



Mostly cloudy.

Business 4

BATTLING THE BEST

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TWIN FALLS HOSTS STATE'S TOP GOLFERS

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WEDNESDAY
April 1, 2009

TIMES-NEWS

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MagicValley.com

Otter rips lawmakers over budget action

Gov. assails plan to strip decisions from agencies

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter ripped legislators Tuesday for not respecting Idaho's constitutional separation of powers, and accused state budget

writers of approving an across-the-board pay cut for state workers because they don't trust agency directors.

Otter said he disagreed with the decision by the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee to reduce



Magicvalley.com

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

state personnel costs by 5 percent with 3 percent pay cuts and 2 percent as decided

by directors, such as leaving positions unfilled. Otter recommended the 5 percent cut

be decided entirely by directors.

"I totally reject the idea that was expressed by members of the Legislature that they do not trust the directors that have operated this government for me for the last two years. I think these

people are highly professional," Otter told reporters at a news conference. "They're the managers, they're the ones out there every day and they're the ones that ought to make those choices. There isn't a farmer, there is no small businessman, there isn't a housekeeper in the

See **BUDGET**, Main 2

Fantastic four?

Gooding students react to four-day school week

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

GOODING — Meghan Hurd, a freshman at Gooding High School, painted a silver palm tree in her art class on Tuesday.

She's among the students in Gooding School District who are looking forward to this fall, when the district switches from a five-day week to four days of classes. The district school board recently voted in favor of a four-day week, partly as a way to trim its budget in a time when state funding cuts to education are forcing school districts in Idaho to look for creative ways to adjust their budgets.

Now, school district leaders and even city officials are beginning to make plans for the shift from five days of class to four days. The school district still needs to set its calendar and schedule for this fall.

Meanwhile, plans for the fifth day are taking shape. The school district is looking at using it for sessions to help struggling students, said Superintendent Heather Williams.

"I think the biggest opportunity

See **GOODING**, Main 2

Magicvalley.com

WATCH: A video about the four-day week.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Using acrylic paint, Gooding High School freshman Brittney Perry works on an art project Tuesday during class. The school district is moving forward with a four-day school week plan. Perry says she'll miss the schedule the district currently uses.

Fire marshal: Soldier lodge fire an accident

Electrical wiring the probable source of blaze

By Amy Ballard
Times-News correspondent

FAIRFIELD — The fire that razed the lodge and rental shop at Soldier Mountain Ski Resort Monday morning was accidental, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Dick Hahn told the *Times-News* Tuesday.

"I think it's safe to say it's accidental," Hahn said. "The exact ignition source is undetermined. The probable cause is electrical, due to the amount of electrical appliances in the area of origin."

Hahn said the fire likely started in a

See **SOLDIER**, Main 2

Car chase ends in wreck near Elko

By Jared DuBach
Elko Daily Free Press

ELKO, Nev. — A high-speed car pursuit involving four youths, ages 12-13, from Burley ended when their stolen vehicle flipped end over end at the east Elko, Nev., freeway exit early Tuesday morning, with two of them sustaining serious injuries.

According to Elko County Sheriff's Lt. Doug Gailey, the chase started with a call from Miguel Berumen of Wells, Nev., who reported his 1990 Honda Accord had been stolen shortly after 4 a.m. Tuesday. Berumen allegedly left his car running while he went inside his home briefly. Upon returning, the car was gone.

Gailey said someone reported seeing the

See **CHASE**, Main 2

Gas tax bill largely unchanged by House

Bill would raise \$17.6 million for roads

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — The House on Monday rejected all but one amendment to a proposed one-year, 2-cent increase of Idaho's 25-cent-per-gallon gas tax.

The decision — part of a rare chamberwide floor debate in its amending order

— leaves virtually unchanged the bill that would raise about \$17.6 million. The only change is to create a new "lockbox" where the new funds can be tracked easily.

The bill, sponsored by House Transportation Committee Chair-woman JoAn Wood, R-Rigby, could receive a full House vote as

early as today.

Many of the failed amendments were designed to create a multi-year or increased funding stream as requested by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter to address the state's \$240 million annual roads maintenance backlog.

Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, said revenue from Wood's bill would only cover

inflation, and motorists wouldn't really see a difference with a 5-cent increase since gas prices fluctuate.

After the vote he said there aren't enough votes for it to clear the House, and Idaho's roads will continue to deteriorate.

"I guess the message is simple. We are a do-nothing Legislature," said Smith, a former transportation board chairman.

See **ROADS**, Main 2



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Hannah Anderson fills up her gas tank Tuesday at a Twin Falls gas station. A proposed bill to raise the state gas tax by two cents for one year to help address Idaho's \$240 million yearly roads maintenance backlog could receive a full house vote as early as today.



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CAN YOU GUESS WHAT'S TRENDY FOR DINNER?

You may be surprised > Food 1

MORNING BRIEFING

Pat's Picks

Three things to do today

Pat Marcantonio



Lots going on in the Wood River Valley, so make a day and evening of it.

- Motivational speaker, education advocate, author and retired Army Lt. Col. Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch presents "Overcoming Adversity" at 6 p.m. at the Community Library, 415 Spruce Ave. N., Ketchum. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

- The Environmental Resource Center presents Trish Nixon with "The Secret Lives of Birds" at 6 p.m. at the YMCA Community Room, 101 Saddle Road, Ketchum.

Nixon is the raptor specialist of the Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey. It's free.

- And the Company of Fools presents its Fools Day Celebration from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Hailey. There will be fun stories and luscious desserts. It's also free and everyone is welcome.

Have your own pick you want to share? Something that is unique to the area and that may take people by surprise? E-mail me at patm@gmagicvalley.com.

Budget

Continued from Main 1

Legislature that would allow their board of directors to make those kinds of decisions."

Otter said issuing a pay cut was an example of the Legislature going beyond its powers.

"The second article of the Idaho Constitution is very clear on the separation of powers," he said. "You cannot run a government from the Legislature. The Legislature sets the policy. I execute the policy."

JFAC co-chairman Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, said lawmakers simply have set policy as allowed by the Constitution, and there are no trust issues.

"It's our responsibility to set public policy and that's what we've done so far," he said. "The Constitution doesn't just say we have to set public policy by which the governor would agree with. It requires we set the public policy. It also allows us to appropriate funds and that's an authority and responsibility the governor doesn't have."

Personnel cost cuts for both educators and state employees has emerged as one of the fiercest debates of the session. In the Magic Valley, more than 30 state workers expressed frustration to lawmakers in Burley Saturday.

JFAC reviewed and discussed various proposals before reaching an agreement. Once they determined agencies couldn't equally handle a flexible 5 percent option, they looked at pay cuts. Examples, Cameron, said, include the Idaho State Police or the Department of Corrections, neither of which could operate with employees forced into unpaid furloughs.

"We believed the 5 percent could not be handled by all state agencies," he said. "You can't get to 5 percent by furloughing personnel (at prisons). We're not going to have 'no guard day' at the prison."

Despite his concerns, Otter declined to say whether he was preparing any vetoes, for personnel, transportation or other matters. Cameron doesn't expect him to veto the matter.

"I'm not concerned about it. The governor has the right to veto any bill that he feels is not appropriate and he retains that ability," said Cameron.

Cameron also pointed out that directors can make up the 3 percent pay cuts in their agencies if they find savings.

Jared Hopkins may be reached at 208-420-8371 or jhopkins@gmagicvalley.com.

Chase

Continued from Main 1

car westbound on Interstate 80, so deputies waited at the Osino weigh station. At 4:45 a.m., deputies saw the car coming toward them on the interstate at a high rate of speed. When they attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver allegedly drove off the interstate but then took the onramp and continued heading west.

Elko police officers set up a roadblock at Exit 303, but the driver maneuvered around it.

He then attempted to pass a diesel truck stopped at the stop sign on East Jennings Way but lost control, and the car rolled multiple times before landing in the right-of-way just to the south of Winger's.

Gailey said the youths were two 12-year-olds and two 13-year-olds. The driver has a felony warrant out for his arrest in connection with escaping from a youth facility near Burley. One of the boys refused to give his

name or tell deputies who his parents were.

"It's my understanding that the four juveniles involved are all 12 or 13 years old, and they're from Burley, Idaho," said Elko Police Department Lt. Will Lehmann.

Two of the youths sustained serious injuries and the other two had moderate injuries. Gailey said they were wearing their seat belts, and during the pursuit the Accord may have reached speeds of up to 120 mph.

"It was realistically the seat belts that saved their lives," Gailey said.

Gailey said a car that had been reported stolen in Idaho was found this morning abandoned near the Chimney Rock Golf Course in Wells, Nev. It's suspected that may have been the vehicle the youths used to get to Wells.

Times-News writer Damon Hunzeker contributed to this story.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association (IOTFA) jammin' for the crowd and meeting, members will jam and entertain the public from 6 to 8 p.m. with monthly meeting to follow, Idaho Pizza Company, 1859 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, open to the public and prospective members, 420-3345.

BUSINESS

Organization of Rupert Businesses (ORB) 8:30 a.m., Doc's Pizza restaurant, 679-4793.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magic Valley Quilts of Valor, a group that make quilts for wounded soldiers, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 'Stitchin' Time, Twin Falls, newcomers welcome, 423-5758 or 735-4094.

Burley Kiwanis Club, noon, Morey's Steakhouse, 219 E. Third St. N., 436-0720.

Burley Soroptimist Int'l., noon, Syringa Plaza, 626 Elba Ave., 438-8666.

Magic Valley Toastmasters meeting and no-host lunch, focus: assisting members in developing speaking, communication and leadership skills, noon, Idaho Pizza, 1859 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, visitors welcome, 736-1025.

Rupert Rotary Club, noon, Rupert Elks Lodge, 850 S. 200 W., 436-6852.

Twin Falls Lions Club meeting and no-host lunch, noon, Norm's Catering Room, 827 Main Ave. W., Twin Falls, visitors welcome, 737-0240.

Twin Falls Rotary Club meeting and lunch, features variety of speakers from around the community, noon to 1 p.m., Turf Club, 734 Falls Ave., Twin Falls, kbradshaw@twinfallsrotary.org or (208)-212-0265.

EXHIBITS

New works by Dutch artist Sjer Jacobs, oil

paintings and bronze sculpture, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Gallery DeNovo, 320 First Ave. N., Suite 101, Ketchum, free admission, gallerydenovo.com or 726-8180.

New work by Twin Falls sculptor Yvonne Jacques, 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 tree committee, 8 a.m., 450 Sixth Ave. W., Twin Falls, public invited, 734-9491.

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

Glenns Ferry School Board, 7 p.m., district office, 820 Old Highway 30, 366-7436.

Hagerman City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 191 State St. N., 837-6636.

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, a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magic Valley locations: CSI gym, Gooding ISDB gym, Jerome Rec Center, Shoshone High School (old gym), Rupert Civic gym, Blaine County Campus gym and Filer Elementary; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at old Buhl Middle School gym; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burley Outreach Center gym, no cost, 732-6475.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 310 Main St. N., Kimberly, no cost, 737-5988.

SilverSneakers Fitness Program, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Jerome Senior Center, 212 First Ave. E., no cost for Humana Gold Choice members, \$1 for non-Humana members, 324-5642.

SilverSneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program designed specifically for Medicare beneficiaries' unique health and physical needs, 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.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ID No. 3 Chapter of Twin Falls, weigh ins from 4:50 to 5:20 p.m. and meeting from 5:30 to 6 p.m., BridgeView Great Room (north entrance, third floor), BridgeView Estates, 1828 Bridgeview Blvd., 404-4793 or 736-9282.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ID No. 388 Chapter of Malta, a weight-loss support group, 5:30 p.m., Raft River Electric Board room, 155 N. Main St., 208-645-2438.

Griefshare Support Group, a 13-week program (through April 22), 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 2262 Hilland Ave., Burley, child care provided, 654-2500 or 878-7613.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Sample Days, new class preview includes Artie Jensen with stained glass, Sandy Mellblom with felting, Kay Mitchell with handwriting analysis, and Becky Bartholomew and Jack Goodman with pet poetry, writing and reading, 1 to 2:30 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center, 530 Shoshone St. W., free admission, 734-5084.

Woodcarving days, public welcome to come and carve wood, 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 10 p.m., 310 Filer Ave. W., Twin Falls, classes available, 736-0061.

Roads

Continued from Main 1

Wood's bare-bones proposal resurfaced after the House rejected Otter's three-year, 7-cent increase to raise \$175 million over five years, which had been pitched as a compromise with lawmakers. But after Tuesday's action, even Wood said she's not sure the one-year bill has the votes.

"It's really a gamble," she said.

House Assistant Majority Leader Scott Bedke, R-Oakley, said there's a clear indication it will be difficult to get any type of increase

through the House, where Republicans hold a 52-18 majority.

"How optimistic am I? Well, I'm realistic," he said.

He said efforts will continue to address inefficiencies outlined in the \$500,000 audit of the Idaho Transportation Department. But he said there's less support for raising registration fees than the gas tax.

Otter remains engaged and committed to securing a solution, said his spokesman, Jon Hanian. Otter was told his initial

plan was too pricey, as was a scaled-back one, Hanian said.

"We're still trying to work out what an acceptable figure is and that remains a work in progress," he said.

Rep. Bob Nonini, R-Coeur d'Alene said Otter's March 19 executive order to hold ITD more accountable was an unfair plea.

"This department needs to get their act in order," Nonini said. "That executive order was nothing more than a sales technique by (the governor) to try to

make us think he's got it under control over there."

Before the vote, Otter told reporters he would have to review a one-year proposal before deciding whether it was adequate. Last year, he rejected a \$68 million package on the grounds it wasn't multi-year.

"It's my hope that (a solution) would be looking further down the road than 2 cents will get us," he said. "If it costs a dime to get out of sight, well two cents wouldn't get us at the end of my vision."

Gooding

Continued from Main 1

that I'm seeing right now is the potential to rethink what we do every day," Williams said. "The lack of money has forced us to be innovative in our approach."

Money's not the only factor, though. Williams said it began as an idea because of less funding, but other potential benefits have emerged.

For example, officials are hopeful that four slightly longer days of instruction with a fifth day off will boost student attendance.

"We started to look at it because of money, but we're sticking with it because of academics," Williams said. "We feel like it will improve our attendance and if kids are at school, they're going to

learn more."

The four remaining school days aren't expected to be more than an hour longer.

There's also an opportunity for community involvement, Williams said. Mayor Duke Morton has contacted the district and has an interest in seeing the community come up with ideas for activities or programs for students on the fifth day when they're out of class.

Morton said a meeting is scheduled for April 14, adding that it's too soon to say what the outcomes will be.

"I think the community needs to step up to the plate," he said. "This is a way for us to take some responsibility for what our children do."

In interviews, students said they like the idea of having a three-day weekend. Some expressed worries about a longer day when combining classes and athletic practices and events.

"I think it's pretty cool," said Mark Woodland, a 14-year-old eighth-grader at Gooding Middle School. "We get to have a longer weekend."

Keegan Cenarrusa, a 15-year-old freshman at Gooding High School, plays basketball, volleyball and track. She wonders about how long the day might be with athletic activities, but agrees that a fifth day off will be a plus.

"I'm not really for it, but I don't know," she said. "Practice is going to go a lot later."

Her classmate, Karlee Agenbroad, another 15-year-old freshman, echoed many of the same sentiments of her classmates.

"I like it just because we don't have to go to school for five days," she said.

McKenna Knopp, an eight-grader who's also the student-body president at Gooding Middle School, said students like the idea of a three-day weekend.

On the other hand, some classmates are nervous about transitioning to high school and a four-day week all in the same year, she said. As for what day off she'd like, her preference is Monday.

"Everybody hates Mondays," Knopp said.

Ben Botkin may be reached at 208-735-3238.

Soldier

Continued from Main 1

storage and utility area adjacent to the restroom on the first floor of the lodge. "The main power and electrical panels were in there," he said.

Larry Davenport, manager of the ski area for owner Bruce Willis, said he plans to meet with the

actor's representatives at Valley Entertainment in Hailey to discuss the fire marshal's determination.

Both structures were insured, Davenport said Monday.

Hahn said while his investigation is complete, the insurance company might choose to examine the electrical components further.

Yellow caution tape hasn't kept visitors from stopping by the blackened scene, a stark contrast with the still-snowy backdrop of Soldier Mountain. Locals and tourists alike recalled fond memories of hot chocolate around the fireplace.

Part of the lodge's ground floor dated to 1948, the year Bob Frostenson and Harry Durall founded the ski area in conjunction with the Forest Service. According to Frostenson's

unpublished memoir, there were two feet of snow on the ground by the time the lodge was finished, but it was open and ready for business in January 1949.

The two-story section of the lodge was added in 1967, after Durall sold his interest to Levard Hansen and Bob Frostenson's brother, Sten. Architect Ivan Stone of Jerome added a dining room, kitchen and office along with a sun deck.

The rental shop that also burned Monday replaced an older structure, formerly the Willow Creek School. That building burned down in 1975.

world," he said Tuesday.

One year in the mid-1960s, a particularly harsh winter kept the ski area from opening for six weeks. "When we finally got up there, we shoveled the old roof. There was no place to put the snow, so we just shoveled it up like a snow cave around the door. It seems like there were like 10 feet of snow and it took us a day or so to shovel. There were about 20 of us and when we got done we were completely sopped."

When Bob Frostenson began to contemplate selling out in the 1970s, he asked his son if he would like to buy the ski area. "I said, 'No thank you,'" Jack Frostenson said, laughing.

Despite the maintenance required, the lodge was "always a nice haven in the wintertime during nasty weather," Frostenson added.

TIMES-NEWS

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Snowpack levels

Watershed	Seasonal % of Avg.	percentage peak
Salmon	96%	92%
Big Wood	85%	80%
Little Wood	89%	88%
Big Lost	91%	88%
Little Lost	97%	91%
Henrys Fork/Teton	89%	86%
Upper Snake Basin	97%	93%
Oakley	91%	90%
Salmon Falls	97%	95%

As of March 31

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Don't Ask Me

Steve Crump



Is hummus against God's plan? I think so

I was at a party at my sister-in-law's house a few years ago, gobbling up hors d'oeuvres like a wolf at a lamb-shank cook-off. "Good stuff," I mumbled during bites.

My wife pulled me aside. "You know those canapes are made with hummus, don't you?"

I had to go rinse my mouth out with a beer. Hummus, you see, is so wrong on so many levels to a true Idahoan.

It's an ancient dish of Middle Eastern origin, made with mashed garbanzo beans, tahini (sesame-seed paste), olive oil, lemon juice and garlic. Popular in the Western world just now, it's all the rage with vegetarians and vegans.

As such, it's a clear and present danger to Idaho's cherished meat-and-potatoes culture.

Look, hummus is what happens when a society decides to tolerate tofu. It breeds slack morals, dilettantism, excessive fondness for brie and an unhealthy dependence on white wines of dubious pedigree.

Hummus, it will not surprise you to learn, was atop the charts in the late Roman Empire. It's also a staple in the Arab world and in Israel, a fact that only serves to give the Israelis and Arabs something else to fight about. What are the implications, after all, of one side or the other controlling the world's hummus supply? Forget Jerusalem: This is serious.

At its core, hummus is mashed potatoes for the lazy and the effete. No peeling is necessary with hummus, and if you burn the garbanzo beans you can always add enough garlic to cover it up.

