



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA SINCE 1903

Inside Today

Fish and game advisory committee endorses sheep hunting plan. » INTERIOR, A4

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

It's still cold and sunny, with temperatures well below zero.

High today -24
Low tonight -42

WEATHER » A9

Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be moderate. Weather permitting, displays will be visible overhead from Barrow to Talkeetna.

This information is provided by aurora forecasters at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. For more information about the aurora, visit <http://www.gialaska.edu/AuroraForecast>

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MIDNIGHT LAUNCH

Four rockets launched at Poker Flat on Monday morning.

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TRUE ALASKANS

Readers respond about what makes an Alaskan.

KRIS CAPPS
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LOCKED DOWN

Airsoft gun causes lockdown at school as district reviews policies.

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ICE DOG SHINES

Jesper Ohrvall named NAHL Midwest Division Star of the Week.

SPORTS
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SOURDOUGH JACK:
"How come we got sun but no heat?"



First draft of pot bill not a smash hit

SB 30 receives criticism from all sides in first hearing

By Matt Buxton
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JUNEAU — The Legislature's first stab at a bill dealing with legalized marijuana was roundly criticized by lawmakers, state officials and legalization advocates during its first

hearing on Monday. Criticism largely focused on Senate Bill 30's approach to making the voter initiative play nice with existing crimes for marijuana, which opponents said puts the burden on legal users. Instead of repealing or

amending existing laws, the first draft of the bill opted to keep those laws on the books while allowing the voter initiative — which legalizes the possession of up to one ounce of marijuana — to serve as a defense for those crimes. It was a concept that some

on the Joint Judiciary Committee were having trouble understanding, prompting some, like Anchorage Democratic Rep. Matt Claman, to try putting it into simpler terms. "So the voters basically said, 'You can do this,'" he said. "Under this proposal

we would be saying, 'You can't do it, but then you can try to come up with an excuse saying that you're allowed to do it anyway.'" Legislative Legal Affairs member Hillary Martin, who helped in drafting the bills, said "that's one way to describe" how the bill would work.

MARIJUANA » A7



Portable heater hoses run into Walsh Hall at the University of Alaska Fairbanks on Monday after a steam line broke, cutting off heat and hot water to several buildings. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

Arctic blast puts Interior into deep freeze

By Amanda Bohman
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Residents of Interior Alaska woke up Monday to some of the coldest weather of an otherwise mild winter.

Temperatures dropped into the 40s and 50s below zero across the Interior, making it one of the coldest places on Earth and on par with Siberia, Russia.

The National Weather Service reported the coldest place in Alaska was Granite Creek, near Delta Junction, where the temperature dipped to minus 55.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District scaled back after-school activities Monday after the temperature in Fairbanks failed to get any warmer than 42 below zero by noon,

according to spokeswoman Johanna Carson. The decision was made to minimize risk from possible exposure to cold temperatures, she said.

The truck stop at Coldfoot, about 60 miles north of the Arctic Circle, saw temperatures drop to minus 53.

Kate Zielinski, a bookkeeper at the truck stop, said she's experienced a lot colder.

"About three years ago, we had minus 72 here at Coldfoot," Zielinski said. "It's funny. This is not too far from normal. Because we haven't had any cold weather this winter, everyone is complaining about it."

Huslia, Bettles, Fort Greely and Arctic Village also reported temperatures in the lower 50s below zero.

COLD » A7

ICE LOG

Temperatures fell throughout the Interior on Monday.

Granite Creek	-55
Coldfoot	-53
Huslia	-53
Bettles	-52
Arctic Village	-51
Fort Greely	-51
Galena	-48
Fort Wainwright	-48
Eielson	-47
Fort Yukon	-47
Salcha	-47
Livengood	-47
Eagle	-46
Healy	-46
Tanana	-45
Kaltag	-45
Delta Junction	-45
Fairbanks	-43
Kantishna	-40

UAF left in cold by broken steam line

By Robin Wood
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Broken steam and water mains at the University of Alaska Fairbanks resulted in a number of buildings losing heat and water Monday, just as the region found itself in the midst of 40-below temperatures for the first time this season.

Heat and water had been restored by about 8:30 Monday evening.

UAF was first alerted to problems after alarms began sounding about 4:30 a.m., according to UAF spokeswoman Marmian Grimes.

Residents of Walsh Hall, about 15 people, were relocated because of water damage caused by steam. The residents were relocated to other on-campus buildings, Grimes said.

The mostly residential buildings affected were north of Yukon Drive and east of Hess Village.

UAF » A7



Richard Machida rides his 1983 BMW R100RT motorcycle along Farmers Loop while carrying a trash can in his sidecar Monday. "I have a Dodge truck, but this is more fun," Machida said of riding his motorcycle to haul trash to the transfer site in the subzero temperatures. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

What you need to know about Obama's ANWR plan

By Dina Cappiello
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama waded into a decades-long fight over drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge over the weekend, announcing that his administration would pursue a wilderness designa-

tion for 12.28 million acres, barring drilling in most of the South Carolina-sized refuge.

Obama's plans will require congressional approval. But if the Alaska delegation is any hint as to where things are headed, his proposal is going nowhere in a Republican-controlled Congress.

On Monday, Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, said Obama had gone "completely wacko." Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski, chair of the Senate Energy committee, said the administration's plans were a "kick to the gut" that treated Alaska as if it were a "snow globe out there" that should be left untouched.

Here are 5 things to know about the battle ahead.

In the near term, nothing changes: There is no drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge now, and it would take an act of Congress to authorize any drilling in the refuge. Congress has tried and failed repeatedly to get legislation to open up the 1.5

million-acre coastal plain to drilling in the past. It came closest in 1995, when President Bill Clinton vetoed it. Obama wouldn't be any more receptive if Congress passed legislation again. Obama's wilderness designation requires Congress' approval too.

ANWR » A9

