

Romney Works To Regain Footing In London

President Barack Obama's campaign team hoped that by now, the lethargic U.S. economy would be perking up as it had for President Ronald Reagan in the summer of 1984, setting the stage for Reagan's re-election rout.

But it is not to be. New government figures show economic growth is slowing, not picking up speed — meaning Obama will continue to face economic headwinds.

The economy grew at an annual rate of just 1.5 percent from April through June, down from 2.0 percent the previous three months. While that showed it was still growing, if slowly, and not tottering back into recession, there was scarce other good news in the report for Obama — and plenty of ammunition for Republicans. They piled on at once.

Defense: Colo. Suspect Was Seeing Psychiatrist

DENVER (AP) — The former graduate student accused in the deadly Colorado movie theater shooting was being treated by a psychiatrist at the university where he studied, according to court papers filed Friday.

Defense attorneys for James Holmes, 24, made the disclosure in a court motion. It sought to discover the source of leaks to some media outlets that Holmes sent the psychiatrist a package containing a notebook with descriptions of an attack.

The motion said the leak violated a judge's gag order and jeopardized Holmes' right to a fair trial.

"The government's disclosure of this confidential and privileged information has placed Mr. Holmes' constitutional rights to due process and a fair trial by an impartial jury in serious jeopardy," wrote the attorneys.

The motion added that the package contained communications between Holmes and his psychiatrist that should be shielded from public view. The document describes Holmes as a "psychiatric patient" of Dr. Lynne Fenton.

Stocks Rise Sharply; Dow Above 13,000

NEW YORK (AP) — Faced with Facebook, Starbucks and Angela Merkel, the market chose to focus on Merkel.

For a second day, the U.S. stock market powered higher after European leaders, including German chancellor Merkel, pledged to protect the union of 17 countries that use the euro. The Dow Jones industrial average blew past 13,000, a key psychological marker that it hadn't hit since early May.

It wasn't that there weren't any troubling signs about the economy. In fact, they abounded: U.S. economic growth was anemic in the second quarter. A measure of consumer sentiment fell in July as people worried about their job prospects. And Facebook and Starbucks dropped sharply after reporting disappointing quarterly results.

Clark

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plants supporting Growth Energy. In turn, New Holland also makes a donation to Growth Energy.

Clark commended New Holland's partnership in the program but blasted other major farm implement companies that haven't joined the effort.

"New Holland has helped reduce our dependence not only on Saudi Arabia, but also Nigeria, Venezuela and Angola, who don't think our way," Clark said. "We're handing (those hostile nations)

our hard-earned dollars."

By leading the push for ethanol and other alternative energy, America's farmers are helping the nation win back its economic and political independence, Clark said.

The farmers gathered for Friday's talk, as well as the POET research center in the background, symbolize America's heart as well as its heartland, the retired general said.

"The future of our national security is found in South Dakota," he said.

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

CRP

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could help stop its spread.

"Also, if at all possible, cut your grasses when there is no wind," the release from Scherschligt states. "We know this may be tough, but the spread of these fires will be challenging."

Lastly, Scherschligt and the fire departments ask that a cell phone be handy.

"Early notification is critical," the release said. "If you have any questions, please contact your local fire department."

Nickles said that this year has been challenging for firefighters.

"This has just been a weird summer for us. I don't remember a grass season this long for years," he stated. "It got started earlier than usual and is not quitting. Usually, we get a break from spring rains. It just kind of kept going this year. Luckily, we haven't had anything very big."

The heat has also meant additional care for equipment and firefighters to avoid problems, he added.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage

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With Royalty And Rock, Britain Opens Its Olympics

**BY JOHN LEICESTER
AND ERIN MCCLAM**
 Associated Press

LONDON — The queen and James Bond gave the London Olympics a royal entrance like no other Friday in an opening ceremony that rolled to the rock of the Beatles, the Stones and The Who.

And the creative genius of Danny Boyle spliced it all together.

