

### Russian Track Federation Suspended

LONDON (AP) — Calling it a wake-up call for a sport in a “shameful” position, IAAF President Sebastian Coe said Russia will be banned from next year’s Olympics unless it convinces the world it has cleaned up its act on doping.

The sport’s governing body provisionally suspended Russia’s track and field federation on Friday, four days after the country was accused of operating a vast, state-sponsored doping program in a damning report by a World Anti-Doping Agency commission.

The move bars Russia from all international track and field competition for an indefinite period, including the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, until the country is judged to have fixed its problems and fallen into line with global anti-doping rules.

Coe called the decision — approved 22-1 in a secret vote of the IAAF council via teleconference — “the toughest sanction we can apply at this time.” It’s the first time the International Association of Athletics Federations has ever banned a country over its doping failures.

“The whole system has failed the athletes, not just in Russia but around the world,” Coe said after a meeting that lasted nearly 3 1/2 hours. “This has been a shameful wake-up call and we are clear that cheating at any level will not be tolerated.”

### US ‘Reasonably Certain’ Jihadi Is Dead

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military is “reasonably certain” its drone strike in Syria killed the masked Islamic State militant known as “Jihadi John,” who appeared in several videos depicting the beheadings of Western hostages.

But families of the hostages brutally killed last year said his presumed death is little solace.

Army Col. Steve Warren, U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad, told reporters Friday that officials had been following Mohammed Emwazi, a Kuwaiti-born British citizen, for some time.

“The intelligence indicators that we had gave us great confidence that this individual was Jihadi John and when the opportunity presented itself — with the opportunity for minimal civilian casualties — we took the shot,” Warren said. “This guy was a human animal, and killing him is probably making the world a little bit better place.”

Another U.S. official told *The Associated Press* that three drones — two U.S. and one British — targeted the vehicle in which Emwazi was believed to be traveling in Raqqa, the Islamic State’s self-proclaimed capital in northern Syria. The official, who was not authorized to speak publicly and requested anonymity, said the U.S. drone, armed with a Hellfire missile, struck the vehicle.

### Kurdish Forces Recapture Towns In Iraq

SINJAR, Iraq (AP) — Dealing a double blow Friday to the Islamic State group, Iraqi Kurdish forces pushed into the strategic town of Sinjar in northern Iraq, and a coalition of Arab, Christian and Kurdish rebel factions recaptured another town from the militants across the border in Syria.

The Kurdish forces raised their flag in the center of Sinjar, and a top official said it was liberated, although U.S. and Kurdish military officials urged caution in declaring victory in the major offensive.

The fighters encountered little resistance, at least initially, suggesting that many of the IS militants may have pulled back in anticipation of the advance. It was also possible that they could be biding their time before striking back.

The offensive to retake Sinjar was launched Thursday by the Kurdish militia fighters known as the peshmerga forces, and they succeeded in cutting a key nearby highway and retaking more than 150 square kilometers (about 60 square miles) of territory from the Islamic State group. Airstrikes by a U.S.-led coalition supported the offensive, dubbed Operation Free Sinjar.

The Kurdistan Region Security Council said 28 villages were retaken from the Islamic State and “more than 300 terrorists were killed by Peshmerga forces and Coalition warplanes” in the course of the two-day operation.

### A Look At University Of Missouri’s Issues

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Efforts are underway at the University of Missouri to address the racial tensions that led to demonstrations by students, a strike by members of the school’s football team and the resignation of two top administrators.

Missouri football coach Gary Pinkel abruptly announced he would resign at the end of the season for health reasons, days after he kept his team united when players went on strike because of racial tensions on campus. The 63-year-old coach was diagnosed with lymphoma in May and dismissed the idea that this week’s events led to his decision.

Also Friday, Gov. Jay Nixon named Yvonne Sparks to fill a vacant seat on the University of Missouri Board of Curators. If her appointment is approved by lawmakers, Sparks will be the second black member of the nine-person governing board.

At least 100 people marched from the university’s Black Culture Center through areas of Greek housing and to the heart of the Columbia campus in response to threats of violence against black students. Interim Chancellor Hank Foley joined students in chanting while arm-in-arm with Missouri Students Association President Payton Head.

### Past Extremist Attacks In West Europe

A look at some past notable extremist attacks in Western Europe:

— Jan. 7, 2015: A gun assault on the Paris offices of satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo* kills 12 people. Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was revenge for *Charlie Hebdo*’s depictions of the Prophet Mohammed.

— May 24, 2014: Four people are killed at the Jewish Museum in Brussels by an intruder with a Kalashnikov. The accused is a former French fighter linked to the Islamic State group in Syria.

— May 22, 2013: Two al-Qaida inspired extremists run down British soldier Lee Rigby in a London street, then stab and hack him to death.

— March 2012: A gunman claiming links to al-Qaida kills three Jewish schoolchildren, a rabbi and three paratroopers in Toulouse, southern France.

### Beware Too-Good-To-Be-True Trail Stories

WASHINGTON (AP) — Presidential candidates invariably have an engaging story to tell about where they came from and how. Sometimes these stories are even true.

