

## Obama Criticizes Romney Over Education

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — President Barack Obama charged rival Mitt Romney with being oblivious to the burdens of paying for college on Tuesday, telling young voters in battleground Ohio that his opponent's education policies amounted to having students borrow from their parents or "shop around" for the best deal.

"That's his plan. That's his answer to young people who are trying to figure out how to go to college and make sure that they don't have a mountain of debt," Obama said at Capital University in Columbus. "Not everybody has parents who have the money to lend. That may be news to some folks."

Turning to young voters, a key part of his 2008 coalition, the president sought to draw a bright line with Romney on education policy in his latest attempt to meld Romney with the House Republican budget blueprint offered Rep. Paul Ryan, Romney's running mate.

Obama and Romney remain locked in a tight presidential campaign a week before the former Massachusetts governor formally claims his party's nomination at the GOP convention in Tampa, Fla. Both campaigns have broadened their message to voters in recent weeks beyond the economy, which remains the most pivotal issue for voters less than three months before the election.

Romney sought to distance himself from Missouri GOP Senate nominee Todd Akin, who apologized after saying in an interview that women's bodies are sometimes able to prevent pregnancies after what he called "a legitimate rape." Romney said in a statement that fellow Missouri Republicans had urged Akin to quit and "I think he should accept their counsel and exit the Senate race."

## Attack Damages Top U.S. General's Plane

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — An insurgent rocket attack damaged the plane of the top U.S. military general as it sat parked at a coalition base in Afghanistan on Tuesday, dealing another blow to the image of progress in building a stable country as foreign forces work to wind down the 10-year-old war.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the two rockets that landed near the C-17 transport plane that U.S. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, flew into Bagram Air Field north of Kabul on a day earlier. The claim was an attempt by the insurgents to score more propaganda points in what has been a deadly few weeks for the international coalition in Afghanistan.

Jamie Graybeal, a spokesman for the U.S. military and the international coalition, said Dempsey was in his staff quarters when the two rockets landed and was unhurt in the attack. But the damage to the plane forced Dempsey to use another aircraft for his flight from Bagram to Iraq on Tuesday.

Two aircraft maintenance workers were lightly wounded by shrapnel, and a nearby helicopter was damaged, Graybeal said.

Dempsey was in Afghanistan for talks with military leaders about the war as well as a disturbing rash of killings of U.S. military trainers by their Afghan partners or militants dressed in Afghan uniform.

## Americans Tuning Out War In Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — It was once President Barack Obama's "war of necessity." Now, it's America's forgotten war.

The Afghan conflict generates barely a whisper on the U.S. presidential campaign trail. It's not a hot topic at the office water cooler or in the halls of Congress — even though more than 80,000 American troops are still fighting here and dying at a rate of one a day.

Americans show more interest in the economy and taxes than the latest suicide bombings in a different, distant land. They're more tuned in to the political ad war playing out on television than the deadly fight still raging against the Taliban. Earlier this month, protesters at the Iowa State Fair chanted "Stop the war!" They were referring to one purportedly being waged against the middle class.

By the time voters go to the polls Nov. 6 to choose between Obama and presumptive Republican nominee Mitt Romney, the war will be in its 12th year. For most Americans, that's long enough.

Public opinion remains largely negative toward the war, with 66 percent opposed to it and just 27 percent in favor in a May AP-GfK poll. More recently, a Quinnipiac University poll found that 60 percent of registered voters felt the U.S. should no longer be involved in Afghanistan. Just 31 percent said the U.S. is doing the right thing by fighting there now.

# Mo. Congressman Defies GOP Leaders

## Akin Vows To Stay In Senate Race Despite Uproar Over Rape Pregnancy Remarks

BY DAVID A. LIEB  
 Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Rep. Todd Akin defied the nation's top Republicans Tuesday to forge ahead with his besieged Senate campaign, declaring that GOP leaders were overreacting by abandoning him because of comments that women's bodies can prevent pregnancies in cases of "legitimate rape."

Akin pledged to carry on with his quest to unseat Democrat Claire McCaskill. But his bid faced tall obstacles: a lack of money, a lack of party support and no assurance that his apologies would be enough to heal a self-inflicted political wound.

