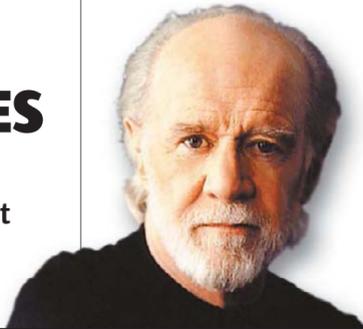




CIRQUE DE CHAD COMES TO TOWN

Johnson's clown act plays Qwest Field
SPORTS > D1



CARLIN: Still cranky after all these years

Q&A on life, laughs
NW LIFE > E1

Wine tourism heats up in B.C.'s Okanagan

NW WEEKEND > F1

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

The Seattle Times

METRO EDITION

MOSTLY CLOUDY
High 64, low 49.
> LOCAL B10



INDEPENDENT AND LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1896 | seattletimes.com

A slaying, pot, traps: Covington home hid dark tale

POLICE FIRST REBUFFED MAN WHO REPORTED SHOOTING

Investigators check links to other grow operations

BY JENNIFER SULLIVAN AND LAUREN VANE
Seattle Times staff reporters

A man walked up to the Seattle Police Department's South Precinct on Sunday night to report that he had shot his friend and wanted to turn himself in.

He spoke no English, but with the help of an interpreter he spun a story that left many questions. The victim was a friend whose name he couldn't recall. The shooting took place at the friend's home, but the man didn't know the address or phone number.

When police found no report of an unsolved shooting in South King County — and no weapon or bloodstains on the man — he was allowed to leave.

Less than 48 hours later, the man was back at the South Precinct. This time his story held up. The 24-year-old Seattle man is being held for investigation of homicide and attempted homicide after police found a slain man and a wounded woman in a quiet Covington-area neighborhood on Tuesday.

Please see > SLAYING, A18

Aging fleet slows U.S. in Arctic "chess game"

Proposals call for replacing two 1970s Seattle-based icebreakers



PRENTICE DANNER / U.S. COAST GUARD / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Coast Guard cutter Healy breaks ice to support scientific research in the Arctic Ocean near Barrow, Alaska, in July 2006. The cutter, one of three based in Seattle, is eight years old and can continuously break through 4-foot-thick ice. It was designed mainly for Arctic science.

BY SANDI DOUGHTON
Seattle Times science reporter

When Coast Guard Adm. Thad W. Allen imagines a melting Arctic, it's not a pretty sight: Cruise ships collide with icebergs. Oil tankers and ore ships run aground. Foreign fishermen sneak into American waters.

Even worse, the nation's top Coast Guard officer fears he may not have the tools to respond to these future crises.

At a time when Russia, Canada, Norway and other Arctic nations are scrambling to stake out turf in the still-frozen north, the United States' two most powerful icebreakers sit at a dock in Seattle, nearing the end of their working lives.

One is manned by a skeleton crew. Both are about 30 years old, and nothing is on the drawing board to replace them.

"We have the responsibility for maritime safety, stewardship and security," Allen said. "But how do you respond up there if you have no presence?"

Allen and others are urging the U.S. government to prepare now for the changes global warming will bring to the Arctic. The nation needs to figure out how to protect American interests, handle disasters and enforce laws in a region that will still be ice-choked much of the year, he said.

"Icebreakers will have an important role to play," Allen said.

A National Research Council panel concluded last year that planning and construction should start immediately on two new icebreakers. "U.S. icebreaking capability is now at risk of being unable to support national interests," the panel warned.

Each of the new ships could cost \$750 million or more, experts estimate.

The Arctic ice cap shrank to a record low this summer, opening up the Northwest Passage along Canada's fringe for the first time.

Scientists say the ice is melting

Please see > ARCTIC, A17

Scramble for the Arctic

As climate change melts ice in the Arctic, several nations are vying for dominance - and icebreakers are one of the new status symbols. Experts urge the U.S. to build new icebreakers to replace two aging vessels based in Seattle.



Source: National Research Council
MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES

TSA looking at behavior for possible terror cues

AIR TRAVEL | Detecting lawbreakers or potential terrorists by their behavior is a tactic growing in popularity — and raising concerns.

BY DEL QUENTIN WILBER AND ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Looking for signs of "stress, fear and deception" among the hundreds of passengers shuffling past him at Orlando (Fla.) International Airport one day last month, security screener Edgar Medina focused on four casually dressed men trying to catch a flight to Minneapolis.

One, in particular, was giving obvious signs of trying to hide something, Medina said. After obtaining the passengers' ID cards and boarding passes, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officer

Please see > TSA, A19

It's in the face

SECURITY SCREENERS look for signs of stress, fear and deception in passengers. Some possible tip-offs:

Distress: Inner corners of the eyebrows move up, and the lip corners turn down.

Fear: Eyebrows are raised and pulled together. The upper eyelids are also raised, exposing the whites of the eyes. Often the lips stretch horizontally.

Source: The Ekman Group

In Iraq, private contractors outnumber U.S. troops

BY RICHARD LARDNER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States has assembled an imposing industrial army in Iraq that's larger than its uniformed fighting force and is responsible for such a broad swath of responsibilities that the military might not be able to operate without its private-sector partners.

More than 180,000 Americans, Iraqis and nationals from other countries work under federal contracts to provide security, gather intelligence, build roads, improve infrastructure, forge a financial system and transport needed supplies in a country the size of California.

That figure contrasts with the 163,100 U.S. military personnel, according to U.S. Central Command, reported in a report.

Please see > OUTSOURCE, A3

BLACKWATER USA'S operations are debated after a shooting incident in Iraq > Close-up A3

Newsline

A quick look at today's news. For updates: seattletimes.com

Dan Rather: The former anchor sued CBS and his former bosses for \$70 million, claiming they made him a "scapegoat." > A4

VECO: A construction worker who oversaw renovation



of Ted Stevens' home said the company also paid him to help with fundraisers for the Alaska senator. > A5

Big numbers: A Seattle firm says its

new type of super-computer analyzes vast amounts of data simultaneously. > Business C1

Mariners: A 9-5 win gave Seattle a series sweep over the Oakland A's. > Sports D1

Opinion: Hillary Clinton has learned her health-care lessons, writes E.J. Dionne. > B8

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CROSSWORD, NW LIFE E7, LOTTERY, MOVIE LISTINGS, etc.

SPORTS ON TV, RADIO, STOCK TABLES, TV, WEATHER, etc.

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