

TUESDAY
February 3, 2009

TIMES-NEWS

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Bill to transport wolves clears committee

Move would let Idaho ship wolves out, other states would pay costs

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — The new Obama administration last month halted delisting gray wolves from the endangered species list, but Idaho legislators continue to make plans for managing the animals and on Monday a Senate committee agreed to let the state ship them

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READ: Capitol Confidential, a political blog by reporter Jared S. Hopkins.

outside Idaho.

The Senate Resources and Environment Committee approved legislation allowing the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to contact other states about receiving gray wolves, once delisted by the federal government. The other states would pay for all the costs.

"They've multiplied beyond any

prediction by the biologists," said Sen. Gary Schroeder, R-Moscow, the committee chairman who hung a wolf pelt on the wall for effect. "At the same time, we need to have authority to depopulate those that threaten to kill livestock, human beings or pets."

The Obama administration temporarily halted a rule change instituted last month by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by President Bush. Only 100 wolves were needed to remove the wolves from the ESA, and Idaho now has about 824

See **WOLVES**, Main 2

Going to the voters

Gooding School District looking at two levies to help funding shortfall

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

Gooding School District doesn't expect any votes in the Legislature to bring in additional state funding.

District officials, like all other educators throughout Idaho, are expecting the state to cut funding for public education.

Gooding School District officials will turn to voters for help in passing two levies that would help the district weather a shortfall that's coming from a combination of declining enrollment and cuts in state funding. Due to both factors, the district expects a drop of about

See **GOODING**, Main 2

Cleaning up the coulee

Canal company project will filter water headed to T.F.

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Tucked in near the Amalgamated Sugar Co. plant on the south end of Twin Falls is 13 acres of dirt full of holes.

They don't look like much now. But Twin Falls Canal Company officials say those holes will soon turn into a sprawling wetlands system, filtering the Perrine Coulee through 13 different bulrush-filled settling ponds before it proceeds on to the city of Twin Falls and, eventually, the Snake River.

It's part of ongoing efforts to improve a coulee that, years and years back, was not in great shape, said Brian Olmstead, the company's general manager. A pre-filtering pond was built slightly south of the site several years ago. A separate pond gave the company a place to grow plants to introduce into the system. And three years ago, the wetlands started taking shape, with four ponds able to filter one-third of the coulee.

The completed system should be able to handle the whole thing, relying on plants and settling areas to clean out the coulee on its way to the river.

And the results can be significant. Sonny Buhidar, regional water quality manager for DEQ, said the full pond system should prove effective at removing sediment and bacteria, with somewhat less success on organic compounds such as phosphorus.

"By the time it hits the river, it should be pretty good," he said of the water.

Mike Schroeder, super-



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Clifford Dodge with the Twin Falls Canal Company moves dirt on Monday from a 13-acre spot where a sprawling wetland system with a number of settling ponds are being built southeast of Twin Falls.

intendent of the city's water system, said the existing filtering has already produced a noticeable change in the quality of the water sucked into pressurized-irrigation stations. The system, he said, doesn't handle silt well.

"It'll help us a lot if they settle out a lot of that before it comes to us," Schroeder said, adding that the canal company has kept the city in the loop on the status of the project.

The filtering project is one of about 15 major ones dotted across the canal company's service area, as many as five of which are operated year-round, Olmstead said. The company also helped work on the College of Southern Idaho's wetlands area north of the college, and has a pond in Centennial Park down by



One of 13 settling ponds that will help filter water that runs through the Perrine Coulee.

the Snake River.

The company should finish moving dirt around the newest site in the next few days, Olmstead said. Next, pipes will be installed and the plants transferred to their new home. The project, he said, should wrap up just in time for the water to start flowing in spring.

A number of groups came together to fund the nearly \$200,000 project, Olmstead said. The Snake River Soil and Water Conservation District is wrapping up buying the land. Idaho Power Co. contributed through mitigation payments from a dam relicensing, and Clean Water Act funds were fun-

neled through the Department of Environmental Quality. The Southern Idaho Land Trust even chipped in \$10,000. All the canal company's work is its in-kind contribution to match grant funding, he said.

The conservation district's contribution is a vital one, Olmstead said. The canal company could have built the project on private land and worked out a contract with the owner.

But such arrangements can change over time, he noted. The land purchase will allow his company to keep the wetlands in place, and over time develop the area into a wildlife corridor — adding cottonwood trees, and maybe even a walking path around the ponds.

"This should be a wetland 100 years from now, too," he said.

Woolsey gets at least six months in prison

Woman gave false alibi for Dale Miller murderer

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

Bobbi Woolsey will serve at least six months in prison for giving a false alibi for Cameron Watts, who had killed 18-year-old Dale Miller in a 2007 murder case involving a drug debt.

Woolsey, 30, was sentenced Monday for being accessory to felony, which is also a felony. She had pleaded guilty to the charge in December.

Judge G. Richard Bevan sentenced Woolsey to prison on a rider program. The six-month program will provide her with counseling and drug addiction treatment. When the program is finished, prosecutors will decide if Woolsey will be released to serve probation or continue her prison sentence.

If Woolsey stays in prison, the judge's sentence requires that she spend at least three years behind bars. The judge's prison sentence for her is five years, with Woolsey being eligible for parole after three.

See **WOOLSEY**, Main 2



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Bobbi Woolsey listens to her attorney, Joe Rockstahl, Monday. Woolsey was sentenced to a six-month rider program for her involvement in the death of Dale Miller.

Gov. Otter raising plenty of cash, but hasn't announced 2010 run yet

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — Despite refusing to confirm whether he will seek re-election next year, Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter received nearly \$112,000 in campaign contributions in the last six months, according to the Idaho Secre-

tary of State.

In the second half of 2008, the first-term Republican received \$111,866, spent nearly \$58,000 and currently has \$106,027 cash on hand. In 2008, he received \$136,795.

Over the past few months, Otter has held a number of fundraisers, thereby raising



Otter

again, as recently as the first

speculation of a possible run for re-election in 2010. But the millionaire rancher has refused to say whether he will run

INSIDE

Find out local legislators' cash on hand amounts.

See **Main 2**

week of January during a press conference with reporters.

"When I have to," he said

back in October last year when the *Times-News* inquired when he'll announce a decision.

Otter filed for his current term in December 2004, almost two years before the election in which he defeated Democrat Jerry Brady.

Legislators said the amount of money indicates

Otter is likely running again. "It's a good sign," said House Majority Leader Mike Moyle, R-Star. Asked if he'd want Otter to win another election, Moyle said, "Heck, yeah."

Among the largest of his approximate 180 contributions during the last six

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PROMISES, PROMISES

Obama not sticking to no lobbyist rule in White House > **Main 7**

MORNING BRIEFING



Pat's Picks ... Pat Marcantonio

Three things to do today

- Cheer on the Special Olympics Torch Run. A ceremony will be held from 3:30 to 4 p.m. at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Auditorium, when more than 100 runners escorted by local law enforcement will accompany the torch.
- Register your third-through fifth-graders for the Science Camp — In '09 at the Herrett Center for Arts and

Science. It's a night full of hands-on science displays, including a visit from animal and reptile star, Corbin Maxey, who's appeared on the Tonight Show. The event begins at 6 p.m. Friday. The fee is \$38. For more information or to sign up, contact Darcy Thornborrow, 732-6664 or dthornborrow@csi.edu. For something to do tonight at the

Herrett Center, there's a family night telescope viewing from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Centennial Observatory. Admission is \$1.50, or free with planetarium show admission. Free for children 6 and younger.

- Join in the Let's Talk About It book discussion of "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek" by Annie Dillard at 7 p.m. at Filer Public Library, 219 Main St.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

BUSINESS

Sawtooth National Forest Minidoka Ranger District recruiting, to help potential employees with online application process for Sawtooth National Forest job opportunities, 6:30 p.m., DeMary Public Library, 417 Seventh St., Rupert, 208-678-0430.

EXHIBITS

Russ Hepworth Restrospective, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for the Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 315 Falls Ave., no cost, 732-6655.

"June," an installation by Wood River Valley artist Pamela DeTuncq, noon to 5 p.m., The Center, 314 S. Second Ave., Hailey, no cost, sunvalleycenter.org or 726-9491.

"Little Reminders," collection of new work by Magic Valley native Grant Olsen, noon to 5 p.m., Magic Valley Arts Council's La Galeria Pequena, 132 Main Ave. S., Main Street Plaza, Twin Falls, free admission, 734-2787 or Magicvalleyartscouncil.org.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln St., 644-2700.

Jerome City Council, 5:30 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A, 324-8189.

Kimberly Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., community center, 120 Madison St. W., 423-4151.

Shoshone City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 886-2030.

Filer City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 300 Main St., 326-5000.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

SilverSneakers Fitness Program at Curves of Twin Falls, complete cardio and circuit training with resistance, state-of-the-art equipment and "Curves Smart" personalized coaching, 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Twin Falls Curves, 690 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., no cost for Humana Gold-insured or AARP provided by Secure Horizons, 734-7300.

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Hagerman High School Gym; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Buhl old middle school gym, no

cost, 732-6475.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10 to 11 a.m., Living Waters Presbyterian Church, 821 E. Main St., Wendell, no cost, 737-5988.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m., First Segregation Fire Station, Eden, no cost, 737-5988.

Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, offered by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 11 a.m. to noon, Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-2977.

SilverSneakers Fitness Program, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Twin Falls YMCA, 1751 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humana-insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4384.

Adult Children Anonymous (ACA) meeting, for individuals recovering from alcoholic or dysfunctional family environment, 6 p.m., Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, 228 Shoup Ave. W. (west entrance), Twin Falls, no cost, 308-5656.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Line Dance Classes, 6 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls, \$3 donation, 410-5650 or www.galenslatte.com.

LIBRARY

"Let's Talk About It" book discussion, "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek" by Annie Dillard, 7 p.m., Filer Public Library, 219 Main St., Filer, books available for checkout, Filer library card not required, 326-4143.

MUSEUMS AND PARKS

"Mingle in the Jungle" free reptile review, 6 p.m., Herrett Center Rain Forest, no cost; **Faulkner Planetarium "Here Comes the Sun,"** 7 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for senior citizens, \$2.50 for students, no cost for children under age 2 and a special price package for families with five children or less, 732-6655.

Family night telescope viewing, 6 to 9 p.m., Centennial Observatory, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, \$1.50 or no cost with planetarium show admission or for children age 6 and under, 732-6655.

CORRECTIONS

Music event's date incorrect

Due to incorrect information provided to the *Times-News*, the wrong date was listed on Saturday's Community Page for the Burley Senior Center live

music event. The event will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Burley Senior Citizens Center.

Stork Report name misspelled

Due to incorrect informa-

tion provided to the *Times-News*, an entry in the Jan. 18 "Stork Report" contained a misspelled name. The correct version reads Isabel Viviana Save, daughter of Anna Joy and Mauricio Hernan Save of Twin Falls, was born Jan. 8, 2009.

Otter

Continued from Main 1

months: more than \$10,000 from the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry; \$5,000 from Simplot; \$2,000 from Mountain View Hospital in Idaho Falls; \$1,500 from Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America; \$2,500 from the Idaho Telephone Association; \$5,000 from Micron; \$4,000 from Anheuser-Busch; \$2,500 from the Idaho Forest Group; and \$5,000 from Coeur d'Alene Mines.

Among the largest individual contributions: \$1,000 from Jeff Sayer in Bountiful, Utah; \$1,500 from Stephen A. Bieri in San Diego; \$1,000 from Jack Carney in St. Francisville, Ill.; and \$1,000 from Donna Kelsey in Sun Valley.

He also received a number of contributions from current and former state employees, including \$1,250 contributions each from Idaho State Department of Agriculture Director Celia Gould and her husband, Bruce

Legislators had to submit annual year-end reports, which include annual balances and activity in December. Their amounts of cash on hand:

Sen. Bert Brackett, R-Rogerson, has \$13,350.
Sen. Denton Darrington, R-Declo, has \$10,848.
Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, has \$6,883.
Sen. Chuck Coiner, R-Twin Falls, has \$1,792.
Sen. Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, has \$32,362.
Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert, has \$3,981.
Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome, has \$10,484.
Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, has \$12,000.
Rep. Donna Pence, D-Gooding, has \$1,683.
Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, has \$2,098.
Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, has \$3,097.
Rep. Scott Bedke, R-Oakley, has \$10,075.
Rep. Fred Wood, R-Burley, has \$7,465.
Rep. Jim Patrick, R-Twin Falls, has \$13,418.
Rep. Stephen Hartgen, R-Twin Falls, has \$4,569.

Newcomb, the former House Speaker turned Boise State University lobbyist.

He also received \$2,000 from Syringa Networks, which recently won a contract to help build the \$50 million Idaho Education Network, a broadband system for schools and business. And on Dec. 31, he received \$1,000 from prominent lobbyist Skip Smyser, whose wife, Melinda, was

appointed to the Senate in January.

Sen. Chuck Coiner, R-Twin Falls, also said raising so much money indicates Otter's probably planning a re-election. "One would think," he was running again, Coiner said. "Why else would you raise money?"

Otter's office did not respond to comment for this article.

Who has what

Wolves

Continued from Main 1

wolves, said Jim Unsworth, deputy director of the Idaho Fish and Game. The target number was only 500.

Schroeder's bill, which the committee passed unanimously, would ask Fish and Game to contact other states about taking wolves. Schroeder, a fur trader, said transporting wolves to other states would solve population concerns without killing the animals. And he said other states could then rally with Idaho to manage the wolves.

"I think we gain if they want them," he said. "If they want them, fine. If they don't want them, then we've answered that question of why we need to kill them, because they have a very serious impact on our big game herds."

Nate Helm, spokesman for

the Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife-Idaho, said his organization supports the bill because there's an "imbalance" with too many wolves.

The Fish and Game Commission has not voted on the bill, but there are no technical problems to it, said Sharon Kiefer, department assistant director.

Incoming administrations typically issue temporarily delays on rule changes, and state officials told senators they have no idea when, or if, the delisting will officially occur.

"We simply don't know how the new Secretary of Interior will react with regards to the wolf issue," Nate Fischer, administrator in Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's Office of Species Conservation, said of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

Fischer said Otter is urging groups to be patient, but suing the federal government

under the 10th Amendment — that any responsibilities not specifically delegated to the federal government go to the states — might be difficult.

Many game animals, including bighorn sheep and turkeys, are already available to transport outside Idaho. Catching and transporting live wolves satisfies groups who oppose lethal removal, but doing so can be expensive, costing around \$2,500 per animal, Unsworth said after the meeting.

Schroeder's bill awaits a full Senate vote. Separate legislation will be introduced in the House to encourage the federal government to publish delisting in the federal registry, Schroeder said.

On Monday, Idaho's four-member congressional delegation and Otter sent a letter to President Obama asking him to allow the rule be published in the federal registry — and thereby made official.

Woolsey

Continued from Main 1

Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb and defense attorney Joe Rockstahl both supported the rider program at the sentencing hearing.

Loeb noted that the defendant has a drug problem, quit school in eighth grade and almost all of her male companions have been drug dealers or users.

"She didn't know anybody was going to be killed," Loeb said of the murder.

Rockstahl said that while Woolsey initially did lie to

authorities, she later admitted the truth and didn't try to hide it.

"Once she was caught, she came clean," he said, adding that he believes Woolsey can successfully complete the rider program if she applies herself.

Bevan told Woolsey that she cannot muddle through the rider program and expect to get out of prison easily.

"My hope is you take advantage of this," the judge said.

Watts was sentenced in December to 20 years to life in prison for killing Miller. Twin Falls police found Miller's body stuffed in a barrel on

Sept. 12, 2007.

Miller had owed about \$250 to \$300 to Watts and another defendant in the case, John McElhiney, authorities have said. McElhiney has pleaded guilty in the case but has not been sentenced.

Prosecutors have alleged that the two men roughed up Miller and tied him up, put him in the trunk of his car and burglarized his home. At one point, Miller escaped from the trunk, but was recaptured and later died in the trunk, authorities have said.

Rachel Madrid, 27, who police said dated McElhiney, faces a burglary charge related to the case.

Gooding

Continued from Main 1

\$1.4 million in funding for next school year.

"We've already cut back as far as we can and still function," Superintendent Heather Williams said on Monday night at a meeting where officials and patrons talked about the long- and short-term future of the district.

Monday's meeting was the last public meeting before voters will decide if they want to approve a 10-year renewal of the plant facilities levy and a supplemental two-year levy.

The vote is Feb. 10.

Williams stressed that voters shouldn't consider the levies a bailout because of poor budgeting.

Gooding School District has already made cuts in areas that other school districts are planning for next year in anticipation of state reductions, she said. The district has cut back on new textbooks, not rehired teachers and reduced hourly employees' hours.

"We're to the bare bones," Williams said.

The district is seeking a renewal of its plant facility levy that would double it from \$125,000 to \$250,000 annually

to provide money to tackle a variety of repairs and maintenance projects.

The supplemental levy of \$325,000 each year would provide money for the district to keep its programs for students in place, Williams said.

Both measures combined, if approved, would increase annual property taxes by \$138 for every \$100,000 of assessed value and will be voted on separately.

The district has not made any decisions about switching to a four-day week next school year.

Williams said that there will be a panel discussion about the issue at a later date.

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Watershed	Seasonal percentage	
	% of Avg.	peak
Salmon	88%	55%
Big Wood	78%	50%
Little Wood	84%	51%
Big Lost	83%	49%
Little Lost	89%	53%
Henrys Fork/Teton	84%	53%
Upper Snake Basin	97%	61%
Oakley	84%	55%
Salmon Falls	99%	62%

As of Feb. 2

Go to Magicvalley.com to find a ski report at the Snow Center.

You don't say

Steve Crump



Never be another Toolson? Don't bet on it

Shoot, he even looks a little like Andy Toolson ... Ryan Toolson, a 6-foot, 4-inch senior guard at Utah Valley State University, scored 63 points last Thursday night in a four-overtime victory over Chicago State ... That was the most points scored by one player this season in Division I men's basketball ...

Ryan's first cousin Andy happens to be the best basketball player that Twin Falls, Idaho, ever produced ... Understandable, perhaps, because they're both related to Danny Ainge, the best basketball player not named Bill Russell that the West has ever produced ...

Ryan Toolson, 22, grew up in Gilbert, Ariz., went on an LDS mission to Guatemala and passed up an opportunity to walk on at Brigham Young University for a chance to play on scholarship at Utah Valley State in nearby Orem ... The national NCAA Division I Independent Player of the Year last season, he is averaging 24.5 points a game for a Wolverines' squad that is 10-9 this season ...

Ryan's uncle Andy, now 43 and also a 6-4 shooting guard in his playing days, spent four years at BYU — he was an All-American his senior season, averaging 18.3 points ... Andy played 11

Speak up

If it's odd, poignant, weird or sad and it happens in south-central Idaho, I want to hear about it. Call 735-3223, or write to me at scrump@magicvalley.com.

years of professional basketball — two with the Utah Jazz of the NBA — and worked as an assistant coach with the Jazz ...

Now living in suburban Utah County and working in insurance and financial services, Andy set the Twin Falls High single-game scoring record — 42 points against Pocatello — in his senior season, averaged 20.3 points a game and led the Bruins to the state championship game, where they lost to Meridian ...

Ainge is Ryan's uncle and Andy's cousin — Andy spent a lot of time in Provo while Ainge was at BYU from 1978-81 and Ryan got to know Ainge — now the president of basketball operations for the NBA champion Boston Celtics — when Ainge played with the Phoenix Suns in the 1990s ... They learned much from their kinsman ...

But how could they not? ... Ainge, too, was a 6-4 shooting guard ...

Steve Crump is the Times-News Opinion editor.

Hazelton man charged with marijuana trafficking

By David Cooper
Times-News writer

A Hazelton man was arrested and charged Saturday with drug trafficking after allegedly being found in possession of nine pounds of marijuana.

Keith A. Gentry, 59, also faces charges of driving with an open container, excessive driving under the influence and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A Twin Falls County Sheriff's deputy pulled over Gentry, driving a Chevy Trailblazer with Colorado license plates, near mile post 32 on U.S. Highway 93 after

calls were made to authorities of a possible DUI.

According to an affidavit, the arresting deputy was patrolling northbound Highway 93, when he saw the Chevy drift almost halfway across the highway line "and almost struck an oncoming (southbound) vehicle head on."

After pulling Gentry over, the arresting deputy suspected alcohol use and the suspect said he "had a couple of drinks in Las Vegas" that day, court records show. After giving field sobriety tests, the deputy placed Gentry under arrest for suspicion of DUI,

according to the affidavit. The deputy then found a "clear plastic baggie with a green leafy plant like substance" and a red-colored pipe with burned residue, as well as an open bottle of whiskey, court records show.

Gentry then indicated to the officer that he had a large amount of marijuana in the back of his vehicle, the affidavit states. The officer located a duffel bag with seven individual bags of marijuana, according to the affidavit.

Gentry later told an investigator he went to California and purchased nine pounds of marijuana "for him and a

group of close friends," the records say.

The seven bags were weighed and tested at the Twin Falls County Sheriff's office, where they tested positive for marijuana. The smallest bag weighed 15.3 ounces with the largest bag weighing more than 3 pounds, court records say.

Gentry is now held on a \$30,000 bond in Twin Falls County Jail for the drug trafficking charge, and faces a Feb. 13 preliminary hearing. His bond on the other charges was \$2,500, and his pretrial hearing for those charges will be March 17.

T.F. Council approves pursuing airport grant, final versions of impact fees and comp plan

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Airports, roads and the future of the city filled the Twin Falls City Council's agenda Monday night.

Council members signed off on the first half of a grant offer to Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport that would provide roughly \$1 million in federal money for several different projects.

Airport Manager Bill Carberry said he plans to rehabilitate the general-aviation ramp, buy a snow-removal vehicle, re-grade part of the runway surfaces and conduct a comprehensive safety survey. The projects would also be paid for through \$1.5 million in rollover grants from last year, and an expected \$1.4 million second grant phase later this year.

Twin Falls County commis-

sioners approved pursuing the offers on Friday. None of the work will begin until later this year, when airport and city officials are sure of the second phase of funding, Carberry said.

The council also approved revised versions of two major documents discussed last month. The city's new comprehensive plan and impact-fee ordinance, both with minor tweaks, were approved 6-0 — council member Will Kezele was absent.

The city's new impact fees won't take effect until at least Aug. 1, the result of discussion at a Jan. 12 public hearing and aimed at reducing the immediate effect on builders and developers in a tight economy. Some council members still seemed concerned about the effect of the fees, and Mayor Lance Clow asked city staff whether the city could rewrite the ordinance later on

to exempt people who bought lots within the past few years and are forced to sell them now for lower prices.

"Maybe that's just capitalism," he said.

City Attorney Fritz Wonderlich advised against such a move, and council member David E. Johnson noted that a \$1,600 fee would probably be the least of a developer's concerns in that situation. Wonderlich also told the council that the fees are still set to kick in on the August date, even though former "boilerplate" language remains stating they will take effect 30 days after the ordinance was approved.

Also Monday, the council continued to move forward on acquiring rights-of-way for the future expansion of Washington Street North. Members approved paying a little more than \$15,000 to

David Patterson Sr. and Lola Patterson for a right-of-way and construction easement near Wiseman Avenue. It was the last one needed for the stretch between Dubois and Shoup avenues, and the council also voted to allow Clow to sign a certificate of completion for the area.

Members approved spending about \$257,000 to replace existing sewer line that runs down the Perrine Coulee into the Snake River Canyon; the bid came in \$35,000 under budget. They also approved a small rezone to allow a Walgreens at the northeast corner of Washington Street North and Pole Line Road, issued a Special Olympics proclamation and reappointed one member each to the city's tree and golf commissions.

Nate Poppino may be reached at 208-735-3237.

GOP Committee again favors closed primary

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Republican Party Central Committee on Saturday voted to press on with plans to close its primary.

Rod Beck, an advocate of the closed primary, told The Associated Press that the Central Committee voted overwhelmingly to reject a recommendation passed at the June GOP state convention in Sandpoint that favored maintaining the 37-year-old open primary.

There's a federal court date in a Republican lawsuit against the state on Feb. 18 in U.S. District Court in Boise seeking to

"I don't see it as a priority for the Legislature right now, but in time it may be."

— Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert

close the primary.

Beck and others want to close the primary because they think Democrats and independents are switching

sides and skewing elections in favor of candidates who don't support Republican ideals.

Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-

Rupert, said he doesn't see a rush for the Legislature to act on the issue, even after the court decision.

"I don't see it as a priority for the Legislature right now, but in time it may be," he said. "Let the court system play out and then we'll decide with there decision leaves us."

PUC seeks comment on builders' tariff

Times-News

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has asked for public comment on a proposal by Idaho Power Co. to change what it charges builders and developers attaching to its system.

The electric utility wants to charge more for new service attachments and distribution line installations, as well as reduce or eliminate refunds the builders get as new developments connect to the expanded facilities. It claims the proposal would help shift installation costs from general ratepayers to new customers, meeting a state and company goal to have growth pay for itself.

Idaho Power has also asked to more clearly spell out who pays when it relocates distribution facilities on public rights-of-way due to expanding roadways. The company currently pays when a move is required by a government agency, but requires third parties to bear the cost of their own requests.

Comments are due by March 20. To read documents in the case, visit <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/> and look up case No. IPC-E-08-22. Comment can be left through the site, mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074, or faxed to 208-334-3762.

