choice. But all the things you're talking about are legal, and they are accessible, and anything that makes anything less convenient and more expensive for our men and women in uniform, given everything we're asking them to do, I've got concerns about."

Reducing smoking in the military has been a constant campaign for the past 30 years, starting with congressional efforts in 1985 to raise commissary cigarette prices to equal those in civilian stores. Instead of raising prices, then-Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger set up an "aggressive anti-smoking campaign" after a 1986 Pentagon study showed military smokers were less physically fit than nonsmokers and tobacco-related health costs might reach

\$209.9 million.

Other steps and other studies have followed. At Wednesday's hearing, Defense Secretary

Chuck Hagel said he has ordered a review of all tobacco sales as part of a study of all health programs. On March 14, a department memo titled "Reducing Tobacco Use in the Armed Forces and the Department of Defense" noted department policies have "made great progress in reducing tobacco use. Yet our work is far from over."

The memo, which went to the service secretaries and the military chiefs of staff, set as a goal "to dramatically reduce use of all tobacco by 2020," with proposed structural reforms such as where tobacco purchases should be made and "the need to consider tobacco-free installations."

As late as 1975, cigarettes were part of soldiers' rations. Since then, a new attitude has developed as steps were taken to discourage smoking. In 1994, the Pentagon banned smoking in workplaces and set up designated smoking areas. A 1997 executive order went further,

'We sleep in the dirt for this country. We get shot at for this country. But we can't have a cigarette if we want to for this country, because that's unhealthy.'

Rep. Duncan Hunter
R-Calif.

banning smoking in all government-owned, rented or leased interior spaces. After a phase-in period, the Defense Department fully implemented that policy in December 2002.

The department's actions have had some effect. In 1985, all military smoking was at 47 percent. It's dropped to 30 percent. However, as the March 14 memo states, "An estimated 175,000 current active duty servicemembers ... will die from smoking unless we can help them quit."

The last major military smoking study, completed by the Institute of Medicine in 2009, found that "smoking rates among military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan may be 50 percent higher than rates among nondeployed military personnel."

The institute's study said, "Current cigarette use in the military is more likely among men, those who are white, have less than a college education, are younger than 34 years old, and are enlisted versus officers."

In the ongoing debate about the military's use of tobacco, Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., a Marine Reserve major with three combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, argued at one point, "We sleep in the dirt for this country. We get shot at for this country. But we can't have a cigarette if we want to for this country, because that's unhealthy."

He eventually got the House to approve his prohibition of any new restrictions on legal products — including tobacco, sold on military bases, commissaries, post exchanges, and even ships — added to the fiscal 2015 Defense Authorization Bill.

The next move is up to the Senate.

Say what?

A sample of reader comments from strips.com



Of curfews and responsibility

The mixture of alcohol and young servicemembers in a foreign country has risks. The military has imposed curfews in the Pacific to address bad behavior in the ranks. But are late-night restrictions having unintended consequences? In two cases, it appears that death resulted when servicemembers were too afraid of sanctions to get help when friends were injured.

Readers respond:

Oh, the chain of command is so understanding - let them die in a hotel room - sounds like the VA hospitals waiting lists ...

— **cronymism**

No commander has ever let a soldier die in a hotel room. Let's put the blame on that one squarely where it belongs — on the battle buddies who didn't have the cojones to stand up like a man for their fellow soldier.

— **Desk Pilot**

All the more reason for full imposition of General Order #1. Time to quash the party boy atmosphere of these remote duty stations.

— **asonofSocrates**

Although your statement will certainly enrage more than current service member overseas, I cannot help to agree with it in some degree. I served in Germany throughout the 70's 80's. I firmly believe had there been a little more discipline, General Order #1, type thinking, a whole lot of off base incidents, shattered careers and destroyed or lost lives may have been avoided.

— **Wally**

One way to cut down on crime by US servicemembers in Japan and Korea is to stop sending 18-23 year olds to these assignments. I believe the governments of both countries have asked the US to do this.

— **carlos**

seems to me there should just be a curfew on the people who want to go out and party... How about no curfew for sober people?

— **balls420**

Join the fray at: strips.com/gv/cruefcivicients

VA SCANDAL

Deficient: Scandal's reach extends to include the Office of the Medical Inspector

FROM FRONT PAGE

A VA inspector general investigation found the wait lists were improperly manipulated at 70 percent of hospitals and clinics nationwide.

The OSC letter implicates the VA's Office of the Medical Inspector, which oversees quality of care, in the widening scandal over dysfunction in the department.

In response to whistleblower claims about the Brockton mental health patients, the OMI said it "feels that in some areas care could have been better but OMI does not feel that their patient's rights were violated," Lerner wrote in the letter.

The OSC now has 50 pending VA whistleblower cases alleging threats to patient health or safety; 29 have been referred to the VA for investigation.

The department has been generating an outsized number of complaints to OSC — more than 25 percent of all cases coming from the federal government, Lerner noted.

Typically, the OSC will take whistleblower complaints and send the allegations to the VA for investigation. Depending on the outcome, the department can choose to fix problems or decide no action is needed.

Lerner said the VA has substantiated whistleblower claims in cases but then decided there was no wrongdoing or threat to veterans.

■ In Little Rock, Ark., a whistleblower reported that hospital suction equipment was not available when needed and a veteran being treated at the time later died. The VA's medical inspector, which oversees quality of care, found there was not enough evidence that the lack of equipment caused the death and concluded the quality of the health care met standards.

■ An employee at a VA hospital in Fort Collins, Colo., reported severe scheduling and patient wait-time problems there. The facility "blind scheduled" veteran patients without consulting them and nearly 3,000 who had to cancel were unable to reschedule.

"One nurse practitioner alone had a total of 975 patients who were unable to reschedule appointments," Lerner wrote.

The VA medical inspector reported that "due to the lack of specific cases for evaluation, OMI could not substantiate that the failure to properly train staff resulted in a danger to public health and safety."

Review planned

The Office of Special Counsel told the president that the VA should appoint an individual to look into whether there are systemic problems in how whistleblower complaints have been handled by OMI.

On Monday, the VA's newly appointed acting director, Sloan Gibson, lauded the courage and integrity of whistleblowers and said he has accepted the OSC recommendation. A review of the VA medical inspector will be completed in two weeks, he said.

"I am deeply disappointed not only in the substantiation of allegations raised by whistleblowers, but also in the failures within VA to take whistleblower complaints seriously," Gibson said in a statement.

Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., who chairs the House Veterans Affairs Committee, said the OMI decisions do not make sense after dozens of veteran deaths around the country have been linked to delays and other lapses in care.

"[I]n the fantasy land inhabited by VA's Office of the Medical Inspector, serious patient safety issues apparently have no impact on patient safety," Miller said in a released statement. "It's impossible to solve problems by whitewashing them or denying they exist."

The VA medical inspector owes an explanation to the country of why it keeps reaching "implausible" conclusions regarding incidents that appear to threaten patient safety and care, he said.

Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., called late last week for more information from OSC on recent reports of VA retaliation against whistleblowers. On Monday, she called the OSC letter "disturbing" and said anybody involved in a cover-up over threats to patient safety at the VA should be fired.

"I'm outraged, not only by what these whistleblowers found, but by indications that those findings were ignored or minimized by VA management, perpetuating systemic problems while veterans suffered," McCaskill said in a written statement.

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Report: VA misconduct lead to veterans' deaths

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Over the past decade, more than 1,000 veterans may have died as a result of misconduct by employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, according to a report released Tuesday by Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla.

"Too many men and women who bravely fought for our freedom are losing their lives, not at the hands of terrorists or enemy combatants, but from friendly fire in the form of medical malpractice and neglect by the Department of Veterans Affairs," Coburn said in a letter addressed to taxpayers, which was attached to the report.

In a news release, Coburn said the scandal surrounding secret waiting lists and delays in patient care at VA facilities is "just the tip of the iceberg."

The findings in the report, titled "Friendly Fire: Death, Delay, and Dismay at the VA", are based on a year-long investigation of VA hospitals around the country conducted by Coburn's office, according to a news release and one of Coburn's aides.

Some of the report's most disturbing allegations include:

■ The federal government has paid out \$845 million for VA medical malpractice since 2001.

■ Criminal activity at the department is "all too common,"

including cases of drug dealing, theft and even murder.

■ Whistleblowers, health care providers, veterans and their families are subjected to bullying, sexual harassment, abuse and neglect. Examples include: female patients received unnecessary pelvic and breast exams from a sex offender; a nose was left on the desk of a minority employee by a coworker; and a nurse who murdered a veteran with a morphine overdose harassed the family of the deceased and pressured them to admit guilt for the death.

■ Some VA health care providers have lost their medical licenses, and the VA is hiding that information from their patients.

The report also paints a picture of a department plagued by mismanagement, waste and poor patient care. According to the report:

■ Patients experience significant delays when it comes to doctor's appointments, disability claims and urgent care.

■ Many VA doctors and staff are overpaid and underworked, some employees are not showing up for work, and some are even paid not to work.

■ VA doctors are seeing far fewer patients than private doctors, and some leave work early.

■ Hundreds of millions of dollars intended for health care have gone unspent each year.

■ Bad employees are rewarded with bonuses and paid leave, while good employees who try to bring attention to problems or errors are punished, bullied, put on "bad boy" lists or transferred to other locations.

The report identifies \$20 billion in waste and mismanagement that the authors say could have been better spent providing health care to veterans.

Most disturbingly, it alleges that poor patient care and mismanagement at the hands of the VA may have led to the deaths of more than 1,000 veterans.

Coburn partly blames Congress for some of the problems identified in the report.

"The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee largely ignored the warnings about delays and dysfunction at the VA for decades, abdicating its oversight responsibilities and choosing to make new promises to veterans rather than making sure those promises already made were being kept," Coburn said in a news release.

The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee has held only two oversight hearings over the past four years, according to Coburn. Coburn is not a member of the committee.

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Clerk: Publicity hasn't slowed deception

Stars and Stripes

Another Phoenix VA whistleblower has come forward, telling CNN that records of dead veterans were altered, some even in recent weeks, to hide how many people died while waiting for care.

"Deceased" notes on files were removed so veterans would not be counted as having died while waiting for care, Pauline DeWenter said.

DeWenter is the scheduling clerk at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs clinic. She told CNN that for the better part of a year, she was ordered by supervisors to manage the so-called "secret waiting list," where names of veterans seeking medical care were often placed, and sometimes left for months with no care at all.

It was one of DeWenter's duties to call veterans when appointments became available for consultations. Sometimes when she made those calls, she'd find that the veteran had died, so she would enter that on their records.

At least seven times since October 2013, DeWenter told CNN, records that showed veterans died while waiting for care were altered or rewritten. The deceased veterans were listed as living, hiding their deaths.

Some alterations had occurred in recent weeks, she said, in an at-

tempt to hide just how many veterans died waiting for care.

DeWenter said she believes that the purpose of "bringing them back to life" in the paperwork and putting the veterans back on the electronic waiting list was to hide the fact that veterans died waiting for care.

Beginning early last year, DeWenter said she was also instructed to hide the crisis at the Phoenix VA medical center by concealing new requests for treatment.

New requests by veterans wanting treatment were stuffed into a drawer to make the books look better, according to DeWenter.

Asked what happened to the new requests for appointments, DeWenter said: "They went to desk drawer. ... That would be the secret list."

DeWenter's claims support those of Dr. Sam Foote, now retired from the VA, who called attention to the Phoenix crisis and allegations that up to 40 veterans died while waiting for care.

VA officials did not respond specifically to any of DeWenter's allegations. Instead a spokesman sent CNN a generic statement that the acting secretary has pledged to work on the problems.

DeWenter also was asked pushed to clear up the backlog on

the electronic waiting list, which put pressure on follow-up care as well. There simply were not enough doctors to handle new patients, backlogged patients and very sick patients.

Doctors, nurses and emergency room providers were calling her to get appointments for patients who couldn't wait.

"And that really overtook even the wait list," DeWenter said. "Because now I have a consult where veterans are very sick. So I have to catch up on the wait list."

"It sounds so wrong to say, but I tried to work these scheduled appointments so at least I felt the sickest of the sick were being treated."

In December 2013, DeWenter and Foote told everything to the VA's Office of the Inspector General.

"I thought that was a saving grace," DeWenter said. "I thought, 'OK, this is it. This is gonna be all over,' you know? Then it wasn't. And we were waiting, and waiting, and waiting, and waiting. And nothing ever happened ... Nothing. We didn't hear anything."

"The leadership (in Phoenix) was telling us, 'Oh, we passed everything. We're not doing anything wrong.' And I'm like, 'We're not doing anything wrong? But people are still dying?'"

MILITARY



JENNIFER HLAD/Stars and Stripes

Camp Pendleton Marines pose for a unit photo with Cpl. William "Kyle" Carpenter, center, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for throwing himself on a grenade in Helmand province, Afghanistan, in November 2010, to save his friend Lance Cpl. Nicholas Eufrazio.

Honors for actions during Navy Yard shooting

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus recognized the survivors and victims of the 2013 Navy Yard shooting at a ceremony Monday, bestowing posthumous honors on the 12 employees killed that day as well as awards to those who helped in the response to the attack.

"The courage we witnessed ... did not end with the closing of that day," Mabus told an audience of more than 600 military personnel, first responders, civilians and family members gathered at the Navy Yard. "That courage endures today."

On the morning of Sept. 16, Aaron Alexis, a civilian contractor for the U.S. Navy, entered the Washington Navy Yard's Building 197, proceeded to the fourth floor and began opening fire. Ultimately Alexis would kill 12 people and wound several others before being killed in a standoff with police an hour later.

The Navy Yard shooting remains the second-worst shooting on a military installation after the shooting on Fort Hood, Texas, in 2009.

Mabus presented awards that included the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Medal with Valor, Navy Distinguished Civilian Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to the 12 employees killed that day, as well as awards to other civilian employees, contractors and servicemembers.

F-35 fighter jet catches fire during takeoff

A fire broke out on a F-35 Joint Strike Fighter after an attempted takeoff at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida.

The radar-evading, supersonic fighter jet, a nearly \$400 billion weapons program under development for more than a decade, experienced the emergency on the ground Monday at 10:15 a.m. Eastern time.

The aircraft was preparing to take off on a training mission, but aborted due to flames that appeared in the back end of the aircraft. Emergency responders moved in and extinguished the fire with foam, according to an Air Force statement.

The pilot left the aircraft uninjured, officials said.

From The Associated Press

'He was one of us' Newest Medal of Honor recipient connects with Pendleton Marines

By JENNIFER HLAD
Stars and Stripes

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — As the 1,100 enlisted Marines packed in the base theater Monday morning waited for Cpl. William "Kyle" Carpenter to arrive, they plotted how to be the first to get a selfie with the newest Medal of Honor recipient and the second living Marine of their generation to receive the award.

"He's a total badass ... like a modern-day Dan freakin' Daly," said Cpl. Alex Lambert, referring to the legendary Marine who earned two Medals of Honor in the early 1900s.

"He's one of the reasons I decided to join (the Marine Corps)," said Cpl. Nicholas Tianco, who like Lambert is a member of 1st Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 15. "That dude was jumping on grenades when I was in middle school. ... He's my hero."

The Marines didn't get a chance to snap individual photos with Carpenter, but said they were happy they had the chance

to hear him speak and get unit pictures with him.

Carpenter, 24, was serving with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, in the Marjah district of Afghanistan's Helmand province when on Nov. 21, 2010 he threw himself on a grenade to save the life of his friend, Lance Cpl. Nicholas Eufrazio. Carpenter was severely wounded. President Barack Obama last week said he flinched three times while doctors were treating him.

Carpenter spent nearly three years in the hospital and underwent dozens of surgeries before medically retiring from the Marine Corps. He is now a student at the University of South Carolina.

Walking the stage in a blue suit with the Medal of Honor around his neck, he told the camouflage-clad active-duty Marines he is "a little bit jealous" of them.

"I definitely miss it," he said. "I'm very honored to stand before you today."

He told the Marines that no matter their job or military specialty, what they do is important.

"We're a badass fighting force,

and we protect America," he said.

Carpenter told the Marines that when they have difficult days, they should support one another and know that "it does get better."

During a brief question-and-answer session, a Marine asked Carpenter if he has ever regretted the decisions that led to his life-altering injuries.

"Absolutely not," he said. "There were a lot of hard times ... but looking back, I'm proud of my scars and what myself and my Marines went through in Marjah."

Carpenter said he could never regret trying to help the people of Afghanistan.

"Was it hard? Yes. Do I regret it? No," he said.

Carpenter said it is "creepy and kind of weird" to have gone from a "normal person" and "country boy" to a celebrity with 29,000 Instagram followers and 13,800 Twitter followers practically overnight. He said he hopes he can use the spotlight to bring attention to the Marine Corps,

wounded warriors and those who were killed in combat.

Carpenter threw out the first pitch at the San Diego Padres game Sunday and met with wounded warriors at Camp Pendleton on Monday morning. On Tuesday, he was traveling to New York, where he was scheduled to meet with representatives from the USO and the American Legion, and appear on "The Late Show with David Letterman."

On Thursday, he is set to travel to Camp Lejeune, N.C., to meet with Marines at Wounded Warrior Battalion East and other Marines on that base before going home to South Carolina.

Sgt. Joey Pass, a Marine with 1st Maintenance Battalion, said he had been worried the Monday morning event would be "too Hollywood," but as soon as Carpenter began speaking, he felt he could really relate to him as a Marine and as a person.

"He was one of us," Pass said.

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IRAQ

Records show how ISIL predecessors evolved after defeat

By HANNAH ALLAM

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — When Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi assumed command in 2010 of what would become the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the group already was a largely self-funded, corporation-style organization whose resilience allowed it to grow revenues even as it was targeted by counterterrorism operations.

