

### Jury Hears Polygamist Leader On Tape

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — Softly telling five girls to “set aside all your inhibitions,” convicted polygamist leader Warren Jeffs was heard Monday giving his child brides instructions on how to please him sexually during a graphic 10-minute tape played for a Texas jury.

An FBI agent testified that the 2004 audiotape, in which Jeffs is heard breathing heavily, preceded Jeffs having sex at the same time with all the girls, who were 15 and younger. Several jurors squirmed or wiped away tears during the sometimes-scratchy recording.

Jeffs faces life in prison after being convicted by the same jury last week of sexually assaulting two of his “brides,” who were 12 and 15. The sentencing phase of his trial is expected to finish early this week.

Prosecutors showed a page from one of Jeffs’ journals. “If the world knew what I was doing, they would hang me from the highest tree,” Jeffs wrote in 2005, according to one of thousands of pages of notes seized from his Texas ranch.

### Strauss-Kahn Lawyers: Lawsuit Meritless

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for ex-International Monetary Fund boss Dominique Strauss-Kahn say a New York City hotel maid’s lawsuit accusing him of sexual assault is meritless.

Attorneys William W. Taylor and Benjamin Brafman say their client will fight the lawsuit vigorously.

Lawyers for Guinean immigrant Nafissatou Diallo (na-fee-SAH-too dee-AH’-loh) filed the lawsuit Monday in state court in the Bronx. They seek unspecified damages. They say Diallo faces a difficult recovery from an encounter with Strauss-Kahn that left her violated, humiliated and degraded.

Strauss-Kahn pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted rape and other crimes after his May 14 arrest. The former French presidential candidate was freed from house arrest last month after prosecutors said they’d discovered facts casting doubt on his accuser’s credibility.

### Hot July Sets Records In Texas, Oklahoma

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sweltering may have reached a new record last month, as Oklahoma racked up the country’s highest monthly average temperature ever.

That’s the highest average temperature, for any month, for any state, associate Oklahoma state climatologist Gary McManus said.

According to automated weather recording instruments, the state’s average for July was 89.1 degrees. That tops an average of 88.1 set in July 1954, McManus said.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on Monday reported that last month was the fourth hottest July on record for the U.S. and that Texas and Oklahoma had their warmest months on record.

“We’ve been beating temperature records left and right, from the 1930s Dust Bowl drought and the 1950s drought,” said McManus, who admitted that’s not the kind of record you put on a Chamber of Commerce promotion.

### IBM Unplugs From Supercomputer Project

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — IBM Corp. is leaving a project at the University of Illinois to build the world’s fastest supercomputer.

The university’s National Center for Supercomputing Applications and IBM said in a brief statement Monday that IBM terminated its contract.

IBM said the computer had grown more expensive and technically demanding than anticipated.

The NCSA said it still plans to pursue a petascale computer in what it called “timely manner” and is working with the National Science Foundation. Petascale refers to the speed of the computer and means it could perform a thousand trillion mathematical operations a second.

IBM was chosen in 2007 to build Blue Waters. The computer was initially due to go online this year.

### Former Postal Governor Under Investigation

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former governor of the Postal Service is being investigated over claims he tried to influence a real estate deal involving an associate and the post office.

The case involving Alan C. Kessler, who left the agency governing board earlier this year, has been referred to the chairman of that board by the postal inspector general’s office.

In question is a Sarasota, Fla., property leased by the Postal Service for use as a post office and vehicle maintenance facility. The post office wanted to exercise an option to purchase the facility for \$825,000. The building was owned by an investment company that bought it for \$575,000 in 1988, but was valued at \$12 million in 2008.

According to the inspector general’s report, Kessler involved himself in the dispute at the request of Douglas Band, whose family are part owners of the investment company.

Band described Kessler as a friend for many years, but Kessler told investigators he knew Band only through a nonprofit organization to which Kessler had contributed.

### Court Allows Torture Lawsuit Against Rumsfeld

CHICAGO (AP) — A lawsuit accusing former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld of personal responsibility for U.S. forces allegedly torturing two American whistleblowers who worked for an Iraqi contracting firm will be allowed to move forward, a federal appeals court ruled Monday.

The ruling from the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago comes just days after a similar decision by a federal judge in Washington, D.C., that gave the green light to an Army veteran — who also alleges he was tortured in Iraq — to sue Rumsfeld for damages.

Monday’s ruling rejected arguments that Rumsfeld should be immune from such lawsuits for work performed as a Cabinet secretary.

The U.S. Supreme Court sets a high bar for those suing a top government official, mandating that they show the acts in question are tied directly to a violation of constitutional rights and that the official clearly understood they were violations.

