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Minn. officer charged in shooting that was streamed on Facebook

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Nationals' Scherzer claims his second Cy Young Award

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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2016

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Free to Deployed Areas



Trainee maintainers check a manual on the ScanEagle unmanned aerial vehicle at a school outside Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan, on Oct. 26.

PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
Stars and Stripes

## WAR ON TERRORISM

### AFRICOM's Islamic State hunt stretches across Libya

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — U.S. Africa Command is tracking Islamic State fighters who have fled the battle in the coastal Libyan city of Sirte, a possible prelude to more expansive U.S. airstrikes in the country, the top U.S. general for Africa said.

"We have to continue to develop those targets and have certainty of who we are seeing and what the activities are," AFRICOM's Gen. Thomas Waldhauser said in an interview with Stars and Stripes late Wednesday.

"We just need to have that level of certainty if we decide to strike outside the limits of Sirte."

The move to neutralize Islamic State fighters in other parts of Libya comes amid concerns the group could regroup and threaten the North African nation's fragile government or infiltrate into neighboring states, Waldhauser said.

"We need to leverage that success (in Sirte) by watching where these individuals go, keeping track of where they are," he said. "Because what we don't want them to do is re-emerge, come back, attack Tripoli, attack the (government) forces, who are in Sirte, from behind."

More than three months into Operation Odyssey Lightning — the U.S. aerial campaign targeting Islamic State fighters in Sirte — Libyan government forces have backed the insurgents into a corner.

SEE HUNT ON PAGE 7

# AFGHAN EYES IN THE SKIES

Drone program may help native forces see way to self-sustainment

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP SHAHEEN, Afghanistan — Inside a two-story schoolhouse on this Afghan military base near the northern town of Mazar-e-Sharif, several students are training to become part of the country's first surveillance drone program.

Afghan forces rely heavily on international forces for their air surveillance and reconnaissance, but Afghanistan's military and its foreign backers hope that a

**'We're training the  
Afghans to take over this  
mission on their own.'**

Ben Meyle  
former sergeant with the 303rd Cavalry  
Regiment, who supervises ScanEagle instruction

new fleet of Afghan-owned and -operated ScanEagle unmanned aerial vehicles will

allow them to acquire more battlefield intelligence themselves and become less dependent on foreign forces.

"We're training the Afghans to take over this mission on their own," said Ben Meyle, 31, a former Army sergeant with the 303rd Cavalry Regiment, who supervises the ScanEagle instruction. "Right now we do a lot of the (surveillance) missions here in Afghanistan and we want to see the Afghans take over their own country."

SEE EYES ON PAGE 3

**'We need to leverage  
that success (in Sirte)  
by watching where  
these individuals  
go, keeping track of  
where they are.'**

Gen. Thomas Waldhauser  
AFRICOM commander

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**“Jaws” is about a predator. This case is about two. You are about to see the hunt.”**

— Larry Yellin, Orange County Deputy District Attorney, in the case against Steven Dean Gordon and another man. Gordon, a convicted sex offender, is charged with raping and killing four Southern California women while he wore an electronic monitor.

See story on Page 9

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2. Veteran's service dog kicked off from college campus because it was 'drift threat'
3. White House supports controversial changes to Navy ratings
4. Hezbollah has US armored personnel carriers. But how did they get them?
5. Trump wants 350-ship Navy, but how and why?

## COMING SOON

Science and Medicine

Why some think it's fun to be frightened



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## MILITARY

# US is disputing Jordan's claim of shooting cause

By SAM MCNEIL  
Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — The U.S. Embassy in Jordan on Thursday disputed Amman's claim that U.S. trainers sparked a deadly shooting incident at a Jordanian military base this month by disobeying orders from Jordanian soldiers. The shooting killed three Americans.

The three slain Americans were assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) from Fort Campbell, Ky. They were identified as Staff Sgt. Matthew C. Lewellen, 27, of Lawrence, Kan., Staff Sgt. Kevin J. McEnroe, 30, of Tucson, Ariz., and

Staff Sgt. James F. Moriarty, 27, of Kerrville, Texas.

They died after the convoy they were in came under fire as it entered the al-Jafr air base in southern Jordan on Nov. 4. The Americans were in Jordan on a training mission.

Embassy spokesman Eric Barbee told The Associated Press on Thursday that U.S. investigators are considering all possible motives and “have not yet ruled out terrorism.”

After the shooting, Jordan's state news agency Petra reported that the slain American military trainers had disobeyed direct orders from Jordanian troops, which led to a deadly exchange of



STEVE RUARK/AP

An Army carry team moves a transfer case Nov. 7 containing the remains of Staff Sgt. James Moriarty past Army Secretary Eric Fanning, center, Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence Marcel Lettre, third from right, and Gen. Daniel B. Allyn, right, Army vice chief of staff, at Dover Air Force Base, Del. According to the Department of Defense, Moriarty, 27, of Kerrville, Texas, died of wounds sustained on Nov. 4 in Jordan.

small-arms fire.

Barbee said there's “absolutely no credible evidence” for the claim. Jordan later issued a different statement removing the claim.

A fourth American soldier was wounded in the incident, as well as the Jordanian soldier who opened fire, and has not yet been identified.

Brett McGurk, the White House

envoy to the U.S.-led coalition against the Islamic State group, said Jordan's King Abdullah II expressed condolences over the deaths of the Americans.

McGurk also said an investigation is ongoing and praised Jordan's role in the fight against the Islamic State group, which holds territory in neighboring Syria and Iraq.

## Soldiers join locals to make kimchi for the needy

By KIM GAMEL  
Stars and Stripes

DONGDUCHON, South Korea — A group of soldiers got a taste of Korea when they joined local volunteers Thursday to make kimchi for needy people while building community relations.

The 40 soldiers from the Fort Sill, Okla.-based 2-18 Field Artillery Battalion rotated into South

Korea last month to join the 210th Field Artillery Brigade, which is stationed near the border with North Korea.

For many, this was their first excursion into the city and their first taste of the traditional fermented dish made of vegetables and seasonings, not to mention making it.

“It was fun making something new and unique,” Pfc. Billy Stephenson, 20, of Port Arthur, Texas, said before lining up for a hard-earned lunch.

The soldiers wore plastic aprons over their uniforms and donned pink rubber gloves as they filled cabbage leaves with a spicy vegetable mixture with the guidance of South Korean women at long tables in the courtyard of the Dongducheon Volunteer Center.

“While I'm in country I might as well come out here and learn some of the culture, meet some of the people out here,” said Pvt. Hunter Whitfield, 20, of Mechanicsville, Va. “The ladies were funny and



KIM GAMEL/Stars and Stripes

South Koreans teach U.S. soldiers with the 210th Field Artillery Brigade how to make kimchi on Thursday at a volunteer center in Dongducheon, South Korea.

cool. They offered me some soju (a Korean alcoholic beverage), but I said no, obviously.”

Lee Soo-yeon, president of the local chapter of the Korean Women's Association, said she usually

participates in the annual event. “It's an opportunity to help each other and build a friendship,” she said.

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## Correction

A Nov. 17 article should have said four Afghan commandos were killed and three U.S. troops were wounded along with several other Afghan soldiers in a February firefight in which the actions of Staff Sgt. Keaton Thiem earned him a Silver Star.

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## MILITARY

# Eyes: Unfamiliarity with technology, tools poses challenge for training program

## FROM FRONT PAGE

Afghan forces currently use manned Pilatus PC-12 planes to conduct surveillance missions, but they are planning to expand their intelligence-gathering capabilities, especially in light of a recent surge in Taliban activity that has given the insurgents control of more territory than at any time since a U.S.-led invasion ousted them from power in 2001.

"The government of Afghanistan recognizes the need for better intelligence to enable it to secure the nation against the constant insurgent threat," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Robert Faith, who advises the Afghan military on the ScanEagle program. "The ScanEagle was selected over additional manned aircraft and other unmanned aircraft systems based on its capabilities, cost and sustainability."

The ScanEagle school opened in April after nearly a year of planning. The first class of students graduated in October. A small cadre of Afghan officers and non-commissioned officers manages the school, while American contractors employed by Insitu — a subsidiary of aviation giant Boeing — provide the instruction.

All of the students here come from the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces. The current class consists of 10 trainee pilots; four trainee maintainers, who perform maintenance on the drones and the equipment needed to fly them; and six students training to become mission coordinators and analysts, who ensure the aircraft fly over the right targets and analyze the images collected.

Scores of qualified servicemembers are needed in all of those roles for the Afghans to maintain an indigenous surveillance drone program to cover the country's most contested areas.

There are plans for at least one ScanEagle detachment to be built into each of the Afghan army's six regional corps. Each will provide surveillance of conflict areas and will be able to operate sophisticated cameras in day and night operations.

The first detachment is already operating in the restive southern province of Helmand. The ScanEagle school's first group of graduates is there providing real-time intelligence to the ANA's 215th Corps under the advice of Insitu contractors, who all previously have operated coalition ScanEagle sites around Afghanistan.

"The ScanEagle school graduates are flying daily flights, locating Taliban insurgents and working with the 215th Corps commander to enable airstrikes and ground troop maneuvers to kill or disrupt insurgent operations and kill or capture insurgents around Helmand province," Faith said.

While the Afghans oversee and operate the flights, operations in Helmand and at future ScanEagle detachments will continue to function under the advice of U.S. military personnel and international contractors until the Afghans are able to confidently run the program on their own, officials said.

## Training challenges

ScanEagle unmanned aircraft systems are equipped with high-definition and infrared cameras that can produce live video feeds. The aircraft, with a wingspan of about 10 feet, can stay airborne for up to 24 hours at an altitude of 15,000 feet. Each costs about \$100,000.

"It's really effective," said Cody Cavender, 35, a former Army sergeant who trains maintainers at the ScanEagle school. "The camera has really good optics for its size, and it can provide the Afghans with a lot more situational awareness of what's going on around them without necessarily putting people in harm's way."



PHOTOS BY PHILIP WALTER WELLMAN/Stars and Stripes

ScanEagle instructor Chris Schoenen helps a student who is training to become a surveillance drone pilot at a school outside the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan, in October.



Instructor Cody Cavender helps set up the ScanEagle drone launcher outside a training center in October near Mazar-e-Sharif.

But for the drones to be effective, the people operating them must become experts at what they are doing. According to the instructors, training Afghan students to use this high-tech equipment has been challenging.

"The majority of the students haven't had a lot of exposure to computer systems or laptops and such, so teaching them the technology, you kind of have to stand back and think, 'How deep do I need to go so that they're confident?'" said Patrick Polley, 62, who retired from the Navy in 1994 and has been working for Insitu for more than eight years.

Patrick said some of the Afghan troops learning how to become drone maintainers had never used tools before they came

to the school.

"Back home, everybody grew up either working on a bicycle or working on a car or a motorcycle, or something like that. That's not the norm here," he said. "So getting people to understand the basic concept of tools, that's a challenge."

Another challenge is that many of the students aren't fluent in English, the language in which ScanEagle manuals are written and classes are held. Constant support from interpreters is required. For all of those reasons, the training in Afghanistan takes about three times longer than it would in the United States.

## Seeking self-sufficiency

Organizers are optimistic that quali-

fied Afghans will be operating ScanEagle detachments in all regions of the country within the next three years. That's important, they say, because of uncertainty over future international troop numbers.

Most foreign forces left Afghanistan at the end of 2014, when NATO's combat operations ended and were replaced by a training-and-advising mission. There are currently about 13,000 NATO troops in Afghanistan, of whom nearly 7,000 are American. About 3,000 other American troops are in the country on a separate counterterrorism mission.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said in July that coalition troop levels in 2017 would remain at about the same level as they are now, but those numbers could change. The goal is to keep supporting Afghan forces until they are self-sufficient. One of their biggest weaknesses has been in air power.

"They've already lost a lot of support, so the more support they use from the multinational forces, they're going to need something to offset that, so this will help out," said Kristen Kokkeby, 37, a former Army sergeant with the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, who is training pilots at the ScanEagle school.

But the ScanEagle program will help Afghan forces become self-sufficient only if other areas of the military are improved, Kokkeby said.

"To me, this is just a very small piece of the whole pie," he said. "You got to build the rest of the pie, too, in order to make it work because if you don't have the other pieces then it's just an expensive asset that's flying around," he said.

"It's a way to serve our country and our countrymen," said Mohammad H., a trainee pilot. "Our countrymen need peace, and we are going to bring peace to our country."

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## MILITARY

# Navy secretary defends changes to rating system

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — The secretary of the Navy assured sailors at an all-hands call here Wednesday that changes in the Navy's ratings will benefit their lives and careers.

"I understand that there's a lot of churn about it," Ray Mabius told several hundred gathered sailors. "I also understand that a lot of the churn is coming from the alumni association, the retired community."

Mabius ribbed the traditionalists naysayers by joking that the Navy was "pretty perfect" when he got out in 1972, and "then they went and messed it up."

"I think if you give the feedback in terms of how we do it, not whether we do it, it's going to be a way to a more flexible system," he said. "And when we hear that it's going against Navy tradition — not so much, not so much. We change rating structures all the time."

A petition opposing the proposed rating changes has gathered more than 100,000 signatures. The White House issued a statement Wednesday supporting the new system for the same reasons that Mabius outlined.

The changes would replace tra-

ditional Navy ratings such as boatswain's mate and gunner's mate with military occupational specialties common to other services.

Mabius' stop in Hawaii is part of what could be dubbed his legacy tour, which will include New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, as he prepares to retire in January.

"I'm winding down," he said. "I'll leave the day the president leaves." Donald Trump assumes the presidency from Barack Obama on Jan. 20.

The idea of changing the ratings came from the master chief petty officer of the Navy, not from Mabius or the chief of naval operations, he said. "But we support it."

"The only thing we were looking at in the beginning was a change in some of the titles to make them gender-neutral," he said. "We change titles all the time. When I was in [the Navy] people in my division were radar-men and signalmen. How many of those have we got today?"

But over the course of reviewing the rating system, it was determined to be too rigid, in some cases preventing promotions or getting the next duty station that sailors needed or wanted, Mabius said.

Using the example of aircraft technicians, he explained the



WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

Navy Secretary Ray Mabius, right, shown with Lt. Mark Snyder, defended controversial changes to the Navy's ratings.

benefits of the rating change.

"We have six different ratings for aircraft technician," he said. "Every one of them is pretty narrow. You're still going to have that one narrow thing, but while you're doing that, you can qualify on one or two or all the other five. So if you can't promote in your narrow specialty, maybe you can promote in one of the others. A lot of times because these specialties are so narrow, you have no next duty station or there's only one choice. This way, if you can't get to the next duty station that you want on your primary specialty, maybe you can get it in one of the others."

The rating changes are also expected to help sailors ease back into the civilian workforce. For example, an aircraft mechanic coming out of the Navy today can't easily get a job at civilian airlines because they need to "start over," Mabius said. "We're going to line up with the training and certification with what the [Federal Aviation Administration] has," he said.

Likewise with medical corpsmen. "Everybody in here knows what a corpsman does," he said. "I've got to tell you, not many

people on the outside do. And corpsman who are highly trained should be able to walk out the door and be [emergency medical technicians]. Can't do it now because the certification is not there."

One sailor asked whether this emphasis on transition to the civilian world was signaling a force reduction.

"That is not the idea," Mabius said. "We have no plans to reduce the force. From 2001 to 2008, we went down by 65,000, something like that. We're as lean as we can be right now — and we're bringing in a lot more ships."

But many particulars about the rating change, which will take place over two years, have yet to be worked out, Mabius said.

One sailor, reminding Mabius of the Navy adage, "Choose your rate, choose your fate," asked whether sailors would have a chance to "cross rate" under the new scheme.

"It ought to be a lot more," Mabius said. "It should open up in terms of cross ratings. That's one of the reasons it was done."

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## Air Force announces new command chief master sergeant

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

Kaiserslautern, Germany — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein has tapped the command chief master sergeant for U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa to be the Air Force's next top enlisted leader.

Chief Master Sgt. Kalet H. Wright is Goldfein's pick to be the 18th chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Goldfein announced Wednesday during a ceremony at the Pentagon. Wright will assume his new position in February after the retirement of Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody, who's been on the job since January 2013.

Wright is a four-time command chief with experience at the squadron, group, wing, numbered air force and major command levels. He's currently the command chief master sergeant for USAF-AFAPRICA at Ramstein Air Base.

Goldfein called choosing a chief master sergeant of the Air Force "the most critical personnel selection I will make during my tenure" because of the important relation-

ship between a senior officer and his or her senior enlisted leader.

"When it works — like it has — it's magic," he said in remarks from the ceremony that were recorded in a video posted to his official Facebook page.

Wright's Air Force career began in 1989 at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., where he was a dental assistant specialist with the 23rd Medical Group. He would go on to various assignments in the dental career field, including flight chief and squadron superintendent positions.

Besides his current command chief position, Wright was the

command chief master sergeant for the 22nd Air Refueling Wing at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan in Kabul, and the 3rd Air Force and 17th Expeditionary Air Force at Ramstein.

Goldfein noted that Wright was also a professional military education instructor and was one of the first enlisted members to complete the Air Force's Air War College program by correspondence.

Wright, who spoke briefly at the ceremony, said he and his wife, Tonya, were grateful and excited to serve as "the advocate for our

almost 400,000 enlisted airmen across" the Air Force.

"Seventeen giants have come this way before us," he said, referring to his predecessors. "We understand how important it is and how difficult it will be to fill their shoes but, I can tell you, we'll be ready."

Wright will be only the second black to serve in the Air Force's highest enlisted position since the job was created in 1967 during the Vietnam War. The first was Chief Master Sgt. Thomas N. Barnes, who was appointed to the job in 1973.

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## VA worker resigns, blames retaliation

By DAN ELLIOTT  
Associated Press

DENVER — A Department of Veterans Affairs employee who told Congress the agency was using unauthorized wait lists for mental health care in Colorado has resigned, saying he was subjected to retaliation for speaking out.

Brian Smothers told The Associated Press on Wednesday the VA had opened two separate inquiries into his actions and tried to get him to sign a statement saying he had broken VA rules.

Smothers also said the VA reassigned him to an office with no computer access, no significant duties and no social contact.

He called the VA's actions punitive and his working conditions intolerable. He said he resigned as of Tuesday.

VA officials had no immediate comment on Smothers' claim but said the agency does not tolerate retaliation. They said previously they take any allegation about unauthorized wait lists seriously and would launch an inquiry.

Smothers alleges that VA facilities in Denver and suburban Golden used wait lists for mental health services from 2012 until last September. He said the lists hid how long it takes for veterans to get treatment and made the demand for mental health care appear lower than it really was.

Smothers estimated the lists contained 3,500 entries but did not know how many individual veterans were on them because some names appeared multiple times.

Smothers was a peer support specialist on the VA's post-traumatic stress disorder clinical support team in Denver.

Smothers went to Republican Sens. Ron Johnson, of Wisconsin, and Cory Gardner, of Colorado, in September, saying he had uncovered the lists on spreadsheets in the VA computer system.

Smothers told the AP he had emailed copies of the spreadsheets to himself so he could provide them as evidence.

Smothers said that after he contacted the senators, the VA investigated whether his actions had violated agency rules and concluded they had not. He said the VA opened a second inquiry after discovering he had offered the lists on Amazon. That inquiry was still underway when he resigned, he said.

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## MILITARY

# UK: Islanders evicted for US base may not return

By JILL LAWLESS  
Associated Press

LONDON — Indian Ocean islanders who were forced from their homes decades ago to make way for a U.S. military base will not be allowed to return, the British government has announced.

Britain evicted about 2,000 people from the tropical Chagos archipelago, a British colony, in the 1960s and 1970s so the U.S. military could build an air base on Diego Garcia, the largest of the islands.

Chagossians have fought in British courts for years to return to the other islands. In June, the Supreme Court rejected their most recent appeal.

The British government announced Wednesday that it will continue to lease Diego Garcia to the U.S. until 2036. It said it has decided against letting the islanders return "on the grounds of feasibility, defense and security interests, and cost to the British taxpayer."

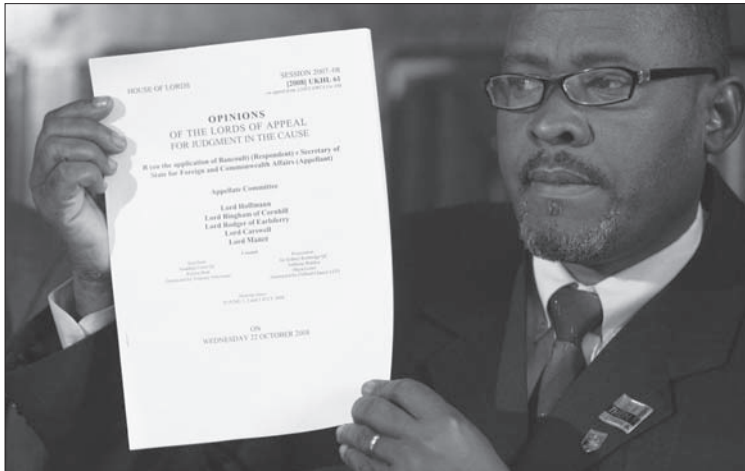
Foreign Office Minister Joyce Anelay said it would be impractical to set up "a small, remote community on low-lying islands."

Conservative lawmaker Andrew Rosindell said Thursday that the decision had caused "shock, anger and dismay" among islanders.

"These are British subjects, and they are entitled to the same rights and freedoms and self-determination that all British citizens should have," Rosindell told lawmakers in the House of Commons.

The government promised \$50 million in compensation to the displaced islanders.

