

2 HS Football Players Convicted Of Rape

STEBENVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Two members of Steubenville's celebrated high school football team were found guilty Sunday of raping a drunken 16-year-old girl, and Ohio's attorney general warned the case isn't over, saying he is investigating whether coaches, parents and other students broke the law, too.

Trent Mays, 17, and Ma'lik Richmond, 16, were sentenced to at least a year in juvenile prison in a case that has rocked this Rust Belt city of 18,000 and led to allegations of a cover-up to protect the Steubenville High team, which has won nine state championships. Mays was ordered to serve an additional year for photographing the underage girl naked.

They can be held until they turn 21.

The two broke down in tears after a Juvenile Court judge delivered his verdict. They later apologized to the victim and the community, Richmond struggling to speak through his sobs.

"My life is over," he said as he collapsed in the arms of his lawyer

Egyptian Vigilantes Hang And Kill 2 Thieves

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian vigilantes beat two men accused of stealing a motorized rickshaw on Sunday and then hung them by their feet while some in a watching crowd chanted "kill them!" Both men died, security officials said.

The killings came a week after the attorney general's office encouraged civilians to arrest lawbreakers and hand them over to police. They are emblematic of the chaos sweeping Egypt and a security breakdown of frightening proportions.

It was one of the most extreme cases of vigilantism in two years of sharply deteriorating security following the 2011 uprising. Gruesome photos circulated quickly on Facebook and other social media outlets, showing images taken by people in the crowd of thousands who watched and recorded the lynchings on cell phone cameras.

The killings were in the town of Samanod, about 55 miles (90 kilometers) north of Cairo in the Nile Delta province of Gharbiya.

Mamdouh al-Muneer, spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood group in the Gharbiya governorate, told The Associated Press that the lynchings followed a spate of rapes in the area. He said there have been a number of incidents in the past several months of girls being abducted while leaving school.

2 Inmates Escape From Prison In Helicopter

SAINT-JEROME, Quebec (AP) — Two Quebec inmates used a helicopter to make a daring daylight escape from a prison northwest of Montreal and remained at large Sunday evening, authorities said.

Police received a call from the staff at the prison in Saint-Jerome, Quebec, regarding the dramatic escape around 2:20 p.m., said Quebec provincial police Sgt. Benoit Richard. He didn't say if the helicopter had landed on the prison grounds and wouldn't provide further details about the escape. He said the pilot was taken to a local hospital.

Quebec provincial police tracked down the helicopter on Sunday afternoon in Mont-Tremblant, about 53 miles (85 kilometers) away from the prison, but only the chopper's pilot was still at the scene.

"He's going to be questioned later on by investigators, within the next couple of hours," Richard said, adding that it's too early to say what the pilot's role was in the escape.

Richard said authorities were still searching for the escaped prisoners, identified as Benjamin Hudon-Barbeau, 36, and Danny Provençal, 33, on Sunday evening.

Police Investigating Cause Of Deadly Crash

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Police are investigating what caused a bus carrying a college women's lacrosse team to veer off the Pennsylvania Turnpike and crash into a tree, killing a pregnant coach, her unborn child and the driver.

Players and coaches from Seton Hill University, near Pittsburgh, were among 23 people aboard when the bus crashed Saturday morning. The team was headed to an afternoon game at Millersville University, about 50 miles from the crash site in central Pennsylvania.

Head coach Kristina Quigley, 30, of Greensburg, died of her injuries at a hospital, Cumberland County authorities said. Quigley was about six months pregnant and her unborn son didn't survive. The bus driver, Anthony Guatta, 61, of Johnstown, died at the scene.

Two victims flown to Penn State Hershey Medical Center remained there Sunday, and no information was released about their identities or conditions. A woman injured in the crash was discharged Sunday afternoon from another hospital. All others aboard the bus were taken to hospitals as a precaution, but almost all were treated and released.

New Pope Makes First Window Appearance

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Walking up to crowds, shaking hands with surprised bystanders in the street, mixing his formal speeches with off-the-cuff remarks, Pope Francis stamped his own style on the papacy Sunday.

His humor and down-to-earth manner captivated those filling St. Peter's Square in Rome to overflowing, and he worked the crowd in a way that had to give his security staff palpitations. Rome Mayor Gianni Alemanno, in the square himself, estimated the crowd's size at 300,000.

"Brothers and sisters, 'Buon giorno,'" Francis said in Italian in his first welcome from the window of the papal residence, setting an informal tone that has become the defining spirit of his young papacy.

Earlier Sunday, he made an impromptu appearance before the public from a side gate of the Vatican that startled passers-by and prompted cheers as he shook hands and kissed babies. Francis had just finished celebrating Mass and delivering a six-minute homily — brief by church standards — in the Vatican's tiny parish church, St. Anna, when he walked outside to greet parishioners one by one, just as an ordinary pastor does after weekly services.