Brilliant. Cheeky, too. The highlight of the Oscar-winning director's \$42 million show was pure movie magic, using trickery to make it seem that Britain's beloved 86-year-old Queen Elizabeth II had parachuted into the stadium with the nation's most famous spy.

A short film showed Daniel Craig as 007 driving to Buckingham Palace in a black London cab and, pursued by the royal corgis, meeting the queen, who

played herself.

"Good evening, Mr. Bond," she said.

They were shown flying in a helicopter over London landmarks and a waving statue of Winston Churchill — the queen in a salmon-colored dress, Bond dashing as ever in a black tuxedo — before leaping into the inky night over Olympic Park.

At the same moment, real sky-divers appeared as the stadium throbbed to the James Bond theme. And moments after that, the monarch appeared in person, accompanied by her husband, Prince Philip.

Organizers said it was thought to be the first time she has acted on film.

"The queen made herself more accessible than ever before," Boyle said.

In the stadium, Elizabeth stood solemnly while a children's choir serenaded her with "God Save the Queen," and members

of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force raised the Union Jack.

Boyle sprang another giant surprise and picked seven teenage athletes for the supreme honor of igniting the Olympic cauldron. Together, they touched flaming torches to trumpetlike tubes that spread into a ring of fire.

The flames rose and joined elegantly together to form the cauldron. Fireworks erupted over the stadium to music from Pink Floyd. And with a singalong of "Hey Jude," Beatle Paul McCartney closed a show that ran 45 minutes beyond its scheduled three hours.

Organizers said the cauldron would be moved Sunday night to the corner of the stadium where a giant bell tolled during the show.

Boyle turned the stadium into a giant juke box, with a nonstop rock and pop homage to cool Bri-

tannia that ensured the show never caught its breath.

The high-adrenaline soundtrack veered from classical to irreverent. Boyle daringly included the Sex Pistols' "Pretty Vacant" and a snippet of its version of "God Save the Queen" — an anti-establishment punk anthem once banned by the BBC.

The encyclopedic review of modern British music continued with a 1918 Broadway standard adopted by the West Ham football team, the Rolling Stones' "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" and "Bohemian Rhapsody," by still another Queen, and other tracks too numerous to mention, but not to dance to.

The evening started with fighter jets streaming red, white and blue smoke and roaring over the stadium, packed with a buzzing crowd of 60,000 people, at 8:12 p.m. — or 20:12 in the 24-hour time observed by Britons.

Unemployment Could Stay High As US Economy Slows

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
 AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — High unemployment isn't going away — not as long as the economy grows as slowly as it did in the April-June quarter.

Weak consumer spending held growth to an annual rate of just 1.5 percent, even less than the 2 percent rate in the first quarter. And few expect the economy to accelerate in the second half of the year as Europe's financial woes and a U.S. budget crisis restrain businesses and consumers.

The growth estimate Friday from the Commerce Department

suggested that the U.S. economy could be at risk of stalling three years after the recession ended. Economists generally say even 2 percent annual growth would add only about 90,000 jobs a month. That's too few to drive down the unemployment rate, which is stuck at 8.2 percent.

"The main takeaway from today's report, the specifics aside, is that the U.S. economy is barely growing," said Dan Greenhaus, chief economic strategist at BTIG LLC. "It's no wonder the unemployment rate cannot move lower."

Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, expects

the unemployment rate to end this year — and next year — at 8.3 percent. He said he foresees no decline in unemployment because of how tepid he thinks economic growth will remain: 2.2 percent for all of 2012 and 2 percent for 2013.

Some economic data improved over the course of the April-June quarter, while others worsened. Hiring, for example, rose slightly from April to May to June. But home sales weakened.

Stocks rose as investors shrugged off the sluggish U.S. growth and focused instead on pledges from European leaders to preserve the union of the 17

countries that use the euro. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped more than 200 points in late-afternoon trading. Broader indexes also gained.

The lackluster economy is raising pressure on President Barack Obama in his re-election fight with Mitt Romney, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee. But few think the Fed, the White House or Congress can or will do anything soon that might rejuvenate the economy quickly. Many lawmakers, for example, refuse to increase federal spending in light of historically large budget deficits.