Mashed potatoes, by contrast, is a dish you have to accept on its own terms. Scorch the spuds, and it's inedible. Add too much milk, it turns to soup. Whip it too long, you'll transform it to butter. Add too much salt, and you'll cut 25 minutes off your lifespan.

Now hummus apologists will argue that their pita spread is healthier, but I'm not so sure. Life expectancy in Syria, which is the dark heart of hummus-dom, is 68 years — nine years less than in the United States, where we clog our coronary arteries with proud abandon.

The chief blame for our country's rising addiction to hummus, of course, belongs to celebrity chefs such as Rachael Ray, Emeril Lagasse and Wolfgang Puck, who are great hummus enablers. Scan their recipes, and you'll find they've been seduced by tahini and sucked in by the insidious spreadability of this alien concoction. Ray even has a recipe for spinach-artichoke hummus on cheesy toast, which combines the national cuisines of about 14 different nations and west Texas. Appalling.

Hummus does have one good use, though. Remember that party at my sister-in-law's? I spilled some hummus on my necktie, and when I went to wipe it off it had taken out a gravy stain that had been there for years. Or maybe it was the beer.

Steve Crump may be reached at 735-3223. Hear him live on KLIX-1310 AM at 8:30 a.m. Fridays or on the Web at Magicvalley.com.

Save Sun Valley counters plan to merge

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

LEARN MORE

Save Sun Valley:
www.savesunvalley.com or
call 721-2746
One Community, One Town:
onetown.wordpress.com

SUN VALLEY — Around the Wood River Valley, drivers will soon encounter a wave of blue bumper stickers: "Save Sun Valley." That's also the name of a new group started in the last three weeks to counter the campaign of One Community, One Town to consolidate Sun Valley and Ketchum.

Save Sun Valley held an informational meeting on Monday night at the Sun Valley Resort, where the group presented three arguments — legal, financial and emotional or cultural — as to why Sun Valley and Ketchum should remain separate.

Prior to that meeting, the two primary leaders of OCOT held a press conference to offer counter-arguments to SSV. Dave Chase, a Sun Valley City Councilman, and Charles Conn, a Ketchum City Councilman, have proposed a citizen petition to get consolidation on the ballot.

Among the members of SSV arguing against the idea are Joel Graff, Bob Youngman, Chuck Rumpf, Richard Smooke and Peggy Tierney, Sun Valley residents who see the merger as being more of an annexation, or as

Willich has put it, a hostile takeover.

Although the majority of SSV's meeting was civil in tone, it was often broken by applause for statements against consolidation, and the question-and-answer period drew numerous passionate comments, including one man who called Chase a "Benedict Arnold" to cheers from the audience.

Chase and Conn have both said they have no personal interest in consolidation and won't run for elected office in a consolidated city. They argue there are dramatic savings that could be realized through efficiencies.

SSV members say these efficiencies are questionable, and they assert that Sun Valley is in dramatically better financial shape than Ketchum, which OCOT disputes.

Although OCOT believes its numbers — showing the cities' budgets, operating balances and potential savings — are accurate, Chase and Conn said they would welcome a third-party auditor to review



ARIEL HANSEN/Times-News

Joel Graff addresses a nearly full room on Monday night at the Sun Valley Resort. He and others spoke at the first meeting of Save Sun Valley, a group opposed to consolidation of Sun Valley and Ketchum.

them for both groups.

They also said they would like to participate in a moderated debate now that each group has presented its ideas separately.

The public also appears to be getting engaged in the issue, with several hundred in attendance at the SSV

meeting on Monday and others writing letters to the editor and blog entries. There are no specific events planned next on either side.

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

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BLAIR KOCH/For the Times-News

Buhl's landmark water tank, shown here, will soon have a neighboring tank as part of the city's arsenic treatment project, now underway. Currently the foundation for the new tank is being prepared and pipe for the facility is being laid throughout town.

City of Buhl making progress on arsenic treatment project

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — Dana Jackson lives about a half-mile away from where construction crews have been tearing up asphalt and earth to lay new pipe for Buhl's arsenic treatment facility. She said she's noticed the work.

"At first it sounded like it was coming in the field behind the apartments but there was nothing out there," said Jackson. "I couldn't believe the banging."

Buhl has spent several years planning to build an arsenic treatment facility and activity is finally being seen.

At well site No. 3, along Clear Lake Road, the foundation for a new water tank is being prepared and pipe from the area to well site No. 1, next to the city shop at 213 Ninth Ave. S., has been laid.

The pipe will transport water from the wells to be blended and filtered at the treatment facility and then stored in the new tank, said City Engineer Scott Bybee. So far the project is on track, he said.

"(Cascade Pipeline) is in the final stages of laying the water lines," Bybee said.

Cascade Pipeline Corporation of Meridian has been contracted by the city to complete the \$1.5 million portion of the \$8 million arsenic treatment project. The treatment is mandatory under Environmental Protection Agency guidelines stipulating municipalities' potable water have arsenic levels no more than 10 parts per billion.

Cascade Project Manager/Estimator Brian Kinney said surface repair on the asphalt will take place next.

"We're on time and should be finished up in the next few weeks," Kinney said. "Everything has been going very smoothly. Buhl has been great to work with."

In the meantime, Bybee said the city is still pursuing as many grants as it can

AROUND THE VALLEY

Blue Lakes sewer project starts today

The reconstruction of Blue Lakes Boulevard and installation of a storm water sewer system in Twin Falls will move into the roadway beginning today, according to the Idaho Transportation Department.

Installation of the new storm water sewer system began at the Snake River canyon rim in early March and has crossed Fillmore Street.

The trench work will cross the southbound lanes of Blue Lakes Boulevard and progress toward Pole Line Road in the center lane.

Drivers are advised to watch for traffic control devices in the southbound and center turn lanes between the canyon rim and Pole Line Road during the latest construction phase. One southbound lane will remain open.

Later construction phases will include reconstruction of the road between Falls Avenue and Pole Line Road. That work is expected to begin in May. One lane in each direction will remain open, and business access will be restricted or altered throughout the corridor.

Western Construction of Boise is the contractor for the \$4.6 million reconstruction. Weekly construction updates and other project information can be found on the Web at <http://itd.idaho.gov/Projects/D4/US93BlueLakesFallsToPoleline/>.

Night work planned for Washington/Falls intersection

Twin Falls city crews began relocating water lines Monday evening at the intersection of Washington Street North and Falls Avenue. Construction is scheduled to take place each night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. until Friday morning.

During construction, the stoplights in the intersection will be in a red flash mode.

Though there will likely be some lane closures, both streets will remain

open so that traffic can move through the work zone. The roads will remain fully open as usual during the day.

Drivers are asked to use caution and to obey the traffic control signs and flaggers when traveling through the area.

Virtual charter school to hold meetings in Twin Falls, Burley

INSPIRE, the Idaho Connections Academy, will have free informational meetings in Twin Falls and Burley for parents who want to learn more about the free virtual charter school program.

INSPIRE can accept students from anywhere in the state, and students from kindergarten through 12th grade are eligible to enroll. Open enrollment begins today for students entering in the 2009-2010 school year.

The Twin Falls session is at 6:30 tonight at the Shilo Inn, 1586 Blue Lakes Blvd. The Burley session is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Golden Heritage Senior Center, 2421 Overland Ave.

At the events, parents can meet with INSPIRE repre-

sentatives, view the curriculum, and explore the program. A complete schedule with dates and locations is also available at www.ConnectionsAcademy.com or 800-382-6010.

— staff reports

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for the project.

"We are working with (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality) on an application, due April 8, for more grants ... seeking every avenue for funding as we can," Bybee said.

Bybee said the city is also working with several agencies in hopes of receiving federal stimulus dollars.

"There are an awful lot of requests for a little amount of available money," Bybee said.

As a single mother with two young children, Jackson hopes the city is awarded grants and that the city's monthly water bill goes down. The average household pays more than \$130 a month for water, sewer and garbage service.

"If I wouldn't have moved into an apartment I would have had to move out of Buhl because I can't afford to pay that bill," she said. "I don't want to move out of Buhl and I'm glad to see the project is now underway but the burden placed on the people is so drastic."

The arsenic treatment facility should be complete later this summer.

Blair Koch may be reached at 208-316-2607 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

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Law & Disorder... ... in Cassia County

Meth possession, injury to child: Police requested a warrant for Chantel Tucker, 21, of Burley, for meth possession and child endangerment. Deputy Brice Nelson responded to a Burley residence on a felony-probation matter related to a 21-year-old male living in the house who hadn't reported to his probation officer. After noticing a hatchet next to the man's shoes and a knife on the entertainment center, Nelson searched the house. He found some tinfoil, two pipes and a plastic bottle — all meth-tainted. Tucker is pregnant and has a daughter "about two to three years in age" who has a bedroom in the residence. When Nelson found a foam pad with pins in it, he asked the male in the house for an explanation, and the male said "they look like pins used to clean a torch." When asked about the pipes, the male said "they were probably used for meth pipes."

Driving violations: Deputy Terry Hixley showed up at Jack in the Box in Burley in response to complaints of "persons in the parking lot playing with fire extinguishers." The alleged fire-extinguisher perpetrators were pulled over a few blocks away. There were two passengers, both of whom had been drinking. A person in the back seat, when asked about the extinguisher, said he "used one on something about a cigarette and they put it out." Travis Avila, 18, of Paul, was the designated driver. He was on misdemeanor probation and arrested for driving with a suspended license.

Family dispute: Police responded to a Burley apartment after neighbors complained about noise. A 35-year-old female was yelling at her 68-year-old father — "calling him all kinds of bad words," the report reads.
— Damon Hunzeker

Father charged in girl's hypothermia death pushes judge for dismissal

By Andrea Jackson
Times-News writer

A Jerome man charged with involuntary manslaughter and injury to a child for his daughter's hypothermia death on Christmas is pushing for a dismissal.

Robert Aragon, 55, is accused of letting his 11-year-old daughter, Sage, and son, Bear, 12, walk nearly 10 miles through the snow on Christmas Day to visit their mother after Aragon's car got caught in a snow drift on West Magic Road near the Blaine County line. He pleaded not guilty to charges against him.

Sage's body was found the next day covered in snow. Bear was located in a restroom suffering from

hypothermia, but survived.

Lincoln County Prosecutor E. Scott Paul originally charged Aragon and Kenneth Quintana — a 29-year-old passenger in the car — with second-degree murder and injury to a child.

Paul reduced the murder charges in late January. Quintana's case was dismissed after his lawyer, Douglas Nelson, argued Quintana is not the children's custodian or parent and not criminally responsible for what happened.

Aragon's lawyer, Patrick McMillen, filed a motion for dismissal on March 25 in Lincoln County 5th



Aragon

District Court, arguing Idaho's injury to a child felony statute is overbroad and violates Aragon's constitutional right to due process, according to court records.

"The statute is vague on its face because it fails to give notice to people of ordinary intelligence as to what conduct is proscribed," according to McMillen's motion to dismiss.

The injury to a child statute, punishable by up to 10 years prison, doesn't list specific scenarios constituting the crime.

Injury to a child is committed, according to the statute, when someone

"willfully causes or permits any child to suffer ... Or permits such child to be placed in such situation that its person or health is endangered."

McMillen also filed a motion last week to delay Aragon's trial now set for May 6. "More time is necessary for appropriate preparation," according to court records.

McMillen's motions should be heard Monday during a status hearing in Shoshone.

Andrea Jackson may be reached at 208-735-3380 or ajackson@magicvalley.com.

MAGICVALLEY.COM

Bill to allow long-term debt introduced

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — A House committee agreed Tuesday to introduce a proposed constitutional amendment that would grant exceptions for political subdivisions to enter long-term debt.

In response to a landmark 2006 Idaho Supreme Court decision, municipalities, hospitals and other public agencies are pushing to carve out exceptions for them to enter into debt for more than one year. Idaho's Constitution limits the debt municipalities can take on, and projects requiring long-term debt must either go to voters or receive a judge's approval as "ordinary and necessary" expenses.

The bipartisan House Ways and Means Committee agreed to print the bill. If passed out of committee, it must clear both the House and Senate by a two-thirds majority. The amendment doesn't need the governor's signature but must be passed by a voter majority.

The legislation stems from the 2006 decision of City of Boise vs. Frazier that ruled "ordinary and necessary" expenses had to have voter approval unless municipalities were in an emergency. In the past, public officials have said the decision created uncertainty and minimized their ability to fund projects or sign contracts. Last year, two similar efforts died amid protests from legislators who worried the exemptions would be abused and cause burdensome debt to voters.

Rep. Fred Wood, R-Burley, the bill's sponsor, said the legislation does not change the Frazier decision but rather provides exceptions and clarifications. He said the bill was crafted with input from various interest

"This has been vetted by everybody I know of, and anybody who wanted to vet it has vetted it. They've all had their input. I think we have an excellent document here."

— Rep. Fred Wood, R-Burley

ed parties, and it passes legal muster of every attorney in the Legislature.

"We have not changed the Frazier decision," Wood said. "This has been vetted by everybody I know of, and anybody who wanted to vet it has vetted it. They've all had their input. I think we have an excellent document here."

Among the exceptions included in the proposed amendment, entities would be allowed to enter into long-term debt for:

- Building or acquiring a revenue-generating public facility if the facility has sources of revenue that are not taxes.
- Cities currently owning public electricity systems to expand their systems.
- Entering short-term contracts to lease or purchase personal property for up to five years if the annual payments aren't more than the public agency's annual general revenue.

• Terminable multi-year leases if the payment isn't more than the annual income of the public agency and the agency can cancel the lease without liability.

In 2004, the city of Boise received a judge's permission for a \$27 million plan to expand the city airport's parking garage. But David Frazier, a local photographer and government watchdog, sued the city. The court ruled in his favor and said Idaho's Constitution allows governments to bypass the voters only in an emergency.

Last year, a district court judge approved a request by the city of Twin Falls to incur debt to pay for \$33.3 million in water projects to meet federal arsenic standards and increase its water supply, saying it met the "ordinary and necessary" definition. The other option for the city would have been to hold a citywide vote that required two-thirds approval.

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NATION & WORLD

'We will amaze the world'

Pakistan's Taliban leader threatens U.S. attacks

By Zulfikar Ali and Laura King
Los Angeles Times

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Baitullah Mahsud, the leader of Pakistan's Taliban movement, threatened Tuesday to launch attacks inside the United States in retaliation for missile strikes by American drones aimed at militant leaders sheltering in Pakistan's tribal areas.

In an unusual step, the normally reclusive Mahsud made a round of calls to media representatives claiming responsibility for a commando-style strike on a police training school near the eastern city of Lahore a day earlier. In those calls, he also threatened to widen his campaign of attacks.

"Our mission is to continue jihad in Afghanistan and Pakistan and to avenge drone attacks, even inside America," he told a representative of the Los Angeles Times. Asked about a \$5 million American bounty on his head, he replied: "Martyrdom is our aim, and we would be very happy if we could achieve it."

U.S. and Pakistani intelligence officials have said that Mahsud and his organization, thought to have links to al-Qaida, are under increasing pressure as a result of American missile strikes in



Relatives of Raheel Fayz, a policeman killed in a deadly assault on a Pakistani police academy Monday, react during his funeral in Lahore, Pakistan, Tuesday. The commander of the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility Tuesday for the attack and said the group was planning a terrorist attack on the U.S. capital.

Pakistan's tribal areas, which have escalated over the past six months. Several recent raids have taken place in Mahsud's stronghold, in South Waziristan, and have killed some of his close associates.

Mahsud is blamed by the Pakistani government for dozens of suicide bombings and other attacks inside the country, including the December 2007 assassination of former Prime

Minister Benazir Bhutto. He has denied responsibility for Bhutto's killing.

Although Mahsud's campaign of violence is aimed primarily at the Pakistani government, some fighters loyal to him have crossed over into Afghanistan for attacks against Western troops battling an insurgency there. But analysts say there has been no indication that he has the ability to extend his reach outside

the region, although he has threatened such strikes.

"I think these comments are just meant for a domestic audience; I don't think he has the institutional or organizational skills for an attack in the United States or Europe," said Hassan Abbas, a former Pakistani police official in Pakistan's restive northwest, who is now a fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. "Conducting

attacks inside Pakistan — that's a different thing altogether."

In Washington, Pentagon officials said they could not determine how serious or imminent Mahsud's threats were. But they emphasized that they keep a close watch on the group — and treat it seriously.

"He's a bad guy," said a military officer on condition of anonymity. "He, his activities and his group remain a threat. And this is an indication of how dangerous he and his group is."

In his calls to Pakistani journalists primarily based in the tribal areas, Mahsud demanded an end to the missile strikes, which are generally carried out by unmanned aerial drones. He also denounced Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari's government, which he accused of complicity in the drone attacks.

The journalists he spoke to were familiar with his voice and manner of speaking, and they said they were confident he was the caller.

In a call to The Associated Press, Mahsud was quoted as threatening to strike the White House. "Soon we will launch an attack in Washington that will amaze everyone in the world," he said.

AROUND THE NATION

N. CAROLINA Mom says daughter survived by hiding

CARTHAGE, N.C. — The nurse's assistant who may have been the target of a deadly nursing home rampage in North Carolina survived by hiding in a bathroom inside a locked area for Alzheimer's patients, her mother said Tuesday.

Margaret Neal said her daughter Wanda is "devastated" by the alleged actions of her estranged husband, Robert Stewart, who authorities believe killed seven residents and a nurse during Sunday's attack. She believes Stewart was after her daughter, who was safe behind the passcode-protected doors of the Alzheimer's care unit as he allegedly shot up the home's hallways.

"She said she hid in the bathroom. She was close to him," Neal said in an interview with The Associated Press. "The reason he didn't get to her was because he didn't know the code."

Neal said her daughter left Stewart about a month ago and moved back to a home on the Neal family property, about half an hour from the site of the shootings in Carthage. She said Stewart had a tendency to grow violent, although she said Wanda usually kept quiet about the details of their marriage.

WASHINGTON Congress expands volunteer program

Tens of thousands of Americans, from teenagers to baby boomers, soon will get a fresh chance to lend a helping hand in a time of need.

The House voted 275-149 Tuesday for a \$5.7 billion bill that triples positions in the Clinton-era AmeriCorps program, its largest expansion since the agency's creation in 1993, and establishes a fund to help nonprofit organizations recruit and manage more volunteers. AmeriCorps offers a range of volunteer opportunities including housing construction, youth outreach, disaster response and caring for the elderly.

Congress was sending the bill to President Barack Obama, who often cites his years as a Chicago community organizer for giving him his political start. Obama has made national service programs a high priority. His budget proposal calls for more than \$1.1 billion for the programs, an increase of more than \$210 million.

The president, who began an eight-day European trip Tuesday, plans to sign the measure when he returns to Washington.

O H I O

Man charged with DUI after crashing motorized bar stool

NEWARK — Authorities in Ohio say a man has been charged with drunken driving after crashing his motorized bar stool.

Police in Newark, 30 miles east of Columbus, say when they responded to a report of a crash with injuries on March 4, they found a man who had wrecked a bar stool powered by a deconstructed lawn mower.

Twenty-eight-year Kile Wygle was hospitalized for minor injuries. Police say he was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated after he told an officer at the hospital that he had consumed 15 beers. Wygle told police his motorized bar stool can go up to 38 mph.

