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Business 8



CITY KIDS IN THE SADDLE >>> Group pairs castoff horses with kids who need an animal for show, FAMILY LIFE 1

SUNDAY May 17, 2009

TIMES-NEWS

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MagicValley.com

"I do believe I am here because it's a miracle."

- Craig Hadden -

Bridging the Snake

Plans continue for new bridge over Snake River

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

State and local officials hopeful for a new bridge over the Snake River west of the Perrine Bridge continue pushing forward, despite little progress for decades.

Idaho Transportation Department officials met with county commissioners during the past couple of weeks, urging them to "preserve" the roads and limit development near them should the bridge ever actually be built.

Commissioners in both Jerome and Twin Falls counties are receptive even if it's several decades away from being built, saying it's the conservative approach. The idea is

See BRIDGE, Main 2



Shoshone businessman Craig Hadden shows the wounds from two of the four bullets that struck him on April 1 at his home north of Shoshone. There have been no arrests related to the shooting so far. 'I would think the people of Lincoln County should be fairly concerned and fairly worried because this is a person who premeditated to kill somebody and (the shooter is) still there in Lincoln County,' Hadden said.

Idaho's anti-gang law little used

T.F. prosecutor, others say it's not worth the effort

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Three years ago lawmakers created the state's first anti-gang law, hoping it would give prosecutors the ammunition they needed to fight drive-by shootings, drug distribution and other gang activity across Idaho.

But few jurisdictions have used the Idaho Criminal Gang Enforcement Act. Some prosecutors say the additional work involved in charging someone under the act doesn't pay off at sentencing; or they are skittish about charging someone with a crime that is untested in the appellate courts.

Meanwhile, gangs continue to recruit new

See GANGS, Main 2

BRUSH WITH DEATH

Wounded Shoshone businessman offers \$10,000 reward for arrest, conviction in shooting

Story by Andrea Jackson • Photos by Meagan Thompson
Times-News

BOISE — Craig Hadden says he died April 1.

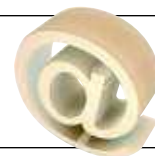
Hadden, a Shoshone businessman who was shot four times in the driveway of his home, last week said the people who killed him should be charged with murder, though he doubts they would be.

He understands his assailants will likely face attempted murder charges, at most, even though he said that he was dead-on-arrival when he came off the air ambulance at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

"I was revived four times," Hadden, who remains in hiding for fear of his life, told the *Times-*



Craig Hadden, concerned for his safety after he was shot at his home north of Shoshone, met with the *Times-News* for an exclusive interview at a vacant home in an upscale Boise neighborhood. 'I do believe that I am here because it's a miracle. Maybe it's several miracles. I don't know.'



Magicvalley.com

WATCH: a video interview with Craig Hadden.

News in an exclusive interview Wednesday. Hadden agreed to meet in a vacant Boise house where he said he felt safe for a few hours without a security guard.

In the sunlit foyer of the house, he stood in sweatpants and slip-on sneakers. At age 60, he is walking, talking and waiting for skin graft surgery to close the biggest of eight holes in his body.

He said he thinks he knows who shot him, and that police know, too. But Lincoln County

Sheriff Kevin Ellis won't even say that much.

Hadden expects an arrest within three weeks. If that happens, Hadden says he may return to the yellow house at 212 E. 620 N., where he lived for 20 years, and go back to running his businesses: Idaho Yak ranch, Hadden Realty, CDL Storage, Main Stop gas and convenience store and an unnamed loan business.

See HADDEN, Main 4

Obama reaches across political divide for envoy to China

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — With a reach across the political divide for Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman as ambassador to China, President Barack Obama may have sidelined for now a potentially formidable Republican moderate and possible White House challenger in 2012.

Yet Huntsman, who has upset the GOP's conservative base by sup-

INSIDE

Huntsman seeks more moderate GOP.

See Business 7

porting gay civil unions, may gain, too. The appointment, which requires Senate approval, gives him a chance to burnish his credentials and position himself as a viable presidential contender in 2016, if Obama appears to be a strong can-

didate for a second term in 2012.

John Weaver, a one-time senior strategist for John McCain's presidential campaign who now advises Huntsman, said the governor put country ahead of personal partisan interest. Huntsman was national co-chairman of McCain's failed bid against Obama.

"It's no more complicated than that, though it is so unusual in

See HUNTSMAN, Main 2



Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman gives his acceptance remarks after his nomination by President Barack Obama, left, to U.S. ambassador to China Saturday in Washington. AP photo



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CHOCOLATE, RUNNING SHOES AND SPAM

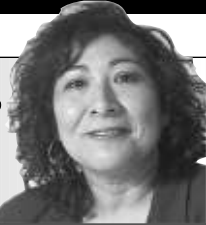
Find out what they have in common > Business 1

MORNING BRIEFING

Pat's Picks

Three things to do today

Pat Marcantonio



● Sign up at 9 a.m. for the Jerome County Rod and Gun Club sporting clays shoot, a 100-target event at the club, 11 miles north of the junction of U.S. Highway 93 and Interstate 84 at mile marker 64. It's \$20 for adults, \$14 for juniors and \$5 extra for non-members. The first 50 targets are free for newcomers.

● The Burley Trap Club and Tots To Teens Relay for Life team trap shoot starts with an 11:30 a.m. sign-up and noon shoot at the Burley Trap Range, 850 W.

50 S. Burley. That's west on U.S. Highway 30 toward Milner Dam. The entry fee is \$10 per shoot.

● Or if you're in a mood to shop, there's the Magic Valley Flea Market from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Merchant building No. 1 of the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer.

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.

Bridge

Continued from Main 1

that by prohibiting development, possibly with zoning setbacks, the counties won't have to make future land purchases in a largely rural area that could become commercial over the next quarter century.

"We're going to facilitate the process," said Twin Falls County Commissioner Terry Kramer. "The corridor really does have to be preserved."

A study last year found a new bridge in 2030 would divert just 7,000 to 10,000 daily vehicles from the Perrine Bridge. The new bridge, estimated at \$177 million, would be primarily a local route and have little impact on regional traffic.

But Gary Blick, the local ITD Board member, said traffic will only worsen without a bridge, given the region's growth. He compared the situation to that of Eagle Road in Meridian, which he said was never expected to see the traffic it endures today.

"We've got to be careful so we don't break laws or do things that we're going to regret," Blick told commissioners. "But I think all of us are hopefully far-sighted enough to know that eventually we're probably going to



MEGAN OTTO/Times-News

need — unless we're going to get flying cars or something ... some way to get across the canyon."

The counties need to identify in their planning documents the corridor — about two miles of 2400 East in Twin Falls County and more than six miles of 300 West in Jerome County — as the preferred route. Public hearings would be required.

ITD District IV Engineer Devin Rigby said the project needs direction over the next six months in order to continue because it's associated with

federal funding that so far covers most of the project's costs.

"So it really falls onto your plate," said Rigby.

Rigby said the county could create tough restrictions. But standard setbacks or designations, such as making the road a collector, would be sufficient.

