

NATION/WORLD DIGEST

W.H. Spokesman: Dems Could Lose House

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's party could lose its House majority in this fall's elections, his spokesman said Sunday, perhaps trying to jolt Democratic voters with the specter of GOP lawmakers rolling back White House policies.

"I think there's no doubt there are enough seats in play that could cause Republicans to gain control. There's no doubt about that," press secretary Robert Gibbs told NBC's "Meet the Press."

Democrats now hold a 255-178 edge in the House, with two vacancies in the 435-member chamber. Anywhere from 40 to perhaps 60 House seats could be competitive by the fall. Republicans would need to take back about 40 seats to slip into the majority, placing the current GOP leader, Ohio Rep. John Boehner, in line to replace Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., as speaker.

Those House Democrats who won election for the first time in 2008 in conservative leaning districts as part of the Obama wave are particularly vulnerable this fall, given that the president is not on the ballot.

Gibbs said retaining House control would depend on strong campaigns by Democrats. "I think we have to take the issues to them," he said, adding that the primary argument would be how Republicans would govern as the majority party.

Somalia Militia Blamed For Uganda Bombs

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — A police chief says two bombs went off at two sites in Uganda's capital late Sunday killing and injuring a number of people.

Police Chief Kale Kaihura says he can't yet confirm the death toll, but reports from the scene indicated it may be around 20 people killed and others injured.

Kaihura says he believes that Somalia's most feared militia — al-Shabab, which has pledged loyalty to al-Qaida — could be behind the attack.

One of the bombs went off at an Ethiopian restaurant in Kampala, Uganda's capital.

Holder: Getting Death Penalty Will Be Tough

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Eric Holder says there's a real question about whether a terrorist suspect such as self-proclaimed Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed can face the death penalty if he were to plead guilty before a military commission.

Holder proposed last year trying Mohammed and four alleged accomplices in civilian courts in New York City. But that idea generated so much controversy that it's all but been abandoned.

He told CBS' "Face the Nation" that it's possible to impose the death penalty in a civilian setting for someone who pleads guilty. But he says there's far less legal certainty about that possibility in a military setting.

Since January, Holder has said that all options are on the table about where to try Mohammed and the four other terrorist suspects. That includes the possibility of having them go before a military commission in Guantanamo Bay, where they are now held.

Mohammed, who was captured in Pakistan in 2003, has proclaimed his involvement in the Sept. 11 plot and has said he wants to plead guilty and be executed, achieving what he views as martyrdom.

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BP: Underpromising, Hoping To Overdeliver

BY TOM BREEN

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Underpromising with hopes of overdelivering, BP said Sunday that it is making progress on what could prove its most effective effort yet to contain the Gulf oil leak, but cautioned that the verdict could be several days away.

A new cap being placed atop the gusher is intended to provide a tight seal and might eventually allow the oil giant to capture all the crude leaking from the well for the first time since an April 20 oil rig explosion set off the environmental crisis. But several prior failed attempts to stop the leak have made BP PLC careful to keep expectations grounded.

"We're pleased with our progress," said BP senior vice president Kent Wells, who then hastened to add the operation was still expected to last up to six more days.

Asked during a conference call if the new cap and collection efforts would end the spilling of oil into the Gulf, Wells said only that BP will capture all the oil "at some point."

Wells said BP may have to bring another vessel back online and add additional collection capacity in order to stop the oil flow altogether.

Officials won't be satisfied the cap is working until they've run tests on whether it can

withstand the tremendous pressure of oil pushing up from below the seafloor, Wells said.

"We've tried to work out as many of the bugs as we can. The challenge will come with something unexpected," he said.

The well has been gushing largely unchecked since an old, leaky cap was removed from the wellhead Saturday to make way for the new one. Between 88 million and 174 million gallons have already spilled into the Gulf, according to federal estimates.

Wary Gulf residents reserved judgment about BP's latest effort and said the damage already done to the environment, fishing and tourism will haunt the region for a long time either way.