Wygle has pleaded not guilty and has requested a jury trial.

— The Associated Press

— The Associated Press

Health officials issue sweeping warning about pistachio nuts

By Garance Burke
Associated Press writer

TERRA BELLA, Calif. — It could take weeks before health officials know exactly which pistachio products may be tainted with salmonella, but they've already issued a sweeping warning to avoid eating the nuts or foods containing them.

The move appears to indicate a shift in how the government handles food safety issues — from waiting until contaminated foods surface one-by-one and risking that more people fall ill to jumping on the problem right away, even if the message is vague.

Officials wouldn't say if the approach was in response to any perceived mishandling of the massive peanut recall that

started last year, only that they're trying to keep people from getting sick as new details surface about the California plant at the center of the pistachio scare.

"What's different here is that we are being very proactive and are putting out a broad message with the goal of trying to minimize the likelihood of consumer exposure," said Dr. David Acheson, FDA's assistant commissioner for food safety. "The only logical advice to consumers is to say 'OK consumers, put pistachios on hold while we work this out. We don't want you exposed, we don't want you getting salmonella.'"

Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, the president's new acting commissioner who started Monday, made it clear

staff needed to move quickly, Acheson said.

The agency announced Monday that Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella Inc., the second-largest pistachio processor in the nation, recalled more than 2 million pounds of its roasted pistachios.

Suspect nuts were shipped as far away as Norway and Mexico, Acheson said Tuesday. One week after authorities first learned of the problem, they still had little idea what products were at risk, he said.

As federal health inspectors take swabs inside the plant to try to identify a salmonella source, a whole range of products from nut bars to ice cream and cake mixes remain in limbo on grocery shelves.

Sebelius admits errors, pays \$7,000 in back taxes

By Erica Werner
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Health and Human Services nominee Kathleen Sebelius recently corrected three years of tax returns and paid more than \$7,000 in back taxes after finding "unintentional errors" — the latest tax troubles for an Obama administration nominee.

The Kansas governor explained the changes to senators in a letter dated Tuesday that the administration released. She said they involved charitable contributions, the sale of a home and business expenses.

Sebelius said she filed the amended returns as soon as the errors were discovered by an accountant she hired to scrub her taxes in preparation for

her confirmation hearings. She and her husband, Gary, a federal magistrate judge in Kansas, paid a total of \$7,040 in back taxes and \$878 in interest to amend returns from 2005-2007.

Asked by The Associated Press to comment on the amended tax returns as she left a Capitol Hill restaurant Tuesday night, Sebelius said, "We put out a statement and the statement speaks for itself."

Several Obama administration nominees have run into tax troubles, notably the president's first nominee for HHS secretary, former Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle. He withdrew from consideration while apologizing for failing to pay \$140,000 in taxes and interest.

AROUND THE WORLD

BRITAIN Obama arrives on first leg of Europe trip

LONDON — President Barack Obama embarked on his Europe trip Tuesday, with a hefty economic and national security agenda for his first journey across the Atlantic since taking office two months ago.

The president and first lady Michelle Obama arrived in London Tuesday night local time. First up for the president was a summit of the world's economic powers to address the global financial meltdown.

Obama planned to meet with leaders of Britain, Russia and China — major players in the U.S. financial system. He also scheduled meetings with leaders of India and South Korea while in London.

During his eight-day, five-country trip, Obama is scheduled to meet with European leaders who split with the United States over the war in Iraq and the treatment of suspected terrorists held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, under President

George W. Bush. He also will participate in a NATO summit marking the 60 years since the alliance was founded to blunt Soviet aggression in Europe.

NETHERLANDS U.S., Iran diplomats have cordial meeting

THE HAGUE — In a cautious first step toward unlocking 30 years of tense relations, senior U.S. diplomat Richard Holbrooke had a brief but cordial meeting with Iran's deputy foreign minister Tuesday at an international conference on Afghanistan.

The rare diplomatic approach was the first official face-to-face interplay between the Obama administration and the Iranian regime. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton cautioned that the talks between Holbrooke and Iranian diplomat Mehdi Akhundzadeh were promising but not "substantive." "They agreed to stay in

touch," Clinton said at the close of a one-day conference on Afghan security and development that was designed partly to allow the diplomatic turn with Iran.

The meeting between Holbrooke, President Barack Obama's hand-picked Afghanistan envoy, and Akhundzadeh came on the sidelines of a session aimed at improving Afghanistan's future prospects. Akhundzadeh pledged to help the reconstruction of its neighbor, but he criticized U.S. plans to send more troops into Afghanistan.

ISRAEL Netanyahu promises to seek 'full peace'

JERUSALEM — Benjamin Netanyahu, taking office as Israel's new leader Tuesday, promised to seek "full peace" with the Arab and Muslim world, but refused to utter the words the world was waiting to hear: "Palestinian state."

The well-spoken, U.S.-educated hawk took pains to

portray himself as a pragmatist, telling a packed parliament that Israel does not want to rule the Palestinians.

"Under the permanent status agreement, the Palestinians will have all the authority to rule themselves," Netanyahu said in comments that appeared to hark back to a decades-old notion that peace could be achieved through limited Palestinian autonomy.

His words drew a sharp reaction from Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. "I want to say to Mr. Netanyahu that the only way the Palestinians can rule themselves, by themselves, is through ending the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and establishing an independent Palestinian state," Erekat said.

Netanyahu's refusal to embrace the idea of Palestinian statehood could put him at odds with the Obama administration and much of the rest of the world. So could his decision to appoint ultranationalist politician Avigdor Lieberman as foreign minister.

GERMANY CT scan finds second face in Nefertiti bust

BERLIN — Researchers in Germany have used a modern medical procedure to uncover a secret within one of ancient Egypt's most treasured artworks — the bust of Nefertiti has two faces.

A team led by Dr. Alexander Huppertz, director of the Imaging Science Institute at Berlin's Charité hospital and medical school, discovered a detailed stone carving that differs from the external stucco face when they performed a computed tomography, or CT, scan on the bust.

The findings, published Tuesday in the monthly journal Radiology, are the first to show that the stone core of the statue is a highly detailed sculpture of the queen, Huppertz said.

"Until we did this scan, how deep the stucco was and whether a second face was underneath it was unknown," he said.

James Christopher Bohn

BOISE — James Christopher Bohn passed away peacefully Saturday, March 28, 2009, at an assisted living facility in Boise.

A rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, March 3, at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, with a graveside service to follow at Idaho State Veterans Cemetery.

Jim was born May 5, 1914, and educated in Ewing, Neb. He worked on farms, moved houses, worked with heavy equipment, and had a long and decorated career with the Federal Fish Hatchery. Jim honorably served his country in the Army during World War II both in Germany and England. Jim shared many memories about his time in the service which he shared with everyone. He married the love of his life, Nora Wise, of Fillmore, Utah, on Feb. 6, 1940. They had a good life together for 65 years. Jim's hobbies include fishing, wood working, gardening, traveling and sharing good jokes. His homes were in the California Bay Area; Delta, Utah; and Jerome, Hagerman,



Gooding and Boise.

Survivors include sisters, Rose Bauer of Neligh, Neb., and Catherine Nutsch of Nampa; and several nieces and nephews. Jim was preceded in death by his wife, Nora; parents, Louis and Magdalena Bohn; brothers, Domnick, Edward, Martin and Frank Bohn; and sisters, O'Dilla Boies and Ursula Nutsch.

A special thank you to Regency Columbia Village Assisted Living Center, Veterans Hospital, Legacy Hospice and Multicare. And a BIG thank you to all the "special angels" who touched his life.

"Uncle Jim, watch over your 'guardian angel nieces,' Barbara Squires and Margaret Corn, as closely as they watched over you."

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery or to your favorite charity.

Condolences for the family may be submitted online at www.CloverdaleFuneralHome.com.

Raymond LeRoy Harris

WENDELL — Raymond LeRoy Harris, 73, of Wendell, left this earth Monday, March 30, 2009, after a courageous battle with melanoma cancer.

"Mr. Harris" was born June 25, 1935, in Salem, Ore., to Martha and Ted Harris. His baby years were spent in different places in Oregon and Idaho, with the family settling in Twin Falls on the Joe Marshall farm just east of town. The Harrises then purchased their farm northwest of Jerome. Ray attended Pleasant Plains School and went to town for high school, graduating in 1954. Before graduating, he joined the Marine Corps, where his tour of duty was spent in Korea. When Ray got home, he met and married Jean Welch of Buhl on July 27, 1957. They lived in Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, New Mexico and El Paso, Texas while "Mr. Harris" worked for Western Electric division of the telephone company.

You can take the boy from the farm, but you can never take the farm from the boy, so early in 1958, Jean and Ray moved back to Jerome to farm with his family. Ray spent all his productive years farming, milking cows and doing all kinds of custom work all over the Magic Valley. He loved it, and Jean was always his wife and hired man.

Ray is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jean; his daughter, Gwenna (Wade) Prescott; his son, Jimmy (DeAnna) Harris; his daughter-in-law, Cathy Harris; his grandchildren, Wyatt Prescott, Mindy and Bradley Harris; his brother, Dale "Shorty" (Alta) Harris; his sister, Elsie Weigt; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. "Mr. Harris" was preceded in death by his oldest grandchild, Buster Prescott; his mother, father, stepfather and brother-in-law.

"Mr. Harris" had a great life, but the day someone reached out and introduced him to Jesus Christ in a personal way was the real beginning of his life at age 50.

The merry-go-round from then on, with the lead horse being Jesus, gave his full life the well-rounded meaning it was always meant to have.

For the rest of the story, please join in the celebration of life at 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 3, at the Living Waters Presbyterian Church in Wendell, closing with military rites. A viewing will be held from 12:30 p.m. until service time Friday at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray Funeral Service, Wendell Chapel. In lieu of flowers, send donations to a charity of choice.

White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Justin Ray Mallory of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Saturday at Roper Auditorium at Twin Falls High School, 1615 Filer Ave. E. (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Alberta (Sally) Turner of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Rosella Ulrich of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at The Church of Christ Magic Valley, 2002 Filer Ave. in Twin Falls (Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Arlene B. Kisling, formerly of Dietrich, funeral at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Shoshone (Demaray Funeral Service, Shoshone Chapel).

Virginia E. Stigall of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. Saturday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the mortuary.

Frank Skowronski Sr.

Frank Skowronski Sr., 91, of Twin Falls, passed away Sunday, March 29, 2009, at the River Ridge Care Center in Twin Falls.

He was born Oct. 11, 1917, in Terryville, Conn. He attended schools in Massachusetts, graduating from high school there. He met and married Mary Marquis in Worcester, Mass. In 1956, they moved to Ontario, Calif., where Frank worked as a silk screener for Lockheed Aircraft until his retirement. Frank enjoyed going to the local swap meet, restoring bicycles and loved spending time with family



and friends.

Frank is survived by three children, Frank Skowronski Jr. of Bullhead City, Ariz., Barbara Hague of Twin Falls and Lynne Somerville; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Mary; son, Robert Skowronski; three brothers; and three sisters.

A funeral will be held in Ontario, Calif.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park" in Twin Falls.

Robert 'R.C.' Virden

WENDELL — Robert "R.C." Virden, 87, of Wendell, went home to be with Jesus on Sunday, March 29, 2009.

R.C. was born Jan. 28, 1922, in Atkins, Ark. He married Loreda Payne on Oct. 30, 1941. To this marriage was born their son, Robert Virden Jr. R.C. proudly served his country at Normandy in World War II. He was a highly decorated member of the U.S. Army Air Force. After serving his country, they moved to Stratford, Calif., where they spent most of their years. He worked for Newton Brothers Ranch as a service manager and, due to his health, he retired early.

R.C. was a talented musician; any instrument he picked up, he could play. He enjoyed playing music with his church and for several

years was a member of the Old Time Fiddlers. He was a member of the First Southern Baptist Church in Gooding and no matter who he met he was sure to ask if they knew the Lord.

He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years; his son, Robert (Lynda); a grandson, Ryan; a granddaughter, Kari (Joe) Denison; and seven great-grandchildren, all of Idaho. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and four sisters.

The funeral will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 2, at Demaray's Gooding Chapel with Pastor Larry Kelly officiating. Burial will follow at the Wendell Cemetery. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

DEATH NOTICES

Francis Flight

Francis Flight, 91, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Craig H. Glorfield

BURLEY — Craig H. Glorfield, 52, of Burley, died

Monday, March 30, 2009. Arrangements will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

V. Eileen Wood

HAGERMAN — V. Eileen Wood, 79, of Hagerman, died Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at a Boise hospital. Arrangements will be announced by Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel of Boise.

AROUND THE NATION

Ex-studio boss behind 'Heaven's Gate' dies at 70

ARLINGTON, Vt. — Former United Artists movie executive Steven Bach, who oversaw the 1980 debacle "Heaven's Gate" and later wrote a memoir about it, has died.

Bach, who spent the last decade teaching literature at Bennington College, died of lung cancer March 25 at his home in Arlington, agent Robert Lescher said Tuesday. He was 70.

Bach, a native of Pocatello, Idaho, studied at the Sorbonne and Northwestern University and taught American literature before moving to Los Angeles, where he worked in public relations, earned a doctorate in film at the University of Southern California and worked for a decade as a story editor.

In the 1970s, he was a partner in Pantheon Pictures and helped produce the thrillers "The Parallax View," which starred Warren Beatty as a reporter investigating a senator's assassination, and "The Taking of Pelham One Two Three," featuring Walter Matthau as a New York detective trying to save a hijacked subway car, before he moved to United Artists.

"Heaven's Gate," a western about land barons in 19th-century Wyoming, was supposed to be a \$7.5 million feature by director Michael Cimino, but it

evolved into a \$36 million boondoggle. The box office bomb starred Kris Kristofferson, Christopher Walken and John Hurt.

United Artists fired Bach after it, and in 1985 he told his side of the story in a memoir entitled "Final Cut: Dreams and Disaster in the Making of 'Heaven's Gate.'"

Among Bach's other books were "Marlene Dietrich: Life and Legend" and "Leni: The Life and Work of Leni Riefenstahl."

'Angel' actor dies at 33 of heart disease

LOS ANGELES — An agent for 33-year-old singer and actor Andy Hallett says the former cast member from the vampire TV series "Angel" has died of congestive heart disease.

Hallett's agent Pat Brady says Hallett died Sunday at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles after having problems breathing. Brady says he has battled the heart condition for the past five years.

Hallett was a fan favorite on the "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" spinoff as Lorne, a green-skinned good guy demon who runs a karaoke club and can read a person's aura when they sing.

The show ran five seasons on the WB network and ended in 2004.

Hallett, an only child, is survived by his father Dave Hallett and mother Lori Hallett.

— The Associated Press

New York street-scenes photographer Helen Levitt dies at age 95

By Mary Rourke
Los Angeles Times



Helen Levitt, who pioneered street photography in the United States in the 1930s, taking pictures of small, poignant dramas with the help of an inconspicuous Leica camera, died Sunday at her apartment in New York City. She was 95.

The cause was respiratory failure, according to Marvin Hoshino, a long-time friend.

Using East Harlem and the Lower East Side of New York City as frequent settings, Levitt caught the humor, frustration and delight of everyday life, particularly among the city's poor. She was quick to recognize an extraordinary scene and quick to react.

"Helen was one of the first American photographers to identify street photography as potentially an art form," said Sandra Phillips, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art senior curator of photography. "She wasn't a photojournalist, she was more like a poet."

Levitt bought a used Leica in 1936 and took to the city streets, making children her most frequent subjects. Her images of young girls following soap bubbles down a street, boys waltzing on the sidewalk and laughing at themselves, children playing on the narrow ledge above a doorway like a Grecian frieze come to life, capture the sense of discovery that is part of childhood.

"There is a sweetness to Levitt's work, but the subjects are serious," Arthur Ollman, the former director of the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego said in a 2004 interview with the Los Angeles Times. "She recognized real, formative moments in a child's life. She saw the dignity of children, they were not strange 'other' beings to her."

Her pictures of white chalk drawings are a historical record of the innocence of children at play. One of them shows a drawing of a bicycle that is so carefully detailed it suggests a wish to own such a marvelous thing. Another shows neat, concentric circles accompanied by a message: "Button to Secret Passage. Press."

"People think I love children, but I don't," Levitt said in a 2001 interview with The New Yorker. "Not more than the next person. It was just that children were out in the street."

In the 1930s, she said, a lot of living went on in public places. "That was before television and air-conditioning," Levitt told the Chicago Tribune in 2003. "People would be outside, and if you just waited long enough they forgot about you." She set her lens focus and waited. The results were like

Estate of Helen Levitt/AP file photo

Helen Levitt works on location in New York in 1963 during the filming of a movie by Ben Maddow. Levitt, a giant of 20th century photography whose scenes of New York City street life provide a window into a vanished era, has died. She was 95.

"fragments of a play whose first and last acts are elsewhere," New Yorker writer Adam Gopnik said in the forward to Levitt's book "Here and There" (2002).

From the start of her career Levitt moved among the greatest talents in her business. She became friends with Walker Evans and Henri Cartier-Bresson in the 1930s. Both of them helped her develop her style.

She learned by looking at the photographs of Cartier-Bresson, who lived in New York City in the mid-1930s. He took a photograph only when the timing was right — "the decisive moment." Levitt credited him with showing her how both luck and planning played a part in the sort of images she wanted to create.

Levitt also was briefly influenced by a trend among talented young photographers to work for the Farm Security Administration and other government agencies in the New Deal, taking pictures of poverty-stricken farmers and mountain people. But she was not a social reformer. "I never intend to make statements in my pictures," she told the Chicago Tribune in 2003. "People say, 'What does this or that mean?' I don't have a good answer for them. You see what you see."

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SERVICES

Owen Colter of Gooding, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Gooding United Methodist Church (Demaray's Gooding Chapel).

Howard Don Christensen of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Burley LDS Stake Center, 2050 Normal Ave.; visitation from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Rueben Moses Jones Jr. of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1:30 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Helen Pearl Freeman of Burley and formerly of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the Burley LDS Stake Center, 2050 Normal Ave.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

Dorothy Louise Cederquist Haslam of Twin Falls, graveside service at 11 a.m. Friday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls; visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at

OPINION

QUOTE

"We cannot, and must not, and we will not let our auto industry simply vanish."
— President Barack Obama

EDITORIAL

Here comes the bake-sale culture in Idaho schools

Until now, textbooks were the critical tool for educating kids in Idaho schools. But for the next couple of years, cupcakes might be more important. Cupcakes are the stock-in-trade of bake sales, and you're going to see a lot more of them as schools scramble to make up for deep, across-the-board cuts in state funding. Case in point: field trips. A bill approved by the House of Representatives last week and now in the Senate would rework state reimbursements for school transportation costs and eliminate state funding for field trips.

Sure, field trips are a nice-but-not-necessary aspect of education, but there's another issue: School districts would not be reimbursed for field trips already scheduled and completed in the current school year. Under Idaho Department of Education policy, the state reimburses districts for field trips in the fiscal year after they are taken.

The change will blow a hole in schools budgets for next year — \$60,000 in the case of the Twin Falls School District, south-central Idaho's largest.