The militant group al-Baghdadi inherited already had in place a sophisticated bureaucracy with middle managers who were almost obsessive about record-keeping. They detailed, for example, the number of wives and children each fighter had, to gauge compensation rates upon death or capture, and listed expenditures in neat Excel spreadsheets that noted payments to an "assassination platoon" and "Al Mustafa Explosives Company Income" from the Sunni Muslim militants' looting of Shiite Muslim-owned property was recorded as "spoils."

By the time al-Baghdadi took charge, the group even had begun siphoning a share of Iraq's oil wealth, opening gas stations in the north, smuggling oil and exporting money from industry contractors — enterprises that al-Baghdadi would build on and replicate as he expanded operations across the border into Syria, initially preaching an al-Qaeda roots and declaring himself emir of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Now al-Baghdadi's ISIL has seized control of much of Iraq's Sunni provinces, is consolidating its hold on two provinces in eastern Syria and is circling the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, as 300 newly dispatched American military advisers arrive in Iraq to assess what the United States can do to stop its advance.

Insurgent records suggest that the U.S. will find it difficult to root an organization whose structure and attention to detail allowed it to prosper even during the toughest U.S. counterterrorism efforts of the last decade. U.S. officials backed, increasingly, that the group had been vanquished.

This rare, in-depth look into the seed money and organizational structure of the militant organization comes from the Department of Defense's classified Harmony Database, a repository of more than 1 million documents gathered from Iraq, Afghanistan and other war zones. Some 200 Iraq-related documents — personal letters, expense reports, membership rosters — were declassified in the past year through West's National Security Information Center for the use of RAND Corp. researchers looking into the evolution of al-Qaida in Iraq and the Islamic State of Iraq, the precursors to ISIL. Some analysis of the documents, which haven't yet been fully released, was discussed with McClatchy to lend context to

the current crisis.

The documents provide a cautionary tale as the Iraqi government pleads for U.S. military assistance to beat back the ISIL's brazen new campaign. The records reveal that previous incarnations of the ISIL have shown an extraordinary ability to regroup even after military defeats.

That's the direct result of the ISIL's aggressive and diverse fundraising arm, said Patrick B. Johnston, a RAND Corp. expert on militant financing who's analyzing the declassified documents and preparing them for book-length publication later this year.

Johnston said the lessons from the internal records were even timelier now that the ISIL reportedly had made off with more than \$420 million from banks in Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, which fell to the ISIL's control earlier this month. And that's only part of the valuable assets the militants seized during their virtually unimpeded march across northern Iraq.

"They continued to raise more and more money over time, even amid the U.S. troop

U.S. officials believed, incorrectly, that the group had been vanquished.

pullout from Iraq," Johnston said. "The U.S. faces major difficulties in its efforts to promote unity among the country's divided factions." The U.S., meanwhile, said more than 1,000 people, most civilians, have been killed in Iraq so far this month, the highest death toll since the U.S. military withdrew from the country in December 2011.

Massoud Barzani, whose powerful minority bloc has long functioned as kingmaker in Iraqi politics, did not directly mention Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who is facing the strongest challenge to his rule since he assumed power in 2006. But al-Maliki has made little effort beyond rhetoric to win the trust of his critics, who are led by disaffected Sunnis, Kurds and even several former Shiite allies.

Instead the Kurds have deployed their own well-trained security forces known as peshmerga and seized long-coveted ground of their own in the name of defending it from the al-Qaida breakaway group and other Sunni insurgents who have swept through the north. The Kurds are unlikely to be eager to give up that territory, including the disputed oil-rich city of Kirkuk, regardless of the status of the fighting.



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/AP

Kurdish regional President Massoud Barzani, right, speaks during a meeting with Secretary of State John Kerry at the presidential palace in Irbil, Iraq, on Tuesday.

Kurdish leader meets with Kerry, cites 'new reality'

By LARA JAKES AND HANNA HENDAWI
The Associated Press

IRBIL, Iraq — Iraq's top Kurdish leader warned visiting Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday that a rapid Sunni insurgent advance has already created "a new reality and a new Iraq," signaling that the U.S. faces major difficulties in its efforts to promote unity among the country's divided factions.

The U.S., meanwhile, said more than 1,000 people, most civilians, have been killed in Iraq so far this month, the highest death toll since the U.S. military withdrew from the country in December 2011.

Massoud Barzani, whose powerful minority bloc has long functioned as kingmaker in Iraqi politics, did not directly mention Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who is facing the strongest challenge to his rule since he assumed power in 2006. But al-Maliki has made little effort beyond rhetoric to win the trust of his critics, who are led by disaffected Sunnis, Kurds and even several former Shiite allies.

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Al-Maliki, meanwhile, has been entirely focused on the security situation, spending hours each

day in the main military command center, rather than politics, officials close to his inner circle say, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release such details.

Kerry traveled to Irbil, the capital of the self-rule Kurdish region, on Tuesday, a day after meeting with al-Maliki and other Iraqi officials in Baghdad where he pushed for them to adopt new policies that would give more authority to Iraq's minority Sunnis and Kurds.

Kerry said after the Baghdad meetings that all the leaders agreed to start the process of seating a new parliament by July 1, which will advance a constitutionally required timetable for naming a president, prime minister and a new Cabinet. Al-Maliki's political bloc won the most seats in parliamentary elections in April but must assemble a majority coalition in the Legislature to secure a third term for the Shiite leader.

Once a stable government is in place, officials hope Iraqi security forces will be inspired to fight the insurgency instead of fleeing, as they did in several major cities, and towns in Sunni-dominated

areas since the start of the year. Barzani's support will be crucial for resolving the political impasse because Kurds represent about 20 percent of Iraq's population and usually vote as a unified bloc.

Barzani told Kerry that Kurds are seeking "a solution for the crisis that we have witnessed." But, he said, "we are facing a new reality and a new Iraq."

Barzani did not explain what he meant by a "new Iraq," but he was apparently referring to the fall under Kurdish control of Kirkuk and other areas in northern Iraq that Kurds have long sought to incorporate into their self-rule region. Other Kurdish officials have even raised the possibility of pressing for independence, although that is opposed by the U.S. and neighboring Turkey.

The U.S. believes a new power-sharing agreement in Baghdad would soothe anger directed at the majority Shiite government, something that is thought to have fueled the ongoing insurgency. "A united Iraq is a stronger Iraq," Kerry said in an interview broadcast on NBC's "Today" show Tuesday.

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IRAQ

US, Iraq reach deal on legal protections

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The United States and Iraq have reached an agreement on legal protections for 300 military advisers who will soon begin work to help struggling Iraqi forces find their footing in the face of an insurgent tide.

The protections are based on an exchange of diplomatic notes between the two nations, and provide legal protections equivalent to the diplomatic immunity enjoyed by U.S. troops already advising on nonoperational matters like foreign military sales.

"We believe these protections are adequate to the short-term assessment and advisory mission our troops will be performing in Iraq," Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said in a statement Monday. "With this agreement, we will be able to start establishing the first few assessment teams."

A complete pullout of U.S. troops in 2011 was spurred by the failure to negotiate a status-of-forces agreement that provided immunity from the Iraqi justice system to U.S. troops. White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest on Monday told reporters the latest negotiation over legal immunity was a far different matter.

For one thing, the number of troops in question is far smaller. Iraq's attitude in the face of an onslaught by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL, has changed as well, he said.

"It's a little bit different now where you have the Maliki government coming to the Obama administration and saying that they would like to see American troops there," Earnest said.

Officials say teams of advisers will begin their work soon, and that some of the troops, who officials have said are Army Special Forces, are already in the country in other capacities.

"Probably two or three of these 12-man teams will come from personnel that are already in Iraq," Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said. "And the remainder will come from outside of Iraq but within the CENTCOM area of operations."

The advisers will provide information on the capacity and needs of the Iraqi military as it attempts to stand up to ISIL. Advisory teams will also help set up joint operations centers in Baghdad and northern Iraq to help the Iraqi military counter Islamist militants, who have overrun numerous cities in recent weeks. The advisers are expected to train and provide intelligence to Iraqi troops, but will not engage in combat alongside them, Obama promised.

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KARIM KADIM/AP

Iraqi men line up for physical examinations at an army recruiting center to volunteer for military service in Baghdad on Tuesday after authorities urged Iraqis to help battle insurgents. The U.S. is sending up to 300 special operations forces to help Iraqis improve their military systems and commands in wake of the military's collapse against the Sunni militants waging war across the country.

'A rapidly deteriorating situation'

US advisers face complex challenges in turning around Iraqi military

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. teams of Special Forces going into Iraq after a three-year gap will face an aggressive insurgency, a splintering military and a precarious political situation as they help Iraqi security forces improve their ability to battle Sunni militants.

The Army Green Berets, who are expected to make up much of the U.S. force, have been assessing and training other militaries for decades as a core part of their job. But while much of what they will be doing in Iraq will be familiar, it will be complicated by the stunning collapse of the Iraqi military, left leaderless by internal Sunni-Shiite divisions.

Experts suggest that while the elite commandos may be able to stop the immediate deterioration of Iraqi forces, it will require a far broader effort to quell the deep sectarian divide in the country and put systems in place to build more professional military leadership.

"They will be very good at improving the immediate tactical proficiency of some of the Iraqi military, but they will be less prepared to address the long-term health of the Iraqi army," said retired Lt. Gen. James Dubik, who was in charge of training Iraqi forces in 2007 and 2008. In essence, he said, the U.S. teams will be "sharpening the tip of the spear, but not replacing the rotted

staff with a new one."

In a string of battlefield victories, the Sunni militants have captured several key towns in the north and on the border with Syria, sending Iraqi troops fleeing.

'It's a hot war. They have to get in and help stop the bleeding to get the Iraqi forces to be able to maintain stability and security in the country.'

Rick Nelson
Center for Strategic and International Studies

ies. "It's a hot war. They have to get in and help stop the bleeding to get the Iraqi forces to be able to maintain stability and security in the country."

Brig. Gen. Darsie Rogers, head of Army Special Forces Command, said Green Berets currently are conducting training missions in 30 countries and do so in more than 150 nations each

year. Highly trained in special warfare and counterinsurgency, the teams routinely are used to help other countries build and improve their militaries.

The latest Iraq mission, Rogers said, is more akin to what special forces have been doing in Afghanistan and the Philippines and what they did in Iraq during the war years. But it's a bit larger than similar missions going on around the world, including a number of countries in Africa.

Rogers, who served in Iraq, said the assessment phase will be important in determining how to go forward but, "having some experience with that, I think that we will rather quickly understand where we need to apply our assistance."

"The teams will determine how the U.S. can best help the Iraqi forces, then the additional teams will deploy. They are expected to help the Iraqis improve their military systems and commands, but not embed with the fighting units

or engage in direct combat.

Rogers also noted that a number of U.S. Special Forces have served in Iraq.

"The relationships that we have with the Iraqis, at least those that I had while I was there, were very strong, and I'm sure that we'll be able to capitalize on this as we go back in," Rogers said.

Still, Dubik said that while the commandos will provide important short-term help for the Iraq forces, they will not be sufficient to solve the problem.

Instead, he said Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki needs to make several critical political moves, including disbanding the office of the commander in chief, which has been blamed for riling sectarian divisions and pushing a Shiite agenda.

U.S. officials are also pressing for a government transition that will better empower the minorities and bring the country together, and thus conceivably avoiding a civil war.

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NATION

Memo sheds light on deadly Yemen drone strike

By TIMOTHY M. PHELPS
and DAVID LAUTER
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Neither the U.S. Constitution nor laws governing prosecution of people who commit murder abroad prohibited killing American citizen Anwar al-Awlaki in Yemen, according to a previously secret Justice Department memo released by a federal court Monday.

Although the existence of the memo, written in 2010 to justify al-Awlaki's 2011 death by U.S. drone strike, has long been known by U.S. defense legal reasoning had been shrouded in secrecy. The ACLU and The New York Times sued for its release.

The redacted 41-page memo by former Obama Justice Department official David Barron is highly unusual in that it advocated allowing the killing of a U.S. citizen without due process of law.

Barron, recently confirmed by the Senate as a federal appeals court judge in Boston, concluded that al-Awlaki could be killed as a leader of al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula actively plotting attacks against the

U.S. and its allies. But the memo said there was no precedent for it, nor was there explicit authorization in federal statutes or the Constitution.

The memo authorized the U.S. military or the CIA to carry out a strike against al-Awlaki as long as they gave assurances there was no alternative.

"In the present circumstances, as we understand the facts, the U.S. citizen in question has gone overseas and become part of the forces of an enemy with which the United States is engaged in an armed conflict; that person is engaged in continual planning and direction of attacks upon U.S. persons from one of the enemy's overseas bases of operations; the U.S. government does not know precisely when such attacks will occur; and a capture operation would be infeasible," Barron wrote.

"At least where, as here, the target's activities pose a 'continued and imminent threat of violence or death' to Americans, the killing would be considered a lawful act of war," the memo concluded.

In such circumstances, "the Constitution would not require the government to pro-

vide further process" such as advance notice or a court hearing before carrying out a deadly strike.

The memo was released by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York under the Freedom of Information Act. The court ruled the administration had waived any right to secrecy by talking publicly about the memo and the legal justifications within it.

Anwar al-Awlaki was born in New Mexico to Yemeni parents, and the family moved to Yemen when he was 7. He returned to the U.S. for college and graduate school, eventually becoming an imam, or Islamic teacher, in mosques in San Diego and Falls Church, Va., where he would preach to three of the 9/11 hijackers.

He returned to Yemen after 9/11 and became a principal propagandist for an al-Qaida affiliate there, editing a magazine and releasing videos in English to inspire Western radicals.

The memo indicates that the government believed al-Awlaki had moved beyond propaganda to actually planning attacks, but the first 10 pages, where the evidence for

that assertion was apparently discussed, was redacted in the interest of national security.

The drone strike that killed him was carried out by the military.

Jameel Jaffer, the American Civil Liberties Union lawyer who filed the suit, hailed the memo's release but called its contents "disturbing ... ultimately an argument that the president can order targeted killings of Americans without ever having to account to anyone outside the executive branch."

"It's a very broad claim of authority," Jaffer said in an interview. "It makes the claim that targeted killings of American terrorist suspects (is justified) without geographic limitations and without presenting evidence to any court."

Al-Awlaki is one of four U.S. citizens killed in drone attacks. The others were Samir Khan, who was not a target but who died in the same strike as al-Awlaki; al-Awlaki's son, Abdulrahman al-Awlaki, who died in another strike; and Jude Kenan Mohammad, who was killed in a U.S. drone strike in Pakistan's tribal region.

FBI crackdown saves 168 kids from sex trade

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly 170 victims of child sex trafficking, many of whom had never been reported missing, were rescued in the last week as part of an annual nationwide crackdown, the FBI said Monday.

Besides the 168 children rescued from the sex trade, 281 pimps were arrested during the same period on state and federal charges.

"These are not faraway kids in faraway lands," FBI Director James Comey said in announcing the annual enforcement push known as Operation Cross Country. "These are America's children."

This is the eighth such week-long operation, which this year unfolded in 106 cities. The FBI says nearly 3,600 children have so far been recovered from the street.

"I hate that we have to do this work — hate it," Comey said. "I love the people who've devoted their lives to doing this work. There is no more meaningful work that the FBI participates in than rescuing children."

He said the operations were designed to "crush these pimps" and show that children are not for sale. They are also intended to rescue children who are being trafficked

on street corners, in truck stops and, increasingly, on the Internet, where pimps advertise and arrange sexual encounters.

One challenge, officials said, is that many of the children who were recovered were never reported missing in the first place — by parents, guardians and the entire child welfare system designed to protect them.

"No one is reporting them missing. Hence, no one is looking for them," said John Ryan, CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. "But for operations like this, these children likely would never have been found."

He said better laws were needed to require child welfare service to report children who disappear. Right now, he said, only two states have laws requiring agencies to report children missing from their care. There is no national, uniform standard. "We cannot find them if no one reports them missing," Ryan said.

Though this operation is the FBI's eighth of its kind, Comey said this year featured the highest number of participating cities. He said the biggest change was the increasing prevalence of children being sold online rather than on street corners.



WALTER MICROT, THE MIAMI HERALD/AP

An investigator films a scene where at least two people were killed and multiple others wounded in a shooting early Tuesday in Miami.

2 killed in violence-plagued area of Miami

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Two people were killed and multiple others wounded in a shooting early Tuesday in Miami's Liberty City neighborhood, police said.

Miami City Manager Daniel Alfonso said the dead include a 20-year-old man and a teenage girl. Police officials said a 17-year-old girl was critically wounded in the shooting, which happened near an intersection around 2:30 a.m.

"It's very early in our inves-

tigation," police spokesman Frederica Burden said. "I'm not sure how it occurred. We're investigating it now. I don't know if they were all outside standing, some in a car, some not in a car. I don't know that yet."

Liberty City is a historically low-income neighborhood plagued by violence and shootings. Last April, a gunman opened fire into a crowd outside a corner store, killing a woman and wounding two men.

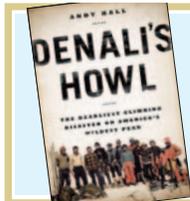
Alfonso said at the scene that

they were going to reassess their strategy against crime.

The sidewalk was littered with dozens of spent shell casings marked by green police cones and shattered glass by midmorning Tuesday. People standing nearby said they were afraid to talk about the shootings.

One resident, Jose Hernandez, said gun violence is an almost daily occurrence in the area.

"I have friends who have been killed," Hernandez said. "This violence has to change."



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

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NATION

High court to hear felon's claim

By MICHAEL DOYLE

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A North Carolina man initially convicted of actions that scared a grandmother to death will now get a second chance before the Supreme Court.

Larry Whitfield and his Asheville, N.C.-based attorney on Monday beat the odds by persuading the high court to reconsider his case. If Whitfield, 26, wins, he could regain his freedom earlier. He could also help clarify some confusion in federal law.

