



## To some, US case on Syrian gas attack and need for strike has too many holes

By Hannah Allam and Mark Seibel

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration's public case for attacking Syria is riddled with inconsistencies and hinges mainly on circumstantial evidence, undermining U.S. efforts this week to build support at home and abroad for a punitive strike against Bashar Assad's regime.

The case Secretary of State John Kerry laid out last Friday contained claims that were disputed by the United Nations, inconsistent in some details with British and French intelligence reports or lacking sufficient transparency for international chemical weapons experts to accept at face value.

After the false weapons claims preceding the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, the threshold for evidence to support intervention is exceedingly high.

And while there's little dispute that a chemical agent was used in an Aug. 21 attack outside of Damascus — and probably on a smaller scale before that — there are calls from many quarters for independent, scientific evidence to support the U.S. narrative that the Assad regime used sarin gas in an operation that killed 1,429 people, including more than 400 children. Some of the U.S. points in question:

The Obama administration dismissed the value of a U.N. inspection team's work by saying that the investigators arrived too late for the findings to be credible and wouldn't provide any information the United States didn't already have.

U.N. spokesman Farhan Haq countered that it was "rare" for such an investiga-

tion to begin within such a short time and said that "the passage of such few days does not affect the opportunities to collect valuable samples," according to the U.N.'s website. For example, Haq added, sarin can be detected in biomedical samples for months after its use.

The U.S. claims that sarin was used in the Aug. 21 attack, citing a positive test on first responders' hair and blood samples "that were provided to the United States," Kerry said on television Sunday without elaboration on the collection methods.

Experts say the evidence deteriorates over time, but that it's simply untrue that there wouldn't be any value in an investigation five days after an alleged attack. As a New York Times report not-

ed, two human rights groups dispatched a forensics team to northern Iraq in 1992 and found trace evidence of sarin as well as mustard gas four years after a chemical attack.

Another point of dispute is the death toll from the alleged attacks on Aug. 21. Neither Kerry's remarks nor the unclassified version of the U.S. intelligence he referenced explained how the U.S. reached a tally of 1,429, including 426 children. The only attribution was "a preliminary government assessment."

Anthony Cordesman, a former senior defense official who's now with the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, took aim at the death toll discrepancies in an essay published Sunday.

He criticized Kerry as

## Ben Affleck Batman or Bat-Bomb?

By Samuel Gibby

With the upcoming sequel of "Man of Steel" set for release in 2015, it was announced this summer that Batman would appear alongside Superman on the big screen for the first time. Many fans of DC and casual filmgoers wanted to know who would portray the caped crusader — would Christian Bale return to the role or would it be recast? On Aug. 22, the shocking announcement was made that Ben Affleck would don the cape and cowl for the new movie. Many people,

myself included, have objected to Ben Affleck as the dark knight for many reasons.

First of all, Affleck's performances are generally less than dynamic. It is as if he doesn't try to act when he is on screen, instead bringing only himself to his characters. Another problem is that he already delved into the superhero genre with his portrayal of Matt Murdock in "Daredevil." He failed to capture what made the character so appealing to begin with but this could be due to the

## New Coach Brings High Hopes for Charger Volleyball

By Taylor Reed

This year the UAH volleyball team is led by an entirely new coaching staff; a staff that many believe will lead the Chargers to new heights.

Head coach Keith Giboney may be new to Huntsville but he is definitely not new to the game. Giboney transferred from GSC neighbor Harding University where he coached for 13 seasons. In those 13 years he tabbed an overall record of 337-112 and was an astonishing 125-21 in GSC play, leading his

team to the GSC tournament every year. He has led his girls to seven championships and has himself won GSC West Coach of the Year five times. He was also named GSC Coach of the Decade.

His successes go back farther than Harding, as a high-school coach he built a program that in his first four years won three state titles. Call it luck of the draw, but he transferred schools and it only took him two years to turn that team into a state championship squad.



## Syria Continued

By Hannah Allam and Mark Seibel

being “sandbagged into using an absurdly over-precise number” of 1,429, and noted that the number didn’t agree with either the British assessment of “at least 350 fatalities” or other Syrian opposition sources, namely the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has confirmed at least 502.

“President Obama was then forced to round off the number at ‘well over 1,000 people’ creating a mix of contradictions over the most basic facts,” Cordesman wrote. He added that the blunder was reminiscent of “the mistakes the U.S. made in preparing Secretary (Colin) Powell’s speech to the U.N. on Iraq in 2003.”

An unclassified version of a French intelligence report on Syria that was released Monday hardly cleared things up; France only confirmed 281 fatalities, though it more broadly agreed with the United States that the regime had used chemical weapons in the Aug. 21 attack.

Another eyebrow-raising administration claim was that U.S. intelligence had “collected streams of human, signals and geospatial intelligence” that showed the regime preparing for an attack three days before the event. The U.S. assessment says regime personnel were in an area known to be used to “mix chemical weapons, including sarin,” and that regime forces prepared for the Aug. 21 attack by putting on gas masks.

That claim raises two questions: Why didn’t the U.S. warn rebels about the impending attack and save hundreds of lives? And why did the administration keep mum about the suspicious activity when on at least one previous occasion

U.S. officials have raised an international fuss when they observed similar actions?

On Dec. 3, 2012, after U.S. officials said they detected Syria mixing ingredients for chemical weapons, President Barack Obama repeated his warning to Assad that the use of such arms would be an unacceptable breach of the red line he’d imposed that summer. Then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton chimed in, and the United Nations withdrew all nonessential staff from Syria.

