

**Tuesday Night GOP Debate To Tackle Economy**

MILFORD, N.H. (AP) — In an election that's supposed to hinge on jobs and the economy, the Republican presidential contest in recent months has been defined by almost everything else.

Immigration and children's vaccines. Race and religion. Homosexuality and health care. The issues range far from the economic woes that concern most voters, but they have captivated Republicans in New Hampshire and other early voting states, providing the candidates with ways to distinguish themselves from their rivals. The biggest applause lines on the campaign trail usually have little to do with a candidate's economic positions.

The dynamic was on display Monday, even as the contenders prepared for a Tuesday night debate focused solely on the economy.

"Even the richest man can't buy back his past," intoned a web video that Texas Gov. Rick Perry rolled out to assail chief rival Mitt Romney's personal wealth and the Massachusetts health care overhaul that Romney signed into law. "America's most damaging prescription: RomneyCare," the video said.

Romney mentioned it during a town hall-style meeting here and suggested that his opponents would use any issue they could to tear him down.

**Americans Win Nobel Prize In Economics**

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP) — Christopher Sims and Thomas Sargent have no simple solutions to the global economic crisis. But the work that won them the Nobel Prize in economics Monday is guiding central bankers and policymakers in their search for answers.

The two Americans, both 68, were honored for their research in the 1970s and '80s on the cause-and-effect relationship between the economy and government policy.

Sims is a professor at Princeton University. Sargent teaches at New York University and is a visiting professor at Princeton.

Among their achievements, the two Nobel laureates — working separately for the most part over the years — devised tools to analyze how changes in interest rates and taxes affect growth and inflation.

Their work doesn't provide prescriptions for policymakers to solve today's crises. Rather, their achievement has been to create mathematical models that central bankers and other leaders can use to devise policy proposals.

**General: Combat Brigades Could Face Cuts**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army's top general says plans to slash Pentagon spending by \$450 billion will force the Army to consider cutting combat brigades.

He says that will mean the military won't be able to fight two conventional wars simultaneously — as it has done for the last decade.

Gen. Raymond Odierno, the Army's chief of staff, says officials are developing plans to cut spending, but are committed to ensuring the force is properly trained, staffed and equipped to defend the nation.

The Pentagon is slated to cut \$450 billion over 10 years, but the reductions could be doubled if Congress fails to find \$1.5 trillion in savings.

Pentagon leaders have said they will cut the size of the Army by nearly 50,000 soldiers by 2016, trimming the force to about 520,000.

**After 9/11, Insects, Diseases Allowed In U.S.**

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — Dozens of foreign insects and plant diseases slipped undetected into the United States in the years after 9/11, when authorities were so focused on preventing another attack that they overlooked a pest explosion that threatened the quality of the nation's food supply.

At the time, hundreds of agricultural scientists responsible for stopping invasive species at the border were reassigned to anti-terrorism duties in the newly formed Homeland Security Department — a move that scientists say cost billions of dollars in crop damage and eradication efforts from California vineyards to Florida citrus groves.

The consequences come home to consumers in the form of higher grocery prices, substandard produce and the risk of environmental damage from chemicals needed to combat the pests.

An Associated Press analysis of inspection records found that border-protection officials were so engrossed in stopping terrorists that they all but ignored the country's exposure to destructive new insects and infections — a quietly growing menace that has been attacking fruits and vegetables and even prized forests ever since.

"Whether they know it or not, every person in the country is affected by this, whether by the quality or cost of their food, the pesticide residue on food or not being able to enjoy the outdoors because beetles are killing off the trees," said Mark Hoddle, an entomologist specializing in invasive species at the University of California, Riverside.

**Williams Jr. Hits Back At 'Fox & Friends,' ESPN**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Hank Williams Jr. is about to have his say.

Williams' has cut a new song, "Keep the Change," calling out "Fox & Friends" and ESPN after an interview last week on the Fox News talk show led to the end of his association with the sports network and "Monday Night Football," long home to his "Are you ready for some football?" theme.

"I've been recording for five decades, and I knew that old over-the-fence feeling on this one," Williams said in an interview Monday afternoon.

He's also scheduled to appear on "The View" and "Hannity" on Tuesday to discuss the uproar that sprung up after he made an analogy that President Barack Obama and House Speaker Rep. John Boehner golfing together was like Nazi leader Adolf Hitler and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu playing a round.

ESPN decided to pull Williams' intro from last week's "MNF" telecast after the comments, and the move became permanent Thursday when both sides said they'd decided to pull the spot.

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**EGYPT**

**Military Vows Crackdown**

BY HAMZA HENDAWI AND MAGGIE MICHAEL  
Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt's ruling military on Monday condemned a surge in deadly violence as an attempt to undermine the state, and warned it will act to safeguard the peace following a night of clashes that drew in Christians, Muslims and security forces.

The generals' strong words signaled the governing military council will tighten its grip on power, further infuriating activists who have demanded an end to army rule and a transition to democracy.

Egypt's Coptic church harshly criticized the government for its actions in crushing the protests and accused it of allowing repeated attacks on Christians to go unpunished.

The clashes Sunday night were the worst sectarian violence since the uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak eight months ago. The riots laid bare the volatility of Egyptian society a month before the start of parliamentary elections that will help define the country's future political landscape.

