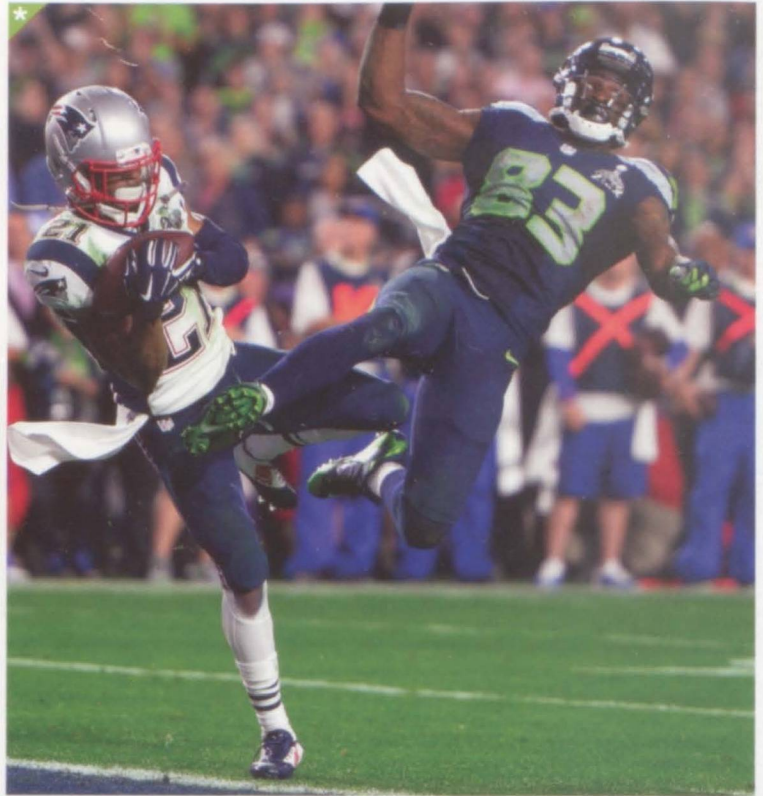


★ The New England Patriots won Super Bowl XLIX, 28-24, over the Seattle Seahawks in dramatic fashion when rookie Malcolm Butler intercepted a pass in the end zone with 26 seconds left. Seattle's decision to call for a pass rather than run with the ball on the 1-yard line was questioned by many.

★ Health officials struggled to contain the Ebola epidemic, which began in West Africa. A few cases were treated in the U.S. Of those, two people died, but among the survivors was Nina Pham, a nurse who caught Ebola while treating a patient with the disease.



★ The NBA's San Antonio Spurs hired retired WNBA player Becky Hammon as an assistant coach, making her the first full-time female coach in NBA history. During her playing days, Hammon was a 6-time WNBA All Star and a college All-American.



★ NASCAR driver Kevin Harvick won the first Sprint Cup championship of his career at the final race of the season in Homestead, Fla. Harvick clinched it by holding off Ryan Newman in a three-lap dash to the finish.

★ In November, areas of Buffalo, N.Y., received up to seven feet of lake-effect snow in four days in November. People were trapped in their houses and vehicles, and roofs collapsed. In a two-week period in January and February, Boston received more than 75 inches of snow, with more on the way.

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