“There can be no doubt that the deliberate infliction of such treatment on U.S. citizens, even in a war zone, is unconstitutional,” U.S. Circuit Judge David Hamilton wrote in Monday’s opinion.

# Obama Seeks To Reassure Faith In U.S. Credit

BY BEN FELLER  
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Eager to calm a nervous nation, President Barack Obama on Monday dismissed an unprecedented downgrade in the nation’s credit rating, insisting investors will stand by the United States even as stock markets plunged. Obama said Washington can fix its ills by showing more political will.

“Markets will rise and fall, but this is the United States of America,” Obama said. “No matter what some agency may say, we’ve always been and always will be a triple-A country.”

Investors did funnel money on Monday into Treasurys, a sign of confidence in the United States as a safe long-term investment even after Standard & Poor’s had dropped the U.S. credit rating down a notch. But the broader story was far more worrisome: stock markets kept tumbling over concerns about the weakening U.S. economy and the debt crisis in Europe.

The Dow Jones industrials plummeted to its lowest drop since December 2008.

For Obama, a president seeking a second term from voters desperate for better times, the pressure for results is intense.

He is the first president to have a credit

downgrade come on his watch. And whether blaming him is fair or not — he actually pushed for the type of deal that might have prevented a downgrade — presidents are always accountable.

After saying nothing about the downgrade all weekend, Obama sought Monday to use it as leverage against a Congress whose members are on an August vacation. He said a downgrade ought to compel a smart compromise from the bipartisan committee of lawmakers that will soon be tasked with shaping up to another \$1.5 trillion in difficult deficit reduction.

Obama said he would offer his own recommendations, although the White House suggested that would likely mean ideas Obama has already presented in recent weeks. Obama on Monday said Congress should ask wealthy Americans to pay more in taxes and should make adjustments in programs like Medicare. Both ideas face fierce political opposition.

“I assure you, we will stay on it until we get the job done,” the president assured. But Congress remains in divided political hands, limiting Obama’s ability to keep that promise.

Heading into a campaign-style economic tour before going on his own vacation, Obama’s overall rating hovers below 50 per-

cent in most polling. He is on far more perilous ground when it comes to public views on the key issue for voters — his handling of the economy — where his approval rating is under 40 percent in most major recent surveys.

Obama’s aim is to keep heat on Congress to enact concrete measures, separate from the grueling debt debate, which could help people in the short term.

He pressed lawmakers to extend a payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits in September as a way to “put money in people’s pockets and more customers in stores.”

On a jittery day for the financial world, it fell to Obama to deal with a downgrade that S&P had warned for weeks would come if Obama and Congress failed to agree on a major debt-reduction package. The agency was dissatisfied with the deal lawmakers reached last week to cut more than \$2 trillion from the debt over 10 years.

The administration has derided the downgrade as having no economic basis. S&P, though, has little faith in Washington’s ability to overcome its partisan woes on the debt.

“We didn’t need a rating agency to tell us that the gridlock in Washington over the last several months has not been constructive,” Obama said.

# Deadly Crash Highlights Role Of American Special Forces

BY DEB RIECHMANN AND LOLITA C. BALDOR  
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The loss of dozens of elite American troops to a Taliban rocket-propelled grenade is a window on the war to come — focused increasingly on the type of special operations the troops were pursuing when their helicopter crashed.

The U.S. military released new details Monday about the crash in the Tangi Valley, a dangerous area of Wardak province on the doorstep of the Afghan capital. The 30 U.S. troops, seven Afghan commandos and an Afghan interpreter who died were taking part in one of thousands of nighttime operations being conducted annually across the nation.

The sheer number of these

missions is evidence that progress in the nearly decade-long war depends more on efforts to kill or capture insurgents than the overarching strategy of building support for the Afghan government at grassroots levels. And these missions will take on relatively more importance as troop levels decline.

Saturday’s crash of the CH-47 Chinook helicopter was deadliest single loss for U.S. forces in the war and raised anew questions in the United States about why U.S. troops are still fighting the unpopular conflict.

U.S. leaders vowed on Monday not to let the loss rewrite the war strategy.

“We will press on and we will succeed,” President Barack Obama said at the White House. Secretary of Defense Leon

Panetta said, “As heavy a loss as this was, it would even be more tragic if we allowed it to derail this country from our efforts to defeat al-Qaida and deny them a safe haven in Afghanistan.”

In Kabul, German Brig. Gen. Carsten Jacobson, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition, said, “The incident, as tragic as it was in its magnitude, will have no influence on the conduct of operations.”