Often, though, these tales get embellished, whether because of human nature, fuzzy memory or pure political calculation.

No, Hillary Clinton didn’t dodge sniper fire in Bosnia, as she claimed in a previous campaign. Yes, Marco Rubio’s parents came from Cuba, but not to flee Fidel Castro’s regime.

And now, Ben Carson’s account of his past is being sharply challenged by a look-who’s-talking rival, Donald Trump.

Some candidate narratives are rock solid. Others fall apart on closer inspection. And many fall somewhere in between: a little bit cock-eyed or requiring the addition or subtraction of a key detail or two.

### Climate Webcast Stopped After Attacks

PARIS (AP) — A Paris webcast of an all-star marathon event about climate change was suspended after the deadly attacks in that city Friday night.

“Out of solidarity with the French people and the City of Paris, we have decided to suspend our broadcast of 24 Hours of Reality and Live Earth,” read a statement on the concert’s website on Friday night. “Our thoughts are with all who have been affected and the entire nation of France. We send our condolences to the families of those who have been killed or injured.”

More than 135 people have been killed in a series of shootings and explosions across the city.

Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore was due to host the 24-hour live webcast from the foot of the Eiffel Tower to drum up attention for this month’s international climate summit in Paris.



Distressed fans on the field after the end of the match at the Stade de France, where the French national team played Germany in a friendly competition. Shots have been fired at a restaurant nearby, and there was an explosion near the stadium, in Saint-Denis, on Friday, Nov. 13.

# As Many As 120 Dead In String Of Paris Attacks

BY LORI HINNANT  
Associated Press

PARIS — A series of attacks targeting young concert-goers and Parisians enjoying a Friday night out at popular nightspots killed as many as 120 people in the deadliest violence to strike France since World War II. President Francois Hollande pledged that France would stand firm against what he called terrorism.

The worst carnage was at a concert hall hosting an American rock band, where scores of people were held hostage and attackers hurled explosives at their captives. Police who stormed the building, killing three attackers, encountered a bloody scene of horror inside.

Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins said as many as five attackers may have been killed, though it was not clear how many there were altogether and how many were still at large. Authorities said the death toll at the six sites could exceed 120.

Hollande declared a state of emergency and announced that he was closing the country’s borders. The violence spread fear through the city and exceeded the horrors of the *Charlie Hebdo* attack just 10 months ago.

In addition to the deaths at the concert hall, a police official said 11 people were killed in a Paris restaurant in the 10th arrondissement and other officials said at least three people died when bombs went off outside a stadium.

All of the officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to be publicly named in the quickly moving investigation.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks, and no clear picture of how many attackers were involved and if any were on the run. Jihadists on Twitter immediately praised the attack and criticized France’s military operations against Islamic State



extremists. Hollande, who had to be evacuated from the stadium when the bombs went off outside, said in a televised address that the nation would stand firm and united.

“This is a terrible ordeal that again assails us,” he said. “We know where it comes from, who these criminals are, who these terrorists are.”

U.S. President Barack Obama, speaking to reporters in Washington, called the attacks on Paris “outrageous attempt to terrorize innocent civilians” and vowed to do whatever it takes to help bring the perpetrators to justice. He called the attacks a “heartbreaking situation” and an “attack on all of humanity.”

Earlier Friday, two explosions were heard outside the Stade de France stadium north of Paris during a France-Germany exhibition soccer game. A police union official said there were two suicide attacks and a bombing that killed at least three people.

The official, Gregory Goupil of the Alliance Police Nationale, whose region includes the area of the stadium, said explosions went off simultaneously near two entrances and a McDonald’s.

An *Associated Press* reporter in the stadium Friday night heard two explosions loud enough to penetrate

rock concert and ordinary city residents enjoying a Friday night out.

One of at least two restaurants targeted Friday, Le Carillon, is in the same general neighborhood as the *Charlie Hebdo* offices, as is the Bataclan, among the best-known venues in eastern Paris, near the trendy Oberkampf area known for a vibrant nightlife. The California-based band Eagles of Death Metal was scheduled to play there Friday night.

The country has seen several smaller-scale attacks or attempts since, including an incident on a high-speed train in August in which American travelers thwarted an attempted attack by a heavily armed man.

France’s military is bombing Islamic State targets in Syria and Iraq and fighting extremists in Africa, and extremist groups have frequently threatened France in the past.

French authorities are particularly concerned about the threat from hundreds of French Islamic radicals who have travelled to Syria and returned home with skills to stage violence.

Though who was responsible for Friday night’s violence remained a mystery, the Islamic State is “clearly the name at the top of everyone’s list,” Brian Michael Jenkins, a terrorism expert and senior adviser to the president of RAND Corp., said.

Jenkins said the tactic used — “multiple attackers in coordinated attacks at multiple locations” — echoed recommendations published in extremist group’s online magazine, *Dabbiq*, over the summer.

“The big question on everyone’s mind is, were these attackers, if they turn out to be connected to one of the groups in Syria, were they homegrown terrorists or were they returning fighters from having served” with the Islamic State group, Jenkins said. “That will be a huge question.”



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