

### Senate Blocks Competing Infrastructure Plans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans in the Senate Thursday dealt President Barack Obama the third in a string of defeats on his stimulus-style jobs agenda, blocking a \$60 billion measure for building and repairing infrastructure like roads and rail lines.

Supporters of the failed measure said it would have created tens of thousands of construction jobs and lifted the still-struggling economy. But Republicans unanimously opposed it for its tax surcharge on the wealthy and spending totals they said were too high.

The 51-49 vote fell well short of the 60 votes required under Senate procedures to start work on the bill. Every Republican opposed the president, as did Democrat Ben Nelson of Nebraska and former Democrat Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., who still aligns with the party.

Obama's loss was anything but a surprise, but the White House and its Democratic allies continue to press popular ideas from Obama's poll-tested jobs package in what Republicans say is nothing more than a bare-knuckle attempt to gain a political edge by invoking the mantra of jobs but doing little to seek compromise.

"The truth is, Democrats are more interested in building a campaign message than in rebuilding roads and bridges," said Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. "And frankly, the American people deserve a lot better than that."

### House Panel Agrees To Subpoena White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Republican-led House panel on Thursday agreed to subpoena the White House for documents related to Solyndra Inc., the failed California solar company that received a half-billion-dollar federal loan. A House Energy and Commerce subcommittee voted 14-9 along party lines to authorize subpoenas of top White House officials. GOP lawmakers say the subpoenas are necessary because the White House has denied or delayed requests for thousands of documents related to Solyndra.

The Fremont, Calif., company received a \$528 million federal loan before filing for bankruptcy protection and laying off 1,100 workers.

Rep. Fred Upton, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said getting White House documents on Solyndra was like "extracting a tooth without anesthesia" — painful and time-consuming.

"I wish it had not come to this, but it has," said Upton, R-Mich., who called the White House "downright obstructionist" on Solyndra.

Democrats called the solar loan subpoena an overreach.

### Man Charged With Threatening Cantor Family

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The FBI says a Tennessee man has been charged with threatening the family of House Majority Leader Eric Cantor of Virginia. Agents arrested 62-year-old Glendon Swift of Lenoir City on Wednesday.

He is accused of leaving two voicemail messages at Cantor's office in suburban Richmond on the evening of Oct. 27. In the profanity-laced messages, the caller calls Cantor "Jew boy." He also says he is going to destroy Cantor, rape his daughter and kill his wife.

Swift made a preliminary appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge C. Clifford Shirley Jr. in Knoxville on Thursday.

Cantor spokeswoman Laena Fallon said the Republican congressman had no comment on the threats.

Court records do not list an attorney for Swift. He faces a maximum of 10 years in prison if convicted.

### Bachmann: Wall Street Protesters Misguided

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Casting the Wall Street protestors as misguided, Republican presidential contender Michele Bachmann on Thursday said their frustrations should instead be directed at Washington politicians who protect their allies and put unfriendly companies out of business.

Bachmann said politicians have far too much power and unfairly pick winners and losers. The Minnesota congresswoman, trying to recapture her once surging poll numbers, said she has watched lawmakers enact laws that intentionally shut businesses down.

"For your sake and for your future, America — and Occupy Wall Street in particular — needs to wake up and stop blaming the free market, stop blaming capitalism, stop blaming job creators for the failures created by selfish politicians," Bachmann told students at Iowa State University. "The problem is politicians who wink at their political donors and through the force of law put their competitors out of business."

Bachmann used her appearance in Ames to outline an economic proposal that would require all Americans to pay taxes. The Tax Policy Center estimates that some 46 percent of households this year will not pay federal income taxes.

"They need to be invested in the country," she said. "Even if they can only afford \$10, they need to pay something."

### World Emissions Of Carbon Dioxide Soar

WASHINGTON (AP) — The global output of heat-trapping carbon dioxide jumped by the biggest amount on record, the U.S. Department of Energy calculated, a sign of how feeble the world's efforts are at slowing man-made global warming.

The new figures for 2010 mean that levels of greenhouse gases are higher than the worst case scenario outlined by climate experts just four years ago.

"The more we talk about the need to control emissions, the more they are growing," said John Reilly, co-director of MIT's Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change.