"Proper resolution of this issue will have a dramatic impact on Whitfield's overall sentence," defense attorney Joshua B. Carpenter noted in a legal brief. "This case presents a legal issue that has vexed the federal courts."

Carpenter is a staff attorney with Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina, which represents indigent defendants.

Few defense teams get even this far. The Supreme Court receives upward of 9,000 petitions annually, and agrees to hear only about 75.

Now incarcerated in South Carolina at Federal Correctional Institution Bennettsville, Whitfield is set to be released in May 2022. Several of the former Charlotte, N.C., resident's convictions, including attempted bank robbery and firearms charges, are not in dispute.

But the actions Whitfield took that immediately preceded the 2008 death of Mary Parnell, 79, of Gastonia, N.C., will be in the spotlight. In particular, Supreme Court justices will use the

Whitfield case to resolve different interpretations of what Carpenter called "an important and frequently applied federal criminal statute."

More than 5,000 federal bank robberies were reported in 2011, according to FBI statistics cited by Carpenter. The statute in question penalizes more severely a bank robber who "forces any person to accompany him" during the crime or while fleeing. While a standard bank robbery conviction can be punished with a term of up to 20 years, but no mandatory minimum, conviction on the forced-movement statute brings a minimum sentence of 10 years and a possible maximum of life.

The dispute is over how significant this forced-movement must be, and whether it includes

what lawyers call "de minimis" — minimal — movement of the victim.

Whitfield's case dates to Sept. 28, 2008, when he and a partner armed themselves with a handgun and an AK-47 assault rifle and set out to rob the Fort Financial Credit Union in Gastonia, N.C. Turned back by a security system, they fled, and Whitfield ended up in Parnell's home.

Whitfield tried to calm the visibly frightened Parnell, according to later testimony. Under circumstances that remain somewhat ambiguous, she went into a computer room of the house.

Whitfield subsequently left. When Parnell's husband came home later, he found his wife in the chair, dead from a heart attack.

Former nursing aide is convicted of rape

CINCINNATI — A former aide at a Cincinnati nursing home has been convicted of raping a 92-year-old resident who was confined to her bed and unable to communicate.

A judge on Monday found Samuel Onyenweaku, 22, guilty of the woman's Nov. 24 rape at the Amber Park Nursing Home.

A prosecutor said the woman died in February from an unrelated condition.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported that Onyenweaku was convicted of rape, felonious assault and patient abuse. He could face 20 years in prison.

NJ student accused of tampering with records

ORANGE, N.J. — Authorities in northern New Jersey say a high school student has been charged with using a school computer to change the grades and attendance records of multiple classmates.

Officials from the Essex County Prosecutor's office and the Orange Police Department announced Monday that a 16-year-old sophomore from Orange has been charged with multiple counts of computer theft for unlawfully accessing and altering data and hindering apprehension.

The sophomore was arrested and charged Friday and released on his own recognizance.

Explorer claims debris from 17th-century ship

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — A debris field at the bottom of Lake Michigan may be the remains of the long-lost Griffin, a vessel commandeered by a 17th-century French explorer, said a shipwreck hunter who has sought the wreckage for decades.

Steve Libert told The Associated Press that his crew found the debris this month about 120 feet from the spot where they moved a wooden slab a year ago that was protruding from the lake bottom. Libert believes that timber was the bowsprit of Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle's ship, although scientists who joined the 2013 expedition say the slab more likely was an abandoned fishing net stake.

Magnitude-7.9 quake prompts Alaska warning

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A strong earthquake near Alaska's Aleutian Islands triggered a tsunami warning Monday, but only small waves measuring several inches hit coastal communities.

The National Tsunami Warning Center canceled all tsunami warnings late Monday afternoon, about four hours after the earthquake.

The magnitude-7.9 earthquake was centered about 13 miles southeast of Little Sitkin Island, or about 1,400 miles southwest of Anchorage.

There were no reports of damage, said Jeremy Zidek, a spokesman for the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

From The Associated Press

Skeptical GOP questions IRS claim on lost emails

By STEPHEN OEHLEMACHER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans in Congress aren't buying the contention by the head of the Internal Revenue Service that he has seen no evidence anyone committed a crime when the agency lost emails that might shed light on the targeting of tea party and other political groups before the 2010 and 2012 elections.

On Tuesday, a House panel was to hear from a White House official who once worked at the IRS.

Jennifer O'Connor worked at the IRS from May to November 2013, helping the agency gather documents related to the congressional investigations, said Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight Committee. O'Connor has since moved to the White House counsel's office.

Issa subpoenaed O'Connor on Monday night after the White House declined his invitation to have her testify. After getting the subpoena, the White House relented.

Issa said he wants to question O'Connor about former IRS official Lois Lerner's lost emails. The IRS said Lerner's computer crashed in 2011, and emails she had archived on the hard drive were lost.

Lerner headed the division that processes

applications for tax-exempt status. Congressional investigators want Lerner's emails to see if there is evidence that anyone outside the IRS was involved.

"Before her promotion to the White House, Ms. O'Connor led the response to the congressional targeting inquiry and she is uniquely qualified to explain why attorneys did not focus on and flag Lerner's 'lost' emails at the outset," Issa said.

Rep. Elijah Cummings, of Maryland, the top Democrat on the Oversight Committee, said, "Republicans have been trying desperately — and unsuccessfully — for more than a year to link this scandal to the White House." David Ferriero, who heads the National Archives and Records Administration, was also scheduled to testify. The National Archives has asked the IRS to investigate the loss of records, and whether any disposal of data was authorized.

On Monday, IRS Commissioner John Koskinen appeared at a rare evening hearing before Issa's committee to answer questions about the lost emails. The hearing was contentious, with Koskinen brushing aside accusations that the IRS has obstructed the political group targeting investigations.

"I have the ability to say I have seen no evidence of any crime," Koskinen said.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., grills Internal Revenue Service Commissioner John Koskinen as he testifies before the House Oversight Committee on Monday

Anthrax lapse latest problem at Atlanta CDC

By MISTY WILLIAMS

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ATLANTA — An incident that potentially exposed dozens of workers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to anthrax is the latest in a series of safety problems at the Atlanta-based facility in recent years.

Earlier this month, lab workers at the CDC's campus didn't properly deactivate samples of deadly anthrax bacteria before sending them to lower-level labs to be used in experiments. Workers in the other labs also weren't wear-

ing adequate safety gear while handling the samples.

Two or three employees who possibly came into contact with the bacteria have experienced colds or flu-like symptoms, though no one has been diagnosed with anthrax, CDC spokesman Tom Skinner said.

Seventy-three employees were on powerful antibiotics as of late Monday afternoon as a preventive measure. The agency is investigating the incident, while a team from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct an independent review beginning this

week, Skinner said.

The agency has emphasized that family members of CDC employees and the general public are not at risk for exposure. Anthrax may be contracted through the air, but it can't spread through human-to-human contact.

The anthrax scare is the most recent in a string of missteps that has raised concerns among legislators, federal health officials and bioterrorism experts about inadequate training, lab security and faulty equipment at the facility.

Three separate reports by the Department of Health and

Human Services' Office of Inspector General, from 2008 to 2010, highlighted numerous problems that endangered workers and left deadly toxins vulnerable to being stolen or misplaced.

Among other problems, investigators discovered that workers had not been trained properly. They also found that people not approved to handle toxins signed for package deliveries of potentially deadly substances, and that inappropriately coded keywords provided workers access to secure areas they weren't cleared to be in.

WORLD



Martha Mark, the mother of kidnapped schoolgirl Monica Mark, display her photo in Chibok, Nigeria, on May 19. Witnesses say Islamic extremists have abducted many others in northeast Nigeria, but security forces denied the kidnappings.

Nigerian witnesses claim more village kidnappings

By HARUNA UMAR AND MICHELLE FAUL
The Associated Press

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Islamic extremists have abducted 60 more girls and women and 31 boys from villages in northeast Nigeria, witnesses said Tuesday.

Security forces denied the kidnappings. Nigeria's government and military have been widely criticized for their slow response to the abductions of more than 200 schoolgirls kidnapped April 15.

There was no way to independently confirm the report from Kummabza, 95 miles from Maiduguri, capital of Borno state and headquarters of a military state of emergency that has failed to curtail near-daily attacks by Boko Haram fighters.

Kummabza resident Aji Khalil said Tuesday the abductions took

place Saturday in an attack in which four villagers were killed. Khalil is a member of one of the vigilante groups that have had some success in repelling Boko Haram attacks.

A senior local councilor from the village's Damboa local government told The Associated Press that abductions had occurred but insisted on anonymity because he was not authorized to give information to reporters. He said elderly survivors of the attack had walked some 15 miles to the relative safety of other villages.

The Damboa council secretary, Modu Mustapha, said he could not confirm or deny the abductions and directed a reporter to the council chairman, Alamin Mohammed, who did not respond to messages.

The reported new kidnappings add to Nigeria's crisis over the

April kidnappings and the ongoing violence from the Islamic militant group Boko Haram.

A strategy to rescue the girls appears to have reached an impasse. Nigeria's military has said it knows where they are but fears their abductors would kill them if any military action is taken.

Boko Haram has been demanding the release of detained members in exchange for its hostages and President Goodluck Jonathan has said he will not consider a swap.

Politics have bedeviled the issue, with many distracted by upcoming presidential elections in February 2015. The first lady, Patience Jonathan, and some other supporters have claimed the reports of the April abductions of the schoolgirls were fabricated to discredit her husband's administration.

Putin seeking to cancel resolution of Ukraine force

By LAURA MILLS
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin asked parliament Tuesday to cancel a resolution sanctioning the use of military force in Ukraine, a move his Ukrainian counterpart heralded as a "practical step" toward bringing peace to a region roiled by a separatist insurgency.

Putin's announcement comes after pro-Russia rebels in eastern Ukraine said Monday they would respect a cease-fire declared by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, raising hopes for an end to months of fighting that have killed hundreds and driven thousands from their homes.

A statement on the Kremlin website announced that Putin had asked the head of Russia's upper house of parliament to cancel his March 1 request authorizing the use of force on Ukrainian territory.

Russian parliament member Valery Shnyakov said the house would vote Wednesday on the issue, according to RIA Novosti.

Russian markets, which have been rattled by the crisis in Ukraine and a host of sanctions by the U.S. and the European Union against Russian officials and businessmen, soared 1.6 percent Tuesday after the news, reaching a four-month high.

The Russian leader had made the request after Ukraine's pro-Russia president was ousted in February following months of street protests. In March, Ukraine's Black Sea region of Crimea was annexed by Russia after being seized by troops that Putin later acknowledged were Russian army forces.

Putin's latest move reflects an effort to de-escalate the crisis

ahead of a visit Tuesday to Vienna, where he is meeting with officials from the Organization for Security and Co-operation who have helped broker peace talks between Kiev and Moscow.

Kiev and Western governments have frequently accused Russia of supporting the rebels in the east and of amassing troops on the border for a possible invasion of Ukraine.

Poroshenko lauded Putin's announcement Tuesday.

The cease-fire in east Ukraine appeared to be largely holding Tuesday, as soldiers at a checkpoint in Dovhenke, 30 miles north of the rebel stronghold of Slovansk, were seen relaxing near the barricades or engaging in shooting drills.

Vladislav Selenzev, the spokesman for Ukraine's operation in the east, said rebel forces attacked a Ukrainian base north of Slovansk late Monday but there had been no fighting overnight. Troops at another government-controlled checkpoint just outside Slovansk said they had come under sniper attack Tuesday morning.

The OSCE chairman, Swiss President Didier Burkhalter, said in Vienna that "we need a cease-fire which lasts longer than five days to be able to start real dialogue," the Austria Press Agency reported. The current cease-fire is due to expire Friday evening.

Burkhalter, who planned to meet with Putin later Tuesday, said the OSCE was open to the idea of observing the cease-fire in eastern Ukraine along with Russian representatives but did not clarify exactly who would partake in any observation missions. He stressed the need for "practical support from Russia to see true progress" in Ukraine.

Beirut suicide bombing kills security officer, wounds 20

By ZEINA KARAM
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — A suicide bombing in a southern Beirut neighborhood killed a security officer and wounded 20 people, officials said Tuesday.

The overnight attack — the second such bombing this week — heightened fears that Lebanon was reverting to a cycle of violence after a few months of respite.

The explosion occurred near a checkpoint and a cafe in the Shatila area of the Lebanese capital just after midnight Monday. The area is a stronghold of the Shiite militant Hezbollah group, which has been heavily involved in fighting alongside President Bashar Assad's army in neighboring Syria.

The state-run news agency said Tuesday that security officer

Abdul-Karim Hodroj died in the explosion. It wasn't clear if the checkpoint, where Hodroj was deployed, was the intended target of the attack.

Among the wounded were people who had gathered at a nearby cafe to watch World Cup matches.

The explosion also comes amid mounting regional tension over dramatic events in Iraq, where the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant has seized large chunks of territory in the country's north and west.

On Friday, a suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden car near a police checkpoint in eastern Lebanon, killing a policeman and wounding several other people.

The bombings, coupled with the detention in Beirut of alleged militant sleeping cells on Friday, sparked fears of renewed violence in a country which has been buff-

feted by Syria's conflict.

Syria's civil war has spilled into neighboring Lebanon on multiple occasions and inflamed sectarian tensions. A series of car bombs have struck Shiite areas across Lebanon, killing dozens of people. Lebanon recently saw a lull in spillover attacks.

Until last Friday, the last major explosion to hit Lebanon was on March 29, when a suicide bomber in an explosives-laden car targeted a Lebanese army checkpoint near the Syrian border, killing three people.

Hard-line Sunni groups have claimed responsibility for the attacks against Shiite areas, saying they are meant to punish the Lebanese Shiite Hezbollah movement for its involvement in the Syrian civil war, where predominantly Sunni rebels are fighting to topple Assad.



BLAL HUSSEIN/AP

Lebanese army members and citizens gather at the site of a car bombing in a southern suburb of Beirut on Tuesday.

STARS AND STRIPES

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OPINION

Dads learning to juggle family duties

By CATHERINE RAMPPELL
 The Washington Post

Women have been trying for decades to juggle, balance, multitask, lean every which way, work the second shift and, most elusively, have it all. For many working mothers, the guilt from being unable to fulfill any or all of these lifestyle euphemisms has been unremitting.

Somehow men seemed relatively untouched by such work-life tensions. Their mission was merely to bring home the bacon, and bread-winning and parenting rarely appeared to conflict. In fact, while women typically suffer an earnings penalty upon having kids, men tend to enjoy a fatherhood pay premium. The result has been that family-friendly labor policies, as President Barack Obama observed at the White House's working families summit Monday, have traditionally "been thought of as women's issues, which I guess means you can kind of scoot 'em aside a little bit."

Until now. Steadily, and almost silently, work-life imbalance has thrown men off-kilter, too.

In fact, men now experience more guilt and frustration about balancing work and family duties than women do. According to a Harris poll released just ahead of the White House event.

The survey asked Americans about the flexibility and demands of modern workplaces. At one point, respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with this statement: "I don't get to spend enough time with my family." Four in 10 mothers agreed, vs. almost six in 10 fathers. These numbers, I should note, jive with other recent data, including surveys from the Families and Work Institute, suggesting that men today experience more work-life conflict than women.

Steadily, and almost silently, work-life imbalance has thrown men off-kilter, too.

I suspect a few factors are driving this newfound working-daddy duty. But basically it comes down to the fact that men's roles at home have finally evolved — and their jobs have not.

Women, including mothers of young kids, are much more likely to work today than a generation ago. As a result, most children live in households with no non-working parents. That means when Little Liam has a fever at school, Mom is no longer the default choice for picking him up. Dad is getting those emergency calls at his office, too.

True, employed women still spend more time on housework and child care than even men without jobs do, but men are catching up. Once upon a time, being an active, involved father meant throwing a ball around with the kids on the weekends; today, whether by preference or necessity, men are spending more time on less leisurely, and less flexible, domestic duties. In 2010, for example, 95 percent of fathers said they bathed and diapered their kids at least several times a week, according to calculations from the White House's Council of Economic Advisers.

Kids aren't the only family responsibility butting into men's careers. Ailing grandparents are playing a role, too.

Traditionally, women have borne the brunt of caring for elderly relatives, but thanks to longer life expectancies, smaller families (and therefore lower chances of having at least one daughter) and the rise of women in the workforce, men are increasingly expected or obliged to help out. And

men who help care for elderly relatives are much more likely than women in the same position to be employed.

In the absence of access to flexible work arrangements and family-friendly benefits such as paid sick leave, many women have resigned themselves to part-time or otherwise less-demanding career trajectories, if they end up working at all. They have become, in Sheryl Sandberg's terminology, comfortable with "leaving out." In the Harris poll, for example, 50 percent of mothers said they had chosen to pass up a job they felt would conflict with family obligations, compared with 43 percent of men. Women's propensity to "lean out" carries unsettling consequences, particularly for their ability to rise to leadership positions, but it is an effective way of reducing work-family conflict.

Men, on the other hand, seem to suffer from a sort of "masculine mystique": being around for bedtime and ballgames has become increasingly important to them, but they still feel pressured to be their family's primary breadwinner and to climb the corporate ladder. While women are finally starting to feel comfortable at least asking about more flexible work arrangements, men remain sheepish, fearful of looking like inadequately committed worker bees.

In a way, that men are wrestling with work-life conflict is a good thing — not because men deserve to suffer as women have but because if both halves of the population start demanding more family-friendly work arrangements and if amenities such as paid leave and flexible scheduling become crucial for attracting and retaining workers of both sexes, perhaps politicians and employers will finally stop scooting these "women's issues" aside.

Catherine Rampell is a Washington Post columnist.

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FAA must make passenger safety its top priority

Miami Herald editorial

The news has been scarier than usual: Iraq is on the boil, which has serious implications for U.S. security, random and mass-shooting tragedies seem to be coming at us weekly.

