

Herman Cain Campaigns, But Recovery Unlikely

ATLANTA (AP) — Herman Cain is still campaigning for president. But by most measures, his White House bid is all but over. His standing in polls is cratering. Supporters are wavering if not fleeing. Fundraising is suffering. And, these days, the former pizza company executive is less a serious candidate than the butt of late-night comedy jokes after a string of accusations of sexually inappropriate behavior and, now, an allegation of a 13-yearlong extramarital affair. "His chance at winning the presidency are effectively zero," said Dave Welch, a Republican strategist who worked on both of John McCain's presidential bids. And Republican strategist Kellyanne Conway said: "It's the daily dose of the wince-and-cringe factor that leaves people wondering what could be coming next."

Romney Facing Double-Barreled Threats

WASHINGTON (AP) — Suddenly Mitt Romney is fighting a two-front political war. The Republican presidential contender has skated along for much of the year as GOP challengers surged and faded. But now he faces an unexpected, more serious threat from Newt Gingrich — just as Barack Obama's team is sharpening its criticism of Romney, whom the president's aides view as his likeliest foe next fall. With only a month before the Iowa caucuses kick off the nominating fight, Gingrich's rise has forced Romney's campaign to evaluate a new reality: He no longer has the luxury of staying above the Republican primary fray, avoiding tough questions about his own record and hammering Obama at will while essentially ignoring his GOP rivals.

Well aware of the new challenge, Romney has started fighting back against two opponents from opposite ends of the political spectrum — no easy feat — while also defending himself from continuing criticism of reversals, equivocations and shifts on a range of issues.

Obama Announces Funding To Combat AIDS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama set an ambitious goal Thursday for significantly increasing access to life-saving AIDS drugs for people in the U.S. and around the world, as he announced a renewed American commitment to ending a pandemic that has killed 30 million people. "We can beat this disease," Obama declared during a World AIDS Day event in Washington. Former Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton also participated via satellite. Obama pledged U.S. support to help 6 million people in countries hardest hit by the virus get access to antiretroviral drugs by the end of 2013, increasing the original U.S. goal by 2 million. And he announced plans to boost spending on HIV treatment in the U.S. by \$50 million.

Senate Backs Military Custody Of Terror Suspects

BY DONNA CASSATA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ignoring a presidential veto threat, the Democratic-controlled Senate moved methodically Thursday to complete a massive defense bill that would deny suspected terrorists, even U.S. citizens seized within the nation's borders, the right to trial and subject them to indefinite detention. The Senate rejected an effort by Intelligence Committee Chairman Dianne Feinstein to limit a military custody requirement for suspects to those captured outside the United States. The vote was 55-45. Feinstein, D-Calif., said her goal was to ensure "the military won't be roaming our streets looking for suspected terrorists." The issue divided Democrats with nine senators, many facing re-election next year, breaking with the leadership and administration to vote against the amendment. Republicans held firm, with only Sens. Rand Paul of Kentucky,

Mark Kirk of Illinois and Mike Lee of Utah backing Feinstein's effort. Overall, the deficit-driven bill would authorize \$662 billion for military personnel, weapons systems, national security programs in the Energy Department and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. Reflecting a period of austerity and a winding down of decade-old conflicts, the bill is \$27 billion less than what President Barack Obama requested and \$43 billion less than what Congress gave the Pentagon this year. The Senate pushed to finish the bill by day's end. Its version must be reconciled with a House-passed measure in the final weeks of the congressional session. In an escalating fight with the White House, the bill would ramp up the role of the military in handling terror suspects. The bill's language challenges citizens' rights under the Constitution, tests the boundaries of executive and legislative branch authority and sets up a

showdown with the Democratic commander in chief. It reflects the politically charged dispute over whether to treat suspected terrorists as prisoners of war or criminals. The administration insists that the military, law enforcement and intelligence agents need flexibility in prosecuting the war on terror after they've succeeded in killing al-Qaida's Osama bin Laden and Anwar al-Awlaki. In its veto threat, the White House said it cannot accept any legislation that "challenges or constrains the president's authorities to collect intelligence, incapacitate dangerous terrorists and protect the nation." Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and FBI Director Robert Mueller have opposed the provisions. Republicans counter that their efforts are necessary to respond to an evolving, post-Sept. 11 threat, and that Obama has failed to produce a consistent policy on handling terror suspects.

