

# THE NEWS TRIBUNE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008 • THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE SOUTH SOUND • TACOMA, WASH. • 35¢ in metro Puget Sound, 50¢ elsewhere



## THE FAIR STARTS TODAY

SOUTH SOUND, B1, AND IN GO, PAGE 7  
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NO MORE UNTIL NEXT YEAR

## Petraeus urges halt to Iraq troop cuts

President Bush is considering a military recommendation that the drawdown in Iraq cease until next year. Some advisers want more forces shifted to Afghanistan.

BY JULIAN E. BARNES  
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Army Gen. David Petraeus has recommended that President Bush postpone sharp troop cuts in Iraq until next year, delaying a large-scale shift of combat forces to Afghanistan and reflecting concerns that widespread violence could return to Iraq. Under the recommendation, the current level of about 140,000 troops would remain in Iraq through the end of Bush's presidency in January. Then, a combat brigade of about 3,500 troops would be removed by February, a senior Pentagon official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the

Please see TROOPS, page A9

APPEALS LIKELY TO CONTINUE

## Killer Yates to learn date of execution

Serial killer Robert Lee Yates Jr. is scheduled to appear in a Pierce County courtroom to learn his execution date. Yates killed 15, including two in Pierce County.

BY ADAM LYNN  
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A Pierce County judge is scheduled to sign the death warrant for Robert Lee Yates Jr. this morning and set a date for the serial killer's execution.

Yates' defense attorneys are expected to immediately seek a stay of execution from the state's Supreme Court, so they again can appeal the 56-year-old man's death sentence for killing two women in Pierce County in the late 1990s.

Today's hearing before Superior Court Judge John McCarthy is set to begin at 11

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**BOEING TALKS CONTINUE**  
Boeing and its Machinists union have until 12:01 a.m. Saturday to reach a contract deal before workers go on strike. We'll keep you posted on the negotiations.

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## CHANGE AGENT McCAIN

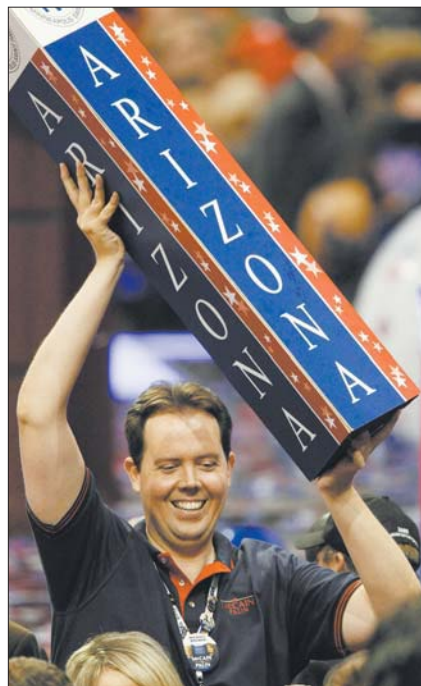
Republican nominee stresses maverick ways, patriotism

Party faithful here ready 'to stand up and fight for America'



RON EDMONDS/The Associated Press

Presidential nominee John McCain and running mate Sarah Palin greet the crowd Thursday night after McCain's acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn. "Despite our differences, much more unites us than divides us," he said in remarks directed at Barack Obama.



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/The Associated Press

An unidentified delegate takes the Arizona state standard as a convention souvenir Thursday night. McCain moved to Arizona in 1981, where he was elected to the U.S. House in 1982 and the Senate in 1986.

BY DAVID LIGHTMAN  
McClatchy Newspapers

ST. PAUL, MINN. — John McCain cast himself Thursday night as a lifelong fighter for his country who's ready to lead new battles for dramatic change as he accepted the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

"I don't mind a good fight," he told the Republican National Convention. "For reasons known only to God, I've had quite a few tough ones in my life. But I learned an important lesson along the way: In the end, it matters

less that you can fight. What you fight for is the real test."

He said he was eager to cross party lines and lead new missions.

"I will reach out my hand to anyone to help me get this country moving again," he pledged. "I have that record and the scars to prove it. Senator (Barack) Obama does not."

He was gracious to the Democratic nominee, however, saying, "There are big differences between us. But

Please see MCCAIN, back page



### POLITICAL BUZZ

■ Pierce County delegate reports riot police and lots of people in handcuffs outside his hotel. **Back page**

## Cheers from viewers here

Members of a South Sound GOP club meet to watch John McCain's speech. They like what they hear.

BY IAN DEMSKY  
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Local Republicans cheered Thursday night as John McCain accepted his party's nomination for president of the United States.

About 50 members of the South

Sound Ronald Reagan Republican Club gathered at the Great American Casino in Lakewood to watch the event on a giant projection screen. Then they heard from local candidates for office.

"I thought it was a home run," George Ewing, 64, said of McCain's speech. The Eatonville man said he admired McCain's humility, and he compared Democratic opponent Barack Obama's style

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### INSIDE

■ Community organizers miffed at insulting remarks by speakers attacking Obama. **A11**

■ Prosecutors in St. Paul charge protesters with conspiracy to cause a riot. **A11**

■ Palin gets a quick course in national security matters from various experts. **Back page**

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### WEATHER

**FAIR WEATHER:** Partly to mostly sunny. High: 73. Low: 54. Details, **C8**

