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Some questioning latest round of Ferguson arrests

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) - A civil rights group and several clergy said Oct. 3 that police overreached when arresting 13 protesters outside the Ferguson station.

All 13 remained in jail Friday afternoon, more than 15 hours after they were arrested. The protesters face charges of failing to comply with police, violating a noise ordinance and resisting arrest, Ferguson city spokesman Devin James said.

Protesters have been a constant presence in the St. Louis suburb in the nearly two months since Michael Brown was shot and killed by police officer Darren Wilson. Protesters want Wilson, who is white, to be charged in the killing of the unarmed, black 18-year-old. A grand jury considering the case isn't expected to rule for at least another month.

Some who witnessed Oct. 2nd protest that led to the arrests said it was small but peaceful. They questioned why arrests were necessary.

Just before midnight, officers began moving toward the chanting protesters, used plastic restraints on their wrists and put them in a van, according to Gabrielle Hanson, who was at the scene while her mother, freelance videographer Mary Moore, shot video. Moore was among those arrested, Hanson was not.

Hanson said Moore was shooting video of the arrests when one of the protesters handed her a cellphone. When Moore took it, she was arrested, Hanson said, and officers confiscated her camera.

Asked what the protesters were saying or whether they were being noisy, Hanson said, "They were chanting, 'Show me what democracy looks like."

The protesters were jailed in St. Ann, a neighboring community. Several clergy gathered Oct. 3 at the St. Ann police station to meet with those arrested and show support.

"These are students, scholars, living out democracy who are now being treated like prisoners," the Rev. Starsky Wilson said. "We see this as an attempt to break down peaceful protests."

The clergy also urged a municipal judge in Ferguson to order the protesters' release or at least lower their bonds. Some were as high as \$2,700 for the misdemeanor charges. Tony Rothert, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union office in St. Louis, said several complaints have been lodged about Thursday's arrests and the ACLU is investigating.

"There do appear to be, if not bogus, at least unnecessary arrests," Rothert said. "Holding people unnecessarily long, arresting them when it's not necessary - that's an indication of overreach. It certainly appears that the purpose is to discourage people from coming to Ferguson to protest."

Hundreds have been arrested in the unrest since Brown's death, including journalists and clergy. The Rev. Osagyefo Sekou was arrested Monday and charged with failure to disperse after sitting on a sidewalk with other protesters.

Meanwhile, St. Louis County police announced Oct. 3 that they will take charge of security detail related to protests in Ferguson, effective immediately. It's not clear if what happened Oct. 2 played a role in that decision. County police said Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson asked the county to assume command, citing a "lack of resources and manpower."

Court blocks part of new North Carolina voting law

By Emery P. Dalesio and Michael Biesecker

RALEIGH (AP) - Parts of North Carolina's new voting law, considered one of the toughest in the nation, were set aside for next month's elections because they were likely to disenfranchise black voters, a federal appeals court panel ruled Oct. 1.

In a 2-1 ruling, the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals suspended provisions of the Republicanbacked law that would have eliminated same-day registration during early voting and voided ballots cast on Nov. 4 outside of a person's assigned precinct.

"Whether the number is 30 or 30,000, surely some North Carolina minority voters will be disproportionately adversely affected in the upcoming election," wrote Judge James Wynn, a former North Carolina Supreme Court justice. "Once the election occurs, there can be no dover and no redress. The injury to these voters is real and completely irreparable if nothing is done to enjoin this law."

A coalition of civil rights groups and the U.S. Justice Department challenged the law in North Carolina, which has one of the nation's most closely watched U.S. Senate races that could determine whether Democrats retain control of the chamber.

State House Speaker Thom Tillis, the Republican challenging incumbent Democratic U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan, said he and state Senate leader Phil Berger, also a Republican, would appeal the ruling to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The GOP has long listed North Carolina as a top target to help win back control of the Senate. Noelle Talley, spokeswoman for Attorney General Roy Cooper, confirmed his office will also appeal Wednesday's ruling. She declined to comment further. Cooper is a Democrat, and Republican leaders have openly questioned the veracity with which his office has defended the

GOP-authored voting changes.

The American Civil Liberties Union, one of the groups challenging the law, said about 250,000 voters took advantage of rules allowing people to register and vote in one trip to an early voting site during each of the last two non-presidential election years.

"The court took an important step to ensure that this election will remain free, fair, and accessible to all North Carolina voters," said Rev. William Barber II, president of the North Carolina branch of the NAACP.

