Israel's Friendship With Europe Frayed

BERLIN (AP) - It was supposed to be an amicable meeting between close friends. Instead, İsraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit to Germany has been soured by Berlin's refusal to oppose a Palestinian U.N. statehood bid and anger throughout Europe over Israeli plans to expand settlements around Jerusalem.

The sensitivity of Netanyahu's trip to one of Israel's closest allies in Europe offers a taste of the increasing displeasure on the continent at his government's seeming intransigence, particularly over Jewish settlements on lands the Palestinians want for a future state.

Europeans, however, appear at a loss to develop an effective strategy of their own to pressure Israel to move forward on a moribund peace process with the deeply divided Palestinians. And it was unclear how hard Germany was prepared to push the Israelis.

The European Union came nowhere near a united front when the U.N. General Assembly voted last week to upgrade the Palestinians' diplomatic status — effectively recognizing a Palestinian state in the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip, territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

In a slap to Israel, its closest European allies — Britain, Germany, Italy and France - all abstained or voted with the Palestinians. The Czech Republic, where Netanyahu stopped on his way to Berlin, was the only EU country to join the U.S. and Israel in voting against the measure.

Social Security To Fast-Track Some Claims

WASHINGTON (AP) - In an effort to ease the burden of being stricken with a debilitating condition, the Social Security Administration is expanding a program that fast-tracks disability claims by people who get serious illnesses such as cancer, early-onset Alzheimer's and Lou Gehrig's disease — claims that could take months or years to approve in the past.

While providing faster benefits, the program also is designed to ease the workload of an agency that has been swamped by disability claims since the economic recession a few years ago.

Disability claims are up by more than 20 percent from 2008. The Compassionate Allowances program approves many claims for a select group of conditions within a few days, Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue said. The program is being expanded Thursday to include a total of 200 diseases and conditions.

Many of the conditions are rare; all of them are so serious that people who suffer from them easily meet the government's defini-tion of being disabled, Astrue said. With proper documentation, these are relatively easy cases for the agency to decide, too easy to put through the usual time-consuming process that other applicants face, he said.

"Why for someone who is going to die within 15 months do we need 15 years of medical records?" Astrue said in an interview. "If somebody's got a confirmed diagnosis of ALS, you know that in essence, it's not only a disability, it's a death sentence, and there is no use in burdening them with paperwork.'

Sheriff: Bodies Believed To Be Missing Cousins

EVANSDALE, Iowa (AP) — Hunters discovered two bodies Wednesday believed to be the young lowa cousins who vanished five months ago while riding their bikes, authorities said.

The families of 9-year-old Elizabeth Collins and 11-year-old Lyric Cook have been notified of the discovery and are asking for privacy, Black Hawk County sheriff's Capt. Rick Abben said. He wouldn't say where the bodies were found or if there were suspects in the girls' disappearance.

The cousins were last seen July 13 near a popular recreational lake in Evansdale, a city about 110 miles northeast of Des Moines. Investigators found their bikes and a pink purse near the lake hours later, but no sign of the girls.

"It's definitely not the outcome that we wanted, obviously," Abben said, appearing to fight back tears during a news conference in Evansdale. "This is a difficult thing for us to go through. It's a difficult thing for the community.'

He said the bodies were being sent to the state medical examiner's office to confirm their identities.

Starbucks Eyes Adding 1,500 Cafes To U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Another Starbucks may soon pop up around the corner, with the world's biggest coffee company planning to add at least 1,500 cafes in the U.S. over the next five years. Starbucks said Wednesday that it plans to boost the number of locations in its biggest market by about 13 percent by 2017. In the broader Americas region, the company plans to add a total of 3,000 new cafes by that time.

Egypt **Islamists Battle Opponents As Crisis Grows**

BY HAMZA HENDAWI AND AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

CAIRO - Egypt descended into political turmoil on Wednesday over the constitution drafted by Islamist allies of President Mohammed Morsi, and at least 211 people were wounded as supporters and opponents battled each other with firebombs, rocks and sticks outside the presidential palace.

