

**US OPEN**

Sharapova survives against Sabine Lisicki; Venus Williams loses

Page 31

**UKRAINE**

EU leaders poised to impose sanctions against Russians

Page 8

**MUSIC**

Ariana Grande's 'My Everything' is everything

Page 15

Mid-east: Fort Hood shooter petitions to be Islamic State citizen » Page 6

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Volume 73, No. 96B © SS 2014 MIDEAST EDITION SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2014 stripes.com Free to Deployed Areas



Nasir Ahmad harvests saffron bulbs from the few acres of land where he grows the spice on the outskirts of Herat, in western Afghanistan.

Josh Smitz/Stars and Stripes

## US officials: Radicalized Westerners a top threat

BY KEN DILANIAN AND BRADLEY KLAPPER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The case of Mehdi Nemmouche haunts U.S. intelligence officials.

Nemmouche is a Frenchman who authorities say spent 11 months fighting with the Islamic State group in Syria before returning to Europe to act out his rage. On May 24, prosecutors say, he methodically shot four people at the Jewish Museum in central Brussels. Three died instantly, one afterward. Nemmouche was arrested later, apparently by chance.

For U.S. and European counterterrorism officials, that 90-second spasm of violence is the kind of attack they fear from thousands of Europeans and as many as 100 Americans who have gone to fight for extremist armies in Syria and now Iraq.

The Obama administration has offered a wide range of assessments of the threat to U.S. national security posed by the extremists who say they've established a caliphate, or Islamic state, in an area straddling eastern Syria and northern and western Iraq, and whose actions include the beheading of American journalist James Foley. Some officials say the group is more dangerous than al-Qaida. Yet intelligence assessments say it currently couldn't pull off a complex, 9/11-style attack on the U.S. or Europe.

However, there is broad agreement across intelligence and law enforcement agencies of the immediate threat from radicalized Europeans and Americans who could come home to conduct lone-wolf operations.

**SEE THREAT ON PAGE 6**



**Douglas McCain, who was killed last week in Syria, is one of several Western Muslims during the past two years to have taken up extremists' fights.**

## S·O·W·I·N·G T·H·R·E·A·D·S O·F CHANGE

Afghan farmers see big money in saffron business

By JOSH SMITZ  
Stars and Stripes

HERAT, Afghanistan — The hot summer wind sent dust whirling into the air as Nasir Ahmad deftly picked a handful of brown saffron bulbs from a freshly dug hole in the parched earth.

With his fingers, weathered by decades of farming in western Afghanistan's deserts, he plucked

the lingering dirt clods from the bulbs. It would still be months before they yielded their valuable flowers, but Ahmad cradled them gently.

A towering figure in a bright yellow turban and long, graying beard, Ahmad gazes across the few acres that will determine his future.

"These are now my life," he said, fingering the bulbs. "Afghanistan is a nation of farmers, and we need to succeed."

**SEE SAFFRON ON PAGE 4**



### SAFFRON BASICS

Described as the most expensive spice in the world, saffron threads are harvested from the dried stigmas of the saffron flower. Each flower contains only three stigmas. It takes about 75,000 flowers to produce one pound of saffron filaments, which can sell for more than \$1,200.

QUOTE  
OF THE DAY

"They say they're going to move forward, then somebody goes 'boo' and then they hide."

—Kica Matos, of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement, discussing White House attitudes toward making changes to immigration law

See story on Page 9

TOP CLICKS  
ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Soldiers charged in water-park incident to be sentenced, Korean officials say
2. Pilot in F-15 crash was decimated combat vet
3. 'Walking Dead' Marine battalion to be deactivated
4. Russia replies to Canada's tweet depicting colorful Ukraine 'map'
5. Fort Hood shooter Nidal Hasan asks to be a citizen of Islamic State

COMING  
SOON

Science & Medicine



The deep sea is vast, unexplored and incredibly important

TODAY  
IN STRIPES

American Roundup ..... 14  
 Business ..... 23  
 Comics ..... Sunday Comics, 19  
 Crossword ..... 19  
 Entertainment ..... 21  
 Gadgets & Charts ..... 20  
 Music ..... 15-17  
 Opinion ..... 12-13  
 Sports ..... 24-32  
 Weather ..... 23

MILITARY



Afghan security forces inspect the site of a suicide attack in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, on Saturday. The bombing struck an intelligence headquarters, sparking an intense firefight with security forces, officials said.

Taliban hit intelligence base

Bombing of spy agency compound in eastern Afghanistan sparks firefight

By AMIR SHAH  
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suicide bomber in a truck blew himself up at an intelligence headquarters in eastern Afghanistan on Saturday, killing at least two people and setting off an intense firefight with security forces, officials said.

After the bombing outside the headquarters of the National Directorate of Security in Jalalabad, militants battled with security forces for an hour before authorities were able to put down the attack, said Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, a spokesman for the Nangarhar governor.

He would not say how many attackers were involved or whether they were all killed or some escaped. He said authorities were searching the grounds.

Abdulzai put the death toll at two and said they were both from the NDS, but Najibullah Kamawal, the top provincial health official, said six bodies had been brought to the hospital.

Conflicting death tolls are common in the immediate aftermath of such bombings.

Kamawal said 45 people were wounded. The powerful explosion shook the entire neighborhood, breaking nearby windows and startling residents.

"It was early morning and we were sleeping at home. A strong explosion happened followed by firing. When I came out of my room I was covered with dust, and my kids and I got injured from broken windows," said Ahmad Shah.

A spokesman for the Taliban, Zabihullah Mujahid, claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to The Associated Press.

Jalalabad is one of Afghani-

stan's biggest cities, but the city is also located in one of the country's most troubled regions.

Taliban militants are easily able to hide in the forbidding, mountainous terrain, and often cross back and forth into neighboring Pakistan. Afghan security officials have repeatedly accused Pakistan of giving sanctuary to militants that attack Afghanistan, something Pakistan denies.

In May, militants attacked the provincial justice building in Jalalabad, killing at least five civilians before authorities were able to retake the building. Militants in March attacked a police station in Jalalabad, sparking a four-hour battle with police that ended with 11 people dead.

Obama: Hike pay 1 percent for troops, civilians

From wire reports

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Friday proposed raising federal civilian and military pay by 1 percent across the board next year, signaling that he wants to give the workers a salary bump but prevent the rates from automatically rising higher under the law.

In a letter to House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Vice President Joe Biden, Obama said the greater increase set to take effect without his plan would be "inappropriate."

Congress has the authority to block Obama's proposal, but failure to act on the part of lawmakers would allow the president to implement the pay raise unilaterally through an executive order, as he did with a 1 percent rate increase in December.

The National Treasury Employees Union, one of the nation's largest labor groups representing federal workers, said agency personnel deserve a greater rate increase than Obama proposed Friday, arguing that government employees are paid less than their private-sector counterparts and that the gap is widening.

Federal pay rates automatically rise each year by a certain percentage under a complex formula established by the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act, unless Congress or the president take action to implement an alternative plan. The statutory deadline for the White House to propose a different rate increase is Aug. 31. The statutory pay increases for 2015 would have amounted to 1.8 percent for uniformed personnel and 1.3 percent for civilians if Obama had not proposed an alternative plan.

In January, federal workers received their first across-the-board pay raise in three years because of the 1 percent increase that Obama implemented in late December.

Before that, the president froze the rates for two years starting in 2011, and Congress continued the hold through 2013. Some employees still received extra pay during that period in the form of performance awards, bonuses and promotions.

**A strong explosion happened followed by firing. When I came out of my room I was covered with dust, and my kids and I got injured from broken windows.**

Ahmad Shah  
Jalalabad resident

DODDS SPORTS

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



## AFGHANISTAN

# Afghan forces tested in poppy-growing hot spot

## With US troops no longer a threat Taliban launch bloody campaign

By ERIN CUNNINGHAM  
The Washington Post

LASHKAR GAH, Afghanistan — The Taliban came at night, slipping into Sarwan Qala village and scaling the roofs of its mud-baked homes to fire on police and army checkpoints nearby.

The incursion by hundreds of fighters in June sent residents fleeing to neighboring hamlets by donkey and on foot. It was the first salvo in a massive, ongoing Taliban offensive against Afghan security forces in southeastern Afghanistan.

The increasingly bloody campaign shows the strength of the insurgents, who have been emboldened by the U.S. military withdrawal from the area in May, local residents and Afghan security forces said. The outcome of the fighting in the Sangin district, which includes Sarwan Qala, will be a bellwether for how Afghanistan's national police and army might fare after foreign troops leave the country at the end of the year.

Sangin is critical to both sides because of its prime spot in Helmand province, a poppy-growing region that has long provided the Taliban with drug- and weapons-smuggling routes. It also borders Kajaki to the north, where a U.S.-built hydropower dam is supposed to churn out electricity for much of southern Afghanistan. But insurgents cut the cable long ago, leaving the province without power.

Fifty U.S. Marines lost their lives in fierce battles in 2010 and 2011 aimed at depriving the Taliban of a base in Sangin. The current campaign, too, is causing heavy casualties.

The governor of Helmand province, Mohammad Naem, said recently that as many as 900 people, including both civilians and combatants, have been killed so far in the fighting.

"Sangin is a big test," he said in an interview at his fortified residence in Lashkar Gah, Helmand's capital.

He said Afghan troops are "moving slowly" because the Taliban fighters have laid hundreds of land mines across the district. "But God willing they will not take the district center," he said. If the militants overrun the center, he said, they would be able to seize several volatile districts nearby. "If they take it, it will be a huge problem."

### Taming the insurgency

British troops first deployed to Sangin, a verdant patch of melon and poppy fields, to curb Taliban advances in 2006. But they strug-



HOLLY PICKETT/The Washington Post

Said Jan Agha, 45, receives care at the Surgical Center for War Victims in Lashkar Gah, Afghanistan. Agha, an Afghan commander of a checkpoint in the village of Gumbat, was shot in the spine during a firefight with insurgents.

**‘When the government took over [from the U.S. Marines], the fighting started. Then the government retreated and told us they could not help us anymore.’**

Fathi Mormand

poppy grower from Sarwan Qala village in Afghanistan's Sangin district

gled to tame the insurgency. In 2010, the Marines arrived in the district, where they would suffer the U.S. military's worst concentration of fatalities in the war. The Marines withdrew from the district in May, turning it over to Afghan security forces.

Now, U.S. troops are operating in a strictly advisory role, and no foreign advisers or soldiers from the NATO-led coalition's command in southern Afghanistan are operating on the ground in Sangin, a coalition spokesman said. "The fighting has been difficult at times, and some checkpoints have exchanged hands," said U.S. Marine Lt. Garth Langley, a media officer for the coalition in southwestern Afghanistan.

According to Gen. Ghulam Sakhi, a brigade commander with an elite Afghan national police unit in Sangin, Afghan forces took back seven key checkpoints in Sarwan Qala earlier this month. But beyond checkpoints and the district's central bazaar, a roughly one-mile stretch lined with small shops, the Afghan government controls little in the district.

Daily battles between the security forces and insurgents keep residents confined to their homes. Residents and police say security outposts come under constant fire from Taliban insur-

gents. While the militants used to engage with U.S. forces only briefly — often staging hit-and-run attacks — they are now fighting for prolonged periods, Afghan security forces say.

Police say they feel outgunned by their opponents, who they claim are armed with sophisticated equipment like precision sniper rifles, night vision goggles and thousands of potent improvised explosive devices.

"This is the worst fighting in the eight years I have been a policeman in Sangin," said Said Jan Agha, 45, who commanded a checkpoint in the village of Gumbat, about a half-mile from the district center.

Agha suffered a bullet injury to his spine during a firefight with insurgents and was being treated at the province's only war trauma facility, the Surgical Center for War Victims in Lashkar Gah. In the ward next door, police-

man Khoday Noor said he was wounded in a battle with Taliban fighters at a separate checkpoint in Gumbat, after insurgents tunneled 200 yards to ambush the officers at their outpost at night.

"We can't go far — the villages are dangerous," said Noor, 23. "Maybe they [villagers] are with us, but maybe they are with the Taliban."

Insurgents "have covered a lot of area" in Sangin, he said. "Our security belt around the district center is uneven, and they are very close in some places."

### The toll of fighting

In the intensive care unit at the Surgical Center in Lashkar Gah, run by the international nonprofit organization Emergency, the intensity of the fighting is reflected in horrific injuries and a constant stream of trauma patients.

More than 3,000 people with

war-related injuries were treated from January through July at a separate field clinic operated by Emergency in Sangin, the organization said. About 600 of them received care in July alone.

On a recent day, a policeman who was delirious after a roadside bomb shredded his legs arrived at the hospital in Lashkar Gah mumbling his name, Matiallah. He had come from Sangin. An elder from the district, Juma Khan, was recovering from a bullet injury to his arm. He suffered the wound when shots were fired at him and his children on the road to the local market, killing his daughter, 10-year-old Islamiya.

"When the government took over [from the U.S. Marines], the fighting started," said Fathi Mormand, a white-bearded poppy farmer from Sarwan Qala who was injured in the legs and abdomen by a shell the night the Taliban came to his village in June. "Then the government retreated and told us they could not help us anymore."

"The Taliban want to take the districts," he said, wincing from the gaping bed sore he acquired from weeks in the hospital. "If there is one power in the districts, there will be peace. If not, there will be fighting."

# AFGHANISTAN



PHOTOS BY JOSH SMITH/Stars and Stripes

Packages of locally grown and produced saffron line the shelves of a shop in Herat, in western Afghanistan. Analysts say professional processing and packaging remain a barrier to exporting more Afghan saffron to international markets.

## Saffron: Crop can sell for more than \$1,200 a pound, or \$14K per acre

### FROM FRONT PAGE

For years, Ahmad, 45, grew opium poppies, which are used to produce heroin. As it does for many other Afghans, the illicit drug trade provided him with a stable income in a country beset by economic hardships, especially in the more rural areas.

Under the Taliban, opium-poppy cultivation had been banned and the crop virtually eliminated, but cultivation has rebounded since the U.S. invasion in 2001, partly because of the collapse of state control and law enforcement.

At the very time when many other farmers were going back to growing opium poppies, Ahmad made a contrarian business decision: He switched to growing saffron, the world's most expensive spice. Made from the crimson stigmas plucked and dried from a type of crocus flower, saffron can sell for more than \$1,200 a pound, compared with less than \$2 per pound for a spice such as curcumin.

Afghanistan produced 4.5 tons of saffron last year, most of which was exported abroad, according to Sayed Nabi Shinwari, who heads the vocational training program at Afghanistan's Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock. The number of people in Afghanistan involved in growing and processing the spice is not known, but the ministry says it has distributed seeds to nearly 500 farmers and has trained 2,000.

Afghan officials contend that many poppy farmers in Herat have switched to growing saffron, and international officials often hold saffron up as an example of ways Afghan farmers can successfully grow more legal and less harmful crops.

But the United Nations says overall poppy production in Afghanistan remains near all-time highs. As the international military coalition prepares to pull out

its combat troops at the end of the year, many question whether Afghanistan has any chance of shedding its status as the top opium producer in the world. The U.S. has invested upward of \$7 billion in poppy eradication and crop substitution programs.

### No regrets

More than a decade after he switched to growing saffron, Ahmad says he has no regrets and that other farmers would be wise to follow suit.

"Drugs just bring so many problems. I had to use all these chemicals, and it was harder to grow," he said.

Most important of all to him, he said, "I make more than six times growing saffron than I did growing poppies. When other farmers

**'I make more than six times growing saffron than I did growing poppies.'**

Nasir Ahmad  
saffron farmer

understand that they will make more money, I think they will change their minds."

But Ahmad said he likely would not have been as successful without loans from foreign aid organizations like the U.S. Agency for International Development and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas. Those loans have been used for everything from buying seeds and processing equipment to advertising and packaging.

According to the agriculture ministry, saffron farmers can gross anywhere from \$1,400 per acre in the first year to a peak of more than \$14,000 per acre during the third and fourth years of



Nasir Ahmad, a farmer in western Afghanistan, holds saffron crocus bulbs in a field he leases on the outskirts of the city of Herat.

the seven-year growing cycle. By contrast, the average poppy farmer grosses about \$1,800 per acre, according to the U.N.

### A bright spot

Afghanistan is rife with examples of international aid gone awry. In July, the U.S. government's Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction released a report blasting a U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded initiative to bring soybean farming to Afghanistan. In that case, the watchdog said there was little market for soybeans in Afghanistan and that conditions in the country aren't particularly favorable for the crop.

Saffron, however, doesn't suffer from any of those problems. It's a popular ingredient in local dishes, and officials say it can be cultivated in most of the country's 34 provinces.

Afghans and aid officials say the programs aimed at jump-starting processes that can produce

income families."

Saffron is now grown on more than 1,800 acres in 32 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, according to the Agriculture Ministry.

Through a program called the Agricultural Development Fund, which is administered by the Afghan government, USAID has provided at least \$23 million in loans directly to some 16,000 farmers around the country, including some who grow saffron, though the agency could not say how much of that money went to saffron farmers.

"USAID and other international aid was very important for us to be able to replace other crops with saffron," said Faqir Ahmad Balainger, who heads the Herat office of the Afghan National Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock. "Our production has expanded so much in recent years."

Among the recipients of those loans was the Ghoryan Women Saffron Association in Herat, which provides services for hundreds of women who work in saffron production. The organization received two loans totaling more than \$400,000, which were used to buy saffron from women producers and package it for sale in larger markets.

SEE SAFFRON ON PAGE 5

We've been making loans of up to \$10,000 to Active Duty Military for over 64 years.

# YES



Click Today...Cash Today® www.onnimilitaryloans.com "We love to say yes!"

# AFGHANISTAN

## Saffron: Equipment, training in short supply

FROM PAGE 4

For Sima Ghoryani, president of the association, the international aid was vital.

"Ninety-five percent of the work on saffron is done by women, and we need that help for the very important training needed to get women working outside the home," she told Stars and Stripes during an interview in a small room used to package the saffron.

### Obstacles to success

In a small store in downtown Herat, shopkeeper Parwiz Afghan dusts the glistening plastic vials that hold small portions of dried saffron. In keeping with its high cost, saffron is usually packaged in a way similar to other luxury items, such as perfume.

When Afghan, 23, gently dumps the pungent contents of one bottle onto his counter, he beams with pride. "Afghan saffron is more natural and better quality than that from other countries," he said. "Iran and Pakistan, they just don't have it."

That's a claim backed up, not surprisingly, by a 2013 report commissioned by the Afghan Investment Support Agency. It found that Afghan saffron may be of higher quality than that produced in Iran, which accounts for more than 80 percent of the world's saffron production. Still, the report says, there are many obstacles ahead for the industry in Afghanistan.

These include lack of access to capital, skilled laborers and the necessary infrastructure. With the saffron harvest still months away, the processing machinery in Ghoryani's back room sat silent. It represents the next big challenge for Afghan saffron producers, she said: processing the saffron in a way that keeps it up to international standards so sellers can export their products. Saffron production is more sophisticated than opium production because it requires a hygienic drying and packaging process.

U.N. officials wrote in a report last year on the viability of replacing drug production with saffron cultivation.

Because Afghan farmers use traditional farming methods, the saffron is often of relatively high quality. But the lack of equipment and training needed to effectively package and process the spice has historically undermined efforts to export more saffron.