Miles

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that, the more you put in that inflammation."

Still, even getting to the Olympics at age 39 — injury or not — is an accomplishment in itself, his coach, Lucky Huber said. Huber has been with Miles every step of the way, from an incoming college freshman, to a four-time Division II All-American, to his 1996 USD graduation, and now a three-time Olympian.

"You think back to when he first came to town, we went down and had cheesy fries and a Mountain Dew, and sat down to plan out where he wanted his career to go," Huber said. "Track and field athletes can kind of fall off the edge pretty fast, but the university has done a good job supporting him."

"Hopefully things go well in London, but if not, you look back and think, 'Wow, what a great career.'"

For Miles, there's not a debate on 'will this be the last meet?' Yes, this is his final shot at the Olympic games. Where as many professional athletes continuing playing long past their prime, Miles will in fact get to determine his finale.

"That's really the neat thing about this," he said. "When I was in Beijing, my friend (and fellow vaulter) Jeff Hartwig was 40, and I just remember us talking and being envious that he gets to decide how he wants to go out."

"I'm fortunate to have that be the case."

As he has progressed in his career, certain things have had to change, especially recently with the Achilles injury. Gone are the days when youthful energy translated into big jumps.

"The biggest thing that I'm noticing is just that the speed and the power isn't there like it used to be," Miles said. "What it's done is forced me to be a better technician."

"I've been learning how to get more out of a jump and out of a take-off, and get every ounce of energy out of the pole has been a necessity."

Consistently one of the best American vaulters in the world, Miles has earned two USA Outdoor titles (2008 and 2011), an indoor title (2003) and a World Athletics Final title (2008). Referencing his earlier remarks about the "pole vaulter's mindset," Miles was clear that his goals have never wavered.

"I always want to feel like I'm in the top 10 in the world, and every world championship team or Olympic team I've been a part of, I've at least been in the finals or in the mix," he said. "When I can't feel like that, that'll be when my cue is."

When it comes to the 2012 Olympics, Miles will likely need a personal best to even reach the medal stand.

"I know I'll have to jump as high as I've ever jumped, to get a medal. That's a given," he said. "There are just too many kids out there jumping really high."

"You'll have to jump 19-2 or 19-4 to even be thinking about medals. I've got 19-4 before, so I feel like

I'm capable."

The qualifying round is next Wednesday at Olympic Stadium, with the finals set for next Friday.

Renaud Lavillenie, a 25-year-old from France, enters with the top mark of 19-7. Bjorn Otto from Germany enters with a mark of 19-4.

Still, there's a possibility that weather may even the field, Miles said.

"Who knows, you may get there and it's 60 degrees and rainy," he said. "That's the ultimate equalizer. It's just a matter of who navigates the weather better."

Joining Miles on the United States vaulting squad are Brad Walker (31) and Jeremy Scott (31), a native of Norfolk, Neb. Miles was that age when he made his first Olympic appearance in 2004, but now, his career has taken him on a whole new path — that of a coach.

Huber said Miles, who coaches the USD men's and women's vaulters, will take on added responsibilities when he returns from London. Among those will be the behind-the-scenes logistics and an increased role in recruiting.

"When you can go into a house and sit down with a kid and say, 'I

was on three Olympic teams,' the kids you're recruiting, that's their goal," Huber said. "The (USD) administration has made a nice commitment to him. We need him on our staff and we're happy he is."

As he prepares for his final competition on the biggest stage, Miles is still able to joke about being the "old guy" in the field. Sure, he doesn't mind the references, because he can remember when he was an 18-year-old freshman vaulter at USD, dreaming about the days when he could be an Olympian.

"It's more of an envious thing. You see these kids running down the runway, and you can see the youth," Miles said. "I remember thinking a while back that I've been jumping longer than the French kid has been alive. That gives you some perspective of the cycle."

"At some point, your time is up," he added. "My time isn't necessarily up yet; a month from now, it will be."

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