

## Greece Parliament Implements Riot Measures

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Hundreds of youths smashed and looted stores in central Athens and clashed with riot police during a massive anti-government rally against painful new austerity measures that won initial parliamentary approval in a vote Wednesday night.

The rioting came on the first day of a 48-hour nationwide general strike that brought services in much of Greece to a standstill, grounding flights for hours, leaving ferries tied up in port and shutting down customs offices, stores and banks.

More than 100,000 people took to the streets of the Greek capital to demonstrate against the austerity bill, which includes new tax hikes, further pension and salary cuts, the suspension on reduced pay of 30,000 public servants and the suspension of collective labor contracts.

Creditors have demanded the measures before they give Greece more funds from a (euro) 110 billion (\$152.11 billion) package of bailout loans from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund. Greece says it will run out of money in mid-November without the (euro) 8 billion (\$11 billion) installment.

But Greek citizens said they already are reeling from more than one-and-a-half years of austerity measures.

## Obamas Tour Pushes For Aid For Veterans

NORTH CHESTERFIELD, Va. (AP) — President Barack Obama teamed up with his popular and personable wife Wednesday on the final leg of a three-day bus trip, seeking to use her husband appeal to rally support for elements of his jobs bill and his re-election campaign.

Michelle Obama's appearance on her husband's driving tour through North Carolina and Virginia, two politically important Southern states, comes as she takes a more active role in the 2012 campaign.

Her stated purpose Wednesday was to help the president announce a commitment from several companies to hire 25,000 veterans and military spouses by the end of 2013. The first lady has been leading a national campaign to rally the country around veterans.

But Mrs. Obama is also a not-so-secret weapon for the White House and the Obama presidential campaign. While her husband's approval ratings have fallen to the mid- to low 40s, the first lady's poll numbers remain high.

And the president, who can sometimes come off as professorial, is clearly more at ease when his wife is by his side.

## Perry Pushes For Flat Tax To Replace System

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Working to distinguish himself from rival Mitt Romney, Texas Gov. Rick Perry said Wednesday that he wants to scrap America's current tax laws and impose a flat tax.

Perry told the Western Republican Leadership Conference he plans to explain the tax proposal when he unveils his broad economic plan in a speech next week.

He called the plan "an economic growth package that will create jobs, create growth and create investor confidence in America again."

"It starts with scrapping the three million words of the current tax code, and starting over with something much simpler: a flat tax," Perry said.

"I want to make the tax code so simple that even Timothy Geithner can file his taxes on time," he joked, referring to the Treasury Secretary and his late payment of \$34,000 in payroll taxes last decade.

## Judge Blocks Law To Restrict Abortion Drugs

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — An Oklahoma judge on Wednesday temporarily blocked from taking effect a new law designed to reduce the number of abortions performed in the state by restricting the ways in which doctors can treat women with abortion-inducing drugs.

Oklahoma County District Judge Daniel Owens issued the ruling after a conference call with attorneys for both sides.

The temporary injunction prevents the bill from going into effect on Nov. 1. Passed earlier this year by the GOP-controlled Legislature and signed by Gov. Mary Fallin, the measure requires doctors to follow the strict guidelines and protocols authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and prohibits off-label uses of the drugs. It also requires doctors to examine the women, document certain medical conditions and schedule follow-up appointments.

Opponents of the measure say the off-label use of drugs — such as changing a recommended dosage or prescribing it for different symptoms than the drug was initially approved for — is common, and that the measure would prevent doctors from using their best medical judgment.

"We're thrilled that women in Oklahoma will continue to be able to access medical care that accounts for scientific evidence, sound medical judgment and advancements in medicine," said Michelle Movahed, an attorney for the New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights, which challenged the law on behalf of Nova Health Systems, a Tulsa-based abortion provider, and the Oklahoma Coalition for Reproductive Justice, a nonprofit abortion-rights group.

## Teens Under Protection In Pa. Basement Case

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Philadelphia police took two more children into protective custody Wednesday, the latest step in an intense investigation of four people accused of locking disabled adults in a dank basement as part of a Social Security fraud scheme.

Meanwhile, police in Virginia confirmed they investigated the 2008 death of a woman living with the alleged ringleader, Linda Ann Weston, who cleared out of the Norfolk home hours after calling police about the death.

A Virginia death certificate said 39-year-old Maxine Lee died of meningitis but also suffered from a wasting disease.

In Philadelphia, police told reporters that a malnourished niece living with Weston had burn marks suggesting the 19-year-old was burned with a hot spoon and had pellet gun wounds.

"I've never seen anything like this before in a living person. It is just remarkable that she is alive," Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said of Beatrice Weston.