Last month’s suspicious activity, however, wasn’t raised publicly until after the deadly attack. And Syrian opposition figures say the rebels weren’t warned in advance in order to protect civilians in the area.

“When I read the administration’s memo, it was very compelling, but they knew three days before the attack and never alerted anyone in the area,” said Radwan Ziadeh, a Syrian opposition activist who runs the Washington-based Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies. “Everyone was watching this evidence but didn’t take any action?”

Among chemical weapons experts and other analysts who’ve closely studied the Syrian battlefield, the main reservation about the U.S. claims is that there’s no understanding of the methodology behind the intelligence-gathering. They say that the evidence presented points to the use of some type of chemical agent, but say that there are still questions as to how the evidence was collected, the integrity of the chain of custody of such samples, and which laboratories were involved.

Eliot Higgins, a British

chronicler of the Syrian civil war who writes the Brown Moses blog, a widely cited repository of information on the weapons observed on the Syrian battlefield, wrote a detailed post Monday listing photographs and videos that would seem to support U.S. claims that the Assad regime has possession of munitions that could be used to deliver chemical weapons. But he wouldn’t make the leap.

On the blog, Higgins asked: “How do we know these are chemical weapons? That’s the thing, we don’t. As I’ve said all along, these are munitions linked to alleged chemical attacks, not chemical munitions used in chemical attacks. It’s ultimately up to the U.N. to confirm if chemical weapons were used.”

Holes in the case already have allowed Russia to dismiss the U.S. evidence as “inconclusive,” with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov saying in a speech Monday that Moscow was shown “some sketches, but there was nothing concrete, no geographical coordinates, or details ... and no proof the test was done by professionals,” according to the state-backed RT news agency.

“When we ask for further clarification, we receive the following response: ‘You are aware that this is classified information, therefore we cannot show it to you,’” Lavrov said. “So there are still no facts.”

Lavrov’s remarks signaled that Russia, one of the last Assad allies, was nowhere near being convinced enough to stop its repeated blocking of U.N. Security Council resolutions targeting the regime.

But there’s also skepticism among U.S.-friendly

nations, such as Jordan, which declined to endorse action until it studies the findings of a U.N. chemical weapons investigation, and the United Kingdom, where Parliament voted against intervention even before the U.S. released an intelligence assessment that contradicted one released a day before by British authorities.

It’s unclear how much a factor the evidence was in Parliament’s decisions; there’s also a high degree of wariness of any U.S.-led intervention after the Iraq experience.

The U.S. did get a boost Monday from the commander of NATO, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who told a news conference he’d seen “concrete information” that convinced him of the Assad regime’s responsibility for an apparent chemical attack that killed hundreds of people in August.

Rasmussen said it would send a “dangerous signal to dictators” if the world didn’t respond, but he left it up to NATO nations to decide their own responses and didn’t advocate action beyond protecting member state Turkey, which borders Syria.

U.S. allies across the Arab world and Europe have said they prefer delaying any potential military strikes until after the U.N. inspection team releases its findings. The U.N. mandate is to determine whether chemical weapons were used, but not to assign culpability. U.N. officials have said they’re trying to expedite the inspection team’s work while protecting the integrity of the process.

## Astronomy student stumbles on space object called Trojan in orbit with planet Uranus

By Eryn Brown

It turns out Uranus has a cosmic companion as it circles the sun from nearly 1.8 billion miles away. Scientists have detected a Trojan — an asteroid-like object that shares a planet’s orbit moving ahead of the ice giant. The discovery of 2011 QF99 was reported this week in the journal *Science*. And it was found almost by accident. Mike Alexandersen, a doctoral student in astronomy at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, wasn’t looking for a Trojan. Nor was he studying Uranus. He and his colleagues were surveying the transneptunian region of the outer solar system, hoping to see what kinds of orbits the objects there followed. (The transneptunian region is more or less the same thing as the Kuiper Belt. Studying the patterns of objects’ orbits in the region helps scientists understand how the solar system formed

some 4.5 billion years ago.) As Alexandersen and the team examined images snapped using the Canada-France-Hawaii telescope during 2011 and 2012, they noticed one object that was moving across the field of vision more quickly than the others. It was an indication that the object was closer to Earth than the rest. That part wasn’t a surprise. But seeing something that moved the way 2011 QF99 did was a shocker. The scientists had expected to see objects known as Centaurs, which often move toward the center of the solar system along quirky paths. But over the course of a year of observations, they realized that this particular space rock was traveling in an orbit very much like that of Uranus. That made it seem more like a Trojan, gravitationally bound to its planet. The mysterious object also oscillated the

same way a Trojan would. “It was, in fact, a Trojan,” said Alexandersen, who added that the team members “were certainly not anticipating finding something as cool as this.” University of California at Los Angeles planetary scientist David Jewitt, who is credited with detecting the first Kuiper Belt object in 1992, said that the transneptunian region is the source of all sorts of objects hurtling about the solar system, providing an Armada-like “rain of stuff” cascading inward toward the sun. As they move about, they get caught up in planets’ gravity either getting hurled away or thrown further inward. Chunks that float around in the zone of the giant planets are called Centaurs. Those that make it into the inner solar system, heating and vaporizing in the sun’s heat, are known as comets. Trojans are the bits that get

captured in particular locations in a planet’s orbit where gravity from the sun and gravity from the planet interact to lock them in place. Some Trojans — around Mars, Neptune and especially Jupiter are permanently bound to their planets, and have been for billions of years. Others, like 2011 QF99 and Earth’s Trojan 2010 TK7, are only temporarily trapped in their orbits. “The planets are playing ball with this thing,” Jewitt said of the newly detected object. “Eventually they’ll lose control of it.” Alexandersen and his colleagues conducted a computer simulation that showed that the Trojan — which is about 37 miles wide — is only temporarily bound to Uranus. Sometime within the next million years, it’s likely to drop out of its orbit and become a Centaur, they reported in *Science*.