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Volunteers get ready for Special Olympics

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

Volunteers have been practicing how to say "welcome" in six languages, including French, Spanish, Mandarin, Chinese, Arabic and Russian, as Sun Valley prepares to host part of the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

They'll get their chance to show what they've learned on Wednesday when athletes from more than 100 countries begin making their way into town along with the Olympic torch.

The torch makes its way through Twin Falls and other Magic Valley towns today en route to Sun Valley. Police officers and others will start carrying it from Hemingway Elementary School in Ketchum at 8 a.m. Wednesday, ending at Dollar Mountain Lodge where actor Scott Glenn and others will greet the athletes.

"It's been like birthing a baby," said Ketchum resident Pirie Grossman of the three years she and her husband Jim have worked to bring the games to Idaho. "But it's really here. We did it! And once the athletes get here, nothing else matters anymore. It'll be all about them."

More than 800 volunteers — many from Twin Falls and Boise — have been assembled to serve Sun Valley's portion of the 63,000 meals that will be served up over the course of the event. The

See **READY**, Main 5

Gearing up for the games



Colleen Daly, Judy Austin and Mark Nelson sift through a table full of scarves in Atkinsons' Market in Ketchum.

KAREN BOSSICK/For the Times-News

2009 World Winter Games

Upcoming events Today

- Final Leg Law Enforcement Torch Run**
- 10:05 a.m. — Run in Shoshone
 - 10:20 a.m. — Ceremony at Shoshone High School
 - 10:30 a.m. — Run in Wendell
 - 10:50 a.m. — Ceremony at Wendell High School
 - 11:20 a.m. — Run in Jerome
 - 11:40 a.m. — Ceremony at Jerome High School
 - Noon — Run in Gooding
 - 12:20 p.m. — Ceremony at Gooding High School
 - 12:30 p.m. — Run in Kimberly
 - 1 p.m. — Ceremony at Kimberly High School
 - 2:45 p.m. — Run in Twin Falls
 - 2:30 p.m. — Ceremony at CSI Fine Arts Building
 - 4 p.m. — Run to Perrine Bridge

Wednesday

- Final Leg Law Enforcement Torch Run**
- 8:30 a.m. — Run in Ketchum
 - 9 a.m. — Ceremony at Dollar Mountain Lodge
 - 10:30 a.m. — Run in Hailey
 - 11 a.m. — Ceremony at Wood River High School
 - Noon — Ceremony at Woodside Elementary School, run in Glens Ferry
 - 12:30 p.m. — Ceremony at Glens Ferry High School

Saturday

- 2 p.m. — Opening Ceremony, Idaho Center, Nampa

Sunday-Feb. 13

Events held at Games locations

Feb. 13

- 7 p.m. — Closing Ceremony, Idaho Center, Nampa

FLOODED BY COMPASSION

More than 50,000 scarves knit for World Winter Games

BY Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

Debra Burns has added new items to her upscale dress shop in the heart of Ketchum. And they're free for the taking, although a donation to Special Olympics is appreciated.

The blue and white scarves are among more than 50,000 knit across the world for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

Organizers asked for 3,000 — enough to drape around the neck of each Olympian who is coming to Idaho for the games, held Sunday

through Feb. 13. When they got so many, organizers decided to give the surplus scarves to Idahoans to wear and show support for the athletes.

Burns, who owns Burnsies, went one step farther, suggesting that the scarves be distributed at various retailers so the business community can get a bounce out of the scarves after January's dismal sales.

Participating businesses will sweeten the pot by offering discounts and specials to those who donate for the scarves.

"I have a vision of the whole town wearing these scarves," Burns said. "I hope it will get the locals out and looking around in the various shops. And I hope out-of-towners will stop in the various shops looking for the scarves, as well."

Many scarves have poignant stories behind them, according to dozens of letters kept in a notebook by Pirie

Grossman, the Sun Valley woman who — along with her husband, Jim — initiated the drive to bring the Special Olympics competition to Idaho.

One woman finished 18 scarves before she died of cancer. It helped her feel useful at a time she was feeling useless, said a note from one of her family members.

Mark Nelson, owner of Suns and Shades of Sun Valley, said he planned to wear his scarf every day.

"It's so hard to pick one out — the patterns are all so pretty," he said. "But I'm so happy to be able to show my support."

Grossman said the Sun Valley area has received two postal trucks full of scarves and more are arriving every day. She estimates Sun Valley has gotten about 6,000 so far.

"Each of the games has its own personality," she added. "I would say

COMMUNITY NEWS

Brooks completes Marine recruit training

Dusty G. Brooks, son of Charles Brooks of Wendell and Tracy Dewep of McCall, has successfully graduated from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.



Brooks

Brooks graduated from Challis High School in 2006. He will report to the Camp Pendleton, Calif., Marine Corps School of Infantry.

Gooding Public Library holds book sale

The Gooding Public Library will host its annual Valentine Book Sale through Feb. 19 at the library, 306 Fifth Ave. W.

New or gently-used hardback books are individually priced and all paperback books are 50

cents. Treat your special Valentine with a book and you will also receive a candy treat with your purchase.

Information: Carolyn Dewitt at 934-4089.

Gooding Lions Club calls for calendar entries

The Gooding Lions Club will prepare the 56th edition of its Community Calendar this month. The calendar begins in May and features business telephone numbers and addresses as well as a picture of a local community group. The main purpose of the calendar is to recognize birthdays, anniversaries, memorials and meeting days for local organizations.

Money from the sales allows the club to assist with eyeglass purchases, past donations to the blood bank, the senior high school party, fundraising events for various individuals and organizations and the Christmas decorations on Main Street,

among others.

To support the project, please call with information you would like to have placed on the calendar. They will be delivered in March or April.

To place an order or for more information: Ron Darcy, 934-4366 or Walt White, 934-4270.

Gooding bridge results announced

Gooding Duplicate Bridge released its results for Jan. 30.

Section A: 1. Mary Steele and Susan Faulkner, 2. (tie) Rosemary Anderson and Roberta Canine, Max Thompson and Kathy Rooney, 4. Jodi Faulkner and Claire Major

Section B: 1. Rosemary Anderson and Roberta Canine, 2. Jodi Faulkner and Claire Major

Duplicate bridge is played at 1 p.m. Fridays at the Gooding Senior Center, 308 Senior Ave. For partnership information or directions: Kathy Rooney, 934-9732.

Whiting gives talk on Frank Lloyd Wright studio

Henry Whiting II will speak at the Hagerman Valley Historical Society monthly program at 7 p.m. Feb. 10 at the National Park Service Building, 221 N. State St., Hagerman. The public is invited and refreshments will be served.



Whiting

Whiting is an architect and landscape designer, author and sculptor. He lives and works in the only Frank Lloyd Wright building in Idaho.

The artist studio, designed in 1952, was built for western artist Archie Boyd Teater and his wife, Patricia. Although Wright designed other artist studios, this is the only one that was actually built. After years of abandonment and neglect, Whiting and his wife, sculptor Lynn Fawcett Whiting, restored and updated the studio.

Known as Teater's Knoll, the studio and home is located above the Snake River between Hagerman and Bliss.

Whiting wrote "At Nature's Edge" to chronicle the design and history of the studio and its restoration. The book was awarded the Idaho Book of the Year in 2008 by the Idaho Library Association.

Whiting is a native of Midland, Mich., and became interested in architecture through early associations with his great uncle, architect Alden Dow. He became interested in researching Frank Lloyd Wright and organic architecture while completing a degree in Landscape Architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His love of nature and natural land forms led him to golf course design. He had four years of practical experience with Neil Wright in Sun Valley. He wrote an earlier book entitled "Teater's Knoll."

Reader wants to know what is causing severe acne

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a form of acne called hidradenitis suppurativa. Could you please tell me if there is anything that will clear this up?

DEAR READER: Hidradenitis suppurativa is a severe form of acne that causes chronic skin inflammation. It is marked by the presence of blackheads and one or more tender lesions,



ASK DR. GOTT
Dr. Peter Gott

which often enlarge, break open and drain pus. It commonly occurs

around hair follicles and oil and sweat glands. It is frequently found in the armpits, anal area and groin. It can occur in any area where skin rubs together, such as the inner thighs. It can affect one or several areas of the body.

Women are more likely to develop hidradenitis suppurativa than are men. A family history of the condition

increases the risk of developing it. It generally affects those between puberty and age 40; however, it can occur in those over 40 and, rarely, children.

Symptoms include small, pitted areas that contain blackheads (often in pairs); painful, pea-sized lumps under the skin; one or more red, tender, pus-filled lesions that can burst and drain

unpleasant-smelling fluid accompanied by itching, burning or excessive sweating; and painful sores that continually leak fluid and heal very slowly or not at all, leading to scarring.

Symptoms generally start at puberty. They often begin with a single painful lesion that persists for weeks or months. For some, symptoms are mild. Others may

experience progressive worsening and spreading. Excessive weight, stress, hormonal changes, heat or perspiration may make symptoms worse.

Scarring, under skin tunnels, cellulitis (skin infections) and restricted movement are common consequences. It is, therefore,

See **DR. GOTT**, Main 5

Ready

Continued from Main 4
 games kick off with the opening ceremony Saturday at Nampa's Idaho Center and continues through Feb. 13 with snowboarding and cross-country ski competitions at Sun Valley.
 Others are serving as time-keepers and hosting athletes and coaches in their homes as part of a cultural exchange.
 Craig Casperson, of Twin Falls, said his parents volunteered to take a few of the Olympians into their Twin Falls home a few days before the Games start, even though it meant driving them to Sun Valley every day.
 "They really wanted to be part of it," he said.
 The Special Olympics is feeling the impact of the economic malaise that has encircled the globe. Donations are \$400,000 short and organizers expect to get only 2,500 athletes, rather than the 3,000 they had planned on.
 But, with 6,000 athletes, coaches and others expected to turn out, the event will still be bigger than the 2002


Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. And it will be the biggest event in Idaho history, poised to bring in at least \$29 million to the state.
 It will also bring a number of celebrities, including princesses from Panama and Morocco, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Maria Shriver, Vanessa Williams, Tom Arnold, Mariel Hemingway, Andy Baldwin, Kenny G., Scott Hamilton, Bart Conner, Nadia Comaneci, Billy Kidd and Kristi Yamaguchi.
 Wood River Valley school kids and Sunday school classes have spent months making bracelets, key chains, trading cards and other gifts to give the Special Olympians.
 Wood River High School students also organized a Snowflake Ball for the Special Olympians, financing it with about \$5,000 they raised from bake sales, a winter carnival and a dance for senior citizens. And Community School students are hosting a dance and pizza party for athletes who show up before

Saturday's opening ceremonies at Nampa's Idaho Center.
 Many, including Nathan Lago, a 14-year-old Special Olympian at Wood River Middle School, also participated in a campaign encouraging their schoolmates not to use the "R" word — "Retarded."
 "It hurts people's feelings," Lago said.
 Both Lago and Grant Swindle, another young Hailey man with Down Syndrome, are getting excited as they see Special Olympics banners strung across the highway.
 Swindle, a 22-year-old bagger at Atkinsons' Market, plans to escort the athletes to the podium and assist at the Snowflake Ball. His family is also hosting athletes from Tajikistan.
 "The rest of us can learn huge lessons from these special athletes," said Swindle's mother, Reggie Swindle. "The spirit these athletes embody makes you appreciate your life. Even those who come in last act like they just won a

gold medal. They're so excited to be there. You realize it's not about the winning and losing. It's about the participation."
 Randy Morgan, a Boise man who has been working with volunteers in Sun Valley, said he hopes everyone will take at least one opportunity to watch the athletes compete.
 "So many people spend their life on the sidelines — this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," he said. "Often people don't fully appreciate what goes on in the Special Olympics until it's over. And that's a shame."
 Karen Bossick may be reached at 208-578-2111 or kbossick@cox-internet.com.

We want your community news

Do you have community news you would like to have published in the *Times-News'* Jerome, North Side, Mini-Cassia and Twin Falls Community sections?
 E-mail the information and a photo, if you have one, to frontdoor@magicvalley.com. Please put the word "community" in the subject line.
 If you are announcing an upcoming event please send the information at least two weeks in advance.



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Dr. Gott

Continued from Main 4
 important to report all symptoms to a dermatologist.
 Treatment depends on the severity, location(s), recurrence and more. Mild cases can often be treated with self-care. More severe cases may require prescription medications or surgery. Medication can include antibiotics, oral retinoids (to stop oil-gland functions and preventing plugging of hair follicles), corticosteroids/immunosuppressants (prednisone and others) and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (Advil, etc.).
 Persistent or severe cases and those with deep lesions may require surgery to drain or remove them. Patients who develop tunnels or tracts under the skin may need to have them surgically opened to promote healing. A final option is complete removal of the lesion and surrounding skin following by closure with skin grafting or skin flaps. These steps do not prevent future outbreaks, however.
 Home care can include warm compresses to reduce swelling, washing affected areas with antibacterial soap followed by applying over-the-counter antibiotic creams. Loose-fitting clothing and undergarments can reduce skin irritation, as can avoiding shaving the areas. Losing weight can limit the number of areas where skin rubs against skin. Daily zinc

gluconate supplements may reduce inflammation and prevent new outbreaks.
 If you are not already doing so, see a dermatologist who can help you decide on treatment options and keep you up-to-date on the latest breakthroughs.

Peter Gott is a retired physician and the author of

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Venessa Ryall Fisher

Venessa Ryall Fisher, 55, of Twin Falls, lost her courageous battle with colon cancer on Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, surrounded by her loving families.

Born July 29, 1953, at Mountain Home Air Force Base, she was the first of four children born to Dick and Doris Ryall, also of Twin Falls. She was a devoted orchestra teacher and loved music and music theater. She taught in the Twin Falls School district for several years. She taught orchestra in Australia for four years and played her beloved viola with the Queensland Symphony after graduating from Utah State University. She also played her viola with the Magic Valley Symphony and the Boise Philharmonic. She was an orchestra teacher for the Davis County School District in Farmington, Utah, and was musical director for several Northside Playhouse music theater productions. For many years she was the choir director for the First Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls. She was married to Mr. C. Michael Fisher, also of Twin Falls, on Nov. 25, 1989, at the Twin Falls United Methodist Church.

Venessa is survived by her devoted husband; parents, Dick and Doris Ryall of Twin

Falls; sisters, Kathy (Steve) Templeton of Issaquah, Wash., and Helen Ryall (Paula Simerly) of Twin Falls; brother, Denis (Dru) of Meridian; niece, Anna Neville; and nephew, Matt Neville, both of Twin Falls; and nephews, Nick (Rachael) Templeton of Seattle, Wash.; and Nathan (Amanda) Templeton and their two sons, Ethan and James Templeton of Anchorage, Alaska. She is also survived by Mike's children, whom she loved as her own, Geoffrey Fisher, a singer with the Air Force Band of Europe stationed in Germany, and Amanda (Tim) Pikas of Santa Maria, Calif.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made in Venessa's name to the St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center Mountain States Tumor Institute (MISTI), the American Cancer Society, the American Diabetes Association of Idaho or a favorite charity.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the First United Methodist Church in Twin Falls. A visitation for family and friends will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park" in Twin Falls.

Velva Joy Rodabaugh

JEROME — Velva Joy Rodabaugh, 77, of Jerome, died Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009, at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center Long Term Care Unit.

She was born Nov. 15, 1931, at Lewiston, Maine. Joy lived in California and Nevada before settling in the Magic Valley; she has resided in Jerome for the past 10 years.

She is survived by her son, Dana (Mary) Kepker; and one granddaughter, Kyann,

all of Jerome; three stepchildren, Shawnee of Jerome and R.C. and Saianka, both of Hansen. She was preceded in death by her two sons, Eddie and Danny.

A graveside service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at the Jerome Cemetery, with the Rev. Dick Goetsch officiating.

The family would like to thank the staff at St. Benedict's Long Term Care Unit and Hospice Visions for their loving care of Joy.

Services are under the care and direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.



Abbie Becker

Abbie Lea Becker, 65, passed away Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, in a Yuma, Ariz., hospital due to complications during a surgical procedure.

Abbie was born Feb. 11, 1943, in Wendell, to Samuel and Jessie F. Danner. She lived in Shoshone and graduated from Shoshone High School in 1961. On Dec. 9, 1960, she married Conrad O. Becker in Gooding. They made their home in the Magic Valley area until moving to Idaho Falls in 1972. She was a wonderful mother to her two children. She was an extraordinarily talented artist who participated in miniatures, sewing, oil painting, French beading and jewelry crafting, as well as tole painting, to name a few of her many talents. Friends and family will always treasure the gifts that were created with much love and originality for each recipient. Abbie was also involved in the Sweet Adeline's singing group in Idaho Falls for many years.

Many people may remember her as "the witch" on Halloween, where she dressed up and answered the door with a "cackle" for the enjoyment and entertainment of children and adults alike. Abbie was a mother and homemaker while working part time in craft stores and later at Idaho Falls High School in the lunchroom. She also repaired intricate

jewelry for a local jeweler. In addition to her own children, she was a motherly figure to many others and always had an open heart and understanding ear. For the past five years, Abbie and her loving husband



have enjoyed retirement and spending winters in the warmth of Yuma, Ariz., and summers visiting family and friends in the Pacific Northwest.

Survivors include her husband, Conrad O. Becker of Idaho Falls; her children, Samuel D. (Sherry) Becker of Vancouver, Wash., and Conra Lea McMurtrey of Idaho Falls; her grandchildren, Chanelle, Tara, Remington, Juston, Dillon and Samantha; great-grandchildren, Jaden and Jackson; sister, Jeanne F. (James) Bryan and their children; and canine companion, Twister. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A gathering in memory of Abbie will be held by the family (for friends and relatives) from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at the church located on 7118 S. Ledgerrock in Ammon, Idaho (on South 45th E. Crowley Road, 2½ miles south of Sunnyside Road). A final resting service will be held this spring in Boise.

Rhodabelle A. Hawkins

Rhodabelle A. Hawkins, 78, precious wife, wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, a good traveler and friend, went home to her Heavenly Father on Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, surrounded by her family in Twin Falls.

Rhoda was born on a farm east of Estherville, Iowa, on June 10, 1930, to Jim and Alma Hill, who farmed there until their deaths. She graduated from Maple Hill High School in Emmett County, Iowa, in 1949. She then went to college to become a teacher and taught primary grades for four years until she married Albert A. Hawkins, also a teacher, in Gallup, N.M., on Feb. 26, 1956. They had four sons and two daughters.

Rhoda continued teaching and raising her children until 1972, when they moved to Jerome to begin a dairy. She worked at Tupperware in Jerome from September 1972 until she retired Oct. 3, 1986. When her husband had bypass surgery, they moved from Jerome to Twin Falls.

They decided in July 1991 to travel across the United States. In 14 years of RV'ing, they traveled through 49 states, across Canada from the Pacific to the Atlantic and along the Texas, New

Mexico and California borders in Old Mexico. They came back to Twin Falls for a permanent stay in 2005. She enjoyed her children, 13 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren and was looking forward to the 29th great-grandchild due this spring.

Rhodabelle was preceded in death by her parents; and one son, Timothy John. She is survived by her loving husband, Albert; and her children, Albert Alvhawkins (Kathleen) Hawkins Jr. of Kansas City, Mo., David Paul (Suzanne) Hawkins, Jonathan Michael (Janet) Hawkins, Faith Marie (Don) Jenks and Grace Ann Hawkins, all of Twin Falls. Her brothers, Jim and Don; and sisters, Wilma Romine and Florence Howell, also survive her.

A celebration of Rhodabelle's life will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at the Cornerstone Baptist Church, 315 Shoup Ave. W. in Twin Falls, with Pastor Bruce Carlson officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. No public viewing will take place. Arrangements are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to be given to the Missions programs of Cornerstone Baptist Church or Grace Baptist Church.



SERVICES

Alice MacKenzie Rosecrans of Boise and formerly of Rupert, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at the Rupert Cemetery (Summers Funeral Home in Boise and Hansen Mortuary in Rupert).

Faye Aldene Nussbaum of Twin Falls, memorial celebration of life service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N.

DEATH NOTICES

Rosalinda Rios

Rosalinda Rios, 40, of Twin Falls, died Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center in Twin Falls.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at St. Edwards Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls; rosary at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Salvador Becerra

WENDELL — Salvador Becerra, 80, of Wendell, died Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009, at his home.

A graveside service will be held at 2 Wednesday, Feb. 4, at the Wendell Cemetery in Wendell; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, and 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at Demaray's Wendell Chapel. A speech will be given at 6 p.m., with a scripture vigil service at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the mortuary.

Jean Matthews

BURLEY — Jean Walbridge Matthews, 91, of Burley, died Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, at the Parke View Care and Rehabilitation Center in Burley.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Pella LDS Church, 160 W. 400 S. of Burley; visitation from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Saturday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley).

Margaret Kuykendall

Margaret Kuykendall, 89 of Twin Falls, died Monday, Feb. 2, 2009, at Bridgeview Estates.

A private family inurnment will take place in the Garden of Time Columbarium at the Twin Falls Cemetery (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Lois L. Charters

GOODING — Lois L. (Lewis) Charters, 72, formerly of Gooding, died Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, at a local hospital.

A graveside service was

held Saturday, Jan. 31, at Terrace Lawn Memorial Gardens (Cloverdale Funeral Home in Boise).

Savannah L. Beverly

Savannah L. Beverly, 1 month, died Monday, Feb. 2, 2009, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center of Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Allen Osborne

Allen Osborne, 72, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009, in Yuma, Ariz.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Norman Mairs

GOODING — Norman Mairs, 83, of Gooding, died Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital in Gooding.

Arrangements will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel.

Esther A. Bliss

PAUL — Esther Amelia White Bliss, 87, of Paul, died Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Mark E. Lindsay

BURLEY — Mark E. Lindsay, 48, of Burley, died Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, at a Utah hospital.

Arrangements will be announced by Morrison Funeral Home and Crematory in Rupert.

James E. Lansberry

James E. (Jim) Lansberry, 78, of Twin Falls, died Monday, Feb. 2, 2009, at The Caring Place in Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Boulder police take back JonBenet investigation

By Alysia Patterson
Associated Press writer

BOULDER, Colo. — The slaying of JonBenet Ramsey will be investigated as a cold case with all evidence and actions taken 12 years ago reviewed anew, the police chief said Monday as the department resumed a probe for which it had long been criticized.

Chief Mark Beckner said new technology gives investigators tools they didn't have a decade ago; the 6-year-old beauty pageant contestant was found bludgeoned and strangled in the basement of her Boulder home in 1996.

Police had transferred the probe to the district attorney's office six years ago amid criticism of how the case was handled.

"We'd love to solve this case for JonBenet so she can rest in peace," Beckner said at a news conference announcing the shift.

Police will handle the investigation as a cold case, "reviewing everything that's been done, the evidence that's been collected, trying to determine where do we go from here," he said.

L. Lin Wood, an attorney for JonBenet's father, John Ramsey, said the decision was a "positive sign in terms of my hope that the Boulder Police Department will take not only a new review in terms of a cold case review, but that it will go in this time with an objective review."

Wood and Ramsey have been critical of previous

police efforts, saying they unfairly focused on the family and ignored other evidence.

Patsy Ramsey, JonBenet's mother and John Ramsey's wife, died in 2006 after a long battle with cancer.

Beckner said he and newly elected District Attorney Stan Garnett agreed that police should lead the investigation again. Beckner said he has invited a team of veteran investigators from state and federal agencies to join an advisory task force.

"We're bringing in people on this task force that are going to have a fresh perspective. (They're going to) look at this case, tell us what they think, challenge us, give us ideas."

The group will meet in the next few weeks to review the evidence and identify additional testing that might be done.

Beckner told the Camera newspaper of Boulder the task force will "explore all possible theories about what happened the night JonBenet was killed" and added, "We are open to all possibilities."

At the news conference, Beckner said more than 140 people had already been investigated as potential suspects, but none could be definitively linked to the crime.

Garnett's predecessor, Mary Lacy, last year cleared JonBenet's family in the slaying, saying male DNA found on the girl's clothing almost certainly came from her killer, and that it didn't match anyone in the family.

Physicist J. Lamar Worzel, 89, dies

By Thomas H. Maugh II
Los Angeles Times

J. Lamar Worzel, the Columbia University physicist who used the emerging science of acoustics to explore the ocean floor and help U.S. submarines evade and track enemies, died of a heart attack Dec. 26 at his home in Wilmington, N.C. He was 89.

A talented improviser, Worzel used found objects from the home and laboratory to piece together instruments that did not yet exist, demonstrating their value and paving the way for the development of far more sophisticated tools. With his longtime boss and colleague, William Maurice Ewing, he helped found Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, a pre-eminent geophysical research center, and began assembling its fleet of oceanographic vessels.

In his later years, Worzel helped the U.S. Navy locate

the sunken nuclear submarine USS Thresher.

Worzel met Ewing in the 1930s while he was an undergraduate physics student at Lehigh University. Ewing took a group of students sailing on marine expeditions out of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Worzel quickly became his prize pupil.

Working with other students, Worzel built the first camera for taking pictures thousands of feet below the ocean's surface. The first model used a coffee can lid for a flash reflector and a thick drinking glass for a casing.

His first deep-water seismograph incorporated a modified Hamilton railroad watch. An oscillograph was powered by the motor from a toy electric train. "We never allowed ourselves to think that anything we decided to do was impossible," he wrote in 2001 in an unpublished autobiography.

