

Silver State twisters rare, but memorable

By Ed Vogel, Las Vegas Review-Journal

CARSON CITY — Mrs. Joe Leavy was sitting on the bed in her home up the road from the Hoover Dam construction site when a mammoth wind on July 24, 1931, shook the house and carried her out of a window and into the sky.

Leavy was spirited away on a “magic carpet ride” on her mattress as a twister ripped apart 12 nearby homes and left seven people injured.

She “landed in a heap with the mattress, shaken up but unhurt,” according to the seemingly straight account in the Review-Journal.

“Autoists” described the tornado “as bounding along, in zig-zag fashion, coming down with its point here and there.”

A tornado in Nevada?

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