Francis started speaking at the window even before the stroke of noon — the appointed time for the weekly papal address. The windows of the papal study in the Apostolic Palace were opened for the first time since Francis' predecessor, Benedict XVI, gave his last Sunday blessing on Feb. 24. Four days later, Benedict went into retirement, the first pontiff to do so in nearly 600 years.

RNC To Spend \$10 Million To Reach Minorities

BY PHILIP ELLIOTT
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Reeling from back-to-back presidential losses and struggling to cope with the country's changing racial and ethnic makeup, the Republican National Committee plans to spend \$10 million this year to send hundreds of party workers into Hispanic, black and Asian communities to promote its brand among voters who overwhelmingly supported Democrats in 2012.

Committee chairman Reince Priebus on Sunday also proposed shortening the presidential nominating calendar in 2016 and limiting the number of primary-season debates to avoid the self-inflicted damage from inside-party squabbling on the eventual nominee. Priebus' top-to-bottom changes include picking the moderators for the debates and then crowning the nominee as early as June so he or she could begin a general election campaign as quickly as possible.

"Mitt Romney was a sitting duck for two months over the summer," Priebus said of the 2012 GOP nominee.

To help his party ahead of the 2016 contest already in its earliest stages, Priebus said he would be

hiring new staffers to build the GOP among voters in the states.

"It will include hundreds of people — paid — across the country, from coast-to-coast, in Hispanic, African American, Asian communities, talking about our party, talking about our brand, talking about what we believe in, going to community events, going to swearing-in ceremonies, being a part of the community on an on-going basis, paid for by the Republican National Committee, to make the case for our party and our candidates," Priebus said.

That move was part of the recommendations included in a monthslong look at what went wrong in 2012. Priebus tapped a handful of respected party leaders to examine how the GOP could better talk with voters, raise money from donors and learn from Democrats' tactics. Priebus also asked the group to examine how they could work with independent groups such as super political action committees.

Ari Fleischer, White House press secretary under former president George W. Bush, and Sally Bradshaw, a veteran strategist and top adviser to former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, were among those leading the inquiry. Republican National Committee member Henry Barbour, a GOP strate-

gist and nephew of former Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, was also part of the group. RNC members Zori Fonalledas of Puerto Rico and Glenn McCall of South Carolina rounded out the five-person committee that listened to Republicans' ideas and frustrations.

Those leaders heard from 50,000 rank-and-file members about how to respond to the nation's shifting demographics.

Priebus planned a full-scale rollout of their recommendations Monday, although the proposals are far from a done deal. They would have to win the approval of the 168-member Republican National Committee and then each state's election chief would have to abide by the party's proposed calendar or face consequences, such as losing voting delegates to the nominating convention. The states previously have ignored such penalties.

Priebus said the party review recommended downplaying its internal divisions among candidates, which forced Romney to take more conservative positions on issues such as immigration during his quest to capture the party's nomination. In all, Priebus counted 23 debates among his party's crowded field of contenders, and there were a handful

of other events — including a Newt Gingrich-Herman Cain face-off in Texas — that distracted from their main task of defeating Obama.

"Our primary process was way too long... I think we had way too many debates with our candidates slicing and dicing each other," Priebus said, adding that under his proposal the party would pick the networks that would host the debates and journalists who would question the candidates.

"I would limit the debate to a reasonable amount, maybe seven or eight. But not 23. It's ridiculous," Priebus said. "While we were playing footsy debating each other 23 times, what was the other side doing? ... They were actually getting the job done."

Exit polls indicated Obama carried female, black, Hispanic and Asian voting blocs. He also won among voters under the age of 45 and those who lived in mid-to large-sized cities.

That spells troubles for the GOP in a nation that is increasingly diverse. The latest census data and polling from The Associated Press suggest non-Hispanic whites will lose their majority in the next generation, somewhere around the year 2043.

Lawmaker Wonders About NKorea Stability

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House Intelligence Committee says the U.S. just doesn't know about "the stability" of North Korea's young leader, who has threatened pre-emptive nuclear attacks on Washington.

Republican Rep. Mike Rogers of Michigan says Kim Jong Un is trying to "prove himself" to his military and the military is eager for "saber-rattling" for its own self-interest.

North Korea also has said recently that it no longer will recognize the armistice that ended the 1953 Korean War.

The Pentagon said Friday that it will spend \$1 billion to add 14 interceptors to an Alaska-based missile defense system, responding to what it called faster-than-anticipated North Korean progress on nuclear weapons and missiles.

Jet Crashes Into Homes In Indiana Neighborhood

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — A coroner in Indiana is saying people were killed when a small plane crashed in a northern Indiana neighborhood.


Deputy St. Joseph County Coroner Michael O'Connell said, "Fatalities have been confirmed at the scene." He would not say how many people are dead.

Authorities say the private jet was experiencing mechanical trouble when it crashed in a neighborhood near the South Bend Regional Airport on Sunday. It hit three homes, becoming lodged in one of them.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Roland Herwig says the Beechcraft Premier I twin-jet had left Tulsa, Okla.'s Riverside Airport.

Part of the neighborhood southwest of the airport was evacuated because of concerns about jet fuel.

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