

Israel, Hamas Complete Plans For Exchange

JERUSALEM (AP) — The elaborate machinery of a prisoner swap deal between two bitter enemies swung into motion early Tuesday, as hundreds of Palestinians and one Israeli soldier prepared to return home in one of the most dramatic recent developments in the otherwise deadlocked Israel-Palestinian conflict.

Before dawn Tuesday, the first 96 inmates were moved from a prison in the south to another in the West Bank, where they were later to be released, a spokesman for Israel's Prisons Service said.

The Israel-Hamas deal, to take place Tuesday morning, is going ahead despite criticism and court appeals in Israel against the release of 1,027 Palestinians for a single captured Armored Corps sergeant, Gilad Shalit, held by militants in Gaza since 2006.

The exchange, negotiated through mediators because Israel and Hamas will not talk directly to each other, involves a delicate series of staged releases, each one triggering the next.

When it is over, Shalit — 19 years old at the time of his capture, and 25 now — will be free, ending what for Israel has been a prolonged and painful saga. Israel was forced to acknowledge that it had no way of rescuing Shalit in a military operation, though the soldier was held no more than a few miles (kilometers) from its border.

Libyan Forces Seize Most Of Bani Walid

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Libyan revolutionary forces have captured almost all of Bani Walid, one of Moammar Gadhafi's last remaining strongholds, but still face pockets of resistance as they try to end a weeks-long standoff, officials said Monday.

Fierce resistance in Bani Walid and Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte has prevented Libya's new leaders from declaring full victory and setting a timeline for elections. It has been more than two months since the former rebels gained control of the rest of the oil-rich North African nation.

In a step toward normalcy, the transitional leadership council confirmed it has signed an agreement with NATO that partially lifts the no-fly zone imposed in March over the country, allowing resumption of some flights without seeking NATO approval. The embargo was imposed as part of the U.N. Security Council resolution that authorized airstrikes to protect civilians from Gadhafi's regime.

Anwar Elfeitori, the minister of transportation and communications, said the agreement signed Thursday in Malta will make it easier to transport wounded fighters from the front lines for treatment.

"The partial lifting of the air embargo will help with the transportation of the casualties, which is the No. 1 priority at this time, as well as facilitate the movement of people between Libya and the rest of the world," Elfeitori told The Associated Press in an interview.

Alleged Benefit-Theft Scheme Exposed In Pa.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The landlord of the apartment building at first thought a circuit breaker had tripped when he went to the basement Saturday and found all the lights were out. Then he realized all six bulbs had been removed, and he heard dogs barking inside a boiler room, its door chained shut.

He removed the chain, stepped into the dank, foul-smelling room and lifted a pile of blankets. Several sets of human eyes stared back at him.

Turgut Gozleveli had stumbled upon four mentally disabled adults, all weak and malnourished, and one chained to the boiler.

He may have also stumbled upon a vast scheme — stretching from Philadelphia to Norfolk Va., and West Palm Beach, Fla. — to steal the Social Security disability checks of defenseless and vulnerable people, authorities said.

Philadelphia police on Saturday arrested three adults staying in an apartment upstairs, including the alleged ringleader, Linda Ann Weston, 51, who had been convicted of murder in a 1981 starvation death.

K.C. Mom Changes Story, Says She Was Drunk

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The mother of a missing Kansas City baby said Monday that she was drunk when her daughter disappeared, may have blacked out and actually last saw the child hours before the time she originally told police she checked on her.

The revelations came hours before a New York attorney best known for defending Joran Van der Sloot, the Dutch man suspected in the 2005 disappearance of Natalee Holloway in Aruba, said he had been hired to represent parents Deborah Bradley and Jeremy Irwin.

The couple reported their 10-month-old daughter missing Oct. 4 after Irwin returned from working a night shift and found the front door unlocked, the house lights blazing, a window tampered with and the baby gone. Bradley and their two sons were asleep elsewhere in the home.

Bradley told police she last saw her daughter, Lisa Irwin, when she checked on her at 10:30 p.m. But Monday, she told NBC's "Today" show she actually last saw Lisa when she put her to bed at 6:40 p.m. She gave no explanation for the modified times.

Bradley told Fox News that she got drunk after she put her children to bed that night and may have blacked out. Asked how much she drank that night and whether it was more than five glasses of wine, she responded, "probably." She said she didn't have more than 10 glasses. Bradley said she frequently drinks heavily at home but only after her children are safely in bed. She also said she takes anxiety medication and had taken a dose that day.

Survey: Shy Teens May Have Social Phobia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Does your teen show normal nerves about the weekend party, or always stay home?

Nearly half of teenagers say they're shy, perhaps a bit surprising in our say-anything society. But a government study finds a small fraction of those teens show signs of a troubling anxiety disorder that can be mistaken for extreme shyness.

The report challenges criticism that the terms "social phobia" or "social anxiety disorder" medicalize normal shyness.

"Shyness is a normal human temperament," says lead researcher Dr. Kathleen Merikangas of the National Institute of Mental Health, whose teachers always noted her own childhood shyness on her report cards.