"I misspoke one word in one sentence on one day, and all of a sudden, overnight, everybody decides, 'Well, Akin can't possibly win,'" he said on a national radio show hosted by former Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee. "Well, I don't agree with that."

Akin predicted he would bounce back from the political crisis threatening his campaign and capture a seat that is pivotal to Republican hopes of regaining control of the Senate.

"I'm in this race for the long haul, and we're going to win it," he told radio host Dana Loesch in St. Louis.

If he stays on the ballot, Akin will have to rebuild without any money from the national party and with new misgivings among rank-and-



Akin

file Republican voters who just two weeks ago propelled him to a comfortable victory in a hotly contested three-way primary.

At several points during the interview with Huckabee, Akin focused on the idea he had misplaced a single word during a Sunday interview with St. Louis television station KTVI.

But Akin has been roundly criticized both for using the phrase "legitimate rape" and saying a woman's body has the ability to prevent conception after such an attack.

Hours earlier, Akin posted an online video in which he apologized again for his remarks. Campaign spokesman Ryan Hite said the apology was intended to cover both the reference to "legitimate rape" and Akin's assertion that rape victims have a natural defense against pregnancy.

In a potential sign of his strategy, Akin appealed Tuesday to Christian evangelicals, anti-abortion activists and anti-establishment Republicans. He said he remains the best messenger to highlight respect for life and liberty that he contends are crumbling under the big-government policies of President Barack Obama.

As a key deadline to withdraw from the ballot loomed, Republican leaders intensified their

pressure on Akin to exit.

Sen. Roy Blunt issued a joint statement Tuesday with all four of Missouri's living former Republican senators — John Ashcroft, Kit Bond, Jim Talent and John Danforth — saying "it serves the national interest" for Akin to step aside.

Pointing to the group, Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney said the congressman should "accept their counsel."

A Romney aide said the candidate had been inclined to let Akin make the decision on his own. But after the Missouri lawmakers called for Akin to go, Romney wanted to make his position clear, said the aide, who requested anonymity because the aide was not authorized to publicly discuss Romney's thinking.

The deadline passed without any paperwork from the increasingly isolated Akin.

He provoked a political uproar when he was asked in the KTVI interview whether his general opposition to abortion extends to women who have been raped.

"It seems to me, first of all, from what I understand from doctors, that's really rare. If it's a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down," Akin said.

In the apology video posted Tuesday on YouTube, Akin acknowledged that rape can lead to pregnancy, adding: "The mistake I made was in the words I said, not in the heart I hold. I ask for your forgiveness."

# Friends Tweet Before Dying In Md. Train Derailment

BY ALEX DOMINGUEZ  
 AND JESSICA GRESKO  
 Associated Press

ELLICOTT CITY, Md. — They were seemingly ordinary tweets from two friends hanging out on a railroad bridge in their hometown, enjoying one last summer night together before heading back to college.

"Drinking on top of the Ellicott City sign," read one. "Looking down on old ec," read another. Accompanying photos showed their view from the bridge and their bare feet, one with painted blue toenails, dangling over the edge. "Levitating," read another tweet.

Minutes after the messages were sent, a CSX freight train loaded with coal barreled down the tracks and derailed, killing the 19-year-old women and toppling railcars and coal on the streets below.

Investigators were still trying to figure out what caused the derailment. Witnesses heard squealing brakes and a thunderous crash around midnight Monday.

It wasn't clear whether the women's presence on the tracks had anything to do with the derailment. They were sitting on the edge of the bridge as the



KIM HAIRSTON/BALTIMORE SUN/MCT

**County crews and CSX officials continue the investigation in the derailment of a CSX coal train in Ellicott City, Maryland, Tuesday, August 21, 2012. Two 19-year-old women died in the accident when 21 cars of an 80-car train derailed or overturned.**

train passed a few feet behind them, Howard County police said, and their bodies were found buried under coal. Authorities said they needed to do autopsies before their cause of death could be determined.

Killed were Elizabeth Conway Nass, a student at James Madison University in Virginia and Rose Louese Mayr, a nursing student at the University of Delaware.