"At this point, there have been so many ups and downs, disappointments, that everybody down here is like, 'We'll believe it when we see it,'" said Keith Kennedy, a charter boat captain in Venice, La.

Robotic submarines finished removing a busted piece of pipe that was bolted around the leak around 3 a.m. Sunday. That paved the way for the installation of a pipe-like connector called a flange spool that will sit on top of the spewing well bore. The new cap would be mounted on top of that connector and have flexible pipes leading up to surface ships.

The work was being closely monitored at the White House, where President Barack

Obama is being briefed multiple times a day, adviser David Axelrod said on ABC's "This Week."

"We have every reason to believe that this will work," he said.

The new cap will be aided in containing the leak by the arrival of the Helix Producer, a vessel that will be able to take in about 1 million gallons of crude per day by Tuesday after gradually ramping up. The Helix connected to flexible pipes from the well Friday, and crews have been running tests since then.

Like another vessel already operating, the Q4000, the Helix will take in oil through connections beneath the new seal. Once the new cap is affixed, two other vessels are to connect to it for their oil collection.

Ultimately, the four vessels collecting oil from the leak would have a rough capacity of about 2.5 million to 3.4 million gallons a day — enough to capture all the oil leaking, if federal estimates are right. Getting all the vessels on the task will take about two to three weeks.

The hurricane season that lasts through November could interfere. There are no storms forecast now, but if one blows through, the ships collecting the oil may have to leave and crude would spew again for days into the water.

Debt Commission Leaders Paint Gloomy Picture

BY GLEN JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — The heads of President Barack Obama's national debt commission painted a gloomy picture Sunday as the United States struggles to get its spending under control.

Republican Alan Simpson and Democrat Erskine Bowles told a meeting of the National Governors Association that everything needs to be considered — including curbing popular tax breaks, such as the home mortgage deduction, and instituting a financial trigger mechanism for gaining Medicare coverage.

The nation's total federal debt next year is expected to exceed \$14 trillion — about \$47,000 for every U.S. resident.

Simpson said the entirety of the nation's current discretionary spending is consumed by the Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security programs.

"The rest of the federal government, including fighting two wars, homeland security, education, art, culture, you name it, veterans, the whole rest of the discretionary budget, is being financed by China and other countries," said Simpson. China alone currently holds \$920 billion in U.S. IOUs.

Bowles said if the U.S. makes no changes it will be spending \$2 trillion by 2020 just for interest on the national debt.

"Just think about that: All that money going somewhere else, to create jobs and opportunity somewhere else," he said.

Simpson, the former Republican senator from

Wyoming, and Bowles, the former White House chief of staff under Democratic President Bill Clinton, head an 18-member commission.

It's charged with coming up with a plan by Dec. 1 to reduce the government's annual deficits to 3 percent of the national economy by 2015.

Bowles led successful 1997 talks with Republicans on a balanced budget bill that produced government surpluses the last three years Clinton was in office and the first year of Republican George W. Bush's presidency.

Simpson, as the Senate's GOP whip in 1990, helped round up votes for a budget bill in which President George H.W. Bush broke his "read my lips" pledge not to raise taxes.

Despite their backgrounds, both Simpson and Bowles said

they were not 100 percent confident of success this time around.

Simpson labeled the commission members "good people of deep, deep difference, knowing the possibility of the odds of success are rather harrowing to say the least."

Bowles also said Congress had to be ready to accept the commission's findings.

"What we do is not so hard to figure out; it's the political consequences of doing it that makes it really tough," he said.

Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe was one of those leaders who sat in rapt attention during the presentation, one of the first in public by the commission leaders.

"I don't know that I ever heard a gloomier picture painted that created more hope for me," said Beebe, commending its frankness.

OBITUARIES

Ronald Brown

Ronald R. Brown, 81, of Vermillion, SD died Saturday, July 10 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Ron was born January 25, 1929 in Vermillion to Virgil and Myrtle (Severson) Brown. He graduated from Vermillion High School in 1947.