As to these the fact that air-traffic controllers are too sleepy, and anyone who boards a plane should be very afraid. The controllers are suffering from chronic fatigue while on the job — the task of keeping the millions of people who fly from here to there safe in the air. It remains a major threat to the safety of the flying public that the Federal Aviation Administration must address immediately.

It's not as if the FAA had no idea that too many of its 15,000 air-traffic controllers are at risk of nodding off or sluggish thinking. Three years ago, it was disclosed that there were controllers who were falling asleep in front of their screens, which forced the FAA to take a closer look at work scheduling, which has contributed to the problem.

This latest disclosure is a result of a report, mandated by Congress, from the National Research Council. At issue, short-term, is the policy that allows controllers to

work five eight-hour shifts over four consecutive days — the last one being a midnight shift.

Controllers love it because they get 80 hours the equivalent of two traditional work weeks — off before they have to return to work. However, the report says that this scheduling likely results in "severely reduced cognitive performance" during the midnight shift because of fatigue.

The schedule might be popular, but it's a dangerous one. The FAA should sit down with the National Air Traffic Controllers Association and develop scheduling that reduces fatigue on the job and increases flight safety.

To its credit, the FAA imposed a fatigue risk management program after several controllers were caught sleeping on the job a few years ago. Cutbacks, however, have thwarted the program's effectiveness. This is not encouraging news. Neither is what's roaring down the pike, coming straight at helpless plane passengers and crewmembers at the mercy of air-traffic controllers who might — or might not — be at the top of their game. The FAA is controlling a deluge of retirements. Controllers are required to retire when they turn 56. The agency will have to replace about two-thirds of this workforce — 10,000 control-

lers — during the next 10 years.

In order to fill the ranks, the FAA has abandoned its hiring program, in place for almost 25 years, of recruiting controllers from among military veterans who have aviation experience and from FAA-accredited colleges and universities.

It's a controversial move that rightly raises concerns about safety. It takes years to properly train air traffic controllers. It is imperative that the FAA — along with Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx — make a persuasive case that replacing recruits who have a leg up in their knowledge of aviation with neophytes starting from scratch will not further imperil people who fly.

The report makes several recommendations, including that the FAA analyze accident and incident reports and voluntary reports by controllers to identify specific links between staffing and safety; involve controllers in staffing decisions; and ensure sufficient staffing as its modernization initiative proceeds. Next Generation Transportation System will shift from ground-based radar to a satellite system. The agency must follow through.

Flying shouldn't be a crashstop because someone was asleep at the switch.

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OPINION

Fantasy-speak: a White House institution

By DAN K. THOMASSON
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON

Valerie Jarrett, a senior adviser to Barack Obama and a longtime confidant of the president, told reporters at breakfast the other day that there is an opportunity this summer for meaningful immigration reform.

Now that the primary season is over, she said, there is a rare chance the Republican-controlled House will adopt the compromise bill passed last year by the Senate, including the controversial path to citizenship for the more than 11 million immigrants in this country illegally. This will be supported, she said, by a new "groundswell" from around the country.

The astonishment in the room was palpable, but only one of those attending the Christian Science Monitor's long-running early morning sessions with newsmakers took the time to question her prediction. He politely pointed out that it is diametrically opposite of not only the conventional wisdom but also clear indication that opposition to comprehensively overhauling the system without first closing off the southern border to infiltration whatever it takes actually has been strengthened by the primaries. That of course included foremost the defeat of Republican Majority Leader Eric Cantor, of Virginia. Cantor's loss to a tea party college professor was blamed partly on his efforts to advance immigration reform.

Furthermore, Jarrett's opinion, which she said is shared by the president, seemed to ignore the fact that if the GOP House majority survives the coming fall elections, which it is expected to do, there may be

little chance of dealing with immigration until after the 2016 presidential campaign, if then. That would be a certainty, once again the conventional wisdom asserts, if the Republicans should also gain control of the Senate, not an unreasonable forecast.

All this once again strengthened the validity of a long-held belief that something strange occurs to those who enter the gates of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and remain for extended periods. Call it a loss of reality, if you wish, but mainly it is the penchant to always put the best spin possible on whatever the supreme leader in the Oval Office deems is necessary for the good of the country even if it requires suspending or sublimating what one instinctively knows is the truth of the matter.

This affliction seems to manifest itself the closer one gets to the West Wing's source of all power. Loyalty becomes an overriding characteristic to almost everything, and the longer one stays the more it persists.

I came to believe that Condoleezza Rice would have stuck her head in a meat grinder had George W. Bush asked her to do so. In fact that is pretty much what happened in her years both in the White House and the State Department.

One need only study the history of the presidency to find that sort of all-consuming dedication. Franklin Roosevelt's coterie of female attendants, for instance, including a wife who had long given up on expecting fidelity either as a spouse or in her own beliefs, was legendary. John F. Kennedy's staff not only was loyal to him and his family but infamously never received much in return politically or otherwise. "Servant" was a word the Kennedys knew well.

REFUGEES



Those at the breakfast — all veteran journalists — were well-versed about the difficulties of solving the gigantic immigration policy in the near future. While they seemed willing to accept that Jarrett was voicing hopes rather than legitimate prospects and kept the questioning civil, it seemed to me at least that she would have been served better by a more realistic assessment of the situation.

In other words, a prediction couched in such words as "tough" or "it would be our hope" or something far less assured would have served her better. Perhaps the bosses of Chicago, where she emerged as a competent and dedicated public servant, could

say this or that will happen with a degree of certainty backed up by a machine. But this is a berg where few things are a sure bet — and clearly not in the antagonistic atmosphere of today's politics.

During the 50 years I have been here, I have been engulfed by the smoke being blown from Capitol Hill to the White House too often not to recognize its toxicity. Jarrett's prediction may be understandable given her loyalty to the president that verges on idolatry, but putting any money on it would be a mistake.

Dan Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers.

Why farmers see fertile ground on immigration reform

By JIM MOSELEY AND A.G. KAWAMURA

We are farmers who raise different types of crops in different regions of our country. Like all farmers, we have lived through difficult periods when bad weather, low prices or weak demand had us doubting we would survive. Whether organic or conventional producers, we all seek the same result — a good harvest and robust markets for our crops.

We accept the unpredictability of weather and market demand; and we — like good business people — invest in new technologies such as water systems, mechanization and improved seeds to bring as much stability as possible to our operations. Ironically, at just the time when demand is increasing, we are hamstringing by something over which we really should have more control — our nation's labor supply.

Our current immigration system is widely considered broken and a drag on our country's economic growth. Only in America, the land of opportunity, do you see unharvested crops spoil in the field due to a shortage of labor. To a farmer, this is the worst kind of waste to bear. An unwillingness to consider any type of reform measure when the problem is so well-known is irresponsible. You would expect that complaints and calls for reform from groups across the farm-to-high-tech complex, law enforcement and religious leaders would trigger action. Yet, a year after the U.S. Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform, chances for the House to act this year look murky at best. Our current situation is an embarrassment and failure to act hurts farmworkers.



A small flock of sheep grazes at dawn Friday at the Crystal Springs Farm in Brunswick, Maine.

Skilled farmworkers deserve an opportunity to earn their way to a better future without the threat of deportation. Surely, our Congress can come to an agreement on a market-based and flexible program that provides for a legal workforce into the future and an adjustment for current hard-working and experienced, yet unauthorized, agricultural workers. Polling across the political spectrum has consistently revealed widespread support for allowing undocumented immigrants to live and work legally in the United States.

Failure to act hurts farmers and ranchers. Without enough workers, farms and ranches are gradually shrinking and, as a result, farm production is moving over-

seas. A 2012 survey by the California Farm Bureau in that state alone found that 71 percent of tree fruit growers and nearly 80 percent of raisin and berry growers could not find enough workers for their production needs. Vegetable farmers have scaled back operations and more than 80,000 acres of fresh produce once grown in California has moved to other countries. This has grown to a nationwide issue affecting practically every state and includes fruit and vegetable producers, sheep ranchers, dairy and hog producers, large farmers who grow commodity grains and small farmers who need seasonal labor to offer their products at the local farmers market.

Failure to act hurts our economy. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that the Senate immigration reform bill will increase real GDP relative to current law projections by 3.3 percent in 2023 and 5.4 percent in 2033 — an increase of roughly \$700 billion in 2023 and \$1.4 trillion in 2033 in today's dollars. Former CBO Director Douglas Holtz-Eakin suggests that real GDP growth could rise from 3 percent to 3.9 percent on average annually over the first 10 post-reform years, reducing the budget deficit by nearly \$3 trillion. While estimates differ, well-crafted immigration reform legislation will clearly have a positive impact on our economy.

Failure to act is untenable for our future as a nation. In the next 20 years, 79 million baby-boomer generation Americans will leave the workforce to be replaced by fewer than 50 million GenXers and millennials. We simply cannot sustain economic growth, meet our workforce needs or protect Social Security and Medicare without

addressing immigration reform now.

Agree was launched three years ago to identify and respond to the challenges facing global agriculture. Our advisers include conventional and organic producers, ranchers, nutritionists, energy experts, conservationists and environmentalists, international development practitioners, and public health experts. Immigration reform was the first issue on which this very diverse group reached consensus and we believe our principles serve the interests of producers, workers and the public. They are:

- Develop a practical and economically viable program that allows employers to hire legal foreign workers and protects foreign and U.S. farm workers.
 - Ensure quality of life, good working conditions, and opportunities for food and agriculture workers.
 - Provide more opportunities for farm workers to develop skills and advance their careers within the food and agriculture sector.
- The vital role of U.S. agriculture is widely ignored when our stomachs are full and abundance surrounds us. But the steady deterioration and vulnerability of our on-farm workforce due to an unworkable immigration policy is putting our national food system and its economic and health benefits at risk, and in some cases in collapse. We need political leadership on immigration reform now.

Jim Moseley is a co-chair of Agree. He is an Indiana farmer and served as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2001 to 2005. A.G. Kawamura is an ag-advocate, a fruit and vegetable grower and shipper from Orange County, Calif. He served as California secretary of agriculture from 2003 to 2010.

WORLD

Genocide concerns spark call for action

By PAUL SCHEM
The Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco — In the early hours of Monday morning, a Christian militia swept down on the village of Ardo-Djoh near Bambari in the Central African Republic killing 18 Muslims of the Fulani ethnicity. Just a few days earlier, Muslim gunmen had attacked Christians in the nearby village of Liwa and killed 21.

The tit-for-tat attacks against rival religious groups in Central Africa threaten to create the conditions for a genocide reminiscent of Bosnia in the 1990s and requires swift efforts by the government and the international community to stop the violence, said a new report by the International Federation for Human Rights.

The 88-page report details the atrocities committed by both sides in the impoverished country and urged the re-establishment of a legal and penal system to stop the wave of crime and violence and to begin trying those behind the massacres.

“The leaders of the violence and its perpetrators of mass human rights violations are known, we have proof and the government and international community have to take this opportunity and arrest them and end the organized violence,” said Florent Geel, the director of the federation’s Africa Desk, lamenting the lack of jails or security for judges in the country.

The Central African Republic has been rocked by unrest since March 2013 when a largely Muslim alliance of rebel groups known as the Seleka overthrew President Francois Bozize. More than a million people, nearly a quarter of the population, have been displaced by the violence, prompting Muslim rebels against Christian militias known as the anti-Balaka.

Former editor found guilty of phone hacking

LONDON — Two powerful British political insiders met starkly different fates Tuesday as former News of the World editor Andy Coulson was convicted of phone hacking but fellow editor Rebekah Brooks was acquitted, after a monthslong trial centering on illegal activity at the heart of Rupert Murdoch’s newspaper empire.

A jury at London’s Old Bailey unanimously found Coulson, the former spin doctor of British Prime Minister David Cameron, guilty of conspiring to intercept communications by eavesdropping on mobile phone voicemails. Brooks was acquitted of that charge and of counts of conspiring to bribe officials and obstruct police.

From The Associated Press



AP photos

BBC journalists and staff, some with black tape over their mouths to illustrate the silencing of free speech around the world, hold a minute of silence in support of the jailed journalists in Egypt, on Tuesday outside the BBC headquarters in central London.

Pardon denied for journalists in Egypt

By SARAH EL DEEB
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi said Tuesday he will not interfere in court rulings, rebuffing calls from the United States and other Western governments that he pardon or commute the sentences of three Al-Jazeera journalists handed heavy prison terms a day earlier.

The verdict of seven years in prison against the journalists brought a landslide of international condemnation. Rights groups described their 5-month trial as a sham, with no evidence presented to back the terrorism related charges against them, saying the three were being punished simply for their reporting on protests by backers of ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi.

The White House said the ruling “flouts the most basic standards of media freedom” and was a “blow to democratic progress.” It called on el-Sissi to intervene to bring about the immediate release of the three — Australian Peter Greste, Canadian-Egyptian Mohamed Fahmy and Egyptian Baher Mohammed.

Australia and other governments have also urged el-Sissi to do so for the three journalists, whose families have said they will appeal. Appeals could take months, and the three are likely to remain in prison during the process.



An Egyptian court on Monday sentenced three Al-Jazeera journalists to seven years in prison on terrorism-related charges. From left are Canadian-Egyptian journalist Mohamed Fahmy, Australian correspondent Peter Greste and Egyptian producer Baher Mohamed.

“If we desire (strong) state institutions, we must respect court rulings and not comment on them even if others don’t understand these rulings,” el-Sissi said.

Under the constitution, the president has the power to issue a pardon or commute the sentences.

The journalists’ arrest last December was part of the broad crackdown against Islamists and the Muslim Brotherhood after el-Sissi — in his former post of army chief — removed Morsi last summer. The journalists’ trial was further politicized by the Egyptian government’s deep enmity with the Gulf nation Qatar, which was a strong ally of Morsi’s Brotherhood and owns the Al-Jazeera network.

Egyptian authorities accuse Al-Jazeera of being a mouthpiece for the Brotherhood, a claim the network denies. Also, el-Sissi’s powerful Gulf allies, particularly Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, are strongly opposed to both the Brotherhood and Al-Jazeera. Those allies have given Egypt billions of dollars in aid since Morsi’s ouster.

Prosecutors accused the three journalists of promoting or belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood and of falsifying their coverage of protests to hurt Egypt’s security and make it appear the country is sliding into civil war.

The journalists, say they are being prosecuted simply for doing their job and are pawns in the political rivalry.

South Korea used stand-in to act as captured fugitive

By HYUNG-JIN KIM
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea’s Defense Ministry used a stand-in to portray a captured runaway soldier to deceive journalists as the real fugitive was taken to a hospital following a failed suicide attempt, an official said Tuesday.

The play was used because the fugitive needed swift medical treatment and the media could have caused a delay, said a min-

istry official who requested anonymity citing department rules.

He said two ambulances were used, one carrying the injured fugitive and the other with another soldier whose body and face were covered by a blanket. The decoy was carried into the hospital in the eastern city of Gangneung as photographers snapped pictures.

The official said the ambulance carrying the real fugitive entered the hospital through its basement. He said it wasn’t clear if mili-

tary personnel at the hospital had directly lied to dozens of journalists waiting there. But he said the military personnel apparently deceived journalists into mistaking the stand-in for the fugitive.

The 22-year-old sergeant surnamed Yim fled after allegedly killing five colleagues and wounding seven others Saturday. He reportedly fired at troops chasing him on Monday, injuring a platoon leader. He shot himself on Monday before being cap-

tured, the military says.

It’s not known what caused Yim to go on the alleged shooting spree. He was to finish his mandatory military duty in September. Initial personality tests in April of last year put him within a group of soldiers who need special attention and are unfit for frontline duty, according to the Defense Ministry. But tests last November concluded he had improved and could serve in frontline areas, defense officials said.

WIRED WORLD

More smart, less phone

Devices delving into much more than communication, entertainment

By WILL OREMUS
State

Smartphones don't get people excited like they used to. Every Apple event these days brings fresh calls for "new product categories" and fresh disappointment when they don't materialize.

Yet, bolder companies like Google and Samsung have introduced new types of futuristic mobile gadgets, and it turns out they don't work very well. As much as the tech press has tried to hype smartglasses and smartwatches, they're just too small to do very much at this point. They might develop into

nifty peripherals for your smartphone, but they're not going to replace it anytime soon.

We may be stuck with our trusty, old, pocket computers for years to come. The good news is that they're still evolving, probably more rapidly than we tend to give them credit for.

I'm not talking about marginally faster processors, better cameras, curved glass, bigger screens or 3-D displays. I'm talking about new functionalities.

If there was an overarching take-away from Apple's annual developer conference earlier this month, it's that smartphones are becoming more than communications and entertainment devices. They're becoming the mobile command centers of our lives. Far from pushing them aside, the next wave of consumer technologies is likely to make smartphones more essential than ever.

Today our iPhones and Android phones serve as messaging devices, cameras, Web browsers, music players, gaming and social networking platforms, and yes, sometimes even phones. They're also starting to become artificial personal assistants.

Here are three more

things that smartphones are likely to become in the next few years — all of which involve communications between your apps and devices rather than between you and other people.

Remote control for appliances

Thermostats are just the beginning. Like it or not, everything from door locks to light bulbs to refrigerators is starting to come equipped with Wi-Fi or Bluetooth connectivity. The idea is that you can monitor and control them remotely with your smartphone.

In some cases, these "smart" appliances are designed to learn from your behavior and to adapt on their own. Even so, you'll almost inevitably find yourself reaching for your smartphone when your thermostat's rudimentary machine intelligence clashes with your unpredictable human needs.

The major smartphone makers have already put up big stakes in the fledgling "connected home" sector. Samsung has been making connected appliances for some time now, and earlier this year it launched "Smart Home" software for Android phones that lets you control them all from one app.