The world pumped about 564 million more tons (512 million metric tons) of carbon into the air in 2010 than it did in 2009. That's an increase of 6 percent. That amount of extra pollution eclipses the individual emissions of all but three countries — China, the United States and India, the world's top producers of greenhouse gases.

### Boehner: New Revenues Depend On Reforms

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker John Boehner said Thursday that "there's room for revenue" as a congressional deficit-reduction supercommittee seeks \$1.2 trillion or more in deficit cuts over the coming decade.

But he says it would require a major overhaul of government benefit programs.

"Without real reform on the entitlement side, I'm not even going to put any new revenue on the table," Boehner said. Entitlement programs include Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Boehner says he remains committed to helping the deficit panel succeed and that Congress should approve its recommendations if it produces a plan to curb the government's gush of red ink.

"I didn't agree to set this thing up with any idea that it wouldn't succeed," Boehner said. "I'd love to exceed the goal, but we have to meet the goal, and I'm going to put every ounce of effort in to make sure that we do."

# Cain Struggles With Controversy

## Sexual Harassment Allegations Leave Presidential Candidacy In Doubt

BY KASIE HUNT  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican presidential hopeful Herman Cain struggled to overcome the storm of controversy from sexual harassment accusations on Thursday as the threat of a damaging written statement by one of his accusers and his own shifting explanations left his efforts and even his candidacy in doubt.

"This will not deter me" in the race for the White House, Cain declared, repeatedly denying the allegations in interviews on conservative media outlets.

"Did you tell a woman she looked good?" radio host Sean Hannity asked. "That dress looks hot?"

"Nope."

"Any flirtation that you can think of?"

"Nope," Cain said firmly.

At the same time, he and aides tried to demonstrate a campaign returning to normalcy or even benefiting from the controversy.

Cain, a career businessman, held private meetings in New York during the day, including one on foreign policy with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

And campaign spokesman J.D. Gordon said donors had sent in \$1.2 million since news of the allegations first surfaced, far above the customary amount for several days.

In a personal note, Cain said his wife, Gloria, was "still 200 percent supportive of me in this whole race, 200 percent supportive of me as her husband, because I haven't done anything."

The furor erupted at a time when Cain had vaulted to the top of public opinion polls as a leading conservative challenger to former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney for the Republican nomination — adding spice to a race already as unpredictable as any in recent memory.

Since it was reported late Sunday that at least two women had complained about Cain when they worked at the National Restaurant Association — and had received financial settlements — Cain has said consistently he never sexually harassed anyone.

But his answers to other pertinent questions have changed. In one instance, he first denied knowing of any settlements with former employees, then said he recalled one, explaining he had been aware of an "agreement" but not a "settlement."

On Wednesday, Cain said he believed a political consultant on his 2004 Senate campaign who now is helping presidential rival Rick Perry had leaked the information. But he backed off on the day after. "If he didn't ask me about this and he was my general political consultant, then he didn't do his job," Cain said, referring to Curt Anderson. "I am almost certain that I

did" tell him about an allegation.

Anderson denied leaking the information and said he first saw the accusations in the Politico report that started the week's events.

Texas Gov. Perry, who fell in opinion polls as Cain rose, also repeated denials that his campaign had anything to do with the reports. He said on CNN, "This is over, it's gone, it's done with and I'm pressing on."

Media coverage continued. Politico, citing anonymous sources, reported that one of the women contended that Cain made a sexual overture to her and invited her to his hotel room during a National Restaurant Association event in the late 1990s. The report said the woman was livid and complained to a member of the group's board later that night.

The publication cited multiple sources, including an acquaintance of the woman and a person who attended the restaurant association meeting at which the woman lodged her complaint.

In a television interview on Thursday with Fox News Channel, Mark Block, Cain's chief of staff, first stood by his accusation that consultant Anderson first leaked details, then he reversed course. "Until we get all the facts, I'm just going to say we accept what Mr. Anderson said."

It was unclear when all the facts might emerge.

# In European Crisis, Obama Sees Risks Back Home

BY JIM KUHNHENN  
Associated Press

CANNES, France — His political fortunes and his nation's economy at risk, President Barack Obama on Thursday implored European leaders to swiftly work out a eurozone rescue plan, aware of the potential fallout at home if they fail.

