

## MARINE SAFETY NEWS

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

*Grief can take care of itself, but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with. - Mark Twain*

## INFOTAINMENT DVD 46

- Learn about the latest 'Save Our Seafarers' campaign launched to tackle the menace of piracy. Interviews of leading maritime personalities are also available in DVD 46 as they speak at great length about the subject.

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## Senate GOP Poised To Scuttle Obama's Jobs Plan

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama's jobs bill, facing a critical test in the Senate, appears likely to fail because Republicans oppose its spending components and its tax surcharge on millionaires.

Obama has been waging a campaign-style effort to rally public support behind the USD447 billion measure, which was expected to be the subject of a Senate vote Tuesday.

The plan combines payroll tax cuts for workers and businesses with USD175 billion in spending on roads, school repairs and other infrastructure, as well as unemployment assistance and help to local governments to avoid layoffs of teachers, firefighters and police officers.

The key elements of the jobs package reprise parts of Obama's USD800 billion-plus 2009 stimulus measure and a Social Security payroll tax cut enacted last year.

Unlike the controversial stimulus bill, the jobs measure would be financed by a 5.6% surcharge on income exceeding USD1 million, raising

more than USD450 billion over a decade.

In making the case for the bill, the White House cites economists like Mark Zandi of Moody's Analytics, who predicts that the measure would add two percentage points of growth to the economy, add 1.9 million payroll jobs and reduce unemployment by a percentage point. But Republicans point to optimistic predictions about the 2009 measure that didn't come to pass; unemployment hovers just above nine percent nationwide.

Republicans say the 2009 stimulus measure was an expensive failure and say the current plan is just like it.

The president has been struggling in opinion polls, and his crusade for the measure has always been a long shot, given that Republicans control the House and can filibuster at will in the Senate. Obama has nonetheless pressed for the bitterly divided Congress to pass the measure in its entirety rather than seek compromise with his GOP rivals. (AP)

## Republicans Pile On Romney, Looking To Block Him

CONCORD - They're coming to what is essentially his home turf - and they are ready to challenge Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney on the economy, the central issue to the former Massachusetts governor's campaign.

And don't expect Romney's rivals to stop at the economy when criticizing him during Tuesday night's debate at Dartmouth College.

With time running out before the first votes are cast in the GOP nominating process, the race is quickly becoming a scattershot effort to deny Romney the nomination by any means necessary.

"Even the richest man can't buy back his past," Texas Gov Rick Perry's campaign said in a web video that describes Romney as the inspiration for President Barack Obama's national health care overhaul.

Rep Michele Bachmann of Minnesota urged conservative voters not to support a candidate who isn't one of them. "It's not good enough to settle for anyone but Barack Obama," she said while campaigning in New Hampshire on Monday. (AP)

## Senate Eyes China Sanctions Over Currency

WASHINGTON - Senate legislation penalizing China for promoting exports by keeping its currency undervalued is headed for a final vote in the Senate, putting the Beijing government on notice that US lawmakers are fed up with Chinese trade policies that undercut American manufacturers and take away jobs.

A bipartisan majority that supports the legislation coming to a vote Tuesday evening says forcing China to appreciate its currency could put large numbers of Americans back to work.

The theme of crafting trade policy to create jobs will also be played out Tuesday and Wednesday as the House and Senate vote to approve free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama.

The trade deals have been pending since the last Bush presidency, but the Obama administration and a majority of Congress are now in accord that the deals, particularly with Korea, will be a boon both to American exports and job growth.

The currency bill "has the potential to create or save around two million jobs, without cost to taxpayers, because it is simply standing up for American companies and American workers," said Sen Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, a chief sponsor of the currency measure. (AP)

## NYPD Costs Rise As Wall Street Protests Continue

NEW YORK - The protesters demonstrating against Wall Street were out in force, several hundred of them marching around the Financial District. Keeping an eye on them as they marched and also at their home base in Zuccotti Park were a number of police officers. The police presence is a constant one at the protest, and one that comes with a price tag.

The New York Police Department already has spent USD1.9 million, mostly in overtime pay, to patrol the area near Zuccotti Park, where hundreds of protesters have camped out for several weeks.

Though cold weather is on the way, protesters don't plan on leaving anytime soon. They're prepared to stay put for the long haul.