The eviction of the islanders from their home halfway between Africa and Southeast Asia has long been controversial for Britain. U.K. authorities have expressed regret for the treatment of the islanders, but successive governments have blocked their attempts to return.



MATT DUNHAM/AP

Chagos Islander Olivier Bancout holds up a judgment paper at a news conference inside the Houses of Parliament in London in 2008 after a court ruling decided Chagos Islanders are not allowed to return to their homeland. The British government has announced the ruling will remain in force.



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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Russia says strike in Syria killed 30 al-Qaida fighters

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV  
AND PHILIP ISSA  
Associated Press

MOSCOW — A Russian airstrike in northern Syria this week killed at least 30 members of an al-Qaida-linked group, including some of its leaders, the Russian military said Thursday.

The statement comes amid a new wave of airstrikes in the war-torn country, with the besieged, rebel-held part of the city of Aleppo facing its third consecutive day of heavy bombardment by Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces.

The Russians, who announced the new offensive in Syria this week, have denied bombing the rebel enclave. At least 59 people were killed across northern Syria in the first two days of the offensive, including besieged neighborhoods of Aleppo, as well as the surrounding countryside and the nearby rebel-held province of Idlib.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said the strike targeted al-Qaida took place in Idlib on Tuesday. It was launched from Russia's aircraft carrier, which has been deployed to the Mediterranean, and hit the al-Qaida-linked militant group now known as Fatah al-Sham Front, he said.

The strike marked the combat debut of the Admiral Kuznetsov,

Russia's only aircraft carrier. According to Russian intelligence reports, it was confirmed that three prominent leaders of the al-Qaida-linked group — Muhammad Helala, Abu Jaber Harmuja and Abul Baha al-Asfari — were among those killed, Konashenkov added. He said al-Asfari had overseen the group's attempts to break the siege of Aleppo.

Russia has said its air raids and missile strikes have been targeting only Idlib province and the central province of Homs to root out militants of the Islamic State group and the al-Qaida-linked group.

Meanwhile, Syrian warplanes have been pounding rebel-held districts of Aleppo, home to nearly 275,000 people.

On Wednesday, bombs hit an Aleppo district that houses several medical facilities, including the central blood bank, and forced Syrian staff and patients in the only remaining pediatric hospital to cower in a basement as buildings collapsed around them.

The Russia-declared offensive came hours after President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President-elect Donald Trump discussed Syria in a phone call and agreed on the need to combine efforts in the fight against what the Kremlin called their No. 1 enemy — "international terrorism and extremism."

## Car bombs highlighted in Islamic State video

The Washington Post

As Iraqi troops slowly push into Mosul backed by heavy airstrikes, artillery and Western advisers, the Islamic State group is not only fighting back conventionally but also with slick propaganda footage showing its prowess on the battlefield.

A 26-minute video posted Monday has all the hallmarks of Islamic State films of its summary executions: high-definition footage and solid production. The video also uses drone footage to show the charred wreckage of Iraqi military vehicles and the U.S.-supplied equipment that the group plucked from them.

Although past Islamic State videos may have shown the group's battlefield victories, this video — while playing up small tactical successes — seems to exist to show that it is fighting tenaciously to hold Mosul even in the face of overwhelming force on the other side, including U.S. air power.

What also sets the footage apart is the dozen or so segments that show how the Islamic State is using vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices, or car bombs. It is unclear how many of the ex-

plosive-packed suicide trucks the Islamic State really has, but as the battle for Mosul enters its second month, it appears the group is well stocked — and using them almost daily.

The group uses car bombs to spearhead offensives, harass advancing troops and cover retreats, and it has become a key tactic to counter a well-supplied conventional military.

As Iraqi troops, including the Golden Division, an Iraqi special-forces unit, approached Mosul, they had the advantage of the open desert to detect and respond to incoming car bombers. Tanks and U.S. aircraft could easily target the vehicles.

During the Iraq War, suicide bombers could be stopped by shooting through the driver's windshield or disabling the engine with machine-gun fire, but Islamic State machine shops have turned civilian vehicles into armored monstrosities. These hulks are capable of carrying large amounts of explosives while protecting the driver from an array of shoulder-fired threats, from small arms to rockets.



FELPE DANA/AP

The body of Berzan Ibrahim Khelil, who was killed by a mortar during fighting between Iraqi forces and Islamic State militants, is carried to a cemetery on a cart by a relative Thursday in Mosul, Iraq.

## Weather stalls Mosul effort but deadly attacks continue

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA  
Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq — Poor weather and cloudy skies stalled an advance by Iraqi special forces into the northern city of Mosul, although they still faced deadly attacks by Islamic State militants that killed seven civilians and two soldiers.

The civilians were killed and 35 others were wounded when militants fired mortar rounds on government-controlled areas of eastern Mosul, said army medic Bashir Jabar, who is in charge of a field clinic run by the special forces.

One soldier was killed and three were wounded when a car packed with explosives sped from its hiding spot in a school complex in the eastern Tahrir neighborhood, rammed Iraqi troops' position and exploded in a ball of fire, according to two officers who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters.

Another soldier was shot and killed by a sniper in the Bakir neighborhood.

Clouds over Iraq's second-

largest city obscured the visibility of drones and warplanes, but the troops were using the pause to secure areas they had seized, to set up checkpoints and to sweep for explosives, said Brig. Gen. Haider Fadhil.

The U.S. coalition providing air cover and reconnaissance for the advancing forces has been a key element in the success of the month-old Mosul battle, and fighting stalls when the air power cannot be used.

Thursday's attacks came as civilians were fleeing to camps for displaced families or were venturing into the streets for food from troops and aid agencies, Jabar said. Two children were among the civilians killed, he said.

A donkey-drawn cart carried the body of an 18-year-old man wrapped in a white, plastic bag. Mohammed Ismael said his nephew was in the street to get kerosene when a mortar shell landed nearby, fatally wounding him.

Residents of the nearby Samah neighborhood lined up for food and other aid from an Iraqi Red Crescent truck as special forces protected them and helped organize the distribution. Families

had to show their official papers to receive the aid.

"I'm happy today because I got what I need today," said Sabah Hassan, 36, a father of four. "Every day, I approach the army like a beggar to get bread and small bottles of water," Hassan said, adding that he had run out of supplies.

"I don't know what we'll see in the coming days," he said.

Since the long-awaited Mosul operation began Oct. 17, troops have advanced into only a few eastern districts. The troops have faced fierce resistance, with snipers, mortar fire and suicide bombers driving armor-plated vehicles packed with explosives.

After swift initial advances into the outskirts, the offensive has slowed in more densely populated areas, where Iraqi troops cannot rely as much on airstrikes and shelling because of the risk to civilians, who have been told to stay in their homes.

Mosul is the last major holdout for the militants in Iraq. Driving them out would deal a severe blow to the Islamic State's self-styled caliphate stretching into Syria.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Ex-Turkish general thinks Trump could end Syrian war

By TARA COPP  
Stars and Stripes

**WASHINGTON —** A former top Turkish general said Donald Trump's election could hasten the end of the Syrian civil war by opening the door to negotiations with the Syrian government of President Bashar Assad.

"I'm thinking that Donald Trump seems a realistic and a pragmatist man," retired Gen. İlker Basburg, a former chief of staff of the Turkish military, told reporters Wednesday. "I think he will open a direct link with the central Syrian government."

The United States and Turkey have demanded that Assad step down as part of any agreement to end the five-year Syrian war.

However, Trump has said the main U.S. goal in Syria is the defeat of the Islamic State group and not the future of the Syrian government. He said the ouster of Arab strongmen in Egypt, Yemen and Libya have served to destabilize the Middle East and led to the

rise of Islamic extremists.

Basburg's views do not reflect those of the Turkish government of Recep Tayyip Erdogan. In fact, Basburg was imprisoned for life in 2013 for conspiring against the Turkish government but the courts overturned the conviction in 2014.

Nevertheless, Basburg said Turkey's interests in Syria have evolved since the war began in 2011, in large part because of the role of Kurdish militants, whom the Turks consider an enemy. But the Kurds are supported by the United States, Turkey's longtime ally. Turkey was alarmed when a Kurdish-dominated rebel alliance seized the border city of Manbij from the Islamic State group.

On Wednesday, Erdogan announced Turkish-backed forces were close to retaking al-Bab, a city about 20 miles east of Aleppo, from the Islamic State group. Turkey believes the capture of al-Bab as strategically important because it keeps Kurdish forces from taking it and consolidating their territory in northern Syria along the

Turkish border.

Basburg said Turkey's top concern is having a secure border with Syria. With the United States and Turkey re-evaluating their interests in Syria, he was optimistic a new administration "will make some different policy."

"We have to work with [the current Syrian] government. Today, [it's] Assad. Tomorrow, somebody else might be head of the government," he said.

Basburg also said Russia and Iran would also need to be involved in the negotiations.

Meanwhile, the Baghdad-based spokesman for Operation Inherent Resolve, Col. John Dorrian, said the United States would not conduct airstrikes to support Turkey's forces in their pursuit of al-Bab.

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## Hunt: Libya has emerged as focal point for AFRICOM

FROM FRONT PAGE

It was estimated last summer that about 4,000 Islamic State fighters were operating in Libya and that the majority had taken root in Sirte, a city the insurgents came to dominate. Now, about 200 are holed up in a small number of buildings, restricted to a couple of city blocks, Waldhauser said.

It is urban warfare, with Libyan troops clearing out the last remnants of militants, one building at a time.

"Those ISIL fighters who are left are there for one specific reason," Waldhauser, using an alternative name for the Islamic State group. "They are going to die there, but they are going to cause as many casualties as they can prior to that happening."

The remaining fighters have established a network of tunnels, roadside bombs and booby traps, which has complicated efforts to clear them out of the city.

"We knew it was going to be difficult. It probably is taking a bit longer than we would have wanted, but nonetheless, it is down to a very small piece of real estate, a couple blocks that are left," Waldhauser said. "Government ... forces are going through those buildings and houses, really building by building, room by room, to rid out the remnants of ISIL that are there."

The Islamic State group's move into Libya gained momentum during the past year as pressure mounted on the organization in its main strongholds in Iraq and Syria.

"This (Libya) would be a fallback position if Raqqa and Mosul fell," said Waldhauser, who assumed command of AFRICOM in July.

Offensives are now underway in Raqqa, the Islamic State's de facto capital in Syria, and in Mosul, the

last major Iraqi city still under Islamic State control.

Libya has emerged as a focal point for AFRICOM's efforts on the continent, with nearly 400 airstrikes conducted since operations began in August. Many of those have been carried out by aircraft operating from U.S. Navy vessels positioned off Libya's coast.

The U.S. has also quietly begun conducting surveillance operations from a drone site in neighboring Tunisia to improve its tracking of enemy fighters on the ground in Libya.

Operation Odyssey Lightning is AFRICOM's second venture into Libya, where in 2011 the command led the first wave of airstrikes against Moammar Gadhafi's regime. NATO later took over the mission, which critics have blamed for causing the current chaos in Libya.

In the past, NATO officials have shifted the blame, saying that the turmoil over the past five years was due to the failure of Western political leaders to place some type of peacekeeping force in the country after a successful military campaign.

Nonetheless, Libya has degenerated into a virtual failed state, with scores of militias and militant groups vying for territory.

In the meantime, Waldhauser said, military operations are aimed at blunting Islamic State attempts to find a haven while Libyan officials work toward establishing political order.

"It is a concern for all of us, so consequently we keep an eye on it in conjunction with the Government of National Accord. We keep an eye where these fighters are heading. And we know that they have moved on to various places within the country," he said.

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## NATION

## Clinton reflects on defeat

By LISA LERER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton reflected on her devastating defeat on Wednesday evening, acknowledging the difficulty of her loss for her supporters and urging them to persevere through the Donald Trump era.

In remarks that were equal parts pep talk and funeral dirge, Clinton encouraged her backers to "never, ever give up."

"I know this isn't easy. I know that over the past week a lot of people have asked themselves whether America is the country we thought it was," Clinton said at the annual gala of the Children's Defense Fund, the child advocacy organization where she started her legal career. "But please listen to me when I say this: America is worth it."

She added, "It's up to each and every one of us to keep working to make America better and stronger forever."

Clinton never cited the president-elect by name in her remarks, making only an oblique reference to the controversial policies that fueled his rise to the White House.

Instead, she focused on the future, asking her backers to "stay engaged on every level."

"We need you. America needs



CURT OWEN/AP

**Hillary Clinton addresses the Children's Defense Fund's Beat the Odds celebration at the Newseum in Washington on Wednesday.**

your energy," she said.

Clinton's surprising loss threw her party into a period of intense soul-searching, with an ascendant liberal wing blaming Clinton's campaign for failing to embrace a more populist economic message. In private calls with donors and Democratic officials, Clinton has largely attributed her defeat to the decision by the FBI to re-examine her use of a private server as secretary of state.

In her remarks, Clinton offered no accounting for any failures she may have made during her presidential campaign, though she admitted that the past week hasn't been easy.

"There have been a few times this past week when all I wanted to do was just to curl up with a good book or our dogs and never leave the house again," she ruefully admitted.

She chose friendly ground to make her first public appearance since her emotional concession speech in New York City on Nov. 9. Her first job out of law school in the 1970s was for Children's Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman. She later became a staff attorney and chairman of the group's board.

Throughout her campaign, she cited her work for the group as her "north star," sparking her interest in standing up against injustice toward children and families.

The group, which helps disadvantaged children, tried to return some of the affection on Wednesday night.

"We love her and we appreciate all the hard work she has done and say it's not going to be for naught," Edelman said in her introductory remarks. "We're going to say that she is the people's president."

## Legal convention attracts Trump high court prospects

By MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two Supreme Court justices and nine judges on President-elect Donald Trump's list of potential high court picks are among more than 1,000 people expected at a gathering of conservative lawyers that has turned into a job fair for spots in the new administration.

The Federalist Society's national lawyers' convention begins Thursday in Washington as a tribute to the late Justice Antonin Scalia, a supporter of the group and a hero to many of its 40,000 members.

But since Trump's surprising victory in last week's presidential race, the meeting has turned into a public audition of sorts for nearly half of the list of 21 people that Trump put forward as prospective Supreme Court nominees.

Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas, familiar figures at these annual meetings, also will speak on Thursday.

The Federalist Society got its start on college campuses when Ronald Reagan was in the White House as a way to counter what its members saw as liberal domi-

nation of the nation's law school faculties. Its influence was pronounced during the presidency of George W. Bush, when its leaders helped rally support for Senate confirmation of Alito and Chief Justice John Roberts.

The society's star appears to be on the rise. "Anytime there's a major shift in the power of government, it's an enormous opportunity for what is probably the collection of the smartest, most talented and most publicly minded lawyers in the country ... help advance the cause of constitutional government," said Leonard Leo, the Federalist Society's executive vice president.

Leo met with Trump on Nov. 18 on Wednesday and said afterward that Trump has yet to pare down his long list of names of Supreme Court hopefuls.

Among those candidates are nine who will take part in panel discussions in the next few days, state supreme court justices Allison Eid, of Colorado; Joan Larsen, of Michigan; David Stras, of Minnesota; and Don Willett, of Texas; and federal appellate judges Steven Colton, Thomas Hardman, Raymond Kethledge, William Pryor and Diane Sykes.

## Yellen: Case for interest rate hike strengthened

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen sketched a picture Thursday of an improving U.S. economy and said "the case for an increase" in interest rates has strengthened. The Fed is widely expected to raise rates when it meets in mid-December.

In prepared testimony to a congressional committee, Yellen noted that the job market has made improvement this year, and inflation, while still below the Fed's 2 percent target, has started to pick up.

Yellen said that delaying an increase in the policy rate, known as the federal funds rate, for too long could require the Fed to raise rates "relatively abruptly."

"Holding the federal funds rate at its current level for too long could also encourage excessive risk-taking and ultimately undermine financial stability," Yellen told the Joint Economic Committee.

Reports released Thursday should provide support for Fed officials seeking to raise rates.

The government said home construction soared by 25.5 percent in October, the biggest increase in more than two decades, while the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits, a proxy for layoffs, fell to the lowest point since 1973. Consumer prices rose by 0.4 percent in October, the biggest rise since April and an indication inflation is starting to move closer to the Fed's target.

Yellen stressed that future rate increases will likely be gradual, largely because the Fed thinks economic conditions do not require rates to go as high as the Fed has pushed them in years past. Since this economic recovery began in mid-2009, the economy has averaged growth of just 2 percent.

Fed officials think slower growth, caused in part by weak gains in worker productivity, and the absence of high inflation pressures will allow the Fed to keep its benchmark rate lower than in previous economic recoveries.

Yellen is also sure to be asked about President-elect Donald Trump's plans for tax cuts and infrastructure spending — and their

effects on government deficits.

The president-elect's idea to spend more to upgrade roads, bridges and airports, though, in general mirrors Yellen's frequent point that Congress should act to supplement what the Fed has done through low rates to encourage spending and spur growth.

Trump's election could affect Yellen's Fed in other ways. The president-elect will be able to fill two vacant seats on the Fed's seven-member board, which wields outside power on the panel that sets rate policy. The board has, like Yellen herself, long favored a go-slow approach to rate increases. Trump's appointees potentially could affect that.

Next month, if the Fed raises rates, it will be its first move since December of last year.

As measured by the gross domestic product, the economy grew at a 2.9 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter, the government has estimated. The unemployment rate is 4.9 percent, around the level typical of a healthy economy, down from 10 percent in 2009.

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## NATION

## Woman injured in bear attack in driveway

HAGERSTOWN, Md. — A western Maryland woman is recovering from what wildlife regulators say was the state's first recorded bear attack on a human in at least 81 years.

Karen Osborne, 63, was listed in good condition at a Hagerstown hospital Thursday morning after she was mauled Wednesday night in the driveway of her daughter's home near Frederick.

Osborne's husband, Ronald, said his wife required more than 70 stitches and has wounds on her head and torso and a broken left arm. He said she's in a lot of pain but "she's a tough babe."

He said she told him she punched the bear a couple times in the face before deciding to play dead.

Paul Peditto, of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, said the 200-pound female black bear was euthanized Thursday morning.

## Drought expected to last through February

CONCORD, New Hampshire — The long-running drought in much of the Northeastern United States is expected to persist through the winter.

The U.S. Drought Monitor map released Thursday shows dry conditions continuing through February throughout New England and the only relief coming in parts of upstate New York, where some drought-stricken areas could see improving conditions.

Drought also is expected to persist in much of the Southeast, the Southwest and parts of the Midwest and California.

## Intelligence director submits resignation

WASHINGTON — The director of national intelligence says he's formally submitted his resignation.

James Clapper has long said he planned to retire at the end of the Obama administration, and he told the House Intelligence Committee on Thursday that he submitted his letter of resignation on Wednesday evening.

Committee members jokingly asked him to stay on for perhaps four more years. Clapper said his wife probably would have a problem with that.

Clapper has held the job since August 2010. He was previously a lieutenant general in the Air Force and director of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

From The Associated Press

## Time magazine picks 100 most influential photos

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A single drop of milk. A newborn baby. The ravages of war and terrorism. The defiance of those who protest and the fear of those entrapped.

All are included in a multimedia project featuring Time magazine's most influential images of all time, released Thursday through a new book, books and a website.

Many of the photos or frames from films are familiar, ingrained in the collective conscious, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Falling Man," taken on 9/11 by Richard Drew, of The Associated Press.

Others, and their stories, are little known, such as the tiny snap by California software engineer Philippe Kahn of his new baby, the first cellphone picture, after he rigged a flip phone with a digital camera in 1997.

The magazine's editors consulted historians and photo editors and curators around the world, while Time staff interviewed the photographers, picture subjects, friends and family to write essays on each image.

Matthew Brady's Abraham Lincoln, Dorothea Lange's migrant mother, the flag-raising at Iwo Jima by the AP's Joe Rosenthal — also a Pulitzer Prize winner — and that famous kiss in Times Square on V-J Day, captured by Alfred Eisenstaedt, are among the 100 chosen.

So is Frame 313 of the amateur, 8-millimeter film shot by Abraham Zapruder of John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963. Life magazine withheld that frame at the time, notorious in its absence for showing the bullet on impact with Kennedy's head.

Some were chosen for their con-



JOE ROSENTHAL/AP

**U.S. Marines of the 28th Regiment, 5th Division, raise the American flag atop Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, Japan, on Feb. 23, 1945. This iconic image is included in Time magazine's most influential images of all time.**

ten, others for their innovation. Harold Edgerton, for instance, while tinkering in his lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, laid the foundation for the modern electronic photo flash with his 1957 "Milk Drop Coronet."

He froze the drop as it landed on a table using strobe lights with camera shutter motors to refine moments otherwise imperceptible to the human eye, according to the project's book companion,

"100 Photographs: The Most Influential Images of All Time."

There is a NASA image of Earth from the far side of the moon, and a fetus still in the sac, revealing what pre-birth development looks like. There's also the famous, fuzzy Loch Ness Monster from 1934, Robert Mapplethorpe's 1979 "Brian Ridley and Lyle Heeter," in full sadomasochist regalia, and the famous Oscars first initiated by Ellen DeGeneres in 2014.

## Prosecutor: Suspect in killings is like 'Jaws' shark

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — A convicted sex offender charged with raping and killing four Southern California women while he wore an electronic monitor was a predator like the shark in the movie "Jaws," the prosecution said.

In his opening statement during the trial's first day Wednesday, Orange County Deputy District Attorney Larry Yellin said GPS and mobile phone data was used to track down Steven Dean Gordon and another man, comparing it to the hunt for the killer shark.

