

The Salt Lake Tribune

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October 26, 2007
High: \$91.86

I-215 CLOSED UNTIL MONDAY
Detour details, A12

DO YOU BELIEVE?
Many want to chat with ghosts, E1



TO DO: WIN
Utes' Johnson checks his list, S1

SATURDAY ♦ OCTOBER 27, 2007

How high will oil climb?

On the way to \$100 a barrel » The price for crude oil for December delivery rose 1.6 percent Friday, to \$91.86 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange — a record close. Futures climbed to \$92.22, the highest since trading began in 1983. Oil is up 51 percent from a year ago. **See C1**

A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

With the recent gains, the price of oil is closing in on the inflation-adjusted highs hit in early 1980. Depending on the adjustment, a \$38 barrel of oil in 1980 would be worth \$96 to \$101 or more today.

REASONS FOR THE RISE

Some real: Heightened tensions in the Middle East after U.S. announces new sanctions against Iran, which holds world's second-biggest oil reserves.

Some not: Some analysts argue that the underlying fundamentals don't support such high prices and say speculative buying is the real reason.

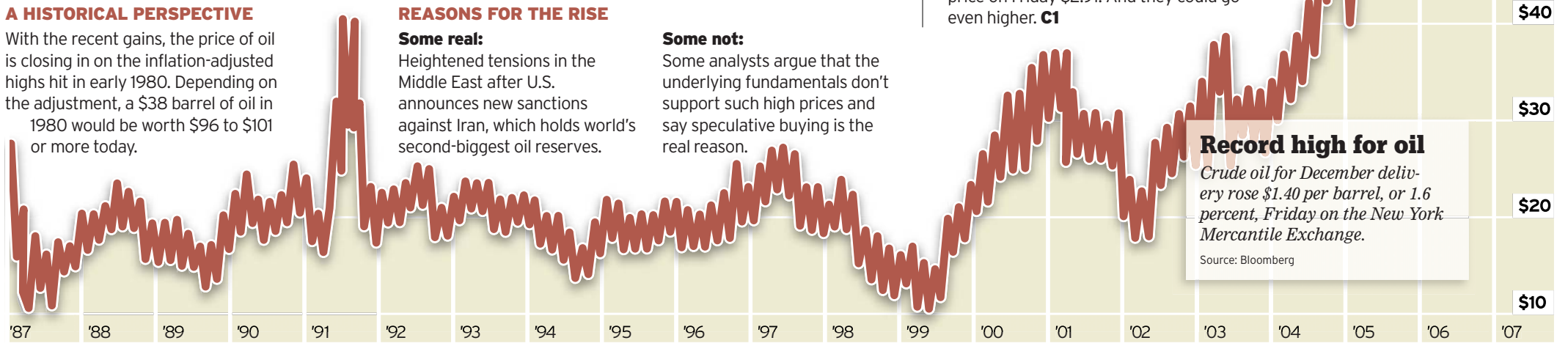
Utah prices rising »

Gas prices in Utah are once again nearing \$3 a gallon, with the average price on Friday \$2.91. And they could go even higher. **C1**

Record high for oil

Crude oil for December delivery rose \$1.40 per barrel, or 1.6 percent, Friday on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Source: Bloomberg



Prep football | The agony of defeat



SCOTT SOMMERDORF/The Salt Lake Tribune

HIGHLAND'S DERRICK VALLES IS OVERCOME WITH EMOTION after the second-ranked Rams' 21-6 upset loss to Bonneville in a Class 4-A first-round playoff game Friday. SLC's other schools, East and West, also were eliminated from the playoffs. In Class 5-A, No. 4 Northridge and No. 6 Jordan were ousted. **SEE MORE ON PREP FOOTBALL IN SPORTS, D1, AND AT WWW.TRIBPREPS.COM**

Utah schools

Ed official suspended over delay of key data

With budget requests a month late and problems with test numbers, superintendent puts aide on leave

BY LISA SCHENCKER
The Salt Lake Tribune

The Utah Office of Education's top business official has been placed on leave after failing to deliver budget requests to the Governor's Office on time, state Schools Superintendent Patti Harrington said.

Harrington said Friday she placed Patrick Ogden, associate superintendent of business services, on paid administrative leave Thursday. Her office will conduct an investigation into why budget requests were a month late, and she plans to hire an outside consultant to assess the way the office handles data in general.

"I don't believe there's any malfeasance involved, but there's been some foot dragging," Harrington said. "It's been a chronic problem."

"I did not know the extent of the problem until yesterday," she said.

Attempts to reach Ogden on Friday

See **ERRORS**, A14

Cemetery rededication

Veterans refuse to praise Rocky, will skip event

BY MATTHEW D. LAPLANTE
The Salt Lake Tribune

Just weeks before he is to leave office, Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson is having one final showdown with some leaders of the local veterans community.

The Utah Veterans Advisory Council voted last week not to participate in the rededication of the recently renovated veterans section of Salt Lake City Cemetery until Memorial Day. The city had suggested that a date in November be chosen for a rededication of the renovated section and had proposed that the mayor would be one of three speakers at the event.

See **VETERANS**, A14



STEVE NESIUS/The Associated Press

Pumps move salt water into filtration tanks at an Apollo Beach, Fla., desalination plant. Florida leads the nation in water reuse, but the drought still has a devastating effect in the state.

Thirsty future

Bold steps may be in order to keep U.S. taps flowing

BY BRIAN SKOLOFF
The Associated Press

An epic drought in Georgia threatens the water supply for millions. Florida doesn't have nearly enough water for its expected population boom. The Great Lakes are shrinking. Upstate New York's reservoirs have dropped to record lows. And in the West, the Sierra Nevada snowpack is melting faster each year.

Across America, the picture is critically clear: The nation's

freshwater supplies can no longer quench its thirst.

The government projects that at least 36 states will face water shortages within five years because of a combination of rising temperatures, drought, population growth, urban sprawl, waste and excess.

"Is it a crisis? If we don't do some decent water planning, it could be," said Jack Hoffbuhr, executive director of the

See **WARMING**, A14

Wildfires' aftermath

S. California evacuees face hardships as they return

The worst wildfires are dying down, but many Californians lucky enough to find their homes standing could be in trouble for weeks to come. **A4**

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Weather Page C8

Partly cloudy over much of state; near 60 north and 72 to 80 south.

Additional Utah stories in A section, A12-A15



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