Superintendent Wiley Dobbs says one possibility for recouping the money is organizing parent-teacher associations to run fundraisers. Expect a lot more of it in the effort to rescue everything from band programs to athletic team travel.

There's nothing wrong with using bake sales and other events in a pinch. Our concern is that once Idaho gets past the current economic slump, parents and PTOs will be called upon to cover costs of public education that traditionally have been the state's responsibility.

Say you're a member of the 61st Idaho Legislature early in 2011. State tax revenues have rebounded but not to the level they were in 2008, so there are still tough decisions to be made:

Do you restore the 3 percent pay cut state workers suffered in 2009, or do you give schools money for field trips and textbooks?

Including schoolteachers, there are nearly 35,000 state employees, so we're betting on the paychecks.

So funding-by-sufferance could become institutionalized. Private sector support is nice, but what happens to that money when the next recession rolls around?

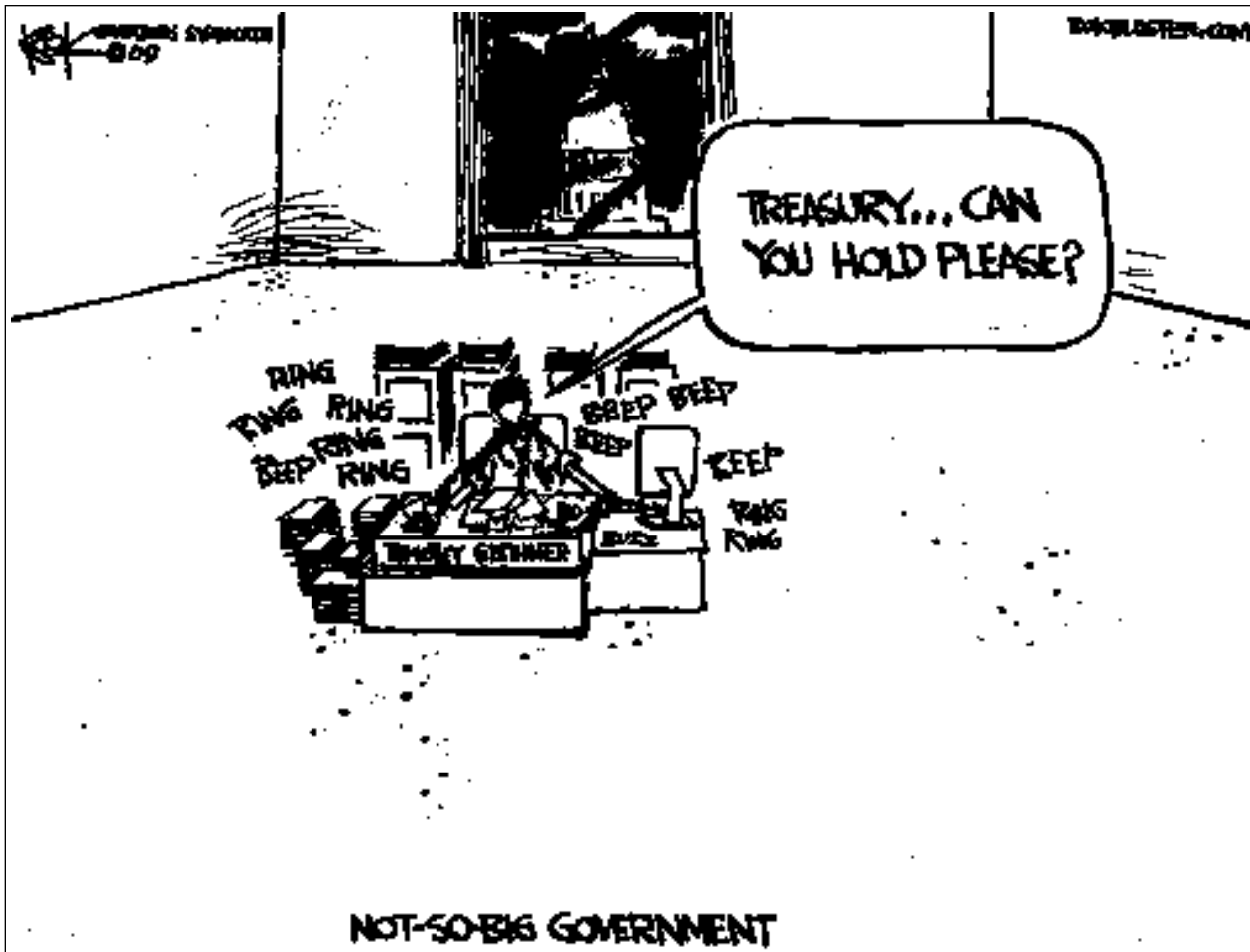
Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna and legislators need to be judicious about compromises on education funding. Some things really are the taxpayers' responsibility. Idaho must be cautious in outsourcing them.

Our view:

Privatizing elements of public school funding is a slippery slope.

What do you think?

We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



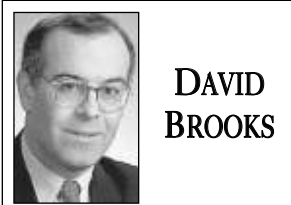
Obama's trying to fix too much at once

You'd think that if some tiger were lunging at your neck, your attention would be riveted on the tiger. But that's apparently not how it works in the age of global ADD. As a tiger sinks its teeth into world's neck, we focus on the dust bunnies under the bed and the floorboards that need replacing on the deck. We live in the world of Perverse Cosmic Myopia, an inability to focus attention on the most perilous matter at hand.

The tiger, of course, is the collapsing world financial system. Americans actually have a falsely mild view of this crisis because the economy is worse abroad. The U.N.'s International Labor Organization projects between 30 million and 50 million job losses worldwide. Central European countries are teetering; Japan's economy is horrifying; and the Chinese job creation machine is losing the race against its demographic pressures.

There have been riots in Greece and China as well as huge protest rallies in Dublin, Paris, London and beyond. So far, the protesters express anger without an agenda, but if the global economy continues to slide through 2010, they'll discover one. A predictable result is a series of beggar-thy-neighbor exchange-rate policies, followed by rising trade barriers and the degradation of the entire global system.

In times like these, you'd expect prudent leaders to prepare for the worst. After all, the pessimists have



DAVID BROOKS

recently been vindicated by events. But that's apparently too painful to think about. In normal times, leaders like to focus on the short term at the expense of the long term. But now the short term is really confusing, so leaders take refuge in projects that are years or decades away.

The president of the United States has decided to address this crisis while simultaneously tackling the four most complicated problems facing the nation: health care, energy, immigration and education. Why he has not also decided to spend his evenings mastering quantum mechanics and discovering the origins of consciousness is beyond me.

The results of this overload are evident on Capitol Hill. The banking plan is incomplete and there is zero political will to pay for it. The president's budget is being nibbled to death. The revenue ideas are dying one by one, while the spending ideas expand. By the latest estimate, the health care approach will cost \$1.5 trillion over 10 years and the national debt will at least double, while the Chinese publicly complain about picking up the tab.

The Obama administration is at least distracted by important things. The Washington political class recently went into made-for-TV hysterics over \$165

The world is in flames and (Europeans) want directorates and multilateral symposia and vague plans for a powerless 'college of supervisors.' This is what Marie Antoinette would be for if she were an annual Davos attendee.

million in AIG bonuses. We're in the middle of a multitrillion-dollar crisis, and our political masters have decided to focus all their energy on bonuses that account for 0.001 percent of the annual GDP.

Even this is not the most idiotic of the distractions. For that, you have to look abroad.

This is a global crisis, and a core lesson of the Great Depression is that a global crisis calls for a global response. As such, Tim Geithner and Larry Summers are preparing for this week's G-20 summit with an agenda that has the merit of actually addressing the problem at hand: coordinate global stimulus, strengthen the International Monetary Fund, preserve open trade.

But the G-20 process is heading toward global impotence because the Europeans are dismissing this approach. Instead, they want to spend this moment of peril working on a long-term architecture to regulate global finance. The world is in flames and they want directorates and multilateral symposia and vague plans for a powerless "college of supervisors." This is what Marie Antoinette would be for if she were an annual Davos attendee.

Why are they taking this

position? First, many European leaders think the answer to every problem is more global architecture. They've got Jean Monnet on the brain. Second, they prefer to free-ride on the stimulus packages the Americans and Chinese are already paying for. Third, the fiscally responsible European countries can't commit to a policy that their debt-ridden partners can't live up to. Fourth, some reject the idea of using fiscal policy to end recessions.

Some of these reasons have merit, especially the last one. But one thing is for sure: The American agenda might work to ease the immediate crisis, but efforts to build a long-range global architecture certainly will not. After all the pious talk about post-Bush international cooperation, the current approach will lead to a big multilateral zero.

Many have wondered how the world's leaders could be so myopic at various points in history — like during the Versailles Treaty or the turmoil of the 1930s. We don't have to wonder any more. We get to watch the cosmic myopia replay itself in our own times.

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

TIMES-NEWS

Brad Hurd publisher Steve Crump Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump, Bill Bitzenburg and Ruth S. Pierce.

The new vigilantes and their unaccountable enablers

If you think there are no consequences to hysterical, anti-corporate grandstanding in Washington, look at what's happening across the pond: "This is just the beginning."

So warned a public letter signed this week by a vigilante group called "Bank Bosses are Criminals." The thugs claimed responsibility for vandalizing a former financial executive's home and car in Edinburgh, Scotland. The bank official, Sir Fred Goodwin, was exco-riated by U.K. politicians for



MICHELLE MALKIN

refusing to give up company pension benefits dubbed "obscene," "grotesque," "unjustifiable and unacceptable." The vigilantes were stoked by a former newspaper editor, one Max Hastings, who wrote a diatribe exhorting citizens to violence: "The time has come to

address the entire robber banker culture. Investment banks have been run not for the benefit of society, customers or even shareholders, but exclusively for the advantage of the bankers themselves. . . . This is why we must stand outside their homes throwing rocks through the windows until they do."

This is no marginal movement. Some 3,000 protesters from around the world are expected to wreak havoc on the G20 summit that starts Thursday in London. What

happened at Sir Fred's house is a mere dress rehearsal. Bankers are being told to dress down to disguise themselves and avoid becoming riot targets.

Demonstrators are threatening to hang effigies. Protest organizer and university professor Chris Knight vowed worse: "We are going to be hanging a lot of people like Fred the Shred from lamp-posts on April Fools' Day, and I can only say let's hope they are just effigies."

How soon before we see this same kind of anarchic

domestic terrorism on this side of the Atlantic? It's already here.

Animal-rights terrorists have firebombed researchers' homes, Molotov cocktail-bombed their cars, and been convicted of inciting threats, harassment and vandalism against employees of a private company engaged in animal research. Environmental terrorists have set private real estate developments on fire. And last weekend, of course, the radical ACORN mob and its corporate shakedown allies

chartered a bus — with twice as many outrage-stoking mainstream media photographers in tow — to menace AIG executives at their homes.

Federal authorities will investigate and take action against warped vigilantes. But when will the enablers on the Hill, in newsrooms and on TV sets be held to account?

Syndicated columnist Michelle Malkin can be reached at writemalkin@gmail.com.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Where are Africa's Obamas?

My fellow Kenyans celebrated wildly when Barack Obama was elected president of the United States. A national holiday was declared the Thursday after the U.S. election, and more than four months later, the excitement has barely abated — and not just in Kenya, where Obama's father was born, but across Africa. People are elated by the fact that someone with African roots has been able to rise to such heights.

But the U.S. election also should cause Africans to ask themselves this question: Why don't more African nations have the kind of leadership President Obama is demonstrating?

African leaders have much to learn from the new president's example. His campaign was disciplined, inclusive and grass-roots-led. He has built his Cabinet methodically, reaching out to political opponents. And when he has made mistakes, notably in vetting some candidates for Cabinet positions, his apology and acceptance of responsibility stood in sharp contrast with the arrogance and lack of transparency that too often have marked 50 years of post-independence African leadership.

It's no coincidence that legions of young people in Africa have drawn inspiration from Obama's call for change and hope. In Kenya, youth speak of the need for an "Obama revolution"



WANGARI MAATHAI

that would lead to a peaceful transfer of power from the old guard that has ruled the country since independence in 1963 to a new generation of idealistic yet practical leaders in the Obama mold. Indeed, across the continent, younger Africans have embraced Obama as not only a hero but as a model for Africa's future. The continent desperately needs principled and skilled leaders committed to public service and to working for the good of society as a whole.

By contrast, time and again, post-independence African governments have been unprincipled or blatantly corrupt, beholden to only a small set of cronies or elites. Too many in leadership positions have plundered national resources, persecuted political rivals and citizens who dared to question their actions, and even stoked violence within and across national borders, all the while crushing the hopes of ordinary citizens to make an honest living. Few have consented to share power freely or supported development of a vibrant civil society.

In the last six months of 2008 alone, coups beset Mauritania and Guinea,

and politicized violence continues in Zimbabwe, Somalia, Chad, the Darfur region of Sudan and the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo — all caused, in large measure, by a failure or absence of genuine leadership. In Kenya, the two parties in a coalition government formed after the disputed 2007 election — and the terrible violence that ensued — are still competing for the perquisites of power instead of working together effectively for the common good.

In this context, Obama, simply by modeling a leadership style that's open, fair and honest, offers a powerful example of what African leadership could become.

Inspired by Obama's example, perhaps they will be motivated to practice good governance, expand democratic space, promote and protect human rights, end or discourage conflicts and ensure the sustainable use of national resources. If they do not, they must risk U.S. censure and be held accountable by the African Union and the international community.

Africa needs Obama to engage with the continent's struggles. He should express support for the citizens of African countries as they try to develop robust civil societies, much as he did as a community organizer in Chicago. He should work to ensure that

global trade rules are fairer for African nations and that odious debts — racked up by corrupt regimes and complicit lenders — are cleared. He should embrace protection of African forests, one of the best options for the continent to mitigate the effects of global warming, as central to a global climate solution.

That Obama is of African heritage sends a signal, one I hope all Africans heed: The time for excuses for poor leadership is over. Africans must not sit back and expect that Obama will lavish aid and attention on the continent simply because he has a Kenyan father. They should demand the leadership they want rather than accept the leadership they get.

Indeed, Obama's election could offer a new beginning for the African story. It could inspire Africans to work harder to improve their circumstances, to escape the culture of dependency in which too many are caught, and to grasp the opportunities that abound. Then, the elation millions of Africans feel now may be matched by fulfillment of the promise: that the many babies being named after the new American president will not have to leave Africa to fulfill their potential.

Wangari Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. She wrote this commentary for the Los Angeles Times.

The coming partisan brawl over judges

In February, Kenneth W. Starr, a former U.S. solicitor general, sent a warning to President Barack Obama: Republican senators won't readily forgive the president for his Senate votes against Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

"Long-simmering resentments over Democrats' treatment of President (George W.) Bush's nominees," Starr said in a Boston speech, "will leave Mr. Obama hard-pressed to call for bipartisan help confirming judges or even an up-or-down vote."

Then, last week, all 41 GOP senators threw down the gauntlet. In a letter to the White House, they "regretfully" made it clear they were itching for a fight over judicial nominations. If the new president wanted to "change the tone in Washington," they suggested, he could renominate Bush picks who weren't confirmed over the past eight years.

Right. The country may have voted for change in the fall, but it looks as if we're facing the same old partisan civil war over the makeup of the federal judiciary.

The Democratic majority in the Senate may introduce some new rules in the way this war will unfold — procedural games involving blue slips and filibusters are now on the other foot — but the fighting isn't going to end. And that means there's no end in sight to the



DAHLIA LITHWICK

vacancy crisis on the federal bench, or to the looming crisis in confidence in the process.

Currently, 67 seats are open on the federal bench — the district courts and the appellate circuit courts that deal with a narrow class of cases, including those involving federal law.

Twenty-two of these vacancies have been categorized as "judicial emergencies" based on the size of the caseload in that court or the amount of time the seat has been empty.

There's hardly a need to explain why open judicial seats represent a "crisis": Courts cannot function properly when they are short-handed, and litigants facing long waits and crowded dockets are ultimately denied the justice they seek.

Roberts has argued that we're failing to pay judges competitively and causing them to flee the bench. He's right that federal judges deserve a pay raise, but the decades-long vacancy crisis is less about pay than it is about the ideological struggle to control the courts and what they do.

The stakes are high. The issues that divide us deeply and seem never to get solved play out in federal court-

rooms, turning judges into lightning rods and confirmations into cartoonish battles between "good" and "evil."

Maybe it's not surprising, then, that public figures spew the most extraordinary rot about judges, especially Supreme Court justices.

In 2003, Focus on the Family's James Dobson labeled Justice Anthony M. Kennedy "the most dangerous man in America." Dobson was incensed over Kennedy's majority opinion in a case protecting an individual's right to consensual gay sex.

And during his confirmation hearing, Alito was smeared as a racist because of his membership in a Princeton group that objected to admitting women and minorities to the university. His wife fled the Senate chamber in tears.

Because courts have so much power to shape our lives, and because judicial confirmation is by its nature guesswork, the Senate confirmation circus has become America's Rorschach test: We root through a nominee's trash, project onto him or her our own worst fears and anxieties, and speculate about future rulings in future cases. The nominee goes into power-save mode, saying nothing and promising less.

For decades, the culture wars and partisan politics have turned one judicial confirmation after another

into a knuckle-bruising playground fight featuring dirt-digging, name-calling and, depending on which team you play for, rage and resentment. As is the case with any playground battle, judicial confirmation often bogs down over who started the fight.

There is nothing to be gained by continuing down this road of mutually assured confirmation nastiness. Nominees can be bruised for life by this process. Witness Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

More profoundly, the public sense that judges must live above the sharp elbows and kidney punches of the political process cannot survive many more rounds of the judicial wars.

We should stop the escalating smear tactics and the grandstanding. It hardly matters who started it or who manipulated the rules midstream. Let's stipulate that judges matter a lot in this country, too much to have their nominations and confirmations take place on the sticky bathroom floors of American politics.

Dahlia Lithwick is a senior editor at Slate online magazine. She wrote this commentary for The Washington Post.



The law firm of PEDERSEN AND WHITEHEAD

is pleased to announce that **Brian J. Hilverda** has joined the firm as a new associate.

Brian attended Brigham Young University and the University of Idaho College of Law. Brian is a member of the Idaho State Bar, Idaho Trial Lawyers Association and American Bar Association. Prior to working for the firm he worked as an intern in the Idaho's Fifth Judicial District and as a law clerk to the U.S. Senate. He also has several years experience working in the insurance industry. Brian specializes in areas of Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, and Insurance Bad Faith/Fraud Cases. He is also fluent in Spanish. He is a native to Twin Falls graduating from Twin Falls High School, and Brian and his family are excited to return to the place he calls home here in the Magic Valley.

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Idaho appellate court: Wendell curfew no good

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Court of Appeals said Tuesday that curfew rules in Wendell violate the constitutional rights of kids.

In the unanimous ruling, the appellate court agreed with a teenage boy identified only as John Doe, who was ticketed for being out past curfew when he was a passenger in a vehicle stopped by police for a traffic violation.

Doe's attorney, David Heida, argued before the court in January that the city rule barring youngsters under 18 from being out between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. violates the First Amendment because it doesn't allow an exception for free speech activities, like midnight church services or attending late-running city council meetings.