The next step is to contact the Filer Highway District, which oversees and manages 2400 East, to offer input. Twin Falls County Planning and Zoning Administrator Rick Dunn said he needs a document that shows a road as the preferred route.

"Once you said that, then I can help you out," Dunn said. "We can amend our comprehensive plan and say this is a future road and actually protect that corridor."

The project needs the support of both counties, and the preservation of both roads.

Jerome County commissioner Charlie Howell said his county is receptive and advised planning and zoning department to take similar steps as Twin Falls County.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at jhopkins@gmagicvalley.com.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center dance, with music by the Melody Masters, 2 to 5 p.m., at the center, 530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls, \$4 per person, 734-5084.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Burley Trap Club and Tots To Teens Relay For Life team trap shoot, 11:30 a.m. sign-up and noon shoot, Burley Trap Range, 850 W. 50 S., Burley (west on Highway 30 toward Milner Dam), entry fee: \$10 per shoot, 436-4620.

MARKETS AND BAZAARS

Magic Valley Flea Market, vendors with antiques, collectibles, wind chimes, jewelry, dolls, crafts, Native American Indian items and more, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Merchant building No. 1, Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Filer, 410-1738.

SCHOOLS

Burley High School Baccalaureate ceremony, student speakers: Kirsten Johnson and David Beus, and guest speakers: Dave Cooper and Derlin Taylor, 7 p.m., King Fine Arts Center, Burley, public welcome to attend, 431-7042 or 678-7041.

SPORTS

Jerome County Rod and Gun Club sporting clays shoot, a 100-target event, 9 a.m. sign up and 10 a.m. start, at the club, 11 miles north of junction of Highway 93 and I-84 at mile marker 64, \$20 for adults and \$14 for juniors (\$5 extra for non-members) and first 50 targets free for newcomers, 733-6045.

TODAY'S DEADLINE

Discount ticket deadline for May 23 Wild Turkey Federation 3rd annual Sporting Clays Shoot, hosted by Jerome Rod and Gun Club for Wheelin' Sportsmen: 100 targets, raffle, awards and free lunch, 9 a.m. registration and 10 a.m. start time, 11 miles north of junction of I-84 and Highway 93, mile marker 64, \$40 today or \$50 at the shoot, proceeds to NWTW Wheelin' Sportsmen, 734-5711.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY



Courtesy of Twin Falls Public Library

A photograph of the Oregon Short Line Station in Kimberly. The first train arrived in August 1905, and a year later a depot was built on the north side of the tracks. The station was used for passengers and cargo, such as cattle, hogs and produce. In 1913 the depot was moved to the south side of the tracks for faster loading. The building later moved to 120 Madison St. W., where the Kimberly Public Library now stands. The library officially opened in March 1978, after \$2,500 was donated to help remodel the building.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Gangs

Continued from Main 1

members and wreak havoc on some southern Idaho streets.

"There has to be a legislative change," says Canyon County Prosecutor John Bujak, who works in what is likely the state's most gang-heavy region. "With the amount of time you spend trying to prove gang involvement in the courtroom, you end up with an empty feeling when all it gets you is two extra years on the sentence. Telling someone they face 17 years instead of 15, in the big picture, doesn't really make much of a difference."

The law, approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2006, does three basic things: It increases sentences for anyone convicted of committing certain crimes as part of gang activity, and outlaws recruiting gang members and providing guns to gang members.

The sentencing enhancement tacks two years onto a felony sentence, and one year a misdemeanor sentence. But it doesn't add any additional time to crimes dealt with in juvenile court.

The recruitment and weapon arms of the act provide stiffer penalties — any adult convicted of recruiting gang members or supplying firearms to gang members can be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

But the law has hardly

been used.

In 2008, no one in Idaho was charged with supplying guns to a gang member or recruiting a gang member, said Patti Tobias, State Courts Administrator. The enhancement portion of the act was only used three times.

Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loebs has never used the statute. The region doesn't have the same level of gang activity found in the Treasure Valley, but he's still encountered plenty of gang crimes.

"That enhancement is not worth the effort because usually the crime that you're prosecuting is a significant enough crime that enhancing it by two years isn't going to matter because they're not going to serve the maximum sentence anyway," Loebs said. "I have to triple the work to get two years on top of the sentence, and it's not cost effective and it's not at all certain to succeed."

"It's a lot of extra work for very little return," said Canyon County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Ellie Somoza, who has handled most of the county's gang cases in the past four years. "For juveniles — which is most of the gang crime we prosecute — it's almost meaningless."

The risk of a few months in detention doesn't outweigh the benefits of crime

in the minds of young gang members, Somoza said.

"A lot of times they do these crimes to earn their way into the gang and earn their street cred. And because the gang leaders know that if a juvenile member does the crime, they get a slap on the wrist while an adult gets sent to the penitentiary," Somoza says.

The act doesn't apply at all to some of the most prevalent gang crimes, she said, such as graffiti, witness intimidation, basic gun offenses or disturbing the peace.

"Do you know how many gang fights we have in schools? We can't even use it for that," Somoza says. "In any given school year we probably receive one or two gang fight cases a week."

Dane Watkins Jr., the prosecutor in eastern Idaho's Bonneville County, has never charged anyone under the statute. But he says he expects to in the coming months. A team of local law enforcement officers and people from the Bonneville County prosecutor's office recently went to Canyon County to get training and tips from the law enforcement officers and prosecutors there.

"One thing that I think they benefit from over there in Canyon County is the culture from the bench that those problems exist in the

community — so while a two-year enhancement may not be as much as some would argue is needed, I think just having the designation that this is a gang case might influence a court anyway," Watkins said.

Adding the words "by a gang member" after a crime in an indictment does give prosecutors a little more leverage when it comes to plea deals, Bujak said. Some defendants will agree to a plea if prosecutors offer to charge them with unlawful discharge of a firearm instead of unlawful discharge of a firearm by a gang member simply to keep any reference to gang membership off their records, he said.

Megan Ronk, who was a policy adviser for then-Gov. Dirk Kempthorne when his office wrote the Idaho Criminal Gang Act in 2006, said officials knew from the start that tailoring the law would take time.

"There was recognition that it wasn't going to be perfect, that we needed to try it out and let prosecutors and law enforcement give some feedback and make sure it's working," said Ronk, who is now the director of the Idaho Meth Project. "Hopefully there will be a group that will get together with Gov. Otter's office and prosecutors and law enforcement and make the changes that need to happen!"

Huntsman

Continued from Main 1

Washington everyone has to take a magnifying glass to it," Weaver said after Obama introduced Huntsman in the White House Diplomatic Reception Room.

"He was asked by the president to serve in a major diplomatic post, in a mission with a country most important to our economy, in dealing with Iran, Pakistan and North Korea. Jon is uniquely qualified and thus you don't turn your nation down," Weaver said.

Obama said he knew Huntsman's nomination "wouldn't be the easiest decision to explain to some members of his party." But Obama said Huntsman was

"the kind of leader who always puts country ahead of party and is always willing to sacrifice on behalf of our nation."

