

Boehner Asks For Rescheduled Jobs Address

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker John Boehner is asking President Barack Obama to give his major speech on jobs to a joint session of Congress on Sept. 8 instead of Sept. 7 as requested by the president. Boehner cited a tight House schedule for insisting on the change. Obama on Wednesday sent a letter to Boehner and Senate Majority leader Harry Reid proposing a prime time joint session for his highly anticipated economic speech. Boehner pointed out that a request requires House and Senate approval and that the House was not scheduled to return to session until Sept. 7. Boehner said the combination of a late vote in the House and the security measures needed for a presidential address made a later date more fitting. A Republican presidential debate also was scheduled for Sept. 7 in California.

Most Afghans Bombs Use Pakistani Fertilizer

MULTAN, Pakistan (AP) — The main ingredient in most of the home-made bombs that have killed hundreds of American troops in Afghanistan is fertilizer produced by a single company in Pakistan, where the U.S. has been pushing unsuccessfully for greater regulation. Enough calcium ammonium nitrate fertilizer for at least 140,000 bombs was legally produced last year by Pakarab Fertilizers Ltd., then smuggled by militants and their suppliers across the porous border into southern and eastern Afghanistan, according to U.S. officials. The U.S. military says around 80 percent of Afghan bombs are made with the fertilizer, which becomes a powerful explosive when mixed with fuel oil. The rest are made from military-grade munitions like mines or shells. The United States began talks a year and a half ago with Pakistani officials and Pakarab, one of the country's largest companies. But there is still no regulation of distribution and sale of calcium ammonium nitrate fertilizer. "If you have a host country that has a factory making a substance that ultimately becomes the problem, then that country has to contribute at least half the solution," said Democratic Sen. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, who led a congressional delegation to Pakistan last week to press army and civilian leaders for action.

Rescue Crews Reach Most Vermont Towns

KILLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — Swollen rivers began falling Wednesday in much of the Northeast, easing the flooding that paralyzed parts of the region after Hurricane Irene and allowing emergency crews to reach all but one of the Vermont towns that had been cut off by floodwaters. Receding water revealed more damage to homes, farms and businesses across the flood-scarred landscape. Repair estimates indicated that the storm would almost certainly rank among the nation's costliest natural disasters, despite packing a lighter punch than initially feared. Of the 11 towns that had been cut off from the outside world, all except tiny Wardsboro had been reached by rescuers, and authorities were hoping to reach it shortly. National Guard helicopters continued to ferry supplies to mountain communities that had no electricity, no telephone service and limited transportation in or out. Eight helicopters from the Illinois National Guard were expected to arrive Wednesday with food, blankets, tarps and drinking water. At Killington Elementary School, residents came for a free hot dog and corn-on-the-cob. Jason and Angela Heaslip picked up a bag filled with peanut butter, cereal and toilet paper for their three children and three others who are visiting from Long Island.

Gadhafi Son Vows No Surrender To Libyan Rebs.

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Two men claiming to be Moammar Gadhafi's sons made conflicting appeals from hiding Wednesday night, with one of them calling for talks with rebel leaders and the other urging the regime's loyalists to fight to the death. The dueling messages reflected the growing turmoil in Gadhafi's inner circle on the eve of the 42nd anniversary of his rise to power. This year, the dictator is a fugitive from opposition fighters who have seized most of the country in a six-month civil war. Now, they say they're hot on his trail. The rebels are pooling tips about Moammar Gadhafi's whereabouts from captured regime fighters and others, and believe he is most likely no longer in Tripoli, said Abdel Hakim Belhaj, the rebels' military chief in the capital. Rebel forces have been advancing toward three regime strongholds: the town of Sirte, Gadhafi's hometown, as well as the towns of Bani Walid and Sabha, the latter hundreds of miles south of the capital of Tripoli. There has been speculation that Gadhafi is hiding in one of them.