"Jaws" is about a predator," Larry Yellin told jurors. "This case is about two. You are about to see the hunt."

Gordon, 47, who is acting as his own attorney, declined to make an opening statement.

He and another sex offender, Franc Cano, 30, were charged with GPS tracking devices for prior offenses when they worked together to randomly target the women in 2013 and 2014, authorities said.

One body was found at a recycling plant while the remains of three other women haven't been found.

Gordon and Cano have pleaded not guilty to rape and murder with special circumstances. Cano's separate trial hasn't started. Both could face the death penalty if convicted.



SAM GANGER, THE (SANTA ANA, CALIF.) ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER, SCNG/AP

**Steven Dean Gordon, a convicted sex offender charged with raping and killing four Southern California women while he wore an electronic monitor, listens Wednesday during opening statements at his trial in Santa Ana, Calif.**

Relatives of the victims were the trial's first witnesses including Kathy Menzies, mother of 20-year-old Kianna Jackson.

Menzies held back tears as she described

her increasing worry.

"I called jails to see if she was there," Menzies said. "I looked online. I even called the morgues."

Gordon confessed during grand jury proceedings, giving graphic details about picking up the women in his car with another registered sex offender, raping them behind an Anaheim paint and body shop where the men camped, and killing them, authorities said.

But the confession won't be allowed at trial. The judge excluded it because Gordon told police he didn't want to talk before launching into the elaborate account of the killings, Yellin has said.

During the investigation, authorities identified the victim at the recycling plant as Jarrae Nykkole Estep, 21, from the tattoo on the back of her neck. They searched a database of sex offenders wearing tracking devices and found Cano had been in the locations of all four women when they vanished.

They focused on Gordon after a search of Cano's cellphone showed that the men texted constantly. The night Estep died, a message from Gordon's phone to Cano's read, "this is the best one yet."

DNA samples from Estep's body matched Cano's and Gordon's genetic material, authorities said.

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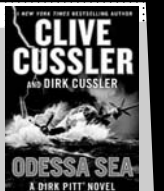
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## NATION

## 30 large fires burn through the South

By JEFF MARTIN  
Associated Press

**TIGER, Ga.** — Thick smoke has settled over a wide area of the southern Appalachians, where dozens of uncontrolled wildfires are burning through decades of leaf litter and people breathe in tiny bits of the forest with every gulp of air.

It's a constant reminder of the threat to many small mountain communities where relentless drought and now persistent fires and smoke have people under duress.

"A lot of the ladies just went to tears and said this happens in other places; it doesn't happen here," pastor Scott Cates said as townspeople donated water, cough drops and other supplies for the firefighters at the Liberty Baptist Church in Tiger, Ga.

Here, these fires don't sleep. They burn through the night, through the now-desiccated tinder of deciduous forests accustomed to wet, humid summers and autumns.

"It doesn't die down after dark," said fire Capt. Ron Thalackker, who came from Carlsbad, N.M., with a fire engine that now draws water from streams and ponds to spray on hotspots in Georgia's Rabun County, near the epicenter of the southern fires.

Large, wind-driven fires that scorch pine forests in the West



HEIDI HEILBRUNN, THE GREENVILLE (S.C.) NEWS/AP

**A Chinook carries water over Table Rock State Park in South Carolina on Tuesday to fight wildfires.**

often burn in the treetops and mellow out at night, but these fires are clinging to the ground and actively burning 24 hours a day, said firefighter Chad Cullum, of Billings, Mont.

Cullum spoke briefly, as flames rolled down a mountainside behind him. Then he ordered everyone to get out. "We need to leave," he said sternly.

More than 5,000 firefighters and support personnel, including many veterans of wildfires in the arid West, and 24 helicopters are battling blazes in the fire zone,

which has spread from northern Georgia and eastern Tennessee into eastern Kentucky, the western Carolinas and parts of surrounding states.

Nationally, "there's a pretty good ability to help out the South right now," said Jennifer Jones, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Forest Service. Reinforcements have arrived from at least 37 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, she said this week.

One man died Wednesday on eastern Kentucky's Mountain Parkway, where smoke decreased

visibility. Kentucky State Police said about 14 others were injured in a series of wrecks on both sides of the road.

Trooper Scott Ferrell said a coal truck driver died when he got out of his truck to check on a driver whose vehicle had hit the truck and then was hit by a third vehicle. About 15 vehicles were involved in the chain-reaction collisions that closed the highway for nearly 10 hours, Ferrell said.

More than 30 large fires remain uncontained. Overall, a total of 128,000 acres has burned.



PATRICK SULLIVAN, THE (BURLINGTON, N.C.) TIMES-NEWS/AP

**A wildfire burns Tuesday as it approaches Bat Cave, N.C.**

Firefighters got a lucky break when a fire reversed direction, turning away from the Trail of Tears, which marks the route where the Cherokee and other Indians were forcibly removed from their lands in the 1800s.

## 1 killed, several hurt in gas explosion

Associated Press

**CANTON, Ill.** — Authorities said one person was killed and several people were injured in a natural gas explosion in the central Illinois community of Canton.

Officials said the explosion Wednesday evening occurred near the downtown square and damaged several buildings.

It shattered windows several blocks away and forced the evacuation of residents from nearby apartment buildings.

Canton, a city of about 14,000, is about 30 miles southwest of Peoria.

Authorities said the cause of the explosion, which occurred at the Opera House Professional Center, hasn't been determined. The explosion took place shortly before 6 p.m. after Ameren Illinois workers arrived about 5:30 p.m. following a report that a contractor had damaged a gas line.

"The crew squeezed off the gas and was in the process of making repairs when the explosion occurred," Ameren Illinois said in a statement. "We are investigating the cause of the incident and have



LEWIS MARIEN, THE (PEORIA, ILL.) JOURNAL-STAR/AP

**Damaged buildings are seen Wednesday in Canton, Ill., after a natural gas explosion that left one person dead and several others injured.**

no other details to report at this time."

Authorities said 11 victims were taken to Graham Hospital in Canton. Fulton County Coroner Steve Hines said one of the victims, an Ameren Illinois employee, later died at the hospital. The worker has not been identified.

One victim was taken to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria with non-life-threatening injuries.

The Fulton County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency reported that multiple buildings had been damaged and that large amounts of debris were scattered

around the town square. Onlookers reported that the historic 19th-century Opera House, which now houses offices, had been severely damaged by the blast.

"We have structural engineers in the area checking area buildings," the Fulton County ESDA said in a statement late Monday. "This is a very slow and methodical process. They are working hard and as fast as possible."

Katie Lynn, Fulton County public information officer, said businesses in a two-block area around the square would remain closed as authorities continue to assess the damage.

## Air Force team detonates WWII-era bomb in Florida

Associated Press

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — With an explosion heard several miles away and felt for several city blocks, an Air Force explosives team detonated a World War II-era bomb unearthed at a construction site Wednesday near the Florida State University campus.

The blast went off about 9:30 p.m. in a trendy neighborhood with restaurants, shops and a brewery less than a mile from the state Capitol. A construction crew unearthed it hours earlier and called Tallahassee police.

"It was like really loud thunder, and you could hear the windows shake," said Shannon Glassner, a Florida State sophomore who lives in a sorority house about three blocks from the site. "A couple of people screamed. I could hear them come out of their rooms and run into the hallways."

Earlier, the Tallahassee police bomb squad supervisor, using binoculars from a distance, examined the artifact and determined it could indeed be a bomb, police spokesman David Northway said.

"They didn't get very close to it," Northway added.

Several streets around the construction site were cordoned off with yellow tape, and officers blocked traffic and pedestrians from approaching. An ambulance

and a firetruck were on standby.

In a multistory apartment just beyond the yellow caution tape, women on several floors hung out of their windows asking officers questions, including how big the potential bomb was. An officer stretched both arms wide.

"Will we be notified if there's a concern?" a student yelled from a second-story window. An officer replied, "The entire building will be evacuated."

Kaylee Madden, a junior sociology major, lives directly across the street from one evacuated apartment complex.

"It's sketchy," she said, with a laugh. "I heard it might not work. It's old. I'm not that scared unless it's actually going to blow up. It's weird."

Later, the 325th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight out of Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City arrived and confirmed it was a World War II-era bomb. Police haven't indicated how it came to be there. The Museum of Florida History website says Tallahassee had an airfield during WWII that was used for training.

The neighborhood was cleared, a large hole was dug and the bomb was covered in dirt to ensure fragments wouldn't be sent flying. The blast shook buildings within a few blocks of the site.

## NATION

# Feds, defense lawyers at odds over second Ore. trial of occupiers

By ANDREW SELSKY  
Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — Lawyers for a second set of defendants to be tried for the occupation of a federal wildlife refuge in Oregon say they want a pool of 2,000 jurors to be summoned as soon as possible. But the prosecution wants a delay while it "evaluates its position" on the defendants.

The opposing stances were contained in a status report filed in federal court in Portland three weeks after a jury acquitted seven other defendants — including two of the occupation leaders — of the same conspiracy charge: conspiring to impede federal workers from their jobs.

Even though the government said it wanted to evaluate its position, attorneys on both sides agreed to file pretrial motions by Dec. 16 and for arguments over the motions to take place the week of Jan. 16. The trial is scheduled to start on Feb. 14.

Defense attorney Jesse Merrithew told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Wednesday that the larger jury pool is needed because the acquittals of seven other defendants will make it harder to seat an impartial jury. "It will be more difficult to find jurors that have not heard of the

case and come to some conclusion about what happened," Merrithew said, adding that "the reaction of the public to the verdicts was extremely negative."

However, some potential jurors in the upcoming trial might believe the previous jury was justified in acquitting the defendants, Merrithew acknowledged.

The armed group seized the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on Jan. 2 and occupied it for 41 days to oppose prison sentences for two local ranchers convicted of setting fires and to protest federal control of public lands in the West. One occupier, LaVoy Finicum, was shot to death by state police at a roadblock as he and occupation leaders were driving to a meeting in an adjacent county.

Merrithew's client is Jake Ryan, whom Merrithew described as "a very low-level guy" among the occupiers.

"The government has provided no information [on] what he was doing in the refuge," the attorney said. "I believe he operated a backhoe to dig a trench after LaVoy Finicum was shot."

Besides Ryan, defendants in the second trial are Dylan Anderson, Sandra Anderson, Sean Anderson, Duane Ehmer, Jason Patrick and Darryl Thorn.

## Calif. judge rejects charges involving major escort site

By DON THOMPSON  
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A California judge tentatively rejected pimping charges Wednesday against the operators of a major international website that provides escort services and was called the "world's top online brothel" by the state attorney general. But he gave both sides more time to submit briefs before issuing a final ruling next month.

Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Michael Bowman cited a federal law giving freedom of speech while ruling that the state attorney general's office cannot continue prosecuting Backpage.com's CEO, Carl Ferrer, and former owners Michael Lacey and James Larkin.

At a hearing last Wednesday, the judge declined to make his ruling, instead giving both parties more time to argue their positions. Bowman said he would issue a ruling by Dec. 9.

The men were charged by California Attorney General Kamala Harris, who referred to Backpage.com as an online brothel.

The judge, however, said Harris lacked authority to bring the charges because the federal Communications Decency Act, as

a way of promoting free speech, grants immunity to website operators for content posted by users.

"Congress has spoken on this matter and it is for Congress, not this court, to revisit," Bowman wrote in his seven-page tentative ruling, emphasizing the sentence in bold type.

The section of the Communications Decency Act that applies to the case protects websites from content posted by third parties, said David Greene, civil liberties director for the Electronic Frontier Foundation. It immunizes sites such as Yelp.com from being held accountable for scathing reviews left by customers or online news sites from vicious reader comments.

Without it, platforms for exchanging ideas or information wouldn't have an incentive to exist, he said.

"Our interest isn't Backpage per se; it's preserving the structure of the internet where people can freely post information because these intermediary platforms exist," Greene said.

Ferrer, 55, was charged with pimping a minor, pimping and conspiracy to commit pimping. Lacey, 68, and Larkin, 67, both from Arizona, were charged with conspiracy to commit pimping.



Lakenia Cobbs, center, dances along with other attendees during a "March of Defiance" rally Wednesday in St. Paul, Minn. Jerónimo Yanez, a Minnesota police officer who shot Philando Castile, was charged Wednesday with second-degree manslaughter.

# Officer is charged in Minn. shooting seen on Facebook

By KYLE POTTER  
AND AMY FORLITI  
Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — When Philando Castile was pulled over in July, he calmly told the officer he had a gun and was licensed to carry it, according to prosecutors. Moments later, the officer fired on the motorist, and a bleeding Castile uttered his last words: "I wasn't reaching for it."

On Wednesday, that officer was charged with second-degree manslaughter following an investigation by prosecutors, who concluded that Jerónimo Yanez was wrong to use his weapon in the traffic stop, which was seen by millions after Castile's girlfriend streamed his final gruesome moments live on Facebook.

"No reasonable officer, knowing, seeing and hearing what officer Yanez did at the time, would've used deadly force under these circumstances," Ramsey County Attorney John Choi said.

Prosecutors believe Castile never tried to pull his handgun from his pocket, and Yanez's unreasonable fear did not justify the shooting, Choi said.

If convicted, the officer could face up to 10 years in prison.

Diamond Reynolds was sitting next to her boyfriend in the car. She said he was shot repeatedly as he reached for his ID after telling Yanez about the weapon and the gun permit.

The fatal shootings of black men and boys by police officers have come under heightened scrutiny since the 2014 death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. No charges were filed against the officer in that case, but Brown's death led to calls nationwide for officers to be held criminally responsible.

Yanez, who worked in the Minneapolis suburb of St. Anthony, was scheduled to make his first court appearance Friday.

His attorney, Tom Kelly, has said Yanez, who is Latino, was reacting to the presence of a gun. Kelly also has said that one reason Yanez made the stop

was because he thought Castile looked like a possible match for an armed robbery suspect.

Choi said Wednesday that Castile was not a suspect in that robbery. Castile's relatives have said they believe the 32-year-old elementary school cafeteria worker was racially profiled.

Kelly did not immediately return phone messages seeking comment Wednesday. Castile's mother, Valerie Castile, said her family was pleased with the charge.

"It is necessary for everyone to understand that we want peace," she said. "We don't want any protests to get outrageous."

Castile's shooting prompted numerous protests, including a demonstration outside the governor's mansion that went on for weeks and one protest that shut down Interstate 94 in St. Paul for hours. The interstate protest resulted in about 50 arrests and injuries to more than 20 officers who were hit with cement chunks, bottles, rocks and other objects.

About 100 protesters gathered early Wednesday evening outside the J.J. Hill Montessori School in St. Paul, where Castile was a longtime cafeteria worker. Some carried signs that read "No Justice, No Peace" and "Black Lives Matter." The group said they would continue to advocate for justice until the case is resolved.

"We haven't won the war, but we won a battle," activist Loretta VanPelt told the crowd.

Choi resisted pressure to turn the case over to a special prosecutor, but he added one to his team to get an outside perspective. He said Wednesday that he reviewed the case himself instead of sending it to a grand jury in the interest of transparency.

He gave a detailed account of the shooting, describing a routine traffic stop that turned frantic after Castile told the officer he was carrying a gun. He was not required to do so by law.

Yanez had his hand on his holster before Castile could finish his sentence and repeatedly shouted "Don't pull it out" as Castile insisted he wasn't, Choi said.

Within a minute of the initial stop, Yanez unholstered his gun and fired several shots at Castile.

There was no sign Castile reached for a gun nor posed any threat, Choi said.



Yanez



WORLD

# Expert: Trump won't pull forces from overseas bases

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — A U.S. political-financial expert predicted Thursday that President-elect Donald Trump won't follow through on his campaign threat to withdraw American forces from overseas bases and could negotiate a bilateral trade pact with Japan to partially replace the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, which he opposes.

Nomi Prins, author of "All the President's Bankers: The Hidden Alliances that Drive American Power," told the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan that she doesn't foresee a withdrawal of America's overseas military presence.

Trump said during the election campaign that he would consider withdrawing U.S. forces from overseas bases if allies failed to contribute more toward the costs of keeping them there. That has raised worries in Japan and South Korea, where tens of thousands of U.S. troops are stationed at dozens of bases.

Prins compared Trump's threat to his vow to build a border wall

with Mexico. The president-elect recently told CBS' "60 Minutes" that parts of the wall actually could be a fence.

Trump's plan to increase the military budget and the desire of other Washington power players to retain an overseas presence mean U.S. forces won't be removed from Japan, Prins said.

"Taking real troops out of real places where there have been alliances since [World War II] is something that doesn't really fly with Washington," she said. "My guess is that it is not really going to happen."

U.S. Forces Japan commander Lt. Gen. Jerry Martinez told reporters at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni last week that the U.S.-Japan alliance would remain strong.

Japan "will see absolutely no degradation in the alliance and the friendship" between the two countries, he said, according to Kyodo News.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was due to meet Trump on Thursday in New York, seeking reassurance about the

U.S.-Japan alliance and trying to sway his views on the TPP.

Abe and Trump talked by telephone last week and confirmed the importance of the Japan-U.S. alliance and their commitment for cooperation, The Associated Press reported.

Trump also spoke by phone with South Korean President Park Geun-hye, telling her the U.S. would be "steadfast and strong" in defending against North Korea, according to the Yonhap news agency.

"We are with you all the way and we will not waver," he said, according to Park's office. "We will all be safe together."

On trade, Prins said Trump might be open to a bilateral deal between Japan and the U.S., but that it would cost him too much political capital to reverse course on the TPP, which aims to link a dozen Pacific nations in a massive free-trade zone. The AP reported Malaysia has asked Abe to push Trump for support of the TPP.

Stars and Stripes reporter Kim Gamel contributed to this report.  
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## Trump's role looms over Asia-Pacific summit in Peru

By BEN FOX AND JOSHUA GOODMAN  
Associated Press

LIMA, Peru — Donald Trump will be on the minds of world leaders as they gather for an Asia-Pacific trade summit.

The president-elect has made it clear that he is hostile to the kind of free trade deals that tend to be the focus of the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, taking place this year in Peru's capital. He's also singled out group members China and Mexico in a populist campaign standing up for displaced American workers.

That likely has changed the tone and the agenda of a meeting that was expected to be part of a vaudeville tour for President Barack Obama. It will be his last international summit before he leaves office Jan. 20. Those in attendance are to include Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Instead of promoting a now-all-but-dead trade deal known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, economic experts expect Obama will field uncomfortable questions about Trump's pledges to overhaul U.S. trade policy, to crack down on illegal immigration from Mexico and to withdraw from a global agreement to fight climate change.

"World leaders, like everyone else, are hoping he will be more moderate in office than he was on the campaign trail," said Fred Bergsten, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington. "But they are going to be worried."

APEC's 21 member nations constitute more than a third of the world's population and half of global trade. It was established three decades ago to accelerate economic growth by removing trade barriers and helping integrate global supply chains.

The group's annual summits also deal with current international challenges such as security following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and in



MARTIN MEZA/AP

**A man dressed in traditional Andean clothes walks past the logo of the APEC 2016 summit Wednesday in Lima, Peru. Lima will host world leaders at this week's Asia-Pacific trade summit.**

Paris last year or the global economic crisis of 2008. This year, the big issue is Trump.

"As you can imagine, the issue of the day will consume a lot of the energy," said Scott Miller, a senior adviser to the Center for Strategic and International Studies who previously advised the U.S. on APEC matters.

Manufacturing has been declining in the U.S. since the 1950s and today represents less than 10 percent of employment. Despite Trump's promises to revive industry, those jobs are unlikely to return in large enough numbers, said APEC executive director Alan Bollard. At the same time, developing nations — the biggest beneficiaries of globalization — are more upset about free trade.

"The pessimism about trade does seem to be more of a developed, affluent-country phenomenon," Bollard said in an interview.

Bollard, a former central banker in New Zealand, said world leaders haven't done a good enough job selling the benefits of globalization and cited studies that credit trade for helping lift half a billion people out of poverty in the APEC region.



TAKUTO KANEKO, KYODO NEWS/AP

**Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his wife, Akie, wave Thursday prior to their departure from Hanaeda airport in Tokyo to meet with President-elect Donald Trump in New York.**

## Abe's plan to win over Japan-bashing Trump: Unabashed flattery

By ISABEL REYNOLDS  
Bloomberg News

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is set to turn on the charm when he becomes the first world leader to meet U.S. President-elect Donald Trump since the election.

Before Thursday's meeting, Abe lauded the real estate mogul's "extraordinary talents" in a congratulatory message, and canceled a speaking engagement in Peru to stop off in New York to hold talks with the president-elect. Abe said he'll seek to work "hand-in-hand" with the next commander-in-chief, part of his efforts to deter Trump from pursuing the trade and security policies he espoused in his election campaign.

Trump has vowed to drop a Pacific trade deal and has accused Japan of manipulating its currency. The president-elect also has stirred unease in Tokyo by threatening to pull U.S. troops out of the country unless it pays more for their upkeep, and has suggested Japan might have to develop its own nuclear weapons.

Abe met with then-rival Hillary Clinton during a September trip to New York, but not with Trump. But their relationship appeared to warm during their first phone call last week.

"It's significant that Trump is seeing Abe first," said Michael Green, a former member of the U.S. National Security Council and now senior vice president for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "Abe will be very smart about this and I think Trump will like him. Abe does well with the 'strongmen.'"

Japan, whose own military is restricted by a pacifist constitution drafted by the U.S. after World War II, relies heavily on America's troops and nuclear weapons for defense against growing threats from North Korea and

an increasingly powerful China. About 50,000 U.S. military personnel are stationed in Japan, and the two countries are one another's second-largest trading partners.