## Top-ranked Alabama rocks Virginia Tech

By Doug Roberson

ATLANTA — Alabama owns arguably the nation's best quarterback and best defense. Now, it may own the best all-around player.

Christian Jones returned a punt 72 yards for a touchdown, a kickoff 94 yards for a touchdown, and caught a 38-yard touchdown pass to spark No. 1 Alabama to a 35-10 victory over Virginia Tech on Saturday in the Chick-fil-A Kickoff game at the Georgia Dome.

"We want our return game to be a weapon for us and it certainly was tonight," Tide coach Nick Saban said.

Alabama, the defending national champ, needed Jones because A.J. McCarron, he of the 26-2 record as a starter and the most talked-about ingrown toenail in sports, wasn't sharp. He finished 10-of-23 for 110 yards with a touchdown and interception.

Alabama's defense, statistically the best in the country last season, didn't start well, but got better as the game progressed, limiting Virginia Tech to 212 yards. It also had an interception return for a touchdown.

But all they needed was Jones.

He became the first Alabama player since 1944, the earliest date the Crimson Tide's records go back to, to score two non-offensive touchdowns in one game. It was also the first time in Virginia Tech's history that it gave up a kick return, punt return and interception return for touchdowns.

"It's every kid's dream to come and do things like that, but we have a 24-hour rule," Jones said. "We will put this game aside tomorrow

and go to Week 2." Virginia Tech was already beaten up and inexperienced entering the game. The Hokies were without starting tailback J.C. Coleman (sprained ankles) and cornerback Antone Exum (knee). In addition, starting tight end Ryan Malleck (shoulder), running back Tony Gregory (knee) and outside linebacker Ronny Vandyke (shoulder) suffered season-ending injuries earlier in August.

The Hokies featured only 10 seniors on their two-deep depth chart, and their two offensive tackles were starting the first games in their careers.

By contrast, other than McCarron's terrible toe, Alabama entered the game relatively healthy and loaded with 13 starters returning from last season's 13-1 team.

The Tide wasted no time Saturday. After the defense forced a quick three-and-out on Virginia Tech's first possession, Jones' punt return gave Alabama a 7-0 lead less than two minutes into the game.

Alabama made the score 14-0 on a 2-yard run by T.J. Yeldon with 1:53 left in the first quarter. The Tide defense had again forced a three-and-out to set up a short field for the offense. Taking over at the Hokies' 49, McCarron nimblely led Alabama to shrug off any concern about his foot. He bought time by moving in the pocket before he hit Kevin Norwood for 11 yards on third-and-10 and later hit Amari Cooper for 15 yards.

But Virginia Tech didn't roll over.

Trey Edmunds, effectively the team's third-string tailback after the loss of Michael Holmes (dismissed

in the spring) and Gregory (injury), ran up the middle, turned left and dashed 77 yards for a touchdown to cut the Hokies' gap to 14-7 on their next play from scrimmage.

"He's going to have a terrific future at Virginia Tech," Hokies coach Frank Beamer said. Tech's defense forced a three-and-out that included a sack of McCarron and seemed ready to make it a game.

But strong safety Vinnie Sunseri easily intercepted Logan Thomas on first down and returned the ball 38 yards for a touchdown. Thomas threw 16 interceptions last season, an increase of six from the 2011 season. Thomas completed five of his 26 attempts for 59 yards. He wasn't helped by Virginia Tech receivers that dropped countless passes.

"I felt pretty good," Thomas said. "I didn't try to put an 'S' on my chest like coach says. I just tried to play my best." Virginia Tech kicked a 39-yard field goal to cut the Tide's lead to 21-10 with 3:39 left.

And then, just like that, Alabama snatched the momentum away again when Jones returned the kickoff 94 yards for a touchdown.

Now, Saban and his players have a week off before they take on Texas A&M, the only team to beat them during last year's 13-1 season.

"We have to create an identity as a team," Saban said. "I don't think we did that maybe in all phases of the game today. But at least we know where we are."

## Having a tough time seeing the silver lining?



If you are feeling sad, anxious, or overwhelmed, take an anonymous mental health self-assessment

Screening site info, here:

<http://www.mentalhealthscreening.org/screening/uah>

This advertisement was developed in part under a grant number 1U79SM000407-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.



## High Hopes Continued

By Taylor Reed

Success seems to follow Giboney wherever he goes and our Athletic Director E.J. Brophy believes he can do great things here as well, hoping that "he will take us to new heights in the very near future." Giboney brings an atmosphere of success and he accepts nothing less. "He has high standards for us and we are trying to live up to them,"

Sophomore outside hitter Olivia Bauman said. The team's expectations this year are a lot higher and Bauman along with her teammates believe that they are capable of going farther than ever before.

Although Giboney is new to the program, the team has 11 returners who already worked well together. Giboney, although in his first season,

has already begun building the squad bringing in three freshman recruits who he believes will "contribute greatly to the success of this team."

Hopes are set high. Players, coaches, as well as the athletic staff all see potential in this year's team and know that success is on its way. Giboney says that his team is in "game mode" and

ready to go. This year is going to be completely different and it is going to be one you are not going to want to miss. The volleyball season starts next Wednesday and Bauman believes everyone will see how hard this team has worked at their first home game Sep. 11!



