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What's News

World-Wide

The GOP campaign hit a new level of intensity, with Christie endorsing Trump and the front-runner and rival Rubio exchanging personal insults. A1, A4

◆ Syrian government forces backed by Russian warplanes escalated attacks ahead of a cease-fire that went into effect Saturday. The U.N. set a March 7 target date for peace talks. A1, A6

◆ G-20 economies are considering whether to launch new stimulus efforts amid fears about global growth. A7

◆ FIFA chose longtime European soccer bureaucrat Gianni Infantino to succeed Sepp Blatter as president. A7

◆ The Afghan police lost nearly a quarter of its members last year after most foreign troops left the nation. A6

◆ The IRS said over twice as many taxpayer accounts may have been hit by hackers than it previously reported. A3

Business & Finance

◆ Justice Scalia's death has cast a cloud over some decisions before the Supreme Court, prompting Dow Chemical to settle a case rather than risk an appeal without the conservative justice. A1



Donald Trump appears with a former rival for the Republican presidential nomination, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, in Fort Worth.

Divided Court Worries Business

By JOSHUA JAMERSON AND BRETT KENDALL

The death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has cast a cloud over the outcome of class-action lawsuits that target businesses, leading Dow Chemical Co. to pay \$835 million to settle a case rather than risk an appeal without the conservative justice.

Dow Chemical's decision is a signal of worry among businesses with cases before the high court, which could operate without its former 5-4 conservative majority well into next year. Justice Scalia was an ally to companies in their decadeslong push to block multiparty lawsuits such as the one Dow faced.

A political stalemate between the White House and the Senate over when to fill the seat means the court is more likely to deadlock 4-4, including on such business-related issues as class-action litigation.

Republican senators say a newly elected president should appoint Scalia's replacement next year. President Barack Obama, though, said he would submit a name to the Senate for consideration in the coming weeks.

If the court remains with eight justices for the remainder of Mr. Obama's term, the vacancy could last well into next year. Any deadlock in the Supreme Court could leave intact decisions by lower courts. That could have spelled bad

Christie Embraces Trump

As former Republican rival joins billionaire's team, front-runner and challenger Rubio trade insults

By RICH J. EPTEN AND BETH REINOLD

The hard-fought 2016 Republican presidential campaign hit a new level of intensity on Friday, capped by New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie endorsing Donald Trump amid an exchange of biting personal insults between Mr. Trump and rival Sen. Marco Rubio.

Mr. Trump's strong momentum ahead of Super Tuesday on March 1, when 11 states will award 595 delegates, prompted Mr. Rubio to suggest that half of the Republican Party would abandon the New York developer if he wins the nomination.

'Marco Rubio is a lightweight... He can never make us great.'

DONALD TRUMP ON MARCO RUBIO

'We're on the verge of having someone take over the conservative movement and the Republican Party who is a con artist.'

MARCO RUBIO ON DONALD TRUMP

But Mr. Trump signaled that he is trying to fuse his anti-establishment coalition with the political mainstream by appearing with Mr. Christie, a former Republican rival and

the Republican Governors Association's president.

For Mr. Trump, Mr. Christie's endorsement represents the first significant figure with ties to the political establish-

ment to join his campaign. It also shifted attention from Thursday's debate, when Mr. Trump found his business record the subject of sustained attacks from both Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Mr. Rubio.

Mr. Christie ended his own presidential campaign after his sixth-place finish in the New Hampshire primary. Since returning to New Jersey, Mr. Christie had been considering an endorsement privately, people familiar with the governor's thinking said.

He had intended to wait to officially endorse until after

Please see TRUMP page A4

◆ Election 2016..... A-5



Why the Canary Islands are far more than beautiful beaches
DS



OFF DUTY



Lettie Teague makes a case for that desperately unhip wine: Chianti
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JACQUE BOYD



THE DESSERT Cream of the Crop

Who says you can't eat ice cream in an "R" month? The goat's milk-based frozen treats from LaLoo's in Frisco, Tex., provide plenty of incentives. With more nutrients and less fat than cow's milk, the goat variety leaves a smaller carbon footprint and is easier to digest. At the end of February, the creamery launches a new batch of flavors. The creamy Mystic Strawberry has hefty hunks of berry. Capraccino Almond Fudge delivers a caffeine kick as well as ribbons of dark chocolate and crunchy nuts. The caramel in the Sea Salt Caramel—made with goat's milk, of course—makes for remarkable lusciousness. LaLoo's CEO Tim Millson suggests mixing a scoop with a dark beer for a grown-up float—if you're still looking for an excuse to indulge.

\$7 for one pint, icecreamsource.com