Part of Abe's goal in meeting with Trump will be to reassure his own electorate.

Two-thirds of respondents to a poll published by Fuji News Network on Monday said Trump's election wouldn't be good for U.S.-Japan relations, compared with about 17 percent who took the opposite stance. A separate poll by the Yomiuri newspaper on Tuesday found 58 percent saw Trump as bad for the economy — the same proportion that views him as bad for national security.

"The U.S.-Japan alliance is the foundation of our security and our economy, so I want to have candid talks and build a relationship of trust," Abe told parliament Monday.

While Abe said he wanted to discuss free trade and security with Trump, he is likely to soft-pedal areas of potential disagreement for the time being. When asked Wednesday whether Abe would raise the issue of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said trust-building would be the main focus at the first meeting.

"Trump listens extremely carefully to what people say and asks questions about things he doesn't know," said Mitsunari Okamoto, one of the few Japanese politicians to have any direct knowledge of the president-elect.

Okamoto, a lawmaker with Abe's junior coalition partner Komeito, met Trump about 16 years ago while working at an investment bank in New York.

"He accepts facts and track records, so one approach is to share the facts with him" such as the number of jobs provided by Japanese companies in the U.S., the politician said.

## WORLD



THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/AP

A protester, right, hurls a firework toward police as another, left, runs to throw a firebomb during clashes Thursday outside Athens' Polytechnic University complex.

## Clashes erupt in Athens as 17K mark student uprising of 1973

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece—Thousands of Greek protesters marched Thursday to the U.S. embassy in Athens in an annual commemoration of a 1973 student uprising that was crushed by the military dictatorship that ruled the country from 1967 to 1974.

Police estimate about 17,000 people turned out for the protest in Athens, including about 1,000 supporters of the governing leftist Syriza party.

In the northern city of Thessaloniki, Greece's second-largest city, 8,000 protesters marched to the U.S. Consulate.

Some 3,000 police were deployed in central Athens to guard against potential violence. Before the march started, suspected anarchists stole two riot police shields and helmets and hung them on a statue.

Well away from the embassy, dozens of anarchists who had occupied the Polytechnic University complex threw petrol bombs and stones at police, who responded with tear gas and stun grenades.

The complex was site of the 1973 pro-democracy uprising and has been the flashpoint of many anti-government protests over the years.

An anti-American protest

Tuesday during a visit by President Barack Obama to Athens was marred by extensive clashes between anarchists throwing petrol bombs and stones and Greek riot police.

Many Greek left-wing supporters still deeply resent the U.S. over its support for the oppressive dictatorship in Greece at the height of the Cold War.

The march Thursday began at the gates of the Polytechnic, where in 1973 the military had sent a tank crashing in to evict the students. Several people were killed during the crackdown, but historians still disagree on the precise death toll.

# Obama advises Trump to stand up to Russia

By DAVID RISING  
AND JOSH LEDEMAN  
Associated Press

BERLIN — Offering some pointed foreign policy advice to his successor, President Barack Obama expressed hope Thursday that President-elect Donald Trump would stand up to Russia when it deviates from U.S. "values and international norms."

Obama, in a joint news conference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel during his final presidential visit to Germany, said that while he does not expect Trump to "follow exactly our blueprint or our approach," he is hopeful that Trump will pursue constructive policies that defend democratic values and the rule of law.

He said Trump shouldn't "simply take a realpolitik approach and suggest that if we just cut some deals with Russia, even if it hurts people, or even if it violates international norms, or even if it leaves smaller countries vulnerable or creates long-term problems in regions like Syria, that we just do whatever's convenient at the time."

Obama began his presidency with a goal to "reset" ties with Russia, but they eventually plunged to the lowest point since the Cold War over conflicts in Ukraine and Syria.

Trump has spoken favorably of Russian President Vladimir Putin. But he has outlined few specifics as to how he would go about recalibrating ties with the country.

Merkel, for her part, said she was approaching the incoming Trump administration with "an open mind" and was encouraged that the presidential process in the U.S. was "working smoothly" so far.

In Germany, officials hope the change in presidents will not bring about a significant shift in relations between the two nations or the NATO alliance.

Merkel worked well with President George W. Bush before Obama's election. She talked with Trump by phone after his election, offering him Germany's "close cooperation," but emphasizing it would be on the basis of what she said were shared values of "democracy, freedom, respect for the law and for the dignity of human beings, independently of origin, skin color, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political views."

A joint opinion piece by Obama and Merkel published Thursday in Germany's weekly business magazine *WirtschaftsWoche* seemed directed as much at the incoming Trump administration in the U.S. as at European nations. In it, the two leaders stressed that the "underlying bedrock of our shared values is strong" even if the pursuit of common goals is sometimes gone about differently.

Obama and Merkel noted that European Union-U.S. trade was the largest between any two partners worldwide, and emphasized that the trans-Atlantic friendship has helped in forging a climate accord, providing help for refugees worldwide, forming a collective defense under NATO and strengthening the global fight against the Islamic State extremist group.

Trump, in contrast, has called climate change a "hoax" and has said the climate accord should be renegotiated. He promised to tighten rules for accepting refugees, complained the U.S. was paying more than its share to support NATO and has sharply criticized the U.S. strategy for fighting the Islamic State group.

## Australian euthanasia law loses by a single vote in parliament

Associated Press

ADELAIDE, Australia — An attempt to legalize voluntary euthanasia in an Australian state was defeated by a single vote in parliament on Thursday.

The South Australian Parliament rejected the bill, 24-23, after a heated overnight debate.

South Australia almost became the only Australian state or territory to allow assisted suicide.

Australia's Northern Territory became one of the world's first jurisdictions to legalize mercy killing, in 1996.

Renowned pro-euthanasia doctor Philip Nitschke helped four people die before the Australian Parliament overturned the law in 1997.

While the Australian Parliament can overturn territories' laws, it does not have the same power over state laws.

South Australia Premier Jay Weatherill said Thursday he felt "gutted" by the defeat. But he was sure a new bill would be introduced in time.

The bill was introduced by an opposition lawmaker last month.

The major parties do not have policy positions on euthanasia, so lawmakers were given a rare opportunity to vote according to their consciences rather than along party lines. The original bill required patients to have terminal illnesses and to be suffering unbearable pain that could not be relieved before they could access medical help to end their

lives.

They also needed to have their decision endorsed by at least two doctors.

Several amendments were passed to tighten access to assisted suicide during the debate, including by making mental health assessments mandatory.

The Australian Christian Lobby, a lobby group, described the amended bill as a "cobbled-together compromise" and welcomed its defeat.

"As a just and compassionate society, we can find better ways to deal with the suffering which does not draw us into providing state-sanctioned killing," the lobby's managing director, Lyle Shelton, said.



MICHAEL SONN/AP

President Barack Obama, left, speaks during a news conference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel after a meeting Thursday in Berlin.

## WORLD

# Korean parliament OKs inquiry into Park

By Kim Tong-Hyung

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea's parliament on Thursday passed a law that would allow a special prosecutor to investigate a corruption scandal threatening the presidency of Park Geun-hye.

The opposition-controlled National Assembly also voted for a parliamentary investigation into allegations Park allowed a confidante to manipulate power from the shadows.

The bill on an independent investigation was passed by a vote of 196 to 10 with 14 abstentions in the 300-seat assembly. It came as state prosecutors prepared to indict Park's friend.

An independent investigation would increase pressure on Park

to resign. Although emboldened by massive protests, opposition parties have yet to seriously push for Park's impeachment over fears of negatively affecting next year's presidential election.

Park has 15 days to sign off on the law or use her constitutional right to reject it.

Park has apologized for letting her friend Choi Soon-sil, the daughter of a late cult leader who emerged as Park's mentor in the 1970s, edit some of her draft speeches and for the public anger caused by the scandal. But she has not commented on the most damning accusations that she let Choi manipulate government decisions on policy and personnel.

The law passed on Thursday requires Park to select a special prosecutor among two candidates proposed by opposition parties to

lead the investigation.

The special prosecutor can form a team of 60, including up to 20 state prosecutors, and will have 90 days to investigate and determine whether to pursue charges. The investigation period can be extended to 120 days, but only if Park approves.

In a televised apology earlier this month, Park said she would accept a direct investigation into her actions, including one pushed by a special prosecutor.

The launching of an investigation would automatically stop the probe by state prosecutors. The special prosecutor can pursue additional charges against suspects that weren't included in indictments by state prosecutors.

Choi, whom prosecutors arrested earlier this month, has been suspected of interfering

with government decisions on policy and personnel despite holding no official government job, and exploiting her presidential ties to bully companies into donating to organizations she controlled.

Extending a series of massive protests in the capital, hundreds of thousands of South Koreans rallied in Seoul on Saturday calling for Park's resignation in what may have been the largest anti-government protest since the country shook off dictatorship three decades ago. Park's supporters have been staging smaller counter rallies in the city, shouting that she should keep her job.

Park has 15 months left in her term. If she steps down before the end of it, an election must be held within 60 days.

## Indian police suspend 2 for fake Everest claim

NEW DELHI — Two police officers have been suspended in India for falsely claiming they scaled Mount Everest in Nepal in May, police said Thursday.

Nepal's government canceled the climbing certificates issued to Dinesh Rathod and Tarkeshwari Rathod after it found they had presented a fake photograph of themselves on Everest's summit.

Fellow climbers said the couple altered someone else's photographs to earn their certificates.

An inquiry in India's Maharashtra state also found their claim was false, the Press Trust of India quoted Deputy Police Commissioner Arvind Chavriya as saying. He said they will remain suspended until the inquiry determines if they should be fired.

## Drone in near-miss with plane over London

LONDON — A new report says a drone just missed hitting an A320 passenger plane flying above the Shard skyscraper in central London in July.

The plane was approaching Heathrow Airport and flying at nearly 5,000 feet when the pilot spotted a 20-inch drone off the right light check window.

The UK Airprox report says "chance had played a major part" in avoiding a collision.

Under British rules, a drone operator must be able to see the drone at all times — so such a flight would be illegal.

## Man gets life for drug smuggling in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia — An Indonesian court sentenced an American man to life imprisonment for drug smuggling.

Philip Russell, 56, was arrested with seven other people following a raid in January by the National Narcotics Agency on a furniture workshop. Officers found 214 pounds of crystal methamphetamine hidden inside 54 electrical generators from China that were stored in the workshop.

Russell, who is an employee at a money transfer company in Jakarta, will appeal the verdict.

## Thai website shutdowns soar after king's death

BANGKOK — Thai authorities have shut down more than 1,300 websites last month — more than they had in the previous five years combined.

Since the Oct. 13 death of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Thailand has charged more than 20 people with making anti-royalty statements, requested deportations of suspects from at least seven countries and attempted to wipe out content it finds offensive from websites and social media.

Deputy Prime Minister Prachin Chantong said Google and Facebook agreed to remove content deemed insulting to the royal family. Both companies say they are only responding to complaints brought to them rather than actively seeking content offensive to the monarchy.

From The Associated Press

# Yemeni rebels back cease-fire brokered by US

By AHMED AL-HAJJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Amid more clashes on Thursday in Yemen, the country's Shiite rebels confirmed their endorsement of a U.S.-brokered cease-fire deal previously announced by Secretary of State John Kerry.

However, the backing of the deal by Yemeni rebels, also known as Houthis, was a moot point since Yemen's internationally-recognized government has dismissed the plan as "unilateral," saying it was not involved in talks between Kerry and Houthis in Oman.

On the ground, government forces expelled rebels from several districts in the city of Taiz while an international rights group criticized the Houthis' detentions of political opponents.

Human Rights Watch said the Shiite rebels have carried out hundreds of unlawful detentions and torture since capturing the country's capital, Sanaa. The New York-based group said it has documented two deaths in custody and 11 cases of alleged torture and abuses.

HRW also called upon the Houthis in Sanaa to hold officials accountable and to release the detainees — without forcing them to sign false confessions of cooperating with a Saudi-led coalition that is waging a war to expel the Houthis from territory the rebels captured.

President Abdel Rabbu Mansour Hadi ended a northern enclave in 2014 to take Sanaa and much of north-



Smoke rises in Sanaa, Yemen, after Saudi-led airstrikes. On Thursday, Houthi rebels, who took control of the city in 2014, said they back a U.S.-brokered cease-fire.

ern Yemen. The rebels forced President Abed Rabbu Mansour Hadi to flee the country and seek shelter in Saudi Arabia, which launched the intervention by mostly Gulf Arab states that has consisted mainly of an air campaign.

The airstrikes, together with the ground fighting, have pushed the already impoverished nation to the brink of famine and displaced nearly 3 million people. The conflict has killed over 4,000 civilians.

The peace plan sidelines Hadi, transfers his

authorities to a newly appointed vice president and gives the Houthis a share of power.

Residents in Taiz, one of the worst-hit cities in Yemen's conflict, said fighting escalated in the city's eastern districts.

Airstrikes resumed in the eastern province of Marib, outside Sanaa, and in the northern Houthi stronghold of Saada.

Dozens were killed and wounded in the fighting but a precise death toll among fighters from the two sides was not available.

# Turkey praises Pakistan for moving against alleged dissidents

By ASIF SHAHZAD

AND MUNIR AHMED

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Turkey's president praised Pakistan on Thursday for siding with him against alleged followers of a dissident cleric he blames for a failed coup earlier this year, a day after Pakistan ordered 400 Turkish nationals to leave the country.

"We will eliminate this terrorist organization before it harms Pakistan," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in a speech

at Pakistan's parliament before lawmakers, the prime minister and the military leadership.

Turkey has waged a crackdown against followers of Fethullah Gulen, a self-exiled U.S.-based cleric whose organization runs a global network of charities, business groups, schools and hospitals. Turkey has arrested tens of thousands of people since July's failed coup and dismissed more than 100,000 civil servants suspected of ties to Gulen.

Erdogan's visit to Pakistan comes as Islamabad ordered

400 Turkish nationals, mostly schoolteachers and their families, to leave the country within 72 hours. They have petitioned a court against the move, and the students have held protests.

The Islamabad High Court, which took up the petition by the Turkish nationals, heard arguments from the school's lawyer before a break in the proceedings.

More than 150 students rallied in Islamabad. In the eastern city of Lahore, hundreds of students blocked a main road to protest the expulsion orders, said Pakistani

police officer Adnan Naseer.

At a joint press conference, Erdogan and Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif pledged to enhance bilateral cooperation, share their experience in fighting terrorism and complete a free trade agreement.

Turkey has demanded the United States extradite Gulen, who has lived a reclusive life on a compound in the Poconos for more than 15 years. Gulen denies any involvement in the coup and has condemned it. The U.S. is reviewing Turkey's request.



## WORLD

# Cull of the wild reindeer

## Siberian herders decry expansion of killings

By HOWARD AMOS AND TATIANA TITOVA  
Associated Press

**SALEKHARD, Russia** — The indigenous reindeer herders in Russia's northern Yamal Region, a remote section of Siberia where winter temperatures can sink below minus-50 degrees Celsius, are familiar with nature's caprice.

Last year, 70,000 reindeer starved to death when ice and deep snow sealed off the Arctic tundra where they graze. This past summer, the region's first outbreak of anthrax in 75 years — an epidemic thought to be linked to climate change — sickened humans and animals alike.

Now, the nomadic herders who cover the same icy ground their ancestors roamed for centuries are facing a man-made threat as officials push ahead with an unprecedented culling that calls for at least one in seven of the Yamal's reindeer to be slaughtered.

The cull that started this month is championed by local officials and scientists who say a record reindeer population is leading to overgrazing and more frequent epidemics. But environmental activists and some herders allege that energy interests pressed for the forced killings, which they say could destroy the endangered culture of the Nenets people.

"Every herder should decide the fate of their own reindeer," Eiko Savetto, the owner of a 200-head herd who has called on Russian President Vladimir Putin to stop the expanded cull, said in an interview.

The rare tradition of nomadic reindeer herding the Nenets people practice sees them complete annual migrations of hundreds of miles as they drive their flocks from winter grazing lands below the Arctic Circle to the tundra near Yamal's northern coast.

Since during the Soviet era, the government has organized an annual cull in which up to 70,000 reindeer are usually killed off. Officials have floated plans to kill up to 250,000 of the animals this year and said that 100,000 will be slaughtered by the end of December. The slaughtering season has been extended until the end of January, a month longer than usual.

One of the most heavily affected areas is the Yamal Peninsula, a 435-mile-long promontory of wind-blasted land made up of permafrost and serpentine rivers jutting into the icy Kara Sea and home to about 280,000 of the Yamal Region's estimated 700,000 reindeer.

Shrinking the number of reindeer on the peninsula is necessary for their continued survival, according to Lyudmila Morozova, a researcher at the Russian Academy of Sciences. The population has grown by 50 percent during the past two decades, Morozova said, and large tracts of reindeer, a fast-growing staple of the species' herbivore diet, have been lost due



ICOR NOVINOV/AP

**Reindeer herders drag a reindeer they caught in Russia's northern Yamal region in October. The indigenous reindeer herders in a remote section of Siberia are facing a man-made threat as officials push ahead with an unprecedented culling.**



PETR SHELONOVSKIY/AP

**Efim Mullanov offers a prayer in July before sacrificing a reindeer in the family's traditional reindeer herding camp in Russia's Yamal region.**

to overgrazing.

"It is essential to urgently reduce reindeer numbers," she said. "The reindeer have eaten all the stores (of food) they shouldn't have eaten, and we are on the edge of a cliff."

Slaughterhouse workers, many of them former herders, are given kill quotas by the regional government that they levy on herd owners, who in turn receive a fixed price of 190 rubles (\$3) per kilogram of meat. During the cull, herders bring their reindeer to one of six regional slaughterhouses, each of which can process up to 260 animals per day. The meat is then sold commercially.

Although the Nenets relied on their herds for food and clothing before the Russian Revolution, the yearly cull has become an integral part of their lives and livelihoods, providing one of their primary sources of income.

Andrey Rubashin, the deputy head of Yamal's agriculture, trade and provision department, said the bigger cull will mean more money for herders. Ten more slaughterhouses partly financed by donations from oil and gas companies will be built by 2020, according to Rubashin.

"The aim is to push our reindeer herders toward a more intensive use of their reindeer," he said in an interview in the

regional capital of Salekhard.

Opponents of the culling plan say traditional pastures are disappearing due to the growth of the oil and gas industry in resource-rich Yamal, not the reindeer population.

The industry's rapid expansion during the past 15 years has curtailed the access herders have to pastures and their freedom



PETR SHELONOVSKIY/AP

**An oil spill is seen in Russia's Yamal region in July. Environmental activists and some herders allege that energy interests have pressed for the forced killings of reindeer.**

to move across the tundra. Reindeer migration routes are restricted by pipelines, railways, roads and large zones around drilling sites, where herders are prohibited from camping.

"It is an unequivocal tragedy for both people and animals," Yelena Sakirko, the Arctic coordinator for Greenpeace in Russia, said of the bigger cull. "It will end up with nomadic reindeer herders turning into settled reindeer farmers. This is a completely different form of husbandry, and means the loss of a culture."

Reindeer numbers are not unusually high at the moment, according to Moscow-based anthropologist Olga Murashko, who said they were at similar levels in pre-revolutionary Russia and during the 1980s and have remained static for nearly a decade.

In 2010, there were 290,000 animals on the peninsula — 10,000 more than today, according to the Russian State Statistics Service.

Regional government spokeswoman Olesya Litovskikh denied the oil and gas industry lobbied for increased culling. Energy companies spend "billions of rubles" developing far-flung areas and supporting Nenets culture, Litovskikh said.

The Yamal Region already has one of the biggest natural gas fields in Russia, the Bovanenkovskoye field, which is operated by state-owned Gazprom. Rising temperatures and melting Arctic sea ice mean the Yamal Peninsula also looks set to become an energy export hub.

Greenpeace estimates there are 684 miles of pipelines and 1,302 miles of railways on the Yamal Peninsula, where 15 percent of the land is licensed for exploration and drilling.

In the short term, herders fear they are being made to slaughter reindeer they normally would not sell for meat and money, and for reasons that remain unclear. Savetto, 25, said the terrain where he spent his childhood is now inaccessible because of a natural gas compressor station.

The herder said he usually sends 10 percent of his herd for slaughter, but he does not yet know if he will be forced to sacrifice more this year. He created an online petition to Putin in October that has gotten 962 signatures.

"Our president should know we are also humans, and it is not just the gas industry that can work here," he said.

FAITH

# Hands of mercy

## Beside the dying, a nun stands vigil each night

By SARAH PARVINI  
Los Angeles Times

Esperanza Calderon started at Sister Maria Socorro with half-closed eyes. The nun hunched over her as she reclined in a living room chair, wrapped in a blanket and slowly but inexorably dying.

As the 70-year-old woman's sister clasped her hand, Socorro held a book open across her palms. Together the three women prayed.

"Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof," the woman followed along in Spanish, her voice fragile. "But one word from you would be enough to heal me."

A sister with the Servants of Mary, Socorro has spent many of her nights and dark, early mornings in the homes of the dying. Each night, a volunteer picks her up around 7 p.m. and drives her to her destination: a tiny stucco house just a few miles from the South Los Angeles convent.

The congregation was founded in Spain in 1851. As nurses, they worked during cholera epidemics and wars, and later in Mexico during revolutions. Now, more than 2,000 sisters work in 128 convents throughout Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

The sisters prefer to minister in patients' homes but also work in hospices, orphanages and hospitals. And when needed, they take care of their own.

Many of their patients are immigrants, others born and bred in Los Angeles. Some pray to another God or to none at all. To the sisters, it doesn't matter.