Representing the town, Idaho Deputy Attorney General Kenneth Jorgensen

told the court that the appeal had no merit because Heida failed to offer any evidence that the teen was exercising his constitutional rights or had parental permission to be out after curfew when he was ticketed.

But the appellate court found that the city's rule was simply too broad.

"There is a real and substantial risk that the ordinance will inhibit the speech of parties not before the court," Judge Sergio A. Gutierrez wrote. "Therefore the Wendell curfew ordinance is void on its face."

The ordinance's three exceptions allow minors to be out after curfew to run emergency errands, if they are accompanied by a parent or guardian or if they are out on legitimate business authorized by a parent or the school.

Judge nixes plea deal by Dan Adamson in unpaid tax case

POCATELLO (AP) — A federal judge has refused to accept a plea agreement proposed for a former Idaho gubernatorial candidate charged with failing to pay income taxes in 2001.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill nixed the deal Monday in the case of Dan Adamson, who ran in the Republican primary for governor in 2006 and owns Northwest Bec Corp., which managed six nursing home facilities in California.

Adamson was Jerome County's prosecuting

attorney from 1980-84.

The judge took issue with the sentencing recommendations section of the agreement, telling prosecutors he needed more information before determining an appropriate sentence. The judge also gave attorneys more time to negotiate the details of a new agreement.

Under federal rules, Adamson has five days to withdraw his Oct. 29 guilty plea to willfully failing to pay \$458,697 in federal employment taxes.

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Curious, St. Louis, MO
Regarding your questions about puffy eyes and age spots, the same pharmacist, Robert Heldfond, has products for both. His eb5® EyeTreatment helps diminish the appearance of dark circles and puffiness around the eyes. eb5® Age Spot Formula works wonderfully for unsightly pigment and dark discolorations on the hands and face. You'll love them, and they're completely guaranteed. eb5® formulas are available in select JCPenney Cosmetics & Fragrances departments or at jcp.com. To learn more, call toll free 1-800-929-8325 or visit online at eb5.com.
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Sellers are making \$12,000+ a month with eBay and Craigs List

Despite the fact that economic indicators point towards the United States heading towards a recession, with stock market crashes, home foreclosures, unemployment, gas prices peaking at all time highs and government bailouts. One of the major bright spots in this dismal economy is eBay. The opportunity to work with eBay and other online auction web sites can have positive benefits for anyone. Why settle for minimum wage when it's possible to make over \$100,000 a year from the comfort of your home? Online Auctions are ever growing in popularity, and over 220 million people signed up for eBay, with approximately 1.5 million individuals making a full-time living through online auctioning, people are leaving their everyday jobs.

Michael J. Syme, online

auction expert and author of the book "Simple Steps to Making Money with Online Auctions," is one of many people who have left the mundane aspect of a 9-to-5 desk job and has begun to make his own income at home with the help of his children. Now Syme is making around \$12,000 a month by selling a variety of items that can be found in any home and any yard sale.

"People shouldn't wait until they find themselves laid off or out of a job before they find out they are not financially secure," Syme said. "They should start ensuring their own and their family's financial future immediately."

Jessica H. a single mother of two says "I purchased my first new car this year from the extra money I made selling on the internet".

Not only does eBay allow

people to make money and get rid of some things that may no longer be of use, there are more benefits than cash. If a seller can make \$1,000 a month or more with eBay, they can qualify for most of the same benefits that would be made available in a regular 9-to-5 job, such as health, vision, and pharmacy and dental. Over 200,000 members of eBay qualify for these benefits and more.

Using eBay at home cut back on paying for gas and having to deal with the hassle of rush hour traffic, in addition, consumer demands through the Internet are continually growing, allowing for a higher income rate per seller. Consolidated revenues for eBay in the year 2008 are expected to reach anywhere from \$7.05 billion to \$7.3, a 31% improvement from the year 2007.

It's not surprising, with

recent economic woes people are looking to make their dollar go further, eBay and other online auction sites are the place to buy items for a discount.

According to a speech given by former Senior Vice President of Products Development, Lynn Reddy, On eBay, there is an average of one car sold every two minutes, a car part or accessory sold every three seconds, diamond jewelry every 83 seconds, and a pair of timberland shoes every 10 minutes. These items and more, from concert tickets to clothing needs, are bought and sold daily by average people looking to gain or save on income to better their current cash flow.

"Anybody can do it if they know the right technique," Syme said. "With the right techniques it's easy to make extra income."



Author and eBay expert makes \$12,000 a month from home

Syme said he does not recommend attempting to become a full-time online auctioneer with eBay without learning the basics first.

"It's like driving a car," Syme said. "It's easy to do but if no one shows you how to drive, you could end up in an accident that costs you time and money to fix."

This should not be taken as discouragement to start working with online auctions. It's rather easy to get started

in the process and become acquainted with the techniques. With a little homework, access to an internet-ready computer, and some basic computer knowledge, anyone can be on their way to making money with the fastest growing community in the U.S.

"Why worry where your next paycheck will come from," Syme said, "when selling on eBay it's like getting paid every day."

Make Your Online Business Succeed in 30 Days!

LEARN HOW EBAY SELLERS ARE MAKING \$100,000 A YEAR!

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"I have recently sold a few items on eBay. Before listing fees and shipping cost I have made \$7202.50 I would consider this to be a good profit."

— Jeremy W., Lakeville, OH

"Just wanted to let you know, I just officially doubled my income with my website... I did everything he told me and it has doubled my sales in two weeks. Knowledge is power, thanks again for your continued support."

— Weston T., Boise, ID



"To date, I've made six out of six sales on eBay. I have four auctions pending, one of which will fetch my highest earning since I began. I'm very excited...My eBay rating still stands at 100%!"

— Edward H., Norwalk, CT

"Just [want to] let you know about our success on eBay. We sold several items that were just lying around the house and we ended up making almost \$200.00... Within a week we sold everything we listed and got lots of positive feedback."

— Isaac and Nicole M., Brownsville, PA



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DOING THE WORM

'Conficker' sparks April Fools Day fears >> See Business 4

Consumer confidence holds steady in March

Expectations over economy rise in February

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Consumer confidence held steady in March, with a slight blip upward halting three months of declines as slivers

of hopes about the economy buoyed consumers.

But Americans are still feeling gloomy about their future given mounting layoffs and shrinking earnings.

The New York-based Conference Board said Tuesday that its Consumer Confidence Index rose to 26.0 in March from a revised 25.3 reading in February, which was itself a big drop from 37.4 in January.

The slight rise followed three consecutive monthly

drops. But the reading came in below the 28 expected by economists surveyed by Thomson Reuters, and remains less than half of its level of 65.9 last March.

How people feel about their current economic circumstances, known as the Present Situation Index, slipped to 21.5 from 22.3 last month. Their assessment about the economy over the next six months, or the Expectations Index, rose to 28.9 from 27.3 in February.

Despite the slight improvement in that reading, many economists believe that a recovery is not near, and people continue to worry about what's ahead.

In recent weeks, a few encouraging economic reports, including better-than expected figures on consumer spending, helped fuel a stock rally. But that rally remains tenuous as the economy remains deeply troubled.

A widely watched index

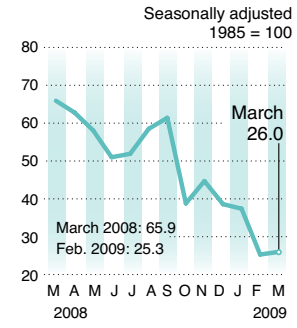
released Tuesday shows American home prices dropped by the sharpest annual rate on record in January. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing index tumbled by a record 19 percent from January 2008. The 10-city index dropped 19.4 percent.

Another big issue is job security, a major factor behind shoppers' ability and willingness to spend. The

See **CONFIDENCE**, Business 2

Confidence lifts

The consumer confidence index from a survey of 5,000 U.S. households:



SOURCE: The Conference Board AP

Marketing Idaho beyond the 'Famous Potatoes'

One of my marketing professors at the University of Oregon spent a trimester discussing integrated communications — a fancy name for creating an image by using various media outlets.

The first question he asked was: What comes out of Idaho?



BIZ BITES
Joshua Palmer

The first answer he received was: Potatoes.

"That's because the an organization of potato growers created one of the most effective marketing strategies in the United States," he said. "They effectively made Idaho synonymous with potatoes."

But Idaho Department of Commerce wants out-of-staters to look beyond potatoes. So it has created a video that provides more ideas about Idaho beyond "Famous Potatoes."

The six-minute video, which shows scenes of high-tech manufacturers, wineries and whitewater rafting, was developed by the department to spur economic development.

Labor officials say the video will be used to recruit companies to Idaho and help international investors gain a better idea of Idaho's assets.

And, yes, the potato still

See **BITES**, Business 2

Grain acres down in Idaho, U.S.

Lower prices have removed incentive to increase production

By Cindy Snyder
Times-News correspondent

Grain producers took a look at what the market was telling them and decided it wasn't worth getting the grain drill out last fall.

And they're not any more eager to pull the drill out of the fence row this spring either.

Wheat, barley and corn acres are all down in both Idaho and the U.S. as a whole.

Lower wheat and corn prices have erased the economic incentive that prompted growers in 2007 to plant all the acres they could.

Based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's planting intentions report, released Tuesday, Idaho growers expect to plant 1.24 million acres to wheat, down 11 percent from 2008. Barley acres are forecast at 540,000 acres with 270,000 acres of field corn; both barley and corn are projected to be down 10 percent from a year ago.

Paul Patterson, University of Idaho extension economist at Idaho Falls, isn't surprised by the expected decline in planted acreage.

"Last year growers were chasing high priced grain that didn't stay high as long as a lot of us thought it would," he said.

The three big grain crops in Idaho are expected to lose 250,000 acres of production in 2009. Wheat is down 160,000 acres, barley is down 60,000 acres and field corn is down 30,000 acres. An estimate for silage corn is not included in this report.

Nationally, corn acres are down 1 percent from last year to 85 million acres of corn. All wheat is expected to



CINDY SNYDER/For the Times-News

Idaho grain growers are expecting to plant about 210,000 fewer acres of wheat and barley this year than a year ago, largely because of the steep falloff in wheat prices. But still over 1 million acres of spring grain will be seeded including this field near Milner.

total 58.6 million acres down 7 percent from 2008. Barley growers plan to seed 3.95 million acres, down 7 percent. If that expectation holds, this would be the third lowest barley planted acreage on record.

Patterson has been tracking the long-term trends in planted acres and isn't surprised to see wheat and barley acres continue to decline.

See **GRAIN**, Business 2

Jerome company going global

Trucking software business secures international sales contracts

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TruckMaster Logistics Systems, Inc. of Jerome, says it has finalized agreements to sell logistical software to two international markets in Canada and Nigeria.

The company, which develops software for the trucking industry, says it is also in discussions with two other companies that are also in international markets.

TruckMaster's President and owner, Greg Dodson, said the recent agreements will open doors to a larger and more competitive arena.

"Trucking companies large and small need multi-tiered solutions for complex transportation operations," said Dodson. "Our trucking, freight brokerage and logistics software is user-friendly and stable and our customer support is exceptional."

He said a software system was sold to Captain Haulage Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Captain Petrochemical and Gas in Nigeria.

They currently operate a medium-size fleet of trucks and tanker trailers carrying a variety of fuel products from centrally located terminal locations in Nigeria to fueling stations across the country.

According to a written statement, the Nigeria company chose TruckMaster software because of the company's ability to adjust to their specific international needs and the ease of software use.

The other system was sold to Allans Transport Ltd, a company that has a fleet of eight trucks and hauls automotive and drilling rig parts in Alberta, Canada.

Dodson said two more sales are pending in Canada.

TruckMaster Logistics has been developing software for the trucking industry for more than 20 years, and currently has more than 600 customers in the United States.

Dodson added that pricing was also a deciding factor when it came to foreign companies choosing TruckMaster software.

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

MAGIC VALLEY
First time homebuyer workshops scheduled at CSI in April

First time homebuyers are invited to attend two information sessions that teach people how to buy their first house.

The next classes will be held from 6 to 10 p.m., April 7 and 14 in room 277 of the Taylor building at the College of Southern Idaho.

The program educates first time homebuyers about home shopping, realtor

selection, insurance, down payment, closing costs, and other aspects of getting into their first home.

The cost for both classes is \$10 per person, which includes the manual.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For information or to sign up, contact Penny Johnson at CSI at 208-732-6287 or at pjohnson@csi.edu.

IDAHO
World Trade Day to be held May 6

BOISE — The U.S.

Commercial Service and The Idaho Export Council will offer World Trade Day, a day of seminars to educate Idaho companies engaging in business abroad.

The four-hour event will feature seminars on a variety of export topics including minimizing the risks of exporting to countries where bribery is prevalent, export documentation, distribution agreements and protecting your intellectual property.

The event will be held at The Grove Hotel, located at 245 S. Capitol Blvd. in Boise, on May 6 from

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To register, go to www.exportidaho.com or contact Amy Benson at amy.benson@NOSPAM.mil.doc.gov or 208-364-7791.

Commerce to explore doing business in Vietnam, Taiwan

BOISE — The U.S. Commercial Service and The Idaho Export Council are offering a day of seminars to educate Idaho companies engaging in business in Vietnam and Taiwan.

The two-hour event offers unique opportunities to hear directly from the U.S. Commercial Service's senior business representatives based in Vietnam and Taiwan on emerging business opportunities available to Idaho businesses.

The event will be held at The Grove Hotel, located at 245 S. Capitol Blvd. in Boise, on April 2 from 8:15 to 10:30 a.m.

To register, go to www.exportidaho.com or contact Amy Benson at amy.benson@NOSPAM.mil.doc.gov or 208-364-7791.