Elected to his second term in November, Huntsman said he wasn't looking for a new job and didn't expect "to be called into action" by McCain's winning rival.

"But I grew up understanding that the most basic responsibility one has is service to country," he said, standing with Obama as his family looked on. "When the president of the United States asks you to step up and serve in a capacity like this, that to me is the end of the conversation and the beginning of the obligation to rise to the challenge."

Huntsman will be 56 in 2016, young enough to handle the rigors of a national political campaign. Republican strategists say serving as U.S. envoy to China — which Obama says will be critical to solving many world problems — will only improve Huntsman's reputation.

LaVarr Webb, a Republican strategist in Utah, said the appointment is a plus for Huntsman. He said Huntsman became a long shot for 2012 after his headline-making call for

the GOP to moderate its tone if it wants to rebound from 2008 election losses.

"Clearly Gov. Huntsman does have major political ambitions and serving as ambassador to China certainly gives him foreign policy credentials," Webb said. Eric Hyer, a China expert and political scientist at Brigham Young University, said the decision surprised him because no one seeks the presidency from an ambassador's post.

"So he might serve for four years and then come back and run for president. But can you run against the guy who hired you?" Hyer said.

Obama said he made the appointment "mindful of its extraordinary significance" and the breadth of issues at stake in U.S.-China relations, including the global economic crisis, the environment, public health, human rights and North Korea and Pakistan. Huntsman, 49, is fluent in Mandarin Chinese from his days as a Mormon missionary in Taiwan. He previously served as U.S. ambassador to Singapore and as a deputy U.S. trade ambassador.

He made a name for himself in Utah by advocating a moderate agenda in one of

the most conservative states. He drew the most attention for supporting civil unions, despite backing a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage that passed in 2004.

Obama's 2008 campaign manager, David Plouffe, has described Huntsman as a Republican who "seems to understand the party has to adjust — not stubbornly believe that everything is OK and it is the country that has to change."

As ambassador, Huntsman could play a critical role in getting China to sign onto a new international agreement to curb the emissions blamed for global warming. The Obama administration has said it is willing to enter into a treaty, but that participation by China — the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases — could influence the success of any global pact and whether U.S. lawmakers will ratify the agreement.

As governor, he signed an initiative establishing a regional effort to reduce global warming. In a 2006 speech at Shanghai Normal University, Huntsman spoke of the need for China and the U.S. to collaborate on environmental issues.

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WILD CARD Saturday, May 16

7 15 17 27 28 WILD CARD: 1

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'It's a calling' Magic Valley agencies honor fallen law enforcement officers

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

It'll be two years on Tuesday since an Idaho law-enforcement officer was last killed on the job.

But, as a ceremony held Saturday morning proved, such a sacrifice doesn't dim with time.

Members of several Magic Valley law-enforcement agencies read the names of the 64 local, state and federal officers killed since before Idaho was a state — starting with a Boise County Sheriff's officer who died in 1883. Family members of fallen officers received a single rose, including the daughter of Craig T. Bracken, an officer with the Twin Falls Police Department who died in May 1939.

The annual event, held in the band shell at the Twin Falls City Park, is a regional version of a ceremony held every year at the state Peace Officers Memorial in Meridian. Jim O'Donnell, a chaplain for the Idaho State Police and Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office, and other speakers talked of the need to recognize the services officers provide every day, and especially those provided by the ones who laid down their lives.

The fallen gave their



Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb gives a speech at the Magic Valley Peace Officers Memorial Saturday morning at Twin Falls City Park.

JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

lives, O'Donnell said, "so that you and I can have the privileges and freedoms of life and liberty."

The event came on the tail end of National Police Week, recognized through proclamations by such officials as Twin Falls County Commission Chairman George Urie — whose daughter is a police officer in Meridian. Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb noted that Saturday was also Armed Services Day, and spoke of the importance of honoring local law enforcement along with military troops currently fighting abroad.

"They too are fighting a

war that we cannot afford to lose," he said of local officers.

The keynote speaker, U.S. Marshal Patrick McDonald, started his career 40 years ago with the Burley Police Department before joining the Idaho State Police, where he eventually became a captain and a regional patrol commander. Appointed as Idaho's marshal in 2002, he reminded those gathered at the park that there are people who understand the sacrifice officers make, and that law enforcement at any level is a difficult job.

"We know that it must be done, and done to the best of our ability with very little margin for error," McDonald said.

His sentiments were echoed in Chaplain Gayle Mitchell's closing prayer, delivered after a 21-gun salute.

"We understand that not everyone can do this job," Mitchell said. "It's a calling, and they take it serious."

"They too are fighting a war that we cannot afford to lose."

— Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb

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

From May 8 police reports:

Driving under the influence:

Skylar Stephens, 26, of Burley, was arrested for driving under the influence.

After he allegedly changed lanes without signaling, police followed him and his two passengers into the Wal-Mart parking lot. The vehicle stopped, then pulled into the Jack in the Box parking lot and parked. Jack in the Box was closed.

Deputy Ty Cahoon approached the vehicle and found the driver seat unoccupied. Stephens was in the passenger seat. According to the report, he told Cahoon that a man he didn't know had been driving him and his passengers from a bar to a restaurant and said the man got scared when he saw the police following them — so he stopped, threw the keys on the passenger-side floor, and ran off.

Cahoon told Stephens that he clearly saw him driving.

Stephens continued to deny driving and insisted it was the skittish stranger, but eventually, the passengers told police Stephens was driving.

Prior to failing sobriety tests, he said he had only three or four beers — but, according to the report, when he was transported to the hospital for a blood draw, said his blood would probably test positive for cocaine and marijuana.

Public disturbance:

A 66-year-old Burley man reported that a 1979 Oldsmobile had driven past his house with the stereo playing loudly.

The man insisted on pressing charges for violation of the noise ordinance.

The suspect, 35, was cited and "informed me that he did have a stereo system in his vehicle," the police report reads. He said he was simply driving to work and listening to his stereo.

From May 9 police reports:

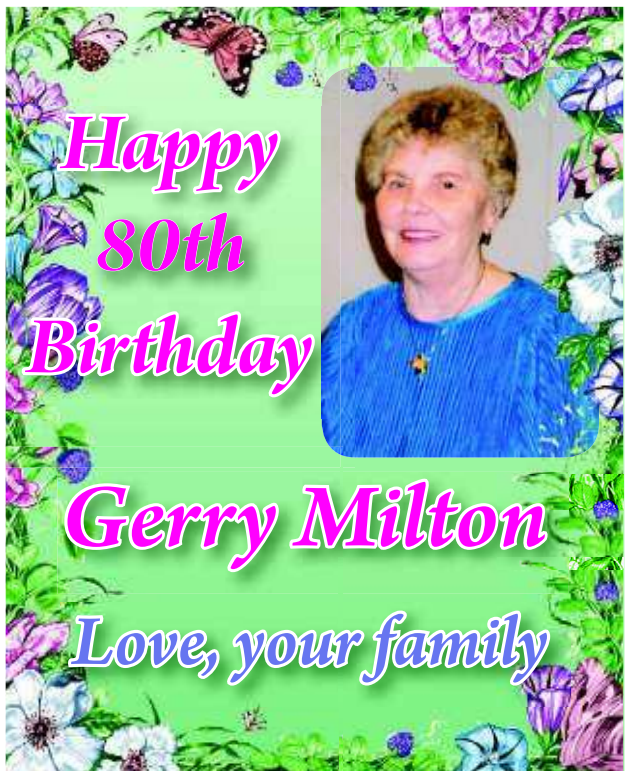
Larceny:

Police were dispatched to the Maverick convenience store on Overland Avenue in Burley for a

man told her he wanted to pay inside.