Jacobson said troops continued Monday to recover every last piece of the helicopter and that no one was being allowed in or out of the heavily secured crash site during the investigation. A ceremony was held at Bagram Air Field, a massive military installation north of Kabul, to pay respect to fallen service members being sent back to the United

States.

Marine Gen. John Allen, the new top commander of U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan, released a statement early Tuesday in honor of the fallen American and Afghan troops. “In life they were comrades in arms and in death they are bound forever in this vital cause,” he said. “We cherish this selfless sacrifice.”

Pentagon officials said two C-17 aircraft carrying the remains of U.S. and Afghan troops killed in the crash left Afghanistan Monday night en route to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. They said that there will be no public media coverage at the Dover base during the ceremony that typically takes place when the bodies of fallen troops arrive because the badly damaged remains are mingled and still being identified.

# Texas Gov. Perry Heads To Early States Leaning Toward Bid

BY APRIL CASTRO  
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Leaning toward a full-fledged presidential run, Texas Gov. Rick Perry will visit at least two early primary states — South Carolina and New Hampshire — on Saturday at the same time most of his would-be opponents are competing in an important test vote in Iowa.

In recent weeks, the conservative Texan has inched closer to a run, privately telling top GOP donors, leaders and activists that he was likely to enter the race for the GOP nomination. His upcoming speaking schedule — and the timing of it on the day of the Iowa straw poll — confirms as much.

Three Republicans close to Perry, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose his plans, said it’s all but certain the governor will run, and his schedule is intended to put to rest doubt about his bid.

A fourth, also with links to the governor, said a formal announcement is tentatively planned for the middle of next week in Houston.

But that Republican said Perry won’t go forward with a campaign if he can’t secure enough financial commitments by this weekend. The person did not say how much Perry would need to guarantee he’d run, just that big-money donors — called bundlers — were

given the go-ahead to start getting people to pledge money.

All four people cautioned that Perry hasn’t made a final decision.

Perry’s staff refused to discuss his plans beyond issuing a statement from spokesman Mark Miner: “The governor is not a candidate for office at this time. With President Obama’s dismal economic record, and Texas’ success in creating jobs and balancing our budget, Gov. Perry continues to consider a potential run for the White House. Stay tuned.”

Perry’s advisers have been laying the groundwork for a campaign in early primary states and honing a strategy. Draft movements filled with grassroots vol-

unteers have sprung up in numerous states, including Iowa, where supporters are trying to get an organization in place that would allow Perry to compete in the leadoff caucuses early next year despite a relatively late entrance into the field.

The governor has met privately with donors in Texas and has said in private conversations with Iowa GOP leaders and others that he would likely mount a caucus campaign. His senior political consultant, David Carney, has begun scouting for potential staff in Iowa and elsewhere. And Perry has strategically given media interviews to news outlets in early primary states over the past few weeks.

## OBITUARIES

### Mildred E. "Milli" Gillis

SIoux FALLS — Mildred E. “Milli” Gillis, 79, mother of Mike Gillis of Yankton, died Saturday, August 6, 2011 at Dow Rummel Village in Sioux Falls. Services will be 10:00 AM Thursday, August 11 at East Side Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, with burial at Hills of Rest Memorial Park. Visitation begins at 12:00 PM Wednesday, August 10 at George Boom Funeral Home, Sioux Falls, where the family will



Gillis

greet friends from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

In addition to her son, Mike, survivors include three other children, Linda (Al) Hoefert, Sioux Falls, Lana (Ron) Wiblemo, Camdenton, MO, Paul Krogstad, Chamberlain, SD; four step-children, Rick (Miggs) Gillis, Lake Quivira, KS, Sue (Jud) Reaney, St. Paul, MN, John Gillis, Fishers, IN, Floyd Gillis III, Lenexa, KS; 12 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; a brother, Raymon (Suyapa) Brockhouse, Excelsior, MN; and a sister, Beverly Bosch, Sioux Falls. Milli was preceded in death by two husbands, Palmer Krogstad Jr. and Dr. Floyd Gillis, Jr.; her parents, Henry and Ethel

(Palmer) Brockhouse; her step-mother, Bertha Brockhouse; and a brother, Raymond Brockhouse. A complete obituary and online registry is available at www.georgeboom.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
August 9, 2011

Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m., Friday, at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton with Rev. Bob English officiating and Rev. Ken Lulf concelebrating. Burial will be in the Calvary Cemetery, Sioux City, Iowa at approximately 3 p.m. Visitations will be from 5-9 p.m. Thursday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, with a 7 p.m. Rosary and video tribute followed by a 7:30 p.m. Scripture service. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

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*Good Luck to You Heather!*