According to the Afghan Investment Support Agency report, Iran produces 200 tons of saffron per year, Greece turns out between 5 and 8 tons, while Afghanistan produces about 4 tons on a yearly basis. Other top saffron-producing areas can be found in countries like India, Pakistan and Spain, which all produce between 1 and 3 tons.

To try to give Afghan farmers more of a chance to compete with saffron powerhouses, Afghan companies like Ariana Saffron Co. in Herat have focused on building the infrastructure necessary to produce the spice to international standards.

Ariana — which had more than 600 employees and subcontractors within three years of its establishment in 2006 — has received help from aid programs, including a training regimen offered by the Afghan government's Rural Enterprise Development Program. It has also received a \$202,487 ADF loan used to buy about 295 pounds of dried saffron from farmers in western Afghanistan.

"Three-quarters of Afghans

depend on agriculture for their livelihoods," said USAID's Nils-estuen. "Assistance to the entire agriculture production chain — farmers, traders, wholesalers, manufacturers and retailers — is critical not just for economic development but to feed millions of Afghan families, raise household incomes and generate jobs."

Mohammad Aref Karimi, Yaqob Qurishi and Zubair BabakarKhail contributed to this report.  
smith.josh@stripes.com  
twitter: @joshjonsmith



JOSH SMITH/Stars and Stripes

Sima Ghoryani, president of Herat-based Ghoryan Women Saffron Association, motions to saffron packaging machines.



U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO. USE OF MILITARY UNIFORM DOES NOT IMPLY OR CONSTITUTE DOO ENGAGEMENT.

Contact Baker today for a complimentary evaluation of transfer credit and military work experience. See an online class demo at [baker.edu/online-demo](http://baker.edu/online-demo)



Baker College is a member of Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC), DANES, Gateway, and SOF's GI-ACC program. The college is eligible to receive Federal military and Veteran education benefits.

CALL TO GET STARTED: (800) 469-4062

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <br>REGIONALLY ACCREDITED          | <br>NOT-FOR-PROFIT        |
| <br>100% ONLINE                    | <br>NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED |
| <br>LIFETIME EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE | <br>NO APPLICATION FEE    |



UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL

**BAKER** Center for Graduate Studies

GRADUATE SCHOOL

**BAKER**online [bakercollegeonline.com](http://bakercollegeonline.com)

PHOTO: USAID

U.S. Coast Community Education Action Initiative. Baker College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60602-2000. 100% ONLINE means nothing on Baker College's Campus. Online programs are conducted by the International Academy of Collegiate Business Education (IACBE). For more information about our graduate work, the website lists all students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our Web site at [www.bakercollegeonline.com](http://www.bakercollegeonline.com).



## MIDEAST

# Hasan: I want to be Islamic State citizen

By SIG CHRISTENSON  
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — The former Army psychiatrist condemned to death in the killings of 13 people at Fort Hood wants to become a citizen of the Islamic State.

Nidal Hasan, who said he was on jihad the day he opened up on soldiers in a crowded deployment center on the Texas post, wrote a letter to Fox News saying he wanted to join the terrorist organization that has been responsible for brutal executions, including the beheading of a journalist.

"I formally and humbly request to be made a citizen of the Islamic State," the network said Hasan wrote in a document he penned to the Islamic State's chief, "Ameer, Mujahid Dr. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi."

"It would be an honor for any believer to be an obedient citizen soldier to a people and its leader who don't compromise the religion of All-Mighty Allah to get along with the disbelievers."

A former attorney, John Galligan, declined to read a copy of the letter he received from Hasan or give it to the San

Antonio Express-News, but said Fox had accurately reported its contents, adding, "They haven't mischaracterized it."

This weekend marks the first anniversary of Hasan's arrival at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks in Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He arrived there Aug. 30, 2013, after being flown from Fort Hood, where a jury sentenced him to death for killing a pregnant soldier and 12 others, and wounding another 31.



Hasan

A Disciplinary Barracks spokesman, George Marrese, said the military does not restrict mail privileges and doesn't censor correspondence.

Though he wore a thick, gray beard throughout last summer's trial while acting as his own lawyer, Hasan was forced to shave it off after arriving on the military's death row.

He is one of six servicemen at the Pentagon's only maximum-security prison awaiting execution.

## Video depicts beheading of Kurdish soldier, warns against US alliance

By SHASHANK BENGALI  
Los Angeles Times

IRBIL, Iraq — Kurdish Iraqi officials on Friday condemned a video depicting the beheading of one of their soldiers by Islamic State extremists, who said it was retribution for the Kurds' alliance with the United States.

The six-minute video shows 15 Kurdish soldiers held captive in the militant-held city of Mosul, one of whom is later killed in front of a mosque.

Kurdish officials said they were treating the video as authentic but that it would not deter their forces from battling Islamic State, a Sunni Arab militant organization that has claimed a caliphate on lands it controls in Syria and Iraq. Kurdish soldiers backed by U.S. airstrikes have pushed the extremists out of some of the territory they seized this month in an offensive across parts of northern Iraq.

"We have lost many men, and maybe we will lose more men, but that will not stop us from implementing our strategy," said Ari Mamshae, a spokesman for Massoud Barzani, president of Iraq's semi-autonomous northern Kurdish region.

The video, which was posted to YouTube on Thursday but immediately deleted by the site, is part of a propaganda effort by Islamic State that has drawn international condemnation. A similar video circulated more than a week ago showing the Aug. 19 killing of American journalist James Foley, who was captured in Syria two years ago.

A member of the Islamic State group also claimed Thursday to have beheaded one of 11 Lebanese soldiers the group captured this month in clashes along the Syria-Lebanon border.

A Twitter user named Abou Misaab Hafid al-Baghdadi linked to a picture showing the soldier's beheading with the message, "Now you know who are the lions of ISIS," an acronym sometimes used for the Islamic State group. Lebanese officials reportedly were investigating whether the claim was authentic.

The video from IRB showed the Kurdish soldiers wearing orange jumpsuits, as did Foley. One soldier named Hassan Mohamed Hashin read a message to Kurdish leaders that said, "You have made a big mistake by joining hands with America." Later in the video, a black-clad militant brandishes a knife next to a soldier as he warns that the rest of the captives will be killed if Kurdish forces don't break their alliance with the U.S. The next clip shows the soldier's bloodied body.

Working with the U.S. military, Kurdish forces are in control of some of Islamic State's territorial gains. The Pentagon has carried out 110 airstrikes in Iraq this month, more than half in the area of the strategic Mosul dam, including four on Friday that targeted militant vehicles.

The Kurdish soldiers who retook Mosul dam two weeks ago reportedly drove the militants out of the northern district of Zumar on Thursday amid clashes that left several civilians dead or injured, residents said.



Islamic State group's Raqqa Media Center via AP

An Islamic State fighter waves the flag from inside a captured government fighter jet following the battle for the Taqba air base, in Raqqa, Syria.

## Threat: Western militants going to Syria, returning undetected a concern

FROM FRONT PAGE

Such plots are difficult to detect because they don't require large conspiracies of people whose emails or phone calls can be intercepted.

The 2013 Boston Marathon bombings were like that, carried out by radicalized American brothers Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev acting on their own. So was the 2010 attempt to bomb New York's Times Square by Faisal Shahzad, who received training and direction in Pakistan but operated alone in the United States.

On Friday, Britain raised its terror threat from "substantial" to "severe," its second highest level, citing a foreign fighter danger that made a terrorist attack "highly likely."

The U.S. didn't elevate its national terrorist threat level, though White House press secretary Josh Earnest said the administration was closely monitoring the situation.

So far, Nemmouche is the only foreign fighter affiliated with the Islamic State group who authorities say returned from the battlefield to carry out violence, and some scholars argue that the danger is overstated. But nearly every senior national security official in the U.S. government — including the attorney general, FBI director, homeland security secretary and leaders of key intelligence and military agencies — has called foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq their top terrorism worry.

"While we have worked hard over the last year and a half to detect Westerners who have gone to Syria, no one knows for sure whether there are those who have gone there undetected," said John Cohen, a Rutgers University professor who stepped down in July as the Homeland Security Department's counterterrorism coordinator.

"And that's why those of us who look at this every day are so concerned that somebody is going to slip through the cracks," Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Mich., the House Intelligence Committee chairman, said Thursday on CNN. "They're either going to get into Europe or they're going to get into the United States."

Unlike al-Qaida militants in Pakistan and Yemen, who are going to Europe, poor holders who have secretly gone to fight in Syria can travel freely if they have not been identified as terrorists. U.S. authorities are sifting through travel records and trying to identify the foreign fighters, but they won't see all of them.

An American from San Diego, Douglas MacArthur McCain was killed last week in Syria, where officials say he was fighting with the Islamic State group. The U.S. is investigating whether a second American also was killed.

McCain is one of several Western Muslims over the last two years who vowed themselves willing to kill or die for extrem-

ist groups or help them win new recruits. The names of many more remain secret in the files of U.S. intelligence agencies, but here are others that are public:

- Moner Mohammad Abusalha, an American who grew up a basketball fan in Vero Beach, Fla., killed 16 people and himself in a suicide bombing attack against Syrian government forces in May. U.S. officials say he was on their radar screen but acknowledge he traveled from Syria to the United States before the attack without detection.

- Two brothers from East London, Hamza Nawaz, 23, and Mohammad Nawaz, 30, pleaded guilty in May to attending a terrorist training camp in Syria. They were caught on the return trip home with ammunition. In an unrelated case, Mashudur Choudhury, 31, also was convicted in London of traveling to a terrorist camp in Syria.

- Three Norwegian residents were arrested in May and accused of having fought with the Islamic State group.

- Eight men, including a former Guantanamo Bay detainee, were arrested in June by Spanish authorities and charged with recruiting for the Islamic State group.

Of the thousands of foreign fighters who've flocked to Syria, many have fought with the Nusra front, an al-Qaida affiliate and rival to the Islamic State. The group poses its own threat, American officials say, but poses less of a threat than does the Islamic State group, whose battlefield successes have made it a stronger draw for foreign fighters than any jihadist group in recent history. It has seized advanced military equipment and has millions of dollars in cash.

Intelligence officials estimate that about a dozen Americans are fighting with the Islamic State group.

Nemmouche, who has a long criminal record, allegedly killed two Israeli tourists outside the Brussels museum entrance with a .357 Magnum revolver. Then he walked inside, removed an assault rifle from a gym bag and shot two museum employees in the face and arm.

He was caught six days later during a random customs inspection of a bus from Amsterdam. With him were a sheet of weapons, authorities say, and a sweater scrawled with the name of the Islamic State. He had intended to film the attack with a wearable video camera, authorities say, though it wasn't working that day.

Abusalha, the 22-year-old Vero Beach suicide bomber, was recorded in a series of videos before his attack. In one of them, he addresses the U.S. public in American-accented English.

"You think you are safe? You are not safe," he says. "We are coming for you. Mark my words."

**“We have lost many men, and maybe we will lose many more men, but that will not stop us from implementing our strategy.”**

Ari Mamshae

spokesman for Massoud Barzani, president of Iraq's semi-autonomous northern Kurdish region

MIDEAST

# UN peacekeepers under siege from Syria rebels

The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Clashes erupted between al-Qaida-linked Syrian rebels and U.N. peacekeepers in the Golan Heights on Saturday after the militants surrounded their encampment, activists and officials said, as the international organization risked being sucked further into the conflict.

Other U.N. peacekeepers were able to flee from a different encampment that was also surrounded by rebels of the Nusra Front, al-Qaida's Syrian affiliate, they said.

The clashes came after Syrian rebel groups, including the Nusra Front, overran the Quneitra crossing — located on the frontier between Syria and Israeli controlled parts of the Golan Heights — on Wednesday, seizing 44 Fijian peacekeepers.

The Nusra Front also surrounded the nearby Rwhihana and Breiga encampments, where other U.N. peacekeepers were holed up.

The gunbattle began early Saturday at

the Rwhihana base some 1½ miles from Quneitra, where 40 Filipino peacekeepers were surrounded by Nusra fighters who ordered them to surrender, said Rami Abdurrahman of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The Philippines' Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin gave a similar account but did not name the armed group.

Abdurrahman, whose information comes from a network of activists throughout Syria, said he was not aware of any fatalities among the 40 Filipino peacekeepers in the Rwhihana encampment as sporadic fighting continued throughout the day. A Philippine military spokesman, Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala, also said there were no casualties.

The 35 Filipino U.N. peacekeepers at the Breiga encampment were extracted on Saturday morning, with the assistance of Irish peacekeepers who rushed to the scene, said officials.

The Irish U.N. peacekeeper battalion,



ARIEL SCHALTY/AP

Peacekeepers from the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force observe Syria's Quneitra province at an observation point in the Golan Heights, overlooking the border with Syria on Friday. On Saturday militants from the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front surrounded several peacekeeper encampments in the area.

which is tasked with emergency responses, evacuated all the Filipino U.N. peacekeepers on Saturday morning, said a military official who spoke on condition that his name and country of origin not be revealed, citing army policy.

He said there was no shooting involved,

and no injuries. He said that the Irish battalion also evacuated another base on Friday but provided no further details.

Gazmin confirmed that peacekeepers from his country were "extricated." The Philippine military said there were 35 Filipino troops in the encampment.

# Hagel seeks to build coalition for Syria on trip to Turkey

BY JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel will visit Turkey as the U.S. government tries to build a "coalition of the willing" to take on Islamic militants in Syria, the Pentagon announced Friday.

"Turkey is a key NATO ally. And given its border with Syria and Iraq, they share our deep concerns with ... the regional threat posed by ISIL," Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby told reporters.

ISIL is one of the acronyms used to refer to the militant group the Islamic State, which has taken over large swathes of Syria and Iraq in recent months.

The U.S. military has been bombing Islamic State targets in Iraq since Aug. 8, and consideration is being given to expanding the air campaign into neighboring Syria.

"Can [the Islamic State] be defeated without addressing that part of their organization which resides in Syria? The answer is no," Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen. Martin Dempsey told reporters last week.

The White House has asked the Pentagon to present military options along these lines.

## Saudi king warns of terror threat to West

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — The king of Saudi Arabia has warned that extremists could attack Europe and the U.S. if there is not a strong international response to terrorism after the Islamic State group seized a wide territory across Iraq and Syria.

While not mentioning any terrorist groups by name, King Abdullah's statement appeared

U.S. officials have said that enlisting allies and partners in the region is key to defeating the militants, and have suggested that the Obama administration will attempt to do so before any potential strikes in Syria are launched.

"We want a coalition of the willing. We want to seek partners in this effort," Kirby said.

Hagel's stop in Turkey will come near the end of a six-day international tour which begins Wednesday. "Secretary Hagel has longstanding relationships with Turkey's leaders, including the newly-inaugurated President [Recep Tayyip] Erdogan, and he views this visit as an important opportunity to advance our critical relationship," Kirby said.

Turkey is a long-standing ally of the U.S., but has sometimes opposed American military operations in the Middle East, including the 2003 invasion of Iraq,

aimed at drawing Washington and NATO forces into a wider fight against the Islamic State group and its supporters in the region. Saudi Arabia openly backs rebels fighting Syrian President Bashar Assad, but is concerned that the breakaway al-Qaida group could also turn those very same weapons on the kingdom.

"I am certain that after a month they will reach Europe and, after another month, America," he said at a reception for foreign ambas-

Getting Ankara's support for further action against the Islamic State would be a major benefit for the United States.

Incirlik Air Base in Turkey, operated by the U.S. Air Force, could be a launching pad for strikes against the militants or a base for conducting intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance flights in Syria.

Persuading the Turkish government to stop allowing Islamic militants to transit through Turkey on their way from Europe to Syria would also be a diplomatic victory. Many believe Turkey has turned a blind eye to the movements because the militants are fighting the Assad regime, which Ankara sees as an enemy.

"States in the region [need to] stop being ambivalent about these extremist groups," President Barack Obama said at a White House press conference Thursday.

The president announced that he is also sending Secretary of State John Kerry to the region to rally support.

"Our message to the entire region is this should be a wake-up call to Sunni, to Shia, to everybody that a group like [the Islamic State] is beyond the pale; that they have no vision or ideology

sadors Friday.

Official Saudi media carried the king's comments early Saturday.

"These terrorists do not know the name of humanity and you have witnessed them severing heads and giving them to children to walk with in the street," the king said, urging the ambassadors to relay his message directly to their heads of state.

From The Associated Press

**‘We want a coalition of the willing. We want to seek partners in this effort.’**

Rear Adm. John Kirby  
Pentagon press secretary

beyond violence and chaos and the slaughter of innocent people. And as a consequence, we've got to all join together — even if we have differences on a range of political issues — to make sure that they're rooted out," Obama said.

However, it's unclear whether the U.S. will be able to rally the kind of support that it's looking for.

When asked if any regional allies or partners had promised to support a potential American air campaign in Syria, Kirby said, "I'm not aware of any such pledged."

Kirby noted that governments in the region are sometimes constrained by domestic politics.

"When you work on a coalition of the willing like that, everybody is encouraged to bring what they can and what they're willing to," he said. "[But] they all have domestic you know domestic legislative issues they have to deal with ... Every country has to decide for themselves in accordance with the wishes of their people what they're willing to do ... It's not about us mandating it."

harper.jon@stripes.com  
Twitter: @JHarperStripes

## STARS AND STRIPES

### BAHRAIN AREA DELIVERY-COLLECTOR NEEDED

For NSA Bahrain, docks, PAX terminal Bahrain and print site ISA Town.

Must collect monies, complete daily reports and make deposits at credit union weekly.

Approximately 15-kilometer route with 15 delivery points. Estimated 3.5 hours required daily. Deliveries start at 5 a.m. and finish no later than 6:30 a.m.

If interested in providing these services as a contractor, please contact Nancy Ratcliffe at 011 49 631 3615 9441, DSN 314 583 9441, or ratcliffe.nancy@stripes.com by Monday, Sept. 8, 2014.

## UKRAINE

# EU set to impose new sanctions against Russia

By JÜRGEN BAETZ  
AND JIM HEINTZ  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The European Union on Saturday warned that the apparent incursion of Russian troops on Ukrainian soil pushes the conflict closer to a point of no return, with new economic sanctions being drawn up to make Moscow reconsider its position.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, who briefed a summit of the 28-nation EU's leaders in Brussels, said a strong response was needed to the "military aggression and terror" facing his country.

"Thousands of the foreign troops and hundreds of the foreign tanks are now on the territory of Ukraine," Poroshenko told reporters in English. "There is a very high risk not only for peace and stability for Ukraine, but for the whole peace and stability of Europe."

French President Francois Hollande and Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt said upon their arrival for the summit in Brussels the leaders will make a political decision and then ask the EU's executive arm to finalize the fine print of new sanctions.

Lithuanian leader Dalia Grybauskaitė added Russia's meddling in Ukraine, which seeks closer ties with the EU, amounts to a direct confrontation that requires stronger sanctions.

"Russia is practically in the war against Europe," she said in English.

NATO estimates that at least 1,000 Russian soldiers are in Ukraine even though Russia denies any military involvement in the fighting that has so far claimed 2,400 lives, according to U.N. figures.

British Prime Minister David

Cameron also warned that Europe can't be complacent about Russian troops on Ukrainian soil.

"Countries in Europe shouldn't have to think long before realizing just how unacceptable that is," he said. "We know that from our history. So consequences must follow."

Conceding ground in the face of a reinvigorated rebel offensive, Ukraine said Saturday that it was abandoning a city where its forces have been surrounded by rebels for days. Government forces were also pulling back from another it had claimed to have taken control of two weeks earlier.