That means the cops will continue to be out there, too. That comes at a time when Mayor Michael Bloomberg has ordered citywide budget cuts. "The bottom line is that people want to express themselves, and as long as they obey the laws, we allow them to," Bloomberg told reporters Monday when asked about the protesters' staying power. (AP)

## Remainder Of Jackson Doctor Interview To Be Played

LOS ANGELES - The trial of the doctor charged in connection with Michael Jackson's death resumes Tuesday with jurors expected to hear the conclusion of the physician's police interview. The remainder of the recording includes Dr Conrad Murray's description of telling Jackson's mother and young children that the singer had died.

Toward the end of the recording, the Houston-based cardiologist revealed where to find bags in Jackson's bedroom containing vials of the anesthetic propofol and other medical equipment.

Jurors may also hear more about the powerful anesthetic Tuesday. Prosecutors planned last week to call a top propofol expert to testify. Murray has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter. Authorities say he gave Jackson a lethal dose of propofol and other sedatives, but Murray's attorneys contend the singer gave himself the fatal dose. (AP)

## REGIONAL NEWS

### Western Plains in Focus

News from around Western Plains over the past seven days. (In tomorrow's issue: North Central USA)

## MARINE NEWS SUMMARY

### CONTAINER VESSELS: NEXT-GENERATION WILL BE LARGEST EVER

If the need is for greater efficiency for road and rail freight during an economic slowdown, standard operating procedures might be to downgrade to smaller and lighter means of overland transport. Shipping lines, however, have a different approach: they build bigger ships. The reason, they say, is better economies of scale, costing them less to send a string of three or four huge new ships across the oceans instead of a larger fleet of smaller vessels. These bigger and newer ships will also have more efficient engines and lower emissions, which also means lower fuel costs, as the company hopes an everlasting impression on its customers. One shipping giant is reportedly spending USD 1.9 billion on 10 new ships, each of which will carry 18,000 TEUs. The new Ultra Large Container Ships (ULCS) will be more than 1,312 feet long and more than 193 feet wide, and will outdo cargo capacity of the world's largest container vessel currently afloat, by 16%. The company's chief executive said that building ULCSs was not only a top priority for the firm but also for its customers, who are heavily dependent upon this in their supply chain. Five years ago, the world's largest container ship had a TEU capacity of 9,500. According to a Paris-based maritime research firm, the container carriers' answer to challenges of sustainable shipping and reduction of emissions is to build ever-larger ships, whose sizes have doubled over a decade.

## TV Stations Get Subpoenas In Mo. Missing Girl Case

KANSAS CITY - Kansas City television stations have been subpoenaed to submit footage of interviews with friends and family of a missing 10-month-old girl. The subpoenas from the Clay County grand jury were sent Monday afternoon to at least four local network affiliates.

The stations reported on their websites that the subpoenas state that the Clay County prosecutor is seeking raw video of interviews with family, friends of family and neighbors of Lisa Irwin.

Her parents reported her missing a week ago. The subpoenas also ask that media present the documents later this month, but it was unclear if the TV stations would comply. Police have said they have no suspects in the case. But neighbors say they have been questioned about a homeless man seen in the neighborhood about two weeks ago. (AP)

## ND Flood Victims Start Moving Into Temporary Homes

MINOT - Federal officials are racing as winter approaches to finish up to 2,400 temporary homes for North Dakota residents displaced by summer flooding. Record flooding from the Souris River swamped some 4,100 homes in Minot (MY'-naht) this summer and displaced nearly 11,000 residents.

Federal Emergency Management Agency spokesman Dolph Diemont (DEE'-mahnt) says the Minot temporary housing development is the third-largest in the agency's history.

It's also among the most challenging because of the area's tough landscape.

FEMA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are placing structures modeled after oil-field housing used in Arctic conditions throughout the city. Some residents began moving into one 600-unit village this week. Federal officials say the project is expected to cost USD237 million. (AP)

## Police Back At Home Of Kansas City Missing Baby

KANSAS CITY - Investigators in Kansas City climbed through a window that parents said had been tampered with the night their 10-month-old daughter disappeared in an apparent attempt to re-enact an abduction. Lisa Irwin's parents reported her missing early Tuesday after her father returned home from work.

Her parents said someone must have crept into their home while the child's mother and brothers slept and snatched the baby girl.

The parents said a front window had been tampered with, and police were seen crawling through one Sunday.

An officer was back at the house early Monday for about 10 minutes, walking around to the rear.

