



A hot twist

Do you want more out of your homemade hamburgers? Fire up your grill for a Bloody Mary Burger.

Chris Dodge of Redding — a cook at the new Rivers restaurant — discovers the recipe for Portabella Mushroom Relish while working in North Carolina.

Food & Nutrition, D-1



Metal works

Now that it costs more to make a penny than a penny is worth — and the same for a nickel — Congress is considering steel currency.

A-5

Recovery efforts

As the first international aid arrives in Myanmar, President Bush asks the military junta for permission to enter the country.

A-7

Online revolt

After Microsoft dropped its offer, a shareholder wants to replace Yahoo's board of directors.

Business, D-6

NORTH STATE WEATHER GEEK



AccuWeather forecasts:
HIGH **LOW**
81 **51**
Full weather report: B-6



The far northern Sacramento Valley will likely cool off a bit today after starting the work week with some semisummer temperatures.

Afternoon highs could top out in the lower 80s even though we'll probably see fewer clouds today than Tuesday. Dry northwest winds should also scrub and freshen the air. This somewhat milder weather should stay with us the rest of the week.

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GOOD MORNING!
R-S subscriber Alan Koller



Redding.com
North state news as it happens



Group's water to fill needs

McConnell-Shasta deal would let customers avoid fines

By Kimberly Ross
Record Searchlight

Water customers in four Shasta County service areas won't face fines this summer after all. The McConnell Foundation will sell them enough to supply them, despite drought conditions.

The county's water deal with McConnell was reached Tuesday afternoon, Public Works Director Pat Minturn said.

Last week, the Bureau of Reclamation warned the county to expect 25 percent less water for county service areas that rely on

See WATER, A-4

Water district meeting

The Bella Vista Water District is holding a public hearing on drought conditions, water conservation measures for the district and whether to impose fines on its customers who don't reduce water use by at least 25 percent.

- **When:** 5:30 p.m. Monday.
- **Where:** Water district office, 11358 East Stillwater Way, Redding.
- **More information:** Call 241-1085 or go to www.bwwd.org.

Only a memory



Nathan Morgan / Record Searchlight

Bishop Quinn High School senior Dusty Revel and his girlfriend, Caitlin Fitzpatrick, walk to the mound to be recognized for senior day at the school's baseball

diamond. It was the last home game for the Lions; the school will close at the end of the year. For more on the story, see Sports, C-1.

FIGHT AGAINST POT GARDENS

Whiskeytown roadway to be closed

By Dylan Darling
Record Searchlight

In an effort to curb illicit pot growing on the steep flanks of one of its mountains, Whiskeytown officials are putting up a roadblock.

The gate to South Fork Mountain Road will be locked June 1, blocking motor vehicle traffic up the narrow dirt road across Highway 299 from Whiskeytown National Recreation Area's visi-

tor center, said Jim Milestone, Whiskeytown's superintendent. He said the road has been used by marijuana growers to haul in supplies to their gardens, often under the veil of night.

"We recognize that this road closure is not going to stop the marijuana production, but it is going to make it more difficult for these people to operate," he said.

He said the road likely will be opened again in August, once

the height of the pot-growing season has passed.

The seven-mile road to the top of the South Fork Mountain provides a grand vista and access to radio antennae, so the road will still be open to commercial vehicles, as well as hikers, bikers and horseback riders, Milestone said.

He said the closure also will make biking on the road safer. The road is popular among mountain bikers, but he said it

can be dangerous when there are also cars and trucks on it.

Next month's lockdown won't be the first time Whiskeytown has closed a road because of pot production. Last year, Milestone said, Crystal Creek Road, which leads to the trail for Whiskeytown Falls, was temporarily closed because a pair of pot gardens were discovered in the area.

See WHISKEYTOWN, A-3

Parks funds to finance Big League Dreams suit

By Scott Mobley
Record Searchlight

Redding officials will use \$750,000 they had earmarked for parks to defend itself against a lawsuit filed last year by Dale Construction, the firm that built the Big League Dreams sports park.

The City Council on Tuesday voted 3-2 to siphon money from the city's parks fund to pay legal fees to the San Francisco-based firm defending the city in the suit, scheduled for trial in June.

That money also could go toward settling the suit, City Attorney Rick Duvernay told the council.

The council's decision means one park on the drawing boards "could get delayed a year or two until the economy improves," City Manager Kurt Starman told the council.

The city's park fund had roughly \$800,000 as of Tuesday. That sum is comparable to the cost of River Ridge

Park, currently under construction off Quartz Hill Road in the northwest part of town.

Leona McCoach, who sits on the Community Services Advisory Commission, had urged the council to vote against tapping the park money for legal fees. The city's general fund already owes the parks fund some \$2 million, with no timeline for repayment.

Council member Ken Murray and Mayor Mary Stegall voted no, saying they had wanted the council to commit to repaying the parks fund first. The council majority voted to go ahead with the money transfer without promising reimbursement.

The \$750,000 Redding will use in the Dale Construction lawsuit is all that remains of \$7.5 million in bonds the city sold in 2004 to begin implementing the Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan, which the council

See SUIT, A-4

ELECTION 2008

Obama wins North Carolina as Clinton captures Indiana

By David Espo and Liz Sidoti
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Barack Obama swept to a convincing victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday night and declared he was closing in on the Democratic presidential nomination. Hillary Rodham Clinton eked out a win in Indiana as she struggled to halt her rival's march into history.

"Tonight we stand less than 200 delegates away from securing the Democratic nomination for president of the United States," Obama told a raucous rally in Raleigh, N.C. — and left no doubt he intended to



Barack Obama



Hillary Clinton