In a statement, the Coptic Church, which represents about 10 percent of Egypt's 85 million people, accused security forces of failing to stop anti-Christian agitators from turning what started out as a peaceful protest against church attacks into a sectarian riot in which at least 26 people, mostly Christians, were killed.

"Strangers got in the middle of our sons and committed mistakes to be blamed on our sons," the church said in a statement issued after its spiritual leader, Pope Shenouda III, met with 70 bishops.

"The Copts feel that problems



MOHANNAD SABRY/MCT

**Marie Daniel, mother of dead coptic protester Mina Daniel, stood in shock outside the morgue in Cairo's Coptic Hospital Monday. Angry Coptic Christians buried the dead from Sunday night's riots in Cairo amid growing concern that the military-led government is fanning violence between Muslims and Christians.**

are repeated and the perpetrators go unpunished."

The statement reflected the growing fears of Egypt's Copts, the largest Christian community in the Middle East, at a time when a security vacuum has left them vulnerable to a growing Islamist movement in the post-Mubarak era.

The military, which activists blamed for not doing enough to protect the Christian protesters, issued a stern warning that it intended to crack down hard on future protests.

In a statement, the military council said it will take the "necessary precautions to stabilize security" and use the full weight of the law to prosecute individuals involved in violence, whether by participation or incitement.

In an apparent response to concerns it will use the violence as an excuse to prolong its rule, the council pledged to make good on its promise to hand over power.

Many activists say the generals are likely to take advantage of the nation's tenuous security to stay in power long enough to find a candidate they approve of to run for the presidency.

A timetable floated by the military has slated presidential elections for late next year. If that holds true, then the military will have been in power for almost two years before it steps down.

"We all know that the military council is trying to sow religious strife to stay in power and extend emergency law," said Maha Adel Qasim, a 28-year-old Muslim wearing a head scarf who joined Chris-

tians demonstrating outside a hospital where victims' bodies were taken.

"We want international protection," screamed Walid Romani, a Christian, as others outside the hospital chanted for Egypt's military ruler, Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi, to step down.

"The army incites sedition to remain in power," declared Mariam Ayoub, a relative of a slain Christian protester, Michael Mosaad. "They tell all of us that this is what happens without emergency laws."

Sunday's clashes, which raged over a large section of downtown Cairo, began when about 1,000 Christians tried to stage a peaceful sit-in outside the state television building. The protesters said they were attacked by "thugs" with sticks and the violence spiraled out of control after a speeding military vehicle jumped onto a sidewalk and crushed some Christians.

The attack on Christians swelled after state television called on viewers to rush to the army's rescue, casting the Christians as a mob seeking to undermine unity between the people and the military.

The crowd grew to 10,000, and many Christians were set upon by bands of young Muslim men armed with sticks, swords, firebombs and firearms. The assailants later roamed the streets looking for Christians to beat up. In some cases, they pulled men and women suspected of being Christian out of taxis and private cars.

Police and army troops did not intervene.

Three soldiers and an off-duty policeman were among the 26 people killed; some 500 people were wounded.

**Stocks Soar On European Bank Pledge**

BY CHIP CUTTER AND FRANCESCA LEVY  
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — Just last week, a bear market seemed inevitable. Since then stocks have surged four out of the past five days, bringing the S&P 500 index up 8.7 percent.

The latest jump came Monday after the leaders of France and Germany pledged to come up with a far-reaching solution to the region's debt crisis by the end of the month.

The Dow Jones industrial average soared 330 points, its biggest one-day gain since Aug. 11. It has gained 7.3 percent over the past five days. Bank of America Corp. jumped 6.4 percent, the most of the 30 stocks in the Dow.

Sharp turnarounds in the market have become increasingly common. Starting in early August, the market entered a phase of extreme volatility as Europe's debt crisis intensified and fears of another U.S. recession

emerged. Last Tuesday, the S&P 500 traded 20 percent below its recent peak in April. Had it closed at or below that level, it would have met the definition of a bear market.

Instead, the S&P began a rally that continued through Monday. The gains were extraordinarily broad; only 5 stocks in the S&P 500 index fell, and ten stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange.

As in many recent days, a good part of the increase came at the final minutes of trading. The Dow rose 100 points in the last half-hour.

Analysts said the sudden moves aren't likely to dissipate any time soon.

"It's probably going to continue to be a volatile period as people try to work things out and get some sense of where we're heading in the future," said Brian Lazorishak, a portfolio manager at Charlottesville, Va.-based firm Chase Investment Council. "That volatility gets exacer-

bated by people trying to jump on positive news and negative news before anyone else."

"The more we can put our arms around the problem with a little more detail, the better, and time frames usually help," said Michael Sansoterra, a portfolio manager at Silvant Capital Management in Atlanta.

The Dow rose 330.06 points, or 3 percent, to close at 11,433.18. That's the highest the index has been since Sept. 16.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 39.43 or 3.4 percent, to 1,194.89.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 86.70, or 3.4 percent, to 2,566.05.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Sunday they would finalize a comprehensive response to the debt crisis by the end of the month, including a plan to make sure European banks have adequate capital. Investors have been worried that European leaders weren't moving quickly enough to contain the fallout from a default by Greece's government.

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