He did not speak to the media, and police haven't commented on any aspect of the investigation. Capt Steve Young, the police spokesman, said only that detectives have been pursuing leads but are "at the mercy of the next good idea." "We're trying everything we can," Young said. "We're trying every idea that we can." (AP)

## Hardware Chain Offers Halloween 'Zombie Defense'

LINCOLN - Hardware store manager Mike Dowling wants to be clear: His shovels might slow an attacking zombie, but you'll need something else to put the final nail in the creature's coffin.

"I wouldn't say it's for killing zombies," the veteran Omaha store manager said.

"But it's helpful for cleaning up if you ever have to."

In a pop-culture world of zombie marches, video games and television shows, one regional hardware chain has taken the novel approach of actively marketing power tools and garden implements as protection against the undead.

And not to leave out the walking dead, Westlake Ace Hardware's online "Zombie Preparedness Center" has a "Me zombie" section touting bolts and fasteners for broken bones, glue and caulk for peeling skin, and deodorizers to freshen up decaying flesh.

Lose a limb? Try duct tape! Marketing experts say such out-of-the-box campaigns can give smaller companies a competitive foothold.

"It's a great way to create brand awareness," said University of Nebraska Lincoln marketing professor Rob Simon. "But there is a risk. Say you have a jewelry store that was going to do something like that. In that case, it would really diminish what you're selling." (AP)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### EU Holds Hand Out To Syria Opposition, Pressuring Assad

LUXEMBOURG - The EU held out a hand to Syria's opposition grouping Monday, welcoming its formation and urging the world to do the same, as it readies new sanctions against Bashar al-Assad's regime.

Ramping up the pressure on Damascus, the European Union "welcomes the efforts of the political opposition to establish a united platform" and notes the creation of the Syrian National Council (SNC) "as a positive step forward", EU foreign ministers said.

"It calls on the international community also to welcome these efforts", added a statement approved by the bloc's 27 ministers at talks in Luxembourg.

While short of outright recognition, the statement comes a day after Syria threatened retaliation should nations recognise the newly-formed SNC.

Asked why the ministers had failed to go the extra step of recognising the SNC, EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said: "I think as in any situation we need to examine carefully what relationship we have." "It's a big step to recognise and we will take it only when ministers think it's the right thing to do," she added. (AFP)

### Mexico On High Alert For Hurricane Jova

MEXICO CITY - Mexican authorities have placed four southern coastal states on high alert ahead of Tuesday's expected arrival of Jova, a major hurricane barreling in from the Pacific.

The Miami-based US National Hurricane Center said in a 0300 GMT bulletin that Jova was packing maximum sustained winds of 195 kilometers (120 miles) per hour and was 255 kilometers (158 miles) southwest of the busy port city of Manzanillo, in Colima state. It was moving north-northeast at 11 km/h (7 mph).

Jova has strengthened to a category three storm on the five-level Saffir-Simpson scale and was forecast to become a category four before weakening as it makes landfall on Tuesday.

"On the forecast track, the center of the hurricane will be near the coast of Mexico in the hurricane warning area by Tuesday afternoon or evening," the NHC said. "Some fluctuations in strength could occur during the next day or so but Jova is still expected to reach the coast of Mexico as a major hurricane." (AFP)

### Fresh Oil Spills As Stranded NZ Ship Issues Mayday

TAURANGA - A stranded container ship off New Zealand issued a mayday Tuesday after rupturing a fuel tank in heavy seas, and spewing up to 350 tonnes of oil in a leak that dwarfed its initial spill.

Nearby ships including six navy vessels successfully scrambled to evacuate a salvage crew from the crippled Rena, which shifted position on the reef it hit last Wednesday after being pounded by five-metre (16.5-foot) swells.

Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) said another 130-350 tonnes of oil had leaked into the Bay of Plenty, escalating the crisis created when the Rena first crashed, releasing 20 tonnes which has already fouled beaches in the area.

MNZ said one of the Rena's four fuel tanks had ruptured but was unable to say if it was in the ship's stern, where most of the oil is stored, or the largely empty tanks in the front, which has sustained the most damage.

"There are four main tanks in the ship and it's one of those tanks that is leaking," an MNZ spokeswoman said, describing the latest spill as "significant".

