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**IdahoStatesman.com**

The Idaho Statesman • Always Idaho

08-16-2005

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## Letters to the Editor

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### Higher gas prices

I'm writing in response to the Aug. 7 opinion piece "There are plenty of energy sources left" by H. Sterling Burnett.

I agree with Mr. Burnett's conclusion that there are plenty of fossil fuels left in the world. However, just because there are abundant sources of energy doesn't mean those sources are accessible at economical prices.

Most of the world's largest oil fields are over 50 years old. As an oil field ages, oil becomes more costly to retrieve. Additionally, newly discovered oil fields have shown to be much smaller in size and lower in their quality of oil (higher sulfur content). This causes transportation and refining of that oil to be much more expensive.

The U.S. consumer has been spoiled with cheap oil for over 30 years. Even today, with oil at record prices, this commodity is still very inexpensive. To put this in context, oil is currently trading around \$62 a barrel; this equates to \$1.48 a gallon. This is 41 percent less than a gallon of milk (currently \$2.51 in our local supermarket). Do you still think oil is expensive? In my opinion we will see much higher prices in our future. Get used to it.

Daniel Wiggins, CIO, Talisker Investment Group LLC, Boise

Tiresome rhetoric

The July 17 letter to the editor "Truth about WMDs" really hit the nail on the head. It was just my exact beliefs, and was well written by William R. Chandler of Boise.

I, too, think it is very possible and even probable that the weapons of mass destruction were shipped to Syria before the actual invasion or buried in small amounts. Just as I cannot prove my point, neither can the Bush

haters prove theirs. So please, Bush haters, your tiresome rhetoric is getting very boring.

**Lois Wood, Caldwell**

**Pleased about sale**

As a onetime employee of The Idaho Statesman, I was pleased to read that Gannett had sold the paper to Knight Ridder. In my view, the buyer likely will be more inclined than was Gannett to spend the money it takes to produce a quality newspaper.

I can recall a time, long ago, when The Statesman well may have been the best daily newspaper in the Northwest. Perhaps it will be so again, in which case Boiseans can rejoice.

**John Edwin Cushman, Beaverton, Ore.**

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