A tumor embedded itself in Calderon's brain. Three years ago, doctors told her she had six months to live. She had a stroke about two years later. She can't walk. Calderon's sister does almost everything for her, until late in the evening when the nun arrives.

The woman's first name, Esperanza, means hope in Spanish. Socorro means help.

a red cross, a chalice, wheat and grapes — signs of the Eucharist. She unwraps the cloth and opens the small golden box it encases, reaching for the host.

"Esperansita," she calls Calderon, who lifts her mouth toward the wafer in the sister's hand, and intones: "The body of Christ."

Almost 30 years ago, a teenage Maria Roman went to a retreat hoping to persuade her little sister Sofia not to become a nun. Sofia wanted to explore her options for a religious vocation and Maria, then 18, wouldn't have it. "You know, you can never go out if you become a nun," Maria warned her.

Sofia begged her older sister to go with her to the women's retreat in their native city of Puebla, Mexico. It was the only way their father would let Sofia go. Socorro said she couldn't bear watching her sister cry, so she said yes.

More than 100 girls attended the retreat, but there wasn't enough food for all of them. They slept crammed together as if in barracks. The morning showers were frigid. On the last day of the trip, as they sat in a pew for Mass, the priest began telling the Biblical story of the boy Samuel, who heard someone calling his name one night. He got out of bed and ran to the priest, Eli, but Eli told Samuel that he was not he who had called the boy.

This happened several times, the girls at the retreat were told, until Eli told Samuel that it was God speaking to him. Finally, when he realized he was being called, the boy spoke with God.

Socorro said the story she and her sister heard that day affected her deeply.

"That passage was for me," she said. "God was calling me."

Within a year, Maria would become Sister Maria Socorro, joining the Servants of Mary.

On a Friday night, Socorro asks Esperanza Calderon whether she's cold. She smooths two diaper pads covering the sheets and tucks the frail woman in. Afterward, she reaches into the leather overnight bag she brings to each home she visits. She pulls out a blood pressure monitor and wraps a cuff around Calderon's skinny arm.

Minutes later, the nun and



PHOTOS BY BARBARA DAVIDSON, LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Sister Ines Ripa has her blood pressure checked by Sister Mercedes Rodrigues, who is assigned to take care of the aging nuns at a Los Angeles convent in August. The sisters of the Servants of Mary are taken care of by their fellow nuns as they age.



Sister Maria de Jesus Campos, of the Servants of Mary, administers to Refugio Vega, who has been living with ALS, as his wife, Sara Montiel de Vega, looks on from their Los Angeles home in August. Sister Maria visits the home to help give his caregivers a break.

Calderon's sister stand over her bed, heads bowed as they pray three Hail Marys. Yolanda Calderon kisses her sister on the forehead.

Socorro said the quiet before dawn breaks gives her time to pray and fortifies her to face death every night. Like other sisters in her order, she stays with each patient for only a month at a time. To stay longer could allow the women to become attached to their patients — and vice versa.

"You get to know them," she says. "I cry when they pass, or when I am comforting the family. It's normal. It's human."

Sometimes, she said, her patients ask her questions she can't answer. Why me? Why am I suffering? "God has a better purpose for you," she tells them.

She hopes that she can help them die with dignity. She has seen men and women too afraid to sleep, afraid that they won't wake up. One man struggled to breathe at night, grunting in pain under

an oxygen mask. He tugged at his clothing and yanked at the mask's tubes.

Socorro hears the blankets rustle as she speaks. Calderon opens her eyes, which scan the living room in the dark, searching for the nun. People don't like dying alone — and dying, by its nature, is a lonely labor.

Around midnight, the nun tells Calderon's sister to get some sleep.

Beneath the dull light of the cabinet behind her, she cracks open her Bible, asking God to watch over Esperanza Calderon's soul. In the living room, she is surrounded by a crucifix, an image of Jesus and statues of the Virgin Mary.

After she finishes meditating, she begins to sew the handkerchiefs used to clean and cover the Communion chalice in church.

At 3 a.m., Calderon wakes up to use the bathroom. Socorro helps her to the commode beside the bed, then tucks her back in. As



**Sometimes, she said, her patients ask her questions she can't answer. Why me? Why am I suffering? "God has a better purpose for you," she tells them.**

— Sister Maria Socorro, above

Calderon falls back to sleep, the sister opens her copy of a book written by Pope Francis.

The sun hasn't peeked over the horizon when she reaches the front stoop at the convent just after 5 a.m. Socorro greets her sisters, then stops by the chapel to pray the rosary. She helps prepare breakfast and cleans up around the house, finally crawling into bed around noon.

At night, she'll stand vigil again.





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# FACES



# LAST CALL

## Reality show 'Duck Dynasty' to wrap after 11 seasons

Associated Press

The "Duck Dynasty" family says its A&E series will end after this season.

Their announcement was paired with Wednesday's debut episode of the show's 11th season.

"Duck Dynasty," one of reality TV's biggest hits, starred a successful Louisiana duck call-making family, the Robertsons. They told viewers it was a family decision to make this season the

final chapter.

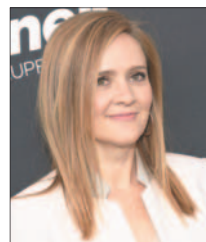
In 2013, the year after it debuted, "Duck Dynasty" ran into controversy. Phil Robertson, the family patriarch, was suspended by A&E after GQ magazine quoted him declaring that gays are sinners and African-Americans were happy under Jim Crow laws. His family supported him, saying in an online post at the time that although some of Phil Robertson's comments were coarse,

"his beliefs are grounded" in the Bible and he is a "godly man." Others defended his right to voice his opinions, and he was reinstated by A&E.

The last flight of "Duck Dynasty" will be broken into halves. The show will run through Jan. 18, take a break and then resume March 1. The series finale is set for April 12. But the family teased Wednesday that there could be "Duck Dynasty" specials ahead.

Si Robertson, left, Jase Robertson and Willie Robertson star on the soon-to-end "Duck Dynasty."

GURNEY PRODUCTIONS/A&E



Bee

## TBS renews 'Full Frontal' for a 2nd year

Samantha Bee is keeping her job, but changing her night.

TBS announced on Wednesday that "Full Frontal," the weekly comic series starring Bee, will be back for its second season starting Jan. 11. But instead of broadcasting Monday nights, the show will switch to Wednesdays. TBS said that should make the production process easier.

Bee, an alum of "The Daily Show" on Comedy Central, was a critical favorite in her first year with "Full Frontal." Bee emerged as a no-nonsense critic of President-elect Trump.

Bee joked that she was "sorry that this renewal leaves me unavailable for a cabinet position" in the incoming Trump administration. But she said she'd be available to host the White House Correspondents Association dinner.

From The Associated Press

# Carrie Underwood surprises Crystal Gayle with Opry invite

Associated Press

Country star Carrie Underwood had a surprise for Grammy winner Crystal Gayle during her performance at the Grand Ole Opry on Tuesday night.

After they both finished a duet performance of Gayle's crossover hit "Don't It Make Me Brown Eyes Blue," Underwood invited 65-year-old Gayle to become an official Opry member.

The Opry said in a news release that Gayle will be formally inducted next year by her sister, country music icon Loretta Lynn. Gayle made her Opry debut nearly 50 years ago at the age of 16 when she filled in for her older sister.

Gayle is a three-time Academy of Country Music female vocalist of the year. Her other hits include "Cry," "Talking In Your Sleep" and "Why Have You Left The One You Left Me For."

## Bon Jovi donation helps save Ben Franklin's gravestone

A fundraising campaign to help save Benjamin Franklin's damaged gravestone is no longer livin' on a prayer.

Rocker Jon Bon Jovi and his wife, Dorothea, on Tuesday donated \$5,000 to the Christ Church Preservation Trust to quickly push it past its \$10,000 goal.

The marble ledger tablet marking Franklin's grave at Philadelphia's Christ Church

Burial Ground has developed a significant crack on top of the pitting caused by the ritual of tossing pennies onto Franklin's grave.

Thousands of coins are thrown onto the marker each year in a tribute to Franklin's adage, a penny saved is a penny earned.

Franklin, who died in 1790, is one of seven signers of the Declaration of Independence buried across from Independence Mall.

The trust received grants to cover most of the restoration costs.

## New faith and family network launching next month

Hollywood power couple Mark Burnett and Roma Downey are launching a faith- and family entertainment broadcast network next month.

Light TV will air on Fox stations and affiliates and capitalize on MGM's film and TV library. According to a release Wednesday, the round-the-clock network will feature "wholesome family and faith-based properties, including the films 'Rocky' and 'Fame' and the TV series 'Highway to Heaven.'"

Reality TV producer Burnett is known for shows including "The Apprentice," "The Voice" and "Survivor" and Bible-based miniseries. He is president of MGM Television and Digital. His wife, who starred in "Touched by an Angel," is president of

LightWorkers, Media, a division of MGM.

Light TV will launch in December in more than a dozen major TV markets including New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Dallas.

## Parker Posey working on offbeat memoir

Parker Posey, a longtime favorite in the independent film community, is planning a book with an offbeat spirit.

Blue Rider Press has acquired the actress' "You're On An Airplane: A Self-Mythologizing Memoir in Monologues, Crafts and Recipes." Posey is calling the book, due out next year, a printed version of stories she's been telling friends. Her publisher describes it as a mix of "observational humor and personal history."

The 48-year-old Posey has appeared in films by Richard Linklater, Noah Baumbach, Hal Hartley and other independent directors. Her TV credits include "Boston Legal" and "The Good Wife."

## Other news

■ The Disney Junior channel said Wednesday it has ordered a fifth season of the Peabody Award-winning animated series "Doc McStuffins." The title character of "Doc McStuffins" is an African-American girl who dreams of becoming a physician and, in the meantime, runs a clinic for

dolls and stuffed animals.

■ Ricky Martin is engaged. The 44-year-old singer shared the news on Ellen DeGeneres' talk show. Martin said he recently proposed to conceptual artist Jwan Yosef, whom he met a year ago after becoming a fan of Yosef's work. This will be the first marriage for both.

■ Singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen died in his sleep after falling down in the middle of the night at his Los Angeles home, his manager said Wednesday. "The death was sudden, unexpected and peaceful," manager Robert B. Kory said in a statement. The details from Kory provided the first glimpse of how Cohen died. No cause was given last week in the initial announcement of his death. The statement also said that Cohen died Nov. 7.

■ Country singer Holly Dunn, a San Antonio native who had a hit in 1986 with "Daddy's Hands," about her minister father, has died. She was 59. Dunn died on Monday in hospice care in Albuquerque, N.M., according to June Keys, the manager at the Penna Dunn Gallery in Santa Fe, where Dunn's paintings were displayed.

■ Mose Allison, a pianist and singer whose witty, southern-accented lyrics delivered over a backdrop of boogie-woogie blues and jazz piano won fans and influenced musicians across a wide spectrum, died Tuesday of natural causes. He was 89. His wife, Anne Allison, confirmed his death to The Associated Press.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police say woman, 61, falsely claimed attack

**PA** LEBANON — Police said a 61-year-old Pennsylvania woman who claimed she was attacked and robbed by a man had actually just fallen over.

Lebanon police said they planned to charge the woman with making a false report about the incident. The Associated Press isn't reporting the woman's name because court records show police have yet to file the false report charge.

Police said the woman claimed a man came up from behind her and hit her in the leg with a small souvenir-sized baseball bat. She said that caused her to turn around quickly and fall over, enabling the man to take the money she kept on her walker.

## Arcade owner sues to stop police action

**HI** HILO — A Hilo arcade owner whose business has twice been the subject of police gambling raids has filed a lawsuit in hopes of stopping future search and seizures.

The Hawaii Tribune-Herald reported that Triple 7 Amusement owner Lance Yamada filed a lawsuit against Hawaii Police Chief Harry Kubojiri and prosecuting attorney Mitch Roth seeking a court order stopping the seizure of computers used to operate games at the arcade.

Police executed search warrants in July 2012 and March of this year, seizing what was described as suspected illegal gambling machines. Yamada was not charged as a result of either raid.

## Girl, 11, paid \$6,500 for speech, workshop

**NY** POUGHKEEPSIE — A New York school district paid an 11-year-old child advocate \$6,500 plus expenses for serving as keynote speaker for staff and hosting a student workshop last week.

The Poughkeepsie Journal reported the Poughkeepsie City School District hired Marley Dias, of West Orange, N.J., to speak during the superintendent's conference day.

The board voted 3-1 to retroactively approve Marley's consultant agreement at its Nov. 9 meeting.

Marley created the popular #1000BlackGirlBooks campaign to draw attention to the lack of racial diversity in children's literature. She gave an hour-long speech to staff before leading a workshop for 50 students.

## State driver's licenses are getting an overhaul

**NM** SANTA FE — New Mexico driver's licenses are getting an overhaul to comply with tougher federal identification requirements and so the state can continue granting driving privileges to people who are in the country illegally.

The state's Motor Vehicle Division on Monday began issuing two kinds of identification for drivers and other residents. The new driver's license that meets new federal security rules

## THE CENSUS

# 200

The number of pigs that got loose after a truck heading to Indiana was involved in a crash on a foggy southwestern Michigan roadway. Bob Dykhuis told The Holland Sentinel that the tractor-trailer owned by Dykhuis Farms Inc. was carrying about 2,000 young pigs when it crashed Tuesday morning in Allegan County's Manlius Township. The newspaper said 10-20 pigs were killed. Fire crews, Dykhuis Farms staff and area residents worked together to round up the pigs.



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

## Anchor away

A salvage crew recovers a 6,000-pound anchor Tuesday in the Detroit River in Detroit. The anchor, from the Greater Detroit, has rested on the river bed for six decades. Once cleaned and restored, it will be displayed at the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority downtown.

aimed at better safeguarding commercial airlines and federal facilities such as military bases. The other is a driving authorization card geared toward immigrants unable to provide paperwork proving they are the U.S. legally.

Existing driver's licenses will continue to be valid for boarding flights and accessing certain federal facilities until October 2020.

## Officials: 10 sickened by medical supplies

**NJ** ATLANTIC CITY — State health officials said at least 10 people in Atlantic County and three in Ocean County have contracted a bacterial infection stemming from the use of contaminated medical supplies.

The Press of Atlantic City reported New Jersey has seen 52 cases of *B. cepacia* infection directly linked to a multistate outbreak currently under investigation by state and federal health officials.

The New Jersey Department of Health issued warnings to long-term health care facilities last month regarding possible contamination from saline flush syringes made by Texas-based supplier Nurse Assist.

## Plain-language forms adopted for divorces

**TN** NASHVILLE — The Tennessee Supreme Court has adopted plain-language forms and instructions that cou-

ples with children can use for uncontested divorces.

The Administrative Office of the Courts says the forms are intended to simplify divorce proceedings for people with children. The forms are for use by people who agree on child support and other issues of the divorce, don't own any real estate and don't have retirement accounts.

The new forms go into effect Jan. 1 and will be available at no cost at TNCourts.gov and TNJusticeForAll.com.

## Ninja burglar sought in katana sword theft

**AK** ANCHORAGE — A katana sword is missing from an Alaska card shop after a

burglar in a ninja outfit broke in.

KTVA-TV reported that security cameras filmed the costumed suspect entering the Anchorage business sometime after it closed Nov. 11 and leaving with what looked to be the Japanese-style, curved sword.

Spenard Bosco's employee Erich Helmick said inventory is being checked but so far it seems the sword is the only item missing.

## Inmate's wife sues to keep jail video private

**SC** GREENWOOD — The wife of an inmate who died in custody at the Greenwood County jail has sued the local newspaper, sheriff and coroner to prevent officials from releasing video footage of the last hour of his life.

The Index-Journal of Greenwood requested the video under the Freedom of Information Act shortly after Demetric Cowan died in custody on March 13.

The lawsuit says releasing the video would be an invasion of privacy because it would show Cowan's last moments and reveal private medical information.

The newspaper said the public has the right to know what happened when someone dies in jail paid for through tax money.

Authorities said Cowan died from a drug overdose about six hours after he was arrested on charges of drug possession and resisting arrest.

## \$60M plan proposed to elevate structures

**RI** PROVIDENCE — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has proposed a nearly \$60 million plan to lift up 341 private structures along four Rhode Island coastal towns in an attempt to reduce potential damage from flooding caused by storm surges.

The Providence Journal reported the plan would cover homes and some businesses around barrier beaches and salt ponds along 28 miles of shoreline in Westerly, Charlestown, South Kingstown and Narragansett.

The plan is the result of a federally-funded study launched in the wake of Superstorm Sandy.

## Mistaken polling expert eats bugs as promised

**NJ** PRINCETON — A Princeton University polling expert who said he would eat a bug if Donald Trump got more than 240 electoral votes has followed through on his promise.

Sam Wang, of the Princeton Election Consortium, made good on his Twitter word on CNN Saturday.

He ate from a can of gourmet-style crickets and added in some honey.

From wire reports



City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga	74	46	Clr	Fort Wayne	67	52	PCldy	Louisville	77	53	Clr	Portacello	41	17	PCldy	Sioux City	39	34	Clr	
Alexia, Texas	61	50	Clr	Cheyenne	33	15	Clr	Fresno	70	40	Clr	Lubbock	57	38	Clr	Portland, Maine	39	23	Clr	Sioux Falls	33	32	SNw	
Albany, N.Y.	56	33	Alc	Cincinnati	73	50	PCldy	Grand Rapids	67	53	PCldy	Madison	62	44	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	61	34	PCldy	Spokane	41	28	Clr	
Albuquerque	50	29	Clr	Cleveland	70	52	PCldy	Grand Rapids	67	53	PCldy	Medford	55	32	Clr	Pueblo	64	22	Clr	Springfield, Ill.	66	57	Clr	
Albany, N.Y.	56	33	Alc	Colorado Springs	73	50	PCldy	Green Bay	67	53	PCldy	Memphis	61	39	PCldy	Purduhe	61	40	PCldy	St. Louis, Mo.	61	47	Clr	
Amarillo	52	34	Clr	Columbia, S.C.	75	43	Clr	Green Bay	61	50	Clr	Miami Beach	80	69	PCldy	Rain	53	21	PCldy	Syracuse	60	35	Clr	
Anchorage	23	16	Clr	Columbus, Ga.	78	48	Clr	Hartford	63	41	Clr	Midland-Oleessa	59	43	Clr	Reno	53	32	PCldy	Tallahassee	79	48	Clr	
Ann Arbor	64	49	Clr	Chester, Ohio	61	39	PCldy	Chattanooga	74	46	Clr	Midland-Oleessa	59	43	Clr	Richmond	53	26	PCldy	Tulsa	78	41	Clr	
Atlanta	76	49	Clr	Concord, N.H.	58	32	Clr	Hartford Spgld	67	37	Clr	Mpls-St Paul	46	44	Rain	Roanoke	75	52	Clr	Toledo	69	51	PCldy	
Atlanta City	76	49	Clr	Dayton	71	49	PCldy	Houston	68	58	PCldy	Mpls-St Paul	46	44	Rain	Roanoke	75	52	Clr	Topeka	49	46	Clr	
Austin	70	65	Clr	Dallas-Ft Worth	63	60	PCldy	Honolulu	82	71	Clr	Mobile	79	55	Clr	Rockford	62	54	Clr	Tucson	78	41	Clr	
Baltimore	67	38	Clr	Dayton	71	49	PCldy	Houston	68	58	PCldy	Rain	Montgomery	81	49	Clr	Sacramento	66	39	PCldy	Tulsa	78	50	Clr
Baltimore	67	38	PCldy	Dayton	71	49	PCldy	Houston	68	58	PCldy	San Francisco	57	38	Clr	St. Louis	51	25	Clr	Tulsa	78	50	Clr	
Birmingham	78	52	Clr	Denver	40	19	Clr	Indianapolis	60	62	PCldy	New Orleans	79	62	PCldy	St. Petersburg	78	64	PCldy	Tulsa	78	50	Clr	
Birmingham	78	52	Clr	Des Moines	49	28	Clr	Jackson, Miss.	78	55	PCldy	New York City	62	41	Clr	St. Thomas	85	78	Clr	Washington	69	46	Clr	
Boise	49	31	Clr	Duluth	39	37	SNw	Juneau	64	42	Clr	Jacksville	56	34	Clr	St. Thomas	85	78	Clr	Washington	69	46	Clr	
Boston	59	43	Clr	El Paso	64	43	Clr	Kansas City	33	21	PCldy	Norfolk, Va.	66	43	Clr	Salt Lake City	44	24	PCldy	W. Palm Beach	80	69	PCldy	
Boston	59	43	Clr	El Paso	64	43	Clr	Kansas City	33	21	PCldy	Norfolk, Va.	66	43	Clr	Salt Lake City	44	24	PCldy	W. Palm Beach	80	69	PCldy	
Brownsville	84	72	Clr	Erie	50	31	Clr	Key West	79	71	PCldy	Omaha	46	38	Clr	San Antonio	73	66	Clr	Wichita Falls	61	48	Clr	
Brownsville	84	72	Clr	Buffalo	51	34	Clr	Knoxville	74	43	Clr	Omaha	46	38	Clr	San Diego	75	65	Clr	Wicks-Barre	62	37	Clr	
Burlington, Vt.	59	34	Clr	Evansville	71	55	Rain	Lake Charles	63	43	Clr	San Francisco	57	38	Clr	San Francisco	57	38	Clr	Wilmington, Del.	67	39	Clr	
Burlington, Vt.	59	34	Clr	Evansville	71	55	Rain	Lake Charles	63	43	Clr	San Francisco	57	38	Clr	San Jose	70	43	Clr	Yakima	44	30	Cl	
Caribou, Maine	53	34	Clr	Fairbanks	9	-4	SNw	Las Vegas	68	53	PCldy	Paduach	72	57	Rain	San Jose	70	43	Clr	Yakima	44	30	Cl	
Casper	60	39	PCldy	Fargo	33	15	PCldy	Las Vegas	68	53	PCldy	Pendleton	48	30	Clr	St. Peter	50	27	PCldy	Youngstown	70	48	Clr	
Charleston, S.C.	73	47	Clr	Flagstaff	69	52	PCldy	Lincoln	41	36	Clr	Philadelphia	67	50	Clr	Savannah	58	48	Clr					
Charleston, W.Va.	75	47	Clr	Flint	60	52	PCldy	Little Rock	69	59	Rain	Phoenix	76	50	Clr	Seattle	53	39	Clr					
Chicago	69	49	PCldy	Ft. Smith	59	41	PCldy	Los Angeles	79	67	PCldy	Portland	69	50	PCldy	St. Louis	51	25	Clr					

