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The Observation Deck

A blog of opinions on local, state and national issues

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Rules of engagement

August 30, 2009 at 7:00 pm by Jay Jochnowitz, Editorial page editor

You will need to register first before you can post comments. There's a link at the top right.

After you've registered and logged in, you can add a comment by scrolling to the bottom of any blog entry. Type in your comment and click submit comment. Your comment won't be published until it's first been approved.

Approved comments may be used in whole or part in the Times Union newspaper in accordance with our [Rules and Terms of Service](#).

Additional rules of engagement

You cannot create a username that falsely identifies you as another person.

We encourage spirited discussion, but please no personal attacks. No hateful speech. And stay on topic.

The use of multiple identities (aka "sock puppets") on this blog is not permitted.

Citing of published material: Referencing and/or linking to material published in other newspapers, blogs, and other sources is fine; so is *limited* use of excerpts. Cutting and pasting of entire articles or lengthy excerpts is not allowed.

Our schedule

Our daily and Sunday editorials and John de Rosier's cartoon link go up at 6 a.m. We post other items and moderate comments Monday through Friday, generally between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. (We sometimes go a bit earlier or later, and occasionally drop in on the weekend.)

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