The statements by Col. Andriy Lysenko, a spokesman for the national security council, indicate that Ukrainian forces face increasingly strong resistance from Russian-backed separatist rebels just weeks after racking up significant gains and forcing rebels out of much of the territory they had held.

Poroshenko, meanwhile, said Ukraine would welcome an EU decision to help with military equipment and further intelligence-sharing.

The office of the Donetsk mayor reported in a statement that at least two people died in an artillery attack on one of Donetsk's neighborhoods. Shelling was reported elsewhere in the city, but there was no immediate word on casualties.

In Brussels, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said "sanctions are not an end in themselves," but a means to dissuade Russia from further destabilizing Ukraine.

"We may see a situation where we reach the point of no return," Barroso warned. "If the escalation of the conflict continues, this point of no return can come."



EFREM LUKATSY/AP

Volunteers march Tuesday in Kiev before being sent to the eastern part of Ukraine to join the ranks of special battalion unit fighting against pro-Russian separatists.

## Trapped soldiers' plight puts focus on Ukraine military's weakness

By ANNIE GOWEN  
The Washington Post

MARIUPOL, Ukraine—Since Monday, more than 200 Ukrainian volunteer soldiers have been trapped in the southeastern town of Ilyovaisk, surrounded by separatists they say have been freshly supplied with troops and high-tech weapons from Russia. Food and ammunition have dwindled, and the death toll is mounting.

The soldiers' plight and their apparent dispatch into battle with little training and inadequate equipment has sparked scorn across Ukraine in recent days. Volunteer commanders venting on Facebook have denounced what they say is the government's neglect, and protesters have gathered in the capital, Kiev, chanting, "Weapons for patriots."

The episode is significant because it exposes the weakness of Ukraine's armed forces — the result of years of neglect — as the country pivots from a civil conflict to face a far more formidable foe, its neighbor to the east.

Russian President Vladimir Putin focused international attention on the trapped soldiers Friday by calling in a statement for a protected route to allow them to retreat, even as evidence mounted of a broad incursion into Ukraine by Russian troops and military vehicles.

"I call on the rebel forces to open a humanitarian corridor for the Ukrainian troops who are surrounded, so as to avoid unnecessary casualties and to give them the opportunity to withdraw from the zone of operations," Putin said.

The statement opened a day on which Ukraine raised the prospect of joining NATO in hopes of deterring an outright Russian invasion and Putin likened the sep-

arats' Ukrainian antagonists to the Nazi forces that invaded Russia in World War II.

By Friday evening, Ukraine's military spokesman, Col. Andriy Lysenko, said no corridor had materialized near Ilyovaisk, and the spokesman for one of the largest militia battalions said the fighters had come under heavy fire throughout the day as they tried to break through a double ring of rebels. The day's death toll was not known.

"Fights are being conducted. There are dead people. There are wounded. But there is hope," said Vasiliia Trofimovich, the battalion spokesman.

One volunteer soldier, who gave his name only as Vladimir for safety reasons, said he and other members of his unit had been hunkered down in a basement, rationing the bullets for their aging assault rifles and killing farm chickens to survive. Meanwhile, he said, they were being attacked from all sides by separatists and Russians armed with sophisticated guns and tanks.

"For a while, I thought they wouldn't abandon us," he said of Ukraine's government, speaking by telephone. "But now I understand what's really going on."

The battalions were launched in spring after the onset of tensions between Russian-backed separatists, largely based in the east, and Ukrainians who want the country to ally itself with Europe and the West.

Fighting began, citizens scrambled to defend the country against the separatist uprising after it became apparent that the armed forces had been enfeebled by years of cut-cutting and neglect. A text-message campaign seeking funds for military defense brought in millions.

At the same time, former pro-

testers who had helped out a president in February hungered to join the fight. The national government established volunteer battalions as a way to help would-be fighters get to the front under some form of government auspices. More than 7,000 volunteer soldiers now serve in 10 battalions under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. By contrast, rebel forces say they have about 12,000 volunteer soldiers.

One former small-business owner from the southeastern city of Donetsk, who said he had never picked up a gun, said he joined up to fight after his city descended into chaos and he was forced to close his business.

"I realized it had to be me who was going to defend my city," said the businessman, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for safety reasons.

He found himself in a one-month training course with lawyers, doctors and other professionals, including a chef from one of Kiev's finest hotels. At the end of training, he was given a Soviet-era Kalashnikov assault rifle. But the snipers in his unit fared worse: They left training with cartridges that dated to World War II.

The volunteers were told their role was to secure cities in the wake of the country's regular armed forces, but they quickly realized they were going to be involved in full-scale combat.

A spokesman for the military's National Security and Defense Council, Bogdan Voron, rejected the idea that the volunteer brigades were unprepared.

"A lot of these volunteers had [mandatory] military service. They are policemen, former servicemen," he said. "They have a really good background to serve their country."



MSTYSLAV CHERNOV/AP

A man passes shops burned by shelling near the train station in the rebel-held city of Donetsk, Ukraine, on Saturday.

NATION

# Obama immigration delay stirs uncertainty

By Josh Lederman and Erica Werner  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's possible delay in taking action on immigration has thrown advocates and lawmakers from both parties a curveball, barely two months before the midterm elections.

Democrats who were bracing for the impact that Obama's long-awaited announcement would have on their campaigns are now rethinking aspects of their strategy for the fall. Republicans who were considering legislative attempts to block Obama must reconsider whether that's the best use of the few remaining work weeks before Election Day.

And immigration advocates, already frustrated by how long it's taken Obama to act, must decide whether to pressure the president publicly to stop stalling or remain hopeful he'll give them a favorable outcome in the coming weeks.

Obama in June said that by the end of the summer, he'd announce what steps he had decided to take

to fix the nation's immigration system in the absence of a legislative fix from Capitol Hill. But Obama backed away from that deadline on Thursday, and the White House on Friday acknowledged it was possible the decision would slip past the end of summer. It was unclear whether any delay would be a mere matter of weeks or could push the announcement past the November elections.

"The president is determined to take the kinds of steps that are available to him," said White House spokesman Josh Earnest. But he added he had no details about when that would happen.

Reluctant to be seen as putting on the brakes for political reasons, White House officials suggested that if the decision slips past summer, it would be because of the situation on the border, not the election.

For months, the Obama administration has been working to stem the surge of unaccompanied minors crossing into the U.S. Those numbers have declined, but officials have said the numbers could creep back up as cooler tempera-

tures arrive in the fall.

The White House has been coy about what options Obama is considering, but much of the focus has centered on steps Obama could take to defer deportations for millions of people in the U.S. illegally, effectively granting them permission to remain and work in the U.S. Republicans say that's beyond Obama's authority and even a few endangered Democrats have said Obama should look to Congress to take that step.

For Democrats, who are fighting most of their toughest races this year in conservative-leaning states that are leery of Obama, presidential action has been seen as a likely liability in the election, fueling GOP arguments that Obama is exceeding his authority and that he and Democrats are refusing to enforce immigration laws. Chris Leahane, a California-based Democratic strategist, said the timing of Obama's action could affect whether voters enthusiastic about immigration show up to vote.

"All of these elections are going

to be so laser-tight — 5,000 votes one way or the other — that at some level, what's out there at the broader, national level at election time could push things over the edge," Leahane said.

Obama's timing could affect congressional action on a must-pass spending bill to fund government operations into December. Congress is expected to make that its first order of business when lawmakers return from their summer recess after Labor Day.

A number of Republicans have raised the possibility of using that legislation to block Obama from expanding deportation deferrals or granting work permits to those here illegally. Such a move would set up a confrontation between the GOP-controlled House and the Democratic-controlled Senate that raises the specter of a government shutdown, which would likely be blamed on Republicans and could hurt their prospects in November.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., has been urging Obama not to act alone on immigration, and

warned the president in a letter this week that doing so would imperil prospects for overhauling immigration laws after the election. Rubio's spokesman, Alex Conant, called the apparent delay a positive sign and one he hoped Obama would make permanent.

"It appears that the White House made a short-term, political calculation that this was bad for them in the midterms," Conant said.

Immigration advocates were taken aback by word of the potential delay, having been given no advance warning by the White House. Kica Matos of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement said that after spending months keeping the pressure on Obama, the group had been shifting into preparations for the announcement itself. Now, Matos said, exhausted advocates will have kept up the pressure to ensure Obama doesn't get cold feet and call off the announcement altogether.

"They say they're going to move forward, then somebody goes 'boo' and then they hide," Matos said.

## Judge: Texas limitations on abortion not constitutional

By Paul J. Weber  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Tough, new Texas abortion restrictions are on hold after a federal judge found Republican-led efforts to hold abortion clinics to hospital-level operating standards unconstitutional in a ruling that spares more than a dozen clinics from imminent closure.

The state vowed to quickly appeal Friday's ruling by U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel in Austin, who cited other rules GOP lawmakers have passed recently in his decision to throw out requirements that clinics meet hospital operating standards.

Those prior abortion restrictions include mandatory sonograms and a 24-hour waiting period after a woman first seeks out an abortion.

"These substantial obstacles have reached a tipping point," Yeakel wrote in a 21-page opinion.

Yeakel sided with clinics that sued over one of the most disputed measures of a 2013 abortion ban, which a federal Republican Gov. Rick Perry in 2013. The ruling stops new clinic requirements that would have left seven abortion facilities in Texas come Monday, when the law was set to take effect.

Texas currently has 19 abortion providers already down from more than 40 just two years ago, according to groups that sued the state for the second time over the law known as HB2.

The ruling blocks a portion of the that law would have required abortion facilities in Texas to have operating rooms, air filtration systems and other costly additions that are typically only mandated in surgical settings.

"I am truly disappointed in today's rul-



RODOLFO GONZALEZ, AUSTIN (TEXAS) AMERICAN-STATESMAN/AP

**Abortion rights supporters demonstrate outside the governor's mansion Friday after a federal judge in Austin struck down two provisions of the 2013 Texas law that restricts abortions.**

ing that undermines a concerted effort to improve health care for women in Texas by raising the standard of care in abortion clinics," Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said.

Yeakel, however, concluded the intent was only to "close existing licensed abortion clinics."

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, a Republican who is the favorite to become governor next year, said he would seek an immediate appeal to try to preserve the new clinic rules.

Clinics called the measures a backdoor effort to outlaw abortions, which has been a constitutional right since the Roe v. Wade ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973.

Under the new restrictions, the only remaining abortion facilities in Texas would have been in major cities, and there would have been none in the entire western half of the nation's second-largest state. For women in El Paso, the closest abortion provider would be in New Mexico — an option the state wanted Yeakel to take into consideration, even though New Mexico's rules

for abortion clinics are far less rigorous.

"The evidence has been stacking up against the state and against the politicians who so cynically passed these laws in the name of safety," said Amy Hagstrom Miller, CEO of Whole Woman's Health, which would have been among the clinic operators affected.

Miller said that she will now seek to reopen a clinic in the Rio Grande Valley as soon as the weekend. The clinic closed in March, leaving the nearest abortion provider more than 200 miles away in San Antonio.

Some clinics in Texas already stopped offering abortions after another part of the 2013 bill required doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals. That part of the law has been upheld by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court in New Orleans, where the state will now seek a second reversal.

"The State disagrees with the court's ruling and will seek immediate relief from the Fifth Circuit, which has already upheld HB2 once," Abbott spokeswoman Lauren Bean said.

## 2 Guard troops along border get financial help

The Associated Press

PHARR, Texas — At least two Texas National Guard troops are in need of financial assistance after being sent to the Texas-Mexico border in response to a surge of children pouring into the U.S. illegally, officials said Friday.

The National Guard initially had identified 50 soldiers who might need financial help, said spokeswoman Lt. Col. Joanne MacGregor. The Guard members are part of the up to 1,000 troops ordered to the border in July by Texas Republican Gov. Rick Perry.

After the 50 soldiers were interviewed, only two submitted requests for help, which the Guard says comes from a private organization. The others could be helped if needed, officials said.

"Given the large influx of servicemembers into the area over the past week, our Family Assistance Coordinator in the Rio Grande Valley was being extremely proactive in identifying possible assistance options for additional servicemembers," MacGregor said.

Family assistance coordinators help military members across Texas, regardless of deployment or duty status, she said.

The financial hardships troops might have experienced could be due to the pay schedule, as two or three weeks might pass before Guard members get their first pay checks, MacGregor said.

Officials with the Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley in Pharr had said they were contacted about helping the Guard members. MacGregor said she is not aware that any Guard member who has received help from that food bank.

"Gov. Perry is confident the Guard stands ready to assist any soldier who may need it, regardless of deployment or duty status so they can meet the needs of their family, or the mission they are performing," said Rich Parsons, a Perry spokesman.

## NATION

# Tax forms could be challenge for health site

By **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — If you got health coverage through President Barack Obama's law this year, you'll need a new form from your insurance exchange before you can file your tax return next spring.

Some tax professionals are worried that federal and state insurance marketplaces won't be able to get those forms out in time, creating the risk of delayed tax refunds for millions of consumers.

The same federal agency that had trouble launching HealthCare.gov last fall is facing the heaviest lift.

The Health and Human Services Department must send out millions of the forms, which are like W-2s for people getting tax

credits to help pay health insurance premiums.

The form is called a 1095-A, and it lists who in each household has health coverage and how much the government paid each month to subsidize their premiums. Nearly 5 million people have gotten subsidies through HealthCare.gov.

If the forms are delayed past their Jan. 31 deadline, some people may have to wait to file tax returns — and collect their refunds.

A delay of a week or two may not sound like much, but many people depend on their tax refunds to plug holes in family finances.

The uncertainty is unnerving to some tax preparation companies, which try to run their filing season operations like a military drill. The Obama administration says it's on task, but it won't pro-

vide much detail.

States operating their own health insurance marketplaces will also have to send out the forms, but the federal exchange serving 36 states has the biggest job. HHS will have to manage that while in the midst of running the 2015 health insurance sign-up season, when millions more are expected to try to get coverage.

"It's very unrealistic to expect that they would be able to implement a process that distributed these forms in the middle of open enrollment, and on time," said George Brandes, vice president for health care programs at Jackson Hewitt Tax Service.

The average tax refund is about \$2,690, and people who count on getting money back often file early.

Liberty Tax Service vice presi-

dent Chuck Lovelace said his company is giving the feds the benefit of the doubt but the possibility of delays "is not something we can turn a blind eye to."

"It could have a dramatic impact on our customers," Lovelace said. "The tax refund is the largest check many consumers get."

Administration spokesman Aaron Albright said officials are "working to develop the technical processes to ensure the forms are generated accurately and timely." Part of the plan will include "robust outreach" to educate consumers about the importance of the forms, so 1095-As don't accidentally wind up in the recycling bin.

Some states running their own exchanges are providing more details about their plans.

California says it will include a

cover letter with each form to help consumers understand what they need to do. The state is looking at using email blasts, public events and other educational efforts.

"We don't foresee any problems in meeting our responsibility," said James Scully, a spokesman for the state marketplace.

The new health care law offers tax credits to help people without workplace coverage buy private health insurance. Next year is when the connections between the law's coverage expansion and the tax system will start to surface for consumers.

The nearly 7 million people who got insurance tax credits through federal and state exchanges will have to tally up accounts with the Internal Revenue Service to ensure that they got the amount they were legally entitled to.

## Final arguments unfold at trial of VA. ex-governor

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Lawyers made their final arguments Friday in the case of a former-governor and his wife accused taking bribes in a five-week-long trial featuring soap opera-like details about the couple's fights, crumbling marriage and financial troubles.

Prosecutors say former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell — a rising star in the Republican party who swept into office in a landslide five years ago — and his wife, Maureen have been charged in a 14-count indictment that accused them of conspiracy and bribery. They don't dispute receiving the gifts and money, but say they were never asked to do anything in exchange for them.

The McDonnells were tried together, but had their own attorneys present to jurors, who were to return Tuesday to get their instructions from the judge before beginning their deliberations.

On Friday, the first time, Bob McDonnell's lawyer, Henry Asbill said specifically what the defense has been suggesting for the past five weeks — that the McDonnells' marriage was so strained they could not have colluded to get gifts from Williams.

"In private, they were silent. In private,



STEVE HELBER/AP

Former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell, center, arrives at federal court Friday with daughter Jeanine McDonnell Zubowsky and son Bobby McDonnell in Richmond, Va.

they certainly weren't conspiring," Asbill said.

Prosecutor David Harbach said the McDonnells spoke several times in favor of a sketchy nutritional supplement called Anatabloc, and held a launch party for it at the governor's mansion.

Harbach urged jurors to focus on two

questions: Why did Jonnie Williams, CEO of the company that made Anatabloc, shower the McDonnells with gifts and cash, and why did the McDonnells accept?

The answer, he said, was the McDonnells were badly in debt, and that Williams was willing to provide help if they would promote his tobacco-based supplement.

## Study: Novel heart failure drug shows big promise

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**

The Associated Press

A new study reports one of the biggest potential advances against heart failure in more than a decade — a first-of-a-kind, experimental drug that lowered the chances of death or hospitalization by about 20 percent.

Doctors say the Novartis drug — which doesn't have a name yet — seems like one of those rare, breakthrough therapies that could quickly change care for more than half of the 6 million Americans and 24 million people worldwide with heart failure.

"This is a new day" for patients, said Dr. Clyde Yancy, cardiologist chief at Northwestern University in Chicago and a former American Heart Association president.

"It's been at least a decade since we've had a breakthrough of this magnitude," said Yancy, who had no role in the study.

It involved nearly 8,500 people in 47 countries and was the largest experiment ever done in heart failure. It was paid for, designed and partly run by Novartis, based in Basel, Switzerland. Independent monitors stopped the study in April, seven months earlier than planned, when it was clear the drug was better than an older one that is standard.

During the 27-month study, the Novartis drug cut the chances of dying of heart-related causes by 20 percent and for any reason by 16 percent, compared with the older drug. It also reduced the risk of being hospitalized for heart failure by 21 percent.

Results were disclosed Saturday at a European Society of Cardiology conference in Barcelona and published online by the New England Journal of Medicine.

Novartis will seek approval for the drug — for now called LCZ696 — by the end of this year in the United States and early next year in Europe.

Heart failure is the top reason older people are hospitalized, and a leading cause of death.

## California appeals ruling ending teacher tenure

By **ANDREW DALTON**

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Gov. Jerry Brown appealed a court ruling that struck down tenure and other job protections for California's teachers, setting himself apart from leaders in some other states who have fought to end such protections or at least raise the standards for obtaining them.

Attorney General Kamala Harris filed the appeal late Friday in a Los Angeles County court on behalf of the governor and the state.

The move came a day after Superior Court Judge Eugene Torgans ruled his June ruling that found five laws violated the

California Constitution by depriving some of the state's 6.2 million students of a quality education. He'd earlier said the system "shocks the conscience."

The governor's one-page notice of appeal said that under the state's constitution "the important issues presented in this case — if they are to have statewide legal impact — must be reviewed by a higher court, either the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court of California."

It says that for reasons that are "unclear and unexplained" actual school districts were dismissed as parties to the lawsuit before trial, meaning the court's decision "applies only to parties that have no role or

duties under the challenged lawsuits."

It also criticizes Treu for failing to provide details on the legal basis for his reasoning, and simply making his tentative decision final instead of elaborating and expanding on it in the ruling affirmed Thursday.

Republicans had urged state leaders not to appeal the ruling and criticized his decision to do so Friday.