With the urging of the University of South Dakota football coach, Harry Gamage, Ron enrolled at USD and lettered for four consecutive years in football, and was inducted into the Coyote Hall of Fame in 1979.

On March 25, 1951 he married Helen Blashill in Pipestone, MN. He served in the navy from 1951-55, and returned to USD where he earned his Master's degree in 1955.

He then began coaching and teaching at Vermillion High School. From 1961-65, he was backfield coach at USD, returning to Vermillion High School as head football coach. He retired from coaching in 1973 and continued at VHS as Athletic Director until retiring in 1986.

Ron organized the first South Dakota High School football playoffs in the Dakota Dome in 1981 and continued in that capacity until he retired in 1986.

He is survived by his wife Helen, two sons: Barry Brown, Danny (Sandy) Brown all of Vermillion, two daughters: Sheri (Ivan) Ludens of Springfield, SD, and Lynn Brown of Denver, CO. He is also survived by a brother Dick (Jane) Brown of Vermillion, a sister Berniece Berryman of Sun City, CA and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter Kimberly and four siblings: Derald, Beverly, Ardell and Norma Jean.

A celebration of life will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday,

July 14 at the United Church of Christ in Vermillion.

Visitation will be Tuesday, July 13 from 5-7 p.m. at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the USD Athletic Department in memory of Ronnie.

Online condolences and obituary: hansenfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
July 12, 2010

Doris Schaefer

DELL RAPIDS — Doris E. Schaefer, 95, of Dell Rapids, formerly of the Colton-Chester area, passed away on Friday, July 9, 2010 at the Terrace Manor Nursing Home in Dell Rapids.

Her Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in St. Joseph the Workman Catholic Church at Huntimer.

Visitation on Monday will be from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kahler Funeral Home in Dell Rapids and will resume at 6:00 p.m. in the church. The rosary will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. and the Christian Wake Service will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Doris Roling was born on January 28, 1915 at Salem, SD, the daughter of John and Emma (Werner) Roling. When she was a young girl, she moved with her family to a farm near Montrose, SD. She grew up and attended school in Montrose. She married Lyle Schaefer on June 24, 1941 at Montrose. They farmed near Colton until 1994 when they moved into Chester. In March of 1995 Doris moved into the IOOF Home in Dell Rapids. Mr. Schaefer died on April 2, 1995. Doris moved to Terrace Manor Nursing Home

when the IOOF Home closed.

Doris was the oldest living member of St. Joseph the Workman Catholic Church and altar society. She was a great cook and baker for her family and loved flowers and gardening.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and five brothers.

Those left to cherish her memory are her four sons, Paul (Dot) of Yankton, Vince (Phyllis) of Madison, Virgil (Marlys) of Colton, and Don (Denise) of Sioux Falls; her three daughters, Rose Mary Schaefer of Minneapolis, Rita (Max) Law of Sioux Falls, and Joan (Mick) Cramer of Chester; her fifteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren; and her two sisters-in-law, Ella Roling and Shyree Roling, both of Madison.

To leave condolences, please visit kahlerfh.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
July 12, 2010

Neva Stockholm

SPRINGFIELD — Neva Stockholm 76 of Springfield died Friday (July 9, 2010) at the Good Samaritan Society Hospice Unit, Tyndall.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Vincent Catholic Church, Springfield, with burial in the parish cemetery.

Visitation is noon-5 p.m. Tuesday at Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home, Springfield, followed by a 7:30 p.m. wake service at the church.

Memorials will be directed to the Tyndall Good Samaritan Society Hospice Unit and the Bon Homme County Volunteer Network.

Bonnie Hehn

Bonnie Lou King Hehn passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by her husband, children, and family members on Friday, July 9, 2010.

