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SUNDAY
COUPONS WORTH \$47
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PHOTOS: JOE APPEL/TRIBUNE-REVIEW

The proposed Morrison Run wilderness area at left encompasses 6,887 acres of the 54,460 sought for congressional protection.

WILD AT HEART

Groups square off over plans to get Congress to designate more of Allegheny forest as wilderness



"It is a national forest. It belongs to all Americans. ... There is a real myth that some people adhere to in this region that says that it's their forest, when it is a national forest."

KIRK JOHNSON
FRIENDS OF ALLEGHENY WILDERNESS

BY ALLISON M. HEINRICHS
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

If a tree dies in the woods, should it be left to rot naturally or should it be harvested and another tree planted in its place?

The question is the crux of an argument over whether to increase wilderness acreage in Allegheny National Forest.

A grassroots group in Northeastern Pennsylvania is asking that 54,460 acres, or 11 percent of Pennsylvania's only national forest, be congressionally designated as wilderness, meaning it can't be logged and can only be used for passive recreation.

The proposal upsets other groups in the area, where timbering is a major industry, who feel the designation would permanently "lock down" land that could provide future economic benefits.

U.S. Rep. John Peterson, a Venango County Republican who has drawn more than \$131,000 in campaign donations

On the Internet

Kirk Johnson of Friends of Allegheny Wilderness is interviewed and narrates a tour of Morrison Run at www.pghtrib.com.

from the forestry industry since his election to the House in 1996, says constituents are lobbying him as the debate heats up again.

Although he hopes for a compromise, he wouldn't place a timetable on concluding the six-year debate.

"I represent the best hardwood forest in America, and so it's a major industry," Peterson said. The forestry industry is "a part of my district and I understand their issues and so they support me (financially)."

"But my decision to cut down a tree isn't made by them."

SEE WILD • A7

BY THE NUMBERS

2

Percent of the Allegheny National Forest designated as wilderness, compared to 18 percent nationwide.

11

Percent that would be wilderness if all the proposed areas were designated.

7,011

Acres harvested annually.

9,031

Acres designated as wilderness.

54,460

Acres proposed for wilderness by Friends of Allegheny Wilderness.

513,257

Acres owned by the U.S. Forest Service

SOURCES: FRIENDS OF ALLEGHENY WILDERNESS, ALLEGHENY FOREST ALLIANCE AND U.S. FOREST SERVICE

U.S. rebuked; roadmap OK'd

Climate conference ends with floor fight

BY CHARLES J. HANLEY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BALI, Indonesia — In a hushed conference hall, as envoys from 186 nations looked on, the world's lone superpower took a tongue-lashing from the globe's most powerless, nation after poor nation assailing the U.S. "no" on the document at hand. Then the delegate from Papua New Guinea leaned into his microphone.

"We seek your leadership," Kevin Conrad told the Americans. "But if for some reason you are not willing to lead, leave it to the rest of us. Please get out of the way."

The U.N. climate conference exploded with applause, the U.S. delegation backed down and the way was cleared Saturday for adoption of the "Bali Roadmap," after a dramatic half-hour that set the stage for a grinding two years of climate talks to come.

"This is the beginning, not the end," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who made a plea for action, said later. "We will have to engage in more complex, long and difficult negotiations."

The Bali conference, a contentious two-week affair that lapsed into an extra day, was charged with starting negotiations to replace the Kyoto Protocol when it expires in 2012. That pact requires 37 industrial nations to reduce greenhouse gases by a relatively modest 5 percent on average in the next five years.

SEE ROADMAP • A8

Winter storm spreads East

A mixed bag of snow, rain showers and freezing drizzle crosses region.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — As much as a foot of snow fell from the Plains across the Midwest on Saturday as the second big winter storm in a week barreled through on its way to New England.

Tens of thousands of people lacked electricity after the first storm slammed Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri earlier in the week. That storm was blamed for at least 38 deaths, mostly in traffic accidents.

Winter storm warnings and watches extended yesterday from Missouri across parts of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, the National Weather Service said.

SEE STORM • A9

Up from the mean streets, he's forging dreams

Bill Strickland credits ceramics, jazz and a teacher with changing his life and getting him where he is today.

KEITH HODAN/
TRIBUNE-REVIEW



Bill Strickland believes everyone is an asset and the world is listening.

BY JILL KING GREENWOOD
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

A framed picture of a teenage Bill Strickland hangs in Bidwell Training Center. He is sitting on a bench, molding a lump of clay, at an early 1960s Three Rivers Arts Festival.

From the black-and-white photo

depicting a poor black kid from Manchester sprang a vision of providing to others education, training, encouragement and exposure to arts and sciences — regardless of their background, pedigree, race, ethnicity or income.

Strickland, 60, credits ceramics, jazz and an Oliver High School teacher with changing his life — during a time when he was lost and confused, looking for direction and identity on the streets of Pittsburgh during the Civil Rights Movement.

SEE DREAMS • A7

MORNING BRIEFING

Weather

39-23



Rain turning to snow today; windy with snow showers tonight. **A16**

Nation/World

■ Pakistani leader Pervez Musharraf lifts the state of emergency. **A3**



■ Karen Hughes, a longtime adviser to President Bush, tells the Trib her political exodus this weekend is a permanent one. **A4**

City & Region

■ Is the Pennsylvania Crime Stoppers program still relevant? **C1**

Sports

■ Steelers special teams coach **Bob Ligashesky** says there have been signs of improvement, but more is needed from his unit. **B1**



Opinion

■ Another year of "accomplishment" by the Pennsylvania General Assembly? An editorial. **D2**

Business

■ The weak dollar makes investments in American companies a bargain. **E1**

Living

■ Public speaking doesn't have to be stressful. **F1**

The strike's 'Lost' episodes

ABC's "Lost," starring **Evangelina Lilly**, returns Jan. 31 after an eight-month absence. However, only eight of the show's 16 episodes were completed before the writer's strike, putting the remainder of the season in peril. Meanwhile, production on most shows has ground to a halt, with only two ABC series, "October Road" and "Eli Stone," still filming.



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