Official: Texas Wildfire Destroys 39 Homes

POSSUM KINGDOM LAKE, Texas (AP) — A Texas Forest Service official says a fast-moving wildfire in a popular North Texas vacation area has destroyed 39 homes. Forest Service spokesman John Nichols says the fire that started Tuesday afternoon in the Possum Kingdom Lake area had scorched about 6,200 acres by Wednesday afternoon. He says nine recreational vehicles have also burned. The wildfire is one of several blazes burning in Texas and Oklahoma. It has turned the normally lush landscape into a blackened mess. Several communities have been evacuated as the fire rages. The Texas Forest Service says the fire is about 25 percent contained and up to 400 homes are still threatened.

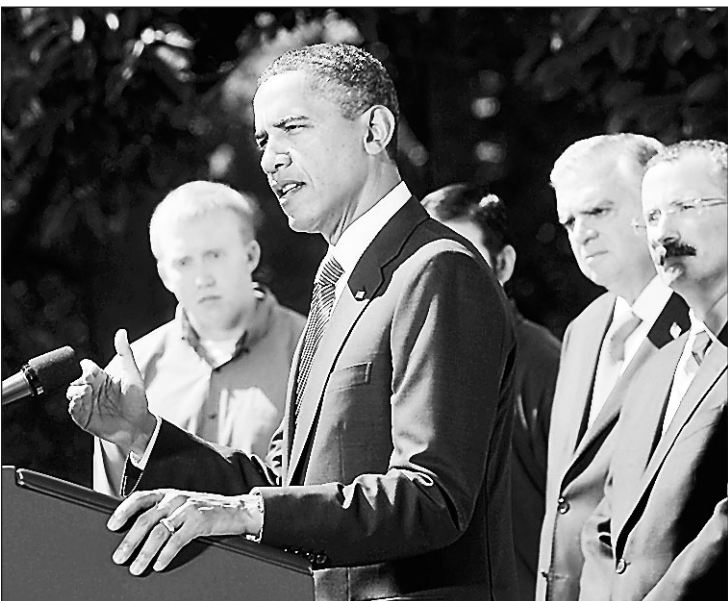
Thousands Of Service Members Honor SEALs

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Military officials say 2,000 members of the Navy, Naval Special Warfare and San Diego military communities attended a memorial service at a San Diego church to pay their respects to the 30 Americans killed Aug. 6 when their helicopter was downed in Afghanistan. The Navy said in a statement that the hour-long service Wednesday at the Rock Church was a private opportunity for families, friends and colleagues of those killed to honor them for giving their lives in defense of the country. Twenty-two of the 30 killed were members of the Naval Special Warfare Command based in Coronado, including 17 SEALs.

Job-Creation Proposals Drawing Fire

BY LESLEY CLARK
McClatchy Newspapers (©2011 MCT)

WASHINGTON — Under pressure to move the needle on the nation's stubborn unemployment rate, President Barack Obama is expected to call next week for a package of job-creating proposals that include extending a payroll tax break for the middle class and rebuilding the nation's aging bridges, roads, schools and airports.



U.S. President Barack Obama speaks during a news conference, urging lawmakers to extend legislation to fund highways and mass-transit projects, Wednesday, in the Rose Garden in Washington, D.C.

But with Democrats and Republicans in Congress at odds all year on how to create jobs, there's little evidence that their impasse will break anytime soon. Even the timing of the speech was up in the air late Wednesday, with House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, rejecting Obama's call to address a joint session of Congress next Wednesday night, the same time that Republican presidential candidates will be debating in California. Obama, who previewed some job proposals last month during a Midwest bus tour, called Wednesday for bipartisan support for his pending package, saying that voters want politicians to "put aside politics and start making decisions based on what is best for our country and not what is best for each of our parties."