In January, Google got into the game by splashing \$3 billion on Nest. Apple has just announced HomeKit, a bid to bring the controls for a wide range of third-party connected devices together in a simple native iOS app.

If it works as advertised, you'll be able to group related appliances into "suites," so that you can say something like, "Get ready for bed," and your phone will know to turn off the downstairs lights, adjust the ther-

mostat, and lock the doors.

Personal health data hub

Smartphones will remain the best way to store, integrate and analyze health data.

Third-party developers have been working for a few years now on smartphone apps or add-ons that can monitor and track your well-being in various ways. Early efforts included pedometers, medication reminders, atrition trackers and even breathalyzers.

While smartwatches designed for things like email and text messages have been a bust so far, fitness bands that monitor your workouts and sync with your smartphone via Bluetooth are already quite popular.

As with smart appliances, the smartphone makers are starting to realize that they can take the health-tracking trend mainstream by building native hardware and software for it. Samsung took the early lead with its S Health suite, and its latest flagship phone, the Galaxy S5, comes with a built-in heart-rate monitor. Last week, it announced a prototype of a new wearable health tracker called Simband along with an open software platform.

Apple's answer on the software side is a new platform called HealthKit. On the hardware side, the focus of rumors about the iWatch has shifted from communications apps to biometrics, perhaps including sleep-tracking functions.

Controlled with other devices

Not only will your smartphone be a remote control for your other appliances, it will be another appliance that you can control remotely.

That's not as confusing as it sounds, I promise.

Today, if you want to use your smartphone, you usually have to pull it out of your pocket and control it directly. But there are times when that's particularly inconvenient — like when you're cooking, driving, or playing with your kids. In those cases, increasingly, you'll be able to operate basic functions of your phone through other interfaces.

For instance, Google, Microsoft, BlackBerry and Apple are all working on software that will let you control your phone from your car's dashboard, and several major car companies have already developed similar capabilities.

You'll be able to make hands-free calls, check your email, or stream songs on Pandora without touching the phone itself.



Illustration by Bev Sculline/Stars and Stripes

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Church raffles rifles to increase membership

MO JOPLIN — A southwest Missouri church that drew attention two years ago with billboards encouraging married couples to have more sex is at it again, raffling off two semi-automatic rifles as a way to increase its membership.

Joplin-based Ignite Church gave men a chance on Father's Day to put their names in a hat to win one of two AR-15 rifles, the Joplin Globe reported. Each father entered a ticket for himself and for each of his children who went to church with him. They also got another ticket for bringing their own dads.

Heath Mooneyham, Ignite's lead pastor, said the effort is another way to draw males age 18 to 35 to the church.

Apparent suicide at US military cemetery

VA ARLINGTON — The Army said a man found with a single gunshot wound at Arlington National Cemetery apparently committed suicide.

The Army Criminal Investigation Command said it does not suspect foul play in the shooting, which occurred in the section that contains a memorial to and remains of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

Cemetery spokeswoman Melissa Bohan said military and civilian police responded about 10 a.m. Friday to reports of a single gunshot. An Arlington County police spokesman described the man found in the cemetery's Section 64 as "elderly."

Thieves steal, return US flag of WWII vet

MA PEMBROKE — A Pembroke woman said she was "angry and hurt" when a U.S. flag that had draped the casket of her Marine Corps veteran father was stolen.

But Nancy Brewer is willing to forgive now that the flag has been returned. Brewer told The Patriot Ledger that she hadn't flown the flag since her father, a World War II veteran, died two decades ago. She flew it at a neighbor's house across the street starting on Father's Day, which would have been her father's 100th birthday, so she could see it.

It disappeared Friday. The neighbor made a Facebook plea for its return, and on Sunday someone who said he knew the thieves went to police with the flag.

Brewer called the theft a "drunken prank" and decided not to press charges.

Cow lands in man's car after being hit on road

NY GORHAM — Police said a man escaped with just minor injuries after one of the three cows he drove into on a western New York road landed inside his car.

Sheriff's deputies in Ontario County said Eric Nappos, 39, was driving on a rural road Saturday night when he hit three cows that had wandered away from a farm

THE CENSUS

71

The number of serpents collected during the annual Rattlesnake Roundup in Noxen, Pa., over the weekend. Forty hunters brought in 28 rattlesnakes, six copperheads and 37 nonpoisonous snakes. The two-day hunt raises money for Wyoming County firefighters. Many parents brought children to pass on the tradition, which began in 1973. After the winners were announced, the snakes were taken back to their natural habitat.



VIVIANA PERNOT, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/AP

Shy about his solo

An unidentified teacher comforts student Aah-zhii Lee, who was a little shy when it came time for his solo part during the ceremony as preschool students celebrated moving up to kindergarten Monday in Camden, N.J.

in the town of Gorham, 35 miles southeast of Rochester.

Deputies said two of the cows were killed and the third crashed through the windshield and landed in the car's passenger seat. Police said the third cow survived.

Zamboni fumes at ice rink send 7 to hospital

NV LAS VEGAS — Zamboni fumes are being blamed for the evacuation of an ice rink in Las Vegas and the sickening of several people who were sent to the hospital over the weekend.

Clark County Fire Battalion Chief Richard Reid said firefighters were called to the Las Vegas Ice Center about 10 a.m. Sunday after several people complained of being lightheaded or sick.

Members of a hazardous materials team that responded with fire and rescue workers determined the Zamboni ice preparation machine was leaking carbon monoxide in the building. Seven people were transported to area hospitals. No one was seriously injured.

Reid told KSNV-TV that they took the Zamboni outside and the carbon monoxide levels soon returned to normal.

Graduation heals WWII internment wounds

CA NEWPORT BEACH — A California man who missed his 1942 high school graduation because he was locked in an internment camp for Japanese-Americans finally walked in a cap and gown last week, more than seven decades after he was pulled out of class just a month shy of his big day.

Don Miyada, now 89, joined Newport Harbor High School's 2014 graduating class on stage and received a standing ovation when he was hailed as an inaugural member of the school's hall of fame, the Los Angeles Times reported Sunday.

Miyada was 17 when he was sent with his family and more than 17,000 other detainees to a patch of desert land near Poston, Ariz., shortly after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor during World War II. A teacher later sent

him a letter expressing shock that he couldn't finish high school and included a diploma — but Miyada always regretted that he missed the celebration.

School shooter arrested on new assault charge

TN JACKSBORO — A Tennessee man who was convicted in a fatal school shooting and released from prison earlier this year is facing new charges.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reported that Kenneth S. Bartley, 22, was arrested Saturday night and was being held Sunday on charges of domestic assault, resisting arrest and escape.

Bartley was convicted this year of reckless homicide for fatally shooting assistant principal Ken Bruce at Campbell County High School in 2005, when he was 14.

He was acquitted of two other counts and sentenced to time served. Before the trial, he spent about eight years in prison due to a plea agreement that was later thrown out because he was a minor when

he made the deal and his parents never consented.

Officer: Man came to court hiding pot in sock

CT STAMFORD — Authorities said a Connecticut man who told his probation officer he wasn't foolish enough to bring drugs into a courthouse had been hiding 19 bags of pot in his left sock.

Darren Shelley, 22, had a hearing Monday in Stamford Superior Court on a charge of possession with intent to sell, but the case was continued until Aug. 7.

Authorities told The Advocate that the Stamford man reeked of marijuana when he met June 9 with his probation officer.

When the officer asked about it, Shelley allegedly said he was "not a fool" and "did not bring drugs into the court."

But the officer said a pat-down revealed the bags of pot.

Shelley was being held on \$5,000 bond.

From wire reports

FACES

From teddy bears to Autobots

Wahlberg calls 'Ted' a warm-up for latest movie

By CHRIS LEE
Los Angeles Times

Before Mark Wahlberg ever attempted to test his mettle vis-a-vis giant metamorphosing robots from outer space — before he befriended a heroic battle-bot named Optimus Prime on screen — the actor prepared for his latest part with an unlikely foil: a talking teddy bear with an outside taste for prostitutes and cocaine.

Which is to say that before Wahlberg signed on to appear in the mega-budget sci-fi thriller "Transformers: Age of Extinction," he got a first taste of acting opposite computer-generated imagery in a certain comedy that was a surprise hit in 2012.

"Ted" was definitely a good warm-up," Wahlberg said of the movie in which he plays a Boston bro who co-habitates with his hard-swearng, magically alive plush toy. "With 'Ted,' it was a more intimate setting. But this movie is much bigger and more intense. You've got eight Autobots talking to you at the same time. There's nothing but a pole or a stick really there. You've got to believe and totally commit. The most difficult part of acting is when you look ridiculous and have to confront the risk of looking foolish. You've got to be on the whole time. You can't phone it in."

"Age of Extinction," which hits U.S. and some installation theaters Friday, arrives as a kind of reboot for the franchise, which has grossed \$2.7 billion worldwide, and is the first entry in an



Paramount Pictures

Mark Wahlberg plays Cade in "Transformers: Age of Extinction." The movie, the first in a new trilogy of Transformer flicks, opens Friday.

intended new trilogy of "Transformers" films. Wahlberg takes over as protagonist from Shia LaBeouf, who departed as the series' primary human foil, Sam Witwicky, after "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" in 2011. Never mind that Wahlberg — as a down-on-his-luck auto mechanic who discovers a dilapidated truck that turns out to be none other than the leader of the good-guy Transformers, the Autobots — prefers to consider the movie on its own merits rather than as fitting into a global juggernaut.

"Some people think of this as a sequel," he said. "We thought of it more as a stand-alone thing. I've never done a sequel."

Chock-a-block with the kind of signature bombast for which director Michael Bay is known — armadas of black Escalades, swarming SEAL teams, enormous explosions and menacing displays of high-tech hardware adding to its \$165-million budget — the new film departs from the prescribed "Transformers" universe to present a world in which Autobots are no longer viewed as friends of man. It's a post-Witwicky era when the Earth's populace is unclear about who their extraterrestrial robot enemies are.

For nearly six months, the production hopped across the U.S., filming in locations including Chicago, Detroit, Texas and

Utah before moving to China and shooting in Hong Kong. The only filming hiccup came months after principal photography had wrapped. Wahlberg had shed 60 pounds from his 197-pound frame to portray a literature professor with a gambling addiction for the 2015 remake of James Caan's 1974 "The Gambler." "I had to come back for some pick-up shots," Wahlberg recalled. "So when Bay saw me, he freaked. He was used to seeing me on the healthier side. But here I am skinny with long, stringy hair. He was like, 'You can't look like that!'"

In the end, Bay managed to film Wahlberg in a way that obscured his, ahem, transformation.

“The most difficult part of acting is when you look ridiculous and have to confront the risk of looking foolish. You’ve got to be on the whole time. You can’t phone it in.”



PETER MORRISON/AP

Thanks, but no

Queen Elizabeth visited the throne room at the set of the HBO TV series "Game of Thrones" in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on Tuesday. Unlike many visitors to Titanic Studios, the monarch declined to take a seat on the sword-covered Iron Throne, created for the ruler of the mythical Seven Kingdoms. She was given a miniature model as a gift. The Queen is on a three-day visit to Northern Ireland.

Familiar faces set to return to 'American Idol'

The Associated Press

Fox says it's bringing back the same trio of "American Idol" judges for the show's 14th season. The network announced Monday that Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and Harry Connick Jr. will be judging singers again in 2015, and Ryan Seacrest will remain the host.

This year's "American Idol" included the show's lowest-rated finale ever, part of a continuing ratings slide for the once-dominant TV series. Fox has shaken up the judges' panel in past years to try to boost viewership but is deciding to stay the course this time.

The network is taking the show's downfall into account in scheduling, saying it will air fewer hours next season, and in many weeks there will be just one episode instead of two.

Mitch Rapp series to continue

Best-selling author Vince Flynn died just over a year ago, but his terrorist-fighting protagonist Mitch Rapp will live on in new books written by someone else, Flynn's publisher says.

Sisson & Schuster and Flynn's estate have commissioned thriller writer Kyle Mills to complete Flynn's unfinished novel, "The Survivor," and to

write two more books in the Rapp series. "The Survivor" is tentatively scheduled to hit shelves next year.

Flynn's longtime editor, Emily Bestler, told The Associated Press that continuing the Rapp series was a bittersweet experience. Rapp was featured in 13 of the 14 novels Flynn published in his lifetime.

Other news

■ **Terry McMillan**, author of "Waiting to Exhale," has left Viking after 25 years and signed with Crown Publishers for her next novel.

■ A rare auction of an Oscar statuette brought a total of \$79,200, well more than expected, at its sale Monday by a Rhode Island auction house.

■ A variety of special events will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Elvis Presley's first rock-and-roll recording in Memphis. On July 5, 1954, a 19-year-old Presley walked into Sun Studio and recorded a version of "That's All Right." Sun Studio will hold an event on July 5 that will include a cake-cutting and an exhibit tied to the recording's anniversary. On the same day, musicians will play Presley songs at a concert at the Levitt Shell.

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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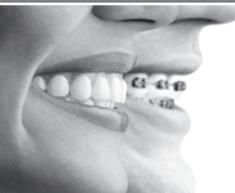
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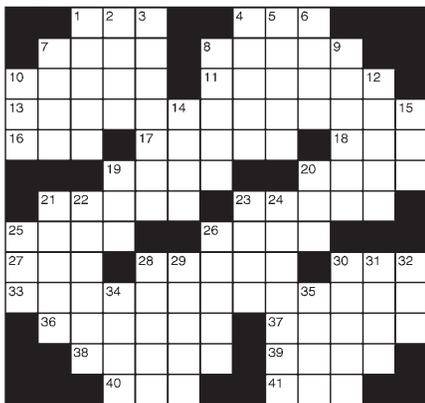
Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Tummy muscles
- 4 Guide to the treasure
- 7 Elliptical
- 8 "Got up" — "disturb"
- 10 Got up
- 11 Thespians
- 13 Complains loudly
- 16 Finish
- 17 Beg
- 18 Expert
- 19 Pin part
- 20 Muck partner
- 21 Frightening
- 23 — London, "What Not to Wear" co-host
- 25 Soda shoppe order
- 26 Re planes and such
- 27 Actress Mendes
- 28 Societal level
- 30 Lingerie item
- 33 Deals a crushing blow
- 36 1998's "Psycho," e.g.
- 37 Lone Ranger's companion
- 38 Scuba specialist
- 39 Raw minerals

DOWN

- 40 Scarlet
- 41 Each
- 19 Chapeau
- 20 Chinese chairman
- 21 Enjoy
- 22 Having talons
- 23 Late-night host
- 24 Meyers success
- 24 "Rock-a-Bye Baby" title
- 25 Brooks or Blanc
- 26 Michaelmas daisy
- 28 Long for
- 29 Requested
- 30 Humongous
- 31 Cancer or mistake
- 31 Deteriorates
- 32 I love, to Livy
- 34 Eastern
- 35 Dispatch
- 35 Drill

Answer to Previous Puzzle



6-25

CRYPTOQUIP

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 QHRRTRPMQJXXMH, CNHTKS J
 UTPQN HA CXMPYMPY MPCFQXC

CFPS FJQN HXNFL UFF-RJMK?
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHILE ATTEMPTING TO STEAL FROM THE KETCHUP FACTORY, THE UNLUCKY THIEF WAS CAUGHT RED-HANDED.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals F

MLB

Benched Davis hits 3-run HR to save O's

By DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Hours after reaching the low point of a disappointing and frustrating season, Chris Davis conjured memories of last year with one mighty swing of the bat.

Davis interrupted a rare stint on the bench with a pinch-hit, three-run homer in the ninth inning to give the Baltimore Orioles a 6-4 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Monday night.

Davis was excluded from the starting lineup after batting just 130 in his previous 14 starts. Called upon by manager Buck Showalter with runners on first and second and one out in the ninth, Davis launched a 3-2 pitch from Ronald Belisario (3-4) into the seats in right field.

"Any time you're able to deliver and come through for your team, it's big," Davis said. "Like I said earlier today, I'm working as hard as I can to get back on track."

Davis, who led the majors in home runs and RBIs last year, started the game in the dugout with a .216 batting average and 78 strikeouts in 218 at-bats. When it came



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

The Orioles' Adam Jones, left, watches as teammate Chris Davis tastes a pie Monday after hitting a game-winning, three-run home run against the White Sox. Baltimore won 6-4, and Jones later smashed the pie in Davis' face.

time to deliver, though, he was ready. "There's no woe in me," Showalter said. "He knows at some point the club's going

to need a good at-bat from him and he prepared himself for it from about the fifth inning on."

Davis ended his night with a celebration at the plate, followed by a pie to the face from teammate Adam Jones during the post-game TV interview.

"It was chocolate," Davis said. "He told me he was going to pie me before he even came out there, and [I said], 'Make sure it's something tasty.' I appreciate him letting me taste it before he smashed it in my face."

Jones and Caleb Joseph also homered for the Orioles, who trailed 4-2 in the eighth before rallying to hand the White Sox their fifth straight defeat.

Brad Brach (1-0) pitched two hitless innings for Baltimore.

Jose Abreu hit his 22nd homer and drove in three runs for Chicago, which went 1-for-11 with runners in scoring position. Still, the White Sox were poised to win before Davis connected.

"You got to be able to close it out," manager Robin Ventura said. "It's not easy, especially when they got a guy like Chris on their bench."

White Sox starter Chris Sale gave up a career-high 11 hits in six innings but was in position to earn his seventh win after leaving with a 3-2 lead. The left-hander walked one, hit a batter and had a season-long three strikeouts.

"My own manager was calling me Houdini," Sale said.

Chicago trailed 2-1 until Abreu led off the sixth with a drive over the wall in center. Dayan Viciedo followed with a double and Connor Gillispie chased starter Wei-Yin Chen with a run-scoring double.

An RBI double by Abreu made it 4-2 in the seventh. The rookie ranks third in the AL in home runs and is tied for third with 60 RBIs.

