

## NATION/WORLD DIGEST

### Libyan Rebels Reject African Union Proposal

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP) — Libyan rebels, backed forcefully by European leaders, rejected a cease-fire proposal by African mediators on Monday because it did not insist that Moammar Gadhafi relinquish power.

A day after an announcement that the Libyan leader had accepted the truce, a doctor in rebel-held Misrata said Gadhafi's forces battered that western city and its Mediterranean port with artillery fire that killed six people.

"He is the biggest lie in the history of Libya," said Jilal Tajouri, 42, who joined more than 1,000 flag-waving protesters in the eastern rebel stronghold of Benghazi as the African Union delegation arrived.

"All the people in Libya agree on this: Gadhafi and all his sons must leave Libya so we can have democracy," Tajouri said, echoing the opposition of other demonstrators to any dealmaking while Gadhafi remains in power.

The rebels' leadership council agreed.

### Romney Announces Run At White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Mitt Romney took the first official steps toward a second presidential bid Monday, telling supporters he had formed an exploratory committee to begin a White House run.

Romney, who has been planning a second run since losing the Republican nomination in 2008, focused in his announcement on the economy and what he described as President Barack Obama's failed policies.

"It is time that we put America back on a course of greatness, with a growing economy, good jobs and fiscal discipline in Washington," the former Massachusetts governor said in a video posted on his website, on Facebook and on Twitter.

He criticized Obama's stewardship of the economy and offered a preview of his expected campaign theme: Romney is a proven business executive while Obama remains unqualified to lead.

"Across the nation, over 20 million Americans still can't find a job or have given up looking," Romney said.

### Strong Explosion Hits Subway in Minsk

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — An explosion tore through a key subway station in the Belarusian capital of Minsk during evening rush hour Monday killing 11 people and wounding 126. An official said the blast was a terrorist act.

President Alexander Lukashenko did not say what caused the explosion at the Oktyabrskaya subway station, but suggested outside forces could be behind it.

"I do not rule out that this gift could have been brought from outside," Lukashenko said. The authoritarian leader, under strong pressure from the West over his suppression of the opposition, has frequently alleged outside forces seek to destabilize his regime.

Deputy prosecutor-general Andrei Shved said the blast was a terrorist act, but did not give further details.

An Associated Press reporter at the scene saw heavily wounded people being carried out of the station, including one person with missing legs.

### Gulf Officials Using Gear On BP's Dime

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Tasers. Brand-new SUVs. A top-of-the-line iPad. A fully loaded laptop. In the year since the Gulf oil spill, officials along the coast have gone on a spending spree with BP money, dropping tens of millions of dollars on gadgets and other gear — much of which had little to do with the cleanup, an Associated Press investigation shows.

The oil giant opened its checkbook while the crisis was still unfolding last spring and poured hundreds of millions of dollars into Gulf Coast communities with few strings attached.

In sleepy Ocean Springs, Miss., reserve police officers got Tasers. The sewer department in nearby Gulfport bought a \$300,000 vacuum truck that never sucked up a drop of oil. Biloxi, Miss., bought 14 SUVs and pickup trucks. A parish president in Louisiana got herself a deluxe iPad, her spokesman a \$3,100 laptop. And a county in Florida spent \$560,000 on rock concerts to promote its oil-free beaches.

In every case, communities said the new, more powerful equipment was needed to deal at least indirectly with the spill.

In many instances, though, the connection between the spill and the expenditures was remote, and lots of money wound up in cities and towns little touched by the goo that washed up on shore, the AP found in records requested from more than 150 communities and dozens of interviews.

### Police Find Two More Sets Of Bones In N.Y.

WANTAGH, N.Y. (AP) — Suspected human remains were found in two locations along a remote New York beach highway Monday, bringing to 10 the number of potential victims of a possible serial killer.

The discovery came as police expanded a search from Long Island's Suffolk County westward into the Jones Beach area of Nassau County, just over the border from New York City. The expanded search was prompted by Suffolk's discovery in the past two weeks of four sets of unidentified human remains; the bodies of four women who worked as Craigslist escorts were found in the same area in December, leading authorities to suspect that they may be contending with a serial killer.

The highway runs along a barrier beach island south of Long Island and is home to several county and state-run parks featuring miles of white sandy beaches about 45 minutes from Manhattan.