Officials have warned New Zealand faces its worst maritime pollution disaster in decades if the Rena breaks up on the reef, releasing all 1,700 tonnes of heavy fuel oil aboard into the environmentally sensitive bay. (AFP)

### Egypt Probes Deadly Sectarian Clashes, World Urges Restraint

CAIRO - Egypt's military rulers on Monday ordered a speedy probe into clashes which killed 25 people, mostly Coptic Christians, as the cabinet held crisis talks amid fears of wider sectarian unrest and world leaders urged restraint.

The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) "tasked the government with quickly forming a fact finding committee to determine what happened", in a statement read on state television.

It called for "all measures against all those proven to have been involved, either directly or by incitement".

Both the ruling military council and the cabinet held crisis talks, a day after the clashes in Cairo left 25 dead, most of them Copts, and more than 300 people injured, according to health ministry figures.

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### STOCK INDEX

Dow Jones 11,433.18 (+330.06), Nasdaq 2,566.05 (nch)

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

1 USD = 0.7385 EUR

1 USD = 0.6399 GBP

1 USD = 0.9140 CHF

1 USD = 76.70 JPY

The SCAF, which took power when president Hosni Mubarak was ousted in February, stressed it "continues to bear national responsibility to protect the people" until it hands over to an elected civilian authority. US President Barack Obama is "deeply concerned" about the violence, White House spokesman Jay Carney said. (AFP)

### 11 Rebels, Seven Colombian Troops Killed

BOGOTA - Colombia's armed forces bombed a rebel base camp and killed at least 11 leftist insurgents in an area in the north near the Venezuelan border, military sources said.

"A camp was found with about 80 bandits. Support was brought in from the Air Force and the police came in. So far, 11 bodies have been found," Army 30th Brigade General Fernando Pineda told reporters.

Two police were injured of the operation in Norte de Santander, he added.

Just hours earlier, seven army troops were killed in a clash with leftist rebels in southern Colombia, Defense Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon said.

Pinzon said leftist insurgents attacked the military patrol on a rural road in Caloto, Cauca department as it was transporting supplies to another group of troops. "They were cruelly attacked with explosives," the defense chief said on a visit to the city of Cali. (AFP)

## SPORTS NEWS

### NFL - Undefeated Lions On A Lofty Perch

**Detroit Lions 24 - Chicago Bears 13:** Detroit moved to 5-0 to start the season for the first time since 1956 by beating Chicago 24-13 on Monday behind a dominating defense and sharp passing from quarterback Matthew Stafford.

Stafford's second touchdown pass put the Lions in front in the third and Jahvid Best's 88-yard run later in the quarter gave the Lions a double-digit lead in their first Monday night appearance in a decade.

 WEATHER

Washington: 64-72F Cloudy  
 New York: 60-73F Mostly Cloudy  
 Los Angeles: 58-79F Partly Cloudy  
 Houston: 66-87F Mostly Sunny

The reigning NFC North champion Bears (2-3) are off to their worst start in four years.

They are three games behind the Lions and defending Super Bowl champion Green Bay in the standings.

Stafford went 19-for-26 with 219 yards, two touchdowns and an interception.

Best gave the Lions a 21-10 lead with 5:20 left in the third by taking a handoff and racing 88 yards untouched into the end zone. In the fourth quarter, Best scorched the Bears defense with a 43-yard run that led to a 31 yard field goal with just under two minutes left in the game to seal the victory in front of a crowd of 67,861. (AFP)

## Cardinals Crush Brewers

**Milwaukee Brewers 3 - St Louis Cardinals 12:** Albert Pujols put on a hitting display Monday with a home run and five RBIs as the St Louis Cardinals crushed the Milwaukee Brewers 12-3 in game two of their semi-final playoff series.

Pujols went four-for-five with three doubles for the Cardinals who rebounded from a 9-6 loss on Sunday to level the National League series at 1-1.

"When they come, they come in bunches," said Pujols. My main job is to try and get a good pitch to hit. Once in a while when you look for your pitches you are going to hit one out of the ballpark and today they came in bunches."

Pujols smashed a two-run homer in the first inning and a two-run double in the third.

He added an RBI double in the fifth and another double in the seventh.

