

## NATION/WORLD DIGEST

## Obama Taps Clapper As Intelligence Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — A person familiar with the situation says President Barack Obama plans to nominate Pentagon official James Clapper to be his next intelligence chief despite objections from Capitol Hill.

Clapper, a retired Air Force general, is the Pentagon's top intelligence official. He's expected to be nominated in a Rose Garden ceremony Saturday morning.

If confirmed, Clapper would replace retired Adm. Dennis Blair, who resigned after frequent clashes with the White House. But Clapper's combative sparring during hearings has made him an unpopular choice with some in Congress. His critics also question whether he will be able to counter Obama's intelligence inner circle at the NSC and CIA.

The person who revealed Obama's choice would speak only on condition of anonymity ahead of the expected announcement.

## Israel Vows To Stop Ship From Reaching Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel vowed Friday to keep an Irish aid ship from breaching its blockade of the impoverished Gaza Strip, appealing to pro-Palestinian activists to dock at an Israeli port and avoid another showdown at sea.

The new effort to break the blockade will test Israel's resolve as it faces a wave of international outrage over its deadly naval raid of another aid ship earlier this week.

Activists on board the Irish boat, including a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, insisted they would not resist if Israeli soldiers tried to take over their vessel. They said they expected the 1,200-ton Rachel Corrie to reach Gaza by late Saturday morning.

Diplomatic fallout and protests across Europe and the Muslim world have increased pressure to end the embargo Israel imposed after the Islamic militant Hamas group seized power in Gaza three years ago. The blockade has plunged the territory's 1.5 million residents deeper into poverty and sharply raised Mideast tensions as the U.S. makes a new push for regional peace.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet on Thursday the Irish boat would not be allowed to reach Gaza. On Friday, Israel's foreign minister said the policy had not changed.

## S.Korea Officially Refers N.Korea To U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — South Korea officially referred North Korea to the U.N. Security Council Friday over the sinking of a navy ship that killed 46 sailors, taking its strongest step ever toward making the communist North face international punishment.

South Korea's U.N. Ambassador Park In-kook handed over a letter to Mexico's U.N. Ambassador Claude Heller, the current Security Council president, asking for a response from the U.N.'s most powerful body to deter "any further provocations."

North Korea has steadfastly denied responsibility for the sinking of the Cheonan and naval spokesman Col. Pak In Ho warned last month in comments to broadcaster AP Television News that any move to retaliate or punish Pyongyang would mean war.

Despite a history of being attacked by North Korea, Seoul has never taken Pyongyang to the Security Council for an inter-Korean provocation, indicating now that it wants to take the matter beyond the Korean peninsula.

## McDonald's Recalls Glasses Over Cadmium

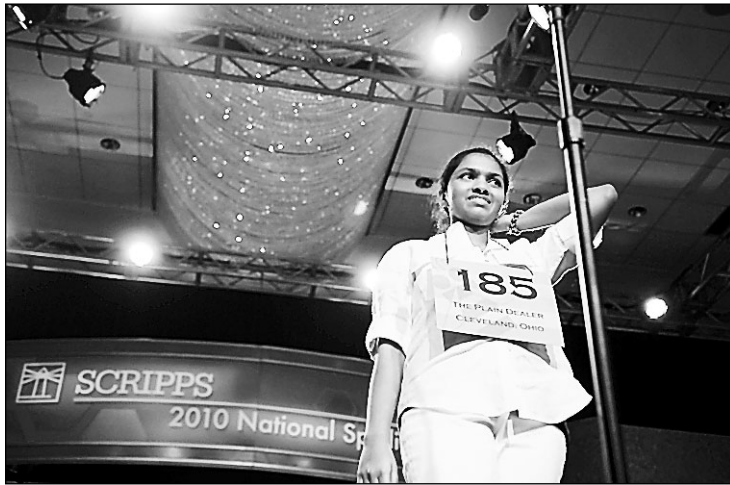
MILLVILLE, N.J. (AP) — A recall of 12 million cadmium-tainted "Shrek" drinking glasses sold by McDonald's raises questions about the safety of millions of similar cheap promotional products that have been sitting in Americans' kitchen cabinets for years.

Only glasses produced for the latest "Shrek" movie are included in the voluntary recall announced Friday by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, but they were made by a company that McDonald's has worked with for 15 years. And many other companies make similar glassware with cartoon characters or other designs baked in.

"It could have been any glass company," said Ron Biagi, an executive with Arc International, which made the glasses. "We all do the same thing using materials from the same suppliers."

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

## S-T-R-O-M-U-H-R



ASTRID RIECKEN/MCT

Anamika Veeramani, 14, of North Royalton, Ohio correctly spells stromuhr to win the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C.

## Ohio Girl Wins 2010 National Spelling Bee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Who says Cleveland can't win a championship?