# German, French, IMF, ECB Leaders Meet

BY DAVID MCHUGH AND SYLVIE CORBET  
Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — The leaders of Germany, France, the IMF and the European Central Bank worked Wednesday to prepare for a crucial European summit that markets worldwide hope will save the 17-nation euro currency and find a solution to the region's deepening debt crisis.

The last-minute meeting in Frankfurt came amid mounting pressure on European leaders to shore up their banks, slash debts and halt market volatility with a comprehensive, dramatic plan at the EU summit Sunday.

Expectations are fluctuating wildly, as are financial markets, amid reports about the scope of the plan. The meeting in Germany ended without the officials making statements to journalists.

Retiring European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet said the eurozone's debt crisis requires "immediate action" in coming days and defended the euro as a bulwark against inflation that benefits ordinary people.

At an event marking Trichet's retirement, German Chancellor Angela Merkel repeated her warning that "if the euro fails, then Europe fails. But we will not let that happen."

She said the summit on Sunday "will not be the end point of regaining trust. It will be a point at which we act, but much more will follow."

French President Nicolas Sarkozy arrived at Frankfurt's Old Opera on Wednesday night for what a French official called an "informal working meeting" with Merkel, IMF chief Christine Lagarde, incoming ECB chief Mario

Draghi, EU President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso. Sarkozy, Merkel and other officials left several hours later without speaking before waiting television cameras.

Sarkozy had earlier told a Cabinet meeting that the summit in Brussels "is a crucial moment, for Europe and for France," government spokeswoman Valerie Pecresse said.

Eurozone officials are trying to contain a crisis over too much debt in some countries, and related fears that a country might default and cripple banks who hold its bonds.

A poetry fan, Trichet quoted the German writer Goethe, saying: "To know is not enough. To intend is not enough. We must do it!"

"I think this applies admirably to the sense of action which should inspire Europe in coming days," he said.

Earlier this week, German finance chief Wolfgang Schaeuble said the measures to be announced Sunday would not mark the end of the eurozone debt crisis and that some parts may need more time to be ironed out.

The hope has been that eurozone governments are preparing a three-pronged solution to the debt crisis — measures to boost the firepower of their fund to bail out weak states, a recapitalization of a large part of the banking sector, and a plan to get banks to take a bigger hit on their Greek debt holdings.

France and Germany disagree on the last point. Germany is pushing for banks to accept cuts of 50 percent to 60 percent on their Greek bondholdings, while France is insisting that only technical revisions should be made to a preliminary agreement reached with

private investors in July. That deal called for a 21 percent loss on the bonds.

Markets recovered after The Guardian newspaper reported that France and Germany were putting the finishing touches on a massive expansion of the bailout fund, possibly to (euro) 3 trillion (\$4.1 trillion) from the current (euro) 440 billion.

German Finance Ministry spokesman Martin Kotthaus, however, said there was no agreement yet in the eurozone on how to boost the lending capacities of the bailout fund — the European Financial and Stability Facility, or EFSF — beyond the (euro) 440 billion it has available.

Expanding the bailout fund is not an option, but the aim is to maximize the possible impact of the committed funds, he said.

"The question is: how can we maximize the efficiency of those (euro) 440 billion?" he said.

Kotthaus described as inaccurate media reports that Schaeuble had suggested Berlin was prepared to use an insurance model to boost the lending capacity to (euro) 1 trillion. If Schaeuble used the (euro) 1 trillion figure in a briefing with lawmakers, he may have used it only as an example to illustrate how the idea of leveraging the EFSF could work, he added.

"We have extremely intense discussions, conferences and telephone conferences" to prepare this weekend's summit, he said. "We are still in the middle of the discussions. We are working under high pressure. We will certainly have a solution in the coming days."

Corbet contributed from Paris. Associated Press writer Juergen Baetz in Berlin contributed to this report.

## Police Comb Home, Yard Of Missing Baby

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — One of the most aggressive police searches yet of the home where a Kansas City infant went missing more than two weeks ago drew officers Wednesday armed with shovels, rakes and other tools who hauled off bags that appeared to be full of potential evidence.

Police refused to say what they found inside or outside the home belonging to Jeremy Irwin and Deborah Bradley, who say an intruder snatched their baby daughter, Lisa, from her crib in the middle of the night as the mother and two other boys slept.

From shortly after sunrise through late afternoon, FBI agents and police officers joined in the search that began after a judge issued a warrant that prevented the parents from returning to the house while it was under way.

Officers headed to the back of the home with shovels, rakes and a ladder and could be seen digging behind a shed in the yard. Out front, investigators left the house carrying brown paper bags and clear plastic bags and took them to vehicles parked outside.