Born to Evelyn Teresa King in Ulica, South Dakota, on November 22, 1927, Bonnie grew up on a farm with her grandparents, Allen and Rebecca King, as well as several special aunts and uncles who assisted in raising her, and whom she treasured dearly throughout her entire life: Harvey, twins-George and Girlie, Verna, and Donce King.

Bonnie attended high school in Yankton, South Dakota, where she also worked at the State Hospital. At the age of 16, Bonnie met Elver Hehn, a farmer living in a nearby community; they were married in a one-room country church on February 17, 1946. After farming for 14 years near Menno, South Dakota, Bonnie and Elver moved to the Wapikia subdivision in Missoula, Montana, in 1960, where they have resided for over 50 years.

Throughout Bonnie's teenage and adult life, she developed close relationships with her siblings: Warren Jones, deceased; Ellen Seubert, Cottonwood, Idaho; Bill Jones, Ronan, Montana; and Janice Cote, Portland, Oregon.

Bonnie and Elver raised three children: Dr. Quinton (Johnny)

Hehn, Missoula; Dr. Lynette Hill (Reg), Nampa, Idaho; and Warren Hehn (Missoula). Bonnie actively served the Evangelical United Brethren Church in both South Dakota and Montana as well as at Missoula's South Hills Evangelical Church for many years. She worked diligently to maintain and decorate her home meticulously and to cook for and entertain guests regularly in her home. She also relished shopping and giving gifts to her children and grandchildren. She actively supported her grandchildren's music and sports events and frequently drove lengthy distances to attend them.

Survivors include Bonnie's husband and three children and spouses as well as grandchildren: Brian Hehn and Teresa Anderson; Brandon and Tyler Hill; Larissa Marchand; and Aleece and Shariah Hehn. In addition, she leaves two sisters, a brother, eight great grandchildren, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her mother and stepfather, Jim Smith; her father- and mother-in-law, Richard and Magdalena Hehn; her grandparents; her aunts and uncles; and her brother.

Bonnie's funeral service will take place at 11:00 on Tuesday, July 13, at Garden City Funeral Home, located at 1705 West Broadway in Missoula. Viewings will occur between 7:00 and 9:00 on Monday evening, at which time family members look forward to greeting friends, and from 9:00 to 11:00, on Tuesday prior to the service. Tentative plans are under way for a viewing and graveside service on Friday, July 16, and Saturday, July

17, respectively, in Menno, South Dakota, where interment will take place.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
July 12, 2010

John Fejfar

John Dale Fejfar, 61, of Yankton died unexpectedly Sunday (July 11, 2010) at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Funeral services are pending under the care of Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Frank Zdenek

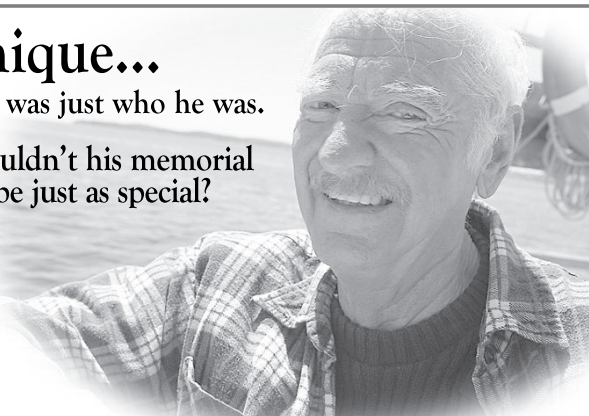
TABOR — Frank Zdenek, 91, of Tabor died Saturday (July 10, 2010) in Tabor surrounded by his family. Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Wencoslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with the Rev. Joe Puthenkulathil and Msgr. Carlton Herma con-celebrating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations is 5-9 p.m. Tuesday at Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor, with a Scripture service followed by a rosary at 7 p.m.

Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the chapel.

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Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Jacob Patrick Adamson
who passed away on
July 13, 2009

Betty Louise Donovan
who passed away on
July 16, 2009

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory. Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

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