She authorized the pump, but the man apparently changed his mind about paying and drove off with less than five gallons of gas. No suspects.

— Damon Hunzeker



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Hadden

Continued from Main 1

For now, he's just thankful to be alive.

"It looks very gross, but I'm alive," Hadden said, looking down at his wounds. "I do believe I am here because it's a miracle."

With help from his 82-year-old mother, Hadden unbuttoned his flannel shirt to reveal the scars left by four through-and-through bullet wounds. Surgeons told him they thought all were made by 30.06 caliber bullets, a round common for deer rifles. One went through his right arm; three hit his back, coming out his chest and abdomen.

Three of the wounds are healing but a gaping, fist-sized hole in his belly is still draining fluids into a black medical bag. He lost two ribs and part of a lung, but is regaining movement in a hand.

"I'm messed up for a bathing suit contest," he joked.

A resident of Shoshone all his adult life, Hadden three years ago married a 34-year-old woman from the Dominican Republic. Not until last fall did she and her children, aged 11 and 16, move into the modest yellow farmhouse in Shoshone.

Hadden says he doesn't believe he has any enemies, though in court records he does have at least one person he wants to keep at a distance.

His son's ex-wife, Traci Hadden, was charged Nov. 26 with misdemeanor trespassing for entering Hadden's property "after repeatedly being told not to enter," according to Lincoln County court records.

Before she was charged on Nov. 10 Hadden wrote the court saying his former daughter-in-law may claim to have personal property on his farm, but he told her he would call the police if she entered. On March 31, the day before the shooting, the court issued a no-contact order naming Traci Hadden,

"If this is your neighbor, are you concerned? I think the people of Lincoln County should be concerned."

— Craig Hadden

who has pleaded not guilty to trespassing and faces a May 20 trial.

Court records show she also has been accused of grand theft for allegedly stealing 20 head of cattle from a Lincoln County rancher in December.

Craig Hadden declined to comment when asked about his relationship with his former daughter-in-law.

But he said someone started stealing from him about a year ago. First they took diesel fuel from his farm. He said he reported burglaries and thefts to police at least three times this year, including a break-in two days before he was shot. Telephone lines were cut, doors were broken, and a new surveillance system was destroyed, he said.

Because of the damage and the number of things stolen, he said he thinks there were at least two burglars.

"I put a surveillance system in and changed the locks and made it more difficult to steal from me," he said. "(The burglars) knew I had a surveillance system and they destroyed it before they went into the house."

He said the burglars "were very weird," in that they broke a framed picture of his wife, took a bottle of her lotion and some pizza trays.

He said whoever was stealing from him may have come back for revenge because he had made it harder for them.

Hadden said he thinks he



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Craig Hadden gets help with his shirt buttons because he has lost mobility in his fingers due to nerve damage after he was shot April 1 outside his home north of Shoshone. 'This is a case that somebody came to kill me.'

was being watched and his routine studied before the shooting. He usually goes to work around 8 a.m. or 9 a.m.

On Wednesday, April 1 Hadden kissed his wife goodbye at about 9 a.m. and walked five steps from his front door toward his white, late-model Cadillac on his way to one of his many business ventures.

"This was a case of someone came to kill me," he said.

He said now that he heard one or two people run up behind him just as he was shot. He said he crawled around his car to his garage, which sits back from the front of his house, so he would be away from his killers.

"Why they didn't come around the corner to shoot me, I have no idea," Hadden said. "I couldn't believe I was shot ... I was hoping my family was OK. I was more concerned for my family."

He said his wife soon came in response to his calls for help, as did a furnace repairman who was working in his home that morning.

Hadden said he has an idea of who shot him, but

won't drop names. He also said he thinks police are waiting on forensic evidence before making an arrest.

"I believe they know who did it," said Hadden, who met privately with Ellis on Thursday. "Within two to three weeks they are going to make an arrest and there will be a conviction."

But Ellis declined to tell the *Times-News* how many suspects he may have.

"We do have persons of interest, I'm not going to say we have one or two or five or 10," he said. "If I said I know someone is responsible and the evidence takes us in a different direction, that would be a great disservice to the person I named."

Ellis, who has only four deputies, declined to comment on Hadden's security.

"I'm not at liberty to discuss that," Ellis said. "That's something personal with him."

Hadden says only that he is staying in Idaho, usually under guard. "They've been protecting me very well," he said.

Though Hadden said he is confident an arrest will soon

come, Ellis said he doesn't have a timeline.

"Idaho State Police is working with us to try and finish up this investigation," Ellis said. "We're following the evidence and we're still interviewing and until that's done I'm not really at liberty to discuss a timeline."

Meanwhile, Hadden said his family is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction. Leads should be called in to Ellis' office.

While in hiding, Hadden has not remained still. He has since sold his herd of exotic Yak, and may soon send his wife and step-children back to the Dominican Republic, "so they'll be safe."

"We will stay strong," Hadden said, thanking the community for all its well-wishes. "It's wonderful. I don't know what I would do without my family."

Ellis says Lincoln County residents are safe — even with the shooter or shooters on the loose.

"The evidence that we have suggests that this wasn't random, so the rest of the community is safe," he

said Thursday.

Hadden isn't as confident.

"If this is your neighbor, are you concerned?" Hadden asked. "I think the people of Lincoln County should be concerned."

Since the shooting, Hadden's property has been burglarized, two four-wheel ATVs were stolen and a pickup truck was taken for a joyride, he said.

"I believe they're trying," said Hadden about efforts by law enforcement. But he also said he is concerned that people "are being told that they're secure and safe."

County Commissioners Monday approved more funding for the case, including money to hire a Spanish-speaking investigator.

"There are some Hispanic people that we need to interview and I just feel it would be better to have a Spanish-speaking person on hand," Ellis said. "With the extra help we will be able to follow all of the leads in a more timely fashion."

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

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Don't Ask Me

Steve Crump



Finding kinship you don't expect in Tennessee

The State of Tennessee sent me a letter a while back.

It wanted to know if I'm any relation to H.E. Crump, late of Memphis. It's one of hundreds of thousands of such missives that states mail out every year looking for kin of folks who've died and left assets, in one form or another, in the government's hands.

I'm not related to H.E. Crump, but I was amazed — and a little honored — to be asked.

See, apart from Andrew Jackson, Jack Daniel and Dolly Parton, Tennessee has produced no more famous citizen than Edward Hull Crump.

"Boss" Crump — as he's universally known — was the most legendary local political czar in American history.