"A federal court ruled that the State of California is depriving minority children their constitutionally guaranteed right to an equal education and the governor decides to appeal? Unbelievable," Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff, R-Diamond Bar, said in a written response.

WORLD

# Housing hit hard in Gaza

The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — An international organization involved in assessing post-conflict reconstruction says it will take 20 years for Gaza's battered and neglected housing stock to be rebuilt following the war between Hamas and Israel.

The assessment by Shelter Cluster, co-chaired by the U.N. refugee agency and the Red Cross, underscores the complexities involved in an overall reconstruction program for the Gaza Strip, which some Palestinian officials have estimated could cost in excess of \$6 billion.

Any effort to rebuild Gaza will be hindered by a blockade imposed by Egypt and Israel since the Islamic militant group Hamas seized power in 2007. Israel has severely restricted the import of concrete and other building materials into Gaza, fearing that militants will use the blocks and rebar to reinforce cross-border attack tunnels.

Egypt and Norway have raised the possibility of convening a Gaza donors' conference at some point



ADEL HANA/AP

**A Palestinian boy runs between the rubble of houses Wednesday that were hit by Israeli strikes in Beit Hanoun, in the Gaza Strip.**

# 17,000

The number of Gaza housing units destroyed or severely damaged during this summer's war, according to an assessment by Shelter Cluster, which is co-chaired by the U.N. refugee agency and the Red Cross. Five thousand units still need work after damage sustained in the previous military campaign, the group said, and in addition, Gaza has a housing deficit of 75,000 units.

next month, but no firm arrangements have been made. With a population of 1.8 million, Gaza is a densely populated coastal strip of urban warrens and agricultural land that still bears the scars of previous rounds of fighting. In its report issued late Friday,

Shelter Cluster said 17,000 Gaza housing units were destroyed or severely damaged during this summer's war, and 5,000 units still need work after damage sustained in previous military campaigns.

In addition, it says, Gaza has a housing deficit of 75,000 units. Shelter Cluster said its 20-year assessment is based on the capacity of the main Israel-Gaza cargo crossing to handle 100 trucks of construction materials daily.

The latest war began after three Israeli teens were killed in the West Bank by Hamas operatives in June, prompting Israel to arrest hundreds of Hamas members there.

Rocket fire from Gaza on Israeli cities then escalated, and Israel launched a massive air and later ground campaign. The fighting lasted almost two months.

Over 2,100 Palestinians, most civilians, died in the war. Israel lost 71 people, all but six of them soldiers.

# Liberia lifts blockade of slum over Ebola

By JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLIE  
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Crowds celebrated in the streets of Liberia's capital on Saturday after authorities reopened a slum where tens of thousands of people had been barricaded for more than a week to contain the country's Ebola outbreak.

The blockade of the West Point neighborhood had sparked unrest as residents feared running out of food and safe water on the peninsula.

Lifting the quarantine Saturday morning doesn't mean there is no Ebola in the West Point slum, said Information Minister Lewis Brown. Authorities, though, are more confident now that they can work with residents to screen for the sick, he said.

"They're comfortable with the way the leadership and the community is working with the health team to make sure that the community remains safe," he said.

Liberia has been the hardest hit of the five countries with Ebola cases in West Africa, reporting at least 694 deaths among 1,378 cases. More than 3,000 cases have been reported across Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, and on Friday, Senegal announced its first case. A student from Guinea who had been missing for several weeks showed up at a hospital in Dakar seeking treatment.

## Ebola drug works on 18 monkeys

An experimental Ebola drug healed all 18 monkeys infected with the deadly virus in a study, boosting hopes that the treatment might help fight the outbreak raging through West Africa — once more of it can be made.

The monkeys were given the drug ZMapp three to five days after they were infected with the virus and when most were showing symptoms. That is several days later than any other experimental Ebola treatment tested so far. The drug also completely protected six other monkeys given a slightly different version of it three days after infection in a pilot test.

It's not known how well the drug would work in people, who can take up to 21 days to show symptoms and are not infected the way these monkeys were in a lab. Several experts said it's not possible to estimate a window of opportunity for treating people.

The study was published online Friday by the journal Nature.

From The Associated Press

# 22 miners rescued after landslide in Nicaragua

By LUIS MANUEL GALEANO  
AND ESTEBAN FELIX  
The Associated Press

BONANZA, Nicaragua — Nicaraguan rescuers have saved 22 of at least 26 workers trapped in a mine collapse and were working Saturday to free the rest, officials said.

Two made their way to safety shortly after a Thursday morning collapse cut off the exit at the El Comal gold and silver mine in the town of Bonanza. First Lady Rosario Murillo said 20 of the miners were freed late Friday.

Rescued miner Marvin Urbina, 34, said he and some of his fellow miners saw an avalanche of mud and rock coming their way.

They stuck to the walls of the mine but at least four of their co-workers were crushed by the mud and rock streaming down the shaft, he said.

"I asked God to let me live and he listened to me now I will serve Him," an emotional Urbina told Channel 6.

Interior Vice Minister Carlos Najar said the miners were a bit dehydrated but in good health.

"They are coming out little by little, it's a slow process but we want to make sure they can get out safely," Najar told Channel

6 state television. He added that two of the miners were expected to be rescued overnight.

The miners were checked by paramedics and taken to a clinic in Bonanza, about 260 miles northeast of Managua.

Hundreds of relatives and fellow miners had gathered to pray outside the mine as rescuers lined up several ladders along a 200-foot-long tunnel leading toward where the men were trapped.

The mine cuts into the side of a mountain and then goes upward.

Outside the mine, Jorge Hernandez, 25, said he learned his brother was one of the miners trapped while watching television in Nicaragua's capital, Managua. He rushed to Bonanza.

"We're praying to God with all of our souls so that my brother and the other men can be rescued alive and well," he said.

He added that his brother Michael, 24, moved to Bonanza from Managua last year to work in the mine.

It was unclear if he was one of those rescued.

The gold and silver mine is on a concession held by Hemco, which is owned by Colombia-based Minero SA. But the trapped miners themselves are freelancers



ESTEBAN FELIX/AP

**Emergency responders help a miner Friday walk from the entrance to the El Comal gold and silver mine in Bonanza, Nicaragua. At least 22 miners were rescued more than 24 hours after a collapse at the mine.**

**They are coming out little by little. It's a slow process, but we want to make sure they can get out safely.**

Carlos Najar  
Nicaragua interior minister

allowed to work in the area if they sell any gold they find to the firm, mining company spokesman Gregorio Downs told The Associated

Press. Downs said the company had warned miners about the danger of working in the El Comal area,

especially after two miners died in a rain-caused landslide there last month.

"We live by extracting mineral from Hemco. They told us digging here was risky, but sometimes one is willing to risk it for a few more cents," said Absalon Toledo, leader of the informal miners.

According to the Hemco's website, the company has mined in the north Atlantic municipality since 1995.

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher  
 Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe  
 Lt. Col. Jeff Myer, Europe commander  
 Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander  
 Terry M. Wagner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editorial Director  
 leonard.terry@stripes.com  
 Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
 reid.robert@stripes.com  
 Sam Amrhein, Deputy Managing Editor  
 samhein.sam@stripes.com  
 Tina Croley, Enterprise Editor  
 croley.tina@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

**Europe/Mideast**  
 Teddie Weyr, News Editor Europe/Mideast  
 weyr.teddie@stripes.com;  
 +49(0)631.3615.9310; cell  
 +49(0)173.315.1181; DSN (314)583.9310

**Pacific**  
 Paul Alexander, News Editor Pacific  
 alexander.paul@stripes.com  
 +81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)5883.1673  
 DSN (315)225.5377

**Washington**  
 Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief  
 dickson.patrick@stripes.com  
 (+1)(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908  
 Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
 bowers.brian@stripes.com  
 Joe Gromelski, Assistant Managing Editor, Web  
 gromelski.joe@stripes.com  
 Sean Moores, Assistant Managing Editor,  
 Sports, Features and Graphics  
 moores.sean@stripes.com

CONTACT US

**Washington**  
 fax: +1(202)761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;  
 fax: +1(202)761.0890  
 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC  
 20045-1301

**Reader letters**  
 letters@stripes.com

**Additional contacts**  
 stripes.com/contacts

OMBDUSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes Ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting on complaints by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 30 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels, but without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

The Whopper about global taxation

By MEGAN MCARDLE  
 Bloomberg News

Jacob Levy, an American professor living in Montreal, made a point on Twitter last week that I wish more journalists would take to heart: If you're writing about inversions, and you don't prominently mention global taxation in the first few paragraphs, then your article is not serious and anyone with even a smidge of actual interest in the issue should stop reading.

Let me explain. Or actually, in the case of Burger King's planned acquisition of Tim Hortons, let my colleague Matt Levine explain, because he is smarter and funnier and a better writer than I am, and has already nicely summed things up:

"The purpose of an inversion has never been, and never could be, and never will be, 'Ooh, Canada has a 15 percent tax rate, and the U.S. has a 35 percent tax rate, so we can save 20 points of taxes on all our income by moving.' Instead the main purpose is always: 'If we're incorporated in the U.S., we'll pay 35 percent taxes on our income in the U.S. and Canada and Mexico and Ireland and Bermuda and the Cayman Islands, but if we're incorporated in Canada, we'll pay 35 percent on our income in the U.S. but 15 percent in Canada and 20 percent in Mexico and 2.5 percent in Ireland and zero percent in Bermuda and zero percent in the Cayman Islands.'"

What is he talking about? The United States, unlike most developed-world governments, insists on taxing the global income of its citizens and corporations that have U.S. headquarters. And because the U.S. has some of the highest tax rates in the world, especially on corporate income, this amounts to demanding that everyone who got their start here owes us taxes, forever, on anything they earn abroad.

This is a great deal for the U.S. government, which gets to collect income tax even though it's not providing those citizens sewers or roads or courts or no-knock raids on their abodes. On the other hand, it's not a very good deal for said citizens and corporations, especially because our government has made increasingly obnoxious demands on foreign institutions to help them collect that tax. Both private citizens and corporations who have a lot of income abroad are deciding that they'd rather renounce their ties to the U.S. than deal with the expense and hassle of letting it tap into income that they have earned using some other country's roads and sewers and police protection.

© 2014 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This article is a paid advertisement.



Practically speaking, global taxation is hard to enforce and loaded with bad incentives, which is why our fellow members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have moved away from global taxation of corporate income, and abandoned global taxation of personal income. If anything, the U.S. has gone in the other direction — by insisting, for instance, that foreign companies report various financial transactions with U.S. citizens to the Internal Revenue Service, and taxing foreign cost of living allowances, which makes it more expensive for companies to employ expats. On the corporate side, the Obama administration has repeatedly suggested tightening up on tax deferral of foreign income and other credits, which would make it even more expensive to be a corporation based in the U.S.

Logically, there's also not much of an argument for global taxation. OK, yes, most people born and raised here were educated and provided various services by the government to get them to adulthood. But we're overwhelmingly the largest net recipient of immigrants, and most of those people were educated and provided various services by their governments to get them to adulthood; we don't seem to think there's a problem with us free-riding on all those other nations. And surely there's a statute of limitation on what you owe the government that raised you; 40 years later, should those expats still have to file insanely complicated returns to the IRS? Because that's

what we currently demand. The argument is even weaker for corporate taxation; it boils down to "the police kept people from sacking your first headquarters, so therefore you owe us 35 percent of everything you make, forever." Loan sharks and protection rackets offer more reasonable terms than this.

As my colleague Matt points out, most Americans — including a lot of journalists who write about this — seem to be under the misimpression that companies that invert, or people who renounce their citizenship, are doing so to get a lower tax rate on income they earn here. And in a few intellectual-property-based businesses, which can make aggressive use of transfer pricing strategies to declare most of their income in low- or no-tax countries, these complaints have some basis. In most cases, however, including Burger King, they're doing it because the U.S. inexplicably insists on taking a big chunk off the top of all their foreign income, and making their lives miserable in the process.

If we're worried about inversion, then the U.S. government should follow the lead of other developed countries, and move to territorial taxation. Otherwise, we should stop complaining when people and corporations decide that they'd rather be a citizen of some more sane system somewhere else.

Megan McArdle is a Bloomberg View columnist who writes on economics, business and public policy.

NBA, NFL age limits only benefit the leagues

Bloomberg News editorial

A college football season kicks off, the question of whether college athletes should be treated as professionals hangs in the air. Yet one issue has been oddly absent from the debate: age restrictions on the NFL and NBA place on their players.

Almost no other profession prohibits child prodigies from being paid for their skills. An 18-year-old can become a professional doctor or lawyer — or a shortstop or goalie — but not a point guard or linebacker, at least not in the NFL and NBA. The two leagues have sealed off their labor markets to anyone under the ages of 19 and 21, respectively.

The leagues cling to the fiction that these prohibitions are in the interest of the young men. But the rule costs many young men millions of dollars — and exploits the educational institutions where they play.

The leagues have basically outsourced their minor-league systems to colleges, which spend hundreds of millions developing talent and separating the wheat from the chaff. If college players sustain career-ending injuries before they make a nickel, that's their tough luck. Last year the best defensive player in college football, the University of South Carolina's 20-year-old Jadeveon Clowney, took out an insurance policy on future earnings because he was barred from entering the NFL and understood the financial risks of getting hurt during his third year of college.

The majority of collegiate athletes will never play professionally, of course, and not even elite athletes need more time to develop their skills before going pro. But not all. Before the NBA increased its minimum age to 19, LeBron James, Dwight Howard, Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett all had immediate success as 18-year-old

rookies and have long been among the best players in the NBA.

The players' union was wrong to accept the higher age restriction and should resist any push by new NBA Commissioner Adam Silver to raise it further. Instead, the union should insist that the NBA put more money into its development league to make it a more attractive alternative to high school players with no interest in college.

The NFL has no developmental league, but an independent league (FXFL) is beginning this fall in four cities and could grow into the minor league system the NFL needs. Most 18-year-olds are not ready to play for a college football team, no less a professional team, but a few may be — and others are ready at 19 or 20.

It may well be that most 18-year-olds are better off going to college, even if they don't end up earning a diploma. But the choice should be theirs to make.

OPINION

# Perry's comeback headed off at the pass

By MARGARET CARLSON  
Bloomberg News



**Texas Gov. Rick Perry speaks with New Mexican Gov. Brian W. Woody while visiting the Defending Freedom Park on Aug. 23 in Rochester, N.H. It was Perry's second day visiting the nation's earliest presidential primary state as he considers another run for president.**

Jim Colap

It was all going so well for Texas Gov. Rick Perry — until the indictment. His efforts to move past a disastrous 2012 presidential run that had become a reliable punch line for a senior moment seemed to be working.

He's dropped a few pounds and added hip glasses. He isn't wasting a minute of the border crisis, calling up the National Guard, testifying before Congress and visiting the Pope at Camp Swift, where he rolled up his sleeves and tried out a state-of-the-art telescope designed to see coyotes in Juarez, Mexico.

He has traveled to Israel, not to mention Iowa and New Hampshire, making six stops in the latter this past weekend. He's back on the Sunday talk shows, made the cover of a national magazine, and tip-toed through the minefield of late-night comedy without making a fool of himself. He's prepared position papers, addressed think tanks (The Heritage Foundation last week) and hired Steve Schmidt, a former adviser to the 2008 presidential campaign of John McCain, to make a case for him with an indictment — that turned out not to be as bad as it seemed — and the most handsome mug shot in history and Perry could be on his way to a comeback.

It may be too soon to take his presidential prospects seriously, but not too soon to look at his feverish activity closely. Why would he have thought the slow one in cowboy boots would pick a fight on substance with the other out-there 2016 presidential hopeful, Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul. In *The Washington Post*, Perry called Paul "curiously blind" to growing threats in Iraq and Iran, or the nation's made-to-measure plutonium. Paul shot back in Politico that the governor's new eyeword didn't allow him to see any more clearly and that hawks like him were wrong on just about everything.

Perry has a long road back from his 2012 run, but he was a front-runner then for a reason. He was the made-to-measure candidate to appeal to most of the factions in the party. He is an active Christian,

and hosted a day of prayer and fasting at a Houston stadium before announcing his 2012 bid. He's for low (or no) taxes and loathes Obamacare. He loves guns (he has a concealed-carry permit and an A+ rating from the National Rifle Association) and the death penalty. He opposes abortion and same-sex marriage (he recently compared gay people to alcoholics). He's brought companies and employment to Texas.

The one area his views didn't match those of his party emerged during the 2012 primary debates, when Mitt Romney rattled him by moving his immigration stance sharply right, to the land of self-deportation. A month earlier at a debate in Florida, Perry got labeled as pro-amnesty for saying to those who didn't agree with a popular 2001 Texas bill allowing in-state tuition for the so-called Dreamers: "I don't think you have a heart."

Perry left his own heart in Orlando, Fla. Since then, he's overcorrected to the point

of becoming Mr. Law and Order at the Border, suggesting the latest surge of children crossing into Texas could foster a crime wave and import Ebola. Seal the border more tightly or Islamic terrorists will be swimming the Rio Grande.

The governor's other blunder — the "oops" heard round the world — may be harder to erase. The hateful debate was the last of the cycle and Perry got hopelessly lost over which Cabinet departments he would abolish as president. His predicament was so dire, I found myself rooting for him as if he were my daughter struggling at a spelling bee to remember if "I came before 'e'" except after "c." Yes, you can name that third department, I know you can do it. No one's that stupid.

Time ran out and so did his campaign. Has this moment imprinted itself on the collective hard drive of voters the way Jimmy Carter's killer rabbit, Richard Nixon's dog Checkers and Ross Perot's crazy aunt in the attic has? Or maybe it will be

remembered as just an endearing flub, like Bill Clinton's endless speech at his debut at the 1988 Democratic National Convention, or George W. Bush's inability to pronounce nuclear, or Ronald Reagan's killer trees? Perry blamed everything but the weather for his bad debate performances: up from his sick bed too early after back surgery in July, high doses of pain medicine, being targeted as the front-runner.

He might revert to his prior image as governor of a huge state whose voters wouldn't have given him three terms if he were stupid. The Lone Star State still has reason to be grateful for bottom-of-the-class Alabama and Mississippi, but it has vastly improved on its formerly high infant mortality rate and increased high school graduation rates (the country's third highest now, he says). He deserves to crow about the jobless rate, even though many of the jobs are part-time.

There are newer, shinier objects to command the attention of a fickle public, but Perry has an appeal that Rick Santorum, Bobby Jindal, Ted Cruz, Rand Paul and Chris Christie don't have. He's approachable, charming and handsome in a "Mad Men" way. If there's a diner, he's working it; a party dinner, he's speaking at it.

And he has barely been slowed by the Aug. 15 indictment on charges of abuse of power. He claims his decision to veto funds for the state's Public Integrity Unit was justified by the refusal of the district attorney in charge to resign after a scandalously messy drunken-driving arrest. Across party lines, people found the charges partisan and overdone.

But just as it isn't the heat that gets you, it's the humidity, it isn't the indictment that's the problem, it's the legal system cranking up to full speed against you. If Perry's lawyers aren't successful in getting the charges dropped, the wheels of justice will begin their slow grind and hamper any comeback just as the Texas governor was about to show he wasn't all hat and no cattle.

Margaret Carlson is a Bloomberg View columnist.

