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INSIDE

U.S.

ELECTRONIC FAILURE DELAYS FLIGHTS

● An electronic communication failure at a Federal Aviation Administration facility in Georgia that processes flight plans for the eastern half of the United States caused hundreds of flight delays, **3A**.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE UNINSURED DROPS

● The number of people without health insurance fell by more than 1 million in 2007, the first annual decline since the Bush administration took office, the Census Bureau reported. Incomes edged up for the middle class while poverty held steady. The numbers represent a scorecard on President Bush's stewardship of the economy. But they only went as far as the end of last year, **5A**.

IMMIGRATION RAID ROUNDS UP 600

● The largest single-workplace immigration raid in U.S. history has caused panic among Hispanic families in Laurel, Miss., where federal agents rounded up nearly 600 plant workers suspected of being in the country illegally, **6A**.

WORLD

U.N.: U.S. KILLED AFGHAN CIVILIANS

● U.N. investigators said they had 'convincing evidence' that a U.S. airstrike meant for a Taliban target had killed 60 children and 30 adult Afghan civilians, **3A**.

TEEN KILLING HITS A NERVE IN MEXICO

● The kidnapping and murder of a businessman's son are reverberating throughout Mexico, **8A**.

BUSINESS

FDIC: MORE BANKS IN TROUBLE, PROFITS SINK

● The number of troubled U.S. banks leaped to the highest level in about five years and bank profits plunged by 86 percent in the second quarter, as slumps in the housing and credit markets continued, **1B**.

SPORTS



MLB TO BEGIN USING INSTANT REPLAY

● Major League Baseball reversed its long-standing opposition to instant replay and will allow umpires to check video on home run calls in three series that start Thursday. Above, baseball commissioner Bud Selig said that the use of replays may eliminate some arguments, **5B**.

THE CARIBBEAN



AFP-GETTY IMAGES

IN CUBA: Two men push a truck through a flooded street in Havana. Cuban authorities issued a hurricane watch Tuesday, urging residents to prepare for the approaching storm.

Gustav expected to grow as it heads for Cuba

■ Hurricane Gustav was blamed for at least one death in Haiti before it dipped to a tropical storm. Gustav could affect gas prices before the Labor Day weekend.

BY EVAN S. BENN
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Hurricane Gustav triggered a killer landslide in Haiti, a spike in oil prices and fear throughout the Gulf Coast as forecasters said it is all but certain to grow into a major hurricane by this weekend.

The threat to South Florida and the Keys remained relatively low because a high-pressure system parked over the state is likely to keep Gustav to the west and south.

Gustav thrashed Haiti on Tuesday, ripping off roofs and downing power lines with its 90 mph winds. It made landfall in the afternoon near Jacmel and pounded the country with several inches of rain. Heavy rain caused a landslide in the mountain town of Benet, killing one man, officials said.

Gustav decreased in strength to a tropical storm with 70 mph winds late Tuesday after its jog through Haiti, but forecasters expected it to grow back into a hurricane overnight.

The official forecast track shows Gustav gaining strength in the next two days over the warm waters between Jamaica and Cuba before emerging in the Gulf of Mexico as "an extremely dangerous hurricane" with 120 mph winds possible, hurricane center specialists said.

As of late Tuesday, the center



ARIANA CUBILLOS/AP

IN HAITI: Haitians run through rain in Port-au-Prince as Hurricane Gustav passes through Tuesday.

of Gustav was about 155 miles southeast of Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and the storm was moving northwest at 7 mph but was expected to make a slight turn to the west overnight.

Jamaica, Cuba and the Cayman Islands were under hurricane watches, and oil companies and speculators began to brace for a possible hit to oil rigs off the coasts of Louisiana and Texas. Oil prices shot up \$5 a barrel Tuesday, and prices of futures in natural gas, heating oil and gasoline also rose.

Gustav could cause fuel prices to jump by 10 cents a gallon before the travel-heavy Labor Day week-

end, Tampa-based stock trader James Cordier told The Associated Press.

The storm shuttered Haitian government offices and businesses early and forced the lower chamber to postpone a vote on the country's new prime minister and government. Gustav's winds reached the capital of Port-au-Prince and nearby towns, where resident Wilkinson Jean-Paul said storm debris littered the streets.

"It's coming nonstop, with a lot of pressure," said Jean-Paul, of Leogane. "You definitely feel like it's a hurricane."

•TURN TO GUSTAV, 2A

RUSSIA-GEORGIA CONFLICT

Russia recognizes two breakaway regions

■ President Dmitry Medvedev shrugged off the threat of another Cold War by announcing that Russia recognized the independence of Georgia's breakaway regions.

BY DOUGLAS BIRCH
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia stunned the West on Tuesday by recognizing the independence claims of two Georgian breakaway regions, and U.S. warships plied the waters off of Georgia in a gambit the Kremlin saw as gunboat diplomacy.

The announcement by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev ignored the strong opposition of Europe and the United States, and signaled the Kremlin's determination to shape its neighbors' destinies even at the risk of closing its doors to the West.

"We are not afraid of anything, including the prospect of a Cold War," President Dmitry Medvedev said hours after announcing the Kremlin's decision and one day after Parliament had supported the recognition.

While the risk of a military clash with the West seemed remote, the lack of high-level public diplomacy between the White House and the Kremlin added to an uneasy sense of an escalating crisis.

Medvedev also promised a Russian military response to a U.S. missile defense system in Europe. Washington says the system would counter threats from Iran and North Korea, but Russia says it is aimed at blunting Russian nuclear capability.

The Kremlin's recognition of the breakaway regions of South Ossetia

•TURN TO RUSSIA, 2A



IN SOUTH OSSETIA: Residents of Tskhinvali celebrate Russia's recognition of the independence of the Georgian breakaway region of South Ossetia on Tuesday.

VIKTOR DRACHEV
AFP-GETTY IMAGES

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Clinton: Time to unite as single party

■ Democrats in Denver, led by Hillary Clinton, sought to heal internal divisions held over from a bruising primary season and sell Barack Obama's economic vision.

BY DAVID LIGHTMAN
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DENVER — Sen. Hillary Clinton on Tuesday turned the second day of the Democratic National Convention into a celebration of her historic presidential campaign as a breakthrough for women, but she left no doubt that she's foursquare behind Barack Obama as her party's nominee for the presidency.

After a video tribute to her long campaign against Obama for the nomination, Clinton walked onstage, introduced by her daughter, Chelsea, who called her "my hero and my mother." Together they faced a sea of waving white signs scrawled with the word "Hillary" in blue.

Clinton told everyone, "I'm here tonight as a proud mother, as a proud Democrat, as a proud senator from New York, a proud American and a proud supporter of Barack Obama. . . . Whether you voted for me or voted for Barack, the time is now to unite as a single party with a single purpose. We are on the same team, and none of us can sit on the sidelines."

She thanked her supporters, whom she called "my champions — my sisterhood of the traveling pantsuits."

•TURN TO CLINTON, 2A



RON EDMONDS/AP

TO FELLOW DEMS: Clinton said, ' . . . none of us can sit on the sidelines.'