Senate Rejects, For Now, Extending Payroll Tax Cut

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
AND DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans on Thursday defeated a plan by President Barack Obama to renew a temporary cut in the Social Security payroll tax, even as all sides on Capitol Hill continue to promise an eventual compromise on a tax holiday before Congress leaves Washington for Christmas. More than two dozen of the Senate's 47 Republicans also voted to kill an alternative plan backed by GOP leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky in a vote that exposed a wide split among the party over whether renewing an existing 2 percentage point pay-

roll tax cut makes sense. The defeat of the competing plans came as House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said for the first time that renewing the payroll tax cut would boost the lagging economy, a view many in his party don't share. Boehner also promised compromise on a renewal of long-term jobless benefits through the end of 2012. The payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits are at the center of a costly, politically-charged year-end agenda in which Democrats seem poised to prevail in renewing a tax cut that many Republicans back only reluctantly. But Republicans are insisting — in a switch from last year — that the payroll tax cut and jobless benefits be paid for by cutting spending.

Both parties are seeking the political high ground as next year's elections loom, with Democrats accusing Republicans of siding with the rich, and Republicans countering that Democrats were taxing small business owners who create jobs. The first payroll tax plan to fall was a Democratic measure that was the centerpiece of Obama's jobs package announced in September. It would cut the Social Security payroll tax from 6.2 percent to 3.1 percent next year and also extend the cut to employers, with its hefty \$265 billion cost paid for by slapping a 3.25 percent surtax on income exceeding \$1 million. Republicans and a handful of Democrats combined to kill the measure on a 51-49 tally that fell well short of the 60 required

under Senate rules. For the first time, a Republican, Susan Collins of Maine, voted to support the millionaires' surcharge. The White House issued a statement by Obama that accused Republicans of voting to raise taxes on 160 million people because they "refused to ask a few hundred thousand millionaires and billionaires to pay their fair share." The statement didn't mention the GOP alternative. In a surprising result, Democrats and more than two dozen Republicans voted 78-20 to kill the \$120 billion GOP alternative that would have simply extended the existing 2 percentage point payroll tax cut, financed by freezing federal workers' pay through 2015 and reducing the government bureaucracy.

OBITUARIES

Della Kostel

TABOR — Della Kostel age 90 of Tabor, passed away Sunday, November 13, 2011 at the Avera Yankton Care Center, Yankton, SD. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 3, 2011, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with Rev. Joe Puthenkulathil and Msgr. Carlton Hermann con-celebrating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitations will be one hour prior to the service at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor, SD. Pallbearers will be Dennis and Betty Vellek, Terry and Vicky Vellek, David and Denise Vellek, Arlen and Norma Langle, and Gail and Carol Andrea. Della was born March 17, 1921 in Tyndall, SD to William and Bessie (Bambas) Vellek. She received her schooling in Tyndall and Springfield. In 1941, she went



Kostel

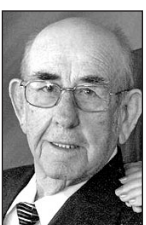
to Santa Monica, CA and worked as a housekeeper for a short time. Della was known as "Rosie the Riveter" while she was employed at Douglas Aircraft, and was also a classified telephone operator for the United States Government. On October 31, 1945, she married Joseph Kostel in San Pedro, CA then moving to Tabor, SD in 1946. In 1966, she worked at Dale Electronics in Yankton and retired in 1986. She was a member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Altar, Rosary Society, and the American Legion Auxiliary. She is survived by her son, Roger Dale Kostel of Yankton, SD; a brother, Robert (Maureen) of Tyndall, SD; sisters-in-law: Hattie Vellek of Tabor, SD, Nelda Vellek

of Sioux Falls, SD, and Ruth Vellek of Tyndall, SD; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bob and Betty Kostel of Los Angeles, CA and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph, her parents, daughter-in-law, Mary Lou Kostel; brothers: Emil Vellek and his wife Hazel, Raymond Vellek, Edward Vellek and his wife Bessie, Leo Vellek, and Charlie Vellek; sister, Helen Bame and her husband Jim; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Lawrence and Emiline Kaiser and brother-in-law, John Kostel. Yankton Press & Dakotan December 2, 2011

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Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Gerald Meirose

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Gerald W. Meirose, age 77 of Hartington, Nebraska died on November 30, 2011 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, SD. Mass of Christian Burial will be on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hartington with Rev. Jeffery Loseke officiating. Burial will be in St. Michael's Cemetery in Hartington with military services provided by the Hartington VFW Post 5283. Visitation will be on Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Saturday at the church. The Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington is in charge of arrangements. Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Kelly Felber, Todd Felber, Anthony Meirose, Adam Meirose, Zachary Sudbeck, Aaron Newton and Matt Sudbeck. Gerald was born on May 3, 1934 at Bow Valley, Nebraska to



Meirose

of Engineers in Yankton and then worked in Los Angeles. He also received his GED. On December 27, 1958 Gerald married Rita Ann Kuchta at Hartington. They made their home southeast of Hartington where Gerald farmed. Gerald was a member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hartington, the Hartington American Legion Post #4 and the Am Vets. He was a former board member of the Farm Service Agency. He enjoyed square dancing, playing cards and being with his grandchildren. Gerald is survived by his wife Rita of Hartington; 7 children and their spouses, Cheryl and Don