## Tattooing with timepiece

By Ashley Baker

**Seejay Callaway Shayna Callaway Timepiece Tattoo Company LLC 3322**

South Memorial Parkway  
Suite 618 Huntsville, AL  
35801 256-885-2103

[www.timepiecetattoo.com](http://www.timepiecetattoo.com)

[www.fb.com/timepiecetattoo.com](https://www.facebook.com/timepiecetattoo.com)

### Hours

Tuesday-Saturday  
12:00 pm -8:00 pm

With over 45 million Americans with at least one tattoo, the popularity is increasing. The struggle to find a tattoo shop that meets your individual needs is also increasing as well. Having nine tattoos myself (three of which were inked by Seejay Callaway), I have found myself more and more interested in what makes a tattoo shop worth your time and what does not. After three years in the Huntsville area, I can confidently say that Timepiece Tattoo Company is by far the most talented and professional group of artists I have ever met. I sat down with Shayna and Seejay Callaway to get their perspectives on tattooing.

Shayna Callaway started her tattoo apprenticeship in 2004 at the age of 18. Hailing

from the small town of Ashland, Ohio, Shayna moved Huntsville to expand her artistic horizons as well as to be closer to family. Here in Huntsville, she met husband and future business partner Seejay Callaway. Seejay moved to Huntsville in 2000 from New York, bringing with him his big personality and unrivaled talents to the Deep South, also wanting to be nearer to family. Here, the Callaways have found a home in the city they love and hope to provide a much needed art studio, where your ideas come to live and stay with you for the rest of your days.

### CT: What is your favorite thing about tattooing?

There are endless reasons as to why we love our careers as tattooists. The first being the colorful characters that we encounter on a daily basis; some with harrowing stories of loss, some with stories of redemption and others wanting to laugh and express their silliness, which we always return in kind. We also enjoy being able to create unique tattoos in many different ways, using different art forms to create individualized tattoos. Our shop offers custom art in the forms of portraits and realism, surrealism, gothic and baroque

styles, traditional Japanese, art nouveau, traditional and neo-traditional American styles as well as cover-ups. Pretty much anything that come through our door, we will do our absolute best to provide whatever our clients can dream up, and give our all, whether that be a one inch tattoo on the wrist, or a large back piece.

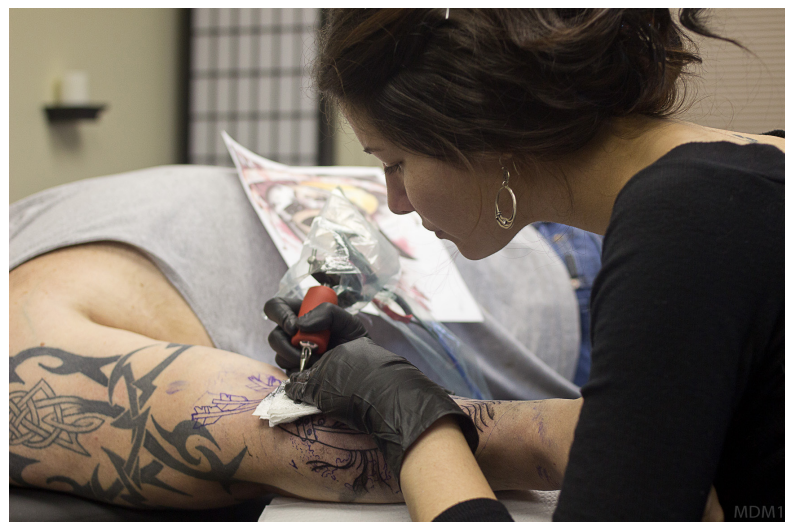
### CT: What is the best advice you can give someone looking to get a tattoo?

As you are looking at different artists to tattoo you, make sure that you check portfolios, if someone is reluctant to show you a portfolio of their work, walk out right then and there! While looking at portfolios, look for consistency in the work, especially linework and color saturation, as well as making sure you have a connection to the artist's work and style in with the tattoos are executed. It is also a good idea to have something in mind before you come in to the shop, even if it is just an idea that we can build from. Understand that not everything is tattoo-able, particularly very small details and letters. Ink on paper and ink in the skin are very different mediums and over time all tattoos will alter, blend or change through the years. Try to have a budget in mind before talking to your

artist and inform them of what you are planning on spending on your tattoo, so there are no surprises! The average hourly rate for a tattoo is between \$100-\$150 per hour, which surprises some, but remember, this is a permanent alteration to your body, and spending the money on an artist whose work you really like is worth it in the end, as opposed to paying less for a poor tattoo and having to pay again to get that tattoo fixed or covered up; "get it done nice, not twice!" Dress the part! Wear clothes that will give the artist the best access to the area. Don't wear expensive clothes out on tattoo day, sometimes we can be a little messy! And shower before coming in!

### CT: What advice do you have for after getting a tattoo?

Follow our written and verbal aftercare instructions completely! Over the years, aftercare info has changes a lot and clients tend to get mixed info, either from previous tattooists, years ago, or from friends who "know everything about tattoos." More likely than not, your friend's advice is dead wrong. Trust us, it's our job, and never hesitate to ask questions during the healing process, we want your tattoo to be perfect too.



## Bat-Bomb Continued

By Samuel Gibby

poor direction of the movie.

Another noteworthy reason for skepticism is Affleck's portrayal of George Reeves in "Hollywoodland." This portrayal of the 1950's Superman was so insulting and inaccurate that Noel Neil and Jack Larson, stars that worked with George Reeves, spoke out against Affleck's portrayal. An obvious issue with this casting is that there are plenty of people who would have been more suitable for the role other than Affleck, such as Josh Brolin

and Karl Urban. Those two actors have shown that they can transform into characters so well that the audience can hardly recognize them in the roles.