He ran a political machine in Memphis that absolutely dominated Tennessee government for nearly 40 years and was hugely influential in President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

Almost alone in the South, Crump championed the rights of blacks and made sure they got to the polls.

A Democrat, he even made common cause with Tennessee's then-beleaguered Republicans.

Oh, sure, he cut some corners here and there — a few Memphis voters who weren't actually alive may have cast ballots from time to time — but Tennessee emerged from the Jim Crow era a more prosperous and enlightened place than most of the rest of the Old Confederacy.

My forebears came to America from Sweden and England through Utah, so I have no bloodlines to the South. But years ago, I took a road trip through Tennessee and was amazed by the impact that people named Crump have had on that state. There's a Crump Stadium, where the University of Memphis used to play its football games, and E.H. Crump Avenue, one of the

city's main drags.

And a hundred miles to the southeast, there's the Tennessee River town of Crump (population 1,521) on State Route 22. The place is hallowed ground for anyone who cares about American history because it's the nearest community to the Shiloh National Monument, where in April 1862 Union troops under Ulysses S. Grant endured a ferocious assault by Confederates and won perhaps the pivotal battle of the Civil War.

Pivotal because Shiloh effectively split the Confederacy in two. After Shiloh, Tennessee — at the very center of the Confederate States of America — was mostly in Union hands.

Crump — and surrounding Hardin County — is overwhelmingly white, which is usual for rural western Tennessee. I drove into town on a sweltering June day, stopped at a diner and ordered a cheeseburger and glass of sweet tea — in honor of location traditions.

The fellow behind the counter — who was black — asked what brought me to Crump, Tenn.

I allowed as to how I was a tourist from Idaho just passing through, and that my name was Crump.

So was his. He pulled a bottle of Jack Daniel's — of course — out from behind the counter and poured an ounce or two into my glass of sweet tea.

"Welcome home, cousin," he said, lifting a shot glass of Jack in a toast.

Somewhere, I'm sure, Boss Crump was smiling.

Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223. Hear him live on KLIX-1310 AM at 8:30 a.m. Fridays or on the Web at www.magicvalley.com/opinion.

Check out what's new online at magicvalley.com

N. College at Blue Lakes to be closed Monday

Times-News

Twin Falls' North College Road will be closed to traffic at its intersection with Blue Lakes Boulevard beginning as soon as Monday as crews continue installing a storm water sewer system, according to an Idaho Transportation Department release.

Crews will work on water and utility lines through the intersection, requiring several days of partial closure to through traffic. The intersection will remain open to north-south traffic without interruption, and North College east of Blue Lakes also will remain open.

The intersection work should be completed by Memorial Day weekend. Crews will not work over the holiday weekend. Blue Lakes Boulevard will be restricted to two lanes through Falls Avenue after construction progresses through the intersection and continues toward the southern boundary of the project.

More information about extension of lane restrictions will be announced as it becomes available.

The intersection of Cheney Drive West remains closed for concrete work. Business access on the west side of Blue Lakes will be

maintained for right turns only. Drivers should watch for changing accesses.

No left turns onto or from Blue Lakes Boulevard are permitted through the construction zone. Drivers should consider alternate routes to access businesses

adjacent to the construction zone.

For a construction update and other information, visit the ITD Web site: <http://itd.idaho.gov> and click on Projects, then South-Central and 93, Blue Lake-Falls Ave. to Pole Line Road.

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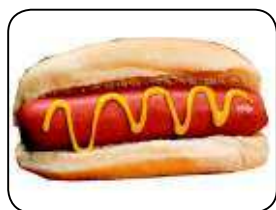
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Southern Idaho community becomes Firewise

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — A wildfire in 2005 came close to homes within Kanaka Rapids Ranch in Buhl. The event brought residents of the gated community close together as they fought the fire.

On Saturday the community took the final step in being officially deemed a Firewise Community — the first such community in south-central Idaho and one of four within the state — by holding its first Firewise Community Work Day meeting and barbecue.

“It’s really about homeowners taking responsibility for living in wild lands,” said Julie Thomas, with the Sawtooth National Forest Resource Conservation and Development Council.

Several residents of Kanaka attended the outside event, which included an opportunity to visit with Buhl Fire Department Chief Mark Korsen.

Kanaka has made significant progress in taking on its fire risk and “being Firewise will take that to the next level,” Korsen said. “The Buhl Fire Department is all about fire prevention, and Firewise focuses on what communities can do before the fire.”

Being involved in helping his neighborhood become Firewise has empowered 8-year-old Carter Kelsey, who vividly remembers the fire that threatened his own home.

“I remember playing on the TV,” he said. “I didn’t know (the fire) would cross the creek ... it was scary but everything we’re doing now makes us a little more prepared.”

Those who attended

Saturday’s event were given a Euonymus “Burning Bush,” a popular deciduous shrub used in fire-resistant landscapes.

The National Firewise Communities program is designed to encourage locally-driven solutions for wildfire safety, bringing together homeowners, community leaders, developers, firefighters and a number of local, state and federal agencies.

“There is a wildfire around Kanaka at least once a year, and they have, in becoming a Firewise Community, assessed the danger in living in the land and have really embraced what they can do to minimize that risk,” Thomas said.

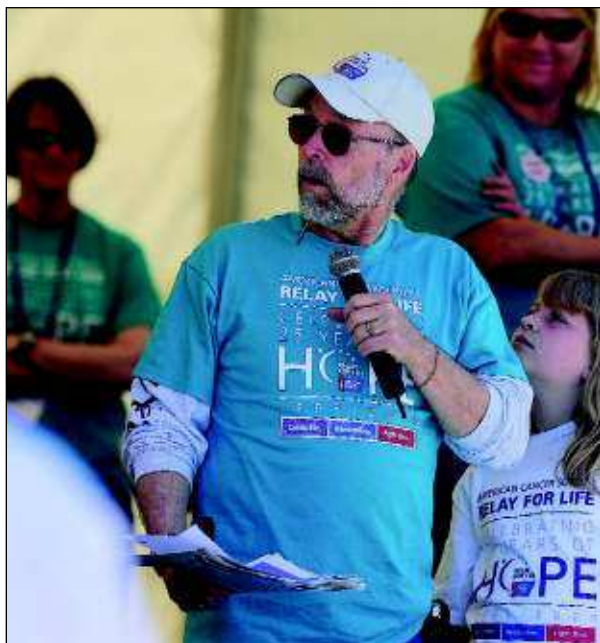
That means defensible spaces have been created around homes to lower the amount of fire fuels, such as brush and Russian olive trees.

New homes are encouraged to be built with fire retardant materials instead of wood and native wildflowers and fire-resistant plants are being used in landscape, as are more xeriscapes and rock gardens because they serve as excellent fire breaks.

With fire season approaching, Thomas hopes other communities will look to Kanaka as an example of becoming Firewise.

“Both the Forest Service and (Bureau of Land Management) are excited that Kanaka is now Firewise,” Thomas said. “It’s been a project nearly two years in the making. This is our pilot, our test model for the area and we hope people look to Kanaka for what they can do in their own communities.”