National temperature extremes

Hi: 100, 1



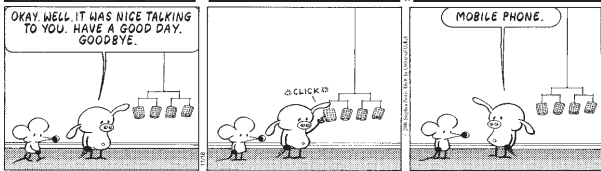
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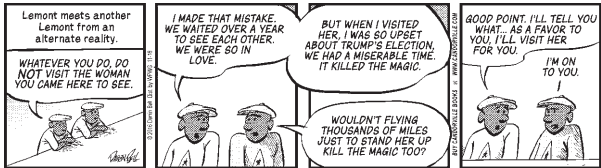
Pearls Before Swine



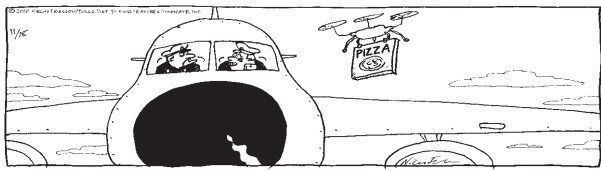
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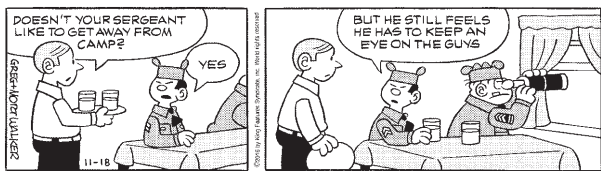
Candorville



Carpe Diem



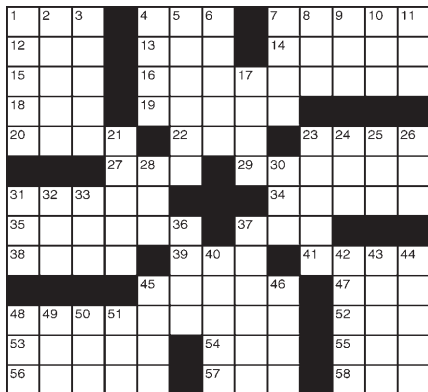
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

- Ewe's mate
- Historic period
- Marshal Earp
- Ms. Gardner
- Needlefish
- Sound
- Charged bit
- Miss a wake-up call
- Go astray
- Arrangement
- Dutch cheese
- Composer Rorem
- Mystique
- Tummy muscles
- French tower designer
- Maxim
- Treasure stash
- Lodestone
- Scary cry
- Notion
- Lupino of film
- Blind part
- Sidestep
- College URL ender
- Pajama party
- Still, in verse
- Old hat
- de-France
- Browns, on scoreboards

- Played a part
- Caustic solution
- Cock and bull?

## DOWN

- Lift
- Sidestep
- Frost from heaven
- Swelled heads
- Black birds
- Mountain crest
- Stinger
- Actor Brynner
- Citric beverage
- Dead heat
- Surpass
- Uncivil
- Carta ingredient
- Roundish hairdos
- Roswell sighting
- Speed (up)
- Hearty quaff
- Spelldown
- "Am — blame?"
- Parisian pal
- Pop
- Census stat
- DVR brand
- Just
- Evil one
- Bloodsucker
- "Skylark" singer
- Jukebox picks
- Lacked originality
- Nest setting
- Hot tub
- Varnish
- Ballpark fig.
- Jargon suffix

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

11-18

## CRYPTOQUIP

YFLUM WYVWLUVHVO M  
GYDMV GSY'K MZGMNK  
MWWYDFMVHLT AN SLU  
KDMZZ GLZKS TYO: "WYUOH  
MVT ALKK."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF COMEDIC ACTOR WILL WANTED ANY FELINE PETS, I'M PRETTY SURE HE WOULD CHOOSE FERRELL CATS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals W

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## OPINION

## Dems scramble to reshape organization

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

The Dallas Morning News

Hillary Clinton had barely conceded the 2016 presidential race when Bernie Sanders' liberal legions signaled a resumption of their campaign to take over the Democratic Party.

But they might be putting the cart before the horse by stressing how to refocus the party's message before the more immediate need of rebuilding an organization that has suffered dramatic state and congressional electoral losses the past six years.

Less than an hour after Clinton called President-elect Donald Trump to concede, the Sanders political organization, Our Revolution, issued its own verdict. Ignoring the defeated nominee, it said the result confirmed "the political elite of both parties, the economists and the media are completely out of touch with the American electorate" and vowed "to offer a real alternative vision to continue the work of the political revolution."

Within days, the Vermont senator endorsed one of his earliest and most fervent supporters, Rep. Keith Ellison, of Minnesota, for the Democratic National Committee's chairmanship. A black who is one of two Muslims in Congress and has one of its most liberal voting records, Ellison said on ABC's "This Week," "The most important criteria for DNC chair is going to be vision."

But other potential candidates have also emerged, including former chairman Howard Dean, former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley (who has said he's not seeking the position), South Carolina Democratic Chairman Jaime Harrison and outgoing Labor Secretary Tom Perez, as well as other issues, notably whether the party needs a full-time chairman.

"You can't do the president's not full time. Period," Dean said Monday on MSNBC's "Morning Joe." A former Vermont govern-



ALEX BRANDON/AP

**New York's Charles Schumer, incoming Senate minority leader, is the most powerful Democrat in the weakened party.**

nor, Dean chaired the party after its 2004 defeat until Barack Obama's 2008 victory.

History tells us Dean is correct. The most successful party chairs took over after presidential defeats — Democrat Bob Strauss and Republican Bill Brock in the 1970s, and Dean and Republican Reince Priebus more recently — and concentrated on rebuilding their party structures while leaving the vision thing to congressional leaders and the candidates who ultimately emerged.

The need for that kind of chair is underscored by the challenge the Democrats will confront in the next major political test, the 2018 midterm elections. Midterm elections traditionally test the party in power, but a third arithmetic suggests Republicans are in a strong position to retain their majorities in both the House and Senate.

## Nothing's sacred in the 'post-truth' America

By ANN McFEETERS

Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — id you happen to notice the diamond-and-gold bracelet Ivanka Trump was wearing Sunday during CBS' live interview with her father, the president-elect?

The next day, press releases went out that said you — yes, you — can buy a bracelet just like it from Ivanka's jewelry line for about \$10,800.

Also, Donald Trump's long list of golf courses and hotels was briefly touted on a government "get-to-know-your-new-president" website before somebody realized the promo was totally inappropriate.

Welcome to the new reality, folks. The president of the United States and his family — salespeople extraordinaire, backed by the full weight and extensive reach of the federal government.

With Trump's transition team falling into chaos because those in charge were fired, three of the billionaire's children — a group that will be running his sprawling, international business empire — were brought aboard. Thus, the people who will be overseeing Trump's businesses are now vetting the people who will be regulating them.

The federal General Services Administration owns the old post office in Washington where Trump just opened a new hotel. The National Labor Relations Board will rule on his disputes with hotel employees. There is an upcoming trial on the now-de-

funct Trump University with a number of former students claiming they were defrauded. There is a long list of potential conflicts.

Trump wants his children to have full security clearances, with access to the government's top secrets. That may not happen this year. But when Trump is president, he can order that they be given full access to classified materials.

Ah, such an old-fashioned term: conflict of interest.

But who will know what's really going on? Trump loathes the press and already has simply refused to let them have much of the access the media has traditionally had to the president. The protective press pool has simply been left behind.

Besides, there are fewer and fewer reporters as media empires collapse. Millions of Americans don't read newspapers or watch TV news. And Trump has infused millions of his supporters with true hatred of "the dishonest media." (Never mind that the dishonest media gave him a billion dollars' worth of free media attention, helping him quash a dozen and a half GOP rivals and, later, Hillary Clinton.)

Oh, by the way, he has a new phenomenon emerging: fake news.

Did you know that actor Denzel Washington and Pope Francis endorsed Trump? No? Well, they didn't. That was totally fabricated.

Did you know that an FBI agent investigating Clinton's emails was killed? No? Well, it didn't happen. It wasn't true. But it was all over the internet, and hundreds

of only eight Republicans are among the 33 senators up for re-election in two years, and only one, Nevada's Dean Heller, is in a state Clinton carried. But 10 of 25 Democratic seats up are in states Trump carried. In the House, the post-2010 reapportionment continues to ensure GOP control, reconfirmed last week though Democratic candidates got more votes.

As a result, the major 2018 Democratic opportunity will come at the state level, where Republicans now hold 26 of the 36 governorships up for election, and a majority won't have incumbents, including such major GOP-held battlegrounds as Florida, Ohio and Michigan. Democratic gains there are absolutely necessary if the party is to influence legislative and congressional redistricting after the 2020 census.

The new chair will become a major party spokesperson, along with Sen. Charles Schumer, of New York, the incoming Senate Minority Leader who will be the most powerful Democrat in the weakened party. But pressure from House members who want some new blood in the leadership forced Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi to delay the Party's leadership elections until after Thanksgiving.

The long-term Democratic future is even hazier: The 2020 presidential field could include some or all of a long list of ambitious office-holders: Sen. Tim Kaine, of Virginia, the unsuccessful 2016 Democratic vice presidential nominee; and fellow Sens. Cory Booker, of New Jersey, Kirsten Gillibrand, of New York, and Amy Klobuchar, of Minnesota; Gov. Andrew Cuomo, of New York; and former Gov. Deval Patrick, of Massachusetts.

But history has been unkind to unsuccessful vice presidential candidates and, presumably, other contenders will emerge. After all, who knew four years ago that Donald Trump would even be a 2016 candidate?

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of The Dallas Morning News.

of thousands of people believed it. And still do.

So, we have a bad situation here.

A president who hates the press and will attempt to thwart it at every turn, doing his best to deny the public its right to know what he is doing, while fake news is being spewed all over the globe. A president who has never held public office, is proud of his inability to make money, vows to make a lot more of it, who intends to do whatever he wants and will have more power than ever to achieve that goal.

It gets worse. Trump has named as his chief White House adviser Steve Bannon, the founder of Breitbart "News," a white supremacist-supporting outfit that is mainly known for spewing hate and intolerance. It's a post of incredible power, and Bannon doesn't need congressional approval.

Oxford Dictionaries has selected its word of the year: It's "post-truth." As in, we live in a post-truth world where the president-elect of the United States has lied repeatedly, pathologically and, apparently, without consequence. And, undoubtedly, will continue to do so.

Long live a free press. Peaks and valleys, friends. But here's a hope: The mainstream media will prove to be more important than ever in the next four years.

And when you get that cushy new job Trump is promising, you can afford to buy that gold bracelet just like old Ivanka's. Or one of Melania's watches once sold on QVC, to mark the passage of time.

Ann McFeeters is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service.

# OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### Government's PR goes too far The Orange County (Calif.) Register

Federal agencies have spent about \$1 billion a year over the past decade on advertising and public relations, according to a recent Government Accountability Office report. Even that figure likely understates the actual costs, the GAO notes, due to imprecise budget classifications and the difficulty in defining "public relations" activities and personnel.

The Defense Department is responsible for the largest share of public relations activity by far, accounting for 40 percent of all federal public relations personnel and 60 percent of all PR spending. The Department of Veterans Affairs experienced the largest rate of increase in public relations spending during the period, doubling its PR staff from 144 in 2006 to 286 in 2014 (which was, probably not coincidentally, the year the VA hospital negligence and wait-time scandal broke).

The government's public relations services include perfectly legitimate functions, such as providing notice of impending regulations and public comment periods or informing the public about health and safety threats. But when the Health and Human Services Department launches an expensive pro-Obamacare advertising campaign, or the Pentagon tries to spin and influence media coverage of military actions, the question we must continually ask is: When does public information cross the line to propaganda?

A report last year from Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain and Jeff Flake criticized what they called "paid patriotism," the practice of the military paying pro and college sports teams to perform on-field flag ceremonies, surprise homecomings, wounded warrior tributes, ceremonial first pitches and the like. "Americans deserve the ability to assume that tributes for our men and women in military uniform are genuine displays of national pride, which many are, rather than taxpayer-funded DoD marketing gimmicks," they stated.

And a 2008 New York Times investigation revealed that retired military officers who serve as "military analysts" on many news programs often parroted administration talking points in exchange for special briefings and access to administration officials, which many of them used to advance their own business interests by pursuing government contracts.

It is bad enough that the government spends our own money in ways with which many taxpayers would disagree, but it is a double slap in the face when it uses those hard-earned dollars to pat itself on the back for these infringements or tries to manipulate our opinions and behavior.

### Cuban people factor in Trump The Miami Herald

Donald Trump's victory has sent shock waves through the U.S. — and also to our nearest "frenemy" 90 miles away.

The president-elect clearly said during his campaign that he would reverse the thaw in relations between Washington and Havana unless Raul Castro's government reversed more than 50 years of oppression. On this subject, the Cuban regime continues to be deficient: Granting the freedoms to which Trump referred is tantamount to going against the very essence of the system. ...

In the final days of his campaign, Trump was endorsed by the veterans of the Bay of Pigs invasion — a group of CIA-trained



JOHN L. MONE/AP

**Protesters demonstrating against the expansion of the Dakota Access Pipeline wave in cold creek waters confronting local police as remnants of pepper spray waft over the crowd near Cannon Ball, N.D., on Nov. 2.**

Cuban exiles who unsuccessfully tried to topple the Fidel Castro regime in 1961. Rightly, the island government fears that when Trump moves into the White House, he will put President Barack Obama's thaw back on ice. After all, Cuba has seen an increase in the flow of capital it needs to keep its failing economy afloat.

And on the streets, Cubans who dream of coming to the U.S. see their goal at risk. They fear that Trump, who has often spoken of reducing the influx of immigrants to the nation, will eliminate migratory privileges, such as visa programs, that allow Cubans to resettle in the U.S.

It is possible that before Jan. 20, when the real estate magnate takes office, there will be increased attempts to cross the Florida Straits, or there will be a jump in the number of Cubans making their way to the United States through other countries. No doubt, such a renewed exodus will have an impact on South Florida.

The restlessness on the island coincides with an announcement last week of military exercises on Cuba. The objective is to "raise the country's willingness to defend and prepare the troops and the population to deal with the enemy's different actions," according to a statement in the official newspaper Granma.

But who is the enemy the Cuban government refers to in the announcement?

Is it the U.S., the so-called "Yankee imperialism," the term the Castro regime used for the U.S. before Obama set each nation on a road to cordiality? Keeping the population fearful and alert for a possible foreign invasion from the U.S. has long been a Castro tactic. Just like previous Republican and Democratic administrations, Trump likely has no interest in launching a military operation against the old enemy. So ordering military exercises to confront the hypothetical "enemy actions" is a sign of the paranoia that has characterized the Cuban regime. ...

The real enemy of the Cubans is not in Washington, but on the island itself.

### Protest response inconsistent The Des Moines (Iowa) Register

Eleven months ago, a group of armed militants piled into a couple of pickup trucks and headed for Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. Once there, they took control of the headquarters building, stationed armed guards around the perimeter and began issuing ominous threats of violence unless the federal government relinquished control over 1.4 million acres of national forest.

Just for good measure, they named their merry band of flag-waving commandos the Citizens for Constitutional Freedom, underscoring their bizarre belief that as indi-

viduals we all have a constitutional right to simply take, at gunpoint, land and property that belongs to all of us collectively.

The government responded the same way parents react to a child's tantrum: quiet patience. Authorities adopted a strategy of waiting out the offenders, at one point attempting to gently nudge them back into the real world by offering them a police escort out of the county if they'd just quit misbehaving.

But, as so often happens when the right to bear arms collides with one's right to be stupid, the freedom fighters' campaign ended in bloodshed. In a confrontation with police, one of the men was shot and killed as he reached into a pocket containing a loaded gun. After that, most of the rebels gave up, went home or were carted off to jail. Eleven pleaded guilty to an assortment of criminal charges, but a jury last month acquitted seven of them on conspiracy and weapons charges.

How consistent the manner in which law enforcement responded to the armed takeover of federal land in Oregon with the way it has responded to Native Americans and others protesting the Dakota Access pipeline. As currently planned, this pipeline will transport crude oil more than 1,000 miles from North Dakota to southern Illinois, and in the process it will cross a major waterway near the Standing Rock Sioux Indian reservation.

In September, shortly after construction workers bulldozed North Dakota land that tribal leaders consider sacred, protesters flooded into the area. As local police watched, a private security company used pepper spray and attack dogs on unarmed demonstrators. Local police later claimed the protesters were violent, but the available video suggests otherwise.

That video prompted police to issue an arrest warrant for the journalist who shot it. Any Goodman, of Democracy Now, was charged with rioting, a charge that, thankfully, was later tossed out by a judge. ...

Then, late last month, National Guard troops and police from a half-dozen states cleared out a protest camp that was blocking roads and highways. Using armored personnel carriers, they advanced on the protesters until a tribal elder physically placed himself between the demonstrators and the authorities, then turned to his people and said: "Go home. We're here to fight the pipeline, not these people, and we can only win this with prayer."

There's no question that many of the Dakota Access protesters are engaged in civil disobedience, so fines and citations are justified. But the private security firms, the police and the prosecutors have gone far beyond that. ... Several Native Americans have reportedly been jailed and strip-searched for minor offenses such as

disorderly conduct. When one compares that sort of overreaction with the government's low-key response to the good ol' boys who brandished guns while seizing a wildlife refuge, one has to wonder how much a role race plays in all of this.

The police and the National Guard have a duty to keep the peace in North Dakota, but they also obligated to use the minimum force necessary — not just to protect the rights of protesters, but also to avoid a needless escalation in hostilities.

### Cubs, Trump defy 'Big Data' The Chicago Tribune

Cubs win the World Series.

Donald Trump wins the White House.

What do those two epochal events have in common? Both were considered highly unlikely. And both happened.

Many fans didn't expect the Cubs to come back from a 3-games-to-1 deficit against the Cleveland Indians. But they knew from data that it was statistically possible: Five teams in history had done just that.

Most Americans probably didn't expect Donald Trump to overcome a polling deficit against Hillary Clinton to win the presidency. And those polls were all but unanimous: The odds against Trump, as those against the Cubs, looked daunting.

But daunting and impossible aren't synonyms.

In the aftermath of the alleged Epic Big Data fail on Election Day, many Americans will judge predictions, projections and premonitions with more skepticism. They've learned an important, even comforting, lesson about the limits of polling and other measures: Big Data is not destiny.

Big Data formulas written by humans to take the guesswork out of what other humans will do under certain circumstances. Will they buy this toothpaste? At what price? Survey responses to pollsters, consumer buying habits, internet site visits, etc. can be plugged into computer models to reveal human behavior. The understandable hope is always that if you start with knowable measurements and crunch them through well-constructed formulas, you'll produce a reliable preview of what will happen.

Not necessarily. Computers don't read minds. Nor do pollsters. People don't always say what they think. Or they change their minds. ... Some people say one thing but do another. You will never write a program to take into account all those nuances and many others. ...

"Polling data having a large volume of polling data for eliminating uncertainty," writes Nate Silver of the website FiveThirtyEight.com, one of many prognosticators who whiffed the election call. "It doesn't work that way. Yes, having more polls helps to a degree, by reducing sampling error and by providing for a mix of reasons for the results. There's no better to be ahead in two polls than ahead in one poll, and in 10 polls than in two polls. Before long, however, you start to encounter diminishing returns. Polls tend to replicate one another's mistakes."

Big Data is not Big Mistakes. "That failure 'doesn't erase the value of big data,'" wrote David Lazer, of Northeastern University, and Ryan Kennedy, of the University of Houston, in Wired magazine. "What it does do is highlight a number of problematic practices in its use — what lie beneath the data."

We'd say that many alleged political pros suffered a serious case of that affliction before voters set them straight Nov. 8. ...

Humans embrace Big Data ... because we live in an unpredictable universe that is often capricious. People feel comforted when they say they know what is going to happen. ... Reality is elastic. Every moment brings new possibilities. That's what makes life intriguing.

Many predictions proved wrong on Election Day. As did many predictions when the Cubs were down 3-games-to-1.

That's why we vote. That's why we play the games.





## SPORTS BRIEFS/NHL

## Briefly

## Pro Football HoF picks semifinalists

Associated Press

First-year eligibles LaDainian Tomlinson, Hines Ward, Jason Taylor and Brian Dawkins are among 26 semifinalists for the Pro Football Hall of Fame's class of 2017.