The railroad is easily accessible from the picturesque downtown of Ellicott City, and generations of young people have played and partied along the tracks. The railroad was completed in 1830 and crosses over Main Street in the city's historic district, following the route of the nation's first commercial railroad, according to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum.

"We grew up running on those tracks," said Ellicott City native Bridgette Hammond, 25. "It's actually really beautiful up there."

Nass and Mayr were on the dance team at Mt. Hebron High School in Ellicott City and planned to finish college in 2014, according to friends and their Facebook pages.

One of Nass' sorority sisters, Donya Mossadeghi, called her "a joy to talk to" and someone who "would never say a bad thing about anybody." Nass made the dean's list in the fall in the fall of 2010 and 2011, according to a university spokesman, and another friend said she was studying special education.

Tori Mace, of Ellicott City, knew Mayr through mutual friends. "She was really fun, really friendly," Mace said.

A person who answered the telephone at Nass' home declined to comment, as did a family member who answered at a number listed for the Mayr family.

The pictures and tweets from Mayr were no longer publicly available Tuesday afternoon, but friends confirmed they were hers and police said they were aware of the posts and looking into them.

## OBITUARIES

### Lloyd Kirschenman

Lloyd Kirschenman passed away under Hospice Care of Bethany Providence Hospital at Everett, Washington on Monday August 6, 2012.

Burial will be at the Tohoma National Cemetery with services at Broadway Home on 3020 Broadway in Everett on Friday September 14, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Lloyd was born near Menno, South Dakota to Emanuel and Emma Kirschenman on June 25, 1932. He was raised on a farm where he helped in all areas of farm labor and attended a One Room Country School through the eighth grade. He was drafted into the US Army in May 1954 and was stationed in San Antonio, TX and Tacoma, WA. After his discharged, he loved the Washington climate so well that he made his home there ever since. He owned his own Bookkeeping & Tax Service. His joy was his family and friends. He had a deep love for the things of God and loved to share those with his children and family. He married Elizabeth P. Farris on October 12, 1961 and to this union were born three children.

His family members will miss him greatly. Those surviving include two daughters, one son and eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. Namely: Kara (Tim) Babcock, Justin and Christina of Kennewick, WA, SharmiAnn (Chuck) Williams, Toby, Dustin, Betty and her daughter, Sharmi, Mary and Wyatt of Everett, WA and one son, David of Santa Barbara, CA, and his son, David Jr. of Edmonds, WA. Also surviving include his brothers Donald (Lois) Kirschenman, LaVern (Margaret) Kirschenman of Menno, SD, and sisters, Myrna Pokorney of Rapid City, SD and Malena (Bob) Hiede of Yankton, SD, along with a host of nieces and nephews and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Emanuel and Emma Kirschenman of Menno, SD, two sisters, Orina Smith of Parker, SD and Dorla Mae Kirschenman of Menno, SD, and four brothers: Wilmer Kirschenman of Freeman, SD, Elton

Kirschenman of Yankton, SD, Delbert Kirschenman of Davenport, IA, and Clarence Kirschenman of Sioux Falls, SD.

**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
**August 22, 2012**

### Betty Grow

Betty Lou Grow, 84, Iowa City, IA, died of cancer on Sunday, August 19, 2012, in her daughter Susan's Iowa City home.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, September 1, at the Congregational United Church of Christ of Iowa City. Family will be present at the church from 9:30 a.m. Another service and burial will take place in Yankton at a later date. Memorials may be directed to Iowa City Hospice, 1025 Wade Street, Iowa City, IA 52240 (www.iowacityhospice.org), or a charity of the giver's choice.

Betty Lou was born April 10, 1928, in Winner, SD, to S. V. and Luva (Bromwich) Todd. She graduated from Winner High School in 1946 and earned a two-year teaching degree at Yankton College, where she met Roger D. Grow. They married in Winner on August 7, 1948. After a year in Los Angeles, they moved back to the Midwest and lived in various communities in Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota, including Yankton in 1970-1974 and 1985-1995.