But just as it can be hard to tell when feeling sad turns into depression, "there is a blurred boundary between people who describe themselves as shy and clinically significant impairment," Merikangas adds.

For A Jobs Bill In Pieces, Obama Hits Road In N.C.

President Calls For Votes On Individual Portions Of Proposal

BY JULIE PACE
Associated Press

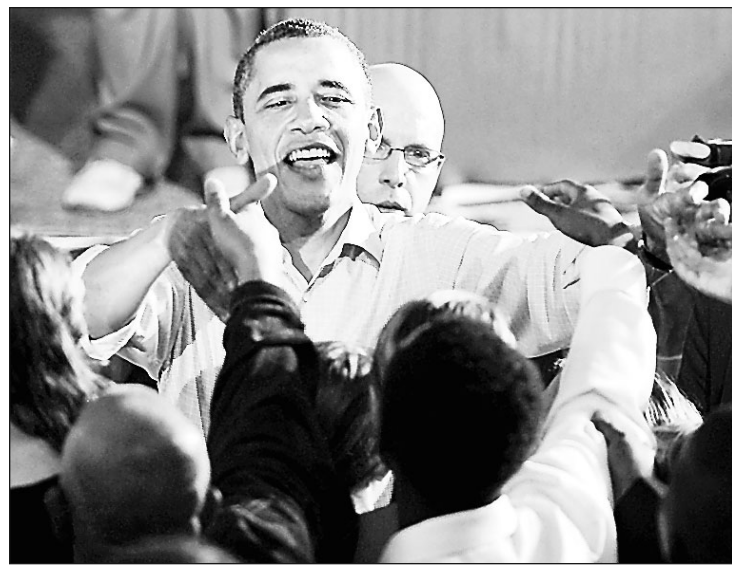
FLETCHER, N.C. — Rolling through small Southern towns in a campaign-style bus, President Barack Obama on Monday pressed lawmakers back in Washington to start taking up pieces of his rejected jobs bill and mocked the Republicans who had shot it down in total. The Senate moved to vote soon on one part, a plan to help states hire teachers, but the proposal seemed doomed.

Deep in the mountains of politically important North Carolina, Obama soaked up the region's autumn beauty at the same time he assailed foes of his jobs legislation, accusing them of failing to listen to the public.

Back at the Capitol, Senate Democrats announced they would act first on a single part of Obama's plan, a longshot bid to help states hire teachers and police. A Senate vote could come as soon as the end of the week. If not, it would probably fall into November because the Senate plans to take a break next week, even as Obama urges quick action.

In North Carolina, the president directed his most pointed remarks at Senate Republicans, who last week blocked action on his full \$447 billion proposal combining tax cuts and new spending.

"Essentially they said no to you," Obama told a supportive crowd outside Asheville. Noting that Republicans will now get a chance to vote on elements of his jobs agenda one by one, he said: "Maybe they just couldn't under-



JEFF SENER/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT
President Barack Obama greets audience members Monday at West Wilkes High School in Millers Creek, N.C., during a bus tour to promote his \$447 billion job-creation package.

stand the whole thing all at once. So we're going to break it up into bite-size pieces."

Republicans denounced the bus trip as nothing more than a taxpayer-funded campaign trip through two must-win states to try to bolster Obama's standing for the 2012 election.

As he traveled along on his imposing black bus, there was little denying the presidential politics at play at each stop. Over three days, Obama is covering the countryside of both North Carolina and Virginia, two traditionally GOP-leaning states that he won in 2008 on his campaign's ability to boost turnout among young people and black voters.

Senate Democrats unveiled the first individual bill, which would spend \$30 billion to create or save education jobs and \$5 billion to do the same for police and firefighters.

The money would come from a new half-percent tax on income over \$1 million, a proposal vigorously opposed by GOP lawmakers.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid promised a vote "as soon as possible."

The outcome seemed clear: The plan is unlikely to gain the 60 votes it would need to proceed in the Senate. And it's a non-starter in the Republican House.

More broadly, some aspects of Obama's jobs agenda are expected to become law this fall.

The most likely include extending tax breaks for businesses that buy new equipment, and offering a \$4,800 tax credit to companies that hire veterans. There's also bipartisan support for repealing a law that requires the withholding of 3 percent of payments to government contractors.

Democrats and the White House, meanwhile, are confident that Obama's call to extend cuts in Social Security payroll taxes will pass. A two percentage point payroll tax cut enacted last year expires at the end of the year; Obama has proposed cutting it by an additional percentage point and extending the cut to the first \$5 million of a company's payroll.

That proposal is hugely expensive — almost \$250 billion by administration estimates — and it is not clear how and whether the parties would agree on how to pay for it.

Happy to be back on the road, Obama found a friendly audience that broke into a chant of "four more years."

Said the president in response: "I appreciate the four more years, but right now I'm thinking about the next thirteen months."

Still, his travel essentially doubles as his bid for another term. His jobs bill serves as a platform to contrast himself with Republicans on both the legislation and his vision for the nation.

