

# National and World News

## FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

### Improper actions cited against Palin

A Friday report from investigator Stephen Branchflower said that Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin was within her rights as governor to fire her public safety commissioner, but that she "knowingly permitted a situation to continue where impermissible pressure was placed on several subordinates" in order to fire Palin's former brother-in-law, state trooper Mike Wooten.

Palin also improperly allowed her husband, Todd, to use state resources in his efforts to get Wooten fired, the report stated.

### Clintons support Biden at Pa. rally

SCRANTON, Pa. (MCT) — Bill and Hillary Clinton joined together for the first time in this critical Pennsylvania battleground to campaign for their once bitter rival, Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, at a rally with vice presidential candidate Joseph R. Biden Jr.

Bill Clinton endorsed Biden, saying that "Barack Obama could not have made a better choice" for vice president, even though he promoted his wife for the job last spring.

### World leaders look for solution to financial crisis before markets open

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) — The global financial system is on the brink of a meltdown, and additional steps must be taken immediately by the richest nations to calm jittery bankers and investors, the International Monetary Fund warned Saturday.

"Intensifying solvency concerns about a number of the largest U.S.-based and European financial institutions have pushed the global financial system to the brink of systemic meltdown," said Dominique Strauss-Kahn, IMF managing director.

Urgent talks continued in

Washington on Saturday to develop a coordinated approach to the banking crisis that has slammed stock markets and threatens a severe global recession.

Observers say officials are working against the clock, with global markets set to open on Monday, with or without a credible plan from the world's governments.

After their closed-door meeting Friday, the G7 set out a broad "plan of action" to stabilize global financial markets.

The G7 said that "urgent and exceptional action" is needed to stabilize financial markets.

### N. Korea taken off terrorism list

SAN FRANCISCO (MCT) — North Korea is being dropped from a U.S. terrorism blacklist because leaders have agreed to nuclear inspection demands asked for by the Bush administration, U.S. State Department officials said Saturday.

North Korea will allow atomic experts to take samples and conduct forensic tests at its declared nuclear facilities and undeclared sites, on mutual consent, according to the Associated Press.

The accord follows moves by North Korea to restart a disabled nuclear reactor and discussions with U.S. negotiating partners.

### Europe responds to financial crisis

PARIS (MCT) — British and European leaders took unprecedented steps late Sunday to halt the financial crisis in its tracks, announcing aggressive action to take big stakes in banks and guarantee lending between banks.

European Union members announced they planned to guarantee loans between banks for up to five years. They intend to allow member countries to take equity stakes worth billions of dollars in troubled financial institutions.

The leaders of European nations presented their plan as "tool kit" that each country could decide how best to put to use.

### AIRPORT

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The airport was a small airport that was expanding to a larger size. Business inquiries began pouring in when the airport expansion was definite.

A new sector could also mean more jobs for the middle class. Broadwell said part of building a sustainable economy is ensuring there are jobs for all levels of society.

The 2008 survey contains specifics about improvements for a new airport compared to Horace Williams, without reference to location.

"Folks have been concerned that a site has been chosen," FitzGerald said. "There is not a site that has been chosen."

A 2005 survey ranks possible locations, but officials say the data used in this study are obsolete and the locations are not set in stone.

"This thing is not near as far along as some of the people fear or wonder about," said Roger Perry, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

"It's really a fresh new start at

trying to figure out what the right thing to do is."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

### Energy and Environment: What the Presidential Candidates Say

**U.S. Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.**



Elected to the U.S. Senate in 2004; former Illinois state senator, 1996-2004

weatherize one million homes annually.

**Alternative energy:** Set a goal to have 10 percent of electricity derived from renewable sources by 2012 and 25 percent by 2025; invest \$150 billion in private-sector jobs that will develop clean energy options.

**Greenhouse gases:** Establish a national low carbon fuel standard; develop clean coal technology; implement a cap-and-trade program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050; spearhead international emission reduction efforts.

**Fuel conservation:** Raise fuel economy standards; increase the number of hybrid cars on the road to one million by 2015; create a \$7,000 tax credit for consumers who buy fuel-efficient vehicles;

**Fuel price relief:** Provide \$1,000 rebates to American families derived from a tax on oil companies' profits; crack down on energy speculation.

**Natural gas supply:** Extract oil from the strategic petroleum reserve; construct the Alaskan natural gas pipeline; implement the "use it or lose it" approach to existing oil and gas leases, requiring companies to fully utilize existing natural gas sources before drilling for new ones; permit domestic drilling in western oil shale and the Alaskan petroleum reserve.

**U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.**



Elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986; former U.S. representative, 1982-1986

nology to a point at which there can be commercial development of plug-in hybrid and fully electric automobiles; promote the use of vehicles with flexible fuel systems; support mileage requirements for automobiles.

**Alternative energy:** Commit \$2 billion annually to clean coal technology; put country on track for 45 new nuclear power plants by 2030; establish a tax credit equal to 10 percent of wages spent on research and development; encourage a market for wind, hydro and solar power through tax credits; promote the use of

**Fuel conservation:** Create a \$5,000 tax credit for consumers who buy zero-emission vehicles and a graduated tax credit for consumers who buy reduced emission vehicles; provide a \$300 million reward for bringing battery tech-

corn-based fuels but eliminate tariffs and price supports for the ethanol industry.

**Fuel price relief:** Address the role that energy speculation plays in fuel prices; oppose a tax on oil companies' profits.

**Greenhouse gases:** Establish a cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gases that will decrease 60 percent of emissions to below 1990 levels.

**Natural gas supply:** Lift the moratorium on offshore drilling and explore other domestic oil production options.

SOURCES: WWW.BARACKOBAMA.COM, WWW.JOHNMACCAIN.COM

-COMPILED BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK

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### R&D SPENDING

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benefit by being able to work in that field," Leath said, citing pharmaceutical research's ability to create jobs in drug manufacturing.

Continuing support for university research and development is important for the nation's technological future and maintaining a competitive edge, Lee said.

"It's important for the sake of our long-term economic future that we try and keep dollars going into university R&D ... to make sure that when we come out of these hard times, we've got a good pipeline of well-trained scientists and engineers," Lee said.

"It all begins with university R&D."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

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