Police also brought in a bomb and arson truck to assist the search, though spokesman Capt. Steve Young said there were no indications of explosives in the house. Some bomb detection devices use X-ray technology to scan solid objects to reveal items concealed within.

Lisa Irwin was 10 months old on Oct. 4 when her parents reported her missing. Her father, an electrician, said he returned home from a late shift to discover the lights on, a window tampered with, the front door unlocked and Lisa gone. Bradley and Lisa's two older brothers had been asleep elsewhere in the house. Bradley has admitted she drank heavily that night and may have blacked out.

Police, FBI agents, officers from area law enforcement agencies and the Missouri National Guard already have searched the family's home, neighborhood, nearby wooded areas, a landfill and abandoned homes. Police have refused to discuss any evidence gathered in the searches, saying only that they remain without a suspect.

There was no indication the family has tried to block investigators' access to their home, which already has been scoured by FBI agents with dogs.

The parents' attorney, Joe Tacopina, said Wednesday that he welcomed the search, but "we want this to be done in good faith, not to match some predetermined conclusion."

Earlier Wednesday, Tacopina questioned the need for a warrant. "They can go in and out any time," he said of police. "They have had unfettered access because we want answers."

FBI spokeswoman Bridget Patton said Wednesday's search was not based on any sort of tip. Authorities restricted media access, Patton said, because agents were using a procedure involving dogs that they didn't want to be recorded. She declined to elaborate.

Young said all previous searches of the house have been conducted with the family's consent. Wednesday's warrant prevents anyone except those involved in the investigation from entering, meaning family members — who have returned home from time to time to collect clothes and other belongings — may not go back inside until the search is over. It wasn't immediately clear whether the search would resume Thursday.

## Trial

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The panel hearing Thomas' appeal will consist of Chief Judge William Jay Riley of Omaha, Neb.; federal Judge Roger L. Wollman of Sioux Falls; and senior Judge C. Arlen Beam of Lincoln, Neb.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is a federal court with appellate jurisdiction over the U.S. District Courts in Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. It is based in St. Louis and is among 13 U.S. Courts of Appeals, just below the Supreme Court of the United States.

During next Wednesday's session, the court will hear three cases, according to Tom Sorensen, associate dean for the USD Law School. The general public is invited to attend the session, he said.

"The judges will begin at 10 a.m. and finish by 11:30 a.m.," he said. "Each hearing lasts about a half-hour. In each case, both sides will get 15 minutes. The judges can ask questions at any time."

The USD press release lists the case of United States v. Shanon Thomas as the second of the three cases to be heard Wednesday. However, Sorensen said officials may close the courtroom to further spectators once proceedings begin for the morning.

"There will be a minimal break (between hearings)," he said. "The protocol is to arrive before court starts and stay for the entire session."

According to the case summary provided by the USD Law School, the appeal covers areas such as whether Thomas was in custody for the purpose of his Miranda rights, the district court's denial of his motions for suppression of statements and for judgment of acquittal, and whether Thomas was deprived a fair trial "due to alleged prosecutorial misconduct."

Next Wednesday's appearance at Vermillion came when the USD

Law School extended an invitation to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and the justices accepted the invitation, Sorensen said.

The law school has hosted other justices, including the South Dakota Supreme Court, Sorensen said. Unlike the state's high court, the federal court does not allow outside cameras or audio in the courtroom, he said.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals also doesn't allow live streaming of its hearings, Sorensen said.

"The (federal) court clerk tells me they are going to record the session on digital media and post it on the Internet the following day," he said.

The 8th Circuit's website can be found online at [www.ca8.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca8.uscourts.gov), he said.

Oral arguments are relatively uncommon in federal circuit courts, where most decisions are based on written briefs, Sorensen said.

"The judges know this case really well. They have read the briefs and the record leading up to it," he said. "With the oral arguments, they are going to ask some final questions."

The three federal judges will start deliberating immediately after next Wednesday's session, Sorensen said.

"The judges will have a very short meeting right afterward, in chambers. They will likely visit about what they just heard, about their first impressions," the associate dean said. "The judges are not making any firm decisions at that time, because they will hand down (a decision) at a later date."

The three-member panel's decision on next Wednesday's case could be appealed to the full five-member U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals and eventually to the U.S. Supreme Court, Sorensen said.

Summaries of next Wednesday's three cases are available at [www.usd.edu/law/upload/Case-Synopses.pdf](http://www.usd.edu/law/upload/Case-Synopses.pdf).

For more information about the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' visit at the USD Law School, contact [law@usd.edu](mailto:law@usd.edu) or call (605) 677-5443.

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