The long-suffering sports city — which can't seem to win a trophy on a court or a field — captured one in a hotel ballroom Friday night when 14-year-old Anamika Veeramani took first prize at the 83rd Scripps National Spelling Bee.

"Go Cavs!" Anamika said, shortly after accepting the winner's trophy, which also comes with more than \$40,000 in cash and prizes.

The eighth-grader also plays golf, likes to dance, wants to go to Harvard and become a cardiovascular surgeon. She has the demeanor to pull it off: She stood deadpan with her hands behind her back after spelling the winning word, the medical term "stromuhr," and didn't crack a smile until the trophy was presented.

Anamika, who finished tied for fifth last year, became the third consecutive Indian-American champion, and the eighth last 12 years. It's a run that began when Nupur Lala won in 1999 and was featured in the documentary "Spellbound."

But she broke a long Ohio drought, becoming the first bee winner from the state since 1964. Her parents have promised her a cell phone for winning "and basic-

ly anything I want."

There was a three-way tie for second among the 273 spellers who started the three-day competition Wednesday. Adrian Gunawan, 14, of Arlington Heights, Ill.; Elizabeth Platz, 13, of Shelbina, Mo.; and Shantanu Srivatsa, 13, of West Fargo, N.D., were all eliminated in the same round.

There was also plenty of drama before the finals, thanks to an unpopular move that had some spellers and the parents claiming the bee was unfair and had kowtowed too much to television.

Concerned that there wouldn't be enough spellers left to fill the two-hour slot on ABC, organizers stopped the semifinals in the middle of a round early Friday afternoon — and declared that the 10 spellers onstage would advance to the prime time broadcast, including six who didn't have to spell a word in the interrupted round. Essentially, the alphabetical order of the U.S. states helped determine which spellers got to move on the marquee event.

"I would rather have five finalists, than five who didn't deserve it," said Elizabeth, the finalist from Missouri and one of the four spellers who spelled a word correctly before the round was stopped. "I think it was unfair."

## ECONOMY

## Job Numbers Disappoint Wall Street

431,000 New Jobs Added Last Month, But Only 41,000 Of Them Non-Census

BY JEANNINE AVERSA  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — A swell in temporary government hiring for the census drove almost all the job market's gains last month — a huge disappointment to Wall Street and a sign that private employers aren't yet confident enough in the recovery to start adding workers with gusto.

Daunted by the European debt crisis and a falling U.S. stock market at home, American businesses added just 41,000 jobs in May, the fewest since January. The government hired 10 times as many for the national census, but those positions will begin to disappear as summer arrives.

At least on paper, the 431,000 total new jobs was the biggest gain in a decade. The unemployment rate dipped to 9.7 percent from 9.9 percent, mainly because hundreds of thousands of people gave up searching for work and were no longer counted.

"On the surface, they look great," Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors, said of the numbers. "But that beauty was only skin-deep. The private sector is not out there hiring like crazy."

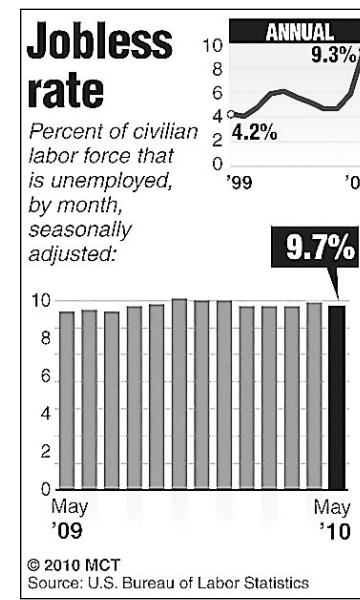
Wall Street interpreted the numbers as a big letdown, a sign that the recovery, if not derailed,

is at least stalling. The Dow Jones industrial average sank from the opening bell and tumbled 323.31 points, its second worst slide of the year. The index closed below 10,000 for the second time in two weeks. All the major indexes were down more than 3 percent.

The new employment snapshot, released Friday by the Labor Department, indicated that many private employers are still wary of bulking up their work forces. And it suggested the economic recovery may not bring help fast enough for millions of Americans still unemployed.

The slowdown isn't unusual for an economic recovery. Hiring can slow in one month, then accelerate the next, as was the case after the 2001 recession. But that recession was relatively brief and mild. The Great Recession wiped out so many jobs that it will take unusually strong hiring to bring substantial relief. And neither the Federal Reserve nor the Obama administration expects that to happen soon.

Nor are Americans spending as lavishly as they typically do when recessions end. Wages are barely increasing. And the stock market has taken a beating. If shoppers stay frugal, businesses could become even less confident about adding new workers.



© 2010 MCT  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The European debt crisis hurts, too. "We had all this bad news coming out of Europe, which made employers more cautious," said Tig Gilliam, CEO of Adecco Group North America, an employment services company.