Joseph hit his second homer in two games, a solo shot off Zach Putnam in the eighth. The drive capped the rookie's first career three-hit game.

That set the stage for Davis' 13th home run. He hit 53 last year.

Baltimore went up 2-0 in the first inning when Steve Pearce walked and Jones followed with a drive to center that bounced off the top of the wall, only the fifth home run allowed by Sale this season.

Roundup

King Felix finally gets run support

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The run support Felix Hernandez deserved in his three previous starts finally arrived.

Logan Morrison hit two long home runs, Hernandez threw seven strong innings to win for the first time since June 2 and the Seattle Mariners used a six-run fourth inning to rout the Boston Red Sox 12-3 on Monday night.

Seattle won its fourth straight after a weekend sweep in Kansas City. The Mariners finally provided Hernandez (9-2) with some runs and batted right-hander John Lackey (8-5) in his shortest outing since September 2011.

Seattle had scored one run total while Hernandez was on the mound in his previous three starts. Getting a dozen against the Red Sox was more than enough for Seattle's ace.

"I was so happy. They came through. They were pretty good," Hernandez said.

Hernandez set a club record with his eighth straight start pitching at least seven innings and allowing two earned runs or less. He struck out six, walked none and efficiently handed the Red Sox their fourth loss in five games. Hernandez's only miscues were David Ortiz's RBI single in the fifth and Napoli's solo homer in the fourth.

Morrison had the first multi-home run in his career. His solo shot in the second inning off Lackey pulled Seattle even and he added to the offensive outburst with a two-run homer in the seventh, a 41-foot drive to center field off reliever Chris Capuano.

Morrison finished with four hits for the third time in his career and four RBIs.

Morrison felt he started to have better at bats last week against San Diego and carried over into the weekend series in Kansas City.

"Just feeling like I could stay behind the ball better, put better swings on better pitches," Morrison said. "You stick to the process, stick to the process, keep grinding out at-bats and the next thing you know you look at the end of the year and have pretty good numbers. That's what I hope happens this year."

Blue Jays 8, Yankees 3: Adam Lind hit a three-run home run in his return to the starting lineup, rookie Marcus Stroman won for the first time in three starts and host Toronto handed the Yankees their third straight loss.

Lind drove in four runs and Dioner Navarro had two RBIs for Toronto. The AL East-leading Blue Jays scored as many runs in this game against New York as they managed over three games while being swept at Yankee Stadium last week.

Marlins 4, Phillies 0: Casey McGehee hit a two-run double and Nathan Eovaldi pitched eight ball into the seventh inning to lead visiting Miami.

Eovaldi (5-3) went 6 1/3 innings and got 12 of his 19 outs on flyballs. The right-hander hadn't won since May 26 and gave up 11 runs in his previous two starts.

Pirates 8, Rays 1: Pedro Alvarez hit a three-run homer to break the pitching of Edison Volquez as Pittsburgh beat host Tampa Bay.

Andrew McCutchen went 3-



LUKE WASSON, SEATTLE TIMES/MCT

Mariners ace Felix Hernandez struck out six and walked one in seven innings Monday against the Red Sox. The Mariners won 12-3, thanks to Logan Morrison's two home runs.

for-5, drove in two runs and stole two bases for the Pirates in a homecoming of sorts for the 2013 NL MVP, who grew up in nearby Fort Meade and had never played before at Tropicana Field. He also scored twice in Pittsburgh's first appearance in St. Petersburg since 2003.

Royals 5, Dodgers 3: Jeremy Guthrie pitched into the eighth inning. Jarrod Dyson drove in two runs off Zack Greinke and host Kansas City ended a four-game losing streak.

Guthrie (5-6) allowed two runs and seven hits while winning his third straight start. He was buoyed by an offense that had only scored eight runs total during its recent slide.

Reds 6, Cubs 1: Devin Mesoraco hit a grand slam with two outs in visiting Cincinnati's five-run ninth inning.

Mesoraco went deep for the fourth straight game, driving a 1-0 pitch from Hector Rondon (1-2) into the basket in left-center for his 13th homer. It was Mesoraco's second grand slam of the season and No. 3 of his career.

Nationals 3, Brewers 0: Gio Gonzalez combined with three relievers to hold host Milwaukee's potent lineup to three hits, and Adam LaRoche hit a three-run homer to lead Washington.

Gonzalez (4-4) walked four and struck out five in six innings.

Cardinals 8, Rockies 0: Lance Lynn allowed three hits in eight

innings and Matt Adams had two homers and a career-high six RBIs to lead visiting St. Louis.

Lynn (8-5) struck out seven and walked none before being taken out for the ninth after throwing 108 pitches. It's the first time Colorado has been held scoreless at Coors Field since last July.

Padres 6, Giants 0: Cuban defector Odrisamer Despaigne pitched seven innings in his major league debut to lead visiting San Diego.

Tommy Medica hit a two-run double off Matt Cain (1-6) after the umpires took away a three-run home run by Yasmani Grandal on a replay review to give the crafty Despaigne (1-0) the support he needed to get the win.

WIMBLEDON/SPORTS BRIEFS



SANG TAN/AP

Rafael Nadal plays a return to Martin Klizan during their match on Tuesday. Nadal won 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Nadal rallies as Federer cruises

By **STEPHEN WILSON**
The Associated Press

LONDON — For a set and a half, Rafael Nadal looked in danger of tumbling out in the first round of Wimbledon for the second year in a row. The left-hander dominating play on Centre Court was not the 14-time Grand Slam champion, it was 51st-ranked Martin Klizan of Slovakia.

But the top-ranked Nadal dug deep, scrambled for gets all over and got up and slipped and fell and got up and still hit winners, pulling out a 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 victory — the 700th tour-level match win of his career.

“That means that I had a very long and successful career, so I’m happy for that,” Nadal said. “But the most important thing for me today more than 700 victories is a victory here in the first round.”

Next up for the two-time Wimbledon champion: Lukas Rosol, the hard-hitting Czech player who eliminated him in the same round two years ago.

“He’s a very dangerous player, very strong, very powerful shots from the baseline,” Nadal said. “I have to play very well if I want to have chances to win.”

While Nadal had to battle Tuesday, seven-time champion Roger Federer strolled to a 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 victory over Paolo Lorenzi, an Italian with a career 0-13 record in Grand Slam matches.

Among other straight-set winners on a sunny day 2 at the All England Club were Australian Open champion Stan Wawrinka, French Open winner Maria Sharapova, and five-time champion Serena Williams.

Tuesday’s victory was Nadal’s first win on grass in two years. He was upset by Steve Darcis in the first round here last year and lost to 85th-ranked Dustin Brown

in a Wimbledon tuneup in Halle, Germany, two weeks ago.

Klizan, who has yet to reach the second round at Wimbledon, went toe to toe with Nadal from the baseline with his big-swinging forehand. He nearly matched Nadal for winners (36-35 for the Spaniard) and served 11 aces, two more than Nadal.

After Klizan took the first set, he had a great chance to go up an early break at 1-1 in the second. But Nadal saved three break points, including the third with an ace, and held to begin a run where he won eight of 10 games. He broke for the first time to go up 4-2 in the second set.

Federer lost here in the second round last year to No. 116 Sergei Stakhovsky, but was never in danger against the 83rd-ranked Lorenzi. The fourth-seeded Federer served nine aces, saved all five break points against him and broke six times.

Federer and Lorenzi are both 32, but that’s where the similarities end. For the Italian, the loss extended his career Grand Slam record to 0-13. Only one player, Juan-Antonio Marin of Costa Rica, has a worse record, with no wins and 17 losses.

In another mismatch on Court 1, fifth-seeded Sharapova sailed to a 6-1, 6-0 win over British wild-card entry Samantha Murray, who ranks 242 places below the Russian at No. 247.

Williams made light work of Anna Tatishvili, beating the fellow American 6-1, 6-2 to reach the second round.

Williams, who lost in the second round at the French Open, hit 31 winners and had 16 aces.

The 32-year-old Williams has never lost in the first round at the All England Club, where she is making her 15th appearance.

Scoreboard

Wimbledon
Tuesday
At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club
London
Prize: \$42.5 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Grass-outdoor
Singles

Men
First Round
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (14), France, def. Jurgen Melzer, Austria, 6-1, 3-6, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.
Stan Wawrinka (6), Switzerland, def. Joao Sousa, Portugal, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.
Kei Nishikori (10), Japan, def. Kenny de Schepper, France, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 7-5.
Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Stephane Robert, France, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (1), 6-7 (6), 6-2.

Lukasz Kubot, Poland, def. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-4.
Santiago Giraldo, Colombia, def. Daniel Gimenez-Traver, Spain, 6-1, 7-5, 6-0.
Yen-Hsun Lu, Taiwan, def. Aleksandr Nevskiyev, Kazakhstan, 6-4, 4-6, 4-1, 6-6, 6-1.
Denis Kudla, United States, def. Marcel Ilhan, Turkey, 7-6 (3), 6-4, 4-6, 7-5.

Sam Querrey, United States, def. Bradley Klahn, United States, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-1, 7-5.
Lleyton Hewitt, Australia, def. Michal Przysiewski, Poland, 6-2, 6-7 (14), 6-4, 6-4.
Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, def. Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (28), Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 3-6, 3-6, 6-3.

Jerzy Janowicz (15), Poland, def. Somdev Devvarman, India, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2.
Marcel Granollers (30), Spain, def. Nicolas Mahut, France, 6-4, 7-6 (6), 6-7 (6), 6-2.

Roger Federer (4), Switzerland, def. Paolo Lorenzi, Italy, 6-1, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Richard Gasquet (3), France, def. James Duckworth, Australia, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.

Milos Ranic (8), Canada, def. Matthew Ebden, Australia, 6-2, 6-4, 6-4.
Flavia Pennetta (5), Italy, def. Ivana Karlovic (29), Croatia, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).
Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, def. Benoit Paire, France, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, def. Dudi Sela, Israel, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.
Feliciano Lopez (19), Spain, def. Yuchi Sugita, Japan, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (6), 7-6 (7).
Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 6-4, 6-3, 7-5.

Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, def. Victor Eendebak, Netherlands, 6-1, 6-1, 6-1, retired.
Rafael Nadal (2), Spain, def. Martin Klizan, Slovakia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.

Jack Sock, United States, def. Pierre-Henri Mathieu, France, 6-7 (5), 6-2, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 6-4, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (5).
John Isner (9), United States, def. Daniel Smethurst, Britain, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

Marin Muntic, Croatia, def. Malek Jaziri, Tunisia, 7-6 (5), 7-5, 6-4.
Adrian Panarino, France, def. Pere Riba, Spain, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

Women
First Round
Andrea Petkovic (20), Germany, def. Kataryna Pietrangeli, Poland, 6-1, 6-4.
Lucy Konecny, Canada, def. Virginia Razzano, France, 1-6, 6-4, 7-5.
Alicia Cornet (25), France, def. Anna Sthali, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

Sabine Lisicki (19), Germany, def. Julia Glushko, Israel, 6-2, 6-1.
Cristina Redaonicchi (4), Poland, def. Andrea Mitu, Romania, 6-2, 6-1.
Caroline Wozniacki (6), Denmark, def. Shahar Pe'er, Israel, 6-3, 6-0.

Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, def. Karina Hranicova, Italy, 6-7 (4), 6-3, 10-8.
Tímea Babos, Switzerland, def. Sharon Fichman, Canada, 6-1, 6-3.
Caroline Garcia, France, def. Sara Errani (14), Italy, 2-6, 7-6 (3), 7-5.

Varvara Lepchenko, United States, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 6-2.
Bethy Keys, United States, def. Monica Puig, Puerto Rico, 6-3, 6-3.
Heather Watson, Britain, def. Ajla Tomljanovic, Croatia, 6-4, 6-2.

Michelle Larcher de Brito, Portugal, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (28), Russia, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, def. Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Maria Sharapova (5), Russia, def. Samantha Murray, Britain, 6-1, 6-2.

Petra Cetkovic, Czech Republic, def. Jovana Jakubic, Serbia, 6-2, 4-6, 7-5.
Lucy Konecny, Canada, def. Sorana Cristea (29), Romania, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.
Angelique Kerber (9), Germany, def. Ursula Radwanska, Poland, 6-2, 6-4.
Klara Koukalova (31), Czech Republic, def. Taylor Townsend, United States, 7-5, 6-2.

Briefly

Pain-free Woods ready for British

The Associated Press

BETHESDA, Md. — Tiger Woods returns to golf with big hopes, realistic expectations and no pain for the first time in nearly two years.

Woods made his first public appearance in golf shoes since he walked gingerly off the golf course at Doral on March 9 with back pain that first presented itself in August 2012. He had back surgery to alleviate a pinched nerve on March 31.

Asked for an opening comment on whether he is his recovery, Woods smiled and said, “I’m right here.”

“It’s been an interesting road,” Woods said. “This has been quite a tedious little process, but been one where I got to a point where I can play competitive golf again. And it’s pretty exciting.”

It feels that way for all of golf, which has been without its biggest draw for five tournaments that he ordinarily would have played, including the Masters for the first time, the U.S. Open and two events where he was the defending champion.

Woods said the British Open was his target all along, and he might not be playing the Quicken Loans National this week at Congressional if it did not benefit his foundation. That’s not to suggest he is coming back too early. Woods said he has been in constant contact with doctors and trainers as he slowly expanded his swing from chipping and putting to wedges, all the way up the bag to the driver, and then playing at home in South Florida.

He said he often stood on the back of the cart to avoid sitting. Early on in the recovery, he filled the holes on his practice green with sand so he wouldn’t stoop too much to pluck the ball from the cup.

Woods is famous for saying he doesn’t enter any tournament if he doesn’t think he can win. That much hasn’t changed for Congressional, where he has won twice.

Disorder ends NBA play for Baylor’s Austin

WACO, Texas — Isaiah Austin’s attempt to play in the NBA despite his partial blindness has ended because of a rare genetic disorder that affects his heart.

The former Baylor center, who left school early to enter this week’s NBA draft, has been diagnosed with Marfan syndrome, which affects the body’s connective tissue.

Baylor made the announcement Sunday. The condition was discovered during a physical for the draft, which is Thursday.

According to the Mayo Clinic, complications from Marfan syndrome can weaken the aorta, the artery that supplies blood from the heart to the rest of the body.

“They told me that my arter-

ies in my heart are enlarged and that if I overwork myself or push too hard that my heart could rupture,” Austin said in a brief interview with ESPN, his voice halting as he fought back tears. “The draft is four days away and I had a dream that my name was going to be called.”

The 7-foot-1 center declared for the draft after his sophomore season, in which he averaged 11.2 points and 5.5 rebounds on a Baylor team that reached the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament before losing to Wisconsin, a Final Four qualifier.

Dolphins’ Pouncey has hip surgery

MIAMI — Pro Bowl center Mike Pouncey, the lone returning starter in the Miami Dolphins’ offensive line, is expected to miss the start of the season recovering from hip surgery.

Pouncey was injured during offseason workouts and underwent surgery Monday that will likely sideline him for at least a couple of games in September.

Pouncey also faces a possible suspension from the NFL. He’s the only player implicated in last year’s bullying scandal still on the Dolphins’ roster.

Canucks hire Desjardins as new coach

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Willie Desjardins will head champions in major junior hockey and the American Hockey League.

Now he’ll get the chance on the sport’s biggest stage.

Desjardins was hired as head coach of the Vancouver Canucks on Monday.

It’s his first NHL head coaching job. And he’ll join new president of hockey operations Trevor Linden and first-time NHL general manager Jim Benning as the Canucks rebuild following a disappointing 2013-14 season.

“I’ve been looking forward to this opportunity for a long time,” said the 57-year-old Desjardins.

In other NHL news:

- The Phoenix Coyotes are about to become the Arizona Coyotes.

The name change will coincide with the NHL Draft on Friday, when the Coyotes will pick 12th overall.

- Andrei Markov is staying with the Montreal Canadiens.

The 35-year-old defenseman was signed to a \$17.25 million, three-year contract extension with the Canadiens on Monday. Markov was set to become an unrestricted free agent on July 1.

- The Philadelphia Flyers acquired R.J. Umberger and a fourth-round pick in the 2015 draft from the Columbus Blue Jackets in exchange for Scott Hartnell on Monday.

NBA



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

A person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Miami forward LeBron James has decided to opt out of the final two years of his contract with the Heat and become a free agent on July 1.

James to become free agent

By TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

MIAMI — LeBron James is heading back to free agency. James has told the Miami Heat that he is opting out of the final two years of his contract, his agent, Rich Paul, told The Associated Press on Tuesday. And with that, James will become a free agent on July 1.

"I have informed the Heat," Paul said. "That does not mean James is leaving Miami — but there's no guarantee that he'll be in a Heat uniform next season, either. A person briefed on the matter and familiar with James' thinking told AP that he has not decided where he will play next season."

"There's no other decision yet," that person said.

James addressed the lure of having flexibility last week in his exit interview after the Heat lost to San Antonio in the NBA Finals. And he will have plenty of it now.

Among his options: He could leave Miami entirely, join another team if he feels that better positions himself to win more championships, or sign a longer-term deal in Miami and afford the Heat some financial flexibility of their own in relation to the salary cap and luxury tax.

"Being able to have flexibility as a professional, anyone, that's what we all would like," James said last week. "That's in any sport, for a football player, a baseball player, a basketball player, to have flexibility and be able to control your future or your present. I have a position to be able to do that. ... There's a lot of times that you're not in control of your future as a professional." James had about \$42.7 million remaining on his deal with the Heat. He came to Miami in 2010 after spending his first seven seasons with the Cleveland Cavaliers, and the free agent dealings that summer, James said, was the "craziest summer I've ever been a part of."

This one might have a similar feel.

Duncan returning for another season

Tim Duncan has resisted the temptation to retire on a title-winning high and at age 38 has signed on for another season with the San Antonio Spurs.