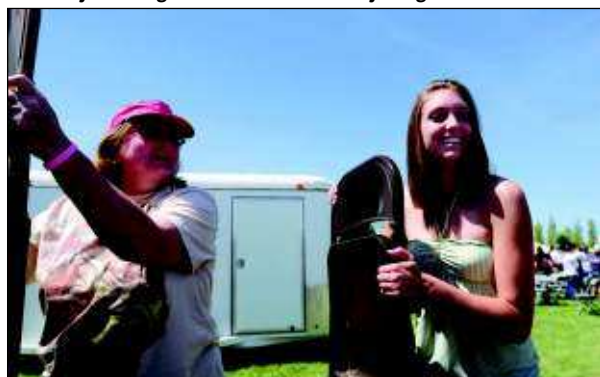
RELAY FOR LIFE



Photos by JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

ABOVE: Vern Lattin announces the totals for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life Saturday morning at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer.

BELOW: Laine Moscrip smiles for the camera as Terri Lawson, left, looks on while loading chairs as the Relay for Life wrapped up Saturday morning at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer.



Twin Falls police looking for suspects in stabbing

Times-News



Taylor

Police are looking for two suspects in an attempted murder that happened early Thursday in Twin Falls.

Christopher Taylor, 28, and Ramiro Ramirez, 22, both of Jerome, along with 33-year-old Richard Pena of Twin Falls, allegedly stabbed Robert Barton of Buhl at least 12 times along Grandview Drive in Twin Falls, according to Kelly Hassani, a senior investigator with the Twin Falls County Sheriff’s Office.

Police arrested Pena on charges of attempted murder and robbery but are still searching for Taylor and

Ramirez. Taylor was last seen Thursday driving a green Volkswagen Jetta, license plate No. 2J 40977, in downtown Jerome.

Barton was taken to St. Luke’s Magic Valley Medical Center on Thursday in critical condition and is now in stable condition, Hassani said.

It is believed that Barton knew Pena, but Hassani did not say what led to the attack or where on Grandview Drive the incident occurred.

If you have information on the whereabouts of Taylor or Ramirez or more about the crime, call the Twin Falls County Sheriff’s Office at 735-1911.

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T.F. man injured in accident on Hwy. 30

Times-News

One person was injured in a two-vehicle accident that happened at about 11:35 a.m. Saturday on Highway 30 in Twin Falls.

Joshua Coronado, 20, of Twin Falls was driving his Chevy Cobalt northbound on 2600 East when, proceeding from a stop sign onto Highway 30, he was hit broadside by a GMC pickup driven by Dan Addis, 51, of Filer, according to Twin Falls

County Spokeswoman Lori Nebeker.

Coronado was taken by ambulance to St. Luke’s Magic Valley Medical Center. He had stopped at the stop sign, but was cited for “failure to start safely,” Nebeker said.

Some traffic was detoured while the crash was cleaned up.

Addis was not injured in the accident and neither driver carried passengers, Nebeker said.

Murtaugh schools seek facilities levy renewal

Times-News

Murtaugh School District voters will decide Tuesday if they will renew a 10-year plant facilities levy that provides \$35,000 to the district annually.

The levy renewal, if approved, will provide funding for building repairs, additions and remodeling, equipment, purchasing school buses and general maintenance.

If approved, the levy

would amount to \$32.80 for every \$100,000 of a property’s assessed value, said board clerk Vonie Adams.

Voters can cast ballots from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday at both polling locations:

• Murtaugh High School’s library, 500 Boyd W., for Twin Falls County voters.

• Glenn Bessire residence, 4469 E. 2900 N., Murtaugh, for Cassia County voters.

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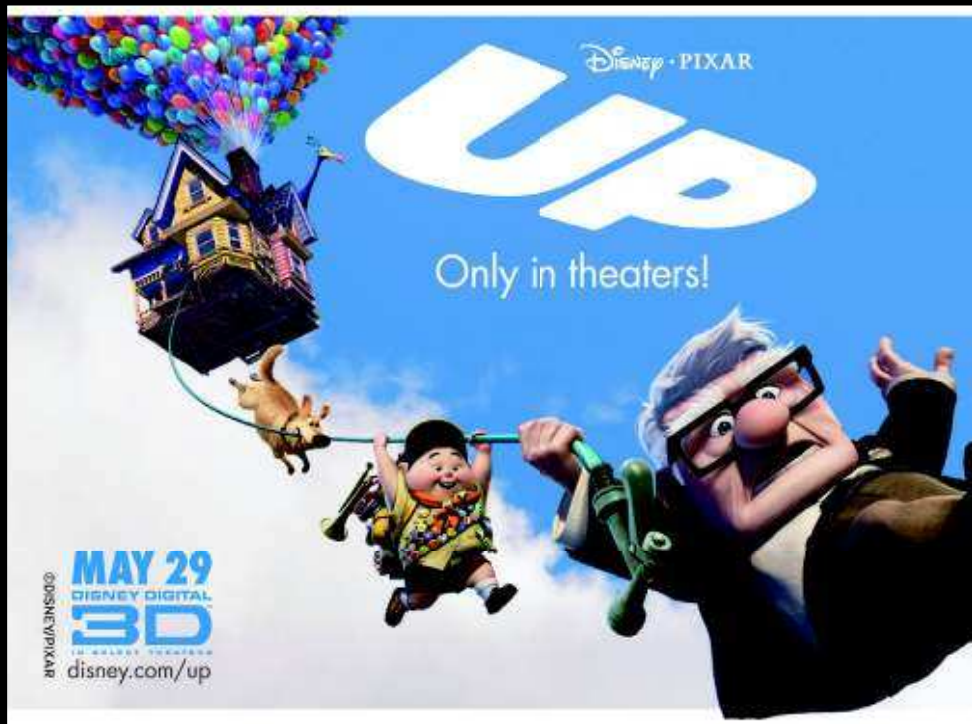
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What do chocolate, running shoes and Spam have in common? They're all...



HOT IN RECESSION

Consumers still willing to shell out for small indulgences

By **Deb Riechmann**
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — It's not all doom and gloom in the U.S. economy. Some products are bucking the recession and flying off store shelves.

Sales of chocolate and running shoes are up. Wine drinkers haven't stopped sipping; they just seem to be choosing cheaper vintages.

Gold coins are selling like hot cakes. So are gardening seeds. Tanning products are piling up in shopping carts; maybe more people are finding color in a bottle than from sun-worshipping on a faraway beach.

Strong sales of Spam, Dinty Moore stew and chili helped Hormel Foods Corp. post a 6 percent increase in first quarter sales in its grocery products unit.

Consumers have trimmed household budgets and postponed cars, major appliances and other big-ticket items. Yet they still are willing to shell out for small indulgences and goods that make life more comfortable at home, where they are spending more time.

Recession shoppers also are drawn to items that make them feel safe, both personally and financially.

"The focus on the family hearth is something that has happened in nearly every recession. It's, 'How can I have more fun at home?'" said Paco Underhill, whose company, Envirosell, monitors the behavior of shoppers and sellers across the U.S. and in other countries.