Press&Dakotan

Four more presidential aides resigned in protest over Morsi's handling of the crisis, and a key opponent of the Islamist president likened Morsi's rule to that of ousted authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak.

Both sides were digging in for a long struggle, with the opposition vowing more protests and rejecting any dialogue unless the charter is rescinded, and Morsi pressing relentlessly forward with plans for a Dec. 15 constitutional referendum.

"The solution is to go to the ballot box," de-

clared Mahmoud Ghozlan, a spokesman for Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood, asserting the charter was "the best constitution Egypt ever had."

The clashes outside the presidential palace in Cairo's Heliopolis district marked an escalation in the deepening crisis. It was the first time supporters of rival camps fought each other since last year's anti-Mubarak uprising, when the authoritarian leader's loyalists sent swordwielding supporters on horses and camels into Cairo's Tahrir square in what became one of the uprising's bloodiest days

The large scale and intensity of the fighting marked a milestone in Egypt's rapidly entrenched schism, pitting Morsi's Brotherhood and ultra-conservative Islamists in one camp, against liberals, leftists and Christians in the other.

The violence spread to other parts of the country later Wednesday. Anti-Morsi protesters stormed and set ablaze the Brotherhood offices in Suez and Ismailia, east of Cairo, and there

were clashes in the industrial city of Mahallah and the province of Menoufiyah in the Nile Delta north of the capital.

13

Thursday, 12.6.12

Compounding Morsi's woes, four of his advisers resigned, joining two other members of his 17-member advisory panel who have abandoned him since the crisis began.

Mohamed ElBaradei, a leading opposition reform advocate, said Morsi's rule was "no different" than Mubarak's.

"In fact, it is perhaps even worse," the Nobel Peace Prize laureate told a news conference after he accused the president's supporters of a "vicious and deliberate" attack on peaceful demonstrators outside the palace.

"Cancel the constitutional declarations, postpone the referendum, stop the bloodshed, and enter a direct dialogue with the national forces," he wrote on his Twitter account, addressing Morsi.

"History will give no mercy and the people will not forget."

Obama, Boehner Discuss Fiscal Cliff By Phone BY DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — For the first time in days, President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner spoke by phone Wednesday about the "fiscal cliff" that threatens to knock the economy into recession, raising the prospect of fresh negotiations to prevent tax increases and spending cuts set to kick in with the new year.

Officials provided no details of the conversation, which came on the same day the president, hewing to a hard line, publicly warned congressional Republicans not to inject the threat of a government default into the already complex issue.

"It's not a game I will play," Obama told a group of business leaders as Republicans struggled to find their footing in talks with a recently reelected president and unified congressional Democrats.

Among the Republicans, Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma became the latest to break ranks and say he could support Obama's demand for an increase in tax rates at upper incomes as part of a comprehensive plan to cut federal deficits.

Across the Capitol, House Majority Leader Éric Cantor said Republicans want to "sit down with the president. We want to talk specifics." He noted that the GOP had made

RON SACHS/ABACA PRESS/MCT

In this December 5, 2009 file photograph, the Kennedy Center honorees pose for the formal group photo including from front row left, Grace Bumbry and Dave Brubeck. Back row from left Robert De Niro, Bruce Spring-steen, Mel Brooks. Brubeck, the jazz pianist, composer and bandleader behind the legendary Dave Brubeck Quartet, died Wednesday at age 91.

Dave Brubeck, Legend Who Helped Define Jazz, Dies At Age 91

BY CHARLES J. GANS Associated Press

You don't have to be a jazz aficionado to recognize "Take Five,' the smoky instrumental by the Dave Brubeck Quartet that instantly evokes swinging bachelor pads, hi-fi systems and cool nightclubs of the 1950s and '60s.