Despite all of this, there is some glimmering hope within this casting choice. When Michael Keaton was cast as Bruce Wayne in Tim Burton's classic film "Batman" everyone was outraged to the point that there were petitions established to recast the character. But when the film hit theaters it worked perfectly. Virtually the

same reaction occurred when Heath Ledger was cast as the Joker in "The Dark Knight." Ledger's performance showed people that he was perfect for the role of the clown prince of crime and he received an Oscar for the role. This casting choice could also work because Ben Affleck won an Oscar recently for "Argo," which allows for the possibility of a co-direction along with Zach Snyder for the movie. At times, he even resembles the billionaire playboy Bruce Wayne.

Was this casting choice a big mistake? We can't decide yet because of the past history with casting choices that seemed wrong but ended up succeeding by all accounts. With the recent rumor swirling that Bryan Cranston ("Breaking Bad") has been cast as Lex Luthor, it could suggest that casting has taken a turn in a better direction. So, overall we will just have to wait and see whether or not this will work.

# CONTINUED

## MOVIE REEL

### Elysium

By Paul Sorrells

Four years ago, director Niel Bloomkamp put himself on the cinematic map with one of the most impressive debut films of recent years with his sci-fi film "District 9." "District 9" became a box office hit, earning over one hundred million dollars and picking up a rare Academy Award nomination for Best Picture. More importantly, it was a masterful work of filmmaking, combining cutting edge special effects, biting social commentary, and a whirlwind narrative.

"Elysium" is Bloomkamp's sophomore effort, but unfortunately he does not deliver. Despite having a budget roughly four times the size of District 9, Elysium is a step backward in terms of Bloomkamp's cinematic development, being much more derivative and simplistic.

Still, Elysium is good enough to be discussed on its own merits and it has quite a few of them. The most impressive aspect of the film is its outstanding production design. The environment created by Bloomkamp and his team is completely immersive, with outstanding set designs and superlative special effects. In all, Elysium is probably the best-looking blockbuster of the summer, unfortunately though, the rest of the movie suffers in comparison.

Although well acted, many of Elysium's problems lie in characterization. Matt Damon is a professional and always brings his A-game, except his character embodies so many action hero clichés that he seems almost a parody. Jodie Foster attempts a bizarre accent that borders on unintentional hilarity, which probably would not have been so bad if her character had anything

interesting to say. Sharlto Copley really tries hard in his role as a crazed mercenary out to get Damon's hero, and he nails it in a few scenes, but his character is similarly derivative of previous better characters.

The film's plot is intentionally simplistic. In the year 2154, Earth is an overpopulated wasteland from which the wealthy inhabitants fled to live in their resort satellite, Elysium. Damon's character has dreamt since childhood of going there and after an accident in which he is exposed to lethal levels of radiation, he is faced with certain death if he cannot reach it in the next few days.

The message of the film is as clear and unsubtle as movies get, the rich are getting wealthier and the poor are getting poorer and it is only getting worse. While this is true, "Elysium" is so heavy-handed in its message that it fails to function as a piece of filmmaking. "Elysium" has good intentions and an important message but it is not something that works either as a piece of social criticism or as a particularly entertaining movie.

Elysium is not a bad film but it is a rather disappointing one. In a cinematic year absolutely dominated by sequels, reboots and unimaginative fare, Bloomkamp had a chance to do something different that could have been both original and exciting. He had a budget rarely given to an original film by a young filmmaker and seemingly absolute control over the project. What he delivered fails to live up to its substantial promise and is more concerned with hitting the audiences over the head with social problems than taking them to new, exciting cinematic grounds.

### World's End

By Samuel Gibby

In 2004, actor Simon Pegg and director Edgar Wright began writing their strangely-named "Three Flavours Cornetto" or "Blood and Ice Cream" trilogy. The first of these films was "Shaun of the Dead," a hilarious send-up of zombie horror films. In 2007, "Hot Fuzz" parodied the buddy-cop action films perfectly. The third and final part of the trilogy, "The World's End," has now been released.

Gary King (Simon Pegg) gathers his old friends (Eddie Marsan, Martin Freeman, Paddy Considine, Nick Frost) to re-attempt a pub crawl of twelve pubs in one night. However, once they return to their hometown and subsequent pub crawl challenge they discover that the town's population has been replaced by robots. It contains hilarity and sci-fi fun when these five guys attempt to reach the final bar, called The World's End, or die trying.

Much like the other films in the "Three Flavours Cornetto" trilogy, this movie is a pure riot. The comedy is on-par with and in some cases superior to the first two films. The characters are all unique and each present hilarious interactions with each other. This is typical of the writings of Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg since the two obviously know how to create jokes for their scripts. The drama that is present with the characters is what makes

the film work perfectly. This helped the audience care about the characters all the while enjoying their usual antics.

The actors were all great for this film. Simon Pegg completely transformed into this hedonistic character and his performance as this character was completely natural. Nick Frost, who usually is seen playing losers, surprisingly portrayed the most mature character of the movie. Martin Freeman of "Sherlock" and "The Hobbit" fame was decent in this film. Pierce Brosnan did an excellent job as Gary King's former teacher. The rest of the cast performed exceptionally. The film was surprisingly filled with plenty of action, but do not expect this film to surpass the action sequences of "Hot Fuzz." The story kept to the typical invasion tropes and has a complete blast with them.

The only negative thing that could possibly be said about this movie was the ending. It was not necessarily a disappointing ending, but it felt completely strange considering the rest of the film's tone.