— staff reports

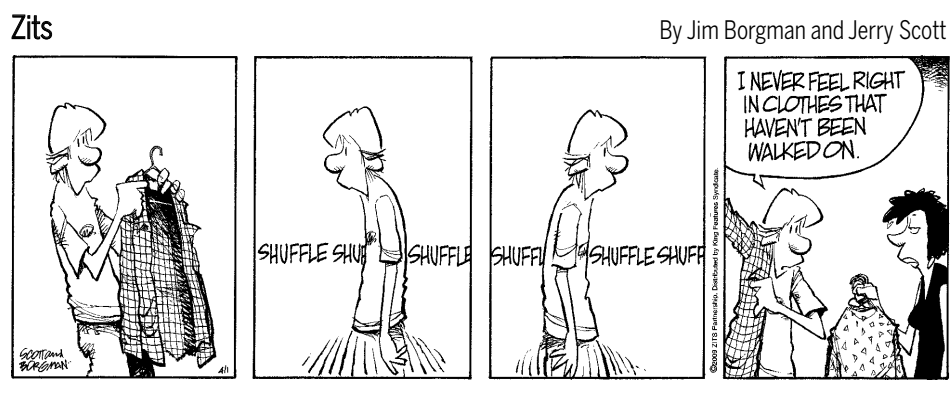
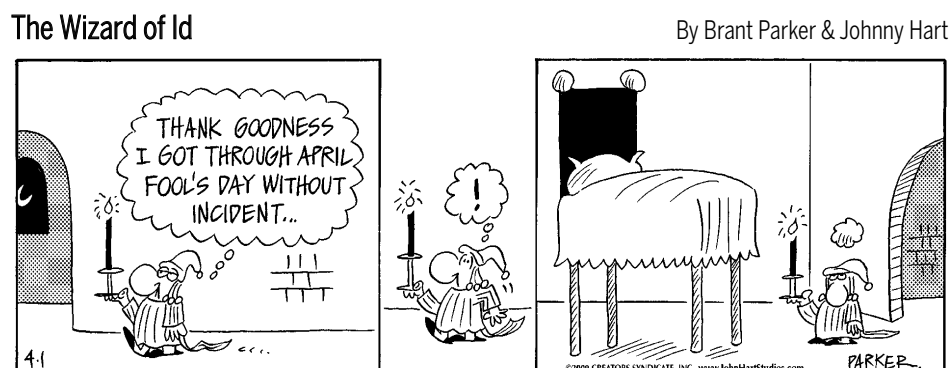
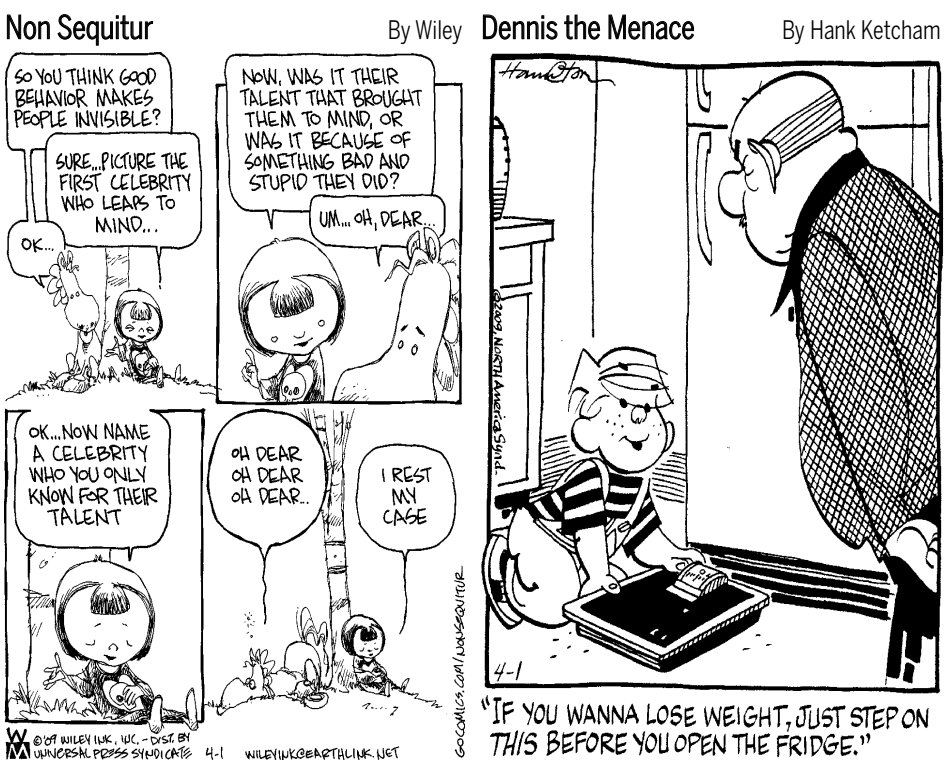
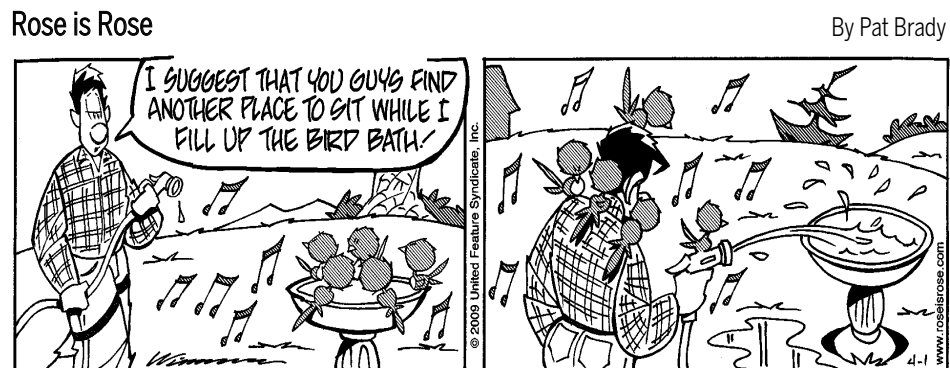
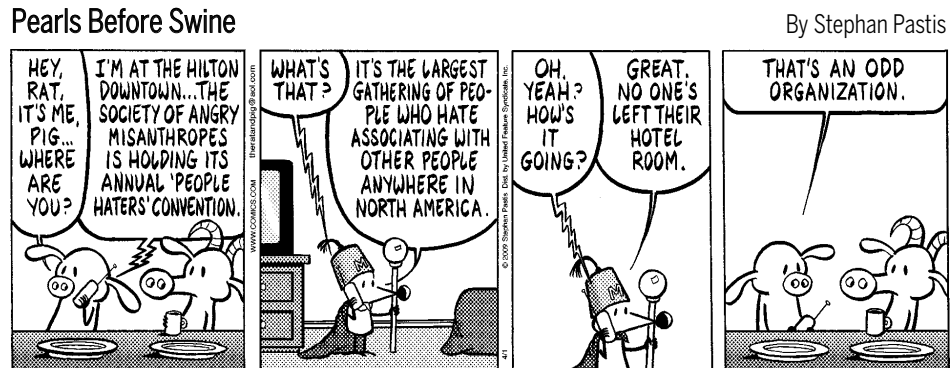
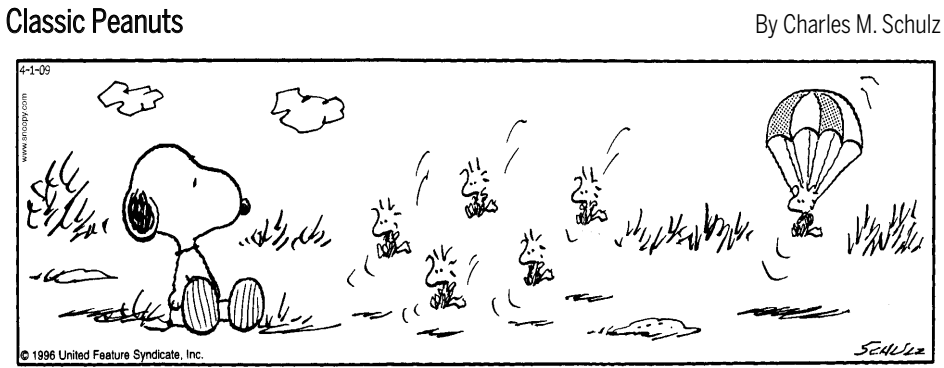
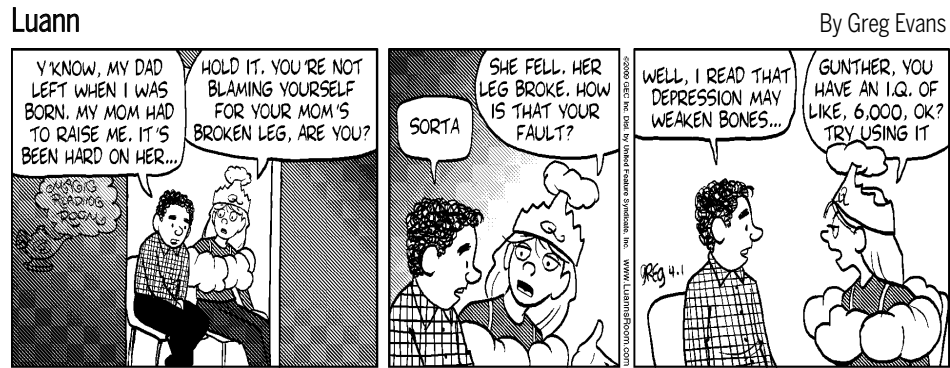
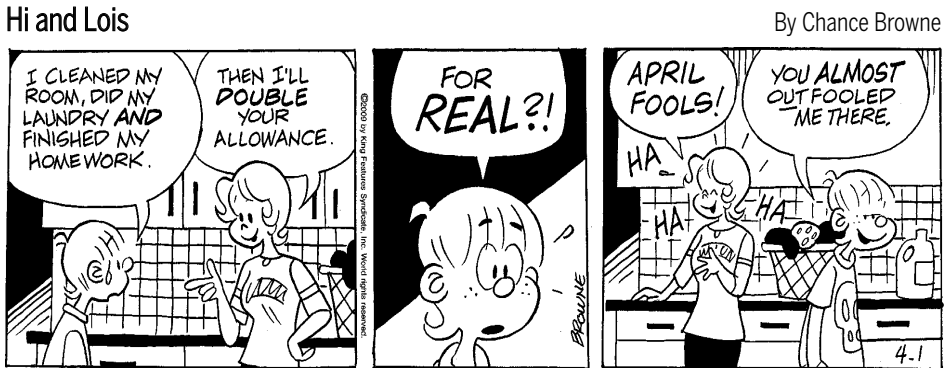
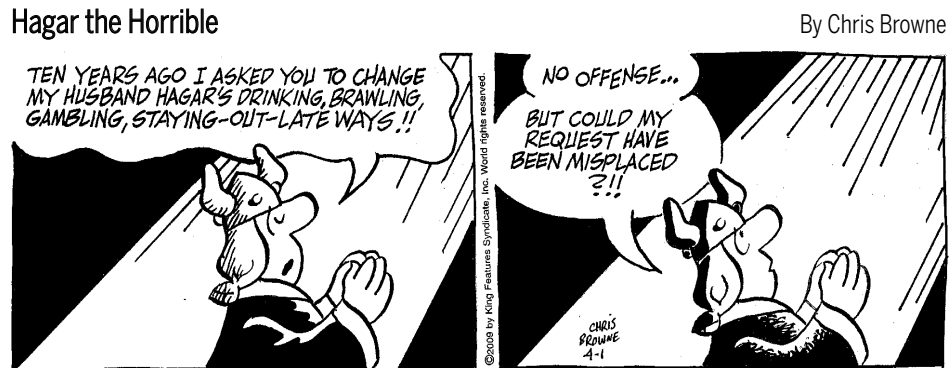
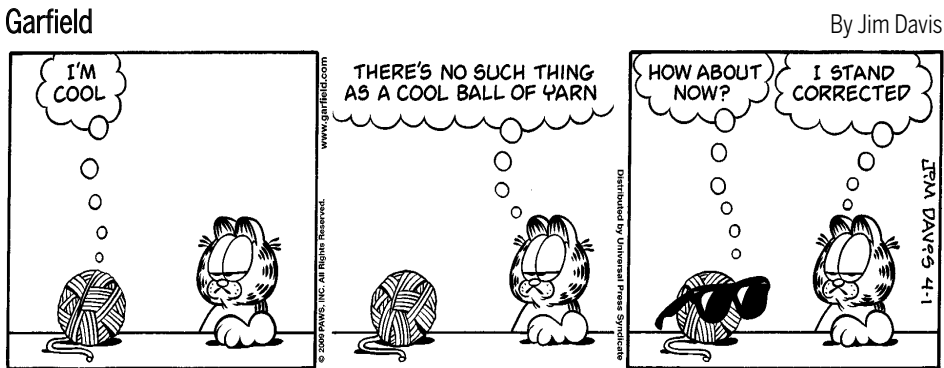
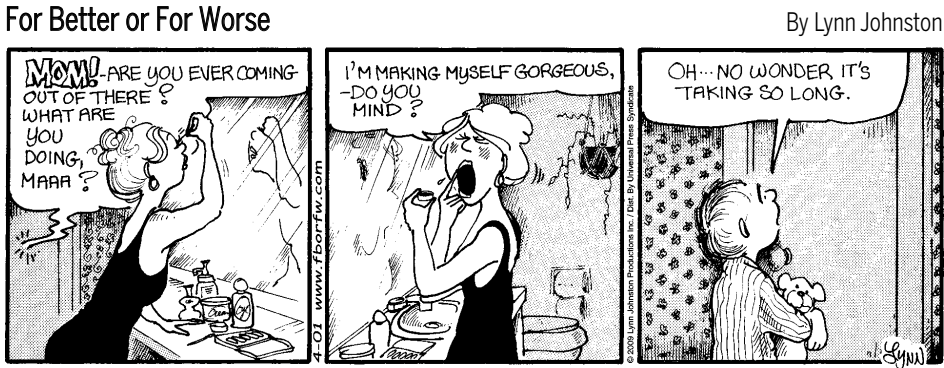
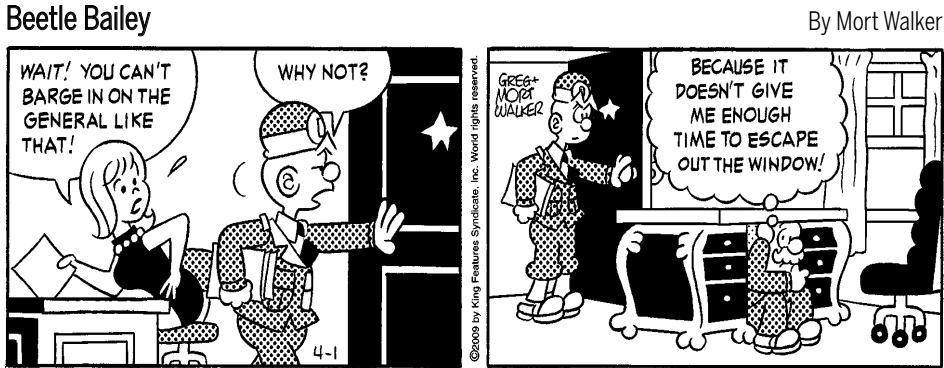
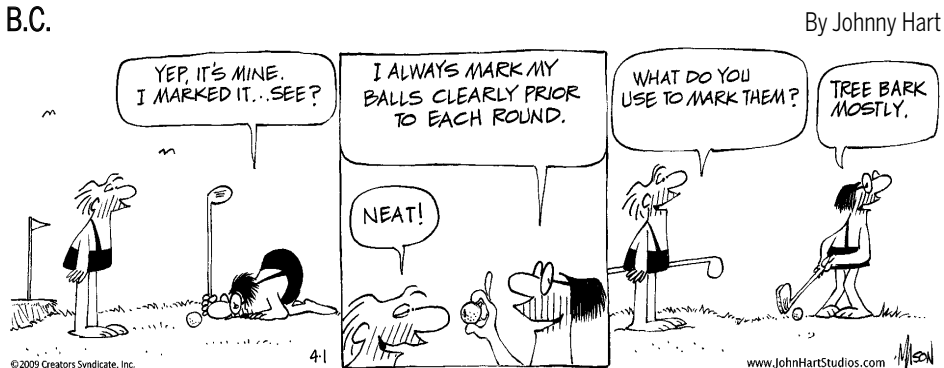
STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	16.87	▲ .25	Dell Inc.	9.48	▼ .01	Idacorp	23.36	▲ .04	Int. Bancorp	4.60	—
Lithia Mo.	2.25	▼ .20	McDonalds	54.57	▲ .65	Micron	4.06	▲ .18	Supervalu	14.28	▲ .36

COMMODITIES

For more see Business 2

Live cattle	83.93	▲ 1.10	May Oil	49.34	▲ .93
April Gold	918.5	▲ 3.0	May Silver	12.94	▲ .10





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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs, 40s. Tonight: A layer of clouds overhead, but likely dry. Lows, lower 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Variably cloudy. Highs, 40s. Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows, lower 30s. Tomorrow: Showers developing during the day could mix with a little wet snow at times. Highs, 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Map of Idaho showing weather forecasts for various cities. Includes text: SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. The weather will improve as the day wears on.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with columns: Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High/Low).

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, U. V. INDEX.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various regional cities like Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, etc.

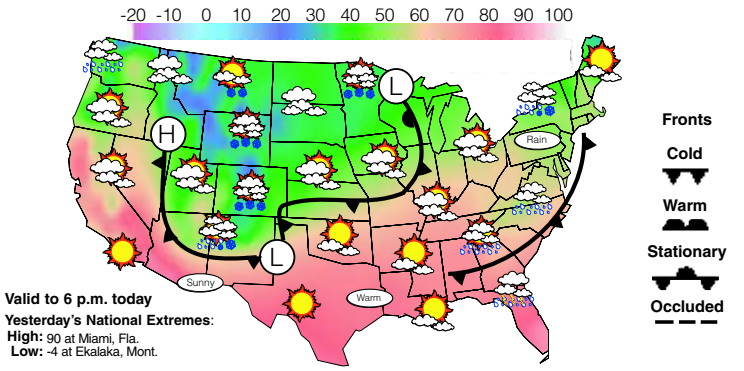
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various national cities like Atlanta, Chicago, New York, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various world cities like London, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Quote of the Day by Gregg Middlekauff: "When we see problems as opportunities for growth, we tap a source of knowledge within ourselves which carries us through."

Doing the worm: 'Conficker' sparks April Fools' Day fears

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Even if it's not an April Fools' joke, the latest moves by the dreaded Conficker worm are by no means an Internet Armageddon, either.

ed worrying about the problem later, making them more vulnerable to infection. "Consumers are very, very aware of this — more so than I've seen in years," said Alfred Huger,

vice president of Symantec Security Response. "Enterprises are certainly aware of this, and they're treating this seriously, but no more so than other threats they're faced with."

Sponsor a Pet! \$39 a month is all it takes to sponsor a pet for the Animal Shelter here in Twin Falls. You can buy a spot on our Adopt-A-Pet page...

Auction CALENDAR

Table listing various auctions including Mini-Cassia Community Auction, Masters Auction, and various farm and estate auctions.

ESTES AND ASSOCIATES AUCTIONEERS

Mini-Cassia Annual Community Auction. Location: Carnival grounds at Cassia County Fairgrounds (1100 block of Highland Avenue, Burley, Idaho). Saturday April 4, 2009. Lunch available. Sale time 9:30 am.



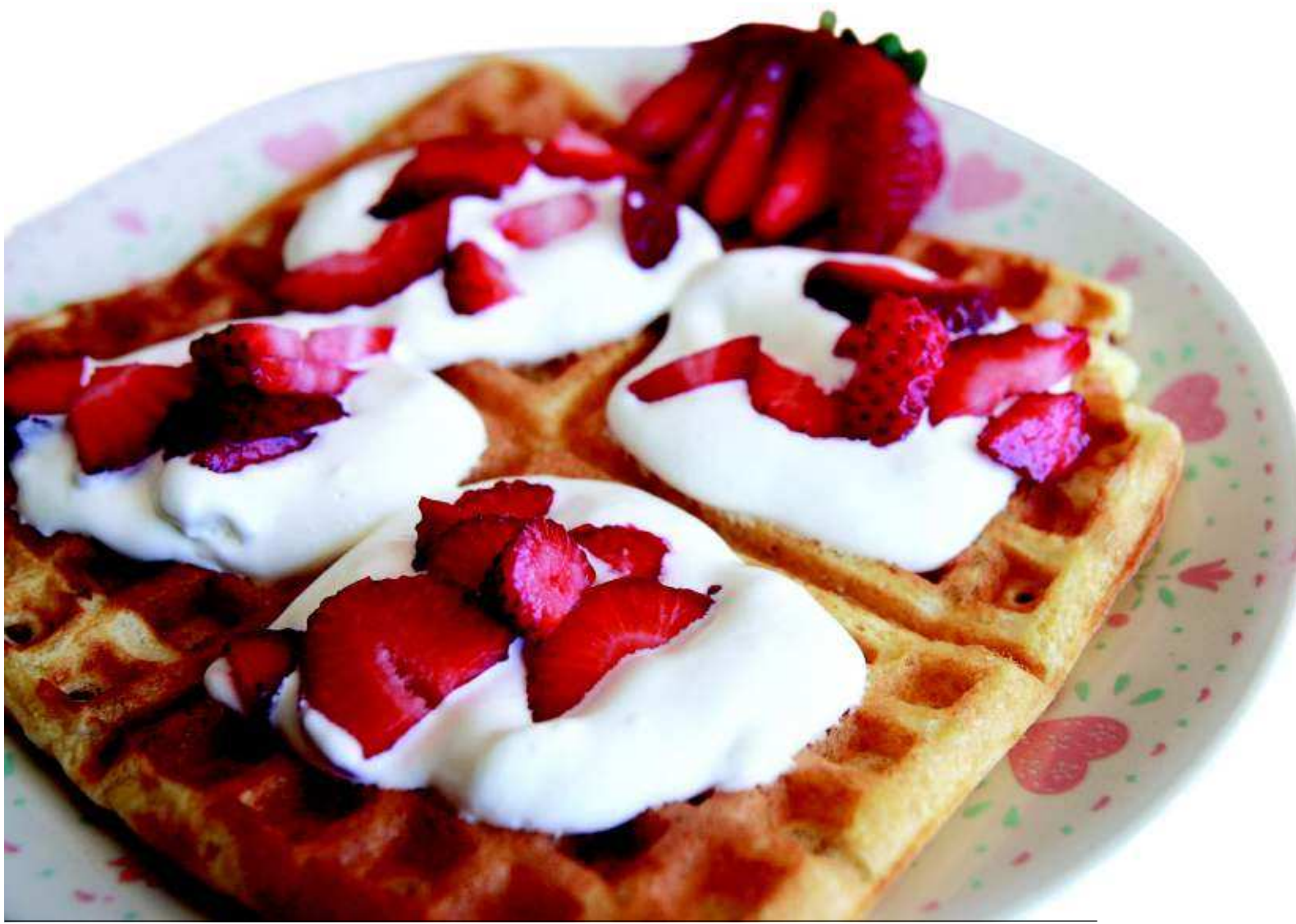
A light cake with no flour or egg yolk?

It's possible. See Food 2

Classifieds, Food 3-10 / Jumble, Food 5 / Sudoku, Food 6 / Dear Abby, Food 7 / Crossword, Food 9

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009

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Cooks use retro appliances for today's recipes

By Korky Vann
The Hartford Courant

Goodbye, espresso machines and panini makers. Hello, pressure cookers, slow cookers and canning jars. In this new era of thrift, excess is out, cheap eats are in and meal preparation has gone retro. Consider:

- **FoodChannel.com's trend forecast** for 2009 predicts a return to home cooking, along with increased interest in learning about food, cooking and recipes.

- **AOL's Money and Finance site, Wallet Pop.com**, also predicts the return of home cooking and "cheap foods" to help stretch the budget.

- **The Food Marketing Institute's U.S. Grocery Shopper Trends 2008** report reveals that 71 percent of consumers polled say they are cooking more and eating out less. Close to 60 percent say they are eating more leftovers.

- **Vegetable seed sales** are skyrocketing, as people plan food gardens to help cut food costs.

- **And perhaps most surprising**, purchases of pressure cookers, slow cookers and canning supplies are way up.

Kay Logsdon, director and senior editor at Foodchannel.com, says these lifestyle changes are being dictated by the economy.

"People are trying to figure out how to deal with the new realities. Even though families may not have the money to spend on takeout foods, they still have the same busy lifestyles and overextended schedules," she says.

"Whatever they cook has to fit the budget and get onto the table quickly. So they're thinking about the Crock-Pot that's been buried in the closet. They're showing a new interest in pressure cookers. They're doing stuff grandma used to do."

Tom Lacalamita and Glenna Vance, authors of the new "Slow Cookers for Dummies" guide, agree.