Betty worked as a secretary in church, law, and insurance offices, and even at an airport. She was an excellent detail person, good with numbers, and a superb typist. At the same time, she was creative in many ways — various forms of needlework, quilling, sketching, writing — but, most of all, she was a musician. She began taking piano lessons when she was six and organ lessons in college. She taught countless piano and organ students, sang in or directed or accompanied junior, adult, and civic choirs, and accompanied vocal and instrumental students, soloists, groups, and musical theatre everywhere she lived. Betty also was organist in many



Grow

churches and then continued playing the piano during her years at Walden Place Senior Independent Living Community, Iowa City.

Betty loved her cats, playing cards, reading, television, crossword puzzles, travel, and visiting. She could strike up a conversation with anyone, anywhere.

She is survived by four children: Kathy Grow, Yankton, SD; Susan McConnell, Iowa City, IA; Carol Johnk, Coralville, IA; Roger (Cairn) Grow, Duxbury, VT; six grandchildren and two great-grandsons: Kelly McConnell, Iowa City, IA; Tim (Molly) McConnell, Will, and Tucker, Polk City, IA; Rev. Elissa Johnk, Montpelier, VT; Chellis Grow, Casselberry, FL; Emerson Grow, Coralville, IA; Lincoln Grow, Coralville, IA; special friends: Lea Ann Schramm (her "tall daughter"), Yankton, SD; Keith and Marnie Grow Johnk, Coralville, IA; Thomas W. McConnell, Norfolk, NE; and many nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her husband on January 23, 2007; her parents; her sister, Kay Todd (1941-1948); her half-sister, Roberta Key; and many other treasured members of her extended family.

Online condolences may be directed to www.lensingfuneral.com.  
**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
**August 22, 2012**

### David Peters

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Funeral services for David H. Peters, 74 of Bloomfield, Neb., are pending at Brockhaus Funeral Home, Bloomfield.

David died Monday, Aug. 20, 2012, at Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk, Neb.

### Lawrence 'Sandy' Sandoz

VERDIGRE, Neb. — Funeral services for Lawrence H. "Sandy" Sandoz, 93, of Verdigre, Neb., are at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 24, 2012, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Verdigre. The Rev. Doug Scheinost will officiate, with interment in the St. Wenceslaus Catholic Cemetery at Verdigre.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Thursday at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Verdigre, with a 7 p.m. Wake Service.

Brockhaus Funeral Home, Verdigre, is in charge of arrangements.

Sandy died Sunday, Aug. 19, 2012, at Alpine Village, Verdigre.

## WANTED

### A New Home for Chris.

The HHS staff rescued this 10 month old spaniel mix from the countryside where he was scared and lonely. The ladies at the shelter say he was probably treated poorly before arriving at HHS and so he is a little timid about meeting strangers. He really needs someone with a gentle hand and understanding to take him home and keep him forever.

Please visit  
**www.heartlandhumanesociety.net**  
 or call 605-664-4244 for more information.  
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**www.yankton.net**

### Marilyn Dyball

VERMILLION — Marilyn Dyball, 72, of Vermillion died Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2012, at Bethany

Home, Sioux Falls.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

### Irene Schaefer

FIELDS, Ore. — Funeral services for Irene C. Schaefer, 95, of Fields, Oregon and formerly of Tripp will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, August 27 at the First American Lutheran Church in Tripp with Rev. Barry Nelson officiating. Interment will follow in Gracehill Cemetery, Tripp.

Visitation will be held on Sunday from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tripp, and will resume on Monday one hour prior to the service at the church.

Irene died on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at the Harney District Hospital in Burns, Oregon. Online condolences may be sent at [www.goglinfh.com](http://www.goglinfh.com).

## Goglin Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



[www.goglinfh.com](http://www.goglinfh.com)

## DIANE (ORTH) NETH

of Menno, SD will celebrate her 65th Birthday on Friday, August 24th, 2012. Her children: John, Lindsay & Will Neth are hosting a Card Shower for her.

PO Box 402  
 Menno, SD 57045



*In Loving Memory Of*  
**BRIANNA MARIE KNOLL**  
*August 22, 1985 - April 9, 2011*

We will always miss you and love you so much.

*Family & Friends*

*The perfect combination*  
**Funeral Home. Cemetery.**

We offer the convenience of having everything at one location with our family taking care of all the important details. Call us for more information.

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