"People are much more focused on their homes and their immediate happiness and they're buying things that they can use themselves — seeds, fishing equipment. Lipstick and chocolate are small rewards that make you feel better."

Profits in the first three months of 2009 at Hershey Co., the

nation's second-largest candy maker, surged 20 percent and beat Wall Street's expectations. Kraft Foods Inc. reported double-digit growth in macaroni and cheese dinners — the consummate comfort food.

Recessions, it seems, are good for love, too. Over the final three months of 2008, condom sales rose 5 percent and Match.com reported its strongest performance in seven years.

But economic woes are as rough on the tummy as they are on the wallet.

Chicago-based market researcher

Information Resources Inc. reports that sales of laxative liquids and powders rose 11.5 percent for the 52 weeks ending April 19. Sales of stomach remedy tablets, including Pepto-Bismol and Phillips brands, climbed 8 percent.

As expected during any economic slump, recession shoppers looking for deals have boosted sales at discount chains such as Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Dollar Tree Inc. sneaked into this year's Fortune 500 for the first time, at No. 499.

There's a general tendency to

See **HOT**, Business 3

On the Web

National Sporting Goods Association www.nsga.org
Information Resources Inc. www.infores.com
Mintel International www.mintel.com/
National Gardening Association www.garden.org
W. Atlee Burpee www.burpee.com
The Wine Institute www.wine-institute.org
Envirosell www.envirosell.com
Leo J. Shapiro & Associates www.ljs.com

Trade wars brewing in economic malaise

Nations are finding creative ways to engage in protectionism

By **Anthony Faiola**
and **Lori Montgomery**
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Is this what the first trade war of the global economic crisis looks like?

Ordered by Congress to "buy American" when spending money from the \$787 billion stimulus package, the town of Peru, Ind., stunned its Canadian supplier by rejecting sewage pumps made in the Toronto area. After a Navy official spotted Canadian pipe fittings in a construction project at Camp Pendleton, Calif., they were hauled out of the ground and replaced with American versions. In recent weeks, other Canadian manufacturers doing business with U.S. state and local governments say they have been besieged with requests to sign affidavits pledging that they will only supply materials made in the USA.

Outrage spread in Canada, with the Toronto Star last week bemoaning "a plague of protectionist measures in the U.S." and Canadian companies openly fretting about having to shift jobs to the United States to meet made-in-the-USA requirements. This week, the Canadians fired back. A number of Ontario towns, with a collective population of nearly 500,000, retaliated with measures effectively barring U.S. companies from their municipal contracts — the first shot in a larger campaign that could shut U.S. companies out of billions of dollars worth of Canadian projects.

This is not your father's

See **TRADE**, Business 3

Dear Mr. Buffett: About those newspapers ...

Dear Mr. Buffett: I don't make a habit of corresponding with directors of The Washington Post Co. — it's not normally a great career move. However, your recent comments about the folly of investing in newspapers received much attention and hit close to home. I hope you won't mind my offering a different view.

There's no denying the newspaper business is in a bad way. Virtually every big city daily has been losing money, advertisers and readers at an alarming rate because of a disruptive new technology — the Internet — and the current recession. A number of major papers are already in bankruptcy protection and many more are available for sale, but there hasn't been much interest. Now that one of the world's shrewdest investors has declared that he wouldn't buy a paper "at any price," the prospects of these papers has become even grimmer.



STEVEN
PEARLSTEIN

I have to say I was surprised by your remark, and not simply because of your lifelong love of the newspaper business. As a "value" investor, you surely must acknowledge that this is the opportunity of a lifetime as far as newspaper investing is concerned. For close to nothing, investors can pick up some of the most respected regional brands in the news business, along with their (shrinking) lists of advertisers and subscribers. They can obtain modern printing presses for a fraction of their original cost. And they are able to hire from a deep pool of talented journalists, pressmen, salesmen and circulation experts desperate for jobs.

Your mentor, Benjamin

See **PEARLSTEIN**, Business 4

Obama's words worry corporate world

Executives and trade groups say they feel less welcome now

By **Charles Babington**
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Relations between President Barack Obama and U.S. corporate leaders have grown tense in recent weeks, with business groups bristling over his sharp rebukes of lenders and multinational companies in particular.

Executives and trade groups that praised Obama's outreach during his post-election transition period say they have felt less welcome since he took office in January. More troubling, they say, are his populist-tinged, sometimes acid critiques of certain sectors, including large companies that keep some profits overseas to reduce their U.S. tax burden.

On Thursday in New Mexico, Obama chastised the credit card industry for sharply raising interest rates or fees with hard-to-find notice. He said consumers should be protected from "all kinds of harsh penalties and fees that you never knew



President Barack Obama speaks at a town hall style gathering in Rio Rancho, N.M., Thursday.

AP photo

about." Some of the dealings by credit card companies, he said, "are not honest."

He tempered his comments, however, saying Americans must be responsible for the debt they incur. "Banks are businesses, too," Obama told a gathering in Albuquerque. "They have a right to insist that timely payments are made."

The gentler remarks, after

weeks of increasingly sharp rhetoric, reflect Obama's efforts to avoid a full-scale war with business interests. He picks his shots, praising companies that embrace his proposals for health care and other matters, while hammering those that oppose him.

Some business leaders have focused on the harsh words lately, saying the

president is being unduly divisive.

"It is traditional class-warfare rhetoric," said Jade West, a lobbyist for the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors. "It's a little bit frightening."

Bill Miller, political director for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, called Obama's

See **OBAMA**, Business 4

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES

Mandi Ware

Mandi Ware is now employed at Arma's Beauty Salon in Twin Falls.

Ware specializes in manicures, pedicures and other salon services.



Ware

Dean Seibel and Rob Sturgill

Dean Seibel and **Rob Sturgill**, financial advisors for Edward Jones in Twin Falls, were recently honored by the firm for their job performance. This recognition earned Seibel and Sturgill invitations to Edward Jones' annual Managing Partner's Conference in May at the firm's regional campus in Phoenix, Ariz. The three-day meeting pools Edward Jones' most successful representatives for a discussion with James D. Weddle, Edward Jones' managing partner, on issues facing the firm and the financial services industry as a whole.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliates, in Canada and the United Kingdom.



Seibel



Sturgill

Kevin L. Hamblin

Dr. Kevin L. Hamblin has recently received an affiliate faculty appointment from the University of Washington School of Dentistry. He has been involved with PRECEDENT (practice-based research collaborative in evidence based dentistry) for the past four years, which is under the direction of the University of Washington and Oregon Health and Science University.

The University of Washington and Oregon Health and Science University are under the direction of the National Institute of Health Cranial and Facial Division in Washington D.C. During the past four years, Hamblin has been on the Executive Committee representing Idaho in the PRECEDENT network which involves dentists from Washington,



Hamblin

Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Montana. He has practiced dentistry in Twin Falls for the past 21 years and will continue his practice while he carries on his work with PRECEDENT.