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NATION & WORLD

Daschle pleads his case to keep nomination alive

By Kevin Freking
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Fighting to salvage his Cabinet nomination, Tom Daschle pleaded his case Monday evening in a closed meeting with former Senate colleagues after publicly apologizing for failing to pay more than \$120,000 in taxes. President Barack Obama said he was “absolutely” sticking with his nominee for health secretary, and a key senator added an important endorsement.

The White House both underscored the magnitude of the problem and tried to downplay it in the space of seven words. “Nobody’s per-

fect,” said press secretary Robert Gibbs. “It was a serious mistake. ...”

Nobody was predicting defeat for Daschle’s nomination as secretary of health and human services, but it was proving an unsavory pill to swallow for senators who only last week confirmed Timothy Geithner as treasury secretary despite his separate tax-payment problems. It’s an issue that strikes a nerve among lawmakers’ constituents who are struggling with their own serious money problems.

On the bright side for Daschle, he got warm words of support from the chairman of the Senate Finance

Committee, the panel that will have the first say on his fate. Daschle has been “an invaluable and expert partner” in efforts toward health care reform, said Democrat Max Baucus of Montana — an especially important endorsement since the two men have had tussles in the past over Baucus’ handling of GOP tax-cut proposals, Medicare changes and other issues.

Republicans weren’t so quick to get in line.

Going into the private meeting with Daschle, Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, top Republican on the Finance panel, was asked if supported the nomination. He responded, “Ask me after the hearing

a week from tomorrow,” a reference to Daschle’s public confirmation hearing.

Said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, as he went into the meeting: “I’m going to just listen and pay attention very closely.”

Daschle, the former Senate Democratic leader, expressed his remorse in a letter to the Finance Committee, saying he was “deeply embarrassed and disappointed” about what he said was an unintentional failure to pay taxes that he owed. He recently filed amended returns for 2005-07 to report \$128,203 in back taxes and \$11,964 in inter-



AP photo
Former Sen. Tom Daschle, President Barack Obama's choice to head the Health and Human Services, speaks to the media after a closed session meeting with the Senate Finance Committee on Capitol Hill, Monday.

Debate opens on stimulus proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans circulated a sweeping plan to drive down the cost of mortgages by expanding the federal government’s role in the industry, officials said Monday night as debate opened on an economic stimulus bill at the top of President Barack Obama’s agenda.

The emerging proposal also relies on a bigger and more widely available tax break for homebuyers than is now available, those officials added as Senate Republicans staked their claim to a different type of economic recovery measure than Democrats and the administration favor.

Democrats already are under pressure from moderates in their own party to scale back spending in the \$885 billion bill, and Obama met with party leaders at the White House late in the day to discuss strategy.

“What we can’t do is let very modest differences get in the way” of swift enactment of the legislation, Obama said several hours earlier as new layoffs rippled through the economy and the Commerce Department reported an unexpectedly large sixth straight drop in personal spending.

In the Capitol, Republicans said their goal was to change the bill, not to block it. “Nobody that I know of is trying to keep a package from passing,” said Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader.

Holder becomes first black AG

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eric Holder won Senate confirmation Monday as the nation’s first African-American attorney general, after supporters from both parties touted his dream resume and easily overcame Republican concerns over his commitment to fight terrorism and his unwillingness to back the right to keep and bear arms.

The vote was 75-21, with all the opposition coming from Republicans.

Holder’s chief supporter, Sen. Patrick Leahy, said the confirmation was a fulfillment of civil rights leader Martin Luther King’s dream that everyone would be judged by the content of their character.

“Come on the right side of history,” said Leahy, D-Vt., chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Holder becomes the only black in the Obama administration in what has traditionally been known as the president’s Cabinet.

ADOPTION CITY

A decade later, adoptive Texas families struggle

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press Writer

POSSUM TROT, Texas — When a small-town pastor persuaded his congregation to adopt 72 of the most abused and neglected foster children in Texas, the church won praise and publicity from Oprah, People magazine and a reality television show.

A decade later, the families who took part are struggling to raise troubled children in a poor, rural town. And Bishop W.C. Martin is frustrated by the lack of support his black church has received from surrounding communities, which are mostly white.

“Do you think for one moment they recognized us?” Martin said, his voice rising like he’s delivering a Sunday sermon. “For being the entity that brought the type of recognition to this town? Nothing. Not even a thank-you letter. It’s pitiful.”

In 1998, Martin exhorted his Baptist congregation of 200 members to adopt six dozen kids from foster care. The kids had been abused and abandoned and would be a challenge to raise.

Two of the children had been found eating from trash cans in Dallas. Baths terrified one small boy who had been punished with scalding water. One 5-year-old girl had been raped by her mother’s boyfriend.

Raising children with such physical and emotional scars would be difficult for any parents. But it presented special hardships in Possum Trot, a backwoods town of clapboard shacks and trailers about 160 miles north-east of Houston. Many of its residents earn meager paychecks carving up chickens at a nearby poultry plant.

“These parents are having a hard time with these kids. They come with some baggage that is unbelievable,”

Martin said. “It’s not easy. Everybody looks at it and says, ‘Ooh, you’re doing such a wonderful thing.’”

“Yes it is. But nobody knows how we feel on the inside. What is going on to make us sometime have to go somewhere and sit down and say, ‘How did I get into this?’”

The last child was adopted in 2003. Although state officials have continued to hold parenting classes for adoptive couples, no new children have been taken in.

Martin’s frustration is growing. Another area church leader said things “got a little ugly” at a meeting of ministers when Martin became flustered over how churches were spending their resources.

“He feels like he’s the only one doing so much. But he’s not the only one doing things,” said the Rev. Michael Hale of First Baptist Church.

Meanwhile, the kids have turned out better than many people expected. Some steal and cut school, but so far



Ricky R. Cartwright, who has adopted three children, pauses before responding to a question outside the gymnasium and learning center of the Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Center, Texas, Dec. 11.



AP photos
Lovely Brown, 13, works on her math homework in one of the classrooms of the gymnasium and learning center of the Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church that was built by a reality show, ‘Renovate My Family,’ in Center, Texas, Dec. 11.



Bishop W.C. Martin responds to a question during an interview near his church, the Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, in the community of Possum Trot, Texas. Ten years have passed since Bishop Martin convinced his congregation to adopt 72 of the most abused and neglected foster children in Texas.

that’s the worst of their behavior.

“You can’t stop them from acting out. This is what they’ve been through,” said

Ricky R. Cartwright, 44, who adopted three children. “What they’ve seen, we don’t know. All we can do is read a file. But things trigger them. It’s something they’ve been through in life.”

When it began, the project drew attention from Oprah Winfrey, national news programs and Reader’s Digest. Prominent religious leaders such as James Dobson and Pat Robertson toasted Possum Trot for its efforts.

Well-known visitors still stop by. Kay Warren, the wife of megachurch leader Rev. Rick Warren, is visiting next month.

The attention is gratifying, Martin said, but he gets no such praise from his own community.

A reality show titled “Renovate My Family” camped in frigid rain and wind for three weeks to build Possum Trot’s adoptive families a gymnasium and learning center.

Four years later, Martin says, the church cannot pay the utility bills for the center.

Promises, promises

Obama backs off lobbyist pledge

By Charles Babington
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama promised that no lobbyists would work in his White House, part of a “clean break from business as usual.” It hasn’t quite worked out that way.

From the start, he made exceptions to his no-lobbyist rule. And now, embarrassing details about Cabinet-nominee Tom Daschle’s tax problems and big paychecks from special interest groups are raising new questions about the reach and sweep of the new president’s promised reforms.

Maybe he shouldn’t have promised so much, some open-government advocates say. They’re willing to cut him some slack — for now.

On Jan. 21, the day after his inauguration, Obama issued an executive order barring any former lobbyists who join his administration from dealing with matters or agencies related to their lobbying work. Nor could they join agencies they had lobbied in the previous two years.

However, William J. Lynn III, his choice to become the No. 2 official at the Defense Department, recently lobbied for military contractor Raytheon. And William Corr, tapped as deputy secretary at Health and Human Services, lobbied through most of last year as an anti-tobacco advocate. Corr says he will take no part in tobacco matters in the new administration.

“Even the toughest rules require reasonable exceptions,” said White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs.

That was a big step back from Obama’s unambiguous swipe at lobbyists in November 2007, while campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination. “I don’t take a dime of their money,” he said, “and when I am president, they won’t find a job in my White House.”

The waivers granted for Lynn and Corr caused some in Washington to wince. But others, including many long-time advocates of tougher ethical standards, suggest it all says as much about deeply ingrained practices — and even necessities — in Washington as about a new president.

“Sometimes you can over-promise,” said former Sen. Warren Rudman, a Republican from New Hampshire.

“This government is very complicated,” he said. “Often you’ll need people with a lot of experience in certain areas,” and current or former lobbyists sometimes fit that bill best.

“It was probably a mistake to come down so hard on lobbyists,” said Melanie Sloan, executive director of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

Google Earth allows exploration of oceans, Mars

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google Inc. on Monday launched a new version of Google Earth that allows users to explore the oceans, view images of Mars and watch regions of the Earth change over time.

The new features mark a significant upgrade to Google Earth, a popular software program that provides access to the world’s geographical information

through digital maps, satellite imagery and the company’s search tools.

Google Earth 5.0 was unveiled at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, where former Vice President Al Gore, singer Jimmy Buffet and others spoke about its capacity to educate the public about global warming, ocean acidification and other threats to the

planet.

“This is an extremely powerful educational tool,” said Gore, who won a Nobel Peace Prize for his work raising awareness about climate change. “One of my fondest hopes is that people around the world will use Google Earth to see for themselves the reality of what’s happening because of the climate crisis.”

The software is available

for free on Google’s Web site. Researchers and organizations can purchase a more powerful version for \$400.

Google Earth users can now plunge beneath the ocean’s surface, explore three-dimensional images of the underwater terrain and view articles and videos about marine science contributed by scientists and organizations around the world.

OPINION

QUOTABLE

"If you're a business whose orders are falling off dramatically, are you going to add equipment?"
 — Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad questioning if billions of dollars in business tax credits will spur investment

EDITORIAL

Why shouldn't new power customers pay for costs of growth?

State Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert, has come up with the best idea so far in this legislative session: Allow the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to set hook-up fees for new customers to at least partially recover costs of new power plants.

Stevenson, who chairs the House Resources and Environment Committee, says two Idaho Supreme Court decisions dating to 1984 are keeping growth from paying for itself.

In cases brought by building-industry groups, the court said higher fees or rates aimed at charging new customers for expanded services were discriminatory.

Farmers, many from Stevenson's constituency in Jerome and Minidoka counties, lament that increased urban demand for electricity has unfairly raised their costs. Last week, the PUC granted Idaho Power an average 3.1 percent rate increase, but it boosted irrigators' rates by 6 percent.

PUC spokesman Gene Fadness says Stevenson's measure could be a tool to help recover costs of some capital expansion by utilities.

Stevenson's impact fee idea would be a classic user fee — and the fairest approach in a soft economy.

The PUC did right by residential ratepayers last week by trimming the increase in residential rate to 1.61 percent.

But regulators also imposed a three-tiered rate system based on use for residential customers and small business customers, an approach that was unpopular when the PUC tried it for a year starting in 2001. Many people said it penalized owners of all-electric homes and large families.

Under the new system, those using 800 kilowatt-hours of energy or less will pay only 5.58 cents per kWh; 801 to 2,000 kWh will cost 6.2 cents each and anything above 2,000 kWh will cost 7.13 cents each. The average Idaho Power customer uses 1,050 kWh each month.

Trouble is, even the most efficient all-electric house is likely to use more than 2,000 kWh in winter and summer.

Far better, we think, that all ratepayers carry the load — especially new customers.

Our view: New customers are the reason utilities are building new power plants. They should contribute their fair share.

What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

The limits of Rush Limbaugh

Phil Gingrey, a Republican congressman from Marietta, Ga., stood up for GOP leaders in the House and Senate last week, defending them against harsh criticism from Rush Limbaugh and other conservative commentators.

"I think that our leadership, Mitch McConnell and John Boehner, are taking the right approach," Gingrey said. "I mean, it's easy if you're Sean Hannity or Rush Limbaugh or even sometimes Newt Gingrich to stand back and throw bricks. You don't have to try to do what's best for your people and your party. You know you're just on these talk shows and you're living well and plus you stir up a bit of controversy and gin the base and that sort of thing."



JAY BOOKMAN

He's exactly right, of course. Limbaugh has built a weekly radio audience approaching 15 million "dittoheads." In commercial terms that's formidable, and it has earned Limbaugh a literal fortune. It's an audience that takes great satisfaction in seeing ideological purity enforced and having its resentments validated, and Limbaugh is very talented at both.

However, as Gingrey tried to point out, building a national party capable of winning a majority in Congress and competing for the White House requires a lot more than an audience of 15 million. And the things you do to build loyalty in a radio audience — for example, getting nonconservatives to hate your guts, so your own audience loves you even more — don't make sense for a mainstream political party.



Limbaugh's own career suggests the limits to his approach. Every time he has tried to go mainstream, from launching a syndicated TV show in the mid-'90s to his short stint at ESPN as a football analyst, he has failed. Those who like him love him, but they constitute a distinct if devoted minority.

Nonetheless, in the absence of strong Republican leadership, Limbaugh's presence looms large. He has expressed hope that Barack Obama fails as president and he has insisted that congressional Republicans refuse to compromise with the president, portraying any cooperation as an act of betrayal. And the GOP seems to be following his lead.

Last week, in fact, a frustrated Obama warned Republican leaders that "you can't just listen to Rush Limbaugh and get things done," a statement that Limbaugh quickly seized upon as proof of his own importance.

"He's obviously more frightened of me than he is

Mitch McConnell," Limbaugh said on his radio show. "He is more frightened of me than he is, of, say, John Boehner, which doesn't say much about our party. I mean, to tell you the truth folks, if the president is a little more worried about somebody on the radio than he is about somebody on Capitol Hill. ..."

Republicans have tried for years to cast the Democrats as a party dominated by George Soros, Moveon.org, filmmaker Michael Moore and others they can paint as extremists. For the most part, they've had little success except among their own true believers. That's in part because Democrats have always rejected such characterizations, and in part because it just wasn't true. The Democrats aren't disciplined enough to be controlled by anybody.

The Republicans are a different story. In fact, within a day of trying to create a little space between talk-radio hosts and party leadership, Gingrey was a picture of abject contrition.

Citing "the high volume of phone calls and correspondence," Gingrey pledged that "on so many of these things, I see eye-to-eye with Rush Limbaugh. Regardless of what yesterday's headline may have read, I never told Rush to back off."

"Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Newt Gingrich and other conservative giants are the voices of the conservative movement's conscience," he said. "Every day, millions and millions of Americans — myself included — turn on their radios and televisions to listen to what they have to say, and we are inspired by their words and by their determination."

And in case of any doubt, Gingrey went on air with Limbaugh to express "my very sincere regret for those comments I made yesterday."

Limbaugh, like a regular Vito Corleone, graciously let Gingrey kiss his ring.

Jay Bookman is a columnist for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Write to him at jbookman@ajc.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A quartet of complaints about bad leadership

I'm back, and I'm mad! What is wrong with the leadership in United States and Idaho? Some great examples and questions to ask yourselves:

(1) Why would we give Fish and Game more money when it can't manage the organization as it is? Fish and Game needs better management, not more money!

(2) What happened to the 1 percent sales tax and the Lotto funds that are supposed to subsidize the education program?

(3) If they want to fix the economy, why not give each taxpayer in the United States that has a Social Security number \$350,000! People would buy cars, pay off their homes, go on trips, support the retail stores and pay taxes on the money. The fix would be as fast as it would take to mail the checks, as well as save the taxpayers approximately \$45 billion. The problem with the government in Idaho as well as the United States is simple — the people do not have a voice. There are too many over-educated idiots with no common sense in leadership.

(4) Why do we spend thousands of dollars to have a study done to tell our so-called leaders what we already know! Yes, we need a spotlight at Washington and College Road; yes, we need better parking downtown. What is the problem? The answer is poor leadership and management!

To fix it, we need to become the squeaky wheel. Vote for people with more common sense to take leadership. Next election, let's do something about it! Let's put common sense back in government!

DON JESSER
Twin Falls

Curfew enforcement could be an effective solution to drug problem

In an editorial addressing the issue of Wendell's curfews, you raised a caveat against profiling populations by age, "... U.S. Constitution frowns on shortcuts for keeping the peace."

Most of us are aware of the rationale behind community curfews to protect citizens, often from their own self-destructive behaviors as well as others who live in their community. It is a given

that many parents and caretakers, for whatever reasons, don't monitor the welfare of minors, and all too often it is left up to the devices of the community — Wendell's for one — to fulfill that obligation.

I don't need to list those behaviors; most of us have noted the consequences of them in court reports and often in the artistry, i.e., tags, which we see adorning the walls in our towns. These things don't happen at high noon.

The abuse of drugs is particularly notable, albeit not that obvious to the average citizen. These deals "come down" often in the early morning hours when the rest of the community is blissfully asleep and clueless. Often, it is the officer on patrol enforcing curfew violations who can be a recourse in such a situation.

When I was teaching at the high school level in my community, one of my students who had been repeatedly remanded to juvenile detention for drug violations clued me in. "Drive down XX street after 2 a.m. and you'll see lights on in the same houses every night. These people are doing drugs and dealing too.

They feel pretty safe no one is checking up on them and, even if they were, some parents are 'doing' with them or they don't give a damn."

That is a pretty damning indictment against the lack of responsibility in a community. And even though the curfew may not be a constitutionally mandated answer to these problems, it might be an effective interim solution until a better one comes along. I give the city of Wendell credit for recognizing a problem which needs to be solved.

Rather than being condemned for finding a shortcut solution, Wendell might welcome some constructive advice, perhaps from those who have actually been involved with drug use and trafficking. They know what works.

SARAH M. BLASIUS
Burley

Praising meth project

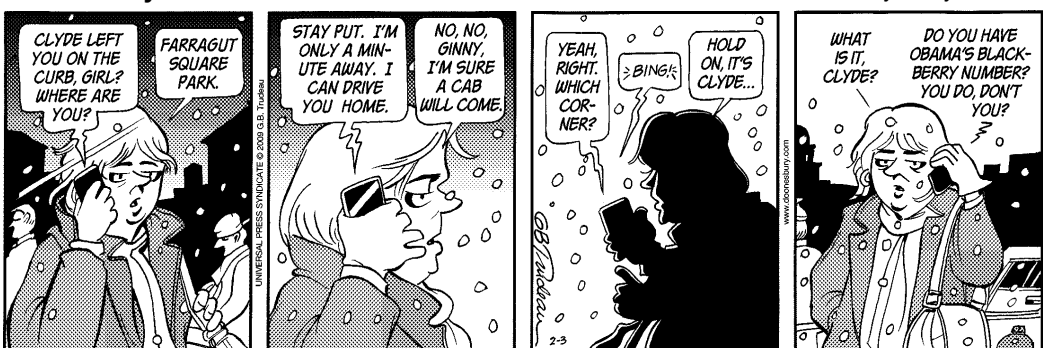
It is about time that something is being done to change attitudes, enhance awareness and not just lock people up.

Thank you, Idaho Meth Project!
ADRIENNE WOODS
Paul

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

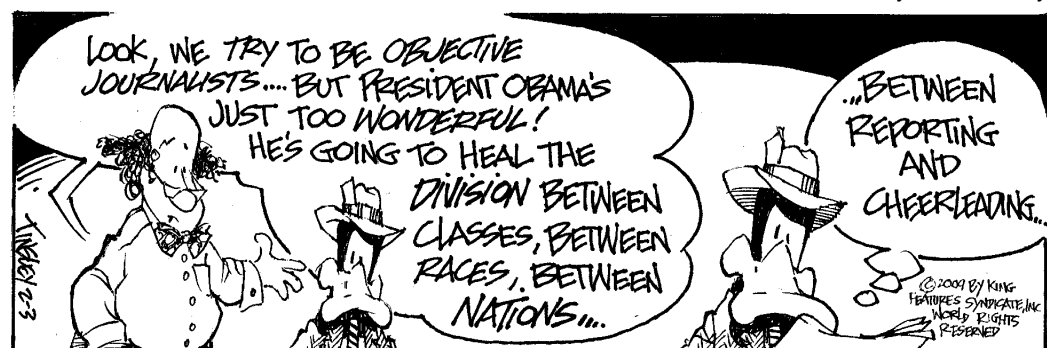
Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Democrats at cross-purposes on stimulus

Throughout 2008, Larry Summers, the Harvard economist, built the case for a big but surgical stimulus package. Summers warned that a "poorly provided fiscal stimulus can have worse side effects than the disease that is to be cured." So his proposal had three clear guidelines.

First, the stimulus should be timely. The money should go out "almost immediately." Second, it should be targeted. It should help low- and middle-income people. Third, it should be temporary. Stimulus measures should not raise the deficits "beyond a short horizon of a year or at most two."

Summers was proposing bold action, but his concept came with safeguards: focus on the task at hand, prevent the usual Washington splurge and limit long-term fiscal damage.

Now Barack Obama is president, and Summers has become a top economic adviser. Yet the stimulus



DAVID BROOKS

approach that has emerged on Capitol Hill abandoned the Summers parameters.

In a fateful decision, Democratic leaders merged the temporary stimulus measure with their permanent domestic agenda — including big increases for Pell Grants, alternative energy subsidies and health and entitlement spending. The resulting package is part temporary and part permanent, part timely and part untimely, part targeted and part untargeted.

It's easy to see why Democrats decided to do this. They could rush through permanent policies they believe in. Plus, they could pay for them with borrowed money. By putting

a little of everything in the stimulus package, they avoid the pay-as-you-go rules that might otherwise apply to recurring costs.

But they've created a sprawling, undisciplined smorgasbord, which has spun off a series of unintended consequences. First, by trying to do everything all at once, the bill does nothing well. The money spent on long-term domestic programs means there may not be enough to jolt the economy now. The money spent on stimulus, meanwhile, means there's not enough to truly reform domestic programs like health technology, schools and infrastructure. The measure mostly pumps more money into old arrangements.

Second, by pumping so much money through government programs, the bill unleashes a tidal wave on state governments. A governor with a few-hundred-billion-dollar shortfall will suddenly have to administer an additional \$4 billion or \$5

billion. That money will be corrosive both when washing in, and when it disappears in a few years time.

Third, the muddle assures ideological confrontation. A stimulus package was always going to be controversial, because economists differ widely about whether or how a stimulus can work. But this bill also permanently alters the role of the federal government, thus guaranteeing a polarizing brawl at the very start of the Obama presidency.

Fourth, Summers' warnings about deficits have been put aside. There is no fiscal exit strategy. Instead, permanent spending commitments are entailed with no permanent funding stream to pay for them.

Fifth, new government expenditures on complex matters are being designed on a hasty, reckless timetable. As readers may know, the policy I am most passionate about is pre-K education. Yet I fervently hope that the Head Start

expansion is dropped from this bill. A slapdash and shambolic expansion could discredit the whole idea.

Wise heads are now trying to restore structure and safeguards to the enterprise. In testimony this week, Alice Rivlin, Bill Clinton's former budget director, raised the possibility of separating the temporary from the permanent measures and focusing independently on each. "A long-term investment program should not be put together hastily and lumped in with the anti-recession package," Rivlin testified. "The elements of the investment program must be carefully planned and will not create many jobs right away."

The best course is to return to the original Summers parameters — temporary, targeted and timely — thus making the stimulus cleaner and faster.

Strip out the permanent government programs. Many of them are worthy, but we can have that debate

another day. Make the short-term stimulus bigger. Many liberal economists have been complaining it is too small, so replace the permanent programs with something like a big payroll tax cut, which would help the working class.

Add in a fiscal exit strategy so the whole thing is budget neutral over the medium term. Finally, coordinate the stimulus package with plans to shore up the housing and financial markets. Until those come to life, no amount of stimulus will do any good.

This recession is scary and complicated. It's insane to try to tackle it and dozens of other complicated problems, all in one piece of legislation. Those who try to do everything at once will end up with a sprawling, lobbyist-driven mess that does nothing well.

David Brooks is a columnist for The New York Times. Write to him at dbrooks@nytimes.com.

Open Medicare up to everybody

My parents can get Medicare, so why not me?

Americans should not have to turn 65 years old or become disabled to have access to a public health-care program that controls overhead costs, provides broad, affordable access to care and protects patients against big bills.

President Barack Obama should open Medicare to all Americans who lose their jobs, cannot afford private health insurance or simply prefer it to private insurance or an HMO.

Part of the promise of Obama-care is that patients would be able to join a "public" health-care plan, with or without subsidy, if they don't have a private policy.

Descriptions have been vague. Obama sometimes mentioned the federal employee health-benefits plan, which is merely a collection of private insurance policies. At other times, he discussed "the public option" as though it would be a stand-alone plan like Medicare, which directly pays doctors and hospitals.

By almost every measure, Medicare is cheaper and more effective than private plans, according to government and academic research. Medicare spends 2 percent on overhead; private insurers typically spend 25 percent to 27 percent for overhead and profit.

A recent Congressional Budget Office report comparing health-care reform options found that allowing Americans to buy into Medicare before turning 65 would lead to more people with coverage at lower costs. The CBO estimated that a Medicare buy-in for those between ages 62 and 64 would cost \$7,600 a year, including drug coverage. A comparable policy on the private market at that age costs \$10,000 and up in combined premiums and deductibles.

Critics contend that Medicare pays doctors so little that many physicians won't accept the coverage, and that it is too bureaucratic and financially unstable. Medicare does use its size to drive down what doctors and hospitals are paid. However, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission reports that 97 percent of physicians accept new Medicare patients, with 80 percent taking all or many patients, which is comparable to HMO acceptance rates.