# Ryan's hope is that his 'Way Forward' will resonate

By GEORGE F. WILL

WASHINGTON

To take the measure of this uncommonly interesting public man, begin with two related facts about him. Paul Ryan has at least 67 cousins in his Wisconsin hometown of Janesville, where there are six Ryan households within eight blocks of his home. And in his new book, "The Way Forward: Renewing the American Idea," he says something few politicians say, which is why so many are neither trusted nor respected. Ryan says he was wrong.

At a Wisconsin 4-H fair in 2012, Ryan encountered a Democrat who objected to what then was one of Ryan's signature rhetorical tropes — his distinction between "makers" and "takers," the latter being people who receive more in government spending than they pay in taxes. He had been struck by a report that 60 percent of Americans were already — this was before Obamacare — "net receivers." But, his encounter at the fair reminded him that, for a while, he and many people he cared about had been takers, too.

The morning after a night "working the Quarter Pounder grill at McDonald's," Ryan, 16, found his father, who had been treated by alcohol, dead in bed. Janesville's strong sinews of community sus-

tained Ryan and his mother; so did Social Security survivor benefits. When GM's Janesville assembly plant closed, draining about \$220 million of annual payroll from a town of 60,000, many relatives, friends and constituents needed the social safety net — unemployment compensation, job training, etc.

"At the fair that day, I realized I'd been careless with my language," he writes. "The phrase gave insult where none was intended." He has changed his language and his mind somewhat but thinks the fundamental things still apply.

"Society," Ryan writes, "functions through institutions that operate in the space between the individual and the state," and "government exists to protect the space where all of these great things occur." Hence government has a "supporting role" as "the enabler of other institutions." Progressive government, however, works, sometimes inadvertently but often deliberately, to subordinate or supplant those institutions. This depletion of social capital is comprehensively injurious to the culture. And "all the tax cuts in the world don't matter much if you don't get the culture right."

Progressivism aims to place individuals in unmediated dependency on a government that can proclaim, as Barack Obama does: "If you've got a business, you didn't

build that. Somebody else made that happen." Meaning, people depend on government for what they are and have.

Few of today's progressives are acquainted with theist doctrine. Richard Nixon's founders, however, considered it essential that the nation make progress, as they understood this, beyond the Founders' natural rights philosophy, which limits government by saying (in the Declaration of Independence) that it is "instituted to 'secure' these rights.

Hence Woodrow Wilson, a progressive who understood his doctrine's premises, urged Americans to "not repeat the [Declaration's] preface." Progressivism preaches that rights do not pre-exist government, that they are dispensed and respected by government as it sees fit and to fit its purposes. Those purposes grow unconstrained by the Constitution that progressives construe as a "living" — meaning infinitely elastic — document.

Since 1999, when he became its second-youngest member, Ryan has been an intellectual ornament to the House of Representatives — and a headache for risk-averse Republican Party operatives. They pay lip service to electing conservatives who will make the choices necessary to stabilize the architecture of the entitlement system and unleash the economic

growth that must finance the system's promises. But they want to let voters remain oblivious about the choices required by that architecture's rickety condition.

Such Republicans are complicit with Obama, who monstrated the self-destructive nature of his now-overrated presidency by his contemptuous and contemptible treatment of Ryan on April 13, 2011. After he loftily aspired to teach Washington civility, the White House invited Ryan to sit in the front row at a speech in which Obama gave an implacably hostile and mendacious depiction of Ryan's suggestions for entitlement reforms. Obama thereby repeated his tawdry performance in his 2010 State of the Union address, when, with Supreme Court justices in the front row of the House chamber, he castigated them for the Citizens United decision, which he misrepresented.

Both times, Obama's behavior bespoke the insecurity of someone who, surrounded by sycophants, shuns disputations with people who can reply. Ryan, however, has replied with a book that demonstrates Obama's wisdom in not arguing with a man who has a better mind and better manners.

George F. Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Fundraiser planned for slain soccer ref's family

**MI PLYMOUTH** — A fundraiser is planned for the family of a Detroit-area referee who died after being punched by a player during a recreational soccer game this summer.

The event honoring John Bieniewicz was planned for Saturday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth, where the Plymouth Whalers play the Windsor Spitfires in exhibition hockey. Ticket sales also benefit an organization that helps families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Kris Bieniewicz, 45, told the Detroit Free Press that the support her family has received since her husband's death shows there's "more good than bad in the world."

## Bistro criticized for removing its bacon sign

**VT WINOOSKI** — A Vermont restaurant that removed a bacon advertisement called insensitive to vegans and Muslims is being criticized for doing so.

Sneakers Bistro and Cafe in Winooski recently took down a sign saying "Yield for Sneakers Bacon" after comments were posted in an online community forum by "a vegan and a member of a Muslim household." Vegans and Muslims don't eat pork.

Owner Marc Dysinger said the sign was meant to be fun and to show the restaurant cares about Winooski, a city of 7,000 residents with many Muslim families.

The Burlington Free Press reported that people have criticized the restaurant for what they feel was an unnecessary move.

## Mom clobbers man in defense of her toddler

**IA DES MOINES** — A woman has assaulted a Des Moines man who tossed a toaster pastry and wrapper onto the woman's 2-year-old child in her car.

The Des Moines Register reported that the incident occurred at around 8:25 p.m. Tuesday at a Des Moines convenience store. The woman told officers that as she was pumping gas, she saw her child throw items out a window.

Police say security video shows a man who also had been pumping gas walk over, pick up the items and toss them back into the car. Officers saw pieces of the pastry in the child's hair.

The man told officers he didn't know the person in the car was a child.

Police said the mother then attacked the man, punching him in the eye. No arrests have been reported.

## Mystery: Human skull donated to Goodwill

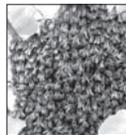
**TX AUSTIN** — Police are scratching their heads trying to work out who donated a human skull to a thrift store in Austin.

Homicide Detective Derek Lott said Wednesday that foul play is not suspected, and that he

## THE CENSUS

# 510K

The number of bee colonies registered by 221 beekeepers in North Dakota, the nation's leading honey-producing state. It is the highest number of colonies ever recorded in the state. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said the number is up from 482,500 colonies last year. Goehring said there has been a spike in registration compliance because of education and outreach. While other states, such as Montana and South Dakota, have strict limits on space between colonies, "North Dakota is kind of a 'bring-'em-on-in' state, he said.



RYAN GARZA, DETROIT FREE PRESS/AP

## Top dog

**Matt Holowicki, of Plymouth, Mich., wipes sweat off his face while competing in the fourth annual American Coney Island Coney Dog Eating Challenge at the American Coney Island in downtown Detroit on Thursday. Holowicki ate 17 full Coney Dogs in 10 minutes and was crowned the 2014 champion.**

just wants to know how the adult skull came to be left at the Goodwill store.

Goodwill store staff discovered the skull while sifting through donations on July 16. A spokeswoman said it could have been gifted up to a week prior to its discovery.

This is at least the fourth skull to be donated to the international nonprofit this summer.

## Mother charged after child killed in traffic

**WI MADISON** — A mother has been charged with homicide in Dane County after her 1-year-old daughter was struck and killed by a van while riding in a wheelchair.

A criminal complaint says Raya Hansen, 33, was under the influence of drugs when she wheeled her daughter along a busy street in Madison in February of 2013. Hansen told police she thought she dropped her daughter's bottle and stopped to look for it, and the wheelchair rolled into the street and was hit.

The State Journal said Hansen is charged with second-degree reckless homicide and child neglect resulting in death. Prosecutors allege Hansen was too impaired to care for the toddler. She is currently in the Taycheedah Correctional Institution serving a sentence unrelated to her daughter's death.

## Library's policy on weapons challenged

**CO WINDSOR** — Gun rights activists say they may sue a library system in Windsor because it bans weapons.

The Greeley Tribune reported that the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners group is challenging the Clearview Library District's weapons policy.

The topic was discussed but not acted on by the board Thursday. Library staff allegedly told a patron to leave on Aug. 20 because she was carrying a concealed weapon. The library's code of conduct asks patrons to refrain from "carrying weapons of any sort except by law enforce-

ment officers."

The gun owners' rights group argues the policy violates state law.

## Porn production back on track after HIV scare

**CA LOS ANGELES** — A voluntary moratorium announced Thursday on adult film production has been lifted, a porn industry group announced Friday, after follow-up testing of an actor suspected of having HIV came back negative.

"The performer does not have HIV. Production on adult film can resume safely," the Free Speech Coalition said in a statement, saying an initial test had been a false positive. A number of other "first generation" performers — actors and partners who had sexual contact with the actor — were tested as a precaution, and all those results came back negative, too, the statement said.

According to rules established last year by the trade group, actors must undergo HIV testing every 14 days to be cleared for work.

## Lawmaker regrets traffic-cone video

**MI FALCON HEIGHTS** — U.S. Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., said he regrets a video in which he's shown holding two traffic cones to his chest like breasts.

The video was recorded at a 2012 fundraiser and first surfaced this spring. Republican officials brought it up again last week, a few days after GOP congressional candidate Jim Hagedorn came under attack for old blog writings targeting women, American Indians, gays and others.

In remarks at the State Fair, Franken called the cone incident a thoughtless moment he regrets.

He said voters should look to his record on women's issues, like fighting for equal pay and to ensure women have access to birth control through health insurance.

He faces Republican Mike McFadden in November.

From wire reports

MUSIC

**Ariana Grande**

My Everything (Republic Records)

This is how you follow up an impressive debut: simply step into the recording booth, and be amazing yet again.

Maybe it's easier said than done, but Ariana Grande manages to pull off the feat with her sophomore release, "My Everything," the successor to last year's near-pop perfection "Yours Truly," which topped the Billboard 200 chart and spawned the hit single "The Way," featuring Mac Miller.

Admittedly, Grande's sophomore effort doesn't go in a radically different direction (she was on the right path to begin with), but big changes are there. For one, music veteran Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds is nowhere to be found. Still, the R&B and soul sensibilities that he brought to "Yours Truly" are at play, even without him.

That's evident on "Be My Baby," featuring Norwegian DJ Cashmere Cat, and in the slick bounce of "Break Your Heart Right Back." Produced and co-written by duo Pop & Oak, the latter samples Diana Ross' "I'm Coming Out." Featured

guest Childish Gambino repurposes bars from Notorious B.I.G.'s "Mo Money, Mo Problems" for the track.

Additional collaborations with rappers, including Big Sean, ASAP Ferg, as well as Iggy Azalea on the successful single "Problem" might tempt critics to accuse Grande of relying on old formulas. But she shows growth, busting out of familiar genres and exploring electronic dance music on second single "Break Free," featuring Zedd, and again on the David Guetta-written "One Last Time."

Thankfully, no matter where Grande ventures, her dazzling vocals lead the way — powerful on the Benny Blanco and Ryan Tedder-produced "Why Try," with its hypnotic drums, and light-as-a-feather on "Just a Little Bit of Your Heart," with its aching and lovesick lyrics co-written by One Direction's Harry Styles.

The 21-year-old Grande has a fantastic voice, and she and her team have found the music to showcase that. A feat that isn't to be underestimated, considering the powerhouse vocalists who've been bypassed for passable singers with more memorable tracks.

Sure, "My Everything" was a safe bet — but only in the best of ways. For some fans, the listening experience will be like returning to a delicious little restaurant they've recently discovered, and finding that the food is as good as they thought it was the first time.

—Melanie J. Sims  
The Associated Press



Ariana Grande continues to impress with her strong vocals on "My Everything," her second album which features powerful ballads and dizzying dance beats.

MATT SAYLES, INVISION/AP



**Brad Paisley**

Moonshine in the Trunk (Arista Nashville)

Brad Paisley backs away from social issues and strikes up a party on his 10th studio album, "Moonshine In The Trunk."

However, that doesn't mean he suddenly starts to play it safe.

Musically, Paisley's arrangements continue to emphasize intricate musicianship and turn-

on-a-dime ensemble play, while his lyrics use witty wordplay to explore the many ways people try to escape their problems and improve their lives.

The veteran country star's knack for tongue-in-cheek fun comes through on the funky "River Bank," the fist-pumping "Crushin' It" and the high-speed hijinks of the title song. Paisley also touts American pride throughout, whether he's

name-checking sports teams and muscle cars on "Country Nation" or toasting the land of opportunity on "American Flag on the Moon."

As in the past, his ambitious reach sometimes gets the best of him. On the traditional country tune "4WP," for example, Paisley jams the gears by racing through too many musical ideas too quickly.

Still, 15 years into his career,

Paisley is the country singer most likely to crack jokes about a hillbilly family getting rich ("High Life") or write a sensitive power ballad about a woman breaking through the good-old-boy corporate network ("Shattered Glass"). Which also makes him the country star most likely to make fans smile — and to make them think.

—Michael McCall  
The Associated Press



## MUSIC

# Stratocaster

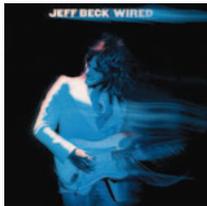
## still rockin'

# at 60



Jeff Beck, below, fell in love with the Fender Stratocaster at first sight.

Right: Beck's classic 1976 album, "Wired."



**Leo Fender's game-changing electric guitar has been around for six decades, but for its many musician fans, it never gets old.**

BY RANDY LEWIS  
*Los Angeles Times*

**R**ock guitar hero Jeff Beck remembers falling in love for the first time. "I'd only ever seen Spanish-style or jazz guitars, and then I saw a Stratocaster," said Beck, 70, of his schoolboy crush. "I was fascinated by the shape, the double cutaways; it was all too cool. It had all these pickups and knobs and controls — it embodied all the excitement of modern living.

"A few years later I saw one in London hanging in a window, and the guy let me try it on," said the former member of the Yardbirds. "It fit me like it was made for me. That was it — we were married. I thought 'This is it,' and I never forgot it."

Virtually all musicians have a similar story surrounding their first high-quality instrument, and for many guitarists, that tender memory revolves around the Stratocaster.

The Strat, which was created by electric guitar innovator Leo Fender in his Fullerton, Calif., workshop, turned 60 this year.

"I do one s...  
ist th...  
have...  
inclu...  
knew,"

Billy Gibbons, whose solo work has been played on one. "The Strat is the cornerstone, the reference point of the contemporary electric guitar."

Buddy Holly became the first to adopt the Strat as his main instrument in the mid-1950s. It features pickup configurations that were used in his 1957 debut album, "The Big Bad Blues," which inspired legions of followers. "It came out perfect," said Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan, Rory Gallagher, Pete Townshend and other players closely associated with the instrument.

"We've been trying to copy it," said Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards, who admires Strats even today. "The Strat's gotten better over time, but all in one fell swoop, when it was first made."

The Strat's main rival in the rock guitar players is the Gibson Les Paul, for, although not designed with modern technology experiments in mind, Gibson in 1952, in response to the Telecaster's success with the Telecaster.

### Making a good thing better

Clarence "Leo" Fender, a tinkerer whose mission was to make guitars that were years sprouted from an idea that got better.

Guitars had been played in the early 20th century by band ensembles playing in a variety of settings, relegating the acoustic guitar to a supporting role. Various people experimented with electric guitars in the 1920s, competing against louder instruments like trumpets and saxophones.

But amplified acoustic guitars were only so loud before the electric guitar came back, creating a distorted sound that created a new instrument chamber that created the electric guitar.

Fender came up with a functional electric guitar, the Telecaster pickup Esquire, a predecessor to the Telecaster. Despite the name, the Telecaster's versatility, compared with other designs, was a distance among blues and rock players in the early '50s. Ike Turner, for example, and the Kings recorded "Rock and Roll Part 1" as the first rock 'n' roll single to adopt the Fender electric guitar.

Fender looked for the best way to make the Telecaster and developed the Telecaster pickup guitar, creating a Telecaster that was curvier, with cutaway body neck that allowed playing upper parts of the neck further up the neck.

fit

**Some famous players**

**1954**

**Buddy Holly**

**Jimi Hendrix**

**Eric Clapton**

**Stevie Ray Vaughan**

**John Mayer**

**2014**

...n't think there was ever a soloist or instrumentalist that didn't at some point have their sights set on a Strat, and me and everybody I said ZZ Top guitarist Billy Gibbons on "La Grange" was at its really the global inflection point of the perception of the electric guitar."

...the first major rock star whose career took off in the prominently on the cover of "The Chirping" Crickets," powers to covet his guitar: Clapton, Stevie Ray, Robbie Robertson, Dick and Ron Wood are among those with Stratocasters. ...d, and ever since then, to improve it, enhance guitarist Keith Richards, in though he usually plays a older sibling. "Most things I not in this case. Leo did it which is amazing."

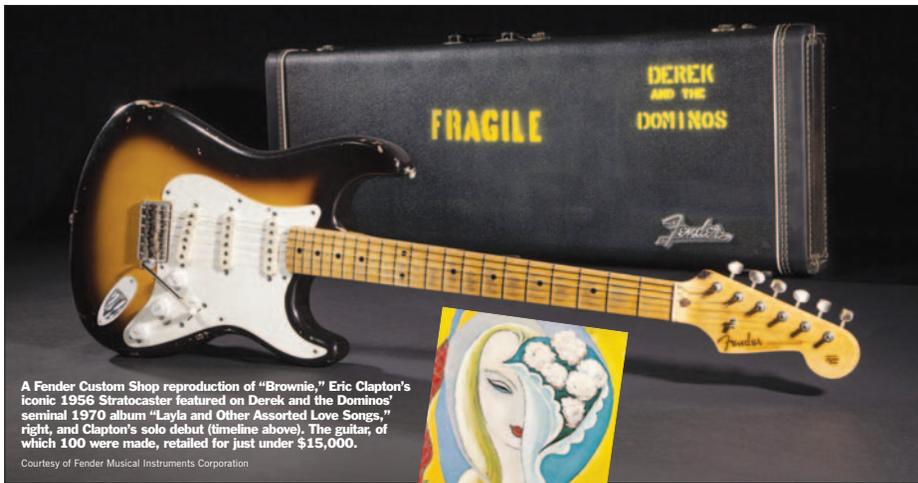
...for supremacy among the popular music named by, another celebrated er. It was introduced by onse to Leo Fender's succe- which debuted in 1951.

**ing better**

...a quintessential through most of his 81 innate drive to make a ed for hundreds of years, ntury, the rise of large- popular music for danc- guitar to a supporting perimented with amplifi- age so they could com- truments such as trumpets, nes.

...ginal instruments could get iginal status and feeding sound. The goal was without an open sound edback. ...his company's first in 1950, the single- cessor of the two-pickup ed reliability and the new ed affordability esigns found quick acce- quency musicians of the whose band the Rhythm '88" in 1951, often cited rding, was an early r guitarists.

...The Strat eventually went into the Museum of Modern Art in New York for its



A Fender Custom Shop reproduction of "Brownie," Eric Clapton's iconic 1956 Stratocaster featured on Derek and the Dominos' seminal 1970 album "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs," right, and Clapton's solo debut (timeline above). The guitar, of which 100 were made, retailed for just under \$15,000.

Courtesy of Fender Musical Instruments Corporation

elegant design. Its look was a key part of what drew Bonnie Raitt, one of the first women to be recognized as a master of the electric guitar, to the Strat.

"How you feel in the guitar is probably as important as how it sounds," Raitt said. "For portability, sexiness and the way it feels on your body, nothing beats a Strat. When you strap on a Stratocaster, you feel just like your heroes. I don't think you can separate how it makes you feel from the memory of other people playing it."

Indeed, influential musicians who used Stratocasters early on played a key role in the model's growth in popularity in the 1960s and beyond.

