

## U.S., China Outline Deal To Send Activist Abroad

BEIJING (AP) — With a series of quickly choreographed steps, the U.S. and China outlined a tentative deal Friday to send a blind legal activist to America for study and potentially bring a face-saving end to a delicate diplomatic crisis.

The arrangements, if kept, promise to give Chen Guangcheng much of what he wanted: a chance to live with his family in safety and to get a formal legal education. It would also allow Washington and Beijing to put aside a rancorous human rights dispute to focus on managing their rivalry for global influence.

As part of the deal, China's Foreign Ministry said Chen can apply for travel permits to study abroad. The State Department said an American university — later identified as New York University — has offered a fellowship for Chen with provisions for his family. Spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the U.S. expects Beijing to process the travel permits quickly, and once done, visas would be issued.

"I don't think this is empty talk here. I think they mean this is a way out, and it's a dignified way out. It's a good way out for the Chinese government and our government and for Chen and his family," said Jerome Cohen, an NYU law professor who met Chen nearly a decade ago, advised him during the negotiations and arranged the fellowship.

In a sign that not all was settled, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton offered a guarded assessment.

## Men With Breast Cancer Fare Worse

CHICAGO (AP) — Men rarely get breast cancer, but those who do often don't survive as long as women, largely because they don't even realize they can get it and are slow to recognize the warning signs, researchers say.

On average, women with breast cancer lived two years longer than men in the biggest study yet of the disease in males.

The study found that men's breast tumors were larger at diagnosis, more advanced and more likely to have spread to other parts of the body. Men were also diagnosed later in life; in the study, they were 63 on average, versus 59 for women.

Many men have no idea that they can get breast cancer, and some doctors are in the dark, too, dismissing symptoms that would be an automatic red flag in women, said study leader Dr. Jon Greif, a breast cancer surgeon in Oakland, Calif.

The American Cancer Society estimates 1 in 1,000 men will get breast cancer, versus 1 in 8 women. By comparison, 1 in 6 men will get prostate cancer, the most common cancer in men.

## Syrian Forces Kill Teen In Aleppo Protests

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian forces fired on thousands of protesters Friday in Aleppo, killing a teenager, after a raid on dormitories at the city's main university killed four students and enflamed tensions in a key bastion of support for the regime.

An Aleppo-based activist said the protests were the largest the city has seen since the start of the uprising against President Bashar Assad in March 2011. Aleppo is a major economic hub that has remained largely loyal to Assad over the course of the 14-month uprising.

"The people are incensed by what happened at the university," said the activist, Mohammed Saeed. "Everyone wants to express solidarity with those students."

Saeed said security forces were out in full force, firing live ammunition to disperse protesters and arresting people randomly. "With our blood, we sacrifice for you students!" people shouted.

## Army Nurse Dies While Chatting Via Skype

HOUSTON (AP) — The wife of an Army officer serving in Afghanistan witnessed her husband's death as the two video chatted via Skype, his family said Friday.

The circumstances of Capt. Bruce Kevin Clark's death were not immediately available. The Pentagon said it was under investigation, and his brother-in-law said he didn't have details.

"We are entrusting the military with investigating and with finding out what happened to Capt. Clark," Bradley Taber-Thomas told The Associated Press.

Clark, a 43-year-old Army chief nurse, grew up in Michigan and lived previously in Spencerport, N.Y., a suburb of Rochester and his wife's hometown. He joined the Army in 2006 and was stationed in Hawaii before he was assigned to the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso. He deployed to Afghanistan in March.

A statement from the family released by Taber-Thomas said Clark died Monday while talking to his wife during one of their regular Skype sessions.

## Adam Yauch Of The Beastie Boys Dies At 47

NEW YORK (AP) — Adam Yauch, the gravelly voiced rapper who made the Beastie Boys one of the seminal groups in hip-hop, has died. He was 47.

Yauch, also known as MCA, died Friday morning in New York after a nearly three-year battle with cancer, his representatives confirmed Friday. He had been diagnosed with a cancerous salivary gland in 2009.

At the time, Yauch expressed hope that it was "very treatable," but his illness forced the group to cancel shows and delayed the release of their 2011 album, "Hot Sauce Committee, Pt. 2."

He hadn't performed in public since 2009 and was absent when the Beastie Boys were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame last month.

Yauch was an integral, founding member to the ever-weaving trio: three Jewish kids from New York who found widespread respect in a hip-hop world with few credible white performers.

BY PAUL WISEMAN

AND CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER  
 AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON — One month of slower job growth might have been a blip. Two suggest a worrisome trend: The economy may be faltering again.

The United States generated just 115,000 jobs last month, well below expectations and the fewest since October. The unemployment rate fell to 8.1 percent, but for the wrong reason — workers abandoned the labor force.

From December through February, employers added 252,000 jobs a month on average. But the figure dipped in March and dropped further in April, raising doubts about an economic recovery that can't seem to reach escape velocity.

The report Friday by the Labor Department indicated "an economy that is losing momentum — especially on the jobs front," said Tom Porcelli, chief U.S. economist at RBC Capital Markets.

