

## Cheating Website Included Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hundreds of U.S. government employees — including some with sensitive jobs in the White House, Congress and law enforcement agencies — used Internet connections in their federal offices to access and pay membership fees to the cheating website Ashley Madison, The Associated Press has learned.

The AP traced many of the accounts exposed by hackers back to federal workers. They included at least two assistant U.S. attorneys; an information technology administrator in the Executive Office of the President; a division chief, an investigator and a trial attorney in the Justice Department; a government hacker at the Homeland Security Department and another DHS employee who indicated he worked on a U.S. counterterrorism response team.

Few actually paid for their services with their government email accounts. But AP traced their government Internet connections — logged by the website over five years — and reviewed their credit-card transactions to identify them. They included workers at more than two dozen Obama administration agencies, including the departments of State, Defense, Justice, Energy, Treasury, Transportation and Homeland Security. Others came from House or Senate computer networks.

The AP is not naming the government subscribers it found because they are not elected officials or accused of a crime.

Hackers this week released detailed records on millions of people registered with the website one month after the break-in at Ashley Madison's parent company, Toronto-based Avid Life Media Inc. The website — whose slogan is, "Life is short. Have an affair" — is marketed to facilitate extra-marital affairs.

## Reality Star Duggar Admits To Cheating

NEW YORK (AP) — Calling himself "the biggest hypocrite ever," ex-reality star Josh Duggar has apologized for a "secret addiction" to pornography and for cheating on his wife.

"While espousing faith and family values, I have secretly over the last several years been viewing pornography on the internet and this became a secret addiction and I became unfaithful to my wife," he said in a statement posted on the family's website Thursday.

The statement was later edited to remove the reference to pornography and a reference to an earlier scandal in which Duggar molested four of his sisters and a baby sitter.

The statement was apparently spurred by Duggar's name appearing among millions exposed in a data breach of customers of the Ashley Madison website, an online service that caters to people looking to cheat on their spouses. Leaked data showed that a Josh Duggar whose address was the same as the reality TV star was a member of AshleyMadison.com from December 2012 to October 2014.

In his statement, Duggar did not address whether he had used AshleyMadison.com, nor did he detail the exact nature of his marital infidelity. A family representative did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the statement or the revisions.

## Obama Iran Deal Picking Up Support

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's nuclear deal with Iran is picking up crucial support from swing-state Senate Democrats despite Republican opposition heightened by revelations of a secret side-agreement between Iran and the U.N. agency that inspects nuclear facilities.

On Thursday, Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., became the latest to declare her backing, saying in a statement: "This deal isn't perfect and no one trusts Iran, but it has become clear to me that the world is united behind this agreement with the exception of the government of Israel."

McCaskill's announcement followed a similar declaration a day earlier from Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., who said: "I am willing to give this agreement the opportunity to succeed."

Their support brings to 26 the number of Senate Democrats who've come out in favor of the agreement aimed at dismantling Iran's nuclear program in exchange for billions in sanctions relief. Supporters now include 10 of the 12 members on the Democratic side of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

With majority Republicans unanimously opposed, Obama needs 34 Senate Democrats to sustain his veto of a resolution disapproving the deal. The disapproval measure may pass next month. With only two Senate Democrats opposed so far that number is increasingly looking within reach, and supporters could even potentially secure the 41 votes that would block the resolution from passing in the first place.

## First Army Women To Pass Ranger School

FORT BENNING, Ga. (AP) — The first two women to pass the Army's notoriously difficult Ranger School impressed male classmates left in their dust during road marches and proved their mettle as teammates by helping carry heavy weapons when others were too fatigued to lift another ounce.

As the Pentagon weighs a decision on allowing women to serve in combat jobs long held by men only, a Ranger School comrade offered a blunt assessment of Capt. Kristen Griest and 1st Lt. Shaye Haver as they spoke to reporters Thursday.

"They can serve by my side anytime because I know I can trust them," 2nd Lt. Erickson Krogh said. "Especially these two. I'd have no qualms about serving with them in combat."

Griest, 26, of Orange, Connecticut, and Haver, 25, of Coppas Cove, Texas, will become the first women to wear the Army's coveted Ranger tab when they graduate alongside 94 male soldiers Friday at Fort Benning.

