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Deadly consequences while on duty and under fire

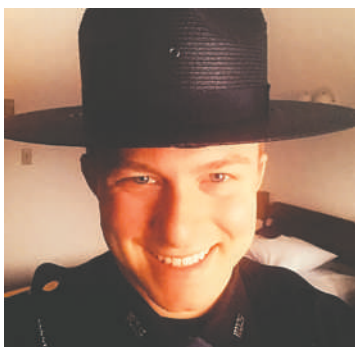
BY AMY BRITTAIN

FOND DU LAC, WIS. — Stopped in his patrol cruiser, Trooper Trevor Casper searched for a gray Toyota Corolla on a busy stretch of Highway 41. Behind the wheel was Steven Timothy Snyder, a bank robber and killer on the run. When Casper spotted Snyder about 5:30 p.m., he eased his cruiser into southbound traffic, following the Corolla at a distance, keeping his lights and siren off.

But Snyder soon realized he was being followed. Outside the

Pick 'n Save grocery store, he abruptly turned his car around. He raised his semiautomatic pistol and opened fire, striking Casper in the neck.

Snyder and Casper jumped out of their cars while they were still rolling. The 21-year-old trooper, armed with a .40-caliber Glock, and the 38-year-old bank robber circled the cruiser, guns blazing. Casper fired 12 rounds; Snyder got off nine armor-piercing bullets, one of which penetrated Casper's ballistic vest. And when it was over, Snyder lay dying of a gunshot wound to his back.



COURTESY OF THE CASPER FAMILY

Trevor Casper was the youngest law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty in Wisconsin.

800

People have been fatally shot by police officers this year

595

Fatal shootings by police during violent episode this year

31

Officers have been shot to death by perpetrators this year

"Bad guy is down," a dispatcher reported.

Casper collapsed and then dropped his gun. March 24 was his first solo day on the job — and his last. Shot three times, he became the youngest law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty in Wisconsin history. Casper is among 31 officers this year who have been shot to death by perpetrators, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page. He was hailed as a hero for stopping Snyder, who had magazines of ammunition tucked in his socks and left a manifesto promising

"to go down fighting hard."

Snyder's killing, as documented in interviews and police reports, is among the 800 fatal shootings by police so far this year. As the tally continues to grow, so does public debate and criticism over police use of deadly force.

But only a small number of the shootings — roughly 5 percent — occurred under the kind of circumstances that raise doubt and draw public outcry, according to an analysis by The Washington Post. The vast majority of individuals **CASPER** CONTINUED ON A14

In Mexico, a peaceful coast following a feared hurricane



OMAR TORRES/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE VIA GETTY IMAGES

Residents clear debris outside a beach restaurant on the outskirts of Manzanillo, Mexico, after Hurricane Patricia made landfall to the north of the Pacific port town. The fierce storm, which was at one point the strongest hurricane ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere, slipped neatly between two population centers and weakened quickly after it passed over the Sierra Madre Occidental range. **Story, A8**

The '83 'war scare' was real

Declassified report says Soviets feared nuclear surprise attack by U.S.

BY DAVID E. HOFFMAN

A nuclear weapons command exercise by NATO in November 1983 prompted fear in the leadership of the Soviet Union that the maneuvers were a cover for a nuclear surprise attack by the United States, triggering a series of unparalleled Soviet military responses, according to a top-secret U.S. intelligence review that has just been declassified.

"In 1983, we may have inadvertently placed our relations with the Soviet Union on a hair trigger," the review concluded.

That autumn has long been regarded as one of the most tense moments of the Cold War, coming after the Soviet Union shot down a South Korean civilian airliner in September and as the West was preparing to deploy Pershing II intermediate-range and ground-launched cruise missiles in Europe in November. But there has been a long-running debate about whether the period known as the "war scare" was a moment of genuine danger or a period of bluster for propaganda purposes.

The review concluded that for **SOVIET** CONTINUED ON A16

Once-chummy rapport between outsiders cools

Carson, Trump begin to exchange jabs as Iowa caucuses near

BY PHILIP RUCKER AND ROBERT COSTA

The two men could not be more different: One grew up poor and black in Detroit, the other rich and white in Queens. One is soft-spoken and spiritual, the other loud and caustic. Each epitomizes American success, though in vastly different arenas: one as a brain surgeon, the other as a celebrity deal-maker.

But together, Ben Carson and Donald Trump stand as the dominant Republican candidates for president. Their rise and durability — polls show that combined they have the support of 50 percent or more of GOP voters — have befuddled political elites and become the defining dynamic heading into the next debate, Wednesday

in Boulder, Colo.

For months, such rivals as Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz have assumed that voters eventually will get serious, the outsiders' stars will flicker out and the real politicians will assume control. Yet, it is late October and that has not happened. By delivering sharp, visceral messages that galvanize the angry electorate, Carson and Trump today are monopolizing the race more than ever.

"The two outsiders have put a blanket over everybody else," said Doug Gross, a Republican establishment figure in Iowa. "Nobody else can even get oxygen."

The relationship between Carson, 64, and Trump, 69, has zigzagged from cordial to chummy to cool. They see themselves as kindred spirits, so much so that Trump has said he would consider Carson as his vice president.

Each has resisted bludgeoning the other, but with tensions rising as the kickoff Iowa caucuses draw near, they are starting to take each other apart. **CANDIDATES** CONTINUED ON A4



BRAD HORN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Lauren Salzberg, the Potomac Lice Lady, treats Tammy Collis.

With lice on resurgence, a new need for nitpickers

BY LYNDSEY LAYTON

The cars, some from as far as Georgia, pull up to the stately brick home tucked into an affluent Washington suburb. Some of the people who emerge are tearful, others are panicked. Most are itchy.

A small sign wedged into the ground gives the only hint of the

death and renewal taking place inside: The Potomac Lice Lady.

The cottage industry of picking — professionals who painstakingly remove head lice, those six-legged parasites that make themselves at home on human scalps and don't give up without a fight — is exploding, thanks to a combination of insect evolution, **LICE** CONTINUED ON A12

Divorced Catholics see hope in Vatican summit

Bishops, however, leave vague the question of taking communion

BY ANTHONY FAIOLA

VATICAN CITY — Divided clerics at a landmark Vatican summit echoed the more inclusive tone of Pope Francis on Saturday, extending a more welcoming hand to divorced and unmarried couples while stopping short of calling for clear alterations in church policies and leaving the groundbreaking pontiff as the ultimate decider of change.

The three-week summit — known as a synod — marked the culmination of a two-year process to recalibrate the faith's approach to families in the 21st century. Under Francis's direction, bishops and cardinals set a new precedent by tackling issues once considered taboo in the Roman Catholic Church.

Yet the still-significant opposition in the synod to rapid changes in rules also suggested how far off Catholics may yet be from seeing Francis's revolutionary style turned into practice.

The document, in some respects, went further than some thought possible earlier in the week. But even top clerics conceded that liberal Catholics with high expectations of change under Francis might still come away disappointed.

"We have to be always cautious that there aren't false expectations," said Cardinal Donald Wuerl, the archbishop of Washington. "One false expectation is that Catholic teachings would be changed. That is not going to happen."

While a bellwether of the hierarchy's thinking from its most heated gathering since the reforming Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, the synod's final communiqué amounts only to a list of recommendations for Francis. **SYNOD** CONTINUED ON A15

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