"What kind of guitar you're most attracted to is a reflection of what kind of music you grew up with," said John Mayer. "I'm a Strat guy. ... When I see Clapton play a Strat, it's like a kid putting his hands on a Spalding basketball when he sees Michael Jordan spinning the ball. It's how you approach that place you dream of getting to."

**Mastering mass production**

Fender's genius stroke was creating a quality instrument that could be mass-produced and affordable — he's often lauded as the Thomas Edison and Henry Ford of the instrument world.

New Stratocasters manufactured at Fender's Corona, Calif., plant retail for about \$1,300 and up. Cheaper versions manufactured in Mexico and Asia start around \$500. Vintage models from the 1950s and early 1960s fetch tens of thousands of dollars at auctions. The Guitar Center paid close to \$1 million for Clapton's celebrated "Blackie" Strat a few years ago.

Larry Thomas, Fender's chief executive since 2010 and former head of the Guitar Center chain of retail stores, has seen that principle in action. "The whole thing is about aspiration and inspiration," said Thomas. "People would come

into Guitar Center to buy an instrument because they were in awe of some guy who was their idol. When you sold a Strat, people wanted to sound like Stevie Ray Vaughan, or they wanted to sound like Eric Clapton."

The same is true for those at the top of the guitar-food chain.

"The first time I saw one," Clapton said, "was in the Jerry Lee Lewis footage from (the 1958 film) 'High School Confidential!' His bass player was playing a Fender Jazz bass or a Tele bass, and I'd never seen anything like a solid-body guitar before. That was it for me. It was the perfect design. It looked like a spaceship. I loved that about it — it was new and exciting and science fiction."

U2 guitarist the Edge recalled that, "The first guitar I ever bought was a Strat — it was my first decent instrument ever. When we got our record deal, the first thing I did was go out and buy another Strat."

"The back one, that's the one I recorded a lot of our big important songs with: 'Pride in the Name of Love,' 'Where the Streets Have No Name' — major U2 songs," Evans said. "With the Strat, you get just slings of wood with a neck stuck into it. Yet it just sings — it's an incredibly inspiring instrument."

**Singing the instrument's praises**

The Band's lead guitarist Robertson said there were "many, many times" in that group's career when the Strat contributed significantly to songs he was writing. The Canadian musician first became enamored of the Stratocaster when he saw Buddy Holly play one in Toronto on Sept. 14, 1957. "I hung around after the show because I wanted to know how he got that sound," said Robertson,

a 14-year-old aspiring guitarist at the time. "So I waited until everyone was loading out, and I went around back and asked him, 'Mr. Holly, how do you get that sound: Is it the guitar? Is it the amplifier?'"

"And he said, 'So you're a guitar player? OK, I'll tell you.' And I thought here I am, Buddy Holly is about to give me the secret. And he said, 'You see that Fender 'Twin (amplifier)? It's got two speakers in it. One of them cut — and I never fixed it.'"

Robertson and most of the rest of the musicians who later became known as the Band backed Bob Dylan in 1965 and 1966 when he famously "went electric," to the chagrin of folk music purists.

"When Bob Dylan strapped on one in the mid-60s (yes, it was a Stratocaster that was supposedly booted so lustily at Newport) or when Jimi (Hendrix) played the Star Spangled Banner on it at Woodstock, well ... that settled that," Bruce Springsteen wrote in politely yet expansively declining to be interviewed about the Strat when the guitar turned 50 in 2004.

"However! There are two kinds of people in the world. Those that play Stratocasters and those that play Telecasters. ... and the twin rarely meet," Springsteen wrote, identifying himself as a Tele player "til he dies."

Not veteran blues musician Buddy Guy. Playing anything other than a Stratocaster, he said, "is like putting on a glove that's too small, then putting one on that you've been wearing for five years ... (If) you see me change from a Strat, it means I done broke a string."

Beck can relate. "Nothing's been invented that's better than the Stratocaster," he said. "Fender has kept asking me, 'What could we do to make you a better guitar?' I always tell them, 'Give me a 1954 Strat in the box, and I'll be happy. You had it right from the start!'"

*Looking for a new field  
where you can stand out?*

STARS  AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

# Veteran's Job Center

[veteransjob.stripes.com](http://veteransjob.stripes.com)

Find your next opportunity  
with employers who actively  
seek the experience of  
former military.

Post your resume and access  
25,000 jobs for free.





# GADGETS & CHARTS



Amazon and other drone makers are pushing to get small unmanned aerial vehicles flying commercially as soon as possible.

## Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's your Amazon order

San Jose Mercury News

In one small step for man and one slightly bigger step for Amazon, the Seattle-based online retailer giant is putting its money where its mouth is, teaming up with other drone makers to lobby lawmakers on the company's plan to one day use small unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to deliver goods straight to customers' doorsteps.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos first broached the idea publicly during an appearance last year on "60 Minutes." The concept, frankly, seemed like science fiction to many Americans who could not picture a small flying device dropping off stuff on their front porch.

Now, according to a post in USA Today, Amazon has announced it's taking a concrete step to convince the government that drone-deliveries will soon be the real deal.

"Amazon Prime Air is participating in several groups ... that share Congress' goal of getting small UAVs flying commercially in the United States safely and soon," said Paul Misener, the company's vice president of global public policy.

Amazon, apparently, is getting just as frustrated as other companies are with the federal government's slow plodding as it tries to decide how to regulate a brand-new transportation-and-delivery system that's practically changing

at the bit to be set free across this great land of ours. As USA Today points out, the problem with regulating the use of private and corporate drones over America's skies is that it's tough to know which agency should really be in charge in the first place.

Such efforts are needed because the advance of commercial drones covers a swath of federal agencies including the Federal Aviation Administration, which governs airspace, and the Federal Communications Commission, with oversight of communications frequencies drones would use. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy also has rules in the works regarding privacy.

"This is uncharted territory," says Chris Anderson, co-founder of drone maker 3D Robotics. His firm joined Amazon, DJI Innovations and Parrot in founding the coalition. The group aims to represent commercial uses of drones, establish a code of conduct and educate the public about benefits of the technology, he says.

Congress has charged the FAA with developing rules to test and integrate drones into the airspace. But a report that Transportation Department Inspector General Calvin Scovel delivered to Congress in February said the FAA will unlikely meet a September 2015 deadline set by Congress.

## GADGET WATCH

# Wind meter turns smartphones into meteorological equipment

By GREGG ELLMAN  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**W**hen I saw an email inviting me to test the Vaavud wind meter, I thought it was just another one of those gimmick smartphone accessories.

But I decided to give this one a try since I'm a smartphone junkie and my wife thinks I'm a weather junkie. This could bring all my worlds together.

Much to my delight, the Vaavud works as advertised to "turn your smartphone into a high-tech meteorological tool."

The cup-anemometer tool attaches to your headphone port (Android and iOS) and along with the Vaavud app you instantly know the wind speed.

Of course the day I tested it there was no wind, so I took it along for a ride in my neighborhood holding my iPhone 5s out the car window with the Vaavud attached.

It worked like a charm, reading the speed as I went faster or slower. The wind speed can be displayed in choices of meters per second, knots, mph, km/hr, or on the Beaufort scale.

The gadget is described as being designed like a wind-measuring tool, the cup-anemometer. It has two-cup functionality instead of the standard three, enabling it to be pocket sized.

The app has user interactions with other Vaavud wind meter users globally to share your wind speed and find out what it is in other locations

— the fun is endless!

Online: Vaavud.com  
\$49.95 in green, red or white

**You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows — if you have the Vaavud wind meter.**

VAAVUD/MCT



**If turning your smartphone into a wind meter wasn't enough,** the Audiovox Mobile TV device (from Dyle Mobile TV) lets you watch live local TV on the go in select U.S. markets. This can include local news, sporting events or sitcoms.

It has no effect on your cellular data plan, and you don't need Wifi to receive the broadcast.

In a nutshell, you set up the device at home, creating a network from the Audiovox Mobile TV to send your TV signal to the Dyle app on your smartphone or tablet.

It works with smartphones and tablets running the latest Android, Kindle or iOS operating systems.

The device is about the size of a deck of playing cards and has an extendable antenna.

You do need to check the availability of networks in your area on the Dyle website. Just enter your zip code and you'll get a list of channels available for broadcast in your area. Blackouts do apply for some sporting events.

There is pause and rewind, but it's not a DVR for recording. An internal battery will last for up to four hours before a USB charge is needed.

Online: dyle.tv \$99.21 at Amazon

**The ultra-slim Rapoo wireless keyboards** are just 5.6mm thick but are big-time on performance. They work with a tiny Nano receiver which plugs into your computer's USB port for a wireless connection up to about 30 feet.

There are two versions; model E9080 has a touchpad and number pad on the right side, while the E9180 has a wireless touchpad on the same side. Both have a great-looking aluminum design.

Other features include multimedia keys for shortcuts such as audio playback or quick Internet access.

The Rapoo wireless laser mouse (model 3920P) runs smoothly on most surfaces with its Surfree laser technology. It's built with aluminum alloy and has an ergonomic design. An on/off switch allows it to last up to 18 months.

Online: Rapoo.com \$59.99 for the keyboards, \$39.99 for the mouse



DYLE MOBILE TV/MCT



RAPOO/MCT

## ITUNES MUSIC

The top 10 songs on the iTunes Store for Aug. 27:

1. "Shake It Off," Taylor Swift
2. "Bang Bang," Jessie J, Ariana Grande & Nicki Minaj
3. "All About That Bass," Meghan Trainor
4. "Break Free (featuring Zedd)," Ariana Grande
5. "Stay With Me," Sam Smith
6. "Animals," Maroon 5
7. "Boom Clap," Charli XCX
8. "Maps," Maroon 5
9. "Chandelier," Sia
10. "Rothier Be (featuring Jess Glynne)," Clean Bandit

— Compiled by MCT

## SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify from Aug. 18-25:

1. "All About That Bass," Meghan Trainor
2. "Stay With Me," Sam Smith
3. "Rude," MAGIC!
4. "Bang Bang," Jessie J, Ariana Grande & Nicki Minaj
5. "Chandelier," Sia
6. "Break Free (featuring Zedd)," Ariana Grande
7. "Fancy," Iggy Azalea
8. "Shower," Becky G
9. "Black Widow," Iggy Azalea
10. "Maps," Maroon 5

— Compiled by The Associated Press

## ITUNES MOVIES

The top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for Aug. 27:

1. "Godzilla (2014)"
2. "The Fault In Our Stars (Extended)"
3. "Blended (2014)"
4. "The Amazing Spider-Man 2"
5. "The Other Woman"
6. "Neighbors"
7. "Divergent"
8. "Labor Day"
9. "The Fault In Our Stars"
10. "Belle"

— Compiled by MCT

## VIDEO GAMES

The editors of Game Informer rank the Top 10 PC games for August:

- "Divinity: Original Sin," Larian Studios
- "Metro Redux," Deep Silver
- "Shovel Knight," Yacht Club Games
- "Tropico 5," Kalypso
- "The Golf Club," HB Studios
- "WildStar," NCsoft
- "Sacred 3," Deep Silver
- "Lifesafe Planet," Loco Mamba Global
- "GRID Autosport," Codemasters
- "Valiant Hearts: The Great War," Ubisoft

— Compiled by MCT

## APPS

Top 5 new free apps for Aug. 27:

- ANDROID
1. Tap Sports Baseball
  2. LINK - with people nearby
  3. PAC-MAN Friends
  4. Brave Trials
  5. Swamp Attack

Top 5 free apps for August 27:

- APPLE
1. Facebook Messenger
  2. FaceQ
  3. Snapchat from Instagram
  4. Swing Coplars
  5. Remind: Self Classroom Communication

— Compiled by MCT

## ENTERTAINMENT



RAY BURMISTON, BBC WORLDWIDE/MCT

The new season of "Doctor Who" started Aug. 23 with Peter Capaldi as The Doctor and Jenna Coleman as his companion, Clara. "One of the nice things about 'Doctor Who,' and I know from being a fan myself, is even if a lot of people don't like me, some people will love me," Capaldi says.

## Peter Capaldi strikes a confident note as he takes on cult favorite

BY MEREDITH BLAKE  
Los Angeles Times

**P**eter Capaldi has just landed in New York, the fifth stop in a worldwide tour promoting the new season of "Doctor Who" that began in the U.K., continued with visits to South Korea and Australia and now, after a 22-hour flight that crossed the international dateline, has descended on midtown Manhattan. Next, he and co-star Jenna Coleman head to Mexico and Brazil.

For Capaldi, who made his proper debut as the 12th incarnation of the time-traveling, shape-shifting Doctor, all the globe-trotting might be useful for getting into character. But, he says, "the TARDIS is a much more efficient vehicle for traveling," referring of course to the Doctor's famous blue police phone booth-cum-spaceship.

In Britain, "Doctor Who" has been part of the pop culture canon virtually since its premiere on the rather untimely date of Nov. 23, 1963. Stateside, the sci-fi series has long been a cult favorite. But since the dormant franchise was revived in 2005, "Doctor Who" has gradually edged out into the American mainstream, its popularity driven by the charismatic performances of David Tennant and Matt Smith as the 10th and 11th Doctors, and by the inventive writing of show runners Russell T. Davies and Steven Moffat. (Its availability on Netflix hasn't hurt either.)

Last November, the 50th anniversary special "The Day of the Doctor" drew an audience of 2.4 million to BBC America, a record for the cable network. Globally, the show has a reach of more than 30 million viewers in 75 countries. Anticipation surrounding the new season is so intense that

when footage and scripts were accidentally leaked online last month, the BBC issued a public plea for fans to keep spoilers to themselves.

Capaldi is sanguine about the intense scrutiny he's under given that he's taking on the role after a string of popular younger actors, and Whovians are known for their intense devotion to particular incarnations of the Doctor.

"One of the nice things about 'Doctor Who,' and I know from being a fan myself, is even if a lot of people don't like me, some people will love me," says the 56-year-old Scot, dressed stylishly in a slim-cut blue suit and wingtip Doc Martens, "that somewhere there will be a little group of people that says, 'Oh, that's my Doctor,' and the more everybody else hates me the more they'll love me."

For Moffat, who has worked on the series since its reboot and took over the reins as show runner from Davies in 2010, Smith's departure after three seasons was a tough blow. "At a simple human level, it was miserable because my mate went. And also it's a strange thing, because we did make a radical change to the Doctor, that light goes out and the 11th Doctor is not there anymore. That lovely, floppy man is gone."

Given that one of the Doctor's essential traits is his mutability, one might think that casting would be a daunting process: Where does one begin narrowing down the list of candidates when there are no real limitations in terms of age or appearance?

"They've got to be technical virtuosos," Moffat says. "You need somebody you'll never tire of listening to and never tire of looking at. You have to picture them on a fridge magnet, you have to picture them on a lunch box."

Yet what might have been a long and difficult quest for a new Doctor was "over in a heartbeat," Moffat says, because he immediately thought of Capaldi and "everyone mysteriously agreed."

Unlike Smith, who was a relative unknown before "Doctor Who," Capaldi is already a beloved and highly recognizable star in the U.K., thanks to his portrayal of Malcolm Tucker, the prime minister's ruthless and blisteringly profane enforcer in Armando Iannucci's political satire "The Thick of It." (A role he reprised in the film adaptation, "In the Loop.")

Despite Capaldi's strong identification with a very particular (and decidedly unheroic) character, Moffat saw little downside in casting the actor, who he calls "a national treasure." His evidence? At the BAFTAs a few years ago, cheers for Capaldi were as deafening as they were for "Sherlock" heartthrob Benedict Cumberbatch.

Capaldi had closely followed all the casting speculation in the press and says he was "slightly peeved that no one was mentioning me at all" when his agent called to ask how he'd feel about being the new Doctor. After reading for Moffat — he was the only actor to do so — Capaldi got the part, despite what he describes as a "truly awful" audition.

For Capaldi, who grew up admiring Vincent Price and Peter Cushing, stars of the horror and sci-fi films he loved, rather than Shakespearean types like Richard Burton or Laurence Olivier — he says their names with an affected posh accent — playing the Doctor is "part of my DNA." Though he had to keep the secret to himself for a very long 2½ months, Capaldi quietly found ways to celebrate. He'd often visit Forbidden

Planet, a comic book and sci-fi emporium in London. "I'd wander in there and stand sort of close to people thinking, 'They don't know that Doctor Who's standing next to them, and if they did know, they'd be very excited.' I hope that maybe they'll read this and in their memory they'll go, 'There was a strange guy standing next to me ...'"

"Toward the end it became a bit difficult because you're actually just lying to people," says Capaldi, who dodged other job offers by making vague references to nonexistent sitcoms. "I had my own personal pilot season."

Though Capaldi is not the first Scottish actor to portray the Doctor, he is the first to speak in his native accent, a decision he made out of a desire to "remove excess baggage" from the part. This pared-down philosophy also seems to have extended to his sartorial choices, with the new Doctor adopting a minimalist, tie-free look.

The actor promises that the new season, which finds the Doctor and his companion Clara (Coleman) landing in Victorian London, is "scarier and darker" than it's been in a few years. Accordingly, there might even be a hint of Malcolm Tucker in Capaldi's crankier, less socially adept Doctor, who will be getting "impatient, vexed, worried" about his valiant image this season, according to Moffat.

"Whereas Matt's doctor and David's doctor were charmer, Peter's Doctor doesn't really bother," explains the writer. "The Doctor is aware that some people regard him as a hero and legendary warrior, but he knows he's just a bloke in a time machine bluffing his way from one adventure to the next."

# STARS AND STRIPES

## DAILY HEADLINES



Sign up to get the top stories of the day, emailed right to your inbox, every day!

TODAY'S TOP HEADLINES FROM STARS AND STRIPES.

# STARS AND STRIPES

## WEEKLY UPDATE



Subscribe to get each week's most important stories, along with other military news of note from bases around the world.

STARS AND STRIPES OFFERS A SUMMARY OF THE LEADING STORIES OF THE WEEK.



Get your news at: [stripes.com/newsletters](http://stripes.com/newsletters)





SPORTS BRIEFS

# Redskins, Olympic backers consider RFK site

From wire reports

WASHINGTON — The Washington Redskins and the group looking to bring the 2024 Olympics to the District of Columbia are both eyeing RFK Stadium as a site for a new venue, raising the prospect of a state-of-the-art facility that could serve as host for the Summer Games and home for the team.

It is not clear whether the Redskins and the Olympic committee have jointly coordinated their efforts for a new stadium. One person with knowledge of the talks said Redskins officials had discussed building a facility at RFK with the Olympic organizers.

There is a likely benefit to both sides working together. Washington is one of four U.S. cities that have expressed interest in hosting the 2024 games, and one of the factors the Olympics Committee considers is whether a city can create a legacy with its facilities rather than allowing them to lie fallow.

And Redskins owner Dan Snyder could ride the city's Olympic aspirations to support for a new stadium that would allow his National Football League team to return to the District of Columbia, as well as try to turn the page from a summer spent defending his team's name.

Two others who have been involved in discussions about a new stadium said the Redskins and the Olympic committee have been working toward a new facility at RFK, but independently of each other. All three people asked for anonymity to speak freely because the discussions were meant to be private.

Even though the team's current stadium, FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland, is only 17 years old, Snyder has been quietly raising the idea of moving for more than a year. In 2012, he told Mayor Vincent Gray that he would like to move the team back to the city, according to Gray.

On Wednesday, two months after the U.S. Olympic Committee

named the District of Columbia one of four finalists for a potential bid, Snyder took his pitch for a new stadium public.