Obama's poll numbers are down in both Virginia and North Carolina, languishing in the mid-to-low-forties in recent polls. The numbers mirror his approval ratings nationally. Obama's campaign is pressing to hold both Southern states, even choosing to hold next year's Democratic convention in Charlotte.

The president's bus tour fit into that effort, giving Obama a chance to engage in some of the retail politics that is a staple of presidential campaigns.

Obama's sleek, \$1.1 million bus rolled through North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains for more than four hours, an unusually long stretch that included unannounced stops.

Fed Judge Orders More Review On Climate Threat To Polar Bears

BY MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has thrown out a key section of an Interior Department rule concerning the threat to polar bears posed by global warming.

U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan ruled Monday that the Bush administration did not complete a required environmental review when it said the bear's designation as threatened in 2008 could not be used as a backdoor way to control greenhouse gases blamed for global warming.

The Obama administration agreed with the Bush administration a year later, saying that activities outside of the bear's habitat such as emissions from a power plant could not be controlled using the Endangered Species Act.

The Center for Biological Diversity, an environmental group that filed a lawsuit over the 2008 rule, said the decision puts the fate of the polar bear back in the hands of the Obama administration and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

"The Obama administration has the chance to do right by the polar bear," said Kassie Siegel, an attorney for the group. "They need to decide whether the polar bear gets all the protections that

other endangered species get, or whether they want to re-adopt a flawed Bush administration decision that exempts greenhouse gases" and other pollutants from the Endangered Species Act.

Sullivan's decision directs the Interior Department to respond by Nov. 17 with a timetable for when it will complete the required environmental review. Sullivan left an interim 2008 designation intact while the case continues.

In a related ruling Monday, Sullivan upheld a ban by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ban imports of sport-hunted polar bears as trophies. Safari Club International and other U.S. hunting groups had sought permission to allow bear carcasses to be imported from Canada.

The Humane Society of the United States hailed the ruling, which it said rejected "the Orwellian claim that killing polar bears is somehow good for polar bears."

Jonathan Lovvorn, the group's senior vice president and chief counsel for animal protection litigation, said that just as the United States does not allow importation of tiger skins and baby seal fur, "American conservation law prevents American hunters from bringing home the heads and hides of imperiled polar bears shot in other countries."

The Fish and Wildlife Service

Goldman Exec's Talk Nixed After Protest Threat

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — A Goldman Sachs analyst who planned to talk to students at his University of Vermont alma mater about careers in the financial services industry has canceled his appearance after backers of the Occupy Wall Street movement threatened protests.

Business school dean Sanjay Sharma says Jeff Ares was scheduled to speak Friday but canceled the talk at the request of his employer, Goldman Sachs.

The cancellation came after Occupy Vermont activists posted Facebook messages urging supporters to attend Ares' talk and "make our voices heard."

As one of the leading Wall Street banks, Goldman came under fire for generous executive compensation after getting a \$10 billion bailout during the financial collapse. The Occupy Wall Street movement has railed against corporate greed.

A Goldman spokeswoman says the company has no comment.

Space Terminal Dedicated In New Mexico

UPHAM, N.M. (AP) — With his usual flare, British billionaire Richard Branson rappelled from a balcony, shook up a big bottle of champagne and took a swig while christening the world's first built-from-scratch commercial spaceport on Monday.

Branson's Virgin Galactic will stage its commercial space tourism venture from Spaceport America in a remote patch of desert in southern New Mexico.

Branson was joined by Gov. Susana Martinez, astronaut Buzz Aldrin and scores of would-be space travelers at the terminal-hangar for the dedication. It had been nearly a year since Branson was in New Mexico to celebrate the building of the runway.

"The building is absolutely magnificent," he said. "It is literally out of this world, and that's what we were aiming at creating."

With the spaceport and mother-ship completed, the company is now finalizing its rocket tests.

"We're ticking the final boxes on the way to space," Branson said.

Keep Going

If more and more things seem to be complicating your life, maybe it's time to talk to somebody who can help sort it all out.
Call us for an appointment.

F | E
- C | C

1700 Burleigh St.
Yankton, SD
(605) 260-9284
www.fecccinc.com
Family Education and Counseling Center, Inc. A United Way & Volunteer Services Agency

30% OFF & Lenses

Complete Purchase Of **Frames**

- Doctor of Optometry Located Next Door
- Call 605-665-6181 for Appointment
- Medicaid & Eyemed Accepted
- Sale Ends October 31, 2011

Optical Expressions

Yankton Mall

AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE WEEKDAYS 7:40 AM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Yankton's Home Team!

309 W. 11th Street • Yankton, SD 57078
800-249-3837 • 605-668-2168
www.tkplaceyankton.com

the Kitchen Place

- Kitchens
- Baths
- Office & more

SHOWPLACE Wood Products

Buying or Selling a Home?

Call Connie Somsen on her "sell" phone and let her 16 years of real estate experience and proven track record work for you!

Connie Somsen 661-8607
e-mail: somsen@iw.net

Lewis & Clark Realty, Inc.
www.yanktonareahomes.com