Duncan has decided to exercise the option on his contract for 2014-15 and will return next season, the team announced Monday. Since he was drafted No. 1 overall in 1997, Duncan leads all NBA players in wins and has won five titles, two MVP awards and three NBA Finals MVPs.

Duncan will make about \$10.3 million next season in the final year of a two-year agreement.

— The Associated Press

Draft: Deals have to work for both sides

FROM BACK PAGE

to make roster moves in an effort to convince him to stay in Minnesota. But if he decides to trade him, Saunders has a couple of options:

- He can trade Love for a package of veterans in an effort to avoid a long-term rebuild.

- He could move Love in a deal highlighted by draft picks, which could put the Celtics and their two first-round picks on Thursday night — Nos. 6 and 17 — or the Cleveland Cavaliers, who pick first, at the top of the list of potential trade partners.

Celtics President Danny Ainge told reporters in Boston on Saturday that keeping their picks was "probably the most likely scenario that happens" and Warriors general manager Bob Myers said Friday that it was "unlikely" they would be involved in a major trade on or before the draft.

But things can change in the blink of an eye.

"I say unlikely because most of the things you talk about don't happen," Myers said. "And there's no blame to be placed. It's just hard. I mean, it's hard to make deals in the NBA because it's very competitive and it has to work for both sides."

Afflalo had the best offensive season of his career for the Magic last season, averaging 18.2 points, 3.4 assists and shooting 42.7 percent on three-pointers. But he turns 29 in October, and the Magic have a promising young core and are still rebuilding their roster after trading Dwight Howard a couple of years ago.

Meanwhile, the Raptors and Suns have decisions to make with their free-agent point guards.

Lowry is coming off of a breakout season and was one of the biggest reasons the Raptors made a surprising surge in the East. But he also figures to garner considerable interest on a free-agent market short on playmaking point guards. Suns GM Ryan McDonough has been vocal in his belief that Bledsoe, a restricted free agent, will remain in Phoenix and play alongside Goran Dragic, forming one of the most exciting young backcourts in the league.

But over the last month the Suns have worked out several point guards, including Ennis, which would appear to leave open the possibility of Bledsoe or Dragic being traded if the right deal came along. With those players, and a bevy of first-round picks in hand, the Suns could even jump into the Love sweepstakes.



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COLLEGE WORLD SERIES/NHL



Vanderbilt first baseman Zander Wiel slides safely into home plate ahead of Virginia catcher Nate Irving to catch a run Monday in the opener of the College World Series in Omaha, Neb. Vanderbilt won 9-8.

Campbell lifts Vanderbilt

By ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — It's hard to believe Tyler Campbell came into the College World Series with two hits all season.

He's got five in Omaha so far, none bigger than his bases-loaded double that highlighted Vanderbilt's nine-run third inning in a 9-8 win over Virginia in Game 1 of the CWS finals Monday night.

"I guess Tyler is a veteran now. He's played in three games," Commodores coach Tim Corbin said. "He takes advantage of key situations... He's played with a great heartbeat."

Campbell, who appeared in only 14 games before the CWS, was put into the lineup as the fill-in for third baseman Xavier Turner, who was declared ineligible on Friday for violating NCAA rules. He's 5-for-12 at the CWS and has been solid with his glove.

If he keeps playing like this, there'll be a spot for him on the all-tournament team.

Campbell had two hits against Texas on Friday, legged out a bases-loaded grounder to drive in the winning run in the 10th inning against the Longhorns on Saturday, and then had two doubles and three RBIs on Monday.

"I'm confident, yeah," Campbell said. "Against Texas the other night I didn't think I had a great game, but I think that actually helped me to stay with my approach and try to hit balls hard on the ground. I feel like I'm seeing pitches well, so that is the best deal."

The Commodores (50-20) can win their first national championship in a men's sport with a win



Vanderbilt third baseman Tyler Campbell celebrates after hitting a double against Virginia on Monday in the opening game of the College World Series finals.

Tuesday night.

Monday's win came after Virginia starter Nathan Kirby imploded in the third. The Commodores hung on to win after the Cavaliers nearly came back from a seven-run deficit.

"We're fortunate to win that game, for sure," Vanderbilt coach Tim Corbin said. "No one could have scripted that particular game, and if anyone said they could, they're lying. I don't think you could have called a nine-run inning."

Virginia (52-15) scored three in the third, two in the fifth and another in the eighth. Had it not been for Vanderbilt reliever John Kilichowski getting a cleat on the ball to slow down and redirect a comebacker, saving a run in the eighth, the Cavaliers would have tied it.

"We didn't really want to fall back and pack it in," Virginia's

Branden Cogswell said. "We hadn't done it all year. This is the championship series, and there is no reason to do it now."

Jared Miller (7-2) got the win for two innings of relief after Walker Buehler. Adam Ravenelle came on in the ninth and earned his second save of the CWS.

It was the highest-scoring CWS game at TD Ameritrade Park, which opened in 2011, and the most runs allowed by Virginia since an 11-6 loss to Mississippi State in super regionals last year.

The nine runs in the third, off three hits, five walks and a hit batter, were the most in an inning in the CWS since Stanford scored 11 against Florida State in the ninth on June 14, 2008, at the old Rosenblatt Stadium.

"I just couldn't find my release point," Kirby said. "It hadn't happened all year, but it happened tonight. I thought we did a great job with the bats. If we carry that into tomorrow, I think we'll be fine."

Things went south for Kirby in a hurry after he struck out Chris Harvey to start the inning. He walked Jason Delay on four pitches, gave up Campbell's first double, and walked Dansby Swanson to load the bases.

Bryan Reynolds' infield single drove in a run, and then Kirby issued the first of three straight bases-loaded walks — all while Whyte Mayberry was warming up in the bullpen. By the time Mayberry came on, after Rhett Wiseman reached on an error, Vandy led 5-2.

Of Kirby's last 50 pitches, 31 were balls. He walked five in the third inning after having never walked more than three in a game in his 18 previous career starts.

Hasek among six in Hall's 2014 class

By LARRY LACE
The Associated Press

Dominik Hasek, Mike Modano, Peter Forsberg and Rob Blake started playing hockey in four different countries as kids.

They will enter the Hockey Hall of Fame together.

"This tells me that our game is growing, our game is growing worldwide," John Davidson, chairman of the Hockey Hall of Fame selection committee, said Monday. "When we have a class like this coming into the hall, I think that says a lot about our game and how worldwide it is."

The four players will be inducted Nov. 17 in Toronto along with former referee Bill McCree and the late Pat Burns, who will be enshrined posthumously as a coach in the builder category.

Hasek, who was known as "the Dominator," won the Vezina Trophy as the NHL's top goaltender six times, tying Bill Durnan's total and trailing Jacques Plante's record by one. He won two Hart Trophies as league MVP in 1997 and 1998 with the Buffalo Sabres, becoming the first to win the award from his position since Plante did it in 1962.

Hasek also helped the Czech Republic win gold at the 1998 Olympics — the first with NHL players — several years after he almost left the world's top league.

"I was thinking about going back to Europe because I was in the minors, playing for the Indianapolis Ice," Hasek recalled, referring to the Chicago Blackhawks' affiliate. "But I got a chance to play in 1992 and it was the best thing that could happen for me because in Buffalo, I got a chance to play."

The Sabres traded him to Detroit nearly a decade later and he helped the Detroit Red Wings hoist the Stanley Cup in 2002. Hasek becomes the seventh player from that team to be elected to the Hall of Fame as a player and it was led by Hall of Fame coach Scotty Bowman. Hasek was a backup in 2008 when Detroit won another championship.

Modano ended his career with his home-state Red Wings after leaving Michigan to play in Canada at the age of 15, a move that seemed to pay off. He finished with records for American-born players — 561 goals and 1,374 points — and helped the Dallas Stars win the Cup in 1999 against the Hasek-led Sabres. Modano was drafted No. 1 overall in 1988 by the Minnesota North Stars after playing juniors with the Prince Albert Raiders in the Western Hockey League.

"It was a tough decision to leave Detroit, to leave home," he recalled. "I thought Canada was the best place to go for competition."

Canada was home for Blake, who was born in Simcoe, Ontario. He helped his country win it all at the Olympics in 2002, earning a place in the Triple Gold Club that includes only players with a Cup,



Former goalie Dominik Hasek, who won the Vezina Trophy six times, is among the 2014 class for Hockey Hall of Fame. Also being inducted are players Mike Modano, Peter Forsberg and Rob Blake, late coach Pat Burns and former referee Bill McCree.

Olympic and world gold medals. Blake won an NHL title with the Colorado Avalanche in 2001 after winning one Norris Trophy as the league's top defenseman in 1998 while playing for the Los Angeles Kings.

Forsberg, a smooth-skating, slick-shooting Swede, is also in the Triple Gold Club. He won two championships in Colorado and helped Sweden win gold at the 2006 Olympics. Philadelphia drafted Forsberg with the No. 6 overall pick in 1991 and traded him to Quebec a year later in a trade for Eric Lindros, and he played one season for the Nordiques before the franchise moved to Colorado. He had a great career, but it was stunted by several injuries.

Burns, who coached the New Jersey Devils to the 2003 Stanley Cup title, died of cancer at 58 in 2010. The police officer-turned-hockey coach won the Adams Trophy as the NHL's top coach with three teams: Toronto, Montreal and Boston.

"It's a very emotional day for the Burns family, I can tell you that, and I think it's a great day," said his wife, Lynn.

McCree was an official for nearly 2,000 games, including 282 playoff games, from 1984 until he worked his last game on April 2, 2011. He also was an official in the 1998 and 2002 Olympic finals.

Brendan Shanahan, Chris Chelios, Scott Niedermayer, Geraldine Heaney and the late Fred Shero were inducted last year. Among eligible players who have not been picked for induction are Lindros, the 1995 NHL MVP and six-time All-Star, and Mark Recchi, a seven-time All-Star who won three Cups with three teams.

WORD CUP

Scoreboard

First round											
x-advanced to second round					GROUP F						
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Brazil	2	0	1	7	4	6	1	1	0	3	1
x-Mexico	2	0	1	7	4	6	1	1	0	3	1
Croatia	1	2	0	6	6	3	0	1	1	3	0
Cameroon	1	2	0	6	6	3	0	1	1	3	0
Thursday, June 12											
Brazil 3, Croatia 1											
Mexico 1, Cameroon 0											
Friday, June 13											
Mexico 0, Mexico 0											
Croatia 4, Cameroon 0											
Monday, June 23											
Brazil 4, Cameroon 1											
Mexico 3, Croatia 0											
GROUP B											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Netherlands	3	0	0	5	3	9	0	0	0	0	0
x-Chile	2	1	0	5	3	6	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	1	1	0	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Australia	0	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friday, June 13											
Netherlands 5, Spain 1											
Chile 3, Australia 1											
Wednesday, June 18											
Netherlands 3, Australia 2											
Chile 2, Spain 0											
Monday, June 23											
Spain 3, Australia 0											
Netherlands 2, Chile 0											
GROUP C											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Colombia	1	0	0	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ivory Coast	1	0	0	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Greece	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Saturday, June 14											
Colombia 3, Greece 0											
Ivory Coast 2, Japan 1											
Thursday, June 19											
Colombia 2, Ivory Coast 1											
Greece 0, Japan 0											
Tuesday, June 24											
Colombia vs. Japan											
Greece vs. Ivory Coast											
GROUP D											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Costa Rica	2	0	1	4	4	7	1	1	0	3	4
Uruguay	2	0	1	4	4	7	1	1	0	3	4
Italy	1	2	0	2	2	3	2	2	1	4	1
England	1	2	0	2	2	3	2	2	1	4	1
Saturday, June 14											
Costa Rica 3, Uruguay 1											
Italy 5, England 1											
Thursday, June 19											
Uruguay 2, England 1											
Friday, June 20											
Costa Rica 1, Italy 0											
Thursday, June 24											
Uruguay 1, Uruguay 0											
Costa Rica 0, England 0											
GROUP E											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
France	2	0	0	2	0	6	1	1	0	3	3
Ecuador	2	0	0	2	0	6	1	1	0	3	3
Switzerland	1	1	0	4	4	3	2	2	1	4	1
Honduras	1	1	0	4	4	3	2	2	1	4	1
Sunday, June 15											
Switzerland 2, Ecuador 1											
France 3, Honduras 0											
Friday, June 20											
France 5, Switzerland 2											
Ecuador 2, Honduras 2											
Wednesday, June 25											
Switzerland vs. Honduras											
At Rio de Janeiro											
Ecuador vs. France											

GROUP F											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Argentina	2	0	0	3	1	6	1	1	0	3	4
Nigeria	2	0	0	3	1	6	1	1	0	3	4
Iran	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1
Bosnia-Herzegovina	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1
Sunday, June 15											
Argentina 2, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1											
Monday, June 16											
Iran 0, Nigeria 0											
Saturday, June 21											
Argentina 1, Iran 0											
Nigeria 1, Bosnia-Herzegovina 0											
Wednesday, June 25											
Argentina vs. Nigeria											
At Porto Alegre, Brazil											
At Salvador, Brazil											
Bosnia-Herzegovina vs. Iran											
GROUP G											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Germany	0	1	1	6	2	4	1	1	0	4	1
United States	0	1	1	6	2	4	1	1	0	4	1
Ghana	0	1	1	4	3	3	1	1	0	3	1
Portugal	0	1	1	2	2	3	1	1	0	3	1
Monday, June 16											
Germany 4, Portugal 0											
United States 2, Ghana 1											
Saturday, June 21											
Germany 2, Ghana 2											
Sunday, June 22											
Portugal 2, United States 2											
Thursday, June 26											
At Recife, Brazil											
Germany vs. United States											
At Brasilia, Brazil											
Portugal vs. Ghana											
GROUP H											
W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
x-Belgium	2	0	0	5	3	6	1	1	0	3	4
Algeria	2	0	0	5	3	6	1	1	0	3	4
Russia	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1
South Korea	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1
Tuesday, June 17											
Belgium 2, Algeria 1											
Russia 1, South Korea 1											
Sunday, June 22											
Belgium 1, Russia 0											
Algeria 4, South Korea 2											
Thursday, June 26											
At Sao Paulo, Brazil											
Belgium vs. South Korea											
At Curitiba, Brazil											
Algeria vs. Russia											

Second round

Saturday, June 28	
At Belo Horizonte, Brazil	Brazil vs. Chile
At Rio de Janeiro	Group C winner vs. Group D second place
Sunday, June 29	At Fortaleza, Brazil
Netherlands vs. Mexico	At Recife, Brazil
Group D winner vs. Group C second place	Monday, June 30
At Brasilia, Brazil	Group E winner vs. Group F second place
At Porto Alegre, Brazil	Group G winner vs. Group H second place
Tuesday, July 1	At Sao Paulo
Group F winner vs. Group E second place	At Salvador, Brazil
Group H winner vs. Group G second place	

Uruguay eliminates Italy, earns second in Group D

By ANDREW DAMPE
The Associated Press



ANTONIO CALANNI/AP

Italy's Marco Verratti, left, and Uruguay's Egidio Araveno Rios battle for the ball during Tuesday's Group D match in Natal, Brazil.

NATAL, Brazil—Captain Diego Godin scored in the 81st minute as Uruguay edged 10-man Italy 1-0 Tuesday to reach the second round of the World Cup, although the victory was overshadowed by a biting incident involving the South American team's star forward Luis Suarez.

Four-time champion Italy, meanwhile, is heading home after the group phase for the second time in four years.

Godin rose above a crowd of defenders to meet a corner with his left shoulder and veteran goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon had no chance.

Moments earlier, replays showed Suarez apparently bite the shoulder of Italy defender Giorgio Chiellini as the pair clashed in the Italian penalty area.

On AFN



Group F
Argentina vs. Nigeria
AFN-Sports
5:30 p.m. Wednesday CET
12:30 a.m. Thursday JKT



Group E
France vs. Ecuador
AFN-Sports
9:30 p.m. Wednesday CET
4:30 a.m. Thursday JKT



Group E
Switzerland vs. Honduras
AFN-Xtra
9:30 p.m. Wednesday CET
4:30 a.m. Thursday JKT



Group E
Switzerland vs. Honduras
AFN-Xtra
9:30 p.m. Wednesday CET
4:30 a.m. Thursday JKT

African hopes growing after forgettable start

By GERALD IMRAY
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — It looked like the same sad old story at the World Cup for Africa, the continent which still hasn't quite done it on the big stage.

Africa has never had a semifinalist — never mind a real contender for the title — and initially appeared out of its depth again at the start in Brazil.

Cameroon was terrible in the first round of matches, African champion Nigeria couldn't even beat Iran, and Ghana lost to the United States. After some early promise, Algeria was over-run by Belgium, playing up to the football stereotype that African teams can be exciting but also careless and naive.

Even Ivory Coast, with world-class talent like Yaya Toure, Didier Drogba and Gervinho, couldn't put it together and initially struggled against Japan.

Pele's prediction years ago that, with a football obsession rivaling even Brazil's,

Africa would emerge as the game's new force still appeared way off. It probably still is.

But with the exception of Cameroon, the Africans have shown grit and skill to fight back. Now there's a chance that four of their five teams will make the second round, something that has never happened before. Never has more than one African team advanced to the group stage.

Four years after hosting the World Cup, African players are ready to stand up for one of an impact on the tournament.

"It's something awesome for Africa," Nigeria goalkeeper Vincent Enyeama said after his country beat Bosnia-Herzegovina to get back on track in Brazil. "Africa needed that win, something to boost the confidence back home."

Three of the countries — Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Algeria — are second in their groups heading to the final games and have good chances of qualifying, while Ghana has an outside shot. After a forgettable first round, Nigeria's win, Ghana's fighting 2-2 draw with Germany and Algeria's all-out attacking show in a 4-2 victory over South Korea has revived the Africans.