Other North American cities have successfully built stadiums to host the Olympics and then put them to regular use for professional teams. Atlanta's 1996 Olympic stadium became the home field for the Atlanta Braves. Montreal's venue for the 1976 Games became home to the Montreal Expos, before the team relocated to Washington and became the Nationals.

Erik Moses, managing director of sports and entertainment at Events DC, the city's tourism arm, said he facilitated a tour of the District of Columbia's sports venues earlier this year for members of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Though Moses said he had not had direct discussions with the Redskins about a new stadium, he said it made sense to combine the two discussions. Events DC recently selected a consultant, Brailsford & Dunlavey, to study options for redeveloping RFK both with and without the current stadium in place.

"As we get farther down the road with this D.C. 2024 bid, the obvious plan would be if you become the host city for a U.S. bid, where would you build [the stadium]? At RFK. And then convert it afterwards for permanent use," he said.

During an interview this week with Comcast Sportsnet, Snyder said he is beginning the process of designing and building a stadium with modern amenities — one that kindled memories of RFK, where he attended games while growing up.

"We've already seen some preliminary drawings, and I'm going to be very retro with it," Snyder told CSN. "It's gonna feel like RFK. It's gonna move like RFK. I love that. I actually asked architectural firms to do it, and they said that they can do it. I said that I think the lower-bowl sections are going to want to rock the stadium like the old days."



AP photo

In this March 27, 1971, file photo, Villanova University basketball coach Jack Kraft, left, congratulates UCLA coach John Wooden after Wooden's Bruins defeated Villanova, 69-62, to win the NCAA championship in Houston. Villanova officials say former head basketball coach John "Jack" Kraft, who led the Wildcats to 238 victories over a dozen seasons and a 1971 title game appearance, died Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014, in New Jersey. He was 93.

## Kraft, former Villanova coach, dies at 93

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Jack Kraft, the Villanova basketball coach who guided the Wildcats to the 1971 NCAA title game and coached such players as Wali Jones, Bill Melchioni and Howard Porter, has died. He was 93.

He died Thursday in New Jersey, the school said in a statement Friday.

Kraft coached the Wildcats for a dozen seasons and finished with 238 victories and a 715 winning percentage. His teams went to the postseason in 11 of his 12 years.

"Coach Kraft was a winner, a gentleman and an outstanding coach," coach Jay Wright said. "His players loved and respected him. They stayed in touch with him until his final days."

In addition to Jones, Melchioni and Porter, Kraft coached such standouts as Jim Washington,

Johnny Jones, Fran O'Hanlon, Chris Ford, Hank Siemontkowski and Tom Ingelsby.

In 1971, a 23-6 record brought the team to the Final Four for the first time since 1939. The Wildcats lost 68-62 in the final to a UCLA team coached by John Wooden.

Porter was honored as the tournament's outstanding player, but that was later nullified and Villanova was disqualified. Porter was deemed ineligible for professional basketball connections. In 2007, Porter died at 58 after an illness he was found severely beaten in his alley.

Kraft came to Villanova in 1961 from nearby Malvern Prep, succeeding Al Severance. His first team finished with a 21-7 record and made it to the NCAA playoffs, the first of six tournament appearances during his stay.

Kraft, who later coached at the University of Rhode Island, was honored at the Pavilion in 2011, 50 years after his first win, before many former players.

## Palmer leads after first round of Deutsche Bank

NORTON, Mass. — Ryan Palmer took only 21 puts Friday at TPC Boston and birdied half of his holes. That gave him an 8-under 63 and a two-shot lead over Keegan Bradley after the opening round of the Deutsche Bank Championship.

Palmer didn't miss a putt inside 15 feet and closed off his round with a pitching wedge to 18 feet, making the downhill putt for his ninth birdie.

Bradley matched his low round of the season, though what meant more was the timing. This is the final week before U.S. captain Tom Watson decides which three players he will pick to fill out his Ryder Cup team. Bradley always seemed like a logical choice, though he wants to leave nothing to chance. He played bogey-free in a gentle breeze.

Rory McIlroy was brilliant at times and sloppy at other times in his round of 70.

In other golf news: ■ I.K. Kim increased her lead to three strokes in the LPGA Tour's Portland Classic, shooting a 5-under 67 to reach 12 under.

The South Korean player had seven birdies and two bogeys in her morning round in cloudy, calm conditions at Columbia Edgewater. She won the last of her three LPGA Tour titles in 2010, and had a victory this summer in a Ladies European Tour event in England.

Spain's Carlota Ciganda and South Korea's Mi Jung Hur shot 65 to join Laura Diaz at 9 under. Diaz had a 68.

■ Tom Pernice Jr. and Bart Bryant matched the Canyon Meadows record at 8-under 62 to share the first-round lead in the Champions Tour's Shaw Charity Classic at Calgary, Alberta.

The 54-year-old Pernice birdied his first five holes — Nos. 10-14 — and had 10 birdies and two bogeys on the rain-softened course.

## DON'T LOSE YOUR MILITARY DEPLOYMENT BENEFITS!

More rebates on 2015 models than anywhere else

- Rebates on 2014 models ready to deliver
- Exclusive Freedom Specials
- Order here for Stateside Delivery
- Custom Order a vehicle or choose from large available inventory
- Cancel without penalty\*

### Leaving Afghanistan? Act today, before you go home!

Visit [encs.com](http://encs.com) online 24/7!

to speak with a Sales Representative

- Product Questions
- Order Your Vehicle
- Customer Service

Authorized Ford Sales Representative To The U.S. Armed Forces For Ford

\*Cancellation of your Sales Representative benefit benefits in writing. See your Sales Representative for details. All rebates are subject to availability. Rebates are subject to change and are the best of our knowledge and good faith at the time of publication. They are not a contract made by the manufacturer and the laws of regulations of any state, state or local government agency. Ford is an authorized contractor of the Exchange and NEXCO. Exchange New Car Sales is an authorized distributor to sell and distribute Ford vehicles. This advertisement does not constitute an offer. For more information, visit [www.exchange-nexco.com](http://www.exchange-nexco.com) or the Federal Government is not responsible for errors. ©2014, FORD MOTOR CO.

## AUTO RACING/WNBA PLAYOFFS



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Sprint Cup Series driver Tony Stewart climbs out of his car after qualifying for Sunday's Oral B USA 500 race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Friday in Hampton, Ga. Stewart qualified in 12th place.

### Auto racing roundup

# Harvick wins Atlanta pole as Stewart returns to track

The Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. — Kevin Harvick took yet another pole this time with a big assist from Tony Stewart in the team owner's return to the track.

Harvick, in his first season with Stewart-Haas Racing, turned a fast lap of 190.398 mph Friday night to win the pole for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race Sunday night at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

It was Harvick's series-leading sixth pole of the season. He was the top qualifier for the second straight week after also topping qualifying at Bristol.

Despite his success in qualifying this season, Harvick said a poor first round of qualifying left him in need of guidance from Stewart, the co-owner of the team.

"The first run wasn't very good due to the driver not doing a good job," Harvick said.

Stewart, who qualified 12th in his return to racing, gave some pointers on where to race on the track. Stewart sat out three races after the sprint car he was driving struck and killed Kevin Ward Jr. Ward, 20, stepped on the upstate New York dirt track to confront Stewart during the Aug. 9 race.

"I felt like I had made a mistake the first run and never really got in the rhythm of doing exactly what he was doing," Harvick said. "He told me to go back to the way I was practicing and used to going around race tracks."

"It was definitely the right deci-

sion. He was definitely a big help in making sure. He had already run, knowing that it was going to be better lower."

Brad Keselowski will join Harvick on the front row after qualifying second at 190.053. Rounding out the top five were Kyle Larson, Ryan Newman and Matt Kenseth.

Stewart read a prepared statement in a news conference before the qualifying.

"It is good to have Tony back, obviously to be able to communicate with him and talk about racing and take that first step back," Harvick said.

After Harvick won the pole, he was approached by Stewart.

"It was just congratulations, good job and talking about what each other did with our cars," Harvick said. "It was all racing."

Keselowski said he was "very pumped" to qualify second.

"I just wish it would have been one more spot, and that's first place instead of second," Keselowski said. "That's the way it goes. Maybe we can find that one more spot here Sunday night. The car has been really fast so far."

Points leader Jeff Gordon qualified ninth. Dale Earnhardt Jr., who is chasing Gordon, was 20th. Joey Logano was 14th.

**IndyCar Series:** Rookie IndyCar driver Mikhail Aleshin was hospitalized in serious but stable condition Friday after a frightening crash in the final practice session for the series season finale.

Aleshin was taken away in an

ambulance and airlifted to nearby Loma Linda University Medical Center. The Russian driver has broken ribs and a broken right collarbone along with a concussion and chest injuries, an IndyCar spokesperson said.

At least three drivers played a role in the crash in Turn 4, which had a gaping hole in the catch fencing and a wheel wrapped in the fence after Aleshin's car violently flew up against it.

Aleshin, who drives for Sam Schmidt, spun when he went below the white line in the turn. He slid back up the track and collided with Charlie Kimball in a shower of sparks and smoke, sending Aleshin's car flying into the catch fence while spinning.

Kimball escaped serious injury, walking away from his ravaged car. Debris was strewn all over the track as safety personnel gathered around the wreck of Aleshin, who was removed on a stretcher.

Aleshin is the first Russian driver in IndyCar history, joining a team with Simon Pagenaud this year after a career in open-wheel racing in Europe. He is 15th in the overall points standings with seven top-10 finishes this season, including a career-best fifth-place finish at the Grand Prix of Indianapolis in May.

The 27-year-old Aleshin also had several run-ins with Sebastian Bourdais earlier in the season, and he was involved in an unusual crash with Juan Pablo Montoya in Toronto.

# Griner, Taylor lift Mercury over Lynx

By Al Bravo  
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A key third quarter stretch and tough defense on the league MVP has the Phoenix Mercury a win away from the WNBA Finals.

Brittney Griner had 23 points and 11 rebounds and the Mercury held off a late rally to beat the Minnesota Lynx 85-71 on Friday night in Game 1 of the best-of-3 Western Conference finals.

"Defensively we were just the team unit, so locked in, we have been so consistently good on the defensive end all season long and that was the key for us," Phoenix coach Sandy Brundello said.

In particular, defense on league scoring leader and MVP Maya Moore, who was held to nine points on 3 of 9 shooting.

"Obviously, DeWanna Bonner, she is a great defender," Brundello said. "She probably doesn't get that kind of recognition, as she should, but she is, and she is always locking down the best player. Maya Moore is a great player but I thought we executed quite well against her."

Penny Taylor added 16 points, 13 rebounds, seven assists and a pair of steals for the Mercury, who built a 25-point lead in the third quarter before Minnesota got within 10 in the final period.

"It's been tonight what I have been trying to do all season, is just fill the gaps, do what I can to lift the team when we need to," the 12th-year veteran Taylor said. "Tonight it was a lot of assists in the first half and then in the second, I tried to be more aggressive on the boards and that sort of thing."

Taylor missed her first three shots and then made 3 of 4 in the third when Phoenix pulled away.

Game 2 is Sunday in Minneapolis.

Minnesota coach Cheryl Reeve credited Phoenix for keeping her big scorer quiet on Friday.

"Early in the game I thought that Maya didn't have an understanding of what was avail-

able," Reeve said. "I thought that Phoenix, in typical fashion, their team defense was really good. So maybe where Maya had openings, they closed quickly and her recognition of what happens next was not very good."

Diana Taurasi added 17 points, six rebounds and five assists on an off-shooting night (5-for-15) while Bonner had 16 points and seven rebounds for Phoenix, which won three of four meetings with Minnesota during the regular season.

The Mercury held Minnesota to 40 percent shooting (29 of 73) and outboarded the Lynx 45-31.

"Everyone kind of took turns on making sure the boards were sound and when we do that it gives us a little more freedom on offense to go," Taurasi said.

Lindsay Whalen had 25 points to lead the Lynx. Rebekkah Brunson had 10 points and eight rebounds.

"We have some things to fix," Brunson said. "We didn't approach this game the way we should have but we know that we can play a lot better."

Whalen hit a three-pointer, had a steal and easy layup in a 17-8 run that got Minnesota to 75-64 with 5:16 left but Taylor drew a fifth foul on Moore and sank the free throws to give Phoenix a little breathing room. Taylor and Taurasi hit free throws in the final minute after the Lynx pulled to 81-71 with 1:30 left.

Taylor had eight points and a key alley-oop pass to Griner during a decisive 14-0 run midway through the third quarter that gave Phoenix a 63-39 lead over the defending WNBA champions.

The Lynx were 4-for-15 at one point in the third quarter, after trailing by just nine early in the period.

"That was probably the best stretch we've had on both sides of the ball this year," Taurasi said. "In a game where we obviously have to play at that level to beat them. That's just how good they are."



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Phoenix Mercury's Penny Taylor (13) drives past Minnesota Lynx's Simone Augustus (33) during the second half in Game 1 of the WNBA basketball Western Conference finals on Friday in Phoenix. The Mercury won 85-71.





MLB

# Giants' Posey goes 5-for-5 in victory

By JANIE McCAULEY  
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The way Buster Posey was swinging, manager Bruce Bochy figures he had at least one more hit in him.

Instead, they called it a night after Posey went 5-for-5 and drove in three runs in just six innings, leading the San Francisco Giants to a 13-2 rout of the Milwaukee Brewers on Friday night for their fourth straight win.

"It would have been nice for him to go for six, but the rest was more important," Bochy said.

Posey tripled in a pair of runs on the way to his second career five-hit game. The star catcher is batting .500 (20-for-40) with five home runs and 13 RBIs in his past nine games.

Gregor Blanco hit a two-run homer to back Ryan Vogelsong's first victory in four starts. The Giants scored a season high in runs and have their longest winning streak since five straight victories in early June.

San Francisco took a half-game lead on St. Louis in the wild-card race.

"We've got a short way to go but a long way to go," Vogelsong said.

Hunter Pence hit a trio of run-scoring singles, Joe Panik had four hits and Angel Pagan wound up a home run shy of the cycle.

The Giants' 19 hits were their second most in the 15-year history of AT&T Park behind 20 on Aug. 14, 2001, against the Marlins.

Vogelsong (8-9) snapped an 0-5 skid at home, where he had received zero runs of support in each of his previous five outings at AT&T Park. He went up two runs and four hits in seven innings.

Vogelsong's run support was his most ever, and he ended a three-start winless stretch with just his third victory since June



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

San Francisco Giants' Buster Posey watches his two-run triple against the Milwaukee Brewers in the fifth inning on Friday in San Francisco.

## Did you know

Buster Posey is the sixth Giants' player to get five hits in a game at AT&T Park and the first to do it twice.



SOURCE: The Associated Press

21. The Giants had lost his last seven home games.

"I'll take 13 all the time," the pitcher said. He worked on his curveball in the later innings and felt his off-speed stuff improved as he went along. The right-hander struck out the side in the seventh and his night was done.

Wily Peralta (15-9) was chased after his 22nd home run, helped Cleveland win for the fifth time in six games.

"Everything was off. I fell behind everybody," Peralta said. "I just have to forget it." Pence extended the NL's longest active hitting streak to 11 games with his first-inning RBI single.

The Giants scored in each of their first five innings at home for the first time since June 13, 2012, when Matt Cain pitched a perfect game.

"We are more loose and having fun again," Blanco said.

Before the game, Brewers' pitcher Matt Garza pitched a simulated game in which likely was his final test before returning from the disabled list to the Brewers' rotation next week.

As long as Garza comes through the outing without further problems when he reports to AT&T Park on Saturday, he could start as soon as Thursday at home against St. Louis. Manager Ron Roenicke said Garza threw his fastball, slider and curveball effectively.



The Cleveland Indians' Carlos Santana runs the bases past Kansas City Royals third baseman Mike Moustakas after hitting a two-run home run in the ninth inning on Friday in Kansas City, Mo.

## Roundup

# Hot Indians blast Royals

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Once again, Carlos Santana was a huge hit in Kansas City.

Santana, who homered five times at Kauffman Stadium in a series last month, hit a two-run homer as the Cleveland Indians topped the Royals 6-1 on Friday.

The loss cut the Royals' lead to a half-game over Detroit in the AL Central. Cleveland closed within 4 1/2 of Kansas City.

Santana connected in the ninth inning for his 22nd home run, helped Cleveland win for the fifth time in six games.

"I have teams, Minnesota, Kansas City, I have good sense when I come here," Santana said.

Santana said he hit a changeup from Franciscojano Bueno that was right down the middle. "I hope the streak continues," Indians manager Terry Francona said. "That's a nice swing. He can get streaky with his homers."

Boosted by his big four-game set in July, Santana is 14 for 26 with six homers, 13 RBIs and a 1.269 slugging percentage this year in Kansas City.

Santana also had an RBI single as he kept wrecking the Royals. He is hitting only .229 overall this year.

Danny Salazar (5-3) pitched four-hit ball for five shutout innings.

"I was feeling good with my fastball," Salazar said. "I was throwing it hard. That was my

only thought."

He didn't come back out after a 44-minute rain delay in the bottom of the sixth.

"We just couldn't get anything going offensively," Royals manager Ned Yost said.

Jason Vargas (10-7) gave up 10 hits and four runs in six innings. In his past two starts, both losses, he has allowed 21 hits in 12 innings.

Zach Walters hit an RBI double in the second to put Cleveland ahead.

The Royals did not score until the ninth on an RBI single by Alcides Escobar, who matched a career high with his fourth hit.

**Padres 3, Dodgers 2 (12):** Yasmani Grandal singled in the winning run with two outs in the 12th inning as host San Diego beat NL West-leading Los Angeles.

**Angels 4, Athletics 0:** Jered Weaver outpitched Jon Lester and Albert Pujols hit his 516th career homer as host Los Angeles extended its AL West lead over Oakland to three games.

**Nationals 8, Mariners 3:** Anthony Rendon hit one of Washington's four homers off Felix Hernandez as visiting Washington showed off its power while snapping a three-game losing streak.

**Pirates 2, Reds 1:** Josh Harrison hit an RBI triple and scored on Jose Tabata's tiebreaking single in the eighth inning as host Pittsburgh beat Cincinnati.

**Orioles 9, Twins 1:** Chris Davis hit his fourth career grand slam and host Baltimore got a

dominating pitching performance from Miguel Gonzalez to beat Minnesota.

**Tigers 7, White Sox 1:** Justin Verlander pitched seven solid innings and visiting Detroit won for the fifth time in six games.

**Yankees 6, Blue Jays 3:** Jacoby Ellsbury and Chase Headley homered as visiting New York doubled up Toronto.

**Cubs 7, Cardinals 2:** Jorge Soler hit two homers for the Cubs and fellow rookie Javier Baez had a tiebreaking two-run double in the eighth inning off All-Star reliever Pat Neshek as visiting Chicago beat St. Louis.

**Red Sox 8, Rays 4:** Rookie Mookie Betts hit his first career grand slam and Anthony Ranaudo pitched six effective innings to lead Boston over host Tampa Bay.

**Rangers 13, Astros 6:** Michael Choice and Rougned Odor each hit a three-run homer to power visiting Texas over Houston.

**Mets 4, Phillies 1:** Jacob deGrom pitched seven crisp innings and host New York scored the tiebreaking runs when Philadelphia left fielder Grady Sizemore dropped an easy pop fly.

**Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 2:** Jake Lamb hit a grand slam for his second career homer as host Arizona rallied to beat Colorado.