The government hired 411,000 workers in May for the census. But last month was the peak of hiring for the 10-year count, and it will begin to tail off in June. The loss of those temporary jobs could help keep the unemployment rate high.

The nation has produced jobs for five straight months. That's a

sharp improvement from last year, when employers were slashing work forces to survive the recession. Yet at the current pace of job creation, it could take at least until the middle of the decade to recoup the 7.4 million jobs lost since December 2007 and reduce unemployment to a more normal 6 percent or below.

Economists think the rate will remain above 9 percent through November, potentially leaving both Democratic and Republican incumbents in Congress more vulnerable to defeat. The weak job market also puts pressure on senators to pass an extension of unemployment benefits.

Unemployment is expected to remain high — in the 9 percent range — all the way into 2012, when President Barack Obama would seek re-election. On Friday, the president stressed the recovery was still in its early stages.

"Things never go completely in a smooth line," he said. Obama urged patience, said his policies are working and said the economy is "moving in the right direction" because it is producing jobs again.

Americans aren't so sure. Only one in five considers the economy in good condition, according to an Associated Press-GfK Poll conducted in mid-May.

## Obama Lashes Out At BP On Gulf Visit

BY NANCY BENAC  
Associated Press Writer

GRAND ISLE, La. — Dogged for being too calm in crisis, President Barack Obama unleashed frustration for all to see Friday, warning BP it had better do right by the people whose lives it has wrecked.

The president's third trek to the Gulf of Mexico was about the workers with no government titles, the shrimpers and the shopkeepers, the fishermen whose lives have been upended and are running out of people to blame.

Yet Obama's trip was also about him.

He says it serves little substantive point to go around and yell — that people want results, not a show — but presidents face peril if they do not connect emotionally. As the crisis has dragged on — and his poll ratings have slipped — his words for BP's leaders have grown sharper.

"I don't want them nickel-and-dime people down here," Obama said after his latest briefing on the oil response. He promised his government would look over BP's shoulder to ensure it was paying out claims.

His visit amounted to one long I'm-on-your-side passage for reeling communities. Along that same line, he invited family members of the 11 workers killed when the BP rig blew up to visit the White House next Thursday. Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said the president had written to each of the families.

As for BP, Obama cast the oil company as a corporate giant interested in protecting its image with TV ads and its shareholders with bountiful dividends.

"I don't want somebody else bearing the costs of those risks that they took," Obama said. "I want to make sure that they're paying for it."

The president's visit came as engineers with BP worked to settle a funnel-like cap over the deep-sea leak to try to collect some of the crude now fouling four states. It was not clear how much oil was being captured, and some continued to flow, generating frightening photos of seabirds clogged in the muck.

The oil rig that exploded on April 20 has caused a massive, ongoing spill that is polluting the waters and shores of the Gulf states and consuming the attention of the president. Obama scrapped a trip to Indonesia and Australia to deal with it — no small international sacrifice, especially since he had already resorted to that move once before this year to finish a health care law.

Yet in unleashing his most fiery words yet about BP, Obama underscored his awkward situation: To fix the problem, he is reliant on the same people whose motives he now questions. The government is not equipped to handle the tricky, deepwater effort BP is leading to fix its gushing well.

From his briefing outside New Orleans, Obama bounded on a two-hour-plus motorcade drive to Grand Isle, a small barrier island, to hear from the people. The weather made the trip feel fittingly hard. A driving rain

forced him to drop plans to travel by helicopter.

At another spot, the side of a building had been adorned with a portrait of Obama reminiscent of his famous presidential campaign posters. Instead of "hope" or "change," the words "what now?" were on his forehead.

In casual clothes, Obama went to a bait shop to talk to fishing industry workers about how the disastrous oil spill is affecting their business. The shop owner was there to meet him along with a shrimper, an oysterman, a marina owner and others.

Somewhere between 22 million and 47 million gallons of crude oil has been disgorged into the Gulf since the Deepwater Horizon oil rig exploded on April 20, according to government estimates.

Obama's administration on Thursday handed BP a \$69 million bill for recovery costs to date — a figure sure to grow in the weeks and months ahead.



KEVIN SPEAR/ORLANDO SENTINEL/MCT

Tar balls begin to wash up on Pensacola Beach, Florida beaches on Friday as a result of the oil spill from the oil rig disaster in the Gulf of Mexico.

## Building Bonds Between Mom and Baby

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital has renovated its Women's Services to provide a warm, personal ambience for mom and baby.

**Renovations and changes include:**

- Spa-like amenities including jacuzzi tub
- WiFi Internet service
- Meals for the mother's partner
- Updated family lounge
- Flat screen TV, in-room refrigerator

Call today to schedule a personalized tour of the facility.  
**605-668-8221**

**Avera**  
Sacred Heart Hospital

Look no further.  
www.AveraSacredHeart.com