And with the massive consolidation of insurance companies and HMOs, doctors and hospitals report to our group that Medicare payments are often as generous, if not more generous, than those of HMOs and private plans — and received with



JAMIE COURT

less hassle and more consistency. Studies by AARP and the Commonwealth Fund also show that Medicare patients are more satisfied with every aspect of their care than patients with private plans.

Medicare's financial challenges are real but solvable. Predictions of its impending bankruptcy mostly have to do with the program serving the sickest and neediest patients in the system without a proper revenue base and in an era of costly techno-medicine.

There are a number of ways to help solve the funding problem.

First, Obama's promise of new technology for better medical record-keeping should limit unnecessary or duplicate procedures. Obama also must grapple with Medicare's unintended incentives to doctors to do too many costly procedures at the end of life that prolong life but do not improve quality of life.

Tom Daschle, the new secretary of Health and Human Services, already has made this a priority by calling for doctors and hospitals to be paid for performance rather than by the number of procedures they perform or drugs they prescribe.

Bringing younger and healthier patients into the Medicare risk pool also would stabilize the program's funding. They don't use as much medical care as older and sicker patients, so their payments would offset the cost of care for the sicker ones.

Allowing employers to offer Medicare is one way to widen the risk pool. Payroll deductions for Medicare would be less than what the average employer and employee now pay, according to congressional research.

Finally, the president's pledge to give the Medicare program the authority to buy prescription drugs in bulk for the program's 44 million recipients would be another cost-saver. This should drive down prices for recipients by about 60 percent.

With Medicare as the public option in his health-care plan, the new president could increase its buying power to further reduce expenditures. Obama-care should make Medicare as big as Americans want it to be.

Jamie Court is president of Consumer Watchdog. He wrote this commentary for the Los Angeles Times.

It's an \$800 billion mistake

As a conservative economist, I might be expected to oppose a stimulus plan. In fact I support stimulus. But the fiscal package now before Congress needs to be revised. In its current form, it does too little to raise national spending and employment. It would be better for the Senate to delay legislation for a month, or even two, to produce a much better bill. We cannot afford an \$800 billion mistake.

Start with the tax side. The plan is to give a tax cut of \$500 a year for two years to each employed person. That's not a good way to increase consumer spending. Experience shows that the money from such temporary, lump-sum tax cuts is largely saved or used to pay down debt. Only about 15 percent of last year's tax rebates led to additional spending.

The proposed business tax cuts are also likely to do little to increase business investment and employment. The extended loss "carrybacks" are primarily lump-sum payments to selected companies. The bonus depreciation plan would do little to raise capital spending in the current environment of weak demand because the tax benefits in the early years would be recaptured later.

Instead, the tax changes should focus on providing incentives to households and businesses to increase current spending. Why not a temporary refundable tax credit to households that purchase cars or other major consumer durables? Or a temporary tax credit for home improvements? In that way, the same tax reduction could produce more spending and employment.

Postponing the scheduled



MARTIN FELDSTEIN

increase in the tax on dividends and capital gains would raise share prices, leading to increased consumer spending and, by lowering the cost of capital, more business investment.

On the spending side, the stimulus package is full of well-intended items that are not likely to do much for employment.

The largest proposed outlays amount to just writing checks to state governments. Nearly \$100 billion would result from increasing the "Medicaid matching rate," a technique for reducing states' Medicaid costs to free up state money for spending on anything governors and state legislators want. An additional \$80 billion would be given out for "state fiscal relief."

The plan to finance health insurance premiums for the unemployed would actually increase unemployment by giving employers an incentive to lay off workers rather than pay health premiums during a time of weak demand.

A large fraction of the stimulus proposal is devoted to infrastructure projects that will spend out very slowly, not with the speed needed to help the economy in 2009 and 2010. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that less than one-fifth of the \$50 billion of proposed spending on energy and water would occur by the end of 2010.

If rapid spending a criterion of choice, the plan should

include higher defense outlays, including replacing and repairing supplies and equipment, needed after five years of fighting. The military can increase its level of procurement very rapidly. Yet the proposed plan includes less than \$5 billion for defense.

Infrastructure spending on domestic military bases can also proceed more rapidly than infrastructure spending in the civilian economy.

All new spending and tax changes should have explicit time limits that prevent ever-increasing additions to the national debt.

The problem with the current stimulus plan is not that it is too big but that it delivers too little extra employment

and income for such a large fiscal deficit. It is worth taking the time to get it right.

Martin Feldstein, an economics professor at Harvard University, is president emeritus of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

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T.F. Hertz dealership said to be closing

Owners decline to comment

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Rumors swirled Monday that one of the largest auto dealerships in Twin Falls may be calling it quits.

Hertz of Magic Valley, located at 636 Poleline Road, was said to be closing its doors and liquidating all vehicles on the lot.

Reached at his home in Hawaii, Robert Latham Sr., who founded the Latham dealerships and opened Hertz of Magic Valley, declined comment when

asked if the dealership is closing.

Tracy Frank, general manager of the used car dealership, Monday afternoon said no "changes" to the dealership are planned, but did not respond to later calls for clarification.

Hertz sells its used rental cars through franchise dealers around the nation, including dealers in Idaho Falls and Boise as well as Twin Falls.

The Hertz corporate Web site lists all three Idaho dealers and shows vehicles available in Boise and Idaho Falls. For Twin Falls, however, the site advises only that "Currently this licensee location has no online inventory

available on this Web site."

The dealer's own Web site was inactive Monday.

Hertz of Magic Valley opened in 2000 under the franchise name RLS Inc.

The dealership specializes in rentals and short-term leases, and sells lease-return vehicles with anything from 10,000 to 20,000 miles on the odometer.

According to the Idaho Automobile Dealers Association, Hertz was consistently one of the top sellers of used vehicles in south-central Idaho — ranking among the top 20 dealerships throughout 2008.

Auto sales have tumbled in recent months as the nationwide recession

has deepened.

Another of the Latham family's dealerships, Latham Motors, ceased operations in October. It sold used cars and trucks at 510 Second Ave. S. in Twin Falls.

"Times are tough for auto dealers — 900 new car dealerships have closed nationwide, and they are expecting another 1,200 to close this year," said Con Paulos, who owns several new and used car dealerships in the area. "The used car dealerships are being hit just as bad. I don't know of any details about Hertz closing; this is news to me. We hate to see another dealership close, even if it is one of our competitors."

AROUND IDAHO

Horse zags, Idaho gov. zigs, injures shoulder

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter is undergoing surgery after a team roping accident three weeks ago that injured his right shoulder and bicep.

Otter, who missed about a week of the 2008 Legislature due to hip resurfacing surgery, will likely be out of the governor's office for several days and undergo physical therapy for up to 15 weeks after a torn rotator cuff and detached bicep tendon, according to Monday's letter from his wife, Lori Otter, to lawmakers and state agency heads.

Clete Edmunson, Otter's transportation adviser, says the governor's schedule has been cleared for the rest of the week. Otter will be working from home.

Lori Otter said in the letter the "governor zipped and his horse zagged; he caught the steer...but his shoulder didn't fare well."

She says doctors advised

surgery as soon as possible to avoid scar tissue.

Lost teen snowboarder found near Bogus Basin

BOISE — Authorities say a 17-year-old snowboarder reported missing from Bogus Basin may have walked up to 20 miles in the backcountry before being picked up by a motorist.

Keido Mormarimoto, a Japanese exchange student and novice snowboarder, was found Monday morning on Grimes Creek Road, about three miles west of Highway 21.

Boise County authorities say the teen was last seen by his host family Sunday night at a ski hill's chairlifts.

About a dozen ski patrol members searched overnight, and Boise County search and rescue crews started their search Monday.

Officials say a resident found the boy Monday morning and brought him home to warm up, eat and get on some dry clothes.

Boise County Chief Deputy Dale Rogers says the teen was in fine condition but taken to a hospital for tests.

— wire reports

Idaho looks at private prison beds to save money

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Two out of every five prison beds in Idaho would be privately run if the Idaho Correctional Institution-Orofino is privatized, Idaho Department of Correction Director Brent Reinke told law-

makers Monday.

Idaho currently has only one private prison — the Idaho Correctional Center south of Boise, which is run by the Tenn.-based Corrections Corporation of America. ICC operates about 27 percent of

the state's prison beds.

But that percentage will steadily grow over the coming two years. The state expects to open another 628 beds at ICC by July, boosting the percentage of private beds in Idaho to 33 percent. Another 400 pri-

vate beds are slated to open a

year later at the new Correctional Alternative Placement Program. That would bring Idaho's total private bed percentage to 37 percent. Idaho has more than 7,200 inmates.



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Moooving down: Idaho's cattle herd loses 5%

Milk cow replacement down 10 percent

By Cindy Snyder
Times-News correspondent

Cattle pastures and milk parlors may look a bit empty this year.

High feed costs coupled with the previous three years of losses in the cattle feeding segment, knocked calf prices lower last fall. Add to that credit problems stemming from the Wall Street debacle and some producers have been forced to sell cattle to get their cash flow moving.

According to the National Agricultural Statistics

Service, Idaho herds including both cattle and calves totaled 2.11 million head on Jan. 1 — down 5 percent from the 2.21 million head a year ago. The inventory includes both beef and dairy cattle.

While Idaho's beef cow inventory is down 5 percent to 451,000 animals, the dairy herd grew 5 percent to 554,000 dairy cows.

However, Wilson Gray, a University of Idaho extension livestock economist, said both beef and dairy producers are keeping fewer

replacement heifer — indicating that producers are planning a significant herd reduction.

Producers kept just 90,000 beef replacement heifer, down 5 percent, and just 275,000 heifer for milk cow replacement, down 10 percent.

"Producers are culling pretty heavily," Gray said. "The cupboard is going to be pretty bare."

Dairy cow slaughter has increased substantially in the last few months, as well as beef cattle slaughter. Retail meat industry watchers say resulting increase in beef

production is keeping beef inventory high in coolers and pushing producer profits lower.

While most analysts were expecting the nation's cattle herd to shrink January, the inventory came in less than expected — inventories are at their lowest level since 1959.

Nationwide, the dairy industry grew moderately with dairy cow inventory gaining 76,000 head nationwide, a 0.8 percent gain.

But with the January Class III milk price expected to be

See **HERD**, Agribusiness 2

THE NATION'S HERDS BY THE NUMBERS:

- Nationwide cattle and calf inventory: **94.491 million head, 1.6 percent** lower than a year ago.
- Pre-report estimates called for a **0.7 percent** decline, but inventories are actually down **2.2 percent**.
- Beef producers trimmed herds by **2.4 percent** to **31.671 million head**.
- Dairy herds gained **76,000 head** nationwide, a **0.8 percent** gain.

New year ushers in new outlook for producers

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — As one door closes, another one opens.

The same holds true for the new year. Regardless of whether producers left 2008 in the black or on their way to a bank loan officer, lessons learned translate into resolutions for 2009.

"I'm definitely going to be more organized, that's probably my biggest resolution for this year," said Jennifer Swenson of Horseshoe Bend's Webster Ranch Natural Farms.

On her 40 acres, Swenson oversaw the organic, free-range production of 500 chickens and nearly 70 turkeys along with a small quantity of garden vegetables and plant starts. Not too shabby for her first year.

Another resolution for Webster is to get her poultry broods later in the year. February chicks didn't take to the cold, and the maintenance needed cut into profits. Turkeys taken on in mid-March grew into 20-plus pound Thanksgiving feasts.

Unfortunately, many potential customers wanted 10 pound birds. This year she'll be ready.

"I'm going to be pickier about timing and the breeds I get," she said.

Resolutions are also on the mind of Castleford dairyman Andrew Jarvis, partner in Rock Ridge Dairy.

Even facing a turbulent and drastically depressed market, Jarvis said the industry, in general, needs a resolution for self sufficiency.

"I would like to see no involvement by the government in agriculture anywhere in the U.S.," he said.

Jarvis said producers should change business practices, as dictated by the market, instead of leaning on government subsidies.

"With the (economy's) downturn, everyone is looking to the government for bail-outs, but we have it in our grasp to take action as an industry and to fix the problems we have," Jarvis said.

For one, Jarvis said the industry needs to resolve to cut the number of milking animals. There is simply too much milk in the market, and demand is pulling back domestically and abroad. That's just one reason milk prices aren't even at break even, he said.

At Rock Ridge, Jarvis said the operation will likely be even more conservative than previously. That means taking on as little debt as possible and pulling back the reins on projects and expansion.

"We tried as much as we could to prepare for a

See **YEAR**, Agribusiness 2



Times-News file photo

The John Deere GS2 system utilizes touch-screen technology to control the tractor as well as equipment, such as a sprayer. Jim Wilson, an associate professor in the agriculture department at the College of Southern Idaho, drives a John Deere 3320 tractor in spring 2007 at the school's community gardens. The tractor is outfitted with a second-generation GPS used for farming.

CSI to offer precision farming training

Despite lowering fuel, labor and fertilizer costs, region slow to adopt technology

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Manufacturers of agricultural equipment are working with two-year schools across the nation to teach farmers about technology that can reduce fuel, fertilizer and labor costs.

It's called precision farming and it marries the latest global positioning system (GPS) and geographic information system (GIS) mapping technology with modern-day tractors and implements.

In south-central Idaho, the Agriculture Department at the College of Southern Idaho will team with John Deere to offer precision farming workshops in March.

Jim Wilson, associate professor of agriculture at CSI, said the workshops will help working farmers in the area who want to learn about the benefits of farm management software and setting up precision farming components on their operations.

Precision farming technology has evolved substantially since it was created nearly a decade ago.

GPS technology that guide tractors eliminates the need for "guess rows" that often overlap, wasting time and lowering yields. More advanced systems can also adjust fertilizer mixtures and seeding for specific parts of the fields based on a process that called prescription farming.

Wilson said the technology has only recently peaked the interest of area farmers — caused primarily by a spike in fuel prices during the summer of 2008.

"A lot of the demand we see is for guidance systems for tractors that help with fuel savings," Wilson said.

He said large farms — those with 1,000 acres or more — have been the quickest to adopt the technology.

"For smaller farms, it can be a difficult transition," Wilson said. "Even though, in most cases, the \$30,000



A close up view of the GS2 system that utilizes GPS and GIS technology to eliminate 'guess rows.'

investment in equipment can be paid of in three to four years."

Ray Sheen, agricultural management systems consultant with Christiansen Implement of Twin Falls, said interest in precision farming technology increased during the spring of 2008, but started to wane later in the year after

crops had been planted.

Many farmers are reluctant to spend upwards of \$30,000 on new equipment.

Wilson said participants in the CSI class will receive both classroom and hands-on demonstrations with John Deere simulators and actual equipment.

Participants will learn the

latest guidance applications, field documentation, coverage maps, management practices, data transfer, operation analysis, and better decision-making.

The class will be held March 11, 12, and 13 at CSI's Evergreen building. For more information, or to register call 208-732-6401.

USDA begins referendum to decide if it should continue oversight of Lamb Board

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

The U.S. Department of Agriculture launched a three week referendum to decide whether or not the department should continue to oversee the American Lamb Board.

Beginning today, lamb producer, feeders and handlers can vote in favor, or against, the oversight that

has been in place for almost one year to ensure board standards.

USDA officials said last week that it will offer lamb producers, feeders, and handlers the opportunity to vote on whether to continue or terminate the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order, authorized under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996.

The order is an industry funded research and promotions commodity board appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture that represents all sectors of the American lamb industry. The board's main objective is to promote U.S. lamb products.

The referendum, which will be conducted at USDA's Farm Service Agency county offices, will be held until Feb. 27. To be eligible to vote,

persons must certify and provide documentation, such as a sales receipt or remittance form, which shows they have been engaged in the production, feeding, or slaughtering of lambs.

Persons eligible to vote should obtain form LS-86 from a county FSA office either in person, by mail, fax, or via the Internet at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/>

lsmarketingprograms.

Persons must vote in the referendum at the County FSA office where their administrative farm records are maintained. For those persons not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to vote will be provided at the County FSA office where the person owns or rents land.

USDA monitors activities of the American Lamb Board.

The mandatory program is financed by producers, seed-stock breeders, feeders, and exporters who are assessed .005 cents per pound when live ovine animals are sold.

The first handler, primarily packers, pays an additional 30 cents per head on ovine animals purchased for slaughter.

Joshua Palmer may be reached at 208-735-3231.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ sections, listing Most Active, Gainers, and Losers for each exchange, along with a DIARY section.

Table with INDEXES and STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST sections, listing various market indices and local stock prices.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT: A detailed guide explaining market report terminology, including Name, Div, Last, Chg, Fund Name, Sell, Chg, Stock Footnotes, and Mutual Fund Footnotes.

Herd

Continued from Agribusiness 1. near \$10.78 per hundred-weight — considerably less than the nearly \$20 per hundredweight — producers were receiving a year ago, dairy producers are expected to continue culling cows in 2009. Milk futures prices had started pulling milk contract prices higher based on the hope that Congress would buy dairy cows through a herd reduction plan, but that idea was apparently taken off the table late last week, Gray said. But analysts called the cattle inventory report bullish for beef cattle, given that U.S. beef output should be significantly lower for the next two to three years. That idea seemed to hold true when the feeder cattle futures posted significant gains on Feb. 2. February live cattle closed 190 points higher at \$83.90 cents a pound, and April finished 172 points higher at \$86.82 cents. March feeder cattle ended 300 points higher at 94.00 cents, and April also closed 300 points higher at 95.32 cents.

Year

Continued from Agribusiness 1. situation like this, to be as conservative as possible, but we probably could have been better," he said. "We know that prices are going to drop, and they are going to skyrocket, but the trouble, as an industry, is to get everyone to work toward the same end." Although 2009 seems to have begun on a low note, Jarvis and Paul farmer Gary Fisk share an optimism that this to shall pass. "I've never been one for resolutions, but I do keep trying to do better next time," Fisk said. "It seems like, for us farmers, that if its good one year its going to hunker down and bite you the next. You just pray you make it through." HED: Resolutions: New year ushers in new outlook

COMMODITY PRICES

Table showing Commodity Prices for Dairy, Feed, Corn, Barley, Hay, Small grain, Soft white wheat, and Livestock. Includes sub-sections like Dairy (Block, Barrel, Butter, Whey protein concentrate, Class III milk, Class IV milk) and Feed (Corn, Barley, Hay).

COMMODITY REPORT

Table showing Closing Futures for various commodities like Live cattle, Feeder cattle, Lean hogs, Pork belly, Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, and Beans. Includes a BEANS section.

SALEYARD REPORT

Table showing Saleyard Report for Twin Falls and Jerome. Lists prices for Steers, Heifers, Choice steers, Choice heifers, and various weights and types of livestock.

Grim water outlook for Nev., Calif.

Farmers avoid planting annual row crops wait until Feb. 20 to announce specific figures to gain a better idea of the Sierra snowpack. "Clearly, this is going to be a tight year," Milligan said. "The amount of water in storage is very low and the run-off projections at this point are very low. It's going to be very challenging to meet the various needs." As of Jan. 22, the snowpack water content was 49 percent of average for the date in Northern California, 57 percent in Central California and 64 percent in Southern California, according to Milligan. Bill Diedrich, an almond grower in Fresno County, said he's facing the prospect of losing some of his orchards because of the drought. "Quarter sections of almonds may be dead by the end of the year. It's one of the grimmest water situations we've ever faced," said Diedrich, a member of a fourth-generation California farm family.

BEANS

Valley Beans: Prices are net to growers, 100 pounds, U.S. No. 1 beans, less Idaho bean tax and storage charges. Prices subject to change without notice. Producers desiring more recent price information should contact dealers. Pintos, no quote, new crop; great northrens, no quotes; pinkis, no quote, new crop; small reds, no quote, new crop. Prices are given by Rangens in Buhl. Prices current Jan. 28. Other Idaho bean prices are collected weekly by Bean Market News, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Pintos, Ltd. \$38; great northrens, not established; small white, not established; pinkis, not established; small reds, Ltd. \$38-\$43. Quotes current Jan. 28.

GRAINS

Valley Grains: Prices for wheat per bushel; mixed grain, oats, corn and beans per hundred weight. Prices subject to change without notice. Soft white wheat, ask; barley, ask; oats, ask; corn, ask (15 percent moisture). Prices are given daily by Rangens in Buhl. Prices current Jan. 28. Barley, \$8.00 (48-lb. minimum) spot delivery in Twin Falls and Gooding; com, no quote (Twin Falls only). Prices quoted by Land O'Lakes Inc. in Twin Falls. Prices current Jan. 28. Intermountain Grain: POCATELLO (API) — Idaho Farm Bureau Intermountain Grain and Livestock Report on Monday. POCATELLO — White wheat 4.65 (steady); 11.5 percent winter 4.84 (up 10); 14 percent spring 6.68 (down 11); barley 6.25 (steady); BURLY — White wheat 4.32 (down 3); 11.5 percent winter 4.56 (down 30); 14 percent spring 6.24 (down 37); barley 5.50 (steady).

FUEL REPORT

The average price for fuel in south-central Idaho remained mostly unchanged compared to the previous week. The average price for a gallon of regular-grade gasoline in the region was \$1.75, while the average price for diesel was \$2.20. The national average for a gallon of regular-grade gasoline was \$1.88, while the average price in Idaho was \$1.75, according to the AAA Fuel Gauge Report. Fuel prices are expected to decline in coming months as crude for March delivery fell \$1.60 to settle at \$40.08 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

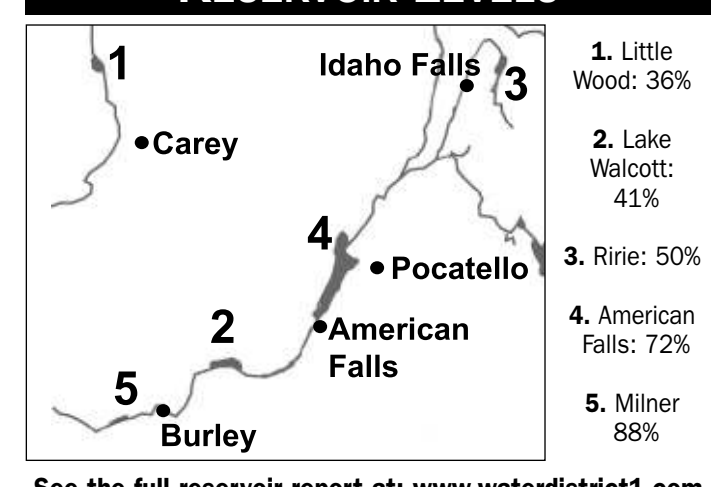
Gas prices

- Twin Falls: Fred Meyer, 705 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.: \$1.67
• Jerome: Maverik Country Store, S. Lincoln Ave.: \$1.69
• Burley: Maverik Country Store, N. Overland Ave.: \$1.68

Diesel prices

- Twin Falls: Phillips 66, 240 Addison Ave. W.: \$2.31
• Jerome: Flying J, 5350 U.S. Highway 93: \$2.20
• Burley: Maverik Country Store, N. Overland Ave.: \$2.17

RESERVOIR LEVELS



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BURLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT ANNUAL WATER USERS MEETING February 11, 2009 Unity Shop 9:30 am TOPICS: Water Update • Finances Rebuild of Minidoka Dam • Legal Issues Adjudication Motor Pump Efficiency, Dick Stroh, BPA

What kind of role model?

Does embattled Michael Phelps deserve a break?

By Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — A young man appears to be smoking pot at a party. Big deal, right? Our new president has freely admitted doing just that in his youth — inhaling, too — and it didn't derail him one bit. So should we expect more of Michael Phelps?

It depends on what we want and expect our youthful role models to be: perfect, or flawed like the rest of us.

And so as the Olympic swimmer's many corporate sponsors were wrestling with their options Monday, a day after an embarrassing photo emerged of the decorated athlete appearing to inhale from a bong, some were looking at the bright side.

"We should grab this teachable moment," said Lisa Bain, executive editor of Parenting magazine. "It's a good opportunity to talk to your kids about role models. They're human. They're not gods."

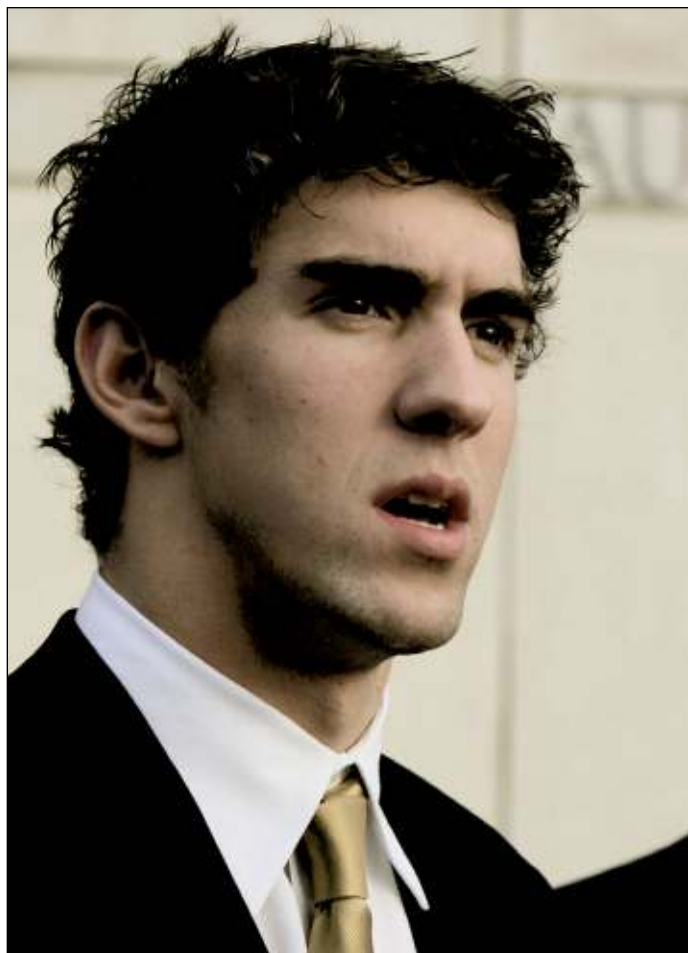
"Any conversation you can have with your kids about the choices people make, especially those they hold up as role models, is a good thing," Bain said.