Judge Diana Gribbon Motz dissented, saying it's too close to Election Day to force North Carolina to change its planned procedures.

Absentee ballots were mailed Sept. 5, attorneys defending the law said during arguments at a

special hearing in Charlotte on Sept. 25.

"We are concerned that changes so close to the election may contribute to voter confusion,"

state elections board executive director Kim Westbrook Strach said. "More than 4 million voter guides have gone to the public with information contrary to today's decision."

Motz was appointed by a former President Bill Clinton appointee. Judge Henry F. Floyd agreed with Wynn. Both were appointed by President Barack Obama.

"Our decision today acts as a safety net for voters confused about the effect of (the state law) on their right to vote while this litigation proceeds," Wynn said.

A hearing is scheduled for next year on whether key parts of the law, including requiring voters to show identification starting in 2016, violates provisions of the U.S. Voting Rights Act and the U.S. Constitution.



A teacher uses a thermometer to test the temperature of students, checking for possible Ebola fever at Adekunle primary school in Lagos, Nigeria, Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2014. Spotting any symptoms early is a key factor in treating any victims and in arresting the spread of this extremely contagious disease, according to health experts. (AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)



THREE EAGLES EARN MEAC FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Quarterback Malcolm Bell, Safety C.J. Moore, Offensive Lineman Clevonne Davis Garner Weekly Honors

NORFOLK, Va. – Three North Carolina Central University Eagles – quarterback Malcolm Bell, safety C.J. Moore and offensive lineman Clevonne Davis - have received weekly awards from the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) for their play during a 27-22 win over Howard University on Saturday (Oct. 4)

Bell (Richmond, Va.) has been selected as the MEAC Offensive Player of the Week, C.J. Moore (Raleigh, N.C.) has been named MEAC Defensive Player of the Week, and Davis (Miramar, Fla.) has been chosen as the MEAC Offensive Lineman of the Week.

Bell accounted for 311 yards of total offense against the Bison. He completed 20-of-30 passes for 245 yards and three touchdowns through the air, and ran for a team-best 66 ground yards. Bell is tied atop the MEAC with six passing touchdowns, ranks second in the conference in pass efficiency (145.4) and third in the league with 170.8 passing yards per game.

Moore collected nine tackles (seven solo), including 2.0 hits for a loss, with a forced fumble and an interception. He tops the Eagles with 43 tackles, ranks fourth in the MEAC with 8.6 takedowns per contest, and is tied for second in the league with two fumble recoveries.

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Davis graded out at 98 percent of his blocking assignments against Howard, anchoring an offensive line that paved the way for 392 yards of total offense by the Eagles. He tallied five pancake blocks and did not allow a sack or record a penalty in NCCU's first conference victory.

With a 1-0 MEAC record, NCCU returns to league play on Oct. 11 at South Carolina State University (4-2 overall, 2-0 MEAC) in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. The game will be broadcasted via NCCUEaglePride.com and on the NCCU Sports Network mobile app starting at 1:30 p.m.

Ten inducted into Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - A diverse group of 10 people were inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Commission's Hall of Fame.

Members of the commission on Oct. 2 recognized lifetime achievements of honorees, including Jessie O. Gooding, a former president of Dayton's NAACP, and John B. Williams, who was a "Buffalo Soldier" and fought in Europe during World War II.

Other inductees, according to The Columbus Dispatch, included 84-year-old Joan Evelyn Southgate, who traced the Underground Railroad from Cleveland to Canada on a 519-mile walk in 2003.

Cincinnati native \widetilde{E} mily Spicer was recognized for her work as a teacher and principal trying to end segregation in the city's schools. Three Freedom Riders from Ohio - Betty Daniels Rosemond, David Fankhauser and Frances L. Wilson Canty - also were honored.

Springfield donates \$10,000 to save temple

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) - The city of Springfield has donated \$10,000 to prevent the demolition of a temple that has historic significance to the city's black community.

The city made the pledge this week to a group trying to save Timmons Temple. The funds are from the Minor Neighborhood Improvement Program.

Paula Ringer, a member of a committee trying to save the temple, said about \$120,000 of the \$200,000 needed to relocate the temple has been raised. A developer who bought the church wants it moved to erect an apartment complex on the site.

The Springfield News-Leader reports (http://sgfnow.co/1uB0m11) Timmons Temple was built in 1932 and was a place of worship for four generations of the city's black residents.