

## KEEP DOGS FRIENDLY ON TRAILS

OUTDOORS, 1E



## COUGARS EARN A TRIP TO STATE; RENO, REED TO FIGHT FOR SPOT

Northern 4A softball tournament ends this afternoon **SPORTS, 1C AND 6-7C**



## MOTHER EXPECTING 18TH CHILD

**NATION & WORLD, 1B**

# RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

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## TODAY'S QUICK READ



### OBAMA PICKS UP 9 SUPERDELEGATES

Barack Obama all but erased Hillary Rodham Clinton's once-imposing lead among national convention superdelegates and won fresh labor backing as elements of the Democratic Party began coalescing around the Illinois senator.

**DECISION '08, 3B**

### BROTHEL OWNER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED

Three weeks after he was convicted of possessing and transporting child pornography, Old Bridge Ranch owner David Burgess had his license suspended by Storey County commissioners.

**NEVADA, 3A**

### U.N. SEEKS \$187 MILLION FOR CYCLONE RELIEF

The United Nations seeks \$187 million to help an

# Lawmakers get budget cuts

## Gibbons follows AG's advice

BY BRENDAN RILEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A package of budget cuts was submitted Friday to Nevada lawmakers by Gov. Jim Gib-

bons, who's trying to cope with a projected revenue shortfall that could approach \$1 billion by mid-2009 and lead to staff cuts and layoffs.

The budget cuts were for-

warded to legislators, who can either let them take effect or approve them at a meeting of their Interim Finance Committee. That panel is scheduled to meet June 26.

The decision to forward the cuts to lawmakers was made following advice received from the attorney general's office,

based on an analysis of Nevada law. The attorney general noted that, in past years, the legislative approvals hadn't been sought.

"The attorney general's office advised me that this is probably how it should have been done in the past, but lawmakers never

SEE CUTS ON 4A

## INSIDE

**CASINO SLUMP:** Nevada casinos won less in March than a year earlier. It was the third straight month of declines statewide and the ninth straight month in Northern Nevada. **8A**

**ROOM TAXES:** Gov. Jim Gibbons might support a deal that would result in higher room taxes. **4A**

## RENO RIVER FESTIVAL

# RIVER ROCKIN' THIS WEEKEND



## EARTHQUAKES IN NEVADA

# Quips to quell your quaking

Northwest Reno learning to cope

Note: A local reader finds hu-

## EARTHQUAKES

### IN NEVADA

# Quips to quell your quaking

## Northwest Reno learning to cope

*Note: A local reader finds humor is the best way to deal with tremors.*

BY MIKALEE BYERMAN  
SPECIAL TO THE  
RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

It's 1:52 a.m., and Mother Nature issued another wake-up call a few hours ago in the form of a 3.8 temblor. But I had her fooled: I wasn't asleep, and to be honest, I don't recall getting to bed before 1 a.m. since the "Mogul swarm" began in February. As I look out over the Reno skyline from the bedroom of what I once thought to be my safe, stable, securely-planted-in-terra-firma home in the idyllic "New Northwest," I realize that I am relatively alone — if you don't count the thousands of sleep-deprived souls who live on the neighboring residential streets and in the communities of Somerset and Mogul.

You see, the sleeplessness has reached epidemic proportions in our neck of the woods. In the northwest, earthquakes appear to be the main topic of conversation, handily beating out the Gibbons divorce and talk of "American Idol." If you live in Sparks or Hidden Valley or Southwest Reno, earthquakes may not even rate in the top 10 watercooler topics discussed in a given day.

The panic is real. So real, in fact, that my therapist yesterday issued a diagnosis that I thought pertained only to those who survived wars and Hurricane Katrina-type devastation: post-traumatic stress disorder. My name for it: Northwest Nerves.

SEE QUAKING ON 4A

### QUAKE UPDATE

- As of 2 p.m. Friday, there have been 14 confirmed earthquakes in the Mogul area since Wednesday.
- The strongest was the magnitude 3.8 that hit at 10:55 p.m. Wednesday.
- Three were magnitude 2.5 or more.
- They ranged from .2 miles deep to 2.7 miles deep.

**SOURCE:** Nevada Seismological Laboratory

# Quaking/ You can tell who's worried

From 1A

So, as I face yet another sleepless night, I thought instead of fixating on waiting for the "Big One," I'd work off my anxieties by starting a list. In the spirit of Jeff Foxworthy's "You might be a redneck if ..." rant, I've developed a list of ways you can readily identify a northwest Reno resident:

## You might be a northwest Reno resident if ...

■ While shopping for a new dining room table, you bring the entire family to RC Willey to make sure you all fit underneath it.

■ "Family Game Night" includes copious rounds of Uno, Scrabble and "Guess the Magnitude."

■ The USGS Web site is your home page, and you check the UNR Seismology site as frequently as you check your e-mail.

■ You believe the "Triangle of Life" is so last week.

■ You can now hear the earthquakes before they arrive.

■ You are spackling and painting your walls — why not, there aren't any pictures on them anyhow.

■ You get mad at the kids when they're snacking out of the earthquake bin in the garage.

■ "I've felt 25 earthquakes today?" you reflect. "What a great day!"

■ Your children know what "rabbit in the hole" means.

■ The "Living with Earthquakes in Nevada" publication that you found last week in the RGJ has become your coffee-table book.

■ You know the exact latitude and longitude of your home.

■ You can adeptly convert UTC to Pacific Daylight Time.

■ Earthquake insurance brochures and estimates are in your "To File" stack.

■ You debate the philosophical underpinnings of "after-shock or foreshock" with your family and neighbors.

■ Wall hangings = floor leanings.

■ You have narrowed down the lag time between an earthquake and the moment the magnitude posts to the UNR Seismo site to 11 minutes and 42 seconds — give or take.

■ Your car is parked in your driveway — and not because there's no room in the garage.

■ You take a shower in your swim suit; after all, who wants to be naked when the "Big One" hits?

■ On your nightstand next to the latest Eckhart Tolle book and your Carmex is a Maglite flashlight and a crescent wrench you'll use to turn off the gas.

■ The pharmacist doesn't even ask if you need the briefing about Xanax anymore.

So there you have it. Now if anyone needs to find me, I'll be at RC Willey with my two children — earthquake testing a new dining room table

*Read more reader-submitted lists at [RGJ.com](http://RGJ.com) or add your own to the "In your voice" section on RGJ's Neighborhoods Web page.*