To her and to many others, there's no question that Phelps is a role model for young kids, as opposed to, say, a mere celebrity endorser. Only role models appear on Kellogg's cereal boxes, for example. And that complicates the problems for this young man, whose journey to eight gold medals in Beijing last year captivated the world. "Breakfast cereal — that's really speaking to kids between 6 and 12," said Marian Salzman, known as a trendspotter in the advertising industry. "He has big, important deals, in a terrible economy. This is just wacky."

But that doesn't mean Phelps, 23, doesn't deserve a break, says Salzman, chief marketing officer of the Porter Novelli public relations firm. She blames his handlers, who should have done a much better job protecting him from the foibles of youth, from newly won freedom, and from piles of money. "He's probably a nice boy who didn't get enough guidance," said Salzman — especially after a drunken driving arrest following the 2004 Olympics. "I think he accomplished that huge dream in Beijing, and then his people just relaxed."

Of course, smoking pot, assuming that's what Phelps was inhaling from that bong, is not nearly as serious as endangering lives on the road.

Indeed, perceptions of marijuana use have changed

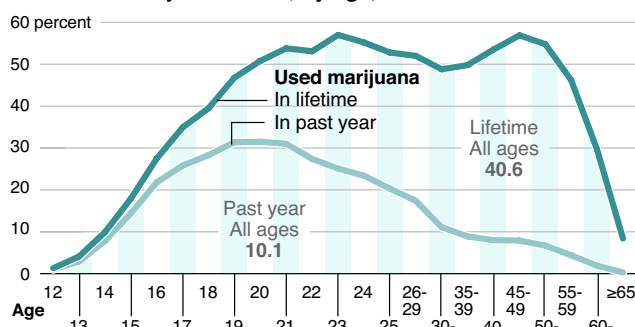


In this Dec. 29, 2004, photo, Olympic gold medal swimmer Michael Phelps speaks to reporters after pleading guilty to drunk driving charges in district court in Salisbury, Md. Phelps acknowledged 'regrettable' behavior and 'bad judgment' after a photo in a British newspaper Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, showed him inhaling from a marijuana pipe.

Marijuana use is not uncommon

Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps is not alone in his use of marijuana. In 2007, 40.6 percent of people older than 12 admit to using marijuana in their lifetime.

Estimated marijuana users, by age, 2007



SOURCE: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

AP

since 1987, when federal appellate judge Douglas Ginsburg withdrew from consideration for the Supreme Court after reports surfaced about his smoking marijuana while a student and a law professor.

In 1992, candidate Bill Clinton admitted he'd tried it as a student in England, didn't like it, and, famously, didn't inhale. Fast forward to 2006, when Barack Obama said just as famously: "I inhaled frequently. That was the point."

Still, as Bain points out, "No matter what we may have done in our youth, you can't be saying to kids that it's not so bad. First, it's illegal. And

also, it can lead people to make bad choices."

The Phelps affair is sure to revive the debate over whether athletes should even be considered role models. "I don't think they are," Salzman said. "We have a tendency to deify people who are great at one thing. We assume they're great at everything. When we want them to be infallible, aspirational, perfect, it never works."

Especially in 2009, when a simple visit to a party can be recorded on a cell phone camera. "The whole question of role models is a big problem in the age of 24/7 connectivity," she said.

So maybe our expectations

INSIDE

Will Phelps' sponsors pull out?

See Sports 1

of a 23-year-old exploring his freedom and new celebrity are too great. On the other hand, Phelps signed contracts with morals and behavior clauses, which allow sponsors to cancel deals over egregious behavior, noted Carol Weston, an author of books for young girls and the advice columnist for Girls' Life magazine.

"He knew he was being hired not just because of his accomplishments in the pool, but also for his ongoing behavior in public," Weston said. "It's part of the deal."

That said, Phelps' apology sounded genuine to her. "It wasn't the lame, 'sorry-if-anyone-got-offended' kind," she said. And in the athlete's defense, she added: "I often think, 'Wow, he spent a lot of time underwater. When did he even get to hang out with friends?'"

It remains to be seen what happens with Phelps' sponsors. Apparel company Speedo, luxury Swiss watchmaker Omega and sports beverage PureSport all say they support him. But other big sponsors, such as Visa Inc. and Kellogg Co., aren't talking yet.

Weston, the author, fears that if Phelps emerges unscathed, parents seeking a teachable moment are going to have a tricky situation on their hands. "If this all works out for him, parents are going to have a pretty hard time saying drugs are bad," she said.

Whatever happens, syndicated ethics columnist Randy Cohen sees a different problem. He takes no issue with possible pot smoking — only with what he sees as hypocrisy implicit in Phelps' apology.

"So the guy smokes pot," Cohen said. "For once I'd like someone to say, 'Yeah, I smoke pot, it's harmless and I enjoy it.'" Instead, he said, Phelps is lying by pretending he'll never do it again.

As for whether Phelps is a role model for kids, Cohen dismisses the notion that any athlete or celebrity, for that matter, should be seen that way.

"The people who should be shaping our kids' conduct are parents, friends, people they know in the community," Cohen said. "Michael Phelps' glory is that he's an incredibly talented swimmer. Unless your child happens to be a fish, why do you want him to be a role model?"

AROUND THE NATION, WORLD

WASHINGTON Consumer spending falls again, drags down economy

Consumers slashed spending for an unprecedented sixth straight month in December, feeding the already painful recession as millions of households opted to save rather than buy.

The drop in consumer spending, the economy's key driver, means little help is in sight for struggling retailers, homebuilders and automakers.

The fallout spread Monday when Macy's Inc. announced it would cut 7,000 jobs, almost 4 percent of its work force, and take other belt-tightening measures to cope with the drop in sales.

"It is going to be hard to get the economy going again," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist for IHS Global Insight of Lexington, Mass.

"We are very much reliant on whatever help the government can provide through the stimulus package and through the efforts of the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department to help the financial system."

Personal consumption spending dropped 1 percent in December, a sixth consecutive decline that represented the longest stretch of weakness in a half-century of record keeping. Spending had declined 0.8 percent in November, even worse than first reported, the Commerce Department reported.

Separately, the Fed reported that banks were making it harder for borrowers to obtain all sorts of loans over the last three months despite the government's \$700 billion bailout program. Nearly 60 percent of banks responding to the Fed's new survey said they had tightened lending standards on credit cards and other types of consumer loans.

Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com, says banks — whose lax lending standards for home mortgages contributed to the financial meltdown — are in no rush to loosen lending standards.

NEW YORK Macy's to cut 7,000 jobs, slash dividend

NEW YORK (AP) — Macy's Inc. announced Monday that it will cut 7,000 jobs, almost 4 percent of its work force, and reduce its contributions to its employees' retirement funds and slash its dividend to preserve cash amid a severe pullback in consumer spending.

The Cincinnati-based department store chain also announced the national rollout of a plan to localize merchandising to specific markets, which it began in some regions last year.

The company, which also delivered downbeat earnings and sales forecasts for the year on Monday, said it plans to integrate all its geographic divisions into a single unit.

Macy's shares fell 4 percent Monday to close at \$8.59.

Macy's said the job cuts, which include some unfilled positions and 1,900 being eliminated in the restructuring, will come at corporate offices, stores and other locations. The company employs about 180,000 people.

Macy's announced last month — on the heels of the worst holiday shopping season in decades — that it would close 11 stores, affecting 960 employees.

The company expects the additional actions announced Monday to lower its annual selling, general and administrative expenses about \$400 million per year starting in 2010.

PENNSYLVANIA Groundhog predicts winter will continue

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. — The world's most famous groundhog saw his shadow Monday morning, predicting that this already long winter will last for six more weeks.

Punxsutawney Phil emerged just after dawn in front of an estimated 13,000 witnesses, many dressed in black and gold to celebrate the Pittsburgh Steelers' Super Bowl victory the night before.

"There's significant buzz from the Steelers win and quite a few Terrible Towels floating from the crowd," said Mickey Rowley, deputy secretary for tourism in Pennsylvania.

The annual ritual takes place on Gobbler's Knob, a tiny hill in Punxsutawney, a borough of about 6,100 residents some 65 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club announced the forecast in a short proclamation, in which Phil acknowledged the Steelers' 27-23 win over the Arizona Cardinals.

According to German superstition, if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on Feb. 2 — the Christian holiday of Candlemas — winter will last another six weeks. If no shadow is seen, legend says, spring will come early.

ISRAEL

Israel rules out Hamas contacts, threatens additional force

HERZLIYA, Israel — The Israeli foreign minister pledged Monday to keep hitting Hamas as long as it attacks Israel, ruling out negotiations with the militant Islamic rulers of Gaza just eight days before national elections in which she is running for prime minister.

Tzipi Livni's tough statement came as a Hamas delegation discussed terms for a long-term truce with Israel through Egyptian mediators, building on a two-week informal cease-fire that followed Israel's bruising offensive in Gaza.

Events Monday underlined the urgency of the talks in Cairo. An Israeli missile hit a car in the town of Rafah, killing a Palestinian militant, hours after warplanes bombed the nearby Gaza-Egypt border seeking to destroy tunnels that Hamas uses to smuggle in weapons and supplies.

The Israeli military said the target of the airstrike was a car carrying militants who fired mortars at Israel. Palestinian officials said a militant in the car was killed and another was wounded, along with two bystanders.

AFGHANISTAN Bomber in police uniform kills policemen

KANDAHAR — A suicide bomber in a police uniform detonated his explosives inside a police training center in southern Afghanistan on Monday, killing 21 officers and wounding at least 20, officials said. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

The bomber entered the training facility in Tirin Kot, the capital of Uruzgan province, as the police reservists were exercising.

— The Associated Press

Chinese officials bemoan rise in birth defects

Los Angeles Times

BEIJING — Chinese officials told the state media that birth defects are increasing at an alarming rate and that a major reason was degradation of the environment.

"The number of newborns with birth defects is constantly increasing in both urban and rural areas," Jiang Fan, vice minister of the National Population and Family Planning Commission, was quoted by the China Daily's

weekend edition as saying in a recent conference.

Environmentalists say the leading culprit is China's dependence on coal and that birth defects are highest in coal-producing regions such as Shanxi province and Inner Mongolia.

Although Jiang did not give out new figures at last month's conference, a study by China's National Population and Family Planning Commission released in 2007 found that

birth defects had increased nearly 40 percent between 2001 and 2006, years coinciding with the country's explosive economic growth.

The Chinese government's acknowledgment of the problem was a victory for environmentalists, some of whom have faced arrest and harassment for trying to publicize the relationship between pollution and disease.

"So many people are wondering why, when our lives

are supposed to be getting better, there are more and more babies born with birth defects and couples who are infertile," said Huo Daishan, an environmental activist from Henan province who has been fighting against printing, paper manufacturing and chemical dye factories whose pollution he believes has caused disease clusters along the Huai river.

Greenpeace China has been campaigning against pollution from coal.

Passer-by kills dog as it attacks 77-year-old Iowa woman

By Melanie S. Welte
Associated Press writer

DES MOINES, Iowa — A good Samaritan armed with a pocketknife stabbed a dog to death as it was attacking a 77-year-old woman in her front yard, officials said.

Ann Lyon, who was with her own dog Sunday when an American bulldog attacked, was wearing a leather coat that protected her from serious injury, authorities in Council Bluffs said.

Lyon said Monday that the

bulldog knocked her to the ground and then went after her dog Casey, a 4-year-old miniature Doberman pinscher.

"My main concern was that dog was so big and so heavy that I know if he got ahold of Casey that would have been it for her," she said. "I was trying to shield her from this dog and he was all over me."

She estimated the attacking dog weighed about 90 pounds.

Kevin Daub told Omaha, Neb., television station WOWT that he stopped his

truck and jumped out when he noticed the bulldog attack Lyon.

"I just heard her screaming 'Help! help me! help me!' so I ran over and tried pulling it off her," he said. He grew tired while struggling with the dog, so he pulled out his pocketknife and killed it, he said.

A telephone message left for Daub by The Associated Press on Monday was not immediately returned.

The dead dog was to be tested for rabies.

Galen Barrett, Council Bluffs chief animal control

officer, said the bulldog was properly licensed and had not caused any problems before it got off its owner's property.

The name of the dog's owner, who lives in the same neighborhood as Lyon, was not released. The investigation was continuing, Barrett said. He said charges, if filed, could range from a dog at large to harboring a dangerous dog, both misdemeanors punishable by fines.

Authorities said Lyon didn't require medical care. Her dog also was uninjured.

HELPFUL RADIATOR CORNER

Q: A donkey, a duck and a radiator get on an airplane. While flying over the ocean, the plane loses both engines. The pilot and co-pilot both grab a parachute and bail out. There are only two parachutes left. The donkey takes one. The duck takes the other. What happens to the radiator?

A: It goes to Mac's Radiator to be fixed.

See us at AgriAction Feb. 5-7th. If you have questions, call Ed.

446 Shoshone St. W. Twin Falls 208-735-8284

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: A sunny and mild day ahead. Light easterly winds. Afternoon highs near 45. Tonight: Not too cold tonight with mostly clear skies.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: A sunny and mild day ahead. Light easterly winds. Afternoon highs near 35. Tonight: Not too cold tonight with mostly clear skies.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Today and Wednesday will be mild under mostly sunny skies. Includes map of Idaho with weather icons and a table of temperatures for various cities.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast table for Twin Falls from Today to Saturday. Includes icons for sun, moon, and clouds, and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac section with Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, and Sunrise/Sunset data.

Moon Phases section showing Full Moon, Last Qtr., New Moon, and First Qtr. with dates.

Moonrise and Moonset section with times for Today, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table listing weather for various Idaho cities like Boise, Burley, Challis, etc.

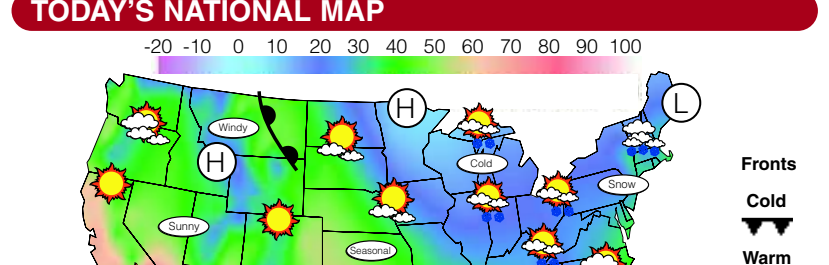
NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table listing weather for various states including Florida, Georgia, and California.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table listing weather for various international cities like London, Tokyo, and Sydney.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'If you don't know where you are going, you will probably end up somewhere else.'

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table listing weather for cities like Calgary, Toronto, and Vancouver.

AROUND IDAHO

Officials say Ponzi scam among largest

IDAHO FALLS — A state finance official says a \$60 million investment scandal that appears to be Ponzi scheme in eastern Idaho could be among the largest in the state's history.

Idaho Department of Finance Director Gavin Gee says having that much money involved in such a limited area is very unusual.

State regulators say about 60 eastern Idaho investors deposited \$60 million in Daren Palmer's Trigon Group Inc.

The state Department of Finance last week issued a cease and desist order to the Idaho Falls investment firm that prohibits Palmer from selling or accepting investors' funds unless he registers as a securities trader.

Idaho renters caught in foreclosure web

BOISE — More renters in southwest Idaho will likely receive eviction notices as banks become owners of foreclosed properties, property managers say.

Attorneys with the nonprofit Idaho Legal Aid say they have been getting calls from low-income renters who have received eviction notices from mortgage lenders.

"We have been getting a dozen or more calls a month since fall, but that's probably a small fraction of the people who are affected," Legal Aid attorney Ritchie Eppink told the Idaho Statesman.

California-based RealtyTrac reported that in Ada county there were 643 properties with foreclosure filings in December. Nearby Canyon County had 425 foreclosure properties.

Dawn Justice, president and chief executive officer of the Idaho Bankers Association, said tenants are less likely to be evicted from apartment buildings because they generate enough income to pay for property maintenance.

"Rental properties also have more value with tenants already in them," she said.

House explosion in Boise injures two men

BOISE — Authorities in Boise say 2 men suffered burns and injuries when an explosion blew off the back of a home on Boise's north side.

Fire investigators say the two victims have been transported to a Salt Lake City burn center for treatment. Two others inside the house at the time escaped without injury.

The explosion Monday morning caused extensive damage to the back of the house, but the force of the blast also shattered front windows and caused a partial roof collapse.

Investigators say early indications suggest a natural gas leak may have been a factor for the blast. They say one of the men who was injured told police he was looking in a clothes drier when the explosion occurred.

E. Idaho hospital under new ownership

POCATELLO — Ownership of the Portneuf Medical Center in eastern Idaho has been transferred from Bannock County to a Texas-based hospital company and a nonprofit foundation.

Legacy Hospital Partners on Sunday became the owner of 77 percent of the facility, and the nonprofit Portneuf Health Care Foundation now owns 23 percent.

The two entities will run the medical center through the newly created Community Benefit Organization, with each partner appointing six members of the organization's 12-member board.

"This joint venture will result in better health care for Bannock County and eastern

Idaho," Bannock County Commission Chairman Steve Hadley told the Idaho State Journal. "Bannock County will have a state-of-the-art regional medical center that will be the leading medical facility in eastern Idaho."

Idaho GOP chief now current on mortgage

EAGLE — The Idaho Republican Party's chief says he's now current on his home mortgage after missing five months of payments and slipping nearly \$19,000 in arrears late last year.

Norm Semanko, chosen in June to lead the state's dominant political party, told The Associated Press he's remedied his tardy payments.

"We took care of that Dec. 15," said Semanko, who earns around \$160,000 a year as the

top lobbyist for the Idaho Water Users Association and as an Eagle city councilman.

In November, he owed \$449,500 on his home west of Boise, at an interest rate of nearly 9 percent.

Semanko fell behind on payments because his daughter started college and he wanted to make sure he could cover her tuition, he said.

His post as state GOP chairman is unpaid.

Horseshoe Bend man sentenced in animal case

BOISE — A judge has sentenced a Horseshoe Bend man to a mix of jail and community service for mistreating 14 dogs and puppies.

A 4th District Magistrate ordered Oliver Palmer on Monday to spend 180 days in jail, with 170 days suspend-

ed. He got credit for three days served, but must serve three days in the county jail and four days of community service. He was also fined \$300.

Palmer was the focus of a 2007 Christmas Eve animal rescue effort when authorities seized 14 dogs and puppies kept outside in freezing temperatures.

Jeff Rosenthal, executive director of the Idaho Humane Society, says Palmer's jail term is rare because people convicted in such cases in Idaho are typically ordered to just pay fines.

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Advertisement for Canyon Crest Dining & Event Center, featuring a cherub illustration and contact information for Twin Falls.

Advertisement for Agri-Service featuring HAY MACHINERY KINGS and listing various models like Windrowers, Balers, and Pull Type Hays.

Large advertisement for Horse Events Wanted, including contact information for Debi Johnson and information about Horse Monthly publication.

Advertisement for HESSTON Series Used Equipment, listing various tractors and balers with prices.

Small text at the bottom left corner of the page.



Landscape For Imagination

Add creativity to your child's furniture

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

HAILEY — When it comes to furniture for adults, there are a lot of options. Spend a little or a lot. Get heirloom-quality, environmentally friendly or mass-market manufactured items. And everything comes in almost any color or pattern you could want.

But for kids? There are many fewer choices, said Laura Higdon, a former interior designer who now owns a children's furniture business in Hailey.



Partially painted and assembled children's chairs pile up in one corner of Laura Higdon's studio, awaiting the stamped designs that are her specialty.

"When it came to looking at things for children, it was expensive furniture or cheap manufactured furniture," she said. "There was this need for something that was a little more soulful."

Higdon also recognized — before many furniture makers — that parents would soon demand not only style but also environmentally sensitive manufacturing and decoration. She began importing certified responsibly forested wood, and sought out paint without volatile organic compounds. In 2006, when she launched Lilipad Studio, VOC-free paint wasn't available many places, so she bought it online, but now she can pick it up at the hardware store down the street.

"This was before 'green' was cool; you didn't read about it in magazines," Higdon said. "If I was going to do this for kids, I wanted to make it as healthy as possible and as good for the environment as possible."

She assembles, paints and decorates a variety of children's furniture pieces — one- and two-tiered stepstools, tables and chairs — in four intricately patterned collections. She uses custom-designed rubber stamps as the basis for the designs, which are inspired



Except for the clear top coat that protects the designs, all the paints that Lilipad Studio uses are VOC-free, meaning they don't have the volatile organic compounds that cause toxic fumes in paint. The top coat is low in those compounds.

by children's book illustrations and ethnic fabrics.

The colors are gender-neutral, with lots of oranges and greens, and Higdon aims for both whimsy and sophistication. "I like the playfulness, I love the colors," she said. "I want them to feel really magical for the kids, something they're rediscovering every time they use it."

Although Higdon works on raw wood now, she has previously repainted thrift-store and yard-sale furniture, for sale and for gifts for friends. She recommends this to any parent who is creative but on a budget.

"You get a lot for your money in terms of a quality piece and interesting design," she said. Just be sure the furniture is in good shape — you don't want that piece you spent so much time on to fall apart in a year.

Sand down any gouged, rough or flaky spots (don't



Photos by ARIEL HANSEN/Times-News

Laura Higdon works in her Hailey studio Wednesday, placing stamped images on a tabletop.

Stretch your own creativity

To see more of Laura Higdon's furniture for children, visit her Web site, www.lilipadstudio.com. There, you'll find examples of her designs, items for sale and information about responsibly forested wood and VOC-free paint. For a table and two chairs, Higdon charges \$795; a stepstool is \$249.

On a budget? Try your own hand at whimsical decoration. If you're seeking step-by-step instructions, contact Higdon at Lilipad Studio at 788-7500 — she may offer classes if there's enough interest. Or type "how to paint children's furniture" into a Web search engine and you'll get plenty of tips.



The 'Crosby's Friends' collection is especially popular among grandparents shopping for little boys, says designer Laura Higdon. All of her rubber stamps are manufactured to her specifications, some inspired by children's book illustrations.



This design is from Lilipad Studio's 'Butterfly Rhapsody' collection.

forget your respirator, as the previous finish may contain toxins), apply a primer meant to go over other finishes, and invest in a couple of good-quality brushes that will give you the smooth paint coverage you'll want.

Be sure to tell the paint store you need VOC-free paints, and most will be able to match the colors of your favorite fabric or illustration. If you can't afford quarts of each color, it's OK to use art-store acrylics as long as your base coat is latex. And don't forget the water-based sealer top coat: That's what will preserve your design for years to come.

There are businesses that can make a rubber stamp from almost any image you desire, but if you're doing a small project, try a stencil. Lay down acetate over the image, trace the outline, then cut out with

a utility knife. Be careful when applying paint to either stamps or stencils — too little is better than too much.

Ariel Hansen may be reached at 208-788-3475 or ahansen@magicvalley.com.

Modern kids' furnishings put the fun in functional

By Kim Cook
Associated Press writer

Designers of kids' furniture are letting their imaginations run away with them, and that's great news for hip parents looking for fun, exuberant decor.

The color wheel is spinning happily amidst bookcases and bedding. And many designers are taking a whimsical, artistic approach with the very shape of furniture.

Judson Beaumont, owner and head designer for Vancouver, B.C.'s Straight Line Designs, has concocted a world of Alice-in-Wonderland-esque pieces that straddle craftsmanship and inventiveness.

Bookcases stack haphazardly, like a giant tossed them into the air. Cabinets with names like "Oops" and "Boom" appear to have had run-ins with things wild and



Straight Line Designs' Sobey Dressers, \$2,000-\$4,000.

AP photo/Straight Line Designs

wonderful. Others, like Joined at the Hips and Sobey, bend and twist, yet have perfectly aligned drawers.

The effect is fanciful, but the furniture is practical and well-crafted.

"The idea behind the pieces

is more about, what if a piece of furniture could change and have its own personality?" says Beaumont. "I've always been a fan of Disney and Dr. Seuss, so it just made sense to make these crazy shapes. But the most important thing with

my designs is they have to be functional as well as fun."

Dust Furniture in Valparaiso, Ind., is another studio experimenting with shapes. A deep blue side table and lime green bookcase may slouch saucily, but they're still



AP photo/Bonjour Mon Coussin
Bonjour Mon Coussin's Piages pillow, \$45.

serious working furniture.

Jessie Leman, Dust's project manager and wife of designer Vincent Leman, says the pieces are intended not just for young people but "for youthful spirits, no matter their age. Our furniture is definitely for anyone with a playful imagination."