"It is my intention," the president said in a letter to congressional leaders, "to lay out a series of bipartisan proposals that the Congress can take immediately to continue to rebuild the American economy. It is our responsibility to find bipartisan solutions to help grow our economy, and if we are willing to put country before party, I am confident we can do just that." Already, Obama has signaled that he'd use Republican opposition as a 2012 re-election campaign theme if the GOP rejects what his administration said would be projects determined by independent analysts to be "pro-growth and pro-job creation." The president said Tuesday in a radio interview that "if Congress does not act, then I'm going to be going on the road and talking to folks, and this next election very well may end up being a referendum on whose vision of America is better. "The American people voted for divided government, but they didn't vote for dysfunctional government," he said on the "Tom Joyner Morning Show." "And if they see one side not willing to work with the other to move the country forward, then that's what elections are all about." The coming speech could be key to Obama's re-election efforts, with the sluggish economy pulling down his popularity ratings to all-time lows. Liberals, unhappy with the president's summer debt-

will be put country before party, I am confident we can do just that." Already, Obama has signaled that he'd use Republican opposition as a 2012 re-election campaign theme if the GOP rejects what his administration said would be projects determined by independent analysts to be "pro-growth and pro-job creation." The president said Tuesday in a radio interview that "if Congress does not act, then I'm going to be going on the road and talking to folks, and this next election very well may end up being a referendum on whose vision of America is better. "The American people voted for divided government, but they didn't vote for dysfunctional government," he said on the "Tom Joyner Morning Show." "And if they see one side not willing to work with the other to move the country forward, then that's what elections are all about." The coming speech could be key to Obama's re-election efforts, with the sluggish economy pulling down his popularity ratings to all-time lows. Liberals, unhappy with the president's summer debt-

will be put country before party, I am confident we can do just that." Already, Obama has signaled that he'd use Republican opposition as a 2012 re-election campaign theme if the GOP rejects what his administration said would be projects determined by independent analysts to be "pro-growth and pro-job creation." The president said Tuesday in a radio interview that "if Congress does not act, then I'm going to be going on the road and talking to folks, and this next election very well may end up being a referendum on whose vision of America is better. "The American people voted for divided government, but they didn't vote for dysfunctional government," he said on the "Tom Joyner Morning Show." "And if they see one side not willing to work with the other to move the country forward, then that's what elections are all about." The coming speech could be key to Obama's re-election efforts, with the sluggish economy pulling down his popularity ratings to all-time lows. Liberals, unhappy with the president's summer debt-

Gov. Sues To Block AT&T, T-Mobile Merger

BY JOELLE TESSLER AND PETE YOST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department took the unusual step Wednesday to try to block AT&T's \$39 billion purchase of T-Mobile USA, arguing that the proposed merger would lead to higher wireless prices, less innovation and fewer choices for consumers.

Now AT&T, the nation's No. 2 wireless carrier, and No. 4 T-Mobile are plotting a legal response to challenge federal regulators. In its civil antitrust lawsuit, the Justice Department said the merger would stifle competition in the wireless industry. The deal, which is still under review at the Federal Communications Commission, would catapult AT&T past Verizon Wireless to become the nation's largest wireless carrier, leaving Sprint Nextel as a distant third-place player and certain to struggle.

AT&T quickly signaled that it won't abandon the transaction, leading to expectations of a fierce court battle. AT&T has several incentives to take up a legal fight with regulators. In court, the burden is on the Justice Department — not AT&T — to show that the combination would harm competition. If the deal doesn't go through, the company will be forced to pay T-Mobile a \$3 billion break-up fee and give it some wireless spectrum rights.

AT&T said it will ask for an expedited court hearing "so the enormous benefits of this merger can be fully reviewed."

In a statement, T-Mobile's owner, the German company Deutsche Telekom, said it is disappointed by the Justice Department's action and "will join AT&T in defending the contemplated merger." The companies could wage a strong defense in court.

Morgan Reed, executive director of the trade group, Association for Competitive Technology, said AT&T has at least one key factor on its side: Deutsche Telekom has said it does not plan to continue to invest in upgrading the T-Mobile network to deliver faster wireless. That means, "T-Mobile is not a competitor anymore," Reed said.