'Take Five" was a musical milestone — a deceptively complex jazz composition that managed to crack the Billboard singles chart and introduce a new. adventurous sound to millions of listeners.

view with The Associated Press. "Usually a dictatorship like in Russia and Germany will prevent jazz from being played because it just seemed to represent freedom, democracy and the United States.

"Many people don't understand how disciplined you have to be to play jazz. ... And that is really the idea of democracy - freedom within the Constitution or discipline. You don't just get out there and do anything you want."

"The gait was usually a fast walk, maybe a trot," he said. "And The common thread that ran I would sing against that constant through Brubeck's work was breaking down the barriers between musical genres - particularly jazz and classical music. He was inspired by his mother, a classical pianist, and later by his composition teacher, the French composer Darius Mihaud, who encouraged his interest in jazz and advised him to "keep your ears open" as he traveled the world.

by the rhythms of everyday life. In

a discussion with biographer

Doug Ramsey, he recalled the

rhythms he heard while working

as a boy on cattle drives at the

northern California ranch man-

The first time he heard

polyrhythms — the use of two

rhythms at the same time — was

aged by his father.

on horseback.



Starbucks also is planning to expand overseas, particularly in China, which is expected to surpass Canada as Starbucks' secondbiggest market in the next two years. By that time, Starbucks says it will have 20,000 stores globally, up from about 18,000.

The upbeat expansion plans mark a turnaround from Starbucks' struggles during the recession. After hitting a rough patch, the company brought back founder Howard Schultz as CEO in 2008 and embarked on a massive restructuring effort that included closing 10 percent of its U.S. stores.

Cliff Burrows, who heads Starbucks' domestic business, said the problem wasn't that Starbucks was oversaturated, but that the company hadn't been careful about its store openings. In the years leading up to the downturn, the company was opening well over 1,000 stores a year. That led to cafes in locations where signs or traffic might not be optimal, he said.

In a career that spanned almost all of American jazz since World War II, Brubeck's celebrated quartet combined exotic, challenging tempos with classical influences to create lasting standards.

The pianist and composer behind the group, Brubeck died Wednesday of heart failure at a hospital in Norwalk, Conn. He was a day shy of his 92nd birthday.

Brubeck believed that jazz presented the best face of America to the world.

"Jazz is about freedom within discipline," he said in a 2005 inter-

"When you hear Bach or Mozart, you hear perfection," Brubeck said in 2005. "Remember that Bach, Mozart and Beethoven were great improvisers. I can hear that in their music."

Brubeck was always fascinated

gait of the horse. ... There was nothing to do but think, and I'd improvise melodies and rhythms.'

Brubeck combined classical influences and his own innovations on the seminal 1959 album "Time Out" by his classic quartet that included alto saxophonist Paul Desmond, drummer Joe Morello and bassist Eugene Wright.

It was the first jazz album to deliberately explore time signatures outside of the standard 4/4 beat or 3/4 waltz time. It was also the first million-selling jazz LP and is still among the best-selling jazz albums of all time.

a compromise offer earlier in the week and the White House had rejected it.

Officials said after the talk between Obama and Boehner, R-Ohio, there was no immediate plan for a resumption of negotiations to avert the cliff. At the same time, they said that for the first time in a few days, at least one top presidential aide had been in touch with Republicans by email on the subject.

Each side has been declaring that the crisis can be averted if the other will give ground.

cluded: Pauline Akland, Shur-Co;

Chad Bent, Walmart; Terra Fischer,

DakTronics; Kirby Hofer, Hofer Con-

struction; Mark Hunhoff, Mark's Ma-

chinery; Marcy Moser, First Dakota

National Bank; Jeremy Nelson, Cal-

CorTrust Bank; Joleen Smith, First

vary Baptist Church; Lynn Peterson,

Bobcat

From Page 1

and Yankton counties."

The decision to initiate an East River bobcat season followed years of study, said Keith Fisk, the GF&P wildlife damage program coordinator.