This movie is one that is strongly recommended, not simply to those who enjoyed the first two "Blood and Ice Cream" films but also to a general audience. This comedy manages to deliver on great jokes along with good character development.

### You're Next

By Paul Sorrells

It is hard to believe that in a genre known for using the same plots and ideas again and again, movies as competently made as "You're Next" still fall victim to so many of the clichés and trappings of the form. What made it worse was that it felt like the filmmakers were more than aware of how ordinary the film is, but simply did not care enough to change anything about it.

The plot resembles countless horror movies from years past; an affluent family has a reunion to celebrate their parent's 35th anniversary, reuniting several brothers who have not seen each other in years. Almost immediately, things begin to go wrong as a dinner is gruesomely interrupted by men in animal masks who apparently do not believe in using anything more advanced than a crossbow and are supernaturally good at spelling "you're next" on bedroom walls with their victim's blood.

In a somewhat clever twist on the last-girl-standing horror trope, one of the brother's girlfriends displays a surprising aptitude for fighting back that leads to numerous gruesome kills. Everything about the movie is predictable, from the character motivations to the takedowns and the contrived ending, "You're Next" fails to do anything better

than any other horror films.

The most fatal flaw of "You're Next" is its near total lack of identity. It contains a streak of dark humor that completely undercuts the effectiveness of the first half of the film as family members continue to argue about petty things moments after someone has been gruesomely murdered. To exacerbate things, the mid-movie reveal of the killers' intentions takes away any kind of mystery about them. The movie turns into more of an action film than a horror one and a poorly acted and poorly scripted one at that.

In many ways, "You're Next" tries to do what last year's "Cabin in the Woods" succeeded so well at, which is to gleefully subvert genre stereotypes and reinvent them in a new light. Unfortunately, the writers of "You're Next" were either too lazy or not competent enough to pull it off and it ends up backfiring badly. Not only does it fail at the conceptual level as an experimental take on the horror genre, it is also poorly acted for the most part and uninspired.

On the whole, despite some clever moments, competent stylistic touches and decent technical work, "You're Next" is not funny enough to work as a comedy or action-comedy but not near serious or earnest enough to be a good horror film.

## Bittersweet Beginnings

By David Vail

Starting back school is often a bittersweet experience, and these beers are no different. The following list of beers encompass a certain freshness and sweetness, as well as that hint of bitterness, that is best captured by none other than the pale ale style brew. Enjoy your semester, UAHuntsville.

#### Dale's Pale Ale

This first beer may be familiar to many of you beer enthusiasts already. It's also been reviewed before here at the Charger Times, but it definitely deserves a spot in this week's review of great pale ales. Dale's Pale Ale is brewed by Oskar Blues Brewery in

Longmont, Colorado. It pours a pale and clear orange color and has an alcohol by volume of 6.5 percent. The aroma yields a classic yet intense blend of hops and citrus, and gives you that almost piney freshness. The taste is an equally good blend of flavors that lines up with the aroma. All the flavors carry over but not in an overwhelmingly bold manner; it's a mellow flavor distributing with a light body. It's perhaps more bitter and intense than a standard pale ale, but not as powerful as a standard India Pale Ale. What you're left with is a bittersweet, yet very drinkable beer.