"T-Mobile has already stepped away from the table," Reed noted. "We're at three nationwide wireless carriers no matter what." The association, which represents more than 3,000 small and independent application developers, believes the merger would benefit the wireless broadband industry. In addition, the Justice Department lawsuit portrays T-Mobile as having been a strong competitor in the past, but merger analysis is forward looking, said Washington attorney Robert Bell, who has represented clients in mergers for over 25 years. "To the extent AT&T can show

there's good reason to believe that T-Mobile is going to be a very different kind of competitor in the future — for example, weaker financially, less innovative — then the lawsuit becomes quite a bit different," Bell said. University of Notre Dame law professor Joseph Bauer said he was "pleasantly surprised" by the Justice Department's challenge of the deal because it has become so rare for the antitrust regulators to block major mergers during the past decade.

During a news conference, Deputy Attorney General James Cole said the merger would result in "tens of millions of consumers all across the United States facing higher prices, fewer choices and

ceiling negotiations with House Republicans, are pressing him to offer a sweeping job-creation plan, not one that's limited to what might pass muster with congressional Republicans. Obama is hemmed in by budget considerations, but 68 liberal groups wrote to him this week pressing him to go "big" and "bold" and pay for it by increasing taxes on the wealthy. The Center for American Progress, a liberal policy-research center with close ties to the Obama White House, has suggested that the U.S. put up at least \$65 billion for infrastructure projects, as well as efforts to reduce the number of U.S. home-mortgage foreclosures.

"President Obama should not meet halfway those who only offer economic incoherence," the center said in its own plan. "He should take them head on." Michael Ettlinger, the center's vice president for economic policy, said he expects Obama to call for an infrastructure bank to pay for repairing aging roads and bridges, as well as to put construction workers back to work retrofitting buildings to make them more energy-efficient. But he said the size of the president's proposal had yet to be determined.

"Someone needs to show the American people that someone is trying to do something about job creation," he said, suggesting that Obama needs to "throw down the gauntlet. If the president comes out with something tepid, we've got no chance of forcing that kind of discussion."

Join Us for a Lunch and Learn Discussion on Cardiovascular Disease and Your Well-Being

Learn about how Diabetes, Obesity, Weight Loss, Diet & Exercise affect your heart health. Dr. Jeff Johnson, Lewis & Clark Family Medicine, PC

Thursday, September 8 Noon to 1:00pm Minerva's, 1607 E. Hwy. 50, Yankton, SD

Lewis & Clark Family Medicine, PC. 1101 Broadway, Suite 103A, Morgan Square, Yankton 260-2100 www.lewisandclarkfamilymedicine.com. Soup & salad luncheon provided by Lewis & Clark Family Medicine. RSVP to Jill Sprakel 664-5300 by Sept. 6th.

Members Honor SEALs

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Military officials say 2,000 members of the Navy, Naval Special Warfare and San Diego military communities attended a memorial service at a San Diego church to pay their respects to the 30 Americans killed Aug. 6 when their helicopter was downed in Afghanistan.

The Navy said in a statement that the hour-long service Wednesday at the Rock Church was a private opportunity for families, friends and colleagues of those killed to honor them for giving their lives in defense of the country.

Twenty-two of the 30 killed were members of the Naval Special Warfare Command based in Coronado, including 17 SEALs.

KYNT AM 1450 MORNING COFFEE WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY Thursday, September 1 7:40 a.m. Yankton Conv/Vis Bureau (Lisa Scheve) 8:15 a.m. Yankton Chamber of Commerce (Carmen Schramm) Friday, September 2 7:40 a.m. YAPG (Mike Dellinger) 8:15 a.m. YAA (Amy Miner) 8:45 a.m. SHS Watermelon Feed (Russ Tschetter)

STORM DAMAGE? Free Inspection & Estimates PREMIER SYSTEMS INCORPORATED Insurance Claim Experts Roofing • Siding Gutters • Windows Serving Sioux Falls and surrounding communities 605-665-4655 327 Broadway, Suite 7, Yankton • www.premiersystemssd.com

150th Anniversary Commemorative Edition Yankton 150 available at the... PRESS & DAKOTAN Get your 80 page keepsake of this historic issue before they're gone! Also a Great Gift Idea! 75¢ each or get one in a keepsake bag for only... \$1.25 each 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD • 605-665-7811 • 1-800-743-2968 • www.yankton.net