Joining them as first-time semifinalists is tackle-guard Chris Hinton, who retired in 1989 but has made this cut for the first time.

The other 21 candidates — there was a tie for 25th in voting by Hall of Fame selectors as the list was trimmed from an original 94 — all have made it this far in the past.

Two coaches, Don Coryell and Jimmy Johnson, have also made the semifinals. So has placekicker Morten Andersen, the NFL's career scoring leader.

Previously nominated by the veterans committee was safety Kenny Easley, and by the contributors' committee were Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue.

The 2017 class will be selected on Feb. 4, the day before the Super Bowl. Between four and eight new members will be chosen.

Inductions will be in August at the Canton, Ohio, shrine.

Other semifinalists are quarterback Kurt Warner; running backs Roger Craig, Terrell Davis and Edgerman James; wide receivers Isaac Bruce, Torry Holt and Terrell Owens; offensive tackles Tony Boselli, Joe Jacoby and Mike Kenn; guard Alan Faneca; center Kevin Mawae; cornerback Ty Law; safeties Steve Atwater, John Lynch and Darren Woodson; and linebackers Karl Mecklenburg and Clay Matthews Jr., the father of current Packers LB Clay Matthews III.

■ In other NFL news:

Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Johnny Manziel has reached a deal with prosecutors for the conditional dismissal of a domestic assault case involving his former girlfriend.

Defense attorney Jim Darnell said there was still work to be done to finalize the deal, but said after a Thursday morning hearing that he was encouraged. A judge set another hearing for Dec. 2 when the case could be settled.

The 23-year-old Manziel is accused of hitting and threatening former girlfriend Colleen Crowley during a night out in January.

## Ducks trade Sgarbossa to Florida for Shaw

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Anaheim Ducks acquired forward Logan Shaw on Wednesday from the Florida Panthers in a trade for forward Michael Sgarbossa.

Sgarbossa had two assists in nine games with the Ducks after starting the season in the AHL. He has three points in 29 career

NHL games with Anaheim and Colorado.

Shaw has five goals and two assists in 53 games with the Panthers. He spent most of the previous three seasons in the AHL, but appeared in three playoff games for Florida last spring.

Shaw is a former third-round pick by Florida, while the Ducks acquired Sgarbossa from the Avalanche in March 2015.

## Astros, Morton agree to \$14 million, 2-year deal

HOUSTON — Right-hander Charlie Morton agreed to a contract with Houston on Wednesday, giving the Astros two of the best groundball pitchers in the majors.

Morton accepted a \$14 million, two-year deal that includes annual salaries of \$7 million and performance bonuses of \$625,000 apiece for 12, 20, 25 and 30 starts each season.

Morton, who ranks second in the majors among active pitchers in career groundball to fly ball ratio (2.48), joins a staff that features last year's American League Cy Young Award winner Dallas Keuchel, a lefty who leads the league in that category (2.8).

The 33-year-old Morton has spent his entire nine-year career in the National League where he played for the Braves, Pirates and Phillies.

## Baylor QB Russell has surgery on left ankle

WACO, Texas — Baylor senior quarterback Seth Russell had surgery Wednesday on his fractured left ankle.

According to a statement from his family, Russell's surgery in Fort Worth was successful and he is expected to make a full recovery.

Russell suffered the gruesome injury in the third quarter of Baylor's 45-24 loss at Big 12-leading Oklahoma on Saturday.

The family statement said that Russell should be ready for the 2017 NFL Combine that begins Feb. 28 in Indianapolis.

## Kazakhstan stripped of three Olympic medals

ASTANA, Kazakhstan — Kazakhstan says three medalists are among six of its athletes disqualified from previous Olympics over doping.

The country's national Olympic committee said in a statement that weightlifters Irina Nekrasova and Maria Grabovetskaya, who won silver and bronze medals respectively at Beijing 2008, and bronze medal-winning wrestler Azer Mambetov, were retroactively disqualified following recent drug-test samples they gave to those games.

## NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference									
Atlantic Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Montreal	17	13	2	2	28	56	38		
Ottawa	16	10	5	1	21	38	37		
Tampa Bay	17	10	6	1	21	54	45		
Boston	16	10	6	0	20	41	38		
Florida	16	10	7	0	20	44	37		
Toronto	16	9	6	1	17	44	47		
Detroit	17	8	8	1	17	44	47		
Buffalo	16	5	7	4	14	30	41		
Metropolitan Division									
N.Y. Rangers	17	13	4	0	26	72	38		
Pittsburgh	16	10	4	2	22	48	46		
Washington	16	10	4	2	22	48	46		
New Jersey	15	9	3	3	21	37	31		
Columbus	15	8	4	3	19	47	23		
Philadelphia	17	7	7	3	17	57	62		
Carolina	15	5	6	4	14	39	59		
N.Y. Islanders	16	5	6	5	13	40	51		
Western Conference									
Central Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Chicago	17	11	4	2	24	54	43		
Winnipeg	18	9	7	2	18	27	26		
St. Louis	17	8	6	3	19	41	48		
Minnesota	17	8	6	3	19	41	48		
Dallas	17	6	6	5	17	57	57		
Nashville	15	6	6	3	15	41	43		
Colorado	15	7	6	2	14	31	42		
Pacific Division									
Edmonton	17	8	6	3	19	47	45		
Anaheim	17	8	6	3	19	45	41		
San Jose	16	9	7	0	18	27	26		
Los Angeles	17	7	9	1	15	40	45		
Calgary	18	10	1	1	21	42	60		
Vancouver	17	6	10	1	13	57	62		
Arizona	15	5	6	4	11	39	51		

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

**Tuesday's games**  
Ottawa 3, Philadelphia 2, 50  
Columbus 2, Washington 1, OT  
Carolina 1, San Jose 0  
Toronto 6, Nashville 2  
Tampa Bay 4, Detroit 3  
Florida 4, Montreal 3  
St. Louis 4, Buffalo 1  
Calgary 1, Minnesota 0  
Winnipeg 4, Chicago 0  
New Jersey 2, Dallas 1, OT  
Colorado 4, Los Angeles 1  
N.Y. Rangers 1, Vancouver 1  
Anaheim 4, Edmonton 1

**Wednesday's games**  
Washington 7, Pittsburgh 1  
Calgary 2, Arizona 1, OT

**Thursday's games**  
Tampa Bay at Buffalo  
Winnipeg at Philadelphia  
Florida at Toronto  
Nashville at Ottawa  
San Jose at St. Louis  
Boston at Minnesota  
Colorado at Dallas  
New Jersey at Anaheim  
Arizona at Vancouver  
Edmonton at Los Angeles

**Friday's games**  
Detroit at Washington  
N.Y. Rangers at Columbus  
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders  
Montreal at Carolina  
Chicago at Calgary

**Saturday's games**  
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia  
New Jersey at Los Angeles  
Toronto at Montreal  
Edmonton at Dallas  
Buffalo at Boston  
Florida at Ottawa  
San Jose at Arizona  
Colorado at Minnesota  
Chicago at Vancouver

**Sunday's games**  
Columbus at Washington  
Winnipeg at Carolina  
Florida at N.Y. Rangers  
Calgary at Detroit  
Los Angeles at Anaheim

## Wednesday Capitals 7, Penguins 1

**Washington** 0 0 3 1-7  
1st Period—1, Washington, Oshie  
2nd Period—2-2 (Oshie, Backstrom)  
3rd Period—3 (Niskanen, Oshie), 17-30, 3-1  
Shaw (Sgarbossa), Oshie (Backstrom), Carlson, 19:52 (pp.)

**Second Period—**Washington, Orlov 1  
1st Period—Backstrom, 5:10  
**Third Period—**5, Washington, Williams 2  
2nd Period—Oshie, 5:37 (pp.), 6, Washington, Ovechkin 8 (Burakovsky), 10:26  
3rd Period—Oshie, 10:26 (pp.), 16:28, 8, Washington, Backstrom 4 (Orlik, Schmidt), 16:38

**Shots on Goal—**Pittsburgh 12-6-8-26  
Washington 16-13-10-39  
Goalies—Backstrom, 2-25  
0 of 4; Washington 2 of 7  
Penalties—Pittsburgh, Murray 4-10 (14 shots-12 saves), Fleury 6-3-2 (25-20).  
Washington, Holtby 8-3-1 (26-25).

## Flames 2, Coyotes 1 (OT)

**Arizona** 0 0 1 0-1  
Calgary 0 0 1 1-2  
1st Period—1, Arizona, Rieder 4  
(Markovik), 10:26

**Second Period—**1, Arizona, Rieder 4  
(Markovik), 10:26  
**Third Period—**2, Calgary, Tkachuk 4  
(Orlov), 16:38

**Overtime—**Calgary, Frolk 6, 0-49  
3rd Period—Arizona 8-7-6-21  
5-10-11-24  
**Lower-playoff possibilities—**Arizona 0  
of 3; Calgary 2 of 3  
**Goalies—**Arizona, Smith 1-0-1 (24 shots-12 saves), Fleury 6-3-2 (25-20).  
Calgary, Holtby 8-3-1 (26-25).

A-18,202 (19,289), T-2,38.



Nick Wass/AP

Capitals goalie Braden Holtby watches the puck during the third period of Wednesday's game against the Penguins in Washington.

## NHL roundup

## Cars come alive, wall of Penguins

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Determined to get out of their recent funk and motivated to measure up to the defending Stanley Cup champions, the Washington Capitals took out their frustrations in a 7-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Wednesday night.

The score was indicative of just how lopsided the game was as the Capitals got two goals and three assists from Nicklas Backstrom and two goals and two assists from T.J. Oshie. They scored short-handed, at even strength and on the power play and skated the Penguins out of the building in the rivals' second meeting of the season.

"We played really quick tonight, we got on their D-men," said Backstrom, who tied his career high with five points. "We were hungry out there and we won battles and obviously we scored on our chances, too. That's huge."

Washington had lost two in a row and three of four and didn't look at all like a team that lost in overtime Tuesday night at Columbus. Alex Ovechkin ended his four-game point drought with his eighth goal of the season, and Dmitry Orlov and Justin Williams also scored.

Ovechkin got a scare when he was taken down by Kris Letang in the second period, leaving the ice briefly before returning a few minutes later. He said his arm went numb but that he was healthy enough to come back and contribute to the blowout.

"It's nice to see when we play like that, we stick together and we don't give them anything or much," Ovechkin said. "It's a good sign."

It's a bad sign for the Penguins to put up that kind of effort despite being rested. Pittsburgh allowed a short-handed goal to Oshie early and took nine minor penalties as things fell apart.

"These games are humbling," Pittsburgh coach Mike Sullivan said. "We were embarrassed out there tonight, all of us."

Cup-winning goaltender Matt Murray left the game late in the first period after teammate Evgeni Malkin accidentally hit him in the head when he was trying to shove Capitals defenseman Karl Alzner. Murray said he went through the NHL's concussion protocol and was medically cleared to return, but Sullivan opted to stick with Marc-Andre Fleury out of an abundance of caution.

**Flames 2, Coyotes 1 (OT):** Michael Frolk scored 49 seconds into overtime to lift host Calgary past Arizona.

Frolk stole the puck from Brad Richardson after a faceoff in the Flames' end and skated in at top speed and ripped a shot into the post on Coyotes goalie Mike Smith.

Matthew Tkachuk scored in regulation for Calgary, which snapped a three-game home skid. Chad Johnson started for the second straight night and finished with 20 saves.

Tobias Rieder scored for Arizona and Smith stopped 22 shots.

Technical—Durant, DeRozan. A—24,050 (19,800).



## COLLEGE BASKETBALL/MLB

## Top 25 roundup

## Hoosiers cruise to easy win

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — When Indiana tipped off its regular-season home opener, it looked like the sixth-ranked Hoosiers returned from Honolulu empty-handed.

Just five days removed from defeating then-No. 3 Kansas in the Armed Forces Classic, Indiana started Wednesday night's game flat on offense, slow on defense, and for much of the first 10 minutes, played mediocre basketball. The Hoosiers looked tired, searching for the momentum that carried them past Kansas.

"When you're coming off a great win like we had, you think the (next) game is going to be easier, but it's not," Indiana coach Tom Crean said, adding that it felt like his team hit a wall.

James Blackmon Jr. got Indiana (2-0) over that wall. Blackmon Jr. made five three-pointers, scored 23 points and grabbed seven rebounds in a 100-78 victory over UMass Lowell.

The River Hawks led three times during the first 10 minutes and by as many as five points. But with 8:24 remaining, Indiana found its niche behind the savvy scoring of Blackmon, who had 20 points in the first half.

Indiana outscored UMass Lowell (1-2) 32-15 during the final 8 minutes of the first half. The Hoosiers went into halftime having shot 60 percent from the field (21-for-35). Once Indiana returned true to form, resembling the same team that kicked off the season with a big win in Hawaii, the Hoosiers dominated for the remainder of the game. The Hoosiers had an assist on 23 field goals.

Big men OG Anunoby and Thomas Bryant contributed to Indiana's onslaught. Anunoby scored 15 points and Bryant added nine and the two combined for nine rebounds. The Hoosiers outrebounced UMass Lowell 46-24. Of the 46 rebounds, 19 were on the offensive end, leading to 15 second-chance points.

Crean praised his squad for establishing physicality and speed, rather than attempting to establish their jump shots, or an offensive presence. And in doing so, it led to a defensive effort that contributed largely to the turning point of the game. Robert Johnson echoed his coach's sentiments.

"I think it all starts on defense," Johnson said. "Once we get stops, defensive rebounds, we can get out in transition and play."

Johnson scored 16 points, grabbed five rebounds and had five assists for Indiana. The Hoosiers led by as many as 29 points halfway through the coach's sentiments.

Jahad Thomas finished with 16 points and Taylor Livingston had 14 for the River Hawks.

**No. 17 Saint Mary's 110, Prairie View A&M 72:** At Moraga, Calif., Emmett Naar had 16 points and 11 assists to pace seven scorers in double figures for the Gaels.

Naar, an All-West Coast Conference pick as a sophomore last season who was held to six points in Saint Mary's season-opener,



AJ Mast/AP

Indiana guard Devonte Green goes up for a dunk against UMass-Lowell in Bloomington, Ind., on Wednesday. The Hoosiers won 100-78.

shot 7-for-9 from the field. He scored eight points in the first 5 minutes of the second half, including two three-pointers as part of a 15-4 run.

Jock Landale added 13 points and eight rebounds while Stefan Gonzalez had 14 points for Saint Mary's (2-0).

L.J. Westbrook had 13 points for Prairie View A&M (1-2), which was coming off a win over defending Mountain West champ Fresno State.

**No. 21 Rhode Island 79, Brown 72:** Jared Terrell scored 18 points and E.C. Matthews added 17 as the Rams won in Round Two of the Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off.

Hassan Martin added 12 points and Kur'an Iverson had 11 as Rhode Island (3-0) defeated the Bears (1-2) for the 19th time in their last 21 meetings.

The Rams built a 36-21 lead late in the first half but Steven Spieth keyed a rally that enabled Brown to pull within 41-33 at halftime.

The Rams scored 20 points off 13 Brown turnovers which offset the fact the Bears

outrebounced Rhode Island 38-31.

Brandon Anderson had 16 points for Brown while Taron Blackmon and Travis Fuller chipped in with 11 apiece.

**No. 25 California 75, UC Irvine 65 (OT):** Charlie Moore scored 38 points to break Shareef Abdur-Rahim's freshman record of 33 in November 1995 and Stephen Domingos hit a go-ahead three-pointer with 3:10 left in overtime for the short-handed host Golden Bears.

Kameron Rooks' tip-in with 23 seconds left in regulation tied the game and Jaron Martin failed to get off a shot for the Anteaters (1-2). Rooks scored a career-high 15 points to go with eight rebounds as Cal extended its home winning streak at Haas Pavilion to 21.

Martin scored a career-best 26 points with three key baskets over the final 6:11 of regulation.

Cal (2-0) missed three starters because of injuries: pressman All-American Ivan Rabb (toe), Jabari Bird (back) and Columbia transfer Grant Mullins (neck strain).

## Both: Scherzer led majors with 284 strikeouts

## FROM BACK PAGE

"That's just the weird thing about these," said Scherzer, who ruled the majors with 284 strikeouts and topped the NL with 20 wins for Washington. "It's the voting."

Porcello led baseball with 22 wins for Boston, and had a 3.15 ERA.

Porcello won despite getting just eight of the 30 first-place votes from members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America — this was the first time the AL Cy Young winner didn't get the most firsts.

Verlander went 16-9 with a 2.40 ERA while leading the AL in strikeouts and other categories. He got 14 first-place votes, but didn't draw as much support across the board — he was left off two ballots, too.

Overall, Porcello won 137-132 in the second-closest vote since 1970 (Verlander lost by four points to David Price in 2012).

Voters list their five picks in order. A first-place vote is worth seven points, four for second, three for third, two for fourth and one for fifth. Verlander needed to pick up five more points to match Porcello.

Upton fired off three tweets, one of them rather saucy, telling Porcello "you didn't win."

Asked whether he was bothered by the brouhaha, Porcello simply said, "No, I honestly don't care."

"I'm not the one who made the decision," he said on a conference call.

Porcello got a \$100,000 bonus for winning the Cy Young. Verlander, who won the 2011 award, would've gotten \$500,000.

Porcello bounced back from going 9-15 in his first season with the Red Sox, finishing 22-4 for the AL East champs.

He shared this last win of 2016 with those who "never wavered" in their support, admitting, "It was hard not to start bawling and crying."

Cleveland's Corey Kluber was third and got three first-place votes. Baltimore reliever Zach Britton, who went 47-for-47 on save chances with a 0.54 ERA, had five first-place votes and was fourth.

Scherzer breezed, drawing 25 first-place votes to beat out Chicago Cubs teammates Jon Lester and Kyle Hendricks.

Scherzer became the sixth pitcher to earn the Cy Young in both leagues. After earning the AL honor in 2013 with the Tigers, Scherzer joined Roger Clemens, Randy Johnson, Pedro Martinez, Gaylord Perry and Roy Halladay as winners in both leagues.

This award, Scherzer said, meant even more than the first one.

"It just verifies everything I try to achieve," he said.

Scherzer posted a record-tying 20-strikeout performance for the NL East champion Nationals, a year after he threw two no-hitters in his first season with Washington.

"I want to find a way to be better," he said.

Scherzer is the first pitcher from a Washington franchise to win a Cy Young. The award was first presented in 1956.

Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw got three first-place votes and finished fifth. Jose Fernandez, the Miami star killed in a boating accident in September, was seventh.

The final major postseason awards will be presented Thursday when the MVP honors are announced.

Cubs slugger Kris Bryant, Washington's Daniel Murphy and newly presented Rookie of the Year Corey Seager of the Dodgers are up for the NL award. Mike Trout of the Angels, Mookie Betts of the Red Sox and Jose Altuve of the Astros are the AL contestants.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL



PHOTOS BY DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Penn State's Saquon Barkley, center, found little room to run on his 33 carries last week against Indiana.

# Penn State faced with more injuries up front

By TRAVIS JOHNSON  
Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Earlier this season Penn State endured a rash of injuries to his its linebacker corps. Now, coach James Franklin hopes it can do the same while down a handful of offensive linemen.

The No. 9 Nittany Lions (8-2, 6-1 Big Ten) will have to continue their chase for the Big Ten East title without their top three tackles as Franklin announced Tuesday Paris Palmer will miss the remainder of the season with an unspecified injury.

Already without starters Andrew Nelson and Brendan Mahon, Franklin is questioning whether to burn redshirts for touted recruits Will Fries and Michael Menet or move players from positions where they've helped pave the way for the Big Ten's leading rusher, Saquon Barkley, and one of the country's most explosive offenses.

"We are not, at this point, doing anything," Franklin said. "But the way this thing is playing out, you never know. We want to be prepared for it. So those guys will be up with varsity and get a bunch of reps."

Compounding the problem is uncertainty surrounding Connor McGovern's status. The freshman has excelled as the team's starting right guard during its six-game winning streak but also left the Indiana game with an unspecified injury.

As a result, the Nittany Lions



Penn State head coach James Franklin has been forced to patch some holes this season because of injuries to starters.

struggled for the first time since Week 4 to establish a running game and quarterback Trace McSorley was under more pressure than usual. Barkley was hit behind the line or dropped for no gain on 15 of his 33 carries and Penn State finished with 77 rushing yards on 45 carries.

Barkley is already 18 carries over where he finished last season and Franklin said the team is monitoring his snap count to keep

him as fresh as possible.

"It's also hard to take a guy off the field that has a chance to break a play at any minute," Franklin said.

But Barkley's ability to cut off of outside blocks was clearly hampered against Indiana. Chaz Wright started his first game at right tackle and was beaten on a number of those tackles for loss. He also gave up two pressures that resulted in two of three sacks of McSorley, who was hurried to throw two interceptions and took a number of hard shots after releasing the ball.

The front five was further shaken up by Palmer's exit as it forced Penn State to move starting freshman left guard Ryan Bates to tackle, where he'll practice this week, Franklin said.

"I think that we have the next-man-up mentality," tight end Mike Gesicki said. "We've shown it all season long. Whether it was earlier in the year with linebackers and now with the offensive line. Coach (Joe) Moorhead always tells the backups, 'You're one play away from being a starter.' So those guys buy into their role."

The chances the next man up will be a returning starter when Penn State travels to play Rutgers (2-8, 0-7 Big Ten) on Saturday are unknown.

"We have all week long to figure that out," Franklin said. "Obviously, it also helps with it being an 8 p.m. night game on the front end."