Plushpod, long a retailer of trendy kids' furnishings, carries the iconic P'kolino line

from Italy, featuring a kid-size clothes rack in happy hues like tangerine and lime, and a collection of pint-size laminated play tables and chairs. Their Tarantino layered high-density foam chairs would withstand the most high-spirited of play dates.

This spring, Pottery Barn Kids partnered with the Dr. Seuss Foundation on a line of

See **KIDS**, Home & Garden 3

Just forego the alluring heat of the open fire

DEAR JIM: We love to use our brick fireplace in the living room, but it makes the rest of the house cold. Our heating bills are already too high. What simple things can I do to make the fireplace more efficient? — Jan W.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

DEAR JAN: Those relaxing open fires cost you in several ways. First you have to buy firewood, which is not cheap today. Second, when a fire is burning, the radiant heat feels good in front of the fire, but warm air is being drawn from the rest of your house. This makes the furnace run longer. Third, when there is no fire, room air is still being lost up the chimney.

The first thing you must do is install high-quality glass doors over the front of the fireplace. These doors will control the amount of room air which is sucked up the chimney when a fire is burning. They will also help block some of the room air loss up the chimney when

there is no fire.

High-quality fireplace doors are not cheap, but they are worth the expense. The best ones are relatively airtight when the doors are closed. By adjusting combustion air vents in the bottom of the glass door frame, you can control how much room air goes up the chimney. Keep in mind, the fire does need an adequate supply of combustion air for an efficient clean burn.

There are several designs of heat-circulating grates which greatly increase the heat output from a fireplace. Many efficient ones are designed to fit snugly under the bottom edge of the fireplace doors. An electric blower circulates room



Stoll Fireplaces

This heat-circulating heat exchanger has an output of up to 50,000 Btu per hour. Notice how the flames reach the upper cooking/baking chamber.

air through the grate, and the air comes back out very hot.

Select a model with a blower that has several or variable speeds and an

automatic on/off switch. This switch shuts off the blower when the fire burns down. If you really do like to use the fireplace with the doors open, tubular heat-

circulating grates are available to blow the heat directly out the front. Some models have no blower and rely on natural convection.

Stoll Fireplaces makes a unique heat exchanger which mounts at the top of the fireplace opening, and it works with gas or wood-burning fireplaces. This is the hottest area, so the heat output from the blower is tremendous. They also offer a circulating heat exchanger with built-in glass doors for a more airtight combination. An optional upper oven section is available for cooking and baking foods.

When there is no fire, insert an inflatable chimney pillow or balloon in the fireplace flue. This seals much better than the chimney damper. Once you blow up the pillow, it should stay in place. Some models have a pole to hold it up. Chimney top dampers, which operate from indoors with a chain, also help reduce air leakage and keep critters and debris

out of the chimney.

DEAR JIM: I always feel a cold draft near a large window in my living room. I have checked all the weatherstripping, and the caulking still looks good. Where could the draft be coming from, and how can I stop it? — Carol F.

DEAR CAROL: The cold draft may not actually be coming in around the window. When window glass gets cold, the room air near it also gets cold. Cold air is more dense, so it drops and feels like an air leak.

Install insulating curtains.

There may also be air leaking into the outdoor wall surface at some other location than the window. The cold air moves through the wall and comes out at the window opening. Check the entire exterior wall for gaps, and caulk them.

Send inquiries to James Dulley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

Are you one of 'The Rethinkers'?

The *Times-News* is searching for masters of reinvention.

How far will you go to reuse a household item? Do you unwind old sweaters to salvage the yarn for knitting projects? Make crafts out of torn-up jeans? Jazz up plastic margarine containers for cute storage? Whatever it is, share your repurposing ideas with Magic Valley.

Whether your creativity is born out of a desire to save money, live green or just be crafty, we want to hear from you. Contact reporter Melissa Davlin at 208-735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net, and tell us how you turn your trash into treasure.

Melting ice

The Washington Post

Ice-melting products containing magnesium or potassium chloride are less damaging to path-side plants and turf than more traditional calcium and sodium chloride salts.

Avoid using fertilizers as ice-melting material because they pollute runoff into waterways.

Salt should be used sparingly and evenly and is much more effective if laid before snow or freezing rain falls.

On a mild winter's day, thoroughly water plants and soil contaminated by salt, and repeat the measure in early spring.

Tax credits ease the sting

The Washington Post

The energy you reap from the earth, sun or wind may be free, but the equipment needed to produce renewable energy for your home typically costs more than traditional technology based on fossil fuels. New federal tax credits are available to people who install qualifying renewable-energy technologies in their primary residence, rental home or vacation property. They are available for equipment installed (or new homes purchased) this year through 2016.

(Energy type, amount of credit, caps)

Geothermal heat pump, 30 percent of the cost, \$2,000

Solar water heating system, 30 percent of the cost, \$2,000

Photovoltaic electricity, 30 percent of the cost, not capped

Small wind-energy systems, 30 percent of the cost (up to \$500 per half kilowatt of capacity), \$4,000

Fuel cells, 30 percent of the cost (must have efficiency of at least 30 percent and capacity of at least 0.5 kilowatt), \$1,500 per half kilowatt of power

Sources: Environmental Protection Agency and Energy Department's Energy Star program

By Joel M. Lerner
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — "Man is a tool-using animal ... without tools he is nothing, with tools he is all," wrote Scottish essayist Thomas Carlyle.

Mowing, planting, pruning, raking, spraying, spreading and transplanting are easy with good tools — and difficult without them. Make sure you have the proper tools to maintain your garden, and that you're maintaining them properly. Winter is a great time to do that.

• **Lawn mowers:** The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute says users of gasoline rotary mowers should drain the tanks outdoors or in well-ventilated areas in the winter. Pour a small amount of light oil into the cylinder, and pull the rope to turn the engine several times. Replace the plug and clean the outside of the mower. Store it and the gas in a well-ventilated, protected area that is away from flames.

To get good service from gasoline-powered mowers, keep the blades sharp, change the oil and clean the air filter after 20 to 25 hours of operation. Change the spark plug after every 100 hours. Lubricate wheels with No. 2 multipurpose lithium grease, if the mower has fittings. Two-cycle engines burn mixtures of gas and oil, and while they don't need oil changes, they probably pollute the air more



Loppers are difficult to keep aligned and sharp because of leverage that can be applied due to the long handles, but they do provide extended reach.

Photo for The Washington Post by Sandra Leavitt Lerner

than other types of mowers.

Electric mowers are low maintenance — just keep the blade sharp. In the case of AC-powered units, purchase extension cords long enough to reach the boundaries of your lawn, and be careful not to run over them.

For those who favor the old-fashioned way, new versions of the reel-type push mower do an excellent job if the lawn is mowed regularly. Reel-type mowers are fun and easy to use and don't

require winterizing. Keep the blades sharp, and use a little WD-40 lubricant on the cutting surface and axle shafts every few weeks.

• **Spreaders and sprayers:** The only way to ensure accurate and even distribution of dry fertilizer, weed killer or insect control is by using a drop spreader, which drops material through holes in bottom of a hopper. Broadcast spreaders are perfect for grass seed, lime, gypsum, fertiliz-

er, fine-textured compost and even ice-melting salts during the winter.

Thoroughly clean sprayers and spreaders after every use. Many landscape chemicals are extremely corrosive, and failure to clean your equipment before storing it for winter might necessitate replacing parts or purchasing new ones.

• **Pruning tools:** Winter is the time for pruning. The most practical general-purpose cutting tool is one you can hold in one hand. Anvil pruners have a single blade that cuts onto a flat surface set into the jaw of the tool, while bypass pruners cut like scissors. Long-handled lopping shears are held with two hands.

Manual cutting tools require little maintenance. Place a little light oil on the pivot point, and clean and sharpen blades using a sharpening stone or fine-textured, flat metal file to remove burrs and sharpen the bevel.

Loppers are difficult to keep aligned and sharp because of leverage that can be applied due to the long handles, but they do provide extended reach. Don't cut branches that are more

than an inch thick with this tool.

• **Long-handled gardening tools:** Use a round-pointed spading shovel with a 48-inch handle for digging holes and turning soil. Heavier digging blades are most efficient because they hold pointed edges better and will not twist and bend. To ready digging edges, hone them with a fine-textured, flat metal file to remove burrs, nicks and dullness. Leave the edge somewhat blunt or thick so you won't wear it down too quickly. It should be sharp enough to dig through tree roots.

If you must dig holes or a trench, especially through rocks and tree roots, use a mattock with a cutter or pickax-type head and a 36-inch handle. It's also an excellent tool for planting bulbs and perennials.

Pitchforks are the most practical tool for turning compost piles, spreading mulch or lifting yard debris. Use a heavy-duty, five- or six-tine manure fork with a 54-inch handle. Manure forks' metal tines seldom need honing, and if they're not parallel, they're flexible enough to bend back into line.

Orchids in Idaho?

Yes, anyone can grow orchids at home, even if they don't live in the tropics.

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Crackle and pop: the warm sounds of a fireplace

By Camilla McLaughlin
For The Associated Press

Nothing says home more than a fire crackling in a hearth.

Fireplaces have been a central feature in homes for centuries, but their design, technology and fuels have changed dramatically, especially in the past 10 years. Flames sprout out of torches or tureens; slip along a linear path through sand, stones or crystals; or blaze at temperatures hot enough to consume all the combustible material.

A growing number of realistic electric fireplaces or new no-vent gas products can add a touch of warmth or just the mesmerizing flicker of flames to almost any space, even apartments and mobile homes.

As higher fuel prices have consumers looking for ways to trim heating bills, many homeowners are looking at their existing fireplace as a more cost-effective source of extra heat.

"While fireplaces of the past were widely used for ambiance, many of today's hearth products are very energy efficient and can help cut energy bills," observes Jack Goldman, president of the Hearth Patio and Barbecue Association (HPBA).

Shipments of energy efficient fireplaces, stoves and inserts to retrofit existing fireplaces increased dramatically in the first six months of 2008 over the same period in 2007. Changed too are the number of options, and anyone looking to upgrade an existing fireplace or add a new one is likely to be overwhelmed by the number of choices.

"It's not simple like it was 20 years ago," when there were a couple of wood and gas burning fireplaces and wood stoves, says Bob Martin, owner of Monroe Fireplace & Stove in Monroe, Wash.

Fuel sources, size of the firebox, heat or no heat, exterior finishes, classic, contemporary or country are only a few of the decisions consumers have to make.

Gas is the most popular fuel today, and 70 percent of hearth products burn gas. With glowing embers, coals,



A Rumford Wood Fireplace. Fireplaces have been a central feature in homes for centuries, but their design, technology and fuels have changed dramatically, especially in the past 10 years.

AP photo/
Renaissance
Fireplaces



A gas fireplace that uses glass crystals as an ember bed.

AP photo/
Napoleon Fireplaces

even crackling fire sounds, many gas units replicate wood fires. In fact some designers specialize in this.

For example, Walter Moberg, a custom designer whose work includes fireplaces for the Ritz Carlton in Atlanta and the Grand Lodge at Disney Grand California Hotel, has a gas unit with several burners built into the grate as well as electronics that control the fire sequence so it follows the same pattern as a wood fire going from a small fire to a bigger one and finally to glowing coals. The cost for the entire fireplace starts at \$50,000 and can top several times that amount.

Traditional fireplaces remain the top choice for consumers, but unlike their drafty ancestors, fireplaces today are 60 to 99 percent efficient depending upon the fuel source. Some even are certified by the Environmental Protection Agency, and most have a way to enclose the fire using

insulated doors, with price tags ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Last year, for the first time, an open wood-burning fireplace, the Renaissance Rumford 1000, won the Vesta Award, the industry's highest honor, for technological innovation. It is based off one of the earliest energy efficient fireplaces, introduced by Count Rumford in the 18th century. The original Rumford had angled sidewalls in the hearth that reflected heat back into the room and a flue design that encouraged a draft that directed more smoke up the chimney instead of into the rooms.

The Renaissance Rumford 1000, which retails for about \$6,500, has an innovative guillotine door that is concealed when raised and seals off the fire when lowered. According to the manufacturer, it burns so cleanly that there is no visible smoke in the chimney only two minutes after the initial spark.

Almost 75 percent of new fireplaces are factory built and engineered. With prices in the \$5,000 range, they cost a fraction of a masonry fireplace's building cost. Essentially, factory built fireplaces are a steel or cast iron box enclosed in a steel cabinet. Air circulates between the inner and outer boxes transferring the heat to the room and keeping the outer wall relatively cool. A traditional chimney isn't required, and depending on the fuel, some models can be directly vented to the outside using a small pipe.

Recently a number of manufacturers introduced vent-free gas models. The secret to their design is new catalytic technology that cleans the hot air before it leaves the combustion chamber.

"The thin design allows easy installation almost anywhere a gas line is available. No special framing is required," states Robert Dischner, direct of product development for Lennox Hearth Products.

Factory built fireplaces burn wood or gas and typically are designed to specifications for one fuel or the other. However, a gas log set can be added to most wood burning fireplaces. A gas log set consists of either a natural gas or propane burner covered in "firewood," fake logs made from a fireproof material such as refractory cement, ceramic clay or fibers and can mimic many varieties of wood, even driftwood.

Older existing fireplaces both masonry and factory built can be made into an efficient heat producer using a fireplace insert. Inserts are made from cast iron or steel and are similar to a free-standing stove. There are both gas and wood models and some are EPA certified. Unlike gas log sets, these products generate enough heat to warm one or several rooms.

Fireplaces and hearth products are so diverse that it's hard to make any generalizations but one thing is certain — with thermostats, remote controls and flames that respond to a flick of a switch, there is little resemblance to the days when starting a fire meant rubbing two sticks together.

This is not your grandma's wood-burning stove

By Camilla McLaughlin
For The Associated Press

During the last hike in heating costs in the late 1970s, interest in heating with wood surged, particularly in regions where oil or electricity were primary heat sources.

Ten years later, as clouds of wood smoke hung over many New England towns and Western cities on cold winter days, wood stoves were considered major polluters, and many people stopped buying them.

But the newest editions burn much cleaner than your grandmothers' stoves, and that's rekindling consumer interest.

"There is a fundamental difference between new stoves and old stoves and most of the culture doesn't know that," says John Crouch, of the Hearth Patio and Barbecue Association (HPBA).

Today, retailers like Mountain Home Center in Truckee, Calif., say they are seeing a resurgence of interest in wood heating and wood stoves.

According to data from HPBA, shipments of wood stoves and inserts were up 54 percent, and pellet stoves and inserts up were up 212 percent in the first six months of 2008 over the

same period in 2007. Compared with older stoves, EPA certified devices are more sophisticated, often using blowers and catalytic converters to reduce the number of particulates released into the air.

Pellet Stoves cost between \$3,500 to \$4,000, and there is a \$300 tax credit for the purchase of a 75 percent efficient wood or pellet burning stove in 2009.

In Libby, Mont., one of several communities participating in a pilot project sponsored by the EPA and other partners to exchange older stoves for more efficient models, pollution from wood stoves was reduced by 28 percent in 2007, the first year following completion of the changeouts, while indoor air quality improved by 72 percent.

EPA certified stoves operate at 60 and 80 percent efficiency levels releasing only 2.7 micrograms of particulates per hour compared to 30 to 50 micrograms per house for pre-1992 stoves. They can burn wood, gas or alternative fuels such as wood pellets. In addition to freestanding models, they can also be inserts into existing fireplaces.



Wood stoves like this one can heat up to 2,500 square feet. An integral air wash system keeps the glass clean and clear for an open field of view.

AP photo/Lennox
Hearth Products

Kids

Continued from Home & Garden 1

Their Tarantino layered high-density foam chairs would withstand the most high-spirited of play dates.

This spring, Pottery Barn Kids partnered with the Dr. Seuss Foundation on a line of decals, organic cotton bedding, and soft furnishings featuring Seuss' most popular characters, such as The Cat in The Hat and the One Fish, Two Fish gang.

Janet Hayes, executive vice president for the retailer in San Francisco, says the col-

laboration aims "to excite and delight" children while inspiring parents to get creative.

There was another, practical consideration.

"One of the most popular requests we receive from our customers is for patterns that go into a shared space," notes Hays. The colors and images in Dr. Seuss' illustrations suit both girls and boys.

Pair any of the collection's pieces with a stacked teacup lamp for a room that gives off a definite "Seussian" vibe.

Or opt, perhaps, for the multi-shaded cluster ceiling fixture that asks: Why have one of anything, when a whole bunch is way more fun?

Other inventive light fixtures can be found at Lamps Plus, including a plump, gleaming Prop Plane in brushed nickel and frosted glass, and a Planet and Stars pendant which projects colorful outer space images on the ceiling.

Over at Kid Carpet, two mind-bending area rugs —

appropriately named Off Balance and On the Curve — feature bold graphics that play with dimensional space. Either would provide a good base for indoor adventure.

Claire Eglizeaud and Paul Moreau, artists from Bordeaux France, sell their

unique throw pillows online at Bonjour Mon Coussin. Choose from scrumptious photoprinted images of candies, chocolates, licorice or pastries; some of the delect-

table pillows are even scented. If sugar isn't your style, consider some of the other kids' collection designs with a sophisticated but playful French flair.



AP photo/Pottery Barn Kids
Pottery Barn Kids' Teacup Lamp (base, \$69) and the Teapot Lamp.



AP photo/Pottery Barn Kids
A Dr. Seuss 100 percent organic cotton sheet set by Pottery Barn Kids, \$24-\$189.



AP photo/KidCarpet.com
KidCarpet.com's On the Curve rug, \$149-\$749.



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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101 Lost and Found

FOUND Border Collie cross puppy, black & white, female, around 4 months old. Found at Oasis on Washington & Filer. 420-1164.

FOUND Lab mix pup, tan, south of Kimberly. Call 208-404-3920 to identify.

FOUND Samoyed Huskies, (2) white, on Hankins Rd in Twin Falls. Call to identify. 208-539-7080

LOST (2) Lab mix on 1/30 in Kimberly/Twin Falls area. Zues is 4 year old black male with curly tail. Ellie is 9 year old chocolate female in need of her medications. PLEASE CALL WITH ANY INFORMATION 208-539-3390.

LOST (3) young bulls, 1-Hereford, 1-Angus and 1-Jersey, east of Heyburn. 219-9654

LOST Cat, Tabby orange/white, long hair, male. 215 Heyburn West and Ostrander St. REWARD. Call Pam 421-0510.

LOST Chihuahua, female, long haired, brown and black, 7 months. Lost on Elizabeth, Sat. the Jan. 31st. Any info please call 208-731-1613.

LOST Puppy on 1/20, male, Pekinese, brown fur, with black & white. Lost near Washington & Shoup St. 208-734-9476

LOST Ring, gold band, with silver leaves and diamonds inside, lost on 1/30 in Costco parking lot. 326-6128 or 410-1582

LOST Standard Schnauzer, kid's dog, lost in Gooding on 12/24. REWARD. Call 208-961-0226.

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101 Lost and Found



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Public Service Message Selling Property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding time share and real estate scams, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

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HAGERMAN New home. Lease option to buy in Hagerman Valley, 1/2 mile from boat dock. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, plus bonus room, all electric kitchen, granite, tile, wood flooring, carpeted throughout, RV parking space & landscaped. Call 208-543-2902 or 539-4774

HAGERMAN New home. Price reduced! Approx 1/2 acre. RV parking & shop. 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 2200 sq. ft., 3 car garage (885 sq. ft.), formal dining rm, 9' ceilings, central vac. Vaulted & tray ceilings living rm, master bdrm, formal dining rm. Covered rear & front porches, city water & sewer, open floor plan. \$310,000. 208-539-7060

HANSEN (Rock Creek Canyon) House, 10 acres, creek, horse set up. RV garage, much more. Priced \$100,000 under appraisal at \$425,000. www.rockcreekhome.net for more info and photos. 208-423-4002

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WINCHESTER SSM 25 cal., 1 year old wood stock bull barrel, \$650/offer. Please call Taylor at 208-736-1645 or 208-410-9944

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1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment
IHC '86 S1900, DT 466 diesel, 5 & 2, PS, good rubber, fleet maintained, from Dept. of Forestry, immaculate, \$6500. 208-293-5587

1006 Trucks
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LITHIA
Chrysler - Jeep - Dodge
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1006 Trucks
FORD '05 F-350 ext cab, 4x4, Powerstroke diesel, AT, AC, full power, CD, aluminum brush guard, one owner, 69K actual miles, immaculate. \$14,900. 293-5587

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— Chinese proverb

827 Skis And Snowboards
SNOWBOARD 132 cm. Dakine, with Ride bindings, & travel bags \$100. SKIS Salomon Verse 5 170's w/Salomon bindings. \$50. Parabolic Skis Atomic 190's Rosignol bindings \$50. Roof mount ski rack \$40. 208-420-0330

THUNDERCAT '00 1000. '04 King Cat 900. Call 208-490-1473 or 736-0687

KENWORTH '88 T600 manure truck for sale. Morlang 20' bed, with beaters and slash sides. \$25,000. 208-731-6947

DODGE '07 Ram 1500, 20K miles, local trade, like new condition, bedliner, crew cab, 4x4, automatic, PL, PW, CD, AC, only \$19,900.

FORD '06 Ranger XLT, 4x4, air, tilt, cruise, \$13,999. Stock# 119006A

In today's deal there are distractions to make East's task on defense hard. Consider what happens when partner leads the heart eight against three no-trump. It is good you are not playing MUD, so that you know the lead is from shortage. Plan the defense when declarer plays the queen from dummy.

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907 Travel Trailers
MALLARD '99 20' bumper pull, awning, AC, \$4000 or best offer. 208-431-0555

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208-733-7700

It feels so automatic to take dummy's queen with your king and start planning what to do next, but given the auction and opening lead, declarer is marked with at least four hearts to the 10-9. If you win the heart king, you will only be able to take your three winners, and the auction has surely told you it is impossible for partner to contribute two further tricks. After all, declarer's free bid of one no-trump suggests at least a seven-count; there is no way partner can hold more than one trick.

901 ATVs
JOYNER '08 Commando 650, side by side, 4x4, 4 passenger, 850cc, 4 spd, water cooled OHV, new, unused, \$5900. 293-5587

908 Utility Trailers
TANDEM AXLE Trailer, 6'x12', \$800/offer. 208-280-1949

1006 Trucks
CHEVY '00 S10 Regular cab, 74K miles, excellent condition, only \$5950.

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MIDDLEKAUFF FORD
208-736-2480

However, if you play low on the queen, all you will need is for partner to hold the diamond ace. When West gets the lead with that card, he will be able to play another heart, letting you take four more tricks. If partner began life with a singleton heart, it is unlikely that you could ever have beaten the contract, whatever you did.

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909
TRAILMAX '00 Goose-neck trailer, 2000 lbs, w/beater tail, new brakes. \$4500/offer. 208-260-0366

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275 S. Idaho St., Wendell 208-536-1900

DODGE '98 Ram 3500 Laramie SLT, 24 valve Cummins turbo diesel, reg cab, dually, AT, PW, PL, 115K mis, gooseneck hitch, \$8,999. 208-324-0069

FORD '92 F-450 with tool boxes & hyd dump bed, 7.3 diesel, AT, AC, low miles, one owner, immaculate. \$6900. 208-293-5587

Note also that if declarer had played low from dummy at trick one, then you would have had to play low also (rather than inserting the jack) to be able to run your four heart tricks later.

KAWASKI '08 VTwin 650 only 30 miles. \$4800. 208-280-0500

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FORD '96 F-150 XLT, Powerstroke, 5 spd, extended cab, 4x4, PW, PL, \$5,900. 208-324-0069

ANSWER: Although your hand is balanced, you have more high cards than partner might expect, and you do have four cards in a suit he asked you to bid. So the hand is ideal for a jump to two hearts, suggesting invitational values. Another advantage to jumping is that it takes away space from the opponents — and you would not mind if partner competed to three hearts.

902 Motorcycles
KAWASAKI '01 KX 250 dirt bike, excellent condition, low hours, \$2000. 208-320-0285

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FORD '96 F-250 XLT, Powerstroke, 5 spd, extended cab, 4x4, PW, PL, \$5,900. 208-324-0069

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JET BOAT '93 Design Concept, 19' w/Parcher 350 eng. Kodiac jet pump. Custom built for CA. Dept of Water Ways. 473 hrs. Immaculate, ultimate, white water boat, \$13,900. 208-293-5587

1004 Antiques and Collectibles
CHEVY '88 Corvette convertible, soft top, low miles, new clutch, new tires, exc cond. 4+3 tranny, \$12,000. Call 208-324-2951

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FORD '97 F-250, 3/4T, 4x4, 351 V8, AC, 90K actual miles, one owner, well maintained, \$3600. 208-293-5587

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ELITE '89 33' Custom Class A, 48,500 miles, very clean, runs great. New tires/steering stabilizer. \$17,900. Call 208-732-5673

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment
FREIGHTLINER '96 FL70 with 8 yard dump bed & self loader, 8.3 Cummins diesel, Allison, AT, AC, one owner, immaculate \$13,900. 293-5587

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275 S. Idaho St., Wendell 208-536-1900

MIDDLEKAUFF FORD
208-736-2480

FORD '99 F-250 XLT 4 door, short box, V10, AT, \$5000/offer. 208-260-0366

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906 Snow Vehicles
ARCTIC CAT '07 M1000 162" track, low mi. exc. cond. \$7500/offer. 208-878-7473

1009 Vans and Buses
DODGE '05 Grand Caravan, PW, PL, Sto'n Go rear seat, rear air, 66K mi. exc cond. \$7000. 208-543-8080. 358-3550

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275 S. Idaho St., Wendell 208-536-1900

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FORD '03 F-150 Crew Cab, \$14,831. Stock# 9981

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1007 Truck Parts And Accessories
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1007 Truck Parts And Accessories
GMC '05 Sierra 1500 4x4, 57K miles, crew cab, PW, PL, AC, CD, cruise, only \$18,500.