Despite proving their grit in the two-month Ranger course, the two women are still unable to join infantry, armor and special forces units — including the 75th Ranger Regiment. That could change next year after the Pentagon makes its recommendations.

## 3 Firefighters Mourned Out West

TWISP, Wash. (AP) — The firefighters — members of a specially trained unit that is sent into danger ahead of everyone else to size up a wildfire — rushed up a narrow, winding gravel road with steep hills on either side.

It proved to be a deathtrap.

Their vehicle crashed, and before they could escape, flames rolled over them, killing three firefighters inside and injuring four others nearby, one critically, authorities said.

The tragedy Wednesday night cast a pall in Washington state and brought to 13 the number of firefighters killed across the West this year during one of the driest and most explosive wildfire seasons on record.

The blazes have "burned a big hole in our state's heart," Gov. Jay Inslee lamented Thursday, describing the outbreak as an "unprecedented cataclysm."

## Police Chief Defends Fatal Shooting

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The police chief on Thursday apologetically defended the fatal shooting of a black 18-year-old who was killed by two white officers in a confrontation that drew protesters and unrest back to the streets.

Protesters pledged to stand firm. Said the director of a group called the Organization for Black Struggle: "We will not go away."

Mansur Ball-Bey, who police said had a handgun, was shot as officers raided a home in a violence-plagued part of north St. Louis. Within an hour of Wednesday's shooting, more than 100 people converged on the scene, taunting officers and decrying the use of deadly force.

A vacant building and at least one car were torched, police said. Officers responded with tear gas and arrested at least nine people on charges of impeding traffic and resisting arrest.

The scene unfolded less than two weeks after violence marred the anniversary of the day Michael Brown was fatally wounded by a white officer in nearby Ferguson. His death launched the national Black Lives Matter movement.

## Governments Get Shares In Settlement

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Clusters of landlocked municipalities more than 100 miles from the Gulf Coast have secured millions of dollars in BP money through settlements designed to compensate local governments for lost tourism dollars and other economic damage from the company's 2010 oil spill, according to records obtained by The Associated Press.

This week, BP finished making approximately \$687.4 million in settlement payments to 383 local government entities in the five Gulf states.

# With Humor And Honesty, Carter Talks About His Cancer

BY KATHLEEN FOODY

Associated Press

ATLANTA — With a broad smile and an upbeat attitude, former President Jimmy Carter told the world Thursday that he has cancer in his brain, and feels "perfectly at ease with whatever comes."

Carter said doctors had removed melanoma from his liver, but found four small tumors in his brain. Later Thursday, he received radiation treatment. He also began receiving injections of a newly approved drug to help his immune system seek out and destroy the cancer cells wherever else they may appear.

Wearing blue jeans and a blazer, Carter spoke with good humor and unsparing honesty, revealing that he had kept suspicions of cancer from his wife, Rosalynn, for weeks until the diagnosis was confirmed in June.

"Now I feel it's in the hands of God, whom I worship, and I'll be prepared for anything that comes," he said.

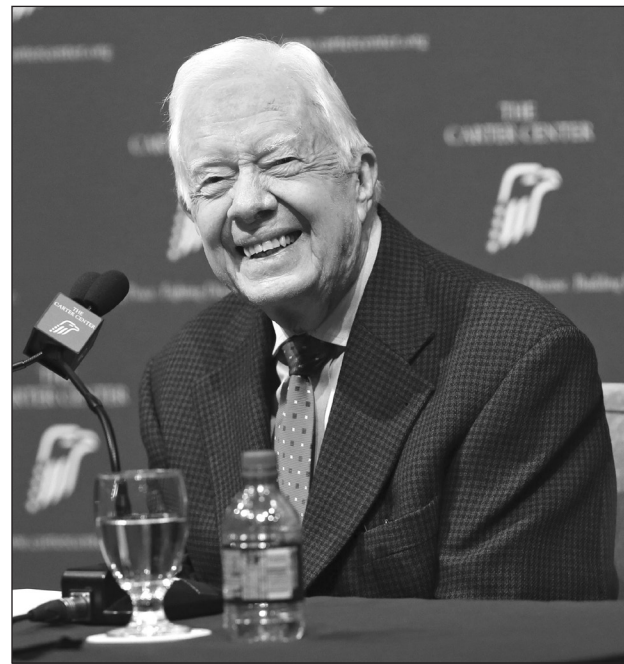
Carter's team of doctors at Emory Health Care includes Dr. Walter Curran Jr., who runs Emory's Winship Cancer Institute. Treatments for melanoma have improved tremendously recently, and Carter's prospects are good even at the age of 90, Curran said. But he cautioned against the idea that Carter can be "cured."

