



57/44



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EAST OREGONIAN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

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DOZENS DEAD IN BRUSSELS TERRORIST ATTACKS



A police officer stands guard as people are evacuated from Brussels airport, after explosions rocked the facility in Brussels, Belgium on Tuesday.

AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert

NEW NORMAL

Islamic State takes credit for attacks

Islamic extremists struck Tuesday in the heart of Europe, killing at least 34 people and wounding scores of others in back-to-back bombings of the Brussels airport and subway that again laid bare the continent's vulnerability to suicide squads.

Bloodied and dazed travelers staggered from the airport after two explosions tore through crowds checking in for morning flights. About 40 minutes later, another rush-hour blast ripped through a subway car in the heart of the European Union's capital city.

Security tightens

The Obama administration stepped up security at major transit hubs across the country after Tuesday's airport and subway bombings in Brussels, as top U.S. intelligence officials warned of the risk for copycat attacks at home. President Barack Obama vowed to help Belgium track down those responsible for the deadly explosions.

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A man looks at flowers and messages outside the stock exchange in Brussels on Tuesday.

AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert



Injured women rest in the Brussels Airport in Brussels, Belgium, after explosions Tuesday.

Ketevan Kardava/Georgian Public Broadcaster via AP

Fear of bloody attacks part of life in Europe

By KARL RITTER
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Paris, Copenhagen, Brussels. In just over a year three European capitals have been ravaged by bombs and gunfire.

After each attack life slowly returns to normal. But it's a new normal for Europe, where terror alerts are always on high and where people in cities so far spared major violence assume it's a matter of when, not if.

"With each atrocity that occurs we change," said Ian Duncan, a Scottish member of the European Parliament in Brussels. "We become less open. We pull down barriers and close doors. But it is a direction we are following now."

The carnage in Brussels on Tuesday came as Europe was still reeling from the November attacks by Islamic militants in Paris that killed 130 people. In the following months France and Belgium have looked like countries at least partially at war, with soldiers in the streets, lockdowns and deadly shootouts with militants.

The rest of Europe has watched with trepidation.

"These were attacks in Belgium. They could just as well be attacks in Britain or France or Germany or elsewhere in Europe," British Prime

See EUROPE/7A

MISSION

Party with rival gang preceded shooting

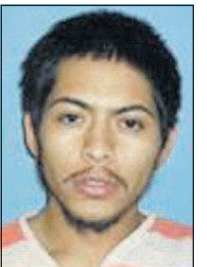
By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

The last words from Tony Jimenez of Pendleton may have been to warn a friend about a man with a gun.

The friend, Beau Welch, 31, took a bullet above his left ankle. Jimenez, 27, was shot in the head and died.

Victor Joseph Contreras, 23, from California, now is in the Multnomah County Jail, Portland, and faces federal charges for the deadly violence Saturday morning outside of Welch's home on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near Pendleton. And FBI special agent Eric Thompson in an affidavit revealed what happened.

Thompson also stated in the document, which is a public record, he was not laying out all the facts in the case but only establishing the probable cause for arresting Contreras. The document identifies victims and witnesses only by initials, such as B.W. for Welch, and some of the details are graphic.



Contreras



Jimenez

See SHOOTING/8A

Active shooter training coming to Hermiston

By JENNIFER COLTON
East Oregonian

The poster shows a man with a gun pointed at the camera and the haunting words, "What would you do?"

The Hermiston Police Department hopes the poster — and the program behind it — will start a conversation about what to do when faced with an active shooter.

CRASE stands for "civilian response to active shooter events," and Hermiston police are bringing their training and tools into the community.

"The big question is do you know what to do in that situation. It really is that simple," Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said. "For the majority of people, the answer is no."

See TRAINING/8A

Interior secretary preaches cooperation during Oregon visit

BURNS (AP) — The top Department of the Interior official brought a message of cooperation between ranchers and the government to Burns, where ranchers recently held an armed occupation of a national wildlife refuge.

After touring the area Monday, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell said she wants to bring attention to a success that was overshadowed by the 41-day occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, reported the Oregonian.

Jewell said she'll return to Washington, D.C., determined to showcase

what she called "a disaster averted" — the Harney County effort to protect the greater sage grouse while avoiding federal regulation that could hurt the ranching and logging industries.

Environmentalists, ranchers and the government teamed under the brand High Desert Partnership in what Jewell said should serve as a national model for serving both economic and conservation needs.

The secretary also heard from county officials, refuge workers,



Jewell

tribal leaders and federal employees. She said their perspectives have convinced her that she must find a way to give federal workers more freedom to experiment without fearing congressional inquiries or getting fired.

Jewell told the Oregonian that she asked wildlife refuge manager Chad Karges to be blunt about what it took to pull together the groups that eventually became the High Desert Partnership. Karges, a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

employee, started that effort in 2005.

"He said he really had to go out on a limb," Jewell said, to thread agency regulations and political realities.

The secretary said she wants to reward collaboration and give workers the room to try new approaches.

She said it won't be easy to counter "a lot of misinformation" from the armed occupiers of the Malheur refuge because they created "a simple message" of government failure that resonated with a portion of the public.

"The federal government is not about marketing in sound bites," said Jewell. "Fear is easy to peddle."



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