Assist AUTO BROKERAGE
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FORD '03 F-350 ext cab, 4x4, Powerstroke diesel, AT, full power, 120K miles, immaculate \$10,900. 208-293-5587

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED FEE INCREASES

Please take notice that the Council of the City of Paul, Idaho, will meet on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Paul City Hall, 152 South 600 West, Paul, Minidoka County, Idaho, for the purpose of hearing public comments concerning proposed increases and changes of fees. Some of the changes in fees will result in increases that are in excess of five percent (5%) of the amount of the fee last collected. The reason for the fee increases is that the fees need to be increased in order to offset the costs incurred by the City. The last fees collected and the proposed fees are as follows:

Description	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee
KENNEL FEES (effective March 1, 2009)		
Noncommercial kennel licensing fee	\$10.00 per year	\$150.00 original application and \$75.00 annual renewal
Commercial kennel licensing fee	\$10.00 per year for the first two dogs and an additional \$3.00 per year for each additional dog	\$200.00 original application and \$100.00 annual renewal
First violation of kennel ordinance	\$50.00	\$100.00
Second violation of kennel ordinance	\$100.00	\$200.00

SANITATION COLLECTION FEES (effective June 1, 2009)

Description	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee
Sanitation-roll carts	\$9.00 per month for one container; \$4.50 per month for each add'l container	\$11.00 per month for one container; \$5.50 per month for each add'l container
Sanitation-all other customers	Base rate of \$8.00 per month plus \$7.00 per yard of container capacity; \$15.00 per mo minimum	Base rate of \$8.00 per mo plus \$8.00 per yd of container capacity; \$16.00 per mo minimum

SEWER FEES (effective June 1, 2009)

Description	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee
Sewer-1 residential unit and/or residential unit equivalent	\$32.00	\$37.00

WATER FEES (effective April 1, 2009)

Meter Size	November-March	October-April
3/4"	\$31.00	\$32.00
1"	\$46.50	\$48.00
1 1/2"	\$93.00	\$96.00
2"	\$155.00	\$160.00

Meter Size	April-October	May-September
3/4"	\$21.00 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 15,000 gal per mo	\$22.00 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 15,000 gal per mo
1"	\$31.50 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 22,500 gal per month	\$48.00 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 22,500 gal per month
1 1/2"	\$94.50 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 45,000 gal per month	\$96.00 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 45,000 gal per month
2"	\$157.50 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 75,000 gal per month	\$160.00 plus \$1.00/1000 gal exceeding 75,000 gal per month

A copy of the proposed fee schedule is available at Paul City Hall, Paul, Idaho, during normal business hours. You are invited to appear at the time and place of hearing and provide comment on the proposed fees. DATED this 20th day of January, 2009. CITY OF PAUL. By Kent Fletcher, Attorney. PUBLISH: January 27 and February 3, 2009

JEROME COUNTY TREASURER/AUDITOR JOINT QUARTERLY REPORT FROM 10/01/2008 TO 12/31/2008

****FUNDS WITH NO ACTIVITY WILL NOT APPEAR ON REPORT****

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts & Transfers	Disbursements & Transfers	Ending Balance	Outstanding Warrants	Avail Cash Balance
GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS						
GENERAL FUND (CURRENT EXPENSE)	1,744,143.77	247,836.81	561,359.94	1,430,620.64	74,877.16	1,355,743.48
AIRPORT	191,782.69	201,595.45	268,202.79	125,175.35	3,547.21	121,628.14
DISTRICT COURT II	334,166.22	132,956.26	141,374.01	325,748.47	22,724.20	303,024.27
FAIR, COUNTY	50,883.26	16,087.69	41,344.75	25,626.20	6,547.10	19,079.10
JUSTICE FUND	1,450,795.77	466,603.52	923,437.67	993,961.62	126,257.98	867,703.64
FAIR, CAPITAL OUTLAY	79,918.26	1,347.87	11.30	81,254.83		81,254.83
HEALTH DISTRICT	73,017.79	5,769.80	24,309.91	54,477.68		54,477.68
INDIGENT	344,267.06	56,124.58	182,162.13	218,229.51	22,820.35	195,409.16
REVALUATION	191,563.52	18,805.58	88,850.53	121,518.57	16,556.23	104,962.34
SOLID WASTE	500,548.08	83,732.84	431,651.50	152,629.42		152,629.42
TORT	181,996.73	5,993.49	73,340.63	114,649.59		114,649.59
WEEDS	39,452.77	25,627.89	24,191.27	40,889.39		40,889.39
AMBULANCE	232,711.57	22,192.55	82,422.02	172,482.10		172,482.10
WATERWAYS	13,135.23	238.01	4,522.08	8,851.16		8,851.16
RANGE IMPROVEMENT	4,575.21			4,575.21		4,575.21
GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS TOTAL	5,432,957.93	1,284,912.34	2,847,180.53	3,870,689.74	273,330.23	3,597,359.51
AGENCY FUNDS	22,804.45	1,092,751.81	1,097,012.78	18,543.48	18,449.81	93.67
TRUST FUNDS	533,294.53	859,147.25	735,875.01	656,566.77	32,429.88	624,136.89
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	5,989,056.91	3,236,811.40	4,680,068.32	4,545,799.99	324,209.92	4,221,590.07

I hereby certify that the above statement is true and correct and has been approved by the Board of County Commissioners on the 21st day of January, 2009. /s/Mary Childer Treasurer, Jerome County /s/Michell Emerson Auditor, Jerome County. PUBLISH: February 3, 2009

BURLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT Burley, Idaho STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS For the Fiscal Year: Ending Oct 31, 2008

	Oct 31, 2008
Operating Revenues	
Current O&M Assessments	\$2,627,344
Less Discounts Allowed	(106,122)
Net Assessments	2,521,222
Received from South West Irrigation District	743,870
Received from Water District 1	47,138
Excess Water	
Other Operating Income	69,081
Government Grant	
Received from Minidoka Irrigation District	11,109
Total Operating Revenues	3,392,420
Operating Expenses	
USBR	984,506
Wages	673,764
Canals & Laterals Chemical	
Maintenance	388,200
Insurance	203,114
Depreciation	98,672
Machinery & Vehicle Repair	136,097
Retirement	69,780
Contract Labor	55,113
Water Call - Consultants	64,744
Transportation Power	60,982
Payroll Tax	49,672
Diesel & Gas	71,779
Water District 1	22,274
Attorney & Auditing	67,712
Directors Fees & Expenses	21,936
Supplies	21,674
Power	18,889
Buildings & Grounds	27,632
Telephone & Radio	11,292
Miscellaneous Operating	17,309
Membership Fees	10,535
Oil & Grease	9,449
Staff Expense	4,198
Public Relation and Education	2,896
Rent Repairs	14,707
Total Operating Expenses	3,106,925
Operating Income or (Loss)	285,495
Non-Operating Revenues	
Sale of Surplus Equipment	
Interest Earned on Invested Funds	59,726
Increase in Net Assets	345,221
Total net Assets - Beginning	7,621,704
Total net Assets - Ending	\$7,966,925
Assets	
Current Assets	
Unrestricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,492,241
Investments	396,103
Accounts Receivable - Delinquents	14,065
Inventory Shop	127,723
Inventory Pump Station	104,213
Total Current Assets	2,134,345
Non-Current Assets	
Land	1,132,840
Capital Assets Net of Depreciation	
Vehicles	79,234
Shop Tools	3,304
Office Equipment	11,219
Pump Equipment	3,657,181
Buildings & Canal Equipment	942,997
Machinery & Equipment	216,872
Total Non-Current Assets	6,043,647
Total Assets	\$8,177,992
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	109,840
Refund Payable to South West Irrigation District	
Accrued Compensated Absences	101,227
Total Current Liabilities	211,067
Net Assets	
Invested in Capital (No related debt)	6,043,647
Unrestricted	1,923,278
Total Net Assets	7,966,925
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$8,177,992

STATE OF IDAHO CASSIA COUNTY I, Linda M. Leach, Secretary/Treasurer of the Burley Irrigation District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct statement of the financial operation of Burley Irrigation District covering a period of one year, and representing to the best of my knowledge and belief, the financial condition of said district at the close of the fiscal year ending October 31, 2008. /s/Linda M Leach Secretary/Treasurer. PUBLISH: February 3, 2009

MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT Statement of Net Assets October 31, 2008

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash & Investments	\$3,344,424
Receivables:	
Assessments	39,215
Interest	6,939
Other Receivables	17,145
Prepaid Expenses	0
Inventory	74,959
Capital Assets:	
Land	43,745
Water Rights	3,408,831
Other Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	381,270
Total Assets	\$7,316,528
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$61,296
Deferred Revenue	0
Interest Payable	340
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due Within One Year	94,681
Due in More Than One Year	76,739
Total Liabilities	\$233,056
NET ASSETS	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	\$3,662,426
Restricted	0
Unrestricted	3,421,046
Total Net Assets	\$7,083,472

MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual General Fund For the Year Ended October 31, 2008

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget: Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES:				
O&M assessments & penalties (net)	2,757,666	2,757,666	2,754,967	(2,699)
Grant Revenue	0	0	0	0
Interest Income	78,000	78,000	118,345	40,345
Rental Income	4,800	4,800	5,400	600
Miscellaneous	150,000	150,000	278,679	128,679
Carryover Funds	182,715	182,715	0	(182,715)
TOTAL REVENUES	3,173,181	3,173,181	3,157,392	(15,789)
EXPENDITURES:				
Salaries & Payroll Taxes	847,500	847,500	756,015	91,485
Administrative	6,500	6,500	6,097	403
Insurance & Bonds	300,000	300,000	268,428	31,572
Employee Benefits	59,050	59,050	56,988	2,062
Retirement	73,000	73,000	71,500	1,500
Professional Fees	307,850	307,850	285,869	21,981
Telephone	12,000	12,000	10,939	1,061
Office Supply & Printing	7,500	7,500	7,859	(359)
Dues & Memberships	13,134	13,134	13,134	0
O&M Storage	375,000	375,000	383,273	(8,273)
Water District #1	60,000	60,000	31,668	28,332
Southside Operation	11,113	11,113	11,109	4
Miscellaneous	21,905	21,905	23,953	(2,048)
Repair & Maintenance	98,500	98,500	82,179	16,321
Gas, Oil & Lubricants	92,000	92,000	117,200	(25,200)
Electric Power & Heat	55,000	55,000	50,565	4,435
Shop Supplies	6,500	6,500	11,104	(4,604)
New Equipment	95,000	95,000	60,471	34,529
Chemical & Moss Removal	350,000	350,000	332,616	17,384
Debt Service - Principal	73,129	73,129	94,282	(21,153)
Debt Service - Interest	0	0	1,275	(1,275)
Employee Workshop & Travel	8,500	8,500	6,214	2,286
Grant Money Expenses	0	0	25	(25)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	2,873,181	2,873,181	2,682,762	190,419
Excess (deficiency) of Revenues over expenditures:	300,000	300,000	474,630	174,630
Fund Balance-beginning	2,946,756	2,946,756	2,946,756	0
Fund Balance-ending	3,246,756	3,246,756	3,421,386	174,630
STATISTICAL DATA				
Total Estimated Irrigable Acres of the District			78,000	
Assessed Acreage - 2007			77,186	
Southside Rate			\$36.75	
Northside Rate			\$37.00	
Minimum			\$47.00	

COUNTIES OF MINIDOKA & CASSIA - ss I, Ruth S. Bailes, Secretary-Treasurer of the Minidoka Irrigation District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and correct statement of the financial operations of the Minidoka Irrigation District covering a period of one (1) year, and represents to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the financial condition of said District at the close of the fiscal year ending October 31, 2008. /s/Ruth S. Bailes Secretary-Treasurer Board of Directors: Chair - Mike J. Wilkins Vice-Chair - Frank N. Hunt Director - Wesley D. Goff Director - Ronald D. Kowitz Director - Terry R. Short. PUBLISH: February 3, 2009

Find it Fast in The Times-News

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DECISION MEMO For The DEADLINE RIDGE TRAIL DESIGNATION On the CASSIA DIVISION OF THE MINIDOKA RANGER DISTRICT SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST TWIN FALLS COUNTY, IDAHO

The District Ranger of the Minidoka Ranger District, Scott Nannenga, signed the Decision Memo for the Deadline Ridge Trail Designation. This will add the 3.6 mile Deadline Ridge trail to the designated trail system on the Minidoka Ranger District. The trail currently exists on the ground and has been used by the public for a number of years. The trail connects Forest Road 72244 and Forest Road 70542 via Deadline Ridge. The decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 35 CFR 215. Appeals must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14. Only individuals or organizations who submitted comments or otherwise expressed interest in the project during the comment period may appeal. Appeals must be postmarked or received by the Appeal Deciding Officer within 45 days of the publication of this notice in the Times-News. This date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Timeframe information from other sources should not be relied on. The Appeal Deciding Officer is the Sawtooth Forest Supervisor. Appeals must be sent to: Appeal Deciding Officer, Intermountain Region USFS, 324 25th St., Ogden, Utah 84401; or by fax to 801-625-5277; or by email to: appeals-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us E-mailed appeals must be submitted in rich text or Word (doc) and must include the project name in the subject line. Appeals may also be hand delivered to the above address, during regular business hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday except legal holidays. Additional information regarding this decision can be obtained from: Mark Dallon, 3650 S. Overland Ave. Burley, ID, 83318, 208-678-0430, mdallon@fs.fed.us. PUBLISH: February 3, 2009

See what's new at **www.magicvalley.com**

Move over MJ

There's a new star at the Garden
as Kobe drops 61 on the Knicks Sports 2

Local roundup, Sports 2 / Scoreboard, Sports 3 / Comics, Sports 4

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009

SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: (208) 735-3239 SPORTS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

Twin Falls girls begin journey for third straight region title

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

If the Bruin girls were waiting to peak for the regional tournament, the wait has to end tonight.

The 4-16 Twin Falls girls will travel to Pocatello tonight to face

the 20-0 Highland Rams. The Bruins finished 1-7 in regional play to take the tournament's bottom seed.

The Rams blew out Twin Falls 45-14 in their first meeting but took a modest 54-42 victory in the second. An 11-game losing streak has

weighed upon the Bruins program, which hasn't seen victory since early December.

"We keep playing teams closer and closer and closer," Twin Falls head coach Nancy Jones said. "I keep telling the girls that it's hard to beat a team three times."

Three victories in a row mean winning a third consecutive Region Four-Five-Six championship, and the Bruins remain optimistic because of the progress they've felt was made since early November.

See **TITLE**, Sports 2

Zimmerman expected to be CSI's new leader

Those late-January practices, held on the combination of slush, infield dirt and rock-hard frozen ground that is Eagle Field, can't be much fun, but the College of Southern Idaho softball team has its way of keeping spirits up.



BRADLEY
GUIRE

The players clapped and cheered for one another during a round of batting practice as assistant Debbie Dodds lobbed the neon yellow balls for the ladies to hit. Sophomore catcher Megan Zimmerman was taking the final round when the players asked head coach Nick Baumert what the score was. He had set up behind a net at the plate, plotted on a five-gallon bucket.

He noted that their game was tied, though whether or not anybody had really kept a score was a mystery. Didn't really matter. Coach said it was tied, so it was tied.

Dodds grabbed a softball from the team's shopping cart ball bin and teased Zimmerman a bit.

"This one's for the championship of the world."

Dodds tossed it, and Zimmerman thwacked it deep to left field. It hit the hard yellow plastic that lines the top of the outfield fence, just below the scoreboard. And who said that thing wouldn't need a protective net or cage?

The players won, and maybe it could come down to Zimmerman to win it — maybe not the championship of the world, but maybe the Region 18 championship, or dare they hope, the NJCAA Division I championship.

Regardless, it's the player Baumert and the Golden Eagles will need Zimmerman to be. She's the team's leading batter at the plate, and behind it, she's taking over the most important fielding position. As CSI's regular catcher, she only has to be the leader, keep the pitchers calm during games, set up hitters, call the pitching game, defend the plate against runners advancing from third and help direct the other seven fielders.

No small task. "She'll be that starting catcher," Baumert said, "and with that role comes leadership. A catcher steps up and is that person that the kids look to on the field. We'll expect her to do that."

Zimmerman will have her work cut out as she continues to break in three freshman pitchers as she adjusts to her own role. Her own expectations are simple enough: "As long as it's a strike, I'm OK with it."

On deck

The first weekend of the 2009 softball season is in the books for CSI, and the No. 27 Golden Eagles have started out well enough.

They emerged from the Arizona Western College's Great Western Shootout with a 4-2-2 record, which is an improvement from last season's performance. Victories came against Pima College and Mesa College, and three times the Golden Eagles proved they could come from behind, even if just to tie a game at the end of seven innings. At last year's Shootout, CSI went 3-6 against many of the same teams.

That's all well and good, but it's in the past. Starting tomorrow, CSI starts conference play against Scenic West Athletic Conference teams with a four-day stand. Colorado Northwestern Community College will step up to the plate first in St. George, Utah — where the Eagles are playing "home" games until March — while No. 20 Salt Lake Community College is on deck.

Now's the real stuff begins.

Bradley Guire may be reached at 208-735-3229 or bguire@magicvalley.com.

A dual legacy



Twin Falls High School basketball player Jazlyn Nielsen poses in front of a mirror Thursday at her family's dance studio in Twin Falls.

MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Nielsen trying to follow family in both hoops, dance

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

Jazlyn Nielsen, clad in her Columbia-blue basketball uniform, rehearsed dance moves that might lend well to holding a basketball as a photographer snapped

away last Thursday inside her family's dance studio.

She wasn't sure what to do with that ball. She would take a few steps and then twirl like a top, long hair following her, one of the few times it wasn't bundled or braided away from her face while she wore that

uniform. All the while, she held that ball, at times mumbling a few notes to herself. There was no music to dance to. She stopped to think about a move. She paced through moves just to see what turned out.

It was awkward combination, basketball and dance. To Nielsen,

that combination is life on the hardwood floor, a place not home away from home — just home.

Whether it's the medium amber of Twin Falls High School's Baun Gymnasium floor or the downtown

See **DUAL**, Sports 2

Phelps avoids hot water with sponsors — for now

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Michael Phelps doesn't seem to be in much hot water with his sponsors despite being photographed inhaling from a marijuana pipe.

From apparel company Speedo to luxury Swiss watchmaker Omega, several sponsors are standing by the 23-year-old swimming phenom — and have accepted his public apology. Other big companies, like Visa Inc., Subway and Kellogg Co., aren't talking yet.

Experts say if Phelps doesn't stick to the straight and narrow, he could hurt his chances at future endorsements. And there's no guarantee he won't be dropped quietly once the furor dies down.

Phelps, who won a record

See **PHELPS**, Sports 2

'Mama's Rule' Father-daughter team keeps hoops business at the gym

By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

When your star player also happens to be your daughter, the line can sometimes blur between the player/coach and father/daughter relationships.

Luckily for Burley's Kassi and Gordon Kerbs, Mama's around to keep things in proper perspective.

How does the saying go? "If Mama ain't happy, ain't nobody happy."

As Burley's senior point guard and leading scorer with 20.4 points per game, Kassi will lead the No. 1-seeded Bobcats into the Class 4A District IV tournament, beginning tonight with an opening-round home game with fourth-seed Wood River.

Being the coach's daughter hasn't always been easy, but Kassi says it has made her stronger. Gordon admits he's tougher on Kassi and expects more out of her than he does from the other girls.

Kassi started following Gordon to the gym in the first grade as the team's ball girl. She played a key role as a sophomore on Burley's Class 4A state championship team in 2007. During her first two years of varsity basketball, finding a balance between court and home life posed a challenge.

"The two previous years, I could tell when they got home from practice if it was a good practice or a bad practice before anybody even said anything," said Jeanne Kerbs, the wife and mother of Gordon and



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Burley High School head girls basketball coach Gordon Kerbs talks with Kassi Kerbs during a game last week.

Kassi. "Neither one of them want to lose. I think she's even more stubborn than he is. I've had to referee a little bit, but not very much."

Being the Mother of Bobcat Basketball is a bittersweet job. After a loss, Jeanne has to console the player and the coach. But after wins, the celebration is twice as nice.

In the days leading up to a big game, the anxiety in the Kerbs house is palpable. To ensure that their home is a safe haven, Jeanne instituted "Mama's Rule," which states that basketball can only be discussed at the gym.

See **MAMA**, Sports 2

Now or never for Valley girls to win Canyon title

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

The last two Canyon Conference girls basketball seasons were dominated by the Valley Vikings. Both times they stumbled through the postseason tournament and failed to make the state tournament.

After breezing through the conference for a third straight season, for a group of talented seniors it's now or never.

Have the lessons of the past two seasons been learned?

Class 2A Canyon Conference Tournament

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Game 1: Glens Ferry (0-20) at Declo (11-9), 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5

Game 2: Winner 1 at Valley (17-3), 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 9

Game 3: Loser 1 at Loser 2, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 12

Game 4: Championship, Winner 3 at Winner 2, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 13

Game 5: Second championship, Loser 4 at Winner 4, if necessary, 7 p.m.

• *Champion receives berth to state tournament, Feb. 19-21 at Bishop Kelly High School in Boise.*

"It's a 0-0 record for everyone when you get to this thing," said Valley coach Brian Hardy. "In tournament

play we really need to step it up, and I think the girls realize that."

The upshot for Valley (17-

3) is at Wendell, the team that qualified for state at the Vikings' expense in each of the last two seasons, was bumped up to Class 3A this year. But Declo (11-9), which swapped classification and conference places with Wendell, is a team that's just as talented as the last two Wendell teams, if not more so.

But the intrigue doesn't stop there.

In any other conference, 0-20 Glens Ferry might be written off. But the Canyon Conference is one that, in recent history, has seen con-

ference strugglers come through to win the lone state tournament bid.

Simply put, anything is possible in this conference. And everyone knows it.

And for two years, the Vikings have been dealt the impossible. But this time they think they have the right formula.

"The difference between last year's team and this year's team is that this is a very hard-working team," said senior Ashley Kraus, who led Valley in its last regular season win, a 49-44 victory over Class 3A

Gooding. "We know that at the tournament it's a different kind of basketball, and that Declo and Glens Ferry are going to come at us really hard. We have to do the same."

The tournament kicks off tonight when Glens Ferry travels to Declo in the first round. The winner will head to Hazelton on Thursday for a berth in the championship round.

Let the madness begin.

David Bashore may be reached at 208-735-3230 or dbashore@magicvalley.com.

Kimberly girls advance in SCIC tourney

Times-News

The Kimberly girls basketball team got a bit of a scare Monday but pulled through for a 51-42 victory over Buhl in the first round of the Class 3A Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference tournament in Kimberly.

The Bulldogs led just 32-31 after three quarters but used a 19-11 fourth-quarter performance to create the final margin. Megan Crist recorded a 27-point, 12-rebound double-double for Kimberly.

"Buhl came out and played hard like I expect them to," Bulldogs coach Rich Bishop said.

The Indians will play Gooding tonight in Wendell, while Kimberly (16-3) will play the winner of the Wendell vs. Filer game (also tonight in Wendell) Wednesday at the College of Southern Idaho Gymnasium in Twin Falls.

Molyneux). Total fouls: Buhl 21; Kimberly 17. Fouled out: Buhl, Pearson. Technical fouls: none.

FILER 54, GOODING 31

Three quarters of tough defense gave the Filer girls a 54-31 victory over Gooding Monday in the first round of the Class 3A Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference.

"Gooding is a scrappy team, and they worked hard," Filer coach Gary Mellinger said. "We eventually caught our groove offensively, and defense carried us through."

Lacie Heimkes led the Wildcats with 20 points, while Natalie Hughes and Rocia Gutierrez also scored in double figures.

Filer (11-8) will travel to Wendell tonight for a chance to face Kimberly at CSI Gymnasium Wednesday. Gooding will face Buhl in an elimination game.

Filer 54, Gooding 31

Gooding 11 6 6 8 — 31
Filer 12 19 13 10 — 54

GOODING (31)
Angela Vittek 12, Danielle Baker 1, Taz Perkins 2, Samic Gonzales 1, Fallon Turner 13, Carrie Baker 2. Totals 7 4 5-10 31.

FILER (54)
Katie Vierstra 4, Lacie Heimkes 20, Ari Wight 2, Rocia Gutierrez 10, Sara Goodwin 3, Charmaine Weatherly 2, Natalie Hughes 11, Darby Littler 2. Totals 17 4 8-18 54.

3-point goals: Gooding 4 (Vittek 3, Turner); Filer 4 (Heimkes 4). Total fouls: Gooding 17; Filer 15. Fouled out: Gooding, Mackenzie Stevens; Filer, Littler. Technical fouls: none.

Kimberly 51, Buhl 42
Buhl 11 10 10 11 — 42
Kimberly 14 9 9 19 — 51

BUHL (42)
Autumn Yturbe 5, Mercedes Pearson 6, Toni Wuensch 6, Bailee Montgomery 13, Kristina Nye 4, Ellie Spencer 8. Totals 14 11-20 42.

KIMBERLY (51)
Alex Pfeifferle 9, Jessica Funk 1, Nellie Makings 5, Whitney Carlton 3, Megan Crist 27, Kelsey Molyneux 6. Totals 17 13-25 51.