"Ghana really threw everything they had at us," Germany coach Joachim Low said, praising the West Africans for their rapid counterattacks and underlining how

African teams — often big, strong and fast — are capable of upsetting the rhythm of the best lineups in the world.

Just ask Argentina's World Cup holders, who lost to Cameroon in 1990. Or France's defending champions in 2002, beaten by Senegal.

Now if only for some consistency. If there's one thing African teams have struggled with, it's being able to build on their small successes at the World Cup.

Following Monday's loss to Brazil, Cameroon has won just one game in five World Cups since it broke through to reach the quarterfinals in 1990. Senegal was the second African country to make the last eight in 2002, and yet has failed to qualify for another World Cup. Ghana followed up its run to the quarters last time in South Africa with a surprise loss to the U.S. in its opener in Brazil.

The roller-coaster rides with rare, unexpected highs and plenty of lows are partly because it is never simple in African soccer, where organization can be shambolic and teams have all sorts of challenges to overcome — many their own making.

Cameroon's 2014 campaign has been disastrous from the moment the squad refused to board a plane for Brazil over a bonus dispute. Nigeria has also had issues over player payments, and Ghana's build-

up to its crucial final group game against Portugal is being overshadowed by British media linking the Ghana Football Association to an alleged match-fixing plan.

Algeria coach Vahid Halilhodzic decided to rant at Algerian reporters when his team had just beaten South Korea for its first win at the World Cup since 1982.

"You journalists have always criticized me," Halilhodzic said. "It's a pity for you. I'm sorry for you."

Yet the majority of African teams are still alive at the World Cup — unlike Spain and England — and their equations to make the second round aren't crazily difficult.

Ivory Coast should beat Group C strugglers Greece, but even a draw won't hold them back as long as Colombia beats Japan. Nigeria plays Argentina last and will qualify with a point or even a loss if Bosnia beats or draws with Iran.

Algeria can afford a draw against Russia if South Korea doesn't win against Group H leader Belgium. A win and the North Africans sail through.

Ghana's chances are a little more remote.

But three teams in the last 16 would findly signal some progress 24 years after Roger Milla and Cameroon danced their way to the quarterfinals in Italy, first prompting Pele and the world to take notice of African football.

WORLD CUP

No weather and no talk of a draw for US

By RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Instead of taking a breather, the U.S. created a World Cup math puzzle for its fans.

Just 30 seconds from clinching advancement with a game to spare, the U.S. conceded a stoppage-time goal that left it with a 2-2 draw against Portugal on Sunday. With four points, the Americans might need at least a tie from their Group G finale against three-time champion Germany to advance to the knockout stage.

"Now we have no choice but to regroup, get ourselves ready for another big game on Thursday," midfielder Michael Bradley said.

Germany leads the group with four points after routing Portugal 4-0 and tying Ghana 2-2. The U.S., which opened with a 2-1 victory over Ghana, also has four points and trails on goal difference. Ghana and Portugal have one point each.

The U.S. would advance to the knockout stage of consecutive World Cups for the first time with a win or a tie against the Germans, or a draw between Ghana and Portugal in a match played simultaneously. If there's a winner in the other game, the Americans also could advance on a tie-breaker: goal difference, followed by total goals, head-to-head points, head-to-head goal difference and head-to-head goals. The last resort would be a drawing of lots.

"Had we been down 2-1 and we came back, we'd be flying high right now," goalkeeper Tim Howard said. "It's the Group of Death. Most people counted us out. So, it's no problem. We're going to the last game with a chance."

The U.S. arrived back at its base hotel in Sao Paulo at about 5 a.m. on Monday after a four-hour flight from the match in the steamy Amazon rainforest capital of Manaus. The starters were given the day off, and the reserves trained in the late afternoon at Sao Paulo Pitul Club.

After Tuesday's training session, the team makes the three-hour-plus flight to the northeast beach city of Recife. While the Americans have just three days off between matches, Germany has four.



JULIO CORTEZ/SP

Brad Davis, right, heads a ball tossed by U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann during a training session Monday in Sao Paulo. The U.S. will play Germany in their group G finale on Thursday in Recife, Brazil. Klinsmann said the team isn't interested in playing for a tie.

"We have one day less to recover," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said after Sunday's game. Germany "played yesterday; we played today. We played in the Amazon; they played in the locations where they don't have to travel as much. Everything was done for the big favorites to move on."

"There's a lot of things you can't control. That's a quirk of the schedule," U.S. Soccer Federation President Sunil Gulati said. "It's a quirk of the schedule that we've got more travel than anybody else in the first round, but we had less than everyone else in the first round in South Africa. So those things balance out."

Klinsmann did not talk to reporters Monday but spoke with the USSF in an interview for its website.

"We want to beat Germany. We want to

be first in our group, so we're not thinking about a tie," he said.

The Group G winner likely will play Algeria, Russia or South Korea, whichever finishes second in Group H. The second-place team in Group G probably will face Group H leader Belgium, which is 2-0. The U.S. announced Tuesday that forward Jozy Altidor will miss Thursday's game because of his strained left hamstring.

Klinsmann said that if the Americans qualify for the knockout stage, "we'll have a good chance to have him back again."

Klinsmann starred for West Germany's team that won the 1990 World Cup and coached Germany to third place in 2006. Joachim Low, Germany's current coach, was Klinsmann's assistant eight years ago.

Because both nations would advance in

the event of a draw, some thought back to the 1982 World Cup in Spain, where West Germany needed a one- or two-goal win over Austria to assure both nations of advancement and eliminate Algeria. The West Germans scored 10 minutes in, and players spent much of the rest of the evening passing to their teammates without threatening the opposing goal. West Germany won 1-0, and ever since FIFA has scheduled group finales for simultaneous kickoffs.

"You're talking about a game that is decades away that is only part of the Germany history and not the United States," Klinsmann said. "The United States is known to give everything they have in every single game. ... We have that fighting spirit. We have that energy and that determination to do well in every single game."

Portugal game sets record for American viewers

By DAVID BAUDER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The United States' 2-2 World Cup draw with Portugal is almost certainly the most-watched football game ever in the U.S., an emphatic confirmation of the sport's rising popularity in a country slower to embrace it than the rest of the world.

The Nielsen company said that Sunday's gripping game was seen by an average of 24.7 million viewers on ESPN and Univision. That matches it with the 24.7 million U.S. viewers who watched the 2010 World Cup final between Spain and the Netherlands.

ESPN said an additional 490,000 people streamed coverage of the game on their mobile devices through the company's app. Streaming numbers for 2010 weren't immediately available, but it's very unlikely they were that high because streaming apps were not as sophisticated then.

Many factors were in place to make it so popular: It was an ex-



ALAN WARREN, CONROE COURIER/AP

U.S. fans react to Portugal's last second goal to tie the game Sunday during the Houston Dynamo's viewing party in Houston.

citing game, interest in the U.S. team was high because of the first-game victory against Ghana and World Cup viewing in general has been high. The Sunday evening time slot also meant many Americans were available to watch.

"It indicates that a large group in our audience is really following the story of the World Cup, which is really terrific," said Scott Guglielmino, ESPN senior vice president of programming.

American players sense the support back home, as well as in stadiums in Brazil, and appreciate it. Viewing parties have pulled thousands of people into bars, public parks, movie theaters and other locations since the tournament began.

"When we get back to the hotel and we hear about Grant Park in Chicago having 10,000 fans out to watch the game and friends and family are sending pictures and videos of what's going on, it can't help but push you on because we want to make every person watching back home proud of us and proud to watch our team," said midfielder Michael Bradley.

The game has continued to grow steadily ever since the U.S. hosted the World Cup in 1994. "People know our players, people

know what's going on, people get excited to watch the games and to support their team, their country," Bradley said. "I think as players we can't ask for anything more."

Alejandro Bedoya said he checks social media to see the attention the team is getting.

"It's awesome to see this and we are part of this movement I guess that is growing soccer in the States," said Bedoya, a midfielder. "It's really cool and I'm sure everybody feeds off this energy and it's really nice to see."

Through 32 matches, World Cup games averaged 4.3 million viewers on ESPN. That's up 50 percent from the nearly 2.9 million for matches in the 2010 World Cup. Sunday's match was the most-watched event ever on ESPN that did not involve American football.

For many people with Latin-American roots used to following their home country's matches on Univision, the United States has become their second-favorite

team, said Juan Carlos Ramirez, president of Univision Sports.

Both networks invested in driving up interest in the World Cup, since big ratings translates into big profits. ESPN spent time telecasting qualifying games for the tournament and has benefited from new attention paid to European soccer leagues. Univision started in a 24-hour sports network where soccer is the major topic of conversation.

The players have done their part, too. There have been plenty of well-played games with higher scoring than is often seen in conservatively-played, high-stakes matches, Rodriguez said.

"It's a combination of many good things," he said. "The planets are aligning."

The social media site Facebook, through one week, has already seen more people having interactions about the tournament than it had for the Sochi Olympics, Super Bowl and Academy Awards combined.

WORLD CUP

Neymar strikes twice, sends Brazil to knockout round

By TALES AZZONI
The Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil — Neymar knew the responsibility was his. An increasingly anxious host nation was relying on him to ensure Brazil avoided the almost inconceivable prospect of going out in the group stage of a World Cup on home soil.

The 22-year-old Barcelona striker delivered on the weighty expectations Monday, setting the Selecao on course to clinch its place in the knockout stage with two precision first-half goals in a 4-1 rout of Cameroon.

"I have the responsibility to go out there and help my teammates," said Neymar, the World Cup's leading scorer with four goals. "We all did well today and got the result that we needed."

He had already been decisive in the 3-1 opening win over Croatia, when he also scored twice to lift a struggling Brazil.

Fred and Ferdinandinho added second-half goals to ensure the top spot in Group A for Brazil, which will face South American rival Chile in the second round.

More important than the widely expected victory, though, was a performance that restored the confidence of fans after two disappointing matches.

"It was our best match," Neymar said. "Not only because of the result but also because of how we played. We pressured our opponent just like we wanted. We deserved this result — everyone in the team deserves credit for what we did today."

Neymar scored on either side of midfielder Joel Matip's goal for Cameroon in the 26th minute.

He opened the scoring off a low cross by midfielder Luiz Gustavo in the 17th, deftly side-footing the ball home from close range, then restored the lead with a low right-foot strike from the top of the penalty area in the 35th after a pass by left back Marcelo.

Fred, who had been loudly

criticized for his lackluster performances, scored with a header from close range after a cross by defender David Luiz from the left in the 49th minute. And Ferdinandinho, who replaced Paulinho in the second half, poked in from short range in the 84th.

"I liked how the team played," Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said. "There were some highs and lows, but in general we improved a little bit more. We are progressing match after match and that's important."

Brazil finished Group A with seven points after a 0-0 draw with Mexico and two wins. It ended with the same points as Mexico, but had a better goal difference. The Mexicans eliminated Croatia with a 3-1 win in Recife.

"We knew we had to do better today," Brazil striker Hulk said. "We had to play better, and we did."

Boosted by a crowd of nearly 69,112 at the Estadio Nacional in the nation's capital, Brazil began the match pressuring Cameroon and created many scoring chances early. But the African team eventually picked up the pace and was able to keep the hosts from threatening too much.

Despite playing without Samuel Eto'o because of a lingering right knee injury, Cameroon had a few good chances, even when the match was level in the first half.

"The first half was not so bad, but we need to focus for 90 minutes, and this is not the first time that this happened," Cameroon coach Volker Finke said. "Some goals were not needed, three times we had the control of the ball and we lost it."

Cameroon, which hasn't advanced to the second round since becoming the first African nation to reach the World Cup quarterfinals in 1990, likely saw Eto'o playing in his final World Cup. The 33-year-old striker, in his fourth World Cup, is the team's all-time leading scorer.



RICARDO MAZALAN/AP

Mexico's Rafael Marquez, left, celebrates after scoring his team's first goal during Monday's Group A match against Croatia in Recife, Brazil. Mexico won 3-1 to earn a spot in the second round.

'The boss' takes charge

Mexico advances after Marquez header sparks binge

By BRETT MARTEL
The Associated Press

RECIFE, Brazil — One of the first things Miguel Herrera did when he became Mexico's fourth coach in a year was call Rafael Marquez and ask the 35-year-old defender known as "the boss" to return to the national team as captain.

On Monday, the world saw why. Marquez's pivotal goal from a header in the 72nd minute ignited a scoring burst, and Mexico surged into the World Cup's knockout stage for a sixth straight time with a 3-1 triumph over Croatia.

"I did not hesitate one minute after my talk with him to appoint him captain," Herrera said of Marquez, now in his fourth World Cup. "He's had many achievements in his career, personally, but he's also provided leadership to the team, that soundness, and that is why they call him the boss."

Marquez, Andres Guardado and Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez scored in a 10-minute span in the second half, dooming a talented Croatia team to elimination from the group stage.

The Croats had to win to advance and held the bulk of possession, but had trouble seriously threatening goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa, who kept out all efforts until an 87th-minute consolation goal from Ivan Perisic.

Mexico entered the game needing only a draw, but played aggressively and looked dangerous in attack even before breaking through. The result gave Mexico a second-place finish behind Brazil in Group A and set up a second-round meeting with Group B winner the Netherlands.

"We overcame the first hurdle," Miguel Herrera said, adding that the team would dine with their families in Recife late Monday night. "We're going to celebrate tonight but tomorrow we have to start thinking of our match with the Netherlands."

Marquez, who had scored in Germany in 2006 and South Africa four years ago, made it three straight World Cups with a goal by beating Croatia defender Vedran Corluka to head home Hector Herrera's corner.

"They wanted him to retire, and look at him," Guardado said. "He plays like he's 23."

Three minutes later, Guardado found the net with a hard, left-footed, one-time shot after a cross from Oribe Peralta.

Then in the 82nd, Hernandez, the popular Man-

chester United striker who has been a second-half substitute in all three of Mexico's matches, scored with a header after Herrera's corner had glanced off the head of Marquez.

"Mexico was equal in the first half. We tried to (attack) and left spaces in the second half," Croatia defender Danijel Pranjić said. "They scored on set plays and Marquez killed us."

Croatia didn't score until it was too late, with Perisic sliding a shot past Ochoa after being set up by a neat backheel pass from Ivan Rakitic.

"It's a moot point whether we should have kept it nil-nil until the last 10 minutes and then go all out on the attack," Croatia coach Niko Kovac said. "We decided to attack earlier, but it wasn't successful."

Croatia's late goal was the first Mexico has conceded in the World Cup, but "El Tri" hardly seemed to mind when the final whistle sounded and a lively, heavily Mexican crowd in Arena Pernambuco erupted.

"Today we felt as if we were playing at home in Mexico," Miguel Herrera said.

Mexico appeared to be laboring through a downspell before this World Cup. It struggled just to qualify out of CONCACAF and fired three coaches in a year's time before Miguel Herrera rescued Mexico's hopes. El Tri made it to Brazil as CONCACAF's fourth team after soundly beating New Zealand in a last-chance qualifier.

Marquez was quick to credit his energetic coach for unifying the national team in a way he'd never seen before.

"Officials, the coaches, the players have shown this unity and it is quite important," Marquez said. "We've shown this on the pitch and off, and that is why we have such a sound, robust group. We get along very well. ... We're all united. We're working together, and therefore you work comfortably, with joy."

Known as a coach of the people for the way he engages fans on social media and at times in public, Herrera implored the Mexico faithful to "stay together" and sing the national anthem "like never before."

Mexican fans, whose green jerseys distinguished them as the overwhelming majority in the crowd, belted out a thunderous rendition.

Croatia players were heckled each time they took a corner kick, as was goalkeeper Stipe Pletikosa when he touched the ball.



DOLORES OCHOA/AP

Brazil's Neymar controls the ball during Monday's match against Cameroon in Brasilia. Brazil won 4-1 to win Group A.

SPORTS



Into the second round
Uruguay eliminates Italy, claims second place in Group D | **Page 29**

NBA

First 5 picks

1. Cleveland



2. Milwaukee



3. Philadelphia



4. Orlando



5. Utah



Impacting the draft

Timberwolves' Love among several veterans who could influence picks

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
The Associated Press

Kevin Love was a dour, nervous 19-year-old in 2008 when he was drafted by the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Six years later, the three-time All-Star could hear his name called on draft night — again. College stars and international prospects may not be the only ones taking center stage on Thursday night in New York. Love, one of the best big men in the league, headlines a list of veteran NBA players who could have a major influence on how the draft unfolds.

Love's contract situation has the Timberwolves contemplating trading him, with teams like Boston, Cleveland, Chicago and Denver among those who could use first-round picks as part of a package to acquire him. Orlando's Aaron Afflalo and Golden State's Klay Thompson could be on the move as well, while soon-to-be free agents like Toronto's Kyle Lowry and Phoenix's Eric Bledsoe could have a say in which direction their current teams go with draft picks.

Many of the trades that occur this time of year don't happen until teams are on the clock and can gauge what players are available to be drafted.

Then they can decide whether they can get enough to part with a proven commodity like Love or Afflalo. "For the most part, the teammates and the coaches will always, always want the certainty of the player in the locker room," said Isaiah Thomas, a former player, executive and coach and current NBATV analyst. "Management will for the most part look at it from a financial aspect, culture aspect and also the type of player they are getting."

That's the conundrum the Wolves face with Love, who can opt out of his contract at the end of next season and has made it clear he plans to go elsewhere. Wolves President Flip Saunders could choose to keep Love and try **SEE DRAFT ON PAGE 27**

Did you know

Kevin Love was taken with the fifth overall pick in the 2008 NBA Draft by Memphis, then immediately traded to Minnesota.



SOURCE: Yahoo! Sports

**Inside:**

- LeBron opts out of final year of contract with Heat, Page 27
- Duncan returning for another season with Spurs, Page 27

Forward Kevin Love, left, has made it clear he wants out of Minnesota.

ANN HEISENFELT/AP