See **RETRO**, Food 2



Spot the tofu

We're on the lookout for south-central Idaho restaurants that feature tofu on their menus. Whether it's stir-fried or slipped into smoothies, we want to know about it.

Today or Thursday, tell us your tofu sightings by contacting features reporter Melissa Davlin at 735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.

Breakfast for dinner

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

There's probably no one out there who hasn't resorted to a bowl of cereal for supper on an extremely busy evening. But why stop there?

A quick scan of trend reports from chefs and food writers across the country this year shows most of them agree: Breakfast for dinner is a hot topic, and big cities will probably see restaurants popping up that cater to just that crowd. You can do the same at home for a meal that's easy to make — one your kids will clamor for.

For Janell Arrington of Twin Falls, making breakfast for the family at suppertime was especially easy, since they lived on a farm and fresh cream and fruit were right at hand.

"It was very easy to come home, particularly on a Sunday evening, and make a big batch of waffles, whip a big bowl of cream, and whatever fresh berries," Arrington said.

She's quick to list other favorite dishes: puffy Swedish pancakes, a dish she calls "company breakfast" that's basically a casserole made of everything you'd find on a plate at Denny's, whole wheat blender pancakes, biscuits and gravy. And even simpler dishes, too. "This is so humble I didn't write it down, but sometimes we had bread and milk with fruit on top."

Some of the other moms she traded recipes with thought these dishes were a little odd to be supper standbys, until they realized how easy they were to put together.

When Stan Kuhl moved to Jerome about five months ago, he was surprised to see notices for fundraising meals at churches — not the concept of fundraising with food, but what was on the menu. He was especially puzzled by German-sausage meals that featured pancakes and eggs instead of sauerkraut and potato latkes.

Now your guilty pleasure is trendy, too



Photos by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Janell Arrington used to make her five children waffles, like those shown at top, and Swedish pancakes for dinners on the weekends when they were growing up in Twin Falls, using fresh strawberries from her farm as well as other home-grown ingredients like cream and eggs.

INSIDE Find recipes for Janell Arrington's favorite breakfast/dinners, Food 2

See **BREAKFAST**, Food 2



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Janell Arrington mixes waffle ingredients at her Twin Falls home.

Breakfast

Continued from Food 1

"If I was involved in a church, and I was looking for more parishioners, I'd start to incorporate more sauerbraten and more German-type dinner meals into the mix, but if all the old people grew up around here having bacon and eggs at dinnertime, that's great," Kuhl said. "If that's a tradition in the area, I'm open to embracing it. I just thought it was odd."

At least five churches in south-central Idaho have had pancake or sausage suppers in the last few years, including Wendell United Methodist Church. It held its annual pancake supper this year on Fat Tuesday, and board member Ken Rudy explained why.

"Before they went into Lent, they'd use up all the fats. So it came out of that tradition, and that's why they call it Fat Tuesday," he said. The Wendell church has been holding that supper for at least 15 years, he said, and it's popular.

"We've had the pancake supper with the sausage and eggs for a lot of years. It seems to go over well; I've never heard any-

one complaining."

There's certainly a bit of luxury in having sweet-topped pancakes or crispy bacon late in the day, and The Kneadery knows it.

"We find that people, especially when they're on vacation, like to come in and have breakfast whenever they want, even if it's in the afternoon. We serve more breakfast than lunch, and if we could be open at night, I'm sure people would eat our waffles and Benedicts at night," said Gina Penn, manager at the iconic Ketchum eatery.

"It's one of the No. 1 questions asked when they walk in the door at lunch: 'Do you serve breakfast?' The 20 people a day who call probably wouldn't come in if I said no," Penn said. "I think people want what they want. I mean, who doesn't like bacon, come on!"

And if a bit of luxury can save time and maybe even a little money — after all, flour, milk and eggs aren't as pricey as most roasts — why not?

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

THE RECIPES

These family favorites of Janell Arrington are quick and tasty.

CRISPY WAFFLES

Makes 6 waffles

- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 3 eggs, separated
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup oil

Sift dry ingredients together. Beat egg yolks, add milk and oil, then add to dry ingredients.

Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold into batter. Bake in hot waffle iron until iron quits steaming.

For an easy topping, whip one cup whipping cream with a touch of sugar and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Slice and lightly sugar a pint of strawberries or other fresh fruit. Top the waffles with the fruit and whipped cream before serving.

COMPANY BREAKFAST OR CHEESE STRATA

This recipe goes under many names with variations, Arrington writes. This recipe is from her daughter-in-law Kenna Arrington and a true family tradition. Serves 12.

- 8 slices bread (can be placed whole in the baking pan or torn into pieces)
- 1/2 pound Old English Cheese, grated
- 1 pound Canadian bacon slices or 1 pound pork sausage, cooked, crumbled and drained
- 4 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard or a squirt of yellow mustard

Place the bread in a 9-by-13-inch baking pan coated with cooking spray. Top with the grated cheese and meat.

Beat the eggs and milk, then add salt and mustard. Pour that mixture over the bread and meat in the pan.

Cover and refrigerate overnight, or prepare in the morning of a busy day and let it wait.

Uncover and bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Flour-free walnut cake still light

The Washington Post

This recipe comes from the restaurant at the Locanda del Palazzo in Barile, Italy. It contains no flour and no egg yolks, yet the cake is spongy and light. Adapted from "Adventures From an Italian Food Lover," by Faith Heller Willinger (Clarkson Potter, 2007).

LUCIA'S WALNUT CAKE

6 to 8 servings

- 6 large egg whites
- 1/3 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
- Pinch sea salt
- 2 cups coarsely chopped walnuts

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line the bottom of an 8- or 9-inch springform pan with parchment paper. Lightly grease the sides of the pan with nonstick cooking oil spray.

Combine 3 of the egg whites and 1/3 cup of the



JULIA EWAN/Washington Post

The Italian recipe Lucia's Walnut Cake is spongy and light, even though it has no flour or egg yolks.

sugar in a small, heavy saucepan over low heat. Cook for about 10 minutes, stirring often; the mixture will look like opaque slush. Transfer to a medium mixing bowl.

Meanwhile, combine the remaining 3 egg whites and a pinch of salt in the bowl of a stand mixer or electric hand-held mixer; beat on

high speed until stiff peaks form.

Add the chopped walnuts to the egg white-sugar mixture, stirring to coat them thoroughly. Fold in a large spoonful of the beaten egg whites to lighten the mixture, then carefully fold in the remaining beaten egg whites, trying not to deflate them as you work. Transfer

Freezing egg yolks

To keep them from getting grainy, stir in either 1/2 teaspoon salt or 1 1/2 tablespoons corn syrup per cup of yolks. Strain and separate into 1-tablespoon (1 egg) portions.

Source: National Center for Home Food Preservation

the batter to the pan, spreading it evenly. Sprinkle the top with the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes, until the cake has pulled away from the sides of the pan and a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out dry.

Let cool for 5 to 10 minutes before removing from the springform pan. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Per serving (based on 8): 249 calories, 7 g protein, 16 g carbohydrates, 19 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 61 mg sodium, 2 g dietary fiber, 12 g sugar.

Retro

Continued from Food 1

"We think people's aversion to cooking comes from the stress of day-to-day living and not having the time or energy to cook dinner after a long, hard day of work or even play," Lacalamita and Vance write. "That's probably why more and more people are once again discovering the benefits and advantages of slow cookers."

While the methods may be old-school, appliances are definitely new-wave.

"We're seeing updated equipment in response to the demand," says Logsdon, "for example, Crock-Pots that offer more sophisticated options such as braising food, rather than simply boiling it, and built-in browning functions, so people don't have to dirty another pan." These days, slow cookers are available with digital settings, non-stick coatings and even dual cooking compartments that allow you to prepare entrees and side dishes simultaneously.

Thirty-eight years after the first Crock-Pot slow cooker was introduced, Robison Home Products Inc. has launched a line of Crock-Pot-branded utensils specifically designed to facilitate slow cooking, including spoons, "shovel turners," ladles and tongs.

Newer pressure cookers feature steamer and pasta baskets and inserts in varied sizes for preparing larger or smaller meals. (Pressure cooker benefits include cooking times as much as 70 percent shorter than conventional stove- or oven-preparation methods. Reduced cooking time helps

conserve energy, which means additional savings.)

Lauren Devine, fresh preserving manager for Jarden Home brands, makers of Ball jars, home-canning mixes and other items used for home preserving, says even canning has gone contemporary. A recent company survey of people interested in home canning found that more than half of respondents were younger than 45, and 26 percent were younger than 35. Close to three-quarters of the people interviewed said they were motivated to try home canning to save money on weekly grocery bills.

"There's a renewed interest in freezing, canning and other methods of preserving foods," says Devine. "Sales of our products were up 28 percent in 2008, and those numbers continue to increase."

Grandma's cooking methods don't mean grandma's foods. Young professionals, enticed by the idea of having an affordable meal on the table at the end of the day, aren't looking to change their diets to include favorites from the 1940s and '50s. So, at Miss Vickie's Guide to Modern Pressure Cookery (Missvickie.com), a Web site, forum and newsletter devoted to all things pressure cooker, the recipe base includes such exotic fare as flan, Arabian stuffed Swiss chard and tagine of chicken and olives.

Recipe booklets included with Fagor cookers feature directions for dishes that sound more like bistro fare than Betty Crocker.

"You can make a terrific risotto in under 10 minutes,"

says Park. "Polenta with Gorgonzola. Risotto. Cheesecake. Sushi rice?"

While slow-cooker cooking time averages five to 10 hours for most dishes, recently released recipe collections help streamline the preparation time. The new "Pillsbury Fast Slow Cooker Cookbook" features recipes that take fewer than 15 minutes to prepare and place in the slow cooker — which means home cooks are in and out of the kitchen fast. Sample dishes focus less on old standards such as pot

roast and stews and more on trendier meals such as turkey with cornmeal-thyme dumplings, teriyaki pork ribs and Thai peanut chicken.

Even canning possibilities are updated.

"These new customers aren't putting up preserves or pickles for the country fair," says Devine. "They're jarring their own salsas, dipping sauces and things like roasted red pepper spread. They're canning their own organically grown vegetables."

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Bruin baseball outlasts plucky Spartans

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

The Twin Falls baseball team hasn't faced much adversity the season. Minico, on the other hand, has seen plenty.

Both teams saw their fair share in Tuesday's head-to-head matchup at Bill Ingram Field, and while both responded, it was the team with more winning experience that proved to have the edge.

Michael Williams scored three times and hit a back-breaking two-run double in the bottom of the sixth as Twin Falls outlasted Minico 8-4 to win its eighth game in a row.

Williams also picked up the save in relief of winning pitcher Cy Sneed, giving up a

three-run double to Landon Barnes but otherwise holding down the fort.

"It was good to see that we had some fight in us, and I liked the way we responded," Williams said. "It's good to see us being able to put things into games that we've done in practice, and making the adjustments when we need to."

The Bruins (12-2) scored three times against Minico starter Chris Joyce in the first inning, twice more in the fifth and finally chased him in the sixth with three more, two



Williams



Barnes

"It was good to see that we had some fight in us, and I liked the way we responded. It's good to see us being able to put things into games that we've done in practice, and making the adjustments when we need to."

— Twin Falls' Michael Williams

of which were his responsibility.

Jacob Coats, normally known for beating teams with his left arm from the mound, drove in three runs at the plate, including a two-run double in the first and the decisive run on a groundout in the fifth.

"(Twin Falls head coach Tim) Stadelmeir

has been working with me a lot on my swing, and it's starting to come around," said Coats. "It's fun. I know if I get to the next level I'm probably not going to be using the bat, so I'm just enjoying it because it'll be over faster than you think."

Minico (3-8) got just four hits in the game,

See **BRUINS**, Sports 4

BRUIN GIRLS WIN HOME 5A INVITE

TFHS boys second behind Eagle



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Twin Falls High School senior Jordan Hamblin tees off on the No. 18 hole Tuesday afternoon at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course.

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

The Bruin girls golf team blew away its Class 5A competition through sometimes blustery conditions Tuesday at Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course to win the Twin Falls Invitational.

Twin Falls shot 343, which was more than 40 strokes better than runner-up Centennial, and was led by Jenna Sharp's 78, which was the top individual score.

"It was like the best round I've ever played," Sharp said. "I've never shot 78."

Sharp got through the 18-hole course with plentiful pars and a birdie to help make up for a few bogeys. Mostly, she said, it came off of solid chipping and putting, adding that she may have only three-putted once. Teammate Sara Federico was the individual runner-up with an 80, Hannah McNeley shot a 90, and Arika Jones and Allison Federico carded 95 and 96, respectively.

Twin Falls, the defending state champion, was the only team to have five golfers finish under 100, but some said that it wasn't up to the Bruins standards.

"We didn't do our best, but it was good enough," Sharp said.

Federico added, "We still won, but it was hard to see the team struggle like that. For the team expectations, (our score) was a little bit high."

The Bruin boys placed second behind Eagle, the defending state team champion, hitting 294 to the Mustangs' 288. Five of Eagle's golfers shot 77 or better for the victory.

Eagle golfer Jordan Skyles came in at 66 to lead the individual totals, while Bruin Jordan Hamblin tied for second with Eagle's Jordan Verner with a 69. A double-bogey on No. 13 — Hamblin said he hit into the water — kept the Twin Falls golfer from an outright second-place finish. Skyles tied for third

See **GOLF**, Sports 4

Magicvalley.com



WATCH: A video of Bruin golfers Hannah McNeley and Jordan Hamblin at the Twin Falls Invitational.

Minico softball still seeking first win

By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Minico played three solid innings of softball in Game 1 of its doubleheader with Century on Tuesday. Unfortunately for the Spartans, games go seven innings.

Still trying to put together a complete game effort, Minico dropped a pair to the visiting Diamondbacks, 13-5 and 15-8.

"We lost focus in the

middle three innings. We fell apart. But they got their mind back in the game and came back," said Minico coach Steve Latta. "The girls are young and most of them haven't played that many varsity games. As experience comes, they'll get more in tune with what's going on."

Teaghan Winnmill went 2-for-4 with a double and triple for Minico. Her shot

See **SOFTBALL**, Sports 4



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Minico's Teaghan Winnmill checks her swing on a high fastball Tuesday against Century at Minico High School.

Olympic hopeful Eldred coming to CSI Judo meet

Times-News

Former College of Southern Idaho student and 2012 Olympic hopeful Michael Eldred will be a special guest at the 46th annual Twin Falls/CSI Judo Championship meet Saturday at CSI.

Eldred is the USA's top-ranked Elite Athlete at 73kg and earned a bronze medal at the Senior Pan American Judo Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 27. Eldred, who is from Fruitland, went 4-1 on a busy day in Argentina. He is on the USA Olympic Commission and competes

out of the Western Idaho Judo Institute.

On Saturday, he'll join about 200 judo competitors taking part in the CSI championships, which will feature the standard round robin fights or shiai, also as self-defense forms, judo kata.

Spectators are welcome. No admission fee will be charged but donations to the local judo clubs are welcome. Voluntary donations will be used to help the TF/CSI club members pay for travel to out-of-area events, uniforms and mats.

Action begins at 9:30 a.m. Saturday and concludes at 5 p.m.



Eldred

Poll: Ballpark figures are too high, fans say in wake of recession

By Ben Walker
Associated Press writer

Take me out to the ballgame ... because I can't afford it.

The high price of going to a game is now the No. 1 problem in Major League Baseball, a new Associated Press-Knowledge Networks poll of fans shows.

Soaring salaries and steroids dominated fans' worries in past AP surveys.

But with opening day less than a week away, the nation's recession is delivering the biggest blow.

"Like every election, it's the economy," said New York Yankees star Mark Teixeira, who signed a \$180 million, eight-year contract in the offseason. "In tough times, disposable income may not be there."

In other poll results released Tuesday:

— Nearly 60 percent of



fans said no player who used steroids or performance-enhancing drugs should get into the Hall of Fame.

— 85 percent said all 104 names on the list of players who tested positive for drugs in 2003 should be

made public. So far, only Alex Rodriguez has been identified.

— 60 percent said they were not interested in the World Baseball Classic — the preseason tournament involving major leaguers that was won by Japan for the second time.

But the cost of tickets, concessions, parking and everything else added up to fans' main concern. The toll of attending a game was

tops at 45 percent, followed by player salaries (29 percent), steroids/drugs (19 percent) and the length of games (6 percent).

"It's gone up like everything else. The last game we went to, we paid \$50 for a seat. That's pretty steep," Robert Neel, a retired director of admissions at the University of Cincinnati, said at spring training in Florida.

That would make for a

cheap seat at either of the two new ballparks opening in New York. At the \$1.5 billion Yankee Stadium, a ticket in the lower deck between the bases goes for a minimum of \$350 and tops out at \$2,625.

At the Mets' Citi Field, it's \$18 just to park.

The average ticket price in the majors was \$25.43 last year — up 11.7 percent over

See **PRICES**, Sports 4

Calipari to leave Memphis for Ky.

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — John Calipari agreed Tuesday to leave Memphis and the dominant program he built and take on the challenge — and riches — of returning Kentucky to college basketball glory.

Calipari will receive an eight-year, \$31.65 million deal plus incentives, according to the university, making him the highest-paid coach in college basketball. The school also will pay Memphis a \$200,000 buyout.

The 50-year-old Calipari has a career record of 445-140 in 17 seasons. He chose to leave Memphis after nine seasons of success, including a record of 137-14 over the past four years.

He spent the day considering the Wildcats' lucrative offer and calling former Kentucky coaches, including Joe B. Hall.

Hall said the informal chat centered on what it takes to survive one of college basketball's most prestigious and most scrutinized jobs. Kentucky fired Billy Gillispie last Friday after two disappointing seasons.

The Commercial Appeal of Memphis, Tenn., first reported the hiring.

Tigers walk-on Preston Laird said Calipari met with the team Tuesday afternoon, first as a group and then with individual players. The freshman guard described the meeting as very quiet: "Nobody really said anything."

"He started off by telling us it was the hardest day of his life," Laird said.

Memphis has scheduled a news conference for 10 a.m., MDT, to discuss the future of its basketball program.

The news of Calipari's hire spread quickly across Lexington. More than 100 fans stood out in the rain at Blue Grass Airport hoping to catch a glimpse of Calipari's



AP photo
Memphis coach John Calipari is leaving the school to coach at the University of Kentucky.

arrival on a plane from Memphis. No such luck, not that it mattered to a fan base eager for a winner.

Hoping to make a big splash after Gillispie's tenure, Kentucky went deep into its pockets to land one of the nation's most high-profile coaches.

Calipari's deal would eclipse the \$3.5 million average salary of Florida's Billy Donovan and dwarf those of Calipari's predecessors Rick Pitino, Tubby Smith and Gillispie.

Pitino, now the coach at rival Louisville, never made more than \$2 million a season during his remarkably successful eight-year run at Kentucky. Smith's compensation neared \$2.1 million at the end of his decade with the program and Gillispie received a base salary of \$2.3 million with another \$750,000 available in incentives.

The salary nearly triples the \$1.6 million salary of Kentucky football coach Rich Brooks, a rarity in a conference where football reigns.

Calipari already was one of the highest-paid coaches in the country, signing an extension with Memphis last year that paid him \$2.35 million annually.