"We're not looking for a cure in patients who have a disease like melanoma that has spread," Curran said. "The goal is control and to have a good quality of life."

Carter said he thought the cancer was only in his liver and was removed with surgery on Aug. 3, but an MRI exam that same afternoon showed the spots on his brain. Carter said he went home that night thinking he had only a few weeks to live, but found himself feeling "surprisingly at ease."

The former president didn't discuss his long-term prognosis, but said he will cut back dramatically on his humanitarian work while following the orders of a team that includes the world's best "cancer-treaters."

His treatment regimen will include four injections of pembrolizumab, which was approved by the FDA for melanoma patients last year, at three-week intervals.



BOB ANDRES/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/TNS  
Former President Jimmy Carter discusses his cancer diagnosis at the Carter Center Thursday in Atlanta, Ga. The 90-year-old announced he had cancer after doctors removed small masses from his liver earlier this month.

"This is not a eulogy in any way," said grandson Jason Carter, who is taking over as chairman of the board of trustees at the Carter Center, which promotes peace, democracy and health care improvements around the world.

Still, his grandfather's responses to reporters often expanded into reflections on his life, faith and family.

"I've had a wonderful life," Carter said. "I've had thousands of friends, I've had an exciting, adventurous and gratifying existence. So I was surprisingly at ease, much more so than my wife was."

Rarely letting his grin fade, Carter said he has not felt any serious pain or weakness, and slept for 14 hours the previous night after receiving his first injection.

"I think it's about the best sleep I've had in many years," he said.

Carter's next few months are in flux. He said he had been committed "up until this morning" to flying to Nepal in November to build more houses on a Habitat for Humanity trip. It would have been the 33rd such mission for the former president and his wife, but doing it this year would mean postponing the last treatment.

"If I don't go, the rest of my family will probably go to take my place," he said with a hint of resignation.

Carter described a more

limited routine. He plans to host his extended family at Rosalynn's 88th birthday celebration in their hometown of Plains on Saturday, and will keep teaching Sunday School at their small church. He said he looks forward to his 91st birthday on Oct. 1 and, as much as he's able, will continue lecturing at Emory, raising money for his center's \$600 million foundation, and meeting with experts on guinea worm and other diseases the center is working to eradicate.

Said Jason Carter: "I don't think anybody who knows him was surprised to see him sitting here saying, 'I'm going to be completely honest and transparent about what's going on with me and I'm going to face it,' with this deep and abiding faith and courage and analytical brain and all those other aspects of him that have led him to lead this incredibly giant human life."

Carter opened by thanking his wife of 69 years, who sat quietly in the front row, never reaching for the tissues placed near her chair.

Marrying her was the best thing he's done in his life, Carter said, and his eyes often returned to her during the 45-minute news conference. He said he appreciated all the well-wishes, including calls from current and former presidents. "First time they've called me in a long time," he added playfully.

Carter said his cancer story began in May, when he caught a bad cold while monitoring an election in Guyana. Doctors found a spot on his liver during a follow-up exam and recommended its removal. But he wanted to complete a book tour before the surgery, and delayed telling others until the diagnosis was certain.

More tests since then have not determined where his melanoma began or how it spread, but Curran said that won't hinder treatment. Carter said more testing could find it elsewhere in his body.

When Carter learned he has cancer, "he was worried that he wasn't going to get to finish the book he was reading," his grandson said. But now, "having spoken with the doctors, he understands that there's a period of time and he's going to be able to go catch some fish, and hopefully catch more of his grandkids' baseball games."

Carter, the nation's 39th president, served in submarines in the Navy and spent years as a peanut farmer before running for office, becoming a state senator and Georgia governor. His "plainspoken" nature helped Democrats retake the White House in 1976 in the wake of President Richard Nixon's resignation.