Obama, at the French Riviera for a summit of the Group of 20 leading industrialized and developing economies, pledged to be a partner in helping the Europeans cope with the economic emergency. But his aides insisted that Europe's problem, brought on by the threat of a Greek default, was one it had to fix.

Taking his jobs-first message abroad, Obama said the goal was getting people back to work.

"That means," Obama said, "we're going to have to resolve the situation here in Europe."

For Obama, an incumbent seeking a second term in a time of economic peril, the stakes in Europe are immense.

Europe is the largest U.S. trading partner, and its intertwined financial institutions mean that a worsening crisis in Europe inevitably would spread across the Atlantic. The timing could not be worse as the weak U.S. economy is beginning to show some signs of life even with the unemployment rate stuck at 9.1 percent.

Obama's economic options and his leverage are limited, and



LAN HONGGUANG/XINHUA/ZUMA PRESS/MCT  
From left, French President Nicolas Sarkozy talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, U.S. President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron at the welcoming ceremony of the Group of Twenty (G-20) summit in Cannes, France, November 3, 2011.

the European debt crisis consumed all attention at the summit meeting.

The Greek government was in danger of collapsing over Prime Minister George Papandreu's call for a public vote on the rescue deal.

The Greek leader later

scrapped the referendum but ignored repeated calls to resign, while the eurozone remained in turmoil.

Obama declared his solidarity with French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, two architects of the debt bailout plan. Obama

said resolving the financial crisis is "the most important aspect of our task over the next two days."

But with aspects of the rescue undefined, he added: "We're going to have to flesh out more of the details about how the plan will be fully and decisively implemented."

# Occupy Protesters Disavow Oakland Violence

BY JASON DEAREN AND LISA LEFF  
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Occupy Wall Street protesters had just half a day to celebrate what they saw as their biggest victory so far: a daylong gathering in Oakland, Calif., that drew thousands of people and led to the peaceful shutdown of the nation's fifth-busiest port. Then, after midnight, the vandalism began.

Hours after a small group of what city leaders called "provocateurs" clashed with riot police, set fires and shattered windows early Thursday, demonstrators across the country condemned the violence and wondered whether it was a turn that would destroy their cause.

"They don't speak for the majority of people who were here yesterday," said Hadas Alterman, a college student who was gath-

ering trash at a tent camp near Oakland City Hall. "That was an hour of action, and we were out here for 12 hours and it was peaceful."

The 3,000-person protest outside the port Wednesday night represented an escalation in tactics as demonstrators targeted a major symbol of the nation's commerce with peaceful rallies and sit-ins, managing to effectively suspend maritime operations there for the night.

The street spasm that followed when about 200 people tried to take over a vacant building, however, raised questions about whether a movement with no organizational structure and no high-profile leaders can — or should — do anything to stop those they called troublemakers.

On Thursday afternoon, representatives from the Occupy Oakland media committee read a

statement saying participants supported the goal of reclaiming empty buildings to serve the public but regretted that their daylong downtown demonstration was marred by an "autonomous" group.

"It is unfortunate that the unprecedented mobilization and engagement of tens of thousands of our neighborhood in this beautiful Oakland city should be marred by broken windows and graffiti," Laura Long said, reading the statement. "Occupy Oakland does not advocate violence and has no interest in supporting actions that endanger the community and possibilities that it has worked to build."

The group released a statement Thursday night saying it doesn't support vandalism but would not take an official position until Friday's night "General Assembly" meeting.

So far, few cities have reached the level of Oakland, a unique place with a long history of tensions between residents and police.

Bob Norkus at the Occupy Boston camp said the riots didn't represent the broader movement and likely wouldn't have a lasting effect on it, either. The movement is still evolving and mistakes are inevitable, he said.

It "has to be nonviolent, or else it will just end. We won't get the support," he said. "It doesn't mean you can't agitate people. But you can't also be breaking windows and burning."

Police in riot gear arrested more than 80 protesters in downtown Oakland, where bands of masked protesters took over a vacant building, erected roadblocks and threw chunks of concrete and firebombs. Five people and several officers were injured.

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