It also dealt a blow to President Barack Obama's re-election prospects. His presumed Republican opponent, Mitt Romney, called the report "very disappointing."

Romney said the country should be adding 500,000 jobs a month and said any unemployment rate above 4 percent is "not cause for celebration." The rate has not been that low seen since

## Lawyer:

# Edwards Knew Money Was For His Benefit

BY MICHAEL BIESECKER  
 Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The lawyer for a wealthy heiress who provided secret payments intended to help John Edwards testified Friday that the former presidential candidate acknowledged the money had been given for his benefit.

Alex D. Forger said that Edwards' then-lawyer Wade Smith told him in the fall of 2008 that the former candidate agreed that the \$725,000 given by 101-year-old Rachel "Bunny" Mellon had been provided to help him. It wasn't clear from Forger's testimony at Edwards' criminal trial precisely when Edwards learned about the checks given to his aide, Andrew Young.

Some of Mellon's money was used to hide Edwards' pregnant mistress as he sought the White House in 2008. Whether Edwards had knowledge of the cover-up is a key question in his prosecution on charges related to campaign finance corruption.

Edwards has denied knowing about the secret payments from Mellon. Young testified last week his former boss directed the scheme from the start.

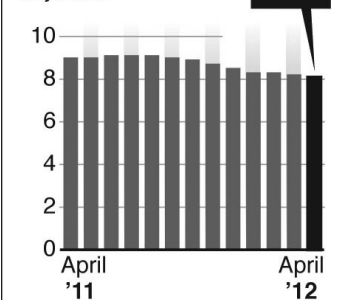
Forger, a semi-retired attorney from New York City, has helped manage Mellon's financial affairs for decades. With a shock of white hair and bushy eyebrows, Forger didn't disclose his age on the witness stand but said he has practiced estate and trust law for more than 60 years.

His voice still deep and strong, he recounted the 2008 conversation with Smith, a long-practicing North Carolina defense lawyer who had years earlier hired a novice Edwards at his Raleigh firm.

Forger said that in the fall of 2008, Smith and Charlotte defense

## Jobless rate

Percent of civilian labor force that is unemployed, by month, seasonally adjusted:



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 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

the last days of the Clinton administration.

"We seem to be slowing down, not speeding up," Romney said on Fox News Channel. "This is not progress."

Obama, at a Virginia high school to promote a freeze on interest rates for student loans, focused on the six-month total of more than 1 million jobs created. But he said: "We've got to do more."

The 8.1 percent unemployment rate is the lowest since January 2009, the month Obama was sworn in.



CHUCK LIDDY/RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER/MCT  
**Alex Forger, center, Rachel "Bunny" Mellon's lawyer, arrives at the Federal Courthouse in Greensboro, North Carolina, Friday, May 4, 2012, to testify in the corruption trial of former Sen. John Edwards. An interior decorator funneled secret checks from Mellon, a wealthy heiress, to a fundraiser for Edwards.**

lawyer Jim Cooney called him to give a "heads up" that federal investigators had launched a probe into Edwards' presidential campaign.

Forger told the lawyers working for Edwards that he had been concerned for months about \$725,000 in checks from Mellon that had been written to a Charlotte interior designer and labeled as being for chairs, tables and bookcases.

Forger had learned those checks were endorsed by the designer and then deposited into an account controlled by Andrew Young.

Forger also knew Young was a

Still, the weak job growth caused stocks to fall sharply on Wall Street. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 1.6 percent and closed its worst week of the year. The price of oil fell more than 4 percent because of fears of a slowing economy, which should mean lower gasoline prices soon.

Some of the slower job growth may be because an unusually warm winter allowed construction firms and other companies to add workers ahead of schedule in January and February, effectively stealing jobs from the spring.

The weaker job growth in March and April "looks like some weather payback," said Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics.

The balmy weather probably exaggerated job growth in the winter and makes it look small now, Ashworth said. He expects job creation to settle into a lackluster range between 175,000 and 200,000.

The economy may not be growing fast enough to produce anything stronger. Economists surveyed by The Associated Press expect the economy to grow 2.5 percent this year. That is consistent with monthly job growth of only about 135,000, according to calculations by Brad DeLong, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley.

That is barely enough to keep up with population growth not nearly enough to recover the jobs

lost in the Great Recession quickly. At this year's pace, it will take until May 2014 to restore employment to its 2008 peak of 138 million.

The United States has only recovered 3.8 million, or 43 percent, of the 8.8 million jobs lost between the peak, in February 2008, and January 2010.

David Boyce, 30, is one of those still looking for work. He lost his sales job two years ago and ran out of unemployment benefits in September. He and his wife, who is working reduced hours as a nanny, are struggling to get by.

"We lived off savings for a while," he said. "And now we're living off ramen noodles basically."

April's hiring slump was broad. Only two of 10 large categories tracked by the government, retailers and professional and business services, hired more workers in April than they did in March.

The categories of manufacturing and education and health services added the fewest jobs in five months. Hotels, restaurants and entertainment companies added the fewest in eight months.

Friday's report noted that that the average hourly wage went up one penny in April. Over the past year, average pay has increased 1.8 percent, almost a full percentage point shy of the inflation rate, which means the average American isn't keeping up with price increases.

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