3-point goals: Buhl 3 (Montgomery 3); Kimberly 4 (Carlton, Crist, Makings,

Brewer, Jazz beat Bobcats

SALT LAKE CITY — Ronnie Brewer scored 14 of his 21 points in the second half and the injury-riddled Utah Jazz rallied from a sluggish start to beat the Charlotte Bobcats 105-86 on Monday night.

Mehmet Okur scored 22 despite being in foul trouble most of the night. Paul Millsap scored 14 and Ronnie Price added 12 points in place of Deron Williams, the latest Utah player to be sidelined with an injury. Williams was out with a contusion above his right knee, joining forwards Andrei Kirilenko (ankle) and Carlos Boozer (knee) on the inactive list.

Raymond Felton had 16 points and nine assists to lead the Bobcats, who lost their third straight and went 1-4 on a five-game road trip.

LAKERS 126, KNICKS 117

NEW YORK — Kobe Bryant

More NBA scores on Sports 3

broke the current Madison Square Garden record with 61 points, and the Los Angeles Lakers looked plenty potent without Andrew Bynum in a 126-117 victory over the New York Knicks on Monday night.

Bryant teased and pleased a sold-out crowd that took turns booing him and saluting him during an electrifying performance with chants of "MVP! MVP!" He passed Michael Jordan's opponent record of 55 points at the present building, known as "Garden IV," when he hit three free throws with 3:56 remaining, then bettered

Bernard King's mark of 60, set on Christmas Day 1984, with two more foul shots with 2:33 to play.

Bryant, who also finished with the highest-scoring game in the NBA this season, left to a loud ovation after the 24th 50-point game of his career.

SUNS 129, KINGS 81

PHOENIX — Jason Richardson scored 16 of his 24 points in the first quarter, Amare Stoudemire finished with 25 points and eight rebounds and the rejuvenated Phoenix Suns ended a three-game home losing skid with their most lopsided victory of the season, 129-81 over the tired Sacramento Kings on Monday night.

The Suns' point total was their highest of the season and their 48-point margin of victory was their biggest ever at home.

— Associated Press

Dual

Continued from Sports 1

studio, the hardwood is where Nielsen, a Bruins sophomore, has spent her life.

"I love to perform," she said.

The passion for both basketball and dance formed from her family's influence, and there's a legacy in both.

Her grandmother, the late WillaDean founded the Nielsen School of Dance more than a half-century ago. Kim, her father, and her older

siblings all took up dancing, and she has followed that path, learning to dance, compete and teach in multiple contemporary styles. In 2006, she placed second for her solo performance in the grand senior division at the Dance Caravan Competition in Las Vegas, one of the top contests in the West.

And most folks familiar with Bruin basketball know Kim and brother Blake as state champions who helped

their respective teams to state titles in 1974 and 2006. She has played since elementary school and made the varsity squad as a freshman last season, when the Bruins won a second straight Region Four-Five-Six title.

"I think she knows the game really well, just from watching her older brother," teammate Sara Federico said. "She's grown up around it."

Nielsen has been praised as an outside shooter, though

head coach Nancy Jones has her transitioning to post. Nielsen doesn't care for the contact that comes with the position, and a mid-season injury stalled the progress. But there's hope.

"The reason why I kept her initially is that we lacked some size down low," Jones said. "I knew she was young, but we really just didn't have any tough players. We've tried to toughen her up a little bit."

Although she's concentrat-

ing on her team and the regional tournament now, dance remains a part of her makeup as Nielsen attributed many aspects of her game, like conditioning and rebounding, to dance. Kim agreed.

"It helps with coordination, the ability to move gracefully," he said. "I think it goes hand-in-hand. It helped me."

Nielsen has the potential to form her future however she

wants, be it in basketball or dance, once high school is over. She said that she could see herself pursue college basketball or maybe minor in dance at a university. Maybe she'll take over the studio. Whatever she picks, the family's faith in Jazlyn's choices was affirmed by Kim: "Follow your heart and do the best."

Bradley Guire may be reached at 208-735-3229 or bguire@magicvalley.com.

Phelps

Continued from Sports 1

Phelps was arrested for eight gold medals at this summer's Olympics in Beijing, acknowledged "regrettable" behavior and "bad judgment" after the photo appeared Sunday in the British tabloid News of the World.

The paper said the picture was taken during a November house party while Phelps was visiting the University of South Carolina.

Phelps handled the situation well by apologizing and saying he regretted his actions, said John Sweeney, director of sports communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Phelps went a step further and promised "it will not happen again."

In 2004, after the Athens Games, a then-underage

Phelps was arrested for drunken driving. He pleaded guilty, apologized and again said he wouldn't make the same mistake again.

Sweeney said if Phelps is caught transgressing a third time, he could stand to lose many sponsorships — and the public's trust. For now, the public and his sponsors could look past it. After all, he said, President Barack Obama has acknowledged using marijuana and he still got elected.

"My prediction would be that this will pass," he said with caution. "If it does happen again, it'll be twice the story and it will hurt him."

Swiss watchmaker Omega said Phelps' actions were a private matter and "nonissue" while Speedo called Phelps a "valued member of the Speedo team."

Title

Continued from Sports 1

"I do believe my team has improved," Jones said. "They're really a good team, but there was a lot of 'me' at the beginning because they weren't quite sure where they fit. But I think they've become 'we,' and they really are supportive of each other."

Post Jazlyn Nielsen leads the Bruins, averaging 11.2 points per game and 5.3 rebounds. Guard Sara Federico follows up at 8.3 ppg.

If the Bruins can pull the upset, they will face second-seeded Madison (12-8), which earned a bye, Thursday in Rexburg. Otherwise, they will have to survive against

either Skyline (8-12) or Idaho Falls (7-13) in an elimination game, also on the road. Two tournament losses would put the Bruins in the position of being only the second TFHS squad to miss the Class 5A state championship tournament in seven seasons.

"Obviously, I would be bummed if we didn't do as well as we'd like to, which is make it to state," senior Chelsea Retmier said. "But as long as we play well and finish as a team that we would like to be, then that's all I can ask for."

Bradley Guire may be reached at 208-735-3229 or bguire@magicvalley.com.

Mama

Continued from Sports 1
But what about her competitiveness?

"She's got a little fight in her. She probably gets that from her mother," Gordon said.

"Kass is a competitor, she always has been. In previous years she's taken a back seat to the other kids, more or less a role player. It's been neat this year to see her come into her own, yet still keep her teammates involved," the coach said.

While Kass's play has been instrumental in Burley's success this season — which includes a 16-4 overall record (5-1 Great Basin West) and current 11-game winning streak — she gives all of the credit to her teammates, and justifiably so.

"We knew going in that Kass would have to score, and these kids have done a

Class 4A Great Basin Conference West Division Tournament

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Game 1: Wood River (4-14) at Burley (16-4), 7 p.m.

Game 2: Minico (9-11) at Jerome (16-4), 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5

Game 3: Loser 1 vs. Loser 2, 7 p.m.

Game 4: Winner 1 vs. Winner 2, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 7

Game 5: Winner 3 vs. Loser 4, 11 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 9

Game 6: Championship, Winner 4 vs. Winner 5, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

Game 7: Second championship, if necessary, 7 p.m.

* *Champion and runner-up advance to the District IV-V playoff on Thursday, Feb. 12. The winner of the District IV-V runner-up crossover will advance to state play-in at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14, against the District VI runner-up at Highland High School in Pocatello. State tournament is Feb. 19-21 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell.*

really good job of getting her shots," Gordon said.

While the Bobcats began the year fairly one-dimensional, the other girls have stepped up at various times. Right now they're

playing with great confidence and chemistry.

Although Burley earned home-court advantage for the district tournament, there is no clear-cut favorite this year. The Bobcats will

have their hands full tonight with Wood River. Second-seeded Jerome, which hosts No. 3-seed Minico tonight, was the pre-season favorite and poses the largest threat — assuming the Tigers can get past the Spartans, with whom they split regular-season meetings.

The champion will earn an automatic berth to the Class 4A state tournament. Meanwhile, whoever finishes second will have a much tougher road to state, having to beat District V's runner-up (probably Century or Pocatello) and then win a play-in with the runner-up from District VI (probably Hillcrest).

The state tournament will be held Feb. 19-21 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell.

Ryan Howe may be reached at 208-677-8786 or rhowe@magicvalley.com.

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA All Time MST Eastern table with columns for W, L, Pct, GB and rows for various teams like Boston, Philadelphia, New York, etc.

Suns 129, Kings 81 Sacramento 81 Salmons 7-12 3-4, Thompson 5-10 2-4 12, etc.

Monday's Games Dallas 105, Orlando 95 Memphis 113, Washington 97 Miami 119, L.A. Clippers 95, etc.

Monday's Games Dallas 105, Orlando 95 Memphis 113, Washington 97 Miami 119, L.A. Clippers 95, etc.

NBA Boxes Jazz 106, Bobcats 86 CHARLOTTE (86) Morrison 3-2 2-2 4, Diaw 4-9 0-0 10, etc.

Portland (97) Batum 2-4 0-0 5, Aldridge 9-21 4-4 22, Oden 3-6 0-0 6, etc.

LA CLIPPERS (95) Thornton 4-17 1-2 9, Skinner 3-4 0-0 6, Camby 5-6 2-2 12, etc.

Men's college basketball Monday's Major Scores Boston U. 82, UMBEC 65, Fairleigh Dickinson 71, Lafayette 68, etc.

Grizzlies 113, Wizards 97 MEMPHIS (113) Gay 8-16 6-8 23, Arthur 4-9 0-0 8, Gasol 7-11 8-12 22, etc.

Rankings AP Top 25 1. Connecticut (54) 20-1, 1,792 2. Oklahoma (5)

GAME PLAN

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL 6 p.m. Magic Valley Christian at Carey 7:30 p.m. Community School at Richfield Hagerman at Castleford, etc.

Men's standings As of Jan. 30 SWAC ALL W L Pct. W L Pct. SLCC 1 6 1 .857 19 2 .905, etc.

USA Today/ESPN Top 25 1. Connecticut (28) 20-1 77.2 2. Oklahoma (3) 21-1 72.9 5, etc.

Standings Western Athletic Conf All W L Pct. W L Pct. Utah 5 0 1,000 21 1 .955, etc.

Rankings AP Top 25 1. Connecticut (54) 20-1, 1,792 2. Oklahoma (5) 21-1, 1,691 4, etc.

GOLF

PGA Tour FedExCup Leaders Rank Name Points YTD Money 1. Zach Johnson 647 \$1,278,850, etc.

TV SCHEDULE

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL 7 p.m. ESPN - Purdue at Ohio St. 9 p.m. ESPN - South Carolina at Florida, etc.

HOCKEY

NHL All Times MST Eastern ATLANTIC W L OT PTS GF GA New Jersey 32 15 3 67 157 125, etc.

RODEO

Pro Rodeo Leaders Through Feb. 1 AP All-Round 1. Kyle Whitaker, Chambers, Neb. \$6,597, etc.

SKI REPORT

Idaho Bogus Basin - Mon 6 24am mclear 23 degrees hard packed machine groomed 42 48 base 60 of 66 trails, etc.

NHL All Times MST Eastern ATLANTIC W L OT PTS GF GA New Jersey 32 15 3 67 157 125, etc.

TRANSACTIONS

BALTIMORE American League ACQUIRED LHP Rich Hill from Chicago (NL) for a player to be named. NATIONAL LEAGUE ATLANTA BRAVES-Agreed to terms with INF Casey Kotchman on a one year contract, etc.

Petersen announces Boise State football coaches swap assignments

BOISE — Boise State University head football coach Chris Petersen announced several position changes to the coaching staff for 2009.

return a few moments later to again yell at the officials in the second half of Texas Tech's 82-69 loss to Nebraska.

Night, who took over when his father Bob Knight resigned last year, did not immediately return a call seeking comment Monday.

GOODING — Gooding Freestyle Wrestling begins at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the Gooding High School wrestling room behind the high school. The cost is \$45 and participants must be ages 5 to 17, or turning 5 this year. Contact: Lyle Rogers at 308-6804.

Jeff Choate, will now coach linebackers, and director of football operations Keith Bhonapha will take the running backs. Viliani Tuivai will become the new director of football operations. He was previously linebackers coach. Rob Christoff will become the team's defensive graduate assistant. Choate will continue as special teams coach. "We have a great staff and the right people on the bus," Petersen said through a press release. "As this program continues to move forward we want make sure we are playing to the different strengths of the entire staff, and I think these changes will allow us to grow and prosper."

Night's actions violated the Big 12's rules, which prohibit coaches from publicly commenting about officials.

the rankings. Completing the top 10 were Duke, Louisville, Pittsburgh, Wake Forest, Marquette, Xavier and Clemson.

JEROME — Jerome Club Volleyball is holding sign-ups through Friday. The club is for girls in grades 5-11 and the cost is \$30. The club will participate in tournaments in the Magic Valley, with grades 5-6 competing March 28, April 4, April 11 and April 18. Grades 7-11 will compete Feb. 28, March 7 and March 28.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Night's penalty would have been more significant if not for "his past exemplary behavior," acknowledging his mistake and "his commitment to me to conduct his program with sportsmanship," Big 12 commissioner Dan Beebe said in a release Monday.

Information: Joel Bate at 732-6836.

Practices will be held once a week in the evening, beginning two weeks before the first tournament. Additional coaches are needed. Contact: Coach Hannah Bitzenburg at 404-9292.

TEXAS TECH COACH PAT KNIGHT

AP poll: UConn is fourth straight new No. 1 For the fourth straight week, there's a new No. 1 in college basketball. Connecticut jumped from No. 2 to the top spot in The Associated Press' Top 25 Monday, replacing Duke. This is the Huskies' first time at No. 1 since 2006.

FOOTBALL

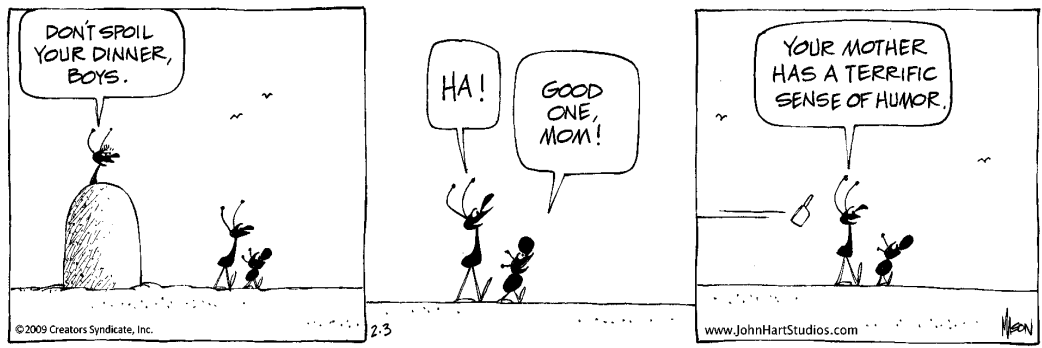
NFL PLAYOFFS All Times MST Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1 Tampa, Fla. Pittsburgh 27, Arizona 23 Pro Bowl Sunday, Feb. 8

IDAHO YOUTH SOCCER HOLDS COURSE

TWIN FALLS — The Idaho Youth Soccer Association will hold an Idaho E-License course from Feb. 21-23 at Twin Falls High School. The cost is \$65 for members and \$95 for nonmembers. Information: Chris Clark at 316-7005 or twinfall Rapids@yahoo.com

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

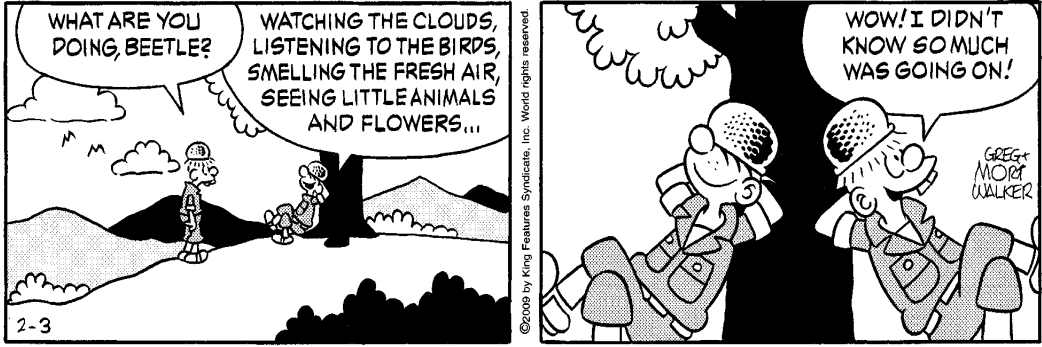
B.C. By Johnny Hart



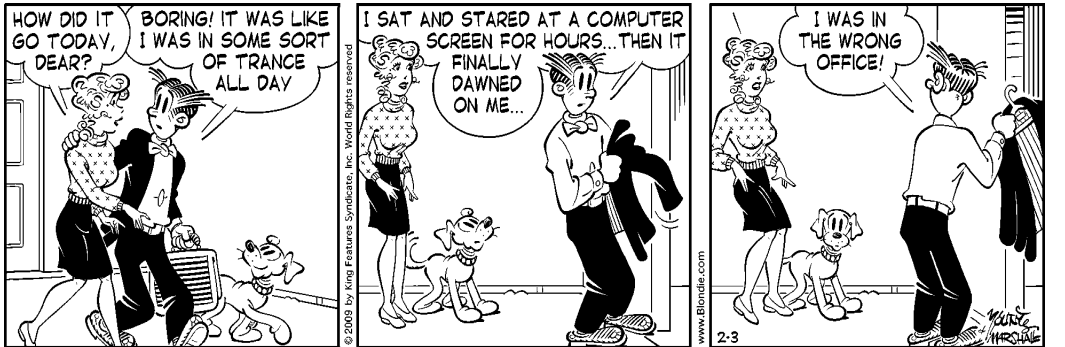
Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker



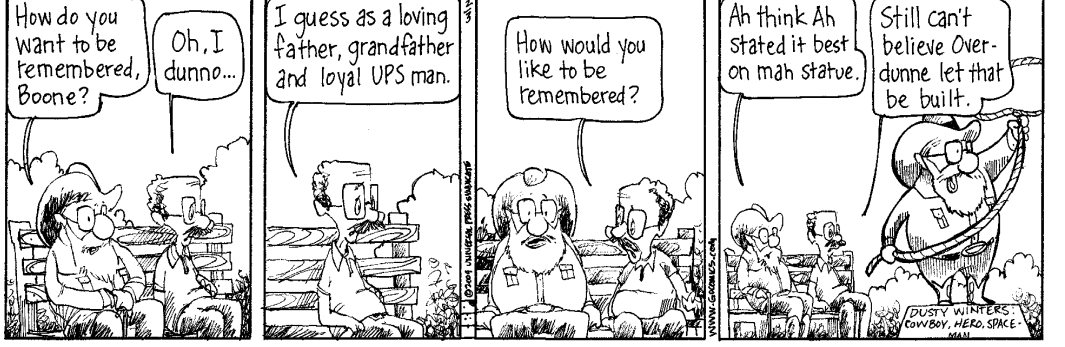
Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake



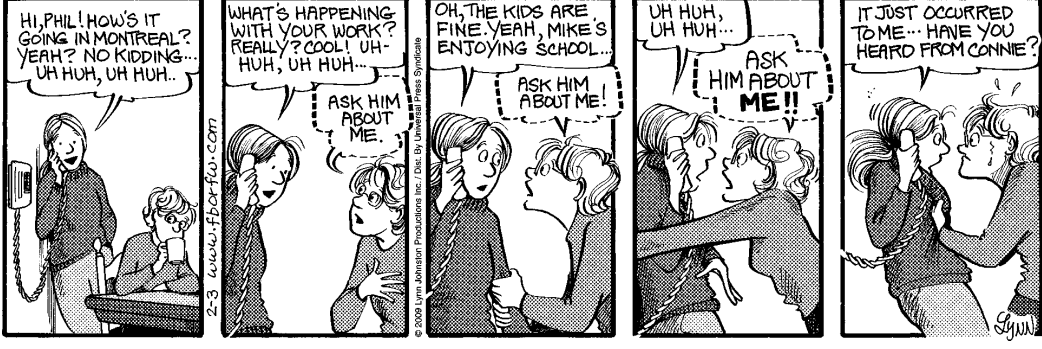
Dilbert By Scott Adams



The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves



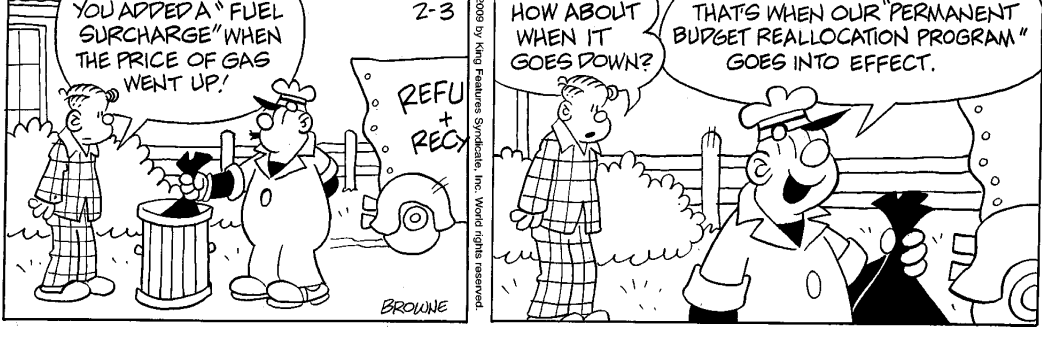
Garfield By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois By Chance Browne



Luann By Greg Evans



Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



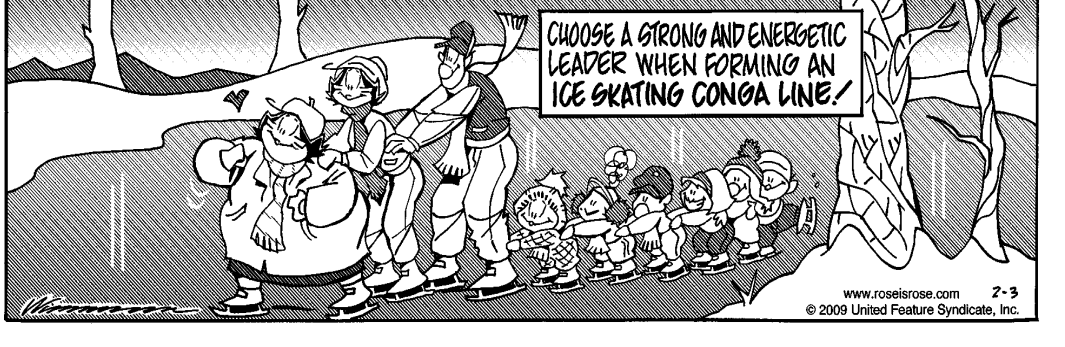
Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



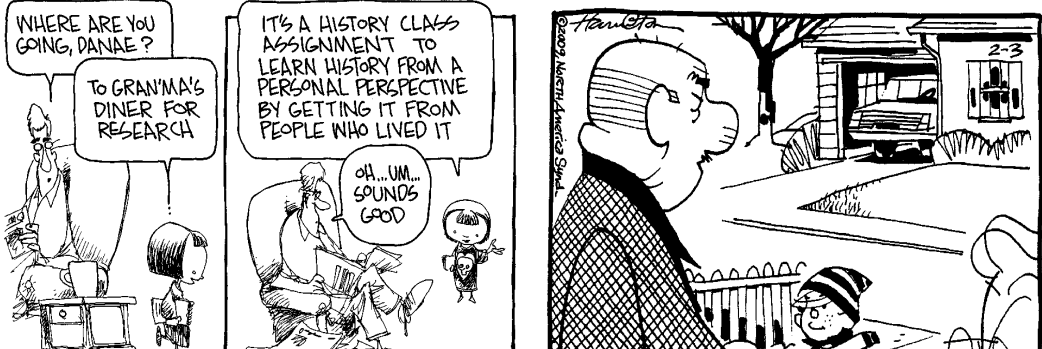
Pickles By Brian Crane



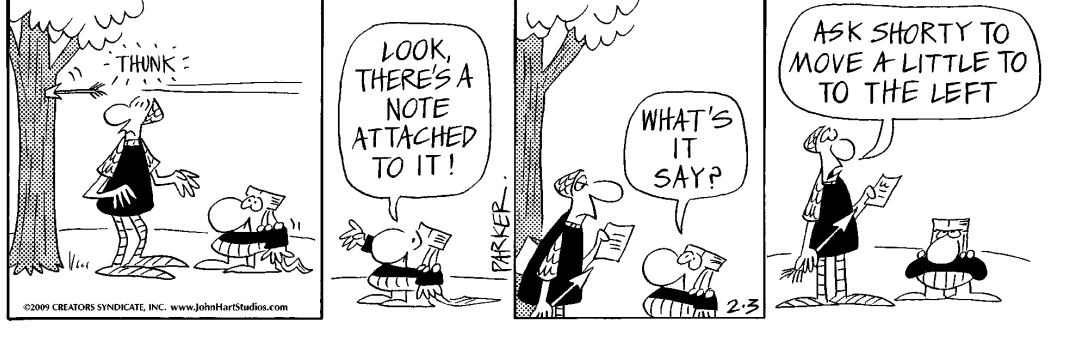
Rose is Rose By Pat Brady



Non Sequitur By Wiley



The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham



Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