Felber of Clay Center, Nebraska; Pamela and Mike Newberry of Indianola, Nebraska; Chuck and Julie Meirose of Hartington; Roland and Deb Meirose of Lincoln, Nebraska; Debra and Marcel Sudbeck of Norfolk, Nebraska; Karen and Richard Newton of Hartington and Diane and Daryl Sudbeck of Hartington; 22 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and a sister Rita Donner of Hartington. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Leonard Meirose. Yankton Press & Dakotan December 2, 2011

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Hugh James

O'NEILL, Neb. — Hugh L. James was born February 29, 1944 at Phoenix, Arizona to Alfred and Leona (McAllister) James and passed away Friday, November 25, 2011 at the Avera St. Anthony's Hospital in O'Neill, Nebraska at the age of 67 years. Hugh attended a rural school near Amelia, Nebraska and St. Joseph Elementary in Atkinson, Nebraska before graduating from Burwell High School. He married Carma Harkins of Chambers, Nebraska on July 18, 1963. To this union two children were born, Monte Al and Shana Lee. After marrying Carma, they moved to Ericson, Nebraska, where Hugh helped his father build and operate the Ericson Livestock Market. In 1975, Hugh, Carma and two children bought their ranch on the Niobrara River between Bassett and Springview. This was his home for 36 years until the time of his death.



James

Hugh grew up on the James Family homestead west of Amelia, deep in the heart of the Nebraska Sandhills. His childhood and teenage years were spent working the family ranch with his father and brothers. Hugh loved to share stories with his grandkids about milking cattle and taking the cream to town on Saturday night for their weekly outing. Hugh began buying and selling cattle at the early age of 17, making frequent runs to the eastern states to purchase Holstein cattle, and never stopped. His career as a rancher and cattle buyer spanned over 50 years until the time of his death. He took a lot of pride in supplying cattle to some of the largest dairies in the nation. Hugh was an avid hunter and fisherman. His favorite pastime was fishing with friends and family in his airboat on the Niobrara River. He also enjoyed turkey and deer hunting on his ranch. Hugh adored his 3 grandsons, Parker Thomas James, Shaylor Hugh Platt & Shayce William Platt. Hugh anxiously awaited the times family and friends would come to the ranch for the weekend. He was often seen in the old ranch truck

with a load of kids and dogs driving throughout the ranch, picking mulberries and taking the kids for a dip in the river. He was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred and Leona James; brothers, Paul and Jesse James; and father in law, Albert Harkins. Survivors include: his wife, Carma James of Bassett; son, Monte James and grandson, Parker of Yankton, South Dakota; daughter, Shana Platt and husband, Nick and grandsons, Shaylor and Shayce also of Yankton; mother-in-law, Lela Harkins of O'Neill, Nebraska; sister-in-law, Sharon (Marvin) Larson of Ewing, Nebraska and brother-in-law, Ralph (Lynn) Harkins of Wichita Falls, Texas; along with two step-grandchildren, three nieces and three nephews, and loyal cattle working companions, Pepper and Freckles. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, November 30 at the United Methodist Church in Bassett, Nebraska with Pastor Bonnie Forney and Pastor Gary Graesser officiating. Special Music was offered by Kathy Magnusen and Pastor Sam and Mary Courts. Spe-

cial reflections were given by Parker James and Russell Wentworth. Pallbearers were Russ Wentworth, Andrew Steinhauser, Brad Arrowsmith, Carl Frauen, Marty Larson, Tom Laible, Shawn Coleman and Curt Weber. Honorary pallbearers were Dr. Gary Leach, Scott Rysdon, Keith Wright, Rodney Palmer, Lawrence Roy, Howard Miller, Charles Everett, Scott Robinson, Jack Poulson, Walter Porter, and Chris Hartman. Interment services were held at the Chambers Cemetery in Chambers, Nebraska at 3 PM under the direction of Hoch Funeral Home of Bassett. Memorials were directed to the family in his name to be used for a future designation. Yankton Press & Dakotan December 2, 2011

John Fuks

TABOR — John Fuks, 67, of Tabor died Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospi-

tal, Yankton. Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Ken Lulf officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton. Visitations begin at 4 p.m. Sunday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Hilda Kuhl

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Hilda E. Kuhl, 87, of Bloomfield, Neb., died Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, at the Bloomfield Good Samaritan Society. Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Christ Memorial United Methodist Church, Bloomfield. The Rev. Tim Pratt will officiate, with burial in the Bloomfield City Cemetery. Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Monday at Brockhaus Funeral Home, Bloomfield.

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Thank You...

To all the wonderful people who helped make our Service of Remembrance a success – members of the clergy, musicians, and, of course, those of you who attended. We at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory would just like to say "Thank You". Your presence helped to make for a truly uplifting and meaningful occasion.

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