N. Korea defiantly denies hacking

The nation proposes to join an investigation and issues a warning to the U.S. if it is rebuffed

By Hyung-Jin Kim
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea proposed a joint investigation with the United States into the hacking attack against Sony Pictures Entertainment, warning of “serious” consequences if Washington rejects a probe that it believes would prove Pyongyang was behind the cyberattack.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

U.S. officials blame North Korea for the hacking, citing the tools used in the Sony attack as well as hacking attempts linked to the North, and have vowed to respond.

The U.S. has accused North Korea of being involved in a series of hacks in recent years, including the one that destroyed Sony’s computers in late November.

Pyongyang has denied the allegations.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

Online, Mariota’s misstep was big hit

By Edward Russo
The Register-Guard

Eugene

Firefighters continued to douse hotspots as smoke settled the Eugene- Springfield area. A fire destroyed the Streets of Bowerman's Windsor plant on July 17. At the time of the fire, the mill employed 250 people.

TOP 10 LOCAL STORIES OF 2014

1. UO sexual abuse scandal
2. Mariota wins Heisman
3. Springfield fatal fire
4. Gay marriage ruling
5. UO administration changes
6. City of Eugene passes sick leave law
7. University of Oregon's Marcus Mariota named back
8. City hall demolition begins
9. (tie) Civil Shootout's site
9. (tie) Case Oregon's
10. Economy/retail impresses

The nation proposes to join an investigation and issues a warning to the U.S. if it is rebuffed

By Hyung-Jin Kim
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea proposed a joint investigation with the United States into the hacking attack against Sony Pictures Entertainment, warning of “serious” consequences if Washington rejects a probe that it believes would prove Pyongyang was behind the cyberattack.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

U.S. officials blame North Korea for the hacking, citing the tools used in the Sony attack as well as hacking attempts linked to the North, and have vowed to respond.

The U.S. has accused North Korea of being involved in a series of hacks in recent years, including the one that destroyed Sony’s computers in late November.

Pyongyang has denied the allegations.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

Online, Mariota’s misstep was big hit

By Edward Russo
The Register-Guard

Eugene

Firefighters continued to douse hotspots as smoke settled the Eugene- Springfield area. A fire destroyed the Streets of Bowerman's Windsor plant on July 17. At the time of the fire, the mill employed 250 people.

TOP 10 LOCAL STORIES OF 2014

1. UO sexual abuse scandal
2. Mariota wins Heisman
3. Springfield fatal fire
4. Gay marriage ruling
5. UO administration changes
6. City of Eugene passes sick leave law
7. University of Oregon's Marcus Mariota named back
8. City hall demolition begins
9. (tie) Civil Shootout's site
9. (tie) Case Oregon's
10. Economy/retail impresses

The nation proposes to join an investigation and issues a warning to the U.S. if it is rebuffed

By Hyung-Jin Kim
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea proposed a joint investigation with the United States into the hacking attack against Sony Pictures Entertainment, warning of “serious” consequences if Washington rejects a probe that it believes would prove Pyongyang was behind the cyberattack.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

U.S. officials blame North Korea for the hacking, citing the tools used in the Sony attack as well as hacking attempts linked to the North, and have vowed to respond.

The U.S. has accused North Korea of being involved in a series of hacks in recent years, including the one that destroyed Sony’s computers in late November.

Pyongyang has denied the allegations.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

Online, Mariota’s misstep was big hit

By Edward Russo
The Register-Guard

Eugene

Firefighters continued to douse hotspots as smoke settled the Eugene- Springfield area. A fire destroyed the Streets of Bowerman's Windsor plant on July 17. At the time of the fire, the mill employed 250 people.

TOP 10 LOCAL STORIES OF 2014

1. UO sexual abuse scandal
2. Mariota wins Heisman
3. Springfield fatal fire
4. Gay marriage ruling
5. UO administration changes
6. City of Eugene passes sick leave law
7. University of Oregon's Marcus Mariota named back
8. City hall demolition begins
9. (tie) Civil Shootout's site
9. (tie) Case Oregon's
10. Economy/retail impresses

The nation proposes to join an investigation and issues a warning to the U.S. if it is rebuffed

By Hyung-Jin Kim
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea proposed a joint investigation with the United States into the hacking attack against Sony Pictures Entertainment, warning of “serious” consequences if Washington rejects a probe that it believes would prove Pyongyang was behind the cyberattack.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

U.S. officials blame North Korea for the hacking, citing the tools used in the Sony attack as well as hacking attempts linked to the North, and have vowed to respond.

The U.S. has accused North Korea of being involved in a series of hacks in recent years, including the one that destroyed Sony’s computers in late November.

Pyongyang has denied the allegations.

The proposal was seen by analysts as a typical play by the North to try to show that it is sincere, even though it knows the United States has already put together a task force for a joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

On Saturday, an unidentified North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman in Pyongyang proposed the joint investigation.

Online, Mariota’s misstep was big hit

By Edward Russo
The Register-Guard

Eugene

Firefighters continued to douse hotspots as smoke settled the Eugene- Springfield area. A fire destroyed the Streets of Bowerman's Windsor plant on July 17. At the time of the fire, the mill employed 250 people.

TOP 10 LOCAL STORIES OF 2014

1. UO sexual abuse scandal
2. Mariota wins Heisman
3. Springfield fatal fire
4. Gay marriage ruling
5. UO administration changes
6. City of Eugene passes sick leave law
7. University of Oregon's Marcus Mariota named back
8. City hall demolition begins
9. (tie) Civil Shootout's site
9. (tie) Case Oregon's
10. Economy/retail impresses
2014: Marijuana vote is a milestone

Continued from Page A1

The university also weathered an 8-day strike by the union representing graduate student teachers, and faculty anxieties about a perceived power grab by the trustees in campus governance. There was also that mini-controversy about the UO ending an artists’ workshop featuring nude models.