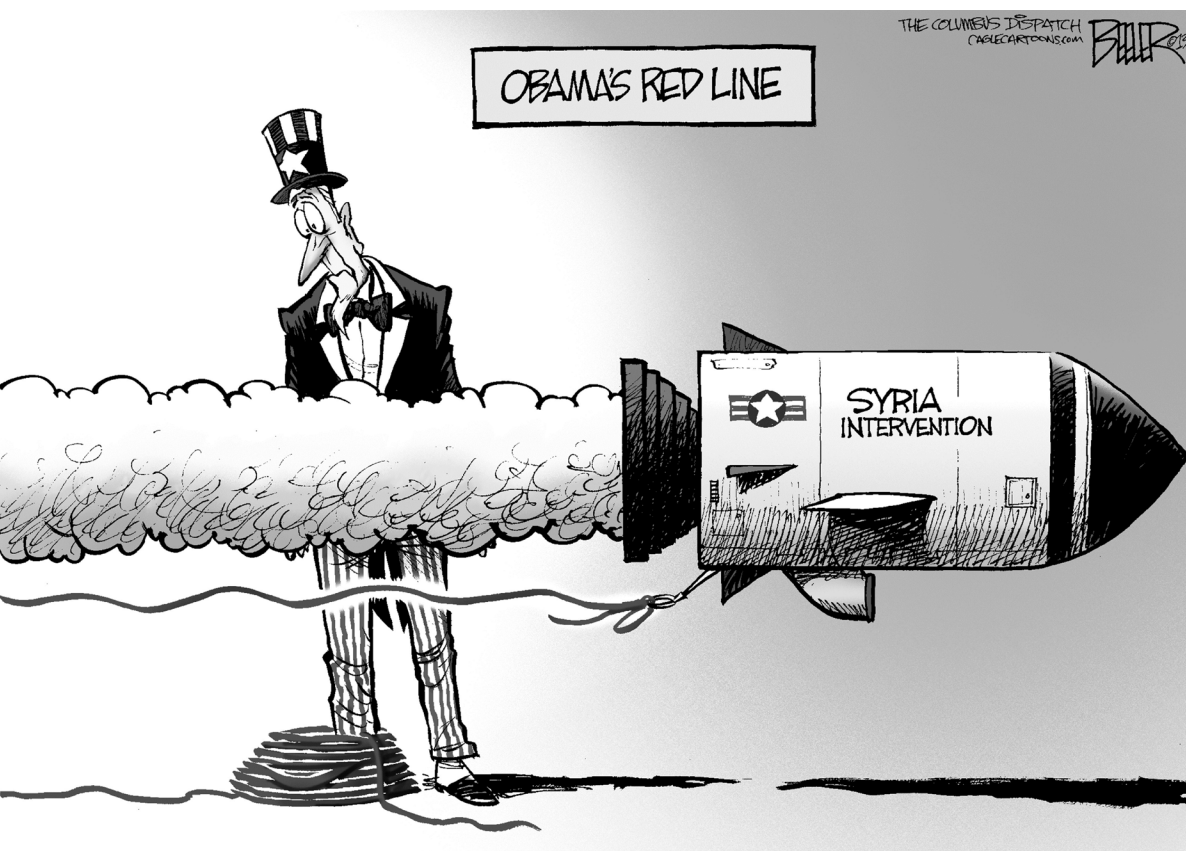
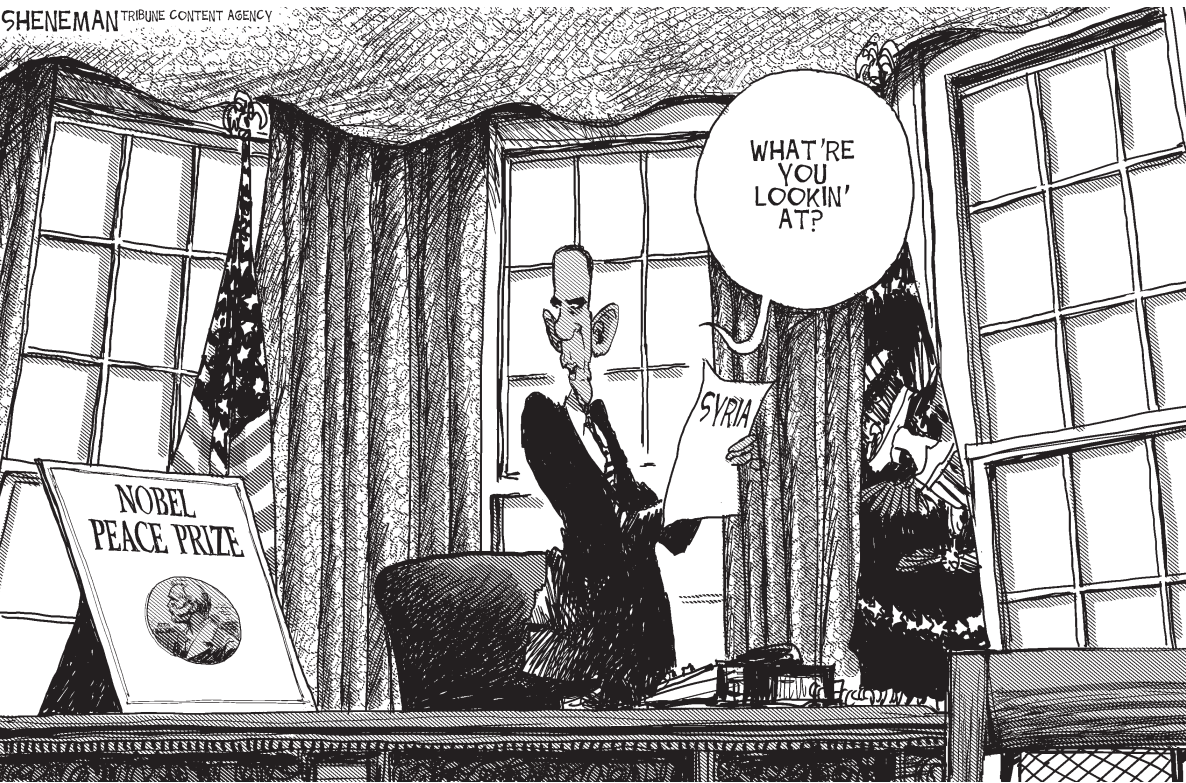
#### Fish Tale Wild Salmon

This beer comes from Fish Brewing Company in Olympia, Washington. One thing to highlight with this brew is that it's made with organic barley and hops, so for those of you who want to stay organic, this is definitely worth a try. It pours a hazy golden color and has an ABV of 5.5 percent. The aroma and taste yield similar classic elements to the Dale's Pale Ale, yet are much more subdued. It's a very calm and mellow bittersweet. There's a bit more noticeable presence of the grains and malts here, partially due to it being less hoppy, less alcoholic, etc. Overall, it's a nice drinkable beer.

#### Sneaky Pete

Finally, we have Sneaky Pete. This one is actually an IPA that's new to Huntsville and comes from Winchester, Virginia. It pours a darker clear amber color and has an ABV of 10.0 percent. The aroma is an intense blend of malts and hops with plenty of freshness. The flavor yields a bold, malty punch and a strong hop presence, with sweet notes of caramel and citrus. This is by far the strongest of the beers reviewed this time around. It's high in alcohol and packed with intense aromas and flavors. This encompasses the bittersweet character of pale ales very well, and overall, it's a great beer.