"Several years ago, we initiated some research in conjunction with (South Dakota State University). We captured bobcats, fitted them with radio collars and monitored them for two field seasons," he said. "We were able to come up with an idea of their home range and their habitat. We had always known there were bobcats there (along the Missouri River), but now we have an idea of how many there are. There are plenty of critters out there.

The five East River counties were chosen because they represent the prime locations for bobcats, Fisk said.

"Each one of those counties borders the Missouri River, with a riparian area with a lot of the

tougher terrain that attracts bobcats," he said.

The GF&P also limited the initial East River season to five counties and added restrictions to protect the bobcats from an over-harvest, Fisk said.

The limited season also came out of information meetings held in the five counties, he said.

"At the public meetings, there were some concerns among landowners and other people," he said. "We are going to ease into a three-week season and see what we get. Then, we will make decisions for next year.'

The GF&P will also use the harvested cats for biological research, which will help in learning more about the East River critters, Fisk said.

"We will use that information for future recommendations," he added.

Schelhaas has seen and heard firsthand the growing number of bobcats in the southeast region.

"A lot of archery hunters are using trail cameras that they put in a tree, and anytime anything walks by there, it snaps a picture. A lot of the hunters are reporting bobcats," he said.

"We also have several bobcats that were hit on the roads, mainly Highways 50 and 81. And within the last two years, we have had five or six (bobcats) that were incidentally trapped."

Schelhaas isn't surprised to see the growing number of bobcats in the Yankton area.

"Nebraska has got a very healthy population across the (Missouri) river from us," he said. "We are getting some of their bobcats that have crossed the river and are establishing home grounds in South Dakota."

In addition, Charles Mix County lies across the Missouri River from Gregory County to the west, which has a bobcat season, the game warden said.

The West River season runs until Feb. 15, Schelhaas said. In addition, there are no limits on bobcats in West River counties.

GF&P personnel have attended meetings and received training for the East River season, Schelhaas said.

"It's tough. You don't know what to expect. It's new territory for us," he said. "I hope the majority of people do it right, but we know some people skirt the

law. We value any TIPs (Turn in Poachers) calls at 1-888-OVERBAG.'

Schelhaas has found a great deal of anticipation for the first East River season.

"Right away, when they announced the season, we were getting calls. The main questions are 'What kind of license?' and 'How long is the season?'" he said.

"Local guys look at (the cat) as a trophy because there has never been a bobcat season in Yankton. And you can get a lot of money, from \$150 to \$350, for a bobcat pelt."

Schelhaas doesn't want to see the East River bobcat season treated as a one-time experiment.

"My goal, I would like to see some kind of limited season every year," he said.

For more information on the bobcat season, contact Schelhaas at (605) 668-2987 or visit online at http://www.gfp.sd.gov.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf

Ethics

From Page 1

ries in the media every day, so we need to impress upon students the importance of making good decisions. The decisions students make today can affect their reputations for a long time.

"As part of this program, our community business volunteers give examples of real-life situations and help guide the students in making ethical choices," she added. Other volunteers Wednesday in-

National Bank SD; Dan Specht, Vision Real Estate Services; Rob Stephenson, First Dakota National Bank; and Nancy Wenande, mayor of Yankton. You can follow Nathan Johnson

on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInland-Voyage

Christmas Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closing at noon on Monday, December 24.

The following deadlines will apply:

Wednesday, December 26 newspaper – Thursday, December 20, 5 p.m. Thursday, December 27 newspaper – Friday, December 21, 5 p.m. Friday, December 28 newspaper – Monday, December 24, noon Wednesday, January 2 newspaper – Thursday, December 27, 5 p.m. Thursday, January 3 newspaper – Friday, December 28, 5 p.m. Friday, January 4 newspaper – Monday, December 31, noon Out On The Town will run Monday, Dec. 24 & Thursday, Dec. 27 -Deadline Wednesday, December 19, 5 p.m.

There will be no newspaper on Tuesday, December 25, 2012.



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