**Braves 5, Marlins 2:** Justin Upton homered and had three RBIs, Jason Heyward drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning as host Atlanta beat Miami and won its third straight.

## Scoreboard

FROM PAGE 28

### New York 6, Toronto 3

| New York        |            | Toronto    |              |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| ab              | r          | h          | bi           |
| Elliory cf      | 5          | 2          | 0            |
| Jeter ss        | 5          | 0          | 0            |
| Raabe 3b-2b     | 2          | 2          | 0            |
| Teixer lb       | 5          | 0          | 0            |
| McCann c        | 4          | 1          | 0            |
| Blanton dh      | 1          | 0          | 0            |
| Garza rf        | 3          | 1          | 1            |
| Beltran of      | 4          | 1          | 0            |
| Drew 2b         | 2          | 0          | 1            |
| Totally ph-3b   | 1          | 0          | 0            |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>37</b>  | <b>6</b>   | <b>4</b>     |
| <b>New York</b> | <b>000</b> | <b>000</b> | <b>501-6</b> |
| <b>Toronto</b>  | <b>000</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>200-3</b> |

| New York   |             | Toronto  |          |
|--|-------------|----------|----------|
| IP   | H           | R        | ER       |
| Chapman W-2.3  | 6           | 8        | 3        |
| Warren H-2.0   | 3           | 1        | 0        |
| Quinn  | 1           | 0        | 0        |
| Dav Robertson S-38   | 1           | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>11.9</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>7</b> |
| Blair L-1.9  | 6           | 7        | 4        |
| Loup   | 1           | 1        | 2        |
| Cecil  | 1           | 1        | 0        |
| McGowan  | 2           | 1        | 1        |
| Buehrle pitched to 4 batters in the 7th. Outman pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. HBP—by Warren (Bautista). T—3-20. A—45,318 (45,282). |             |          |          |

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL/NFL

## Cook, No. 8 Spartans top Jacksonville St.



AL GOLDS/AP

Michigan State quarterback Connor Cook (18) scrambles for yardage during the first quarter against Jacksonville State on Friday in East Lansing, Mich. The eighth-ranked Spartans won 45-7.

BY NOAH TRISTER  
The Associated Press

**EAST LANSING, Mich.** — Connor Cook threw a long touchdown pass for Michigan State's first points of the season — and coach Mark Dantonio's immediate reaction was concern.

"That's because Cook needed to be taped off the field after a late hit to his left leg.

"That looked pretty ugly out there, but he rebounded after that, and he went right back in the football game," Dantonio said. "I'm pretty sure he's fine, based on how he played."

Cook shook off that early scare to finish with three touchdown passes, and No. 8 Michigan State rolled to an easy 45-7 victory over Jacksonville State on Friday.

Cook completed his first nine passes in a nearly flawless performance. He sat out the second half after going 12 of 13 for 285 yards.

Michigan State won the Big Ten and the Rose Bowl last year, thanks to its outstanding defense, and although that unit lost a few

standouts, it was hard to tell the difference in this season open against the Gamecocks.

Jacksonville State is considered one of the top teams in the Football Championship Subdivision, but the Spartans showed no vulnerability to an upset in this one.

"They're every bit as good as advertised," said John Grass, who was in his first game as Jacksonville State's coach after being promoted from offensive coordinator. "I was proud of our kids on how we finished the game. We dug a hole early and you can't do that against a team like Michigan State. They've got a team that's going to make a run at a national championship. I really believe that."

Talk such as that would have been put on hold if Cook had been seriously injured. The talented junior made a nice throw on the run to Tony Lippett for a 64-yard touchdown to open the scoring, but Jacksonville State's Polo Johnson came diving in and hit Cook around the knee.

"I was a little dinged, but nothing too serious," Cook said. "I

hadn't really gotten hit like that in a while."

Cook was able to come back for Michigan State's next drive, and he threw a 71-yard TD pass to Lippett on his next pass. A 17-yard strike to AJ Troup made it 21-0.

When the Spartans opened the season last year, they weren't sure who their starting quarterback should be, and the offense was woeful for the first month or so.

Cook grew more comfortable as the season progressed, and now Michigan State is hopeful its offense can take some pressure off that reliable defense.

"When you have an explosive offense like that clicking, it's dangerous for any team to be playing against," Michigan State safety Kurtis Drummond said. "Seeing them come out there clicking early like that is getting us more confidence and allowing us to play more at ease."

Lippett had four catches for a career-high 167 yards. Backup quarterbacks Tyler O'Connor ran for a 3-yard score in the third to make it 45-7.

## NFL notes

## League hands 49ers' Smith 9-game suspension

The Associated Press

**SANTA CLARA, Calif.** — The San Francisco 49ers have been preparing for months to play on without Aldon Smith over an extended period.

Now they know the exact timeframe: He is suspended for more than half the season.

The star linebacker received his nine-game penalty from the league Friday stemming from a series of off-field legal issues.

A statement from the NFL said Smith had violated the NFL's substance abuse and personal conduct policies. Smith won't be eligible to return until Nov. 10, the day after the 49ers' game against the New Orleans Saints.

"Our organization has known this decision would come and we have prepared for it as a team," 49ers general manager Trent Baalke said in a statement. "Aldon has taken responsibility for his actions and has continued to show growth personally and professionally. We will continue to support him, but it is time to put this matter behind us and focus on the season ahead."

The 24-year-old Smith, one of the NFL's top pass rushers, missed five games last season to undergo treatment at an in-patient facility following his DUI arrest Sept. 20.

It was unclear whether Commissioner Roger Goodell would consider that absence toward time served. Smith was suspended two days after Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon's indefinite suspension by the NFL was upheld and he will miss at least 16 games for another violation of the league's

substance abuse policy.

Just before training camp began last month, Smith was sentenced to serve three years of probation and to spend 11 days with a work crew after he pleaded no contest to drunken driving and weapons charges.

He has repeatedly said he has been sober since his DUI arrest last September. Smith played in a 27-7 home loss to the Colts on Sept. 22, two days after he was arrested and jailed on suspicion of DUI and marijuana possession. After the game, he publicly apologized for his behavior and later announced he would leave for treatment.

In his latest run-in with the law, Smith was arrested April 13 at Los Angeles International Airport. Police said Smith was randomly selected for a secondary screening and became uncooperative with the process, telling a TSA agent that he had a bomb. No charges were filed.

In November, he pleaded not guilty to three felony counts of illegal possession of an assault weapon, stemming from a June 2012 party at his home. Investigators said several shots were fired, two partygoers were injured and Smith was stabbed. In the investigation, prosecutors say detectives found five unregistered, illegal weapons in Smith's house.

## Cowboys' Dixon fined for hit against Miami

**IRVING, Texas** — Rookie Dallas safety Ahmad Dixon has been fined \$22,050 for a hit on Miami receiver Matt Hazel in a pre-



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

San Francisco 49ers linebacker Aldon Smith, above, was suspended for nine games by the NFL after a series of off-field legal issues. A statement on Friday from the league said Smith had violated the NFL's substance abuse and personal conduct policies.

season game last week.

Dixon was penalized for unnecessary roughness for hitting Hazel after the ball had sailed past him near the goal line in the Dolphins' 25-20 win last Saturday. He was fined for hitting a defenseless player in the head and neck area.

While at Baylor last year, Dixon was ejected from a game under the college targeting rule for hitting a receiver with his helmet.

## Source: Bills, QB Orton agree on 1-year deal

**ORCHARD PARK, N.Y.** — A person familiar with the deal has confirmed the Buffalo Bills have agreed to sign veteran quarterback Kyle Orton to a one-year

contract in addressing a key need behind starter EJ Manuel.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity Saturday because the Bills have not announced the deal. ESPN first reported the agreement Friday night.

Orton is an eight-year veteran, who spent the past two seasons with Dallas before being cut in mid-July.

He was Chicago's fourth-round pick in 2005, and also played in Denver and Kansas City. He has a 35-35 career record.

The signing was Buffalo's latest quarterback shuffle during a week in which Jordan Palmer was signed and released, and after Thad Lewis also was cut.

## Green-Ellis, Moorman among list of cuts

Running back BenJarvus Green-Ellis was released by the Bengals on Friday, among a handful of players out of jobs — for now — as NFL teams started to trim their rosters to get down to the mandatory 53 players by Saturday afternoon.

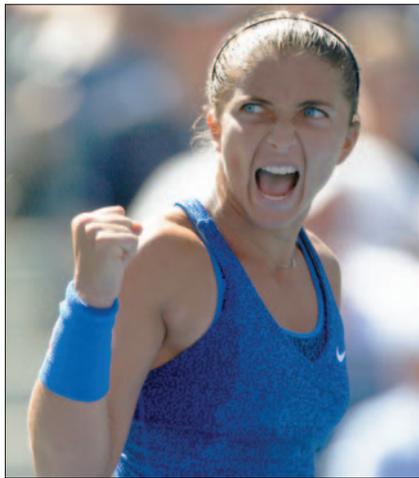
Green-Ellis was Cincinnati's top rusher the past two seasons, but the running back with the amusing nickname was made expendable once the Bengals drafted LSU's Jeremy Hill in the second round in May. Cincinnati also waived linebacker Brandon Joiner, defensive tackle LaKendrick Ross and quarterback Tyler Wilson.

Also among the announced cuts: Buffalo punter Brian Moorman and quarterback Jordan Palmer, Tampa Bay kicker Connor Barth, Jacksonville center Mike Brewster, Atlanta linebacker Pat Angerer and Chicago running back Jordan Lynch, a former Heisman trophy finalist as a quarterback at Northern Illinois.

Defensive end Larry English and offensive lineman Jamon Meredith also were among those released by the Buccaneers. Also among Atlanta's cuts were linebacker Yavin Smallwood, a seventh-round pick from Connecticut, and wide receiver Freddie Martino, who caught a 67-yard touchdown pass in Thursday's 24-14 preseason win at Jacksonville.

Washington waived punter Robert Malone, leaving Tress Way as the apparent winner of the Redskins' punting competition.

# US OPEN



MATT ROUKE/AP

**13th-seeded Sara Errani reacts after a point against Venus Williams during the third round of the 2014 U.S. Open on Friday in New York.**

## Scoreboard

### U.S. Open

**Friday**  
**At The USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center**  
**New York**

**Purse: \$3.8 million (Grand Slam)**  
**Surface: Hard-Outdoor**

#### Men

**Second Round**  
 Gael Monfils (20), France, def. Alejandro Gonzalez, Colombia, 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.  
 Kevin Anderson (18), South Africa, def. Jerzy Janowicz, Poland, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 6-1, 6-3.  
 Marin Cilic (14), Croatia, def. Ilya Marchenko, Ukraine, 7-6 (2), 6-2, 6-4.  
 David Ferrer (4), Spain, def. Bernard Tomic, Australia, walkover.  
 Grigor Dimitrov (7), Bulgaria, def. Dudi Sela, Israel, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.  
**Final Four**  
 Feliciano Lopez (19), Spain, def. Tatsumi Ito, Japan, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4).  
 David Goffin, Belgium, def. Joao Sousa (32), Portugal, 6-4, 6-2, 6-0.  
 Richard Gasquet (12), France, def. Paolo Lorenzi, Italy, 7-6 (4), 6-3, 6-3.  
 Gilles Simon (26), France, def. Federico Delbonis, Argentina, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.  
 Roberto Bautista Agut (17), Spain, def. Tim Smyczek, United States, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.  
**Dominic Thiem, Austria, def. Ernests Gulbis (11), Latvia, 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.**  
 Teymuraz Gabashvili, Russia, def. Alexander Kudryavtsev, Russia, 6-1, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

#### Women

**Second Round**  
 Adrian Panararo, France, def. Fabio Fognini (15), Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1.  
 Tomas Berdych (6), Czech Republic, def. Martin Klizan, Slovakia, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.  
 Marcel Granollers, Spain, def. Ivo Karlovic (25), Croatia, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-3, 6-4.  
 Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Sam Groth, Australia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.  
**Third Round**  
 Jelena Jankovic (9), Serbia, def. Johanna Larsson, Sweden, 6-1, 6-4, 6-1.  
 Peng Shuai, China, def. Roberta Vinci (28), Italy, 6-4, 6-3.  
 Sara Errani (13), Italy, def. Venus Williams (19), United States, 6-0, 6-4, 7-6 (5).  
 Mirjana Lucic-Baroni, Croatia, def. Simona Halep (2), Romania, 7-6 (6), 6-2.  
 Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, def. Angelique Kerber (6), Germany, 6-1, 7-5.  
 Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Alize Cornet (22), France, 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-4.  
 Caroline Wozniacki (10), Denmark, def. Andrea Petkovic (18), Germany, 6-3, 6-2.  
 Maria Sharapova (5), Russia, def. Sabine Lisicki (26), Germany, 6-2, 6-4.

#### Boys

**Second Round**  
 Mariusz Fyrsztenberg and Marcin Matkowski, Poland, def. Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah (16), Colombia, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.  
 Erubatur, United States, and Raven Klaassen (12), South Africa, def. Robert Lindstedt, Sweden, and Jurgen Metzger, Austria, 6-1, 6-2, 6-0, retired.  
 Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, and Phillip Oswald, Austria, def. Martin Emmrich, Germany, and Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.

David Marrero and Fernando Verdasco (7), Spain, def. Mate Pavic, Croatia, and Andre Sa, Brazil, 7-6 (4), 7-5.  
 Daniel Nestor, Canada, and Nenad Zimonjic (3), Serbia, def. Nicolas Pietrangeli and Santiago Giraldo, Colombia, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.

Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, and Michael Venus, New Zealand, def. Daniele Bracciali and Andreas Seppi, Italy, 6-2, 6-4.  
 Scott Lipsky and Rajeev Ram, United States, def. Michael Mmoh and Francis Tiafoe, United States, 6-1, 6-4.  
 Leander Paes, India, and Radek Stepanek (6), Czech Republic, def. Yen-hsun Lu, Taiwan, and Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 7-6 (3), 6-3.

#### Women

**Second Round**  
 Garbine Muguruzza and Carla Suarez Navarro (12), Spain, def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, and Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-3.  
 Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, and Zheng Jie (8), China, def. Alison Riske and Coco Vandeweghe, United States, 6-7 (2), 6-3, 6-3.  
 Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, and Barbora Zlahlava Strycova, Czech Republic, def. Chan Hao-ching and Chan Yung-jan, Taiwan (14), 6-3, 6-2.  
 Averta Peschke, Czech Republic, and Katarina Srebotnik (5), Slovenia, def. Varvara Lepchenko, United States, and Zheng Saisai, China, 6-4, 6-4.  
 Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina (4), Russia, def. Petra Cetkovic, Czech Republic, and Katarzyna Piter, Poland, 6-4, 6-1.  
 Zarina Diyas, Kazakhstan, and Xu Yifan, China, def. Lauren Davis, United States, and Renata Voracova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 7-6 (6).  
 Vania King and Lisa Raymond, United States, def. Christina McHale, United States, and Anna Schmiedlova, Slovakia, 6-0, 6-2.

Serena and Venus Williams, United States, def. Oksana Kalashnikova, Georgia, and Olga Savchuk, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-1.  
**First Round**  
 Ashleigh Barty and John Peers, Australia, def. Asia Muhammad and Taylor Harry Fritz, United States, 5-2, 6-2.  
 Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, and Robert Farah, Colombia, def. Raquel Kops-Jones, United States, and Juan Sebastian Cabal (8), Colombia, 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.  
 Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Raven Klaassen, South Africa, def. Mihaela Krajcik, Netherlands, and Marin Draganja, Croatia, 7-6 (1), 6-2.  
 Taylor Townsend and Donald Young, United States, def. Jacqueline Cako and Jodi Knoczek, United States, 7-5, 6-3.  
 Chan Hao-ching, Taiwan, and Max Mirnyi, Belarus, def. Lucie Hradecka, Czech Republic, and Horia Tecau (9), Romania, 6-3, 6-3.  
 Abigail Spears, United States, and Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, def. Tímea Babos, Hungary, and Eric Butorac, United States, 7-6 (6), 1-6, 10-5.  
 Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, and Alexander Popov (2), Austria, def. Arantxa Parra Santonja and David Marrero, Spain, 6-3, 5-7, 11-9.

# Venus falls to Errani

## Italian holds off two-time Open champ

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
 The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A day before facing Venus Williams — and a partisan crowd — at the U.S. Open, Italy's Sara Errani came across a video posted on Twitter that gave her a little extra motivation.

It showed a pair of former players and coaches, Brad Gilbert and Darren Cahill, forecasting Friday at Flushing Meadows. Both picked Williams to win.

The 13th-seeded Errani's ears perked up particularly when Gilbert referred to her "cottage cheese" serve and predicted she'd win only four games.

So much for that. In a riveting third-round match of wild momentum swings, the 19th-seeded Williams, a two-time U.S. Open champion, came within two points of victory four times before succumbing to Errani 6-0, 0-6, 7-6 (5).

"Let's just say that during the match I thought about that (video) more than once," said Errani, who pounded her chest with a fist and put a finger to her lips on court as if to hush doubters — or the loud folks in Arthur Ashe Stadium pulling for her American opponent.

Errani is listed at 5-foot-4½ — 8½ inches shorter than Williams — and truly, there is just as big a disparity in their serving. Errani's top speed Friday was 88 mph, about 30 mph slower than Williams. Errani's second serves were in the low 60s mph, but she



MATT ROUKE/AP

**19th-seeded Venus Williams came within two points of victory four different times before ultimately succumbing to Sara Errani 6-0, 0-6, 7-6 (5) at 2014 U.S. Open in New York on Friday.**

got 86 percent of her first serves in.

"I know (people) say my serve is terrible, but it helped me get to where I've been," Errani said. "It's not easy to improve it. It's definitely one of my weak points, but today it helped me."

Her next opponent will be another surprise winner: 32-

year-old qualifier Mirjana Lucic-Baroni of Croatia, who eliminated No. 2-seeded Simona Halep of Romania 7-6 (6), 6-2.

No. 5 Maria Sharapova, a five-time major champion, avoided that sort of upset by beating 2013 Wimbledon runner-up Sabine Lisicki 6-2, 6-4 in a match that

ended after midnight.



JASON DECROW/AP

**Maria Sharapova returns a shot to Sabine Lisicki during the third round of the U.S. Open on Friday in New York. Sharapova won 6-2, 6-4 in a match that ended after midnight.**

## SPORTS



## Enemy territory

Italian Errani holds off Venus Williams before partisan crowd | **US Open, Page 31**

MLB

# Under review

## Could tweaks to MLB replay rule be in store for postseason play?

First base umpire Doug Eddings, left, and second base umpire Brian O'Nora, right, watch a replay on the giant screen during a game between the Milwaukee Brewers and the Miami Marlins in Miami.

ALAN DIAZ/AP

BY BEN WALKER

*The Associated Press*

**J**ohn Gibbons has a pretty standard rule for deciding when to discuss a bang-bang call with an umpire. "We try to go out there anytime it's close," the Toronto manager says.

Same way across the majors: There have been more than 1,000 reviews so far in this new era of expanded replay — nearly half resulting in a reversal — and it's only August.

Now get ready for an even longer postseason parade of that slow dance, where the skipper strolls onto the field, twirls around the ump and waits for the go-or-no sign from the dugout.

Makes sense, too.

**SEE RULE  
ON PAGE  
27**

**Red-hot Posey goes 5-for-5 as Giants defeat Brewers | MLB, Page 29**