The series now shifts to St Louis, where Cardinals starting pitcher Chris Carpenter will face Brewers right-hander Yovani Gallardo on Wednesday. Pujols, who can become a free agent after the World Series, was one-for-four in the game one loss. (AFP) **Other Result:** Texas Rangers 7-3 Detroit Tigers

## Burrows' Goal Lifts Canucks Over Blue Jackets

**Columbus Blue Jackets 2 - Vancouver Canucks 3:** Already down a goal to the Blue Jackets in the third period, the Vancouver Canucks badly needed a stop on a penalty shot from goaltender Cory Schneider. They got it - and the game-turning momentum.

Cody Hodgson tied the game just a minute later and Alexandre Burrows scored on a power play to turn a potential loss into a 3-2 victory on Monday night that gave Columbus its first 0-3 start to a season in franchise history.

"Schneids was good," Vancouver coach Alain Vigneault said. He kept us in it. He made a big save on that penalty shot. It gave us a chance to come back and win the game."

The Blue Jackets were swarming the net when Vancouver defenseman Christopher Tanev fell on a puck loose in the crease and grabbed it with his right glove while knocking the goal cage off its moorings.

A lengthy video review followed, which determined the puck had crossed the goal line.

Eventually, Columbus was awarded the penalty shot because the referee had called the play dead while Tanev was covering the puck. But Schneider got a piece of rookie Maksim Mayorov's attempt. (AP) **Other Results:** St Louis Blues 5-2 Calgary Flames, Boston Bruins 0-1 Colorado Avalanche, New York Islanders 2-1 Minnesota Wild, Dallas Stars 2-1 Phoenix Coyotes, Washington Capitals 6-5 Tampa Bay Lightning, New Jersey Devils 4-2 Carolina Hurricanes.

## NBA Cancels First Two Weeks Of Regular Season

NEW YORK - NBA commissioner David Stern has canceled the first two weeks of the 2011-12 regular season after several hours of meetings failed to result in a new labor deal with players. Stern said he is canceling 100 scheduled regular season games through November 14 after the two sides in the contract dispute met for seven hours on Monday.

Stern said the latest effort to end the lockout of the players and begin the season on time failed because the owners and players are far apart on a number of key questions.

"We just have a gulf that separates us," Stern said. "With every day that goes by, I think we need to look at further reductions in what's left of the season." All of the NBA's 114 preseason games have already been wiped out by the dispute. No new talks have been scheduled but owners and players said they plan to keep in touch. (AFP)

## Roddick Survives Scare In Shanghai Masters

SHANGHAI - A frustrated Andy Roddick dug deep to beat Taiwan's Lu Yen-hsun 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 at the Shanghai Masters Monday and avoid a second ignominious first-round exit in a week in China.

The American 10th seed, who lost to Lu at Wimbledon last year in their most recent meeting, started the match in blistering form, breaking twice and racing into a 4-0 lead, taking the first set 6-2. But the Taiwanese world number 74 hit back strongly in the second set, striking a stunning two-handed backhand down the line to force a break for a 3-1 lead, which proved enough to level the match against an erratic Roddick.

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Clearly unsettled, the American voiced his frustration at noise and movement in the sparse crowd and at a ball-boy, but he refocused and crucially broke in the fourth game of the decider.

Roddick, ousted from the first round of the Beijing Open by South Africa's Kevin Anderson last week, kept his grip as the Lu challenge faded, breaking again to seal the match in a little under two hours.

"He plays so high risk. You know, a lot of it's two sets with two breaks, one set where I had more break opportunities and didn't get it," said Roddick. (AFP)

## Chris Woods To Help Coach US National Team

HARRISON - Former English national team goalkeeper Chris Woods has been hired to become the goalkeeper coach of the US national team. For the past 13 years, Woods has been the goaltending coach for Everton of the English league.

He has been given permission by manager David Moyes to take the American posting while continuing his coaching role with the Toffees.

Woods, 51, was recruited by new US head coach Jurgen Klinsmann who talked to Everton before bringing in Woods. Everton's goalkeeper is Tim Howard who is also a member of the American team. The US will play Ecuador in a football friendly on Tuesday in New Jersey. (AFP)

!?! THAT'S ODD

## No Turkeys Fall On Arkansas Festival This Year

YELLVILLE - Turns out turkeys don't fly. The "Baxter Bulletin" reports that attendees at the Turkey Trot festival in Yellville were disappointed when no turkeys dropped from planes on Friday or Saturday. The turkey drop is a mainstay of the event in northern Arkansas, though organisers don't sanction it. Supporters say the turkeys can fly just enough to descend safely, but animal-rights advocates call it cruel.