## SEC wants to avoid Florida-LSU repeat

By BRETT MARTEL  
Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Florida's visit to LSU this weekend — for what was supposed to be a Gators home game — is the result of an acrimonious stalemate last month over what to do about an impending natural disaster.

Southeastern Conference officials hope to avoid having the rescheduling or relocation of future league games handled the way LSU and Florida did it during Hurricane Matthew — not just because of the logistical headaches and divisiveness it caused, but also because it has become an unwanted story line in the SEC East Division title race.

No. 21 Florida, which needs a victory to clinch the East, was supposed to host LSU Oct. 8. Instead, the Gators must now travel to Death Valley for 16th-ranked LSU's "Senior Day."

SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said Wednesday that discussions are expected to begin during the next

conference athletic directors' meetings in December about how to refine the process of rescheduling games that need to be delayed or moved, with the aim of producing recommendations which will be forwarded to university presidents for approval. Currently the conference commissioner lacks authority to unilaterally make a scheduling change. League rules dictate that rescheduling must be agreed upon by both schools, forcing Sankey to serve as a mediator.

"The presidents have made clear to me their intention to address our regulations and bylaws in order to establish a clear path to a decision-making process that gives the commissioner's office

authority to resolve scheduling issues in a fair and timely manner," Sankey said in an email to The Associated Press. "We will use the Hurricane Matthew experience to analyze our processes and to provide clarity to our regulations and bylaws in order to address future interruptions that may be caused by weather or other circumstances."

Both teams bought out the non-conference teams they were previously slated to host this Saturday, clearing the way for Florida's visit to Death Valley.

When asked if he empathized with the challenge Florida coach

**"I've got total trust in the SEC. It's a quality organization led by a guy that knows what the heck he's doing."**

Jim McElwain  
Florida coach

Jim McElwain faces in having to prepare his team for an additional road game in order to win a division title, LSU coach Ed Orgeron responded, "No," and then grimed while several around him chuckled at his blunt honesty.

Top college football programs "understand it really doesn't matter about who or when or where," McElwain said Wednesday. "It's really all about the now, no matter what."

Yet, while McElwain withholds criticism of the way rescheduling and relocation was handled during and after Matthew, he said he sees the wisdom in trying to refine policies and contingencies in the event of future postponements.

"It's amazing when some things that you don't ever really kind of think of come up that are totally out of your control," he said. "I'm not talking this situation, I'm talking in general, that we better maybe do something about this should it ever come up again."

"But they'll do it right. I've got total trust in the SEC," McElwain added. "It's a quality organization led by a guy that knows what the heck he's doing."

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## COLLEGE FOOTBALL



MICHAEL THOMAS/AP

West Virginia quarterback Skyler Howard looks for a receiver during the first half of last week's 24-20 victory over Texas in Austin, Texas. No. 10 West Virginia hosts No. 8 Oklahoma on Saturday.

# OU-WVU finally brings Top 10 game to Big 12

By JOHN RABY  
Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Finally, the Big 12 has its Top 10 matchup.

No. 8 Oklahoma heads to No. 10 West Virginia on Saturday night and the Sooners can wrap up the Big 12 championship if it gets some help earlier in the day from TCU, which hosts second-place Oklahoma State.

The Big 12 has been devoid of marquee games this season. Oklahoma started out ranked No. 3 and lost its opener to Houston. Baylor advanced to No. 8 in late October before losing three straight.

West Virginia has moved up after beginning unranked and forecast to finish seventh in the league. The Mountaineers haven't come close to a Big 12 title since joining the league in 2012.

There may not be this much riding on one game in Morgantown since West Virginia lost to rival Pittsburgh in 2007, costing the Mountaineers a berth in the national championship game.



**No. 8 Oklahoma (8-2)  
at No. 10 West Virginia (8-1)**  
AFN-Sports  
2 a.m. Sunday CET  
10 a.m. Sunday JKT

"We've been off the radar for a long time, and we're OK with that," West Virginia coach Dana Holgorsen said Monday. "We use that as motivation. Whether they're talking good about us or bad about us, we don't really pay attention to it."

On Saturday, it will be the league's top scoring defense at West Virginia against the conference's best offense.

"It's exciting but challenging, though, because they have a raucous crowd," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said.

Oklahoma enters with a 14-

game conference winning streak. "They're playing lights out," Holgorsen said. "Known for an offensive league, they're the ones that got it going on more than anyone. I know it's one that our guys are looking forward to."

An Oklahoma win coupled with a loss by No. 13 Oklahoma State on Saturday would give the Sooners (8-2, 7-0) their 10th Big 12 championship and render moot the teams' Dec. 3 Bedlam meeting in Norman, Okla.

Oklahoma wins the title by winning its last two games, while Oklahoma State (8-2, 6-1) can claim it by beating TCU and the Sooners.

West Virginia (8-1, 5-1) must win all of its remaining games and needs Oklahoma State to lose to TCU and beat Oklahoma for the Mountaineers to claim the title. West Virginia also has league games left with Iowa State and Baylor.

The league instituted a tie-breaker formula in 2015 based on head-to-head meetings if two teams end tied after TCU and Baylor shared the title in 2014.

## Buckeyes focusing on Michigan State

By MITCH STACY  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The giant video screen in Ohio State's indoor practice facility ran a loop of MMA fighters beating each other senseless, coach Urban Meyer's way of reminding players that they have one swing to knock out Michigan State this week and keep their championship dreams alive.

With all the playoff talk swirling after a seismic college football Saturday that saw three teams ranked higher than the Buckeyes lose and an odd tiebreaker situation that could see them advancing to the playoff without even playing in the Big Ten Championship game, the idea is to shut out the noise and keep the team focused on the immediate task.

Meyer said it's difficult to keep players from looking ahead and worrying about things that are out of their control. Ever since the Oct. 22 loss at Penn State, schedule boards in the football complex were covered up and the program renewed its focus on just winning the next game.

"I'm debating right now what to do with that," Meyer said Monday when asked about the amped-up playoff chatter. "I did not cover it yesterday. I haven't covered it throughout the year. In the past I have. I don't know yet. But the focus is obviously Michigan State."

It may help that there is a revenge element when it comes to the Spartans, although that angle was mostly downplayed by players on Monday. But remember, it was Michigan State that came into Ohio Stadium last year and ended the Buckeyes' chances of repeating as Big Ten and national champions.

"There's a little bit of human element that comes into the game, especially with them ru-



**No. 2 Ohio State (9-1)  
at Michigan State (3-7)**  
AFN-Sports  
6 p.m. Saturday JKT  
2 a.m. Sunday JKT

ining senior night for us last year and ruining the season we were supposed to have last year," guard Billy Price acknowledged. "It's in the back of your head, absolutely."

Like last year, the championship hopes of No. 2 Ohio State (9-1, 6-1 Big Ten, No. 5 CFP) will be erased with a loss to Michigan State (3-7, 1-6), a program that has fallen on hard times this season.

"They always have a chip on their shoulder when the Buckeyes are in town, and it's going to be the same way this Saturday," Ohio State center Pat Elflein said. "The records don't matter."

Because of the loss to Penn State, and Michigan's loss at Iowa on Saturday, Ohio State could be kept out of the conference title game by the tiebreaker system, even if the Buckeyes beat Michigan State and then Michigan on Nov. 26. Then the question becomes if the playoff committee will install Ohio State in the top four without a conference championship on its resumé.

At least one player said what many people around college football likely are thinking.

"I see it like this: If we win out all our games, Big Ten championship or not, you not going to put us in?" quarterback J.T. Barrett said incredulously. "Like you're going to leave Ohio State out? That doesn't make sense to me."



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Ohio State head coach Urban Meyer hasn't addressed the latest College Football Playoff rankings with his players yet. He said he wants them thinking only about beating Michigan State on Saturday.



## NFL

# Jackson's job safe with winless Browns

By TOM WITHERS  
Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio—There's one loss Browns coach Hue Jackson doesn't have to fear this season: his job.

Despite an 0-10 record and the prospect of going winless in his first year with Cleveland, Jackson has the support of owners Jimmy and Dee Haslam, who believe they hired the right coach to turn around their floundering franchise.

"We are not focused on 0-16," said Sashi Brown, the team's vice president of football operations. "Hue is going to be here as our head coach. We talked about continuity being one of the core premises of what we wanted accomplished going out in January. We know that we have a head coach that can be successful here and lead us to a lot of victories and a lot of winning."

That appears to be a long way off for the young Browns, whose progress this season has been muted by the worst start in team history and some key injuries.

To his credit, Jackson has kept the Browns playing hard and he feigned some surprise when it was told that Brown had acknowledged he will be back for a second season.

"I never thought I was going anywhere," he said with a smile. "I know that's been part of the plan since Day 1, before I took the job. I felt very comfortable. I know there has been a lot of mudslinging going around, but I get it. That's part of it when you have the record that we do. I expect things to be said. But we are comfortable and we know exactly what we're trying to do."

"I think it's a tremendous plan. We all support it. It's not where we want it to be, but we do have a plan in place that we feel very strongly that we're going to get things headed in the right direction as soon as we can."

Brown, whose promotion from team general counsel and salary-cap expert to the top spot in Cleveland's front office preceded Jackson's hiring by 10 days, met with media members for the first time this season. Brown understands that Browns fans are frustrated at the lack of significant progress, but said the team has no regrets about any decisions to this point and intends to exercise patience in seeing the plan through.

"It's hard to look at this other than wins and losses," he said. "I'm disappointed for our fans and the folks here working in the office. We don't want to be here. But we also think we're on the way to a much brighter future."

There's no easy fix for the Browns, who host rival Pittsburgh on Sunday, when thousands of noisy Steelers fans will make Cleveland's FirstEnergy Stadium feel like Heinz Field.

Both Brown and Jackson acknowledged the losing has many in the organization on edge. But they each rejected a report that said the coach's decision to bench rookie Cody Kessler in the second half of Thursday night's loss at Baltimore has created tension between the front office and coaching staff.

"I do have a tension headache," Jackson joked. "My head hurts."

"I don't know where any of that comes



GAIL BURTON/AP

Cleveland head coach Hue Jackson motions on the sideline during the second half against the Ravens in Baltimore last Thursday, when the Browns fell to 0-10. Sashi Brown, the team's vice president of football operations, said Monday that Jackson's job is safe next season despite the winless record. Brown said the team is committed to its rebuilding plan and believes continuity is the key to long-term success.

from. I have never felt that, heard that, any of that. Like I said, my head does hurt from time to time when we lose, and that is about it. The things we do here, I am the head coach of the football team and I will make decisions sometimes based on what I think is right. Sometimes, that is just part of it, but I have not heard that, felt that or seen that from anybody in our organization.

"They have been outstanding in their support of me and what we are trying to accomplish here."

Publicly, at least, Brown said he has no regrets about any decisions. The Browns

passed up taking quarterback Carson Wentz in the draft, trading the No. 2 overall pick to Philadelphia for a first-round next season. Brown also doesn't bemoan the choice not to re-sign any free agents, preferring to stay focused on the future, not the past.

And while the poor record shows scant progress, Brown believes the team is on the right path.

"The winning ways are coming," he said. "We're confident in that. We just have to stick to the plan and support our fans through that process."

## Winning streak has raised Giants' aspirations

By ERNIE PALLADINO  
Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—Odell Beckham has high hopes for the surging New York Giants.

Beckham said after the Giants' 21-20 win over the Bengals on Monday night that the goal was playing on Super Bowl Sunday in Houston.

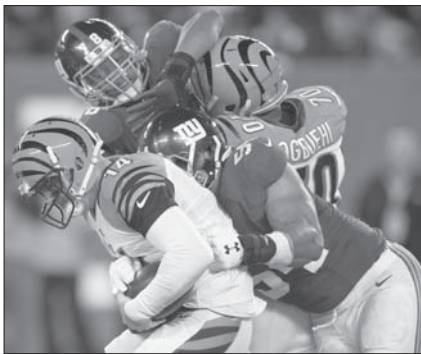
Coach Ben McAdoo had more immediate things in mind, such as Sunday when the Chicago Bears (2-7) will try to end his team's four-game winning streak.

Still, he wouldn't criticize Beckham for his optimism.

"I'm glad he was listening," McAdoo said Tuesday. "That's our goal. That's why we come to work every day. But we have a lot of work to do before we get to that point."

"It's good to have aspirations." Beckham, who finished with 10 catches for 97 yards and a touchdown he punctuated with a Michael Jackson-style "Thriller" dance, was actually referring to a defense that held the Bengals to just 101 yards of total offense and 36 passing yards in the second half.

Included in the effort were defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul's batted pass and consecutive sacks — the first shared by linebacker



BILL KOSTRUM/AP

New York Giants defensive end Olivier Vernon sacks Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton during the fourth quarter on Monday. The resurgent defense has led the way to a four-game winning streak.

Jonathan Casillas and defensive tackle Damon Harrison, and the second by defensive end Olivier Vernon — on the same fourth-quarter drive that set up the Giants' game-ending possession.

The defense held star receiver A.J. Green to two catches for 29

yards in the half.

"This defense is a Super Bowl defense," Beckham said. "This is a playoff defense."

Yet, while admitting the offense still had a ways to go, Beckham may have well been talking about an aggressive mindset.

**'This defense is a Super Bowl defense. This is a playoff defense.'**

Odell Beckham  
Giants wide receiver

McAdoo's decision to eschew a chip-shot field goal and try for the go-ahead touchdown on fourth-and-goal from the 3 earlier that quarter may have moved them a step closer to Beckham's goal. McAdoo said Eli Manning's touchdown pass to Sterling Shepard came as part of the week's goal-line preparation.

"We were down by six and it was tough to move the ball against that defense," McAdoo said. "I have confidence in our offense and the way we practiced in the green zone."

"I liked our week of preparation down there. If we didn't practice well down there, we would have kicked the field goal. So we practiced well and I thought (Manning) was spinning it pretty good. I thought Eli played it well, and everybody did a nice job especially on that fourth-down call."

Manning threw two interceptions, the first of which contributed to a reduction in snaps for rookie wide receiver Roger Lewis

Jr. for his failure to come back to the ball.

Lewis also dropped a pass. "He had some moments where he needs to play better," McAdoo said. "I expect him to learn from those moments and he'll improve."

McAdoo was mindful that it will take more than the occasional outside-the-box call to secure a playoff spot.

The Giants (6-3) are in second in the NFC East. But the Redskins (5-3-1) and Eagles (5-4) are close behind in the division.

He will warn his team that the Bears can slow his team's progress.

"This is the National Football League," McAdoo said. "It doesn't matter who you're playing. Throw all the records out the window. Anyone can beat anybody anywhere in this league, so we need a great week of preparation."

"We need to be at our best."

## NFL

# Ravens out to keep control of AFC North

## Baltimore's next challenge is surging Cowboys

By DAVID GINSBURG

Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — It's been four years since the Baltimore Ravens stood alone atop the AFC North in November.

The objective now is to stay there.

After overcoming a variety of injuries, a four-game losing streak and an offense that runs hot and cold, the Ravens (5-4) have worked their way into first place with seven weeks left in the season.

Though an imposing schedule looms ahead — beginning with a trip to Dallas (8-1) on Sunday — Baltimore currently doesn't have to rely on any outside help to get into the postseason as AFC North champion.

"Whether it's in a game or whether it's in a season, you want to get the lead," coach John Harbaugh said Monday. "When you get the lead, you want to keep the lead. When you keep the lead, you want to expand the lead."

After facing Dallas, the Ravens have two games left against division foe Cincinnati; visits to New England and Pittsburgh and a home matchup against improving Miami.

Baltimore faces the prospect of playing down the stretch without rookie guard Alex

Lewis, who sustained a high ankle sprain on Thursday night against Cleveland and is expected to be out for at least six weeks.

"Hopefully we can get him back," Harbaugh said.

Baltimore went winless in October before defeating Pittsburgh and Cleveland in the span of five days. After using a strong second-half performance to dispatch the winless Browns 28-7, the Ravens were given some time off to heal.

"They should be refreshed and ready to go," Harbaugh said.

Although Baltimore has already matched its win total from 2015, that was never really a goal. The Ravens are striving to earn a playoff berth, and for that to happen they have to play better.

"Obviously there have been stretches where it certainly didn't look like we were making any progress, but more of that showed up in the past two weeks," Harbaugh said. "We need to continue to improve in every single area. The offense is something most people are looking at from a statistical standpoint, how we've done. That's probably had the farthest way to go."

Joe Flacco threw three touchdown passes against the Browns but was also picked off twice. He has nine interceptions and



Nick Wass/AP

Ravens defensive back Jerrard Powers, right, celebrates his interception against the Browns with teammates Tavon Young, left, and Zach Orr last week.

nine TD passes and a lackluster 78.3 quarterback rating.

Part of the problem is that he's been working behind a makeshift offensive line that has been without five-time Pro Bowl right guard Marshall Yanda (shoulder) in three of the last four games. Regardless, Flacco must cut down on the turnovers if the Ravens are to win.

"He's got to clean some things up, certainly," Harbaugh said. "But that's looking back. You've got to look forward. We need to move the ball, we need to make first downs. But we also need to do it in a way where we protect the football. That's always going to be the challenge for a quarterback."

One reason why the Cowboys are flying high is that their quarterback, rookie Dak Prescott, has 14 touchdown passes and only two interceptions. He's working behind a solid offensive line and is backed by NFL rushing leader Ezekiel Elliott.

"He's made a lot of great decisions, very few interceptions," Harbaugh said. "They've supported him with protection and a great run game. He's got some pretty good targets out there to throw to. He's the guy that's making it all go because he's the quarterback. It's going to be a challenge for us. We're going to try to slow him down a little bit."

# Redskins find comfort zone during close games

By STEPHEN WHYNO

Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — After the Washington Redskins allowed the Minnesota Vikings to score 20 consecutive points at the end of the first half Sunday, coach Jay Gruden had to shut the door in his office at halftime to cool down.

Once he regained his poise, so did his team. For the seventh time this season the Redskins had a game decided by one score, and after beating the Vikings they're 4-2-1 in those situations.

This time it was the defense shutting out Minnesota for the final 30 minutes while the offense got the job done, but Washington is comfortable playing football on the razor's edge between winning and losing — mostly because there has been more winning than losing.

"We have a pretty good resolve in this locker room," linebacker Ryan Kerrigan said. "We know every game is going to be close. You rarely have a game where you just beat a team 40-0. We know most games we're playing are going to be close, and you have to have that mindset going into every game that you have to play for a full 60 minutes."

Enduring a bad six minutes like the Redskins did against the Vikings might not work so well against Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers (4-5) on Sunday night. Either way, it's a



MARK TENALY/AP

Redskins quarterback Kirk Cousins credits the coaching staff for the team's success in close games. Washington has had seven games so far that were decided by one score, and is 4-2-1 in those games.

good bet that the Redskins (5-3-1) won't get blown out or blow the Packers out of the building in a reprisal of the NFC wild-card game last season.

The Redskins' recipe in close games has included a defense that gets better as games go on, effective offense even in light of

red zone struggles and a kicker who ranks among the NFL's most relied upon.

Quarterback Kirk Cousins said coaches, and specifically Gruden, are behind Washington's success in the close games that are part of a close league. Cousins pointed to Gruden's time in the

Arena Football League as one reason the head coach knows about clock management as well as adjustments.

"He does a very good job of managing the game in coaching situations," Cousins said. "Any time you have young players in certain positions, it's going to take

time. You don't just snap your fingers and get exactly what you want. I think we are all growing together. I don't think we are an old, veteran, experienced team by any means, and there's still a ways to go."

The Redskins converted a touchdown on only one of four trips to the red zone against Minnesota and allowed two Vikings touchdowns on the other side of the ball. Gruden said the team will continue to patch up the red zone issues but didn't voice much worry about them because the points keep coming.

"I think there are sometimes where going down there and kicking field goals isn't a bad thing in close games," Gruden said Monday. "I would rather do that than force an interception down there."

Cousins was almost picked off at the goal line in the first quarter, but two Vikings linebackers collided and the ball fell between them. Cousins found receiver Jamison Crowder for a touchdown on the next play.

As for Hopkins, Gruden likes how his kicker bounced back after missing a 34-yarder in overtime against the Cincinnati Bengals on Oct. 30 in London.

"He's been excellent all year," Gruden said. "He gave us no reason to believe that he wouldn't do otherwise than to bounce back. It was great to see it, though."

## SPORTS



## Strong start

No. 6 Indiana avoids letdown  
after upset of Kansas » **Page 27**

## MLB: CY YOUNG AWARDS

Washington Nationals  
starting pitcher  
Max Scherzer

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIN/AP



## SUPER MAX

Scherzer becomes sixth pitcher  
to win Cy Young in both leagues

By BEN WALKER  
Associated Press

**M**ax Scherzer celebrated aboard a boat off the British Virgin Islands, doused by college pals on a floating party.

Rick Porcello enjoyed the moment at his parents' home in New Jersey, surrounded by family, friends and a few

bottles of wine.

As for Justin Verlander, well, fuming supermodel Kate Upton brought the heat for her fiancé.

Rotation mates for five seasons in Detroit, the three right-handers topped the Cy Young Award talk Wednesday: Scherzer easily won the NL prize, Porcello edged out Verlander for the AL honor.

SEE BOTH ON PAGE 27

## Porcello's prize

■ Red Sox righty narrowly wins AL award over Tigers' Justin Verlander.

■ Porcello has just eight of 30 first-place votes, the first time the AL winner didn't get the most firsts.



BEN MARGOT/AP

Capitals shake off recent slump with  
blowout of rival Penguins » **NHL, Page 25**

Westbrook helps Thunder slam home  
narrow win over Rockets » **NBA, Page 26**