On a more positive note, the university announced a $2 billion fundraising campaign and identified 10 “clusters of excellence” it wants to build.

There was also the celebration of a renowned student-athlete by the name of Marcus Mariota — perhaps you’ve heard of him — who won a piece of trophy hardware called the Heisman, distinguishing him this year’s best college football player in the nation. He is the first Duck to receive the coveted award.

Mariota’s leadership, carrying the UO football team to a No. 2 national ranking and a berth in the inaugural College Football Playoff, was deemed the year’s No. 7 local story.

Legal marijuana comes to Oregon

In an election year in which incumbent Lane County commissioners had to fend off tough challengers, and in which Democrats prevailed locally despite GOP gains in most of the rest of the country, the biggest political story of 2014 could be summarized in a single word: marijuana.

Voters in Lane County and Oregon approved making the state the third in the country to legalize recreational use of marijuana.

In anticipation of voters’ approval of the November ballot measure, several cities in Lane County tried to get ahead of the curve by seeking to add a local tax to the eventual legal sale of the drug.

Earlier in the year, meanwhile, several cities in the area debated whether to impose a one-year hiatus before licensing medical marijuana dispensaries.

Register-Guard reporters and editors identified the “marijuana wars” as the year’s No. 2 story. A journalistic staple — a massive multilarm industrial fire — was voted the year’s No. 3 story.

One of the most spectacular fires in Lane County history destroyed the Springfield Plywood and Veneer mill in July, displacing 250 workers.

No one died in the fire, but it had plenty of fallout. Runoff

lesbian couples across the state to tie the knot.

Sick leave divides leaders

Also in Eugene, city government figured into two of the year’s top stories.

Despite strong objections from Lane County commissioners and others, the Eugene City Council in July approved an ordinance that will soon require employers to provide workers within the city a prescribed amount of paid sick leave. County commissioners passed three ordinances to limit or block Eugene’s law, and many expect the dispute to wind up in court. Eugene joins Portland as the only Oregon cities requiring paid sick leave, though the issue is also expected to enter the legislative arena in early 2015.

Newsroom reporters, editors and photographers voted the sick leave law the year’s No. 6 story.

The second big story coming out of City Hall was literally about City Hall. The City Council endorsed plans for a new four-story City Hall, over vocal objections by some who protested the razing of the existing City Hall at the same downtown site, citing its architectural significance. The debate about City Hall was ranked the year’s No. 8 local story.

Two stories that made the top 10 list in 2013 reappeared on the 2014 roster — in fact, they tied for the No. 9 spot.

One was the ongoing debate about Civic Stadium. Amid keen community interest, the Eugene School Board opted to sell the rooervet to the city of Eugene for

Economy remains front and center

The economy — for so many years a source of depressing news — emerged as the year’s No. 10 local story, but mostly for positive reasons. Jobs and construction projects picked up as Lane County continued to distance itself from the Great Recession.

In the world of retail, new businesses kept sprouting in downtown Eugene. Swedish fast-fashion retailer H&M opened at Valley River Center; tech firms continued to thrive; and Natural Grocers debuted its store on Coburg Road. But the biggest retail news may be of what’s to come in 2015: Whole Foods announced it will open a long-awaited store in downtown Eugene; Oakway Mall revealed expansion plans that include a Hyatt Hotel; and national crafts retailing giant Hobby Lobby said it will open an outlet at the make-over-bound Gateway Mall.

In utility news in 2014, the city of Eugene — and others in the valley — continued to distance itself from Oregon Wholesale Electric Cooperative over the years, and the year’s news included a videocamera at an Ankeny substation that was shown on Autzen Stadium’s jumbotron during the Oregon-Michigan State game.

But football is hardly the only topic of keen interest to Register-Guard readers in the valley.

There’s also the weather (“Storm puts region on ice”); health concerns (“Boy’s flu death is a warning to parents”); tragedy (“Fire destroys Springfield mill, idles 250 workers”); and crime (“Police arrest suspect in hit and run”).

Online readers also are drawn to close calls with happy endings: Reporter Josephine Woonington’s account of a local teen spared from possible sex trafficking because of a quick-thinking police officer (“A great escape”) engaged more than 20,000 Web readers.

The account of an Autzen Stadium sniper victim 30 years after the crime, and stories about the resignation of UO President Michael Gottfredson, UO graduate students going on strike, seaweed wildness and tenants’ woes at the

new downtown Capstone student apartment complex each pulled in more than 10,000 online views.

What else do readers of Web news care about in these parts? Hamburgers and hummingbirds, of course.

More than 7,000 online readers wanted the juicy details of Killer Burger’s plans to locate in downtown Eugene. And more than 8,700 Web readers couldn’t resist taking a look when the newspaper pointed a videocamera at an Ann Arbor hummingbird tending her chicks in a nest at the newspaper’s Chad Drive offices.

— Jeff Wright

BRIAN DAVIES/The Register-Guard

Matthew Yook, a field organizer for Measure 91, celebrates early returns that favored the Oregon Legalized Marijuana Initiative with supporter Evy Masikka at the campaign’s headquarters in Eugene on Nov. 4.

Online: UO football is consistent draw

Continued from Page A1

Online readers also wanted the juicy details of Killer Burger’s plans to locate in downtown Eugene. And more than 8,700 Web readers couldn’t resist taking a look when the newspaper pointed a videocamera at an Ann Arbor hummingbird tending her chicks in a nest at the newspaper’s Chad Drive offices.

— Jeff Wright