ECONOMY PASSES
A PEAK IN EUROPE
AFTER 8-YEAR DIP
"Back to Pre-Crisis Levels"
A Recovery May Finally Be Taking Hold, but Gains Are Shaky

By Peter A. Goodman

For one measure, the economic recovery in Europe was solid. But for another, the progress was only modest.

Last week, the European Union released data showing that the continent's economy had grown by 0.8 percent over the first three months of the year, which is a modest gain.

“The gain, equivalent to 240,000 jobs over the last year, is a potential sign the union can finally put its economic crisis behind it,” said Joseph B. Blumenthal, a senior economist at the Economic Council of Europe.

Yet as a reminder of Europe's challenge, the union's jobless rate remains among the highest in the world. For example, in the eurozone, the jobless rate stands at 9.4 percent, well above the 5.5 percent rate in the United States.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average gained 166.64, or 1.5 percent, to close at 11,637.54. The S&P 500 index also rose, gaining 10.93, or 1.1 percent, to close at 1,001.88.

As Attacks Surge, Boys and Girls Find Israeli Jails

By David Ignatius

A recent article in the Israeli press revealed that Israeli authorities had been using a “coercive” method to coax information from Palestinian prisoners. The article cited a former Israeli security official who said the method included interrogations that lasted for hours, even days.

The Israeli government has denied using such tactics, but the article prompted a debate in Congress over whether the United States should continue to support Israel.

At the same time, the United Nations has condemned Israel’s actions in the West Bank, calling them violations of international law.

The US government has also expressed concern, but has not taken any action to address the issue.

Small Colleges Are Pressured Over Finances

By Andrew J.see Miller

St. Louis, Mo. — The recent economic downturn has put many small colleges in a tough spot, facing declining enrollment, increased costs, and a struggle to stay afloat.

But some schools are finding innovative ways to cope, such as offering online courses, renewable energy programs, or partnerships with local businesses.

The key is finding a balance between tradition and innovation, while ensuring that the school remains financially sustainable.

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Facing Glare of the NFL Spotlight Under an Unexpected Cloud

The story began at the University of Southern California, where a student had beenaccused of assault. But it was not just any assault. It was a sexual assault.

The victim was a former USC student, and the accused was a former USC football player.

This week, the university announced that the accused would not be eligible to play football for the remainder of his college career.

The university said it had based its decision on the findings of an internal investigation, which found that the accused had violated the university's code of conduct.

The decision has sparked a debate over whether universities should be more transparent in their handling of sexual assault cases.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

In Debt and at Risk in Russia

The latest report from the International Monetary Fund shows that Russia is facing a serious economic crisis.

The report notes that the country's economy is suffering from a significant decline in investment, rising unemployment, and a sharp increase in household debt.

The IMF recommends that Russia take steps to stimulate the economy, including reducing interest rates and increasing government spending.

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NEW ENGLAND EDISON

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Daybreak in the Business World

The early morning hours are a time for reflection and planning.

Many business leaders use this time to think about their goals for the day and the challenges they will face.

Others may use this time to review their to-do list or catch up on the day's news.

Regardless of their approach, the early morning hours can provide a sense of calm and focus.

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Eat meat, take walks, wear comfy shoes and don't forget bare-knuckle boxing.

lym to the male body, as well as a guide to taking care of what was seen as the most vital unit of democratic living.

The series was discovered last summer by Zachary Turpin, a graduate student in English at the University of Houston who was browsing digitized versions of the 1890s-1910s periodical containing various pseudonyms that Whitman used, a prolific journalist, and writer in the series in its spring issue.

"It's kind of a book I have in off-hours," Mr. Turpin said in an interview.

During one search, while reading a brief reference in The New York Daily Tribune on Oct. 11, 1860, to a series on manly health by "Mouse" Foote, one of Whitman's pen names, which was about to appear in another paper, The New York Atlas. (While his notebooks have long been known to contain a handwritten draft of an advertisement for a series on "manly health," scholars have never known whether Whitman—much of whose voluminous correspondence has been lost—had ever actually written such a series.)

When Mr. Turpin ordered microfilm of the relevant issues of The Atlas, which survive in only a few libraries and have not been digitized, he was surprised to find 11 installments. "It took about 40 hours for it to sink in," he said.

"Manly Health and Training" was published in weekly installments starting in September 1858, a time when Whitman, then 39, was kicking his wounds over the flap of the first two editions of "Leaves of Grass" and carving hundreds of words a day as a journalist.

He had begun an intense relationship with Fred Vaught, a stage driver, and most likely began work on the series of poems known as "Calamus" (later included in the 1860 "Leaves of Grass"), whose evocations of homoerotic love are echoed in "Manly Health," Mr. Foote said.

"Manly Health," with its references to "inspiration and respiration" and the importance of "electricity through the frame," echoes the language of earlier poems like "Song of Myself" and "I Sing the Body Electric," recapturing their themes in the more concrete spirit of a self-improvement mammon.

"There's a kind of health that's not about 'Leaves of Grass' already," Mr. Reynolds said. "This series sort of codifies it and expands on it, giving us a real regimen.

Whitman's first installment raises a vast, explanatory note: "Manly health! Is there not a kind of charm—a fascinating magic in the words?" he writes, before outlining the path to "a perfect body, a perfect blood." That torrent of advice that follows teaches on sex, war, climate, bathing, gymnastics, baseball, footwork, depression, alcohol, smoking and the perils of "too much brain action and fretting." In short, a compelling manual that draws freely, Mr. Turpin notes in an introductory essay, from Whitman's reading in publications like Water-Cure Journal and The American Phrenological Journal—"it's sort of an insane document," Mr. Turpin said.

While the exhortations are many, some installments have disturbing undertones, Mr. Turpin noted. In one, Whitman—"who would go on to glorify the bloodshed of the Civil War—explores the virtues of bare-knuckle boxing (then illegal), on the grounds that it would help America become "a hardy, robust and combative nation" imbued with "the love of fight."

Whitman emphasizes that all of his readers can benefit from training, but he includes a racially tinged discussion of the advantages of "our white ancestors" and other people of the northern tribes. "While Whitman doesn't state openly that a great America is a white America, he does suggest that other cultures will fall away," Mr. Turpin said.

Mr. Reynolds said he agreed that the texts containing Whitman's later turn toward ethnographic paranoia (a kind of "pre-eugenics"). Mr. Reynolds said, a topic that has received substantial attention from scholars in recent years.

But the most interesting thing, Mr. Reynolds said, is in its emphasis on modernity and a holistic notion of the relationship between mental and physical health, in contrast to the radical temperance advocates, wets, cure-cure puritans and dietary reformers who sprang up across mid-19th-century America.

Whitman, who lived in a time when boxing was largely advocated getting up early, having a walk, getting the benefits of fresh air and lots of moderate exercise," Mr. Reynolds said, "One can do worse than follow his advice!"