Detective Lt. Kevin Smith, a Nassau County police spokesman, said the two sets of remains found Monday — separated by several miles along the north side of Ocean Parkway, were sent to the medical examiner's office to confirm whether they are human.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

# Former Ivory Coast Leader Captured

BY MARCO CHOWN OVED

Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — The elected president of this West African nation heralded "the dawn of a new era of hope" Monday when a bloody, four-month standoff ended with the capture of his rival, the longtime strongman who lost the vote but refused to give up power.

Video of former President Laurent Gbagbo being led into a room in a white undershirt was broadcast on television as proof of his detention. He would not sign a statement formally ceding power after losing a Nov. 28 election to economist Alassane Ouattara.

More than 1 million civilians fled their homes and untold numbers were killed in the power struggle between the two rivals that threatened to re-ignite a civil war in the world's largest cocoa producer. Gbagbo's security forces have been accused of using cannons, 60 mm mortars and 50-caliber machine guns to mow down opponents during the standoff.

"After more than four months of post-electoral crisis, marked by so many human lives lost, we are finally at the dawn of a new era of hope," Ouattara said in an address to the nation on radio and television.

Ouattara cut short speculation that Gbagbo would be delivered to the International Criminal Court at The Hague, calling for an Ivorian investigation into the former president, his wife and their entourage.

"Every measure has been taken to assure the physical integrity of Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, his wife and all those arrested," he said. "They will receive dignified treatment and their rights will be respected."

Ouattara also said he intended to establish a truth and reconciliation commission and called on all fighters to put down their arms.

President Barack Obama welcomed Gbagbo's capture, calling it a victory for the democratic will of the Ivorian people, who "have the chance to begin to reclaim their country, solidify their democracy and rebuild a vibrant economy."

Gbagbo, who ruled the former French

colony for a decade, was pulled from his burning residence by Ouattara's troops following fighting earlier in the day. The pro-Ouattara forces had received support by French tanks and helicopters.

Residents of the commercial capital of Abidjan refrained from celebrating in public, still fearful of the many armed fighters prowling the streets and refusing to believe their leader had been arrested. Sporadic gunfire echoed across the city Monday night.

Gbagbo, 65, could be forced to answer for his soldiers' crimes, even though an international trial threatens to stoke the divisions that Ouattara will now have to heal as president.

Gbagbo's dramatic arrest came after days of heavy fighting in which French and U.N. helicopters fired rockets at arms depots around the city and targets within the presidential compound. Ouattara's final push began just after French airstrikes ceased at around 3 a.m. Monday. A simultaneous French armored advance secured large parts of the city, and pro-Ouattara troops entered the presidential compound just after midday.

## OBITUARIES

### Harold Kuehler

CROFTON, Neb. — Harold M. Kuehler, age 87 of Crofton, Nebraska, died on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at the Good Samaritan Center in Bloomfield, Nebraska.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Crofton with Rev. Michael Schmitz officiating. Burial will be in the Beaver Creek Cemetery in Crofton.

Visitation will be on Tuesday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a Vigil Service and Video Tribute at 7:00 p.m. at the Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Wednesday at the church.

To send online condolences, or to view the video tribute, please visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

Pallbearers are Chris Kuehler, Mark Kuehler, Ryan Gevens, Tyler Schmidt and Alan Schmidt.

Harold was born on March 28, 1924 at Lindsay, Nebraska. His parents were Louis F. and Rose M. (Schumacher) Kuehler.



Kuehler

He grew up and lived in the Crofton area all of his life. He attended school in Constance, Nebraska. Harold married Betty Huchtmeier on January 6, 1953 at Crofton. Harold

farmed until 1961 and then worked for a year and a half for the Port of Entry in South Yankton. Harold then worked for Fullerton Lumber in Yankton for 30 years. He has been a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Bloomfield since October 30, 2007.

Harold was a former member of the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Menominee, Nebraska. He is a member of St. Rose Catholic Church in Crofton and a member and former Governor of the Moose Lodge 1356 in Yankton. He liked to play cards, watch baseball and was a charter member of the Crofton Lakeview Golf Course. He especially enjoyed the many trips he and his son in law, Willard, took delivering hay to Missouri.