Broncos will try to trade unhappy QB Cutler

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos said Tuesday they will grant Jay Cutler his request and try to trade the disgruntled Pro Bowl quarterback.

There is no shortage of teams interested in the 25-year-old rocket-armed quarterback whose unhappy offseason began with Mike Shanahan's firing and has haunted new coach Josh McDaniels' budding regime.

Broncos owner Pat Bowlen released a statement saying both he and McDaniels had been unable to get Cutler to call them back over the last 10 days. Bowlen said he spoke with Cutler's agent, Bus Cook, on Tuesday and came away convinced "that Jay no longer has any desire to play for the Denver Broncos."

Therefore, Bowlen said, "We will begin discussions with other teams in an effort to accommodate his request to be traded."

Cutler's been unhappy ever since learning that McDaniels failed to inform him about trade talks in which the Broncos showed interest in Matt Cassel. Cassel wound up being traded by New England to Kansas City, and then Cutler asked to be traded.

PLAXICO BURRESS' GUN CASE ADJOURNED

NEW YORK — A gun possession case against New York Giants star Plaxico Burress was adjourned Tuesday until June unless he reaches a plea agreement with prosecutors to resolve the matter sooner.

Burress accidentally shot himself in the thigh with an unlicensed gun he'd stuffed into his waistband at a Manhattan nightclub last year.

The star receiver, wearing a gray suit and a light blue shirt, arrived at Manhattan Criminal Court in the company of his wife and his attorney, Benjamin Braf-man.

Both sides agreed to

adjourn the case to June 15 following a brief hearing before Judge Michael Yavinsky. Burress' bail was continued.

Prosecutor John Wolfstaetter told the judge that the prosecution was continuing its investigation.

VICK TO PAY FALCONS AT LEAST \$6.5 MILLION

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — Michael Vick has agreed to pay the Atlanta Falcons at least \$6.5 million as part of his bankruptcy case, clearing the way for the team to release him before training camp.

The settlement was reached ahead of Vick's bankruptcy hearing in Virginia on Thursday. The suspended quarterback arrived in his home state Monday afternoon and was being held at Western Tidewater Regional Jail in Suffolk, Va.

According to a bankruptcy court filing, the Falcons have settled their claim that Vick owed them nearly \$21.2 million for bonuses he received before his guilty plea to federal dogfighting charges.

After an arbitrator sided with the team, the players union took the case to federal court. A U.S. district judge reduced the amount to \$3.75 million, and the case remains on appeal.

DUNGY INVITED TO JOIN WHITE HOUSE FAITH COUNCIL

INDIANAPOLIS — Former Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy has been invited to join a White House faith-based advisory council.

Dungy publicist Todd Starowitz confirmed Tuesday that President Barack Obama had invited the former coach to join the Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. He said Dungy had not decided whether to accept.

— The Associated Press

Blazers rout Jazz in key matchup

PORTLAND, Ore. — LaMarcus Aldridge scored 26 points, Brandon Roy had 25 points and 11 assists, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Utah Jazz 125-104 on Tuesday night.

Portland shot 65 percent from the floor through three quarters and finished at 61.6 percent for the game, hitting 47 of 76 shots. Portland went 10-of-18 from 3-point range.

The Blazers (47-27) won their third consecutive game and gained outright possession of second place in the Northwest Division, 1½ games behind first-place Denver. Utah, tied with Portland heading into the game, fell to 46-28.

Carlos Boozer, ejected midway during third quarter after a verbal altercation with Portland's Joel Przybilla, led Utah with 20 points. Deron Williams scored 16.

CAVALIERS 79, PISTONS 73

CLEVELAND — LeBron James made two crucial three-point plays down the stretch and finished with 25 points and 12 rebounds as the Cleveland Cavaliers won their 13th straight game, 79-73 on Tuesday night over the Detroit Pistons, who gave the NBA's best home team all it could handle.

The Cavs trailed 69-67 midway through the fourth when James took over, scoring eight points and handing out an assist in a 10-0 run. With the win, Cleveland improved to 36-1 at home and became just the sixth team in NBA history to win 16 games in one month.

Richard Hamilton scored 13 and Allen Iverson 11 for the Pistons, who were held to 35 percent shooting.



AP photo
Portland Trail Blazers guard Brandon Roy dunks the ball as Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer, left, and Blazers' forward LaMarcus Aldridge, right, watch during the first half in Portland, Ore., Tuesday.

BOBCATS 94, LAKERS 84

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Gerald Wallace had 21 points and 13 rebounds, and Charlotte continued its surprising mastery of Los Angeles.

Raymond Felton added 16 points as the Bobcats completed a season sweep of the Western Conference leaders, who have lost six of seven to Charlotte.

Failing to reach 100 points in consecutive games for the first time since November, the Lakers dropped their second straight. Kobe Bryant scored 25 points, but hit just 11 of 28 shots. Lamar Odom added 20 points as the Lakers dropped to 4-2 on their seven-game road trip.

NUGGETS 111, KNICKS 104

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points and Denver clinched a playoff spot by holding on to beat New York after blowing most of a 27-point, second-quarter lead.

The Nuggets' win, coupled with San Antonio's 96-95 loss to Oklahoma City, moved Denver into the No. 2 spot in the

Western Conference heading into the final two weeks of the season.

THUNDER 96, SPURS 95

SAN ANTONIO — Kevin Durant scored 31 points and Oklahoma City continued to torment San Antonio.

The Thunder led by as much as 17 and denied the Spurs a playoff-clinching win after beating San Antonio for the second time this month. With eight games left, the Spurs lost their slim lead in the Southwest Division and fell into a first-place tie with Houston.

Russell Westbrook had 16 points and 10 assists for the Thunder, who fought off a furious rally from the Spurs to break a three-game losing streak and win in San Antonio for the first time since 2004.

76ERS 98, HAWKS 85

PHILADELPHIA — Andre Iguodala scored 19 points, Andre Miller added 18 points and 10 assists, and Philadelphia overcame a season-high 33 points from Josh Smith in its victory over Atlanta.

Minico's McArthur signs with BYU-Hawaii

Times-News

Minico High senior Scott McArthur signed a National Letter of Intent on Tuesday to play soccer for Brigham Young University-Hawaii.

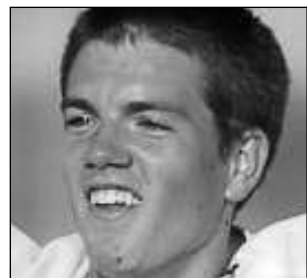
McArthur was a standout midfielder during his senior year at Minico after moving in from West Virginia. He

was a team captain, scored five goals and tallied 10 assists.

"He was what I liked to call the peacemaker of the game. He always played the ball really cool," said Minico head coach Armando Tapia. "He distributed the ball to the key players and he had a lot to do with assisting to my

top scorer. I have no doubt he will do great on the next level."

The BYU-Hawaii Seaside is coached by Jeff Miller and compete at the NCAA Division II level in the Pacific West Conference. Last year's roster featured players from seven different countries and eight states.



AP photo
McArthur

Paris guides Sooners to 2nd Final Four

OKLAHOMA CITY — Courtney Paris will get the chance to back up her national championship guarantee in the Final Four.

Paris led the way with 19 points, 13 rebounds and six blocks as top-seeded Oklahoma surged ahead in the second half to beat Purdue 74-68 Tuesday night to earn the second trip to the Final Four in school history.

The Sooners (32-4) will face Louisville, an upset winner against top-seeded Maryland, in the national semifinals in St. Louis.

Danielle Robinson scored 23 points for Oklahoma, which has made it this far for the first time since losing to

Connecticut in the 2002 championship game.

Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton led sixth-seeded Purdue (25-11) with 20 points and 13 rebounds, and Lakisha Freeman and Brittany Rayburn scored 12 points apiece.

Paris, a senior who on Monday became the first player ever to be selected as an AP All-American all four years of college, raised the stakes for the Sooners on her senior night in early March when she promised she'd bring home a national title or else pay back her scholarship.

She came through with her biggest game yet in the

NCAA Tournament and was named the most outstanding player of the Oklahoma City Regional.

CONNECTICUT 83, ARIZONA STATE 64

TRENTON, N.J. — The Connecticut express is headed to St. Louis for the Final Four, a trip the perfect Huskies have seemed destined to make all season.

Maya Moore scored 25 points and undefeated UConn beat Arizona State 83-64 on Tuesday night to advance to the national semifinals for the second straight season and ninth time in the last 14 years.

Renee Montgomery

added 22 points for the Huskies (37-0), who will face Stanford on Sunday in a rematch of last season's national semifinal. The Cardinal won that game before losing in the championship to Tennessee.

UConn hasn't lost since and is two wins away from the program's third perfect season.

Danielle Orsillo scored 18 to lead Arizona State (26-9), which played the Huskies as competitively as just about any other opponent this season but still had its season end in the regional final for the second time in three years.

— The Associated Press

Penn State, Baylor reach final of NIT

NEW YORK — Tolor Battle scored 17 points, Andrew Jones had career highs of 16 points and 15 rebounds, and the Nittany Lions hung on for dear life after squandering a big lead in a 67-59 victory over Notre Dame on Tuesday night in the NIT semifinals.

Jamelle Cornley added 15 points and Stanley Pringle had 10 for Penn State (26-11), which set a school record for wins in a season and will play Baylor for the championship Thursday night.

Cheered on by football coach Joe Paterno, the Nittany Lions beat one of their former gridiron rivals at their own game, relentlessly pounding Luke Harangody inside and harassing sharpshooter Kyle McAlarney whenever



AP photo
Penn State's Tolor Battle (12) celebrates with teammate Stanley Pringle (11) after Pringle hit a shot during the first half of the NIT semifinal game against Notre Dame on Tuesday in New York.

he touched the ball on the perimeter.

Harangody, a second-team All-American, finished with 17 points to lead the Irish (21-15).

BAYLOR 76, SAN DIEGO STATE 62

NEW YORK — Curtis Jerrells scored 25 points and Lacearius Dunn had 23, leading the once-downtrodden Bears into the

championship game.

Kevin Rogers added 15 points for Baylor (24-14), which has won seven of its last eight games and matched the 1947-48 team that lost in the national championship game for the second-most wins in school history.

The Bears, making their first trip to New York since losing in the third-place game of the 1950 Final Four, will get Notre Dame or Penn State in Thursday night's championship game.

Kyle Spain scored 15 points to lead San Diego State (26-10), which long ago set a school record for wins in a season. The only No. 1 seed remaining won more games in this tournament than it had in its previous nine postseason appearances combined.

— The Associated Press

Figuring out who qualifies for Masters requires a Ph.D

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Davis Love III would have been better off skipping the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

That's easy to say now. The latest world ranking is out, and qualifying for the Masters effectively is closed. Love needed to be in the top 50, and he missed out by just over four-hundredths of a point. If he had not played Bay Hill, where Love missed the cut, turns out he would have been at No. 50 by seven-thousandths of a point over

Louis Oosthuizen.

But assume Love had taken last week off, and Hunter Mahan had not five-putted the 16th green at Bay Hill in the final round. Love then would have fallen to No. 51 and been kicking himself for not playing.

Confused yet? It gets better.

Even after missing the cut, Love had a chance to stay in the top 50 when Stuart Appleby shot 80 in the third round and Aaron Baddeley

tumbled down the leaderboard with a 76-74 weekend. But right when his odds were looking up, Prayad Marksang shot 64 in the final round in Thailand, and Soren Kjeldsen pulled away toward victory in Portugal.

After all that, Love still had hope. Pat Perez was in a two-way tie for third late Sunday on the 18th hole at Bay Hill, and if he were to make double bogey and slip into a four-way tie for seventh, Love would have gone to 50.

Perez went over the water and right at the flag — remember, he still had an outside shot at winning the tournament — and the ball cleared the rocks framing the lake by no more than a foot. He was able to chop his next shot onto the green and he made bogey.

So now, Love is No. 51 and must win the Shell Houston Open this week to be able to drive down Magnolia Lane.

Up until 10 years ago, figuring out who went to the Masters didn't require a

Ph.D. from MIT.

Before Augusta National added the Official World Golf Ranking to its criteria, everyone knew where they stood and how to get there.

• A green jacket came with a lifetime pass.

• Invitations were extended to whoever won the other three majors over the last five years, or a PGA Tour event in the 51 weeks leading up to the Masters.

• You could finish among the top 24 at the previous

year's Masters, top 16 at the U.S. Open or top eight at the PGA Championship.

• The Masters also took the top 30 from the PGA Tour money list.

This marks the 10-year anniversary when Augusta National overhauled its qualifications to include the top 50 in the world ranking. The idea was to reflect the changing landscape in golf, to ensure the best players around the world were invited to the Masters.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MLB Spring Training

All Times MDT

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Los Angeles	24	6	.800
New York	21	10	.677
Boston	18	12	.600
Minnesota	18	12	.586
Texas	18	13	.581
Kansas City	16	12	.571
Seattle	15	16	.484
Oakland	15	17	.469
Detroit	13	15	.464
Tampa Bay	13	15	.464
Chicago	14	18	.438
Toronto	11	16	.407
Baltimore	12	18	.400
Cleveland	11	18	.379

	W	L	Pct
Milwaukee	18	10	.643
Atlanta	18	11	.621
St. Louis	18	11	.621
Pittsburgh	16	13	.552
New York	15	14	.517
Chicago	17	16	.515
San Francisco	17	17	.500
Colorado	14	16	.467
Washington	13	15	.464
Los Angeles	14	18	.438
Philadelphia	12	16	.429
Cincinnati	13	18	.419
Florida	11	17	.393
Arizona	11	19	.367
Houston	10	18	.357
San Diego	9	18	.333

NOTE: Split-squad games count in the standings; games against non-major league teams do not.

Tuesday's Games
 Boston 8, Tampa Bay 7
 Washington 7, Detroit 2
 N.Y. Yankees 6, Cincinnati 3
 Minnesota 12, Pittsburgh 8
 St. Louis 6, Baltimore 3
 Oakland 7, Kansas City 2
 San Francisco 10, Texas 3
 L.A. Angels 8, Chicago Cubs 4
 Seattle 12, Cleveland 4
 Colorado 4, Chicago White Sox 1
 L.A. Dodgers 10, Arizona 9
 N.Y. Mets 9, Florida 2
 Houston 8, Atlanta 3
 Philadelphia 9, Toronto 1
 San Diego 6, Milwaukee 5

Wednesday's Games
 Atlanta vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 Boston vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 N.Y. Mets vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 Washington vs. Toronto at Duneside, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 Cincinnati vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 Florida vs. Baltimore at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 11:05 a.m.
 Minnesota vs. Tampa Bay at Port Charlotte, N.C., 11:05 a.m.
 Philadelphia vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla., 11:15 a.m.
 Texas vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz., 1:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs vs. Oakland at Phoenix, 2:05 p.m.
 Cleveland vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
 San Diego vs. Chicago White Sox at Phoenix, 2:05 p.m.
 Arizona vs. Milwaukee at Maryvale, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
 Colorado vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
 L.A. Dodgers vs. San Francisco at Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA

All Times MDT

EASTERN

	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTIC				
y-Boston	56	19	.747	—
Philadelphia	38	35	.521	17
New Jersey	30	44	.405	25½
New York	29	46	.387	27
Toronto	28	45	.384	27
SOUTHEAST				
y-Orlando	55	18	.753	—
x-Atlanta	43	32	.573	13
Miami	35	37	.486	16½
Charlotte	34	40	.459	21½
Washington	17	58	.227	39
CENTRAL				
y-Cleveland	61	13	.824	—
Detroit	36	38	.486	25
Chicago	36	40	.474	26
Indiana	32	43	.427	29½
Milwaukee	32	43	.427	29½

	W	L	Pct	GB
SOUTHWEST				
x-Houston	48	26	.649	—
San Antonio	48	26	.649	—
New Orleans	45	27	.625	2
Dallas	44	30	.595	4
Memphis	19	54	.260	28½
NORTHWEST				
x-Denver	49	26	.653	—
Portland	47	27	.635	1½
Utah	46	28	.622	2½
Oklahoma City	21	53	.284	27½
Minnesota	21	54	.280	28

	W	L	Pct	GB
PACIFIC				
z-L.A. Lakers	58	16	.784	—
Phoenix	40	34	.541	18
Golden State	25	49	.338	33
L.A. Clippers	18	56	.243	40
Sacramento	16	56	.222	41

x-clinched playoff spot
 y-clinched division
 z-clinched conference

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 Milwaukee 107, New Jersey 78
 Utah 112, New York 104
 Memphis 114, Golden State 109

Tuesday's Games

BASEBALL

MLB Spring Training

All Times MDT

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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BASKETBALL

NBA

All Times MDT

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 y-clinched division
 z-clinched conference

Monday's Games
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 Milwaukee 107, New Jersey 78
 Utah 112, New York 104
 Memphis 114, Golden State 109

Tuesday's Games

GAME PLAN

LOCAL

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
 Kimberly at Jerome, 4 p.m., DH
 Twin Falls at Minico, 4:30 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL
 Buhl at Declo, 4 p.m., DH
 Twin Falls at Burley, 4:30 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS
 Minico at Pocatello, 3:30 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS
 6 p.m.
 SPIKE — Lightweights, Junie Browning (3-1-0) vs. Cole Miller (14-3-0); lightweights, Tyson Griffin (12-2-0) vs. Rafael Dos Anjos (11-3-0); light heavyweights, Ryan Bader (8-0-0) vs. Carmelo Marrero (10-2-1);

WELTERWEIGHTS, Carlos Condit (23-4-0) vs. Martin Kampman (14-2-0)

NBA BASKETBALL
 8 p.m.
 ESPN — Houston at Phoenix

PREP BASKETBALL
 6 p.m.
 ESPN — All-American Game, West vs. East, at Miami

SOCCER
 5:30 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Men's national teams, World Cup qualifier, Trinidad & Tobago vs. U.S.

TENNIS
 11 a.m.
 FSN — ATP World Tour/WTA Tour, Sony Ericsson Open, quarterfinals

7 p.m.
 FSN — ATP World Tour/WTA Tour, Sony Ericsson Open, quarterfinals

THUNDER 96, SPURS 95
 Williams 1-5, Szczербak 0-1, Smith 0-1, Ilguskas 0-1, James 0-2. Fouled Out None.
 Rebounds: Detroit 66 (McDyess 10), Cleveland 47 (James 12), Assists: Detroit 9 (Bynum 3), Cleveland 19 (West 6). Total Fouls: Detroit 19, Cleveland 14.
 Technicals: R.Wallace, Detroit defensive three second, West. A.20,562 (20,620).

OKLAHOMA CITY (96)
 Durant 12-19 6-8 31, Green 6-17 3-16, Krstic 8-11 0-10 6, Westbrook 15-6 4-16 6, Selolofsha 12-0-0 2, Weaver 2-2 0-6, Collison 13-0-0 2, Atkins 1-4 2-5, Rose 0-2 2-2. Total Fouls: Oklahoma City 29, Spurs 28-10-16 95.

INDIANA (107)
 Granger 11-19 5-6 31, Murphy 5-14 4-6 15, Hibbert 3-10 0-6, Jack 3-9 4-4 10, Ross 5-8 0-0 11, Ford 10-15-22 22, McRoberts 4-6 2-10, Nesterovic 1-3 0-0 2. Total Fouls: Indiana 23, Bulls 105.

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