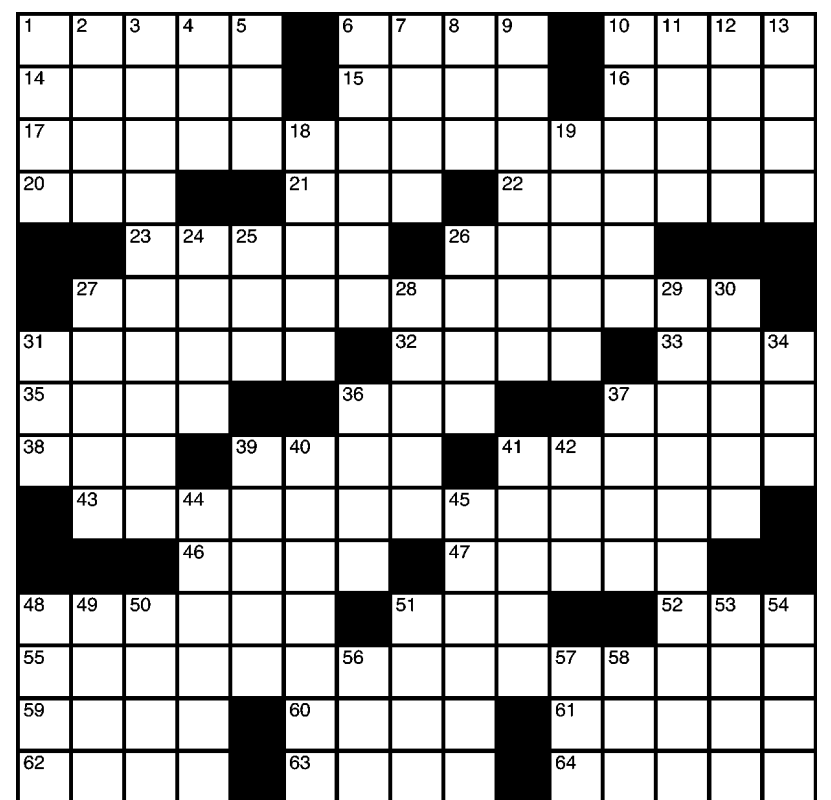
Interested in writing for  
**THE CHARGER TIMES?**  
 email us:  
 chargertimes@uah.edu

FOR RELEASE SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Uniformed figure in the National Toy Hall of Fame
  - 6 Corp. fiscal execs
  - 10 Kiss from 10-Down
  - 14 Epps and Sharif
  - 15 Sow's squeal
  - 16 43,560 square feet
  - 17 Oenophile
  - 20 Indianapolis-to-Fort Wayne dir.
  - 21 Sleepover wear, briefly
  - 22 Shiny finish
  - 23 Lone Ranger's pal
  - 26 iPhone's voice-activated personal assistant
  - 27 Response to snake oil, perhaps
  - 31 Steering system component
  - 32 Caresses
  - 33 GM labor gp.
  - 35 Redding of soul
  - 36 FG's three
  - 37 Hockey great Phil, familiarly
  - 38 Tails and tongues do it
  - 39 Feng \_\_: decorating philosophy
  - 41 Redeem
  - 43 Privacy protector of a sort
  - 46 Close to 47 "Incorrect!"
  - 48 Ready to mate, animal-wise
  - 51 Pouch
  - 52 Just minted
  - 55 Has a big track payday (and a hint to hidden words that begin 17-, 27- and 43-Across)
  - 59 Against
  - 60 Dutch cheese
  - 61 A driver who forgets something might make one
  - 62 Info
  - 63 Toupees
  - 64 Evaluated



By Donna S. Levin

9/10/13

- DOWN**
- 1 Graduation wear
  - 2 Poker declaration
  - 3 "Psycho" Oscar nominee
  - 4 Prospector's quest
  - 5 "Never mind" PC key
  - 6 Grifter's game
  - 7 Swimming aids
  - 8 Artist who lives across from Central Park's Strawberry Fields
  - 9 Way up the slope
  - 10 Heroic TV dog
  - 11 Rapper-turned-actor
  - 12 "Mötley" group
  - 13 Actress Deborah
  - 18 Went (for)
  - 19 Pokes around on the Internet
  - 24 Some regatta equipment
  - 25 Cpl., for one
  - 26 Takes in, as a movie
  - 27 Greek deli stockpile
  - 28 Vision-related
  - 29 Pillow-shaped diamond style
  - 30 Golfer's gimmie
  - 31 \_\_ truck

**Monday's Puzzle Solved**

B	A	M	A	S	T	U	C	K	B	R	A	G				
I	R	O	N	U	R	S	A	E	R	E	I	N				
S	O	N	G	M	O	U	R	N	E	C	R	U				
Q	U	I	E	T	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H				
U	N	C	L	E	P	R	E	P	A	R	C					
E	D	A	S	N	E	R	L	A	B	R	E	A				
				T	E	A	M	S	A	G	A	R				
U	N	S	P	O	K	E	N	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S		
H	O	L	E	S	O	A	K	S								
O	P	I	N	E	S	R	O	T	H	I	R	A				
H	E	P	E	L	I	E		E	I	G	E	R				
				S	I	L	E	N	T	P	A	R	T	N	E	R
S	O	H	O		E	T	H	E	R		S	O	L	E		
K	N	O		T	R	I	C	K		U	R	I	S			
Y	O	D	A		S	O	C	K	S		P	E	N	T		

(c)2013 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

9/10/13

- 34 Took the cup
- 36 Sound from a contented kitty
- 37 Those gals, in Guadalajara
- 39 "Don't \_\_ the small stuff!"
- 40 Moor flora
- 41 Early spring blooms
- 42 ABA member
- 44 Layette suit
- 45 Strips of weapons
- 48 "If \_\_ my way ..."
- 49 Spanish lad
- 50 URL opener
- 51 Deer dad
- 53 French 101 infinitive
- 54 Mascara applicator
- 56 University URL ending
- 57 Pelt
- 58 H-like Greek vowel