### Pearl Walz

SIoux CITY, Iowa — Pearl Bernice Walz, 89, of Sioux City, IA formerly of Meckling, SD died Sunday, April 10 at St. Lukes Regional Medical Center in Sioux City.

Pearl Pauley was born July 2, 1921 in Reliance, SD to Bryan and Elsie (Peterson) Pauley. She grew up in Meckling and graduated from Meckling High School. She married Raymond Aman and they had a son Terry, and Pearl later married Burdette Walz, and they made their home in Salem, OR.

Pearl had worked at several drycleaners over many years and managed several apartment complexes with her husband Burdette. They retired to Apache Junction, AZ and later made their home in Wakonda, SD. She was currently living in the Holy Spirit Retirement Home in Sioux City.

Pearl and her husband enjoyed going to auction sales and she kept busy making crafts and had an open door to all those who came to visit. The coffee pot was always on, and there was lunch and dessert to go with it. She loved to cook, bake and entertain and was always trying new recipes.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Burdette a son Terry a sister Violet Collier and two brothers

Wesley and Laverne Pauley.

Pearl is survived by her nephews; Tom (Gert) Stevens, Wesley (Judy) Petersen all of Sioux City, and nieces; Karen Spray of Sioux City, Louise Pauley of Camden, MO, Skeeter Pauley of Norr Borne, MO, Linda (Bret) Strain of Hardin, MO and Mary Pauley. She is also survived by a sister in law Loretta Pauley of Camden, MO and her dog "Shasta" and many friends.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 14 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion, with burial to follow in the Hansen Cemetery rural Irene, SD.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Online condolences and obituary: [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to the National MS Society, 2508 S. Carolyn Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57106

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### Elijah Rice-Johnson

HURON —Elijah Alan Rice-Johnson, age 6 months and five days, died Saturday (April 9, 2011) at his home. Elijah was born on October 4, 2010 at Yankton to Christi Johnson and Dan Rice, Jr.

Harold is survived by 4 children and their spouses, Steven and Norma Kuehler of Crofton; Gwen Gevens of Yankton; Karen and Willard Schmidt of Yankton; David and Shari Kuehler of Yankton; 7 grandchildren, Chris and Maggie Kuehler, Mark and Jenny Kuehler, Ryan and Teresa Gevens, Adrienne and Brian Burris, Carmen and Adam Meyer, Tyler Schmidt and Alan Schmidt, 5 great grandchildren, a brother, Wilfred and Ann Kuehler of Hartington; a sister, Marjorie Wuestewald of Yankton and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Betty, on June 9, 1998 at the age of 64.

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Hartington \* Coleridge \* Crofton  
203 W. Franklin, PO Box 505  
Hartington, Nebraska 68739

Thursday, with a Scripture service beginning at 7 p.m., at the church.

For obituary and online condolences, visit [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

### Brianna Knoll

Brianna Marie Knoll, 25, of Yankton died Saturday (April 9, 2011.)

Funeral services are at 1 p.m. Thursday at Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, Yankton, with her aunt, Delight Paulson, officiating.

Visitation is 3-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home, with a prayer service, video tribute and time of sharing at 7 p.m.

Memorials will be used for the education and support of domestic violence victims.

To send an online sympathy message, visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

### Violet Robinson

ELK POINT — Violet Robinson, 86, of Elk Point died Monday (April 11, 2011) at Prairie Estates Care Center, Elk Point.

Memorial service is at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Anderson-Sieck-Kober Funeral Home, Elk Point, with a visitation to be held one hour prior to the service.

Burial of ashes will be in Logan Park Cemetery at a later date.

### Dwight Underwood

Dwight Underwood, 79, of Yankton died Saturday (April 9, 2011) at Sunset Manor Avera Health, Irene.

Arrangements are pending under the care of Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

### Ben Schlaefli

Ben Schlaefli, 74, of Yankton died Monday (April 11, 2011) at his residence.

Arrangements are pending with Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Yankton.

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IN REMEMBRANCE

<p><b>Frances J. (Specht) Hintz</b> 10:30 AM, Tuesday Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ Coleridge</p>	<p><b>Harold M. Kuehler</b> 10:30 AM, Wednesday St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church Crofton</p>
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WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644  
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com  
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