On Thursday, Carter said he remains proud of what he accomplished as president, but is more gratified by his humanitarian work since then, which earned him a Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

Asked to name his biggest regret, he brought up the failed mission to rescue American hostages in Iran, a fiasco that many believe ended any hopes for another four years in the White House.

"I wish I had sent one more helicopter to get the hostages, and we would have rescued them and I would have been re-elected," he said to wide laughter in the room. "But that may have interfered with the foundation of the Carter Center. If I had to choose between four more years and the Carter Center, I think I would choose the Carter Center."

Then again, "It could have been both," he added with a wink, prompting another round of laughs.

# Bush Struggles To Keep Spotlight, Break Away From Last Name

BY KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND STEVE PEOPLES

Associated Press

KEENE, N.H. — Having been knocked from his front-runner perch, a fiery Jeb Bush lashed out at Republican rival Donald Trump on Thursday as the former Florida governor fights to energize his stalled campaign and stop the billionaire businessman's summer surge.

Bush's name recognition and money — see his recent \$100 million-plus fundraising haul — have kept him near the top of the Republican pack, where he has saved his most aggressive criticism for Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton for much of the year. Now slipping in the polls, Bush abruptly changed course over the last 24 hours, following some Republican competitors who acknowledge Trump has become a serious threat that must be dealt with head on.

"There's a big difference between Donald Trump and me," Bush declared in New Hampshire on Thursday. "I'm a proven conservative with a record. He isn't."

He charged that Trump "proposed the largest tax increase in mankind's history" and previously supported partial-birth abortion. "I've never met a person that actually thought that was a good idea."

Bush continued: "He's been a Democrat longer than being a Republican."

The comments represent a sharp shift for Bush that underscores a larger political reality.

He has succeeded in raising far more money than his competitors, yet seven months after first signaling serious interest in a White House bid, the former Florida governor has yet to resonate with the vast majority of the GOP electorate. His polling numbers are stagnant, he faces continued questions about his family connections, and influential GOP activists remain skeptical of his conservative bona fides.

"I've never met a single grassroots voter who supports Jeb Bush," said Mark Meckler, a co-founder of the tea party movement.

If there is any solace for Bush's team, it's that he's not alone.

Virtually every candidate not named Trump has suffered in recent weeks as the New York businessman caught fire with frustrated voters and sparked an anti-establishment backlash.

Perhaps no one's standing has fallen further than Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, once considered a top-tier candidate and now languishing in the middle of the pack. Libertarian hero, Kentucky

Sen. Rand Paul, is in danger of missing out on the next prime-time debate, as is New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a former GOP powerhouse reduced to little more than an afterthought amid Trump's rise.

Trump isn't taking the pressure off his rivals.

"I don't see how he's electable," Trump said of Bush Wednesday night in New Hampshire, later describing him as a "low-energy person" who has trouble getting things done.

Bush's team downplays any serious concern, noting that his poll numbers are "steady," he hasn't yet begun spending money on advertising, and that most voters aren't paying serious attention six months before the first votes are cast.

"Having a steady vote share in New Hampshire the summer before the primary is a good place to be," Bush spokesman Tim Miller said.

"Jeb's been working his tail off meeting voters, campaigning the way New Hampshire voters expect," he continued. "As we get into the fall and winter and people actually start making their decision and the paid element of this campaign begins, that's going to pay dividends."

Bush may have created more problems for himself this week, however, while trying to capture some of

the enthusiasm created by Trump's immigration rhetoric, including his calls to end birthright citizenship.

Bush said he believes there should be greater enforcement against pregnant mothers who cross the border to have children who then gain U.S. citizenship, referring to those children as "anchor babies." Facing a Democratic-fueled backlash, Bush defended his use of the term Thursday, but stressed that he believes people who are born in the country should have American citizenship.

Beyond his new battles with Trump, Bush has consistently faced questions from voters who are skeptical of putting a third Bush in the White House. At his Thursday appearance in Keene, a voter told Bush that his brother "won't even eat Bush beans."

The same day, another sign emerged that Bush's family will be a backdrop of his entire campaign, as George W. Bush sent out a fundraising appeal on his younger brother's behalf. Asked if that conflicts with his characterization that he is his own man, Bush snapped back.

"Is that a contradiction?" he said. "I've got my own record. I've got my own life experience. I'm blessed to have a brother that loves me and wants to help me, over and out."

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