Truck drivers

The Idaho Trucking Association held its annual Truck Driving Championships for professional truck drivers May 1-2 the Idaho State Police facility in Meridian. There were 69 drivers in this year's competition, which comprises a written test, a pre-trip inspection element in which a driver receives points for discovering and identifying problems with the equipment, and finally, actual driving and maneuvering on a demanding obstacle course.

Drivers who finished in first place in each of the classes of competition win the opportunity to represent Idaho at the National Championships, conducted by the American Trucking Associations, which will be held Aug. 18-22 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Grant A. May from Heyburn, driver for Standlee Hay Company, earned third place in the Flatbed Division. Magic Valley residents placing in the Sleeper Berth Division included, **David H. Hill** from Twin Falls, driver for Kruse Nationwide, second place; **Kenneth R. Perkins** from Buhl, driver for Kruse Nationwide, third place. David H. Hill was also named Top Rookie Division winner.

Mandi Riddle and Tawni Wooten

The Wooten/Riddle Real Estate Team, **Mandi Riddle** and **Tawni Wooten**, of Prudential Idaho Homes and Properties has been named to the prestigious Honor Society for 2008 by Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc., a Prudential Financial, Inc. company. The award recognizes residential sales professionals who exemplified great sales measures in closed residential GCI and commercial GCI units for the year. They received the award at the Prudential Real Estate's Sales Convention held in Las Vegas, Nev.

They also received the Sales Professional Award for 1st Quarter 2008 for being one of the top Sales Professionals in Idaho for Residential Units.

They joined Prudential Idaho Homes and Properties in 2004. They have also

won the President's Circle for 2005, the Leading Edge Society for 2006 and President's Circle for 2007. Wooten is an associate broker, relocation certified and holds the GRI designation. Riddle is certified in relocation and in interior design and has her associates in computer graphic design.

Rod Dixon has been promoted to the rank of driver. He previously held the rank of firefighter for seven years and has been employed by the Fire Department since 2001.

Jesse Bowman was hired by the fire department and started May 4.

Bank employees

Zions Bank has hired **Bryan Furlong** as the Wood River Valley area president and **Jeffra Syms**, **Mary Sfingi** and **Brian Alley** as private bankers. All four employees will be based at the Wood River Valley office, located at 291 Washington Ave. in Ketchum.

Before joining Zions as area president, Furlong was a founding member of First Bank of Idaho, based in Ketchum. Most recently, he was the president of the bank's Wood River Valley division. Furlong is active in the community and serves on the board of directors for the Advocates for Domestic Violence, the Chamber of Commerce, the Wood River Valley Economic Partnership, and is a volunteer coach for Sun Valley Youth Hockey and Sawtooth United Soccer Club. He lives with his wife and two children.

Private banker **Jeffra Syms** has 15 years of experience in private client services, and most recently worked in private banking services and products at First Bank of Idaho. Syms and husband, Kevin, and their daughter have lived in the Wood River Valley for 25 years.

Private banker and mortgage loan officer **Mary Sfingi** has been a resident of the Wood River Valley for more than eight years, and understands the market and the needs of the borrowers in the area. Most recently, she was an underwriter at First Bank of Idaho.

Private banker **Brian Alley** has 10 years of management experience in the Wood River Valley. He most recently worked in private banking for First Bank of Idaho.



Furlong



Syms



Sfingi



Alley



Catalan



Ziegenbein



Whittekiend

Truck driving school graduates

Professional Truck Driving School, located at 2019 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls, announced three recent graduates.

Milo D'Angelo Catalan graduated April 29, **Billy Ziegenbein** graduated April 30, and **Kristen Whittekiend** graduated May 1.

Janice Schorzman

Janice Schorzman has passed all tests and will receive her CISR (Certified Insurance Service Representative) designation. Janice has worked in the accounting field for 30 years. Janice has been with Starley-Leavitt Insurance as head of the accounting department since 2002. Janice has great expertise in the accounting field and invaluable to the agency.



Schorzman

Fire Department employees

Battalion **Chief Dick Capps** of the Twin Falls Fire Department retired after 24 years of service on April 30.

The following individuals have been promoted:

Ron Aguirre has been promoted to the rank of battalion chief. He previously held the rank of Captain for five years and has been employed by the fire department since 1996.

Aaron Hudson has been promoted to the rank of captain. He previously held the rank of driver for one year and has been employed by the department since 1994.

MILESTONES

ST. LUKE'S



Courtesy photo

Qualis Health presented its annual Awards of Excellence in Healthcare Quality in April, recognizing outstanding healthcare providers in Idaho. The awards recognize individuals and organizations that made significant contributions to healthcare through innovative, measurable improvements in care in 2008. St. Luke's Magic Valley presented their project of reduced spinal and orthopedic surgical site infections by implementing the use of Chlorhexidine preoperative showers. Included in this project was providing the tools to complete the showering process, developing patient education on the showering process and how the patients can reduce their risk of infection. Pictured from left, Sharon Wilson, RN, BSN, PMP, director of Medicare Operations for Idaho (Qualis), Jonathan Sugarman, MD, MPH, president and CEO of Qualis Health, Tara Carter LPN, St. Luke's Magic Valley, Patricia Heath RN BSN, St. Luke's Magic Valley, Sandra Dille RN, St. Luke's Magic Valley, and Board Member Karl B. Kurtz (Qualis).



Courtesy photo

St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center has been recognized as a statewide award winner for Excellence in Healthcare Quality for their work in 2008 and 2009 in the area of Medication Safety by developing a bedside bar-coding system. This recognition is awarded by Qualis Health, a private, nonprofit healthcare quality improvement organization dedicated to improving healthcare delivery and outcomes. A cross-functional team from St. Luke's Wood River Leadership, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Performance Improvement accepted the award and presented a workshop on their improvement project at the Annual Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Conference at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel in Boise earlier this month. Ann Hastings, PI Coordinator and Sharon Kensing, CNO of St. Luke's Wood River, accept Qualis Excellence in Healthcare Quality award.

ST. BENEDICTS



Courtesy photo

The Foundation Board of St. Benedict's recently held its annual dinner where achievements for 2008 and goals for 2009 were reviewed by the past president, Judi Scantlin including its most successful golf tournament, purchasing supplies for diabetic education and an ultrasound and completing the cafeteria remodel. Goals for the year include recruitment for the executive board and general membership, along with developing and presenting a new event fundraiser for the community. The new officers for 2009 are Carl Morrell, president; Don Maier, vice president; and Dawn Soto, secretary/treasurer. The 23rd annual "It's The Spirit" Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Sept. 26 at the Jerome Country Club. Information: Gail Henderson at 324-0138 or gailhend@sbfmc.org. Pictured from left, Dawn Soto of First Federal Bank, secretary/treasurer; Judi Scantlin of A&G Irrigation, past chair; Carl Morrell of Hilex Poly, chairman; and Don Maier of DL Evans Bank, vice chair.

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STUDENT AMBASSADORS



Courtesy photo

Student ambassadors **Ryan Quale** and **Derek Duncan** attend their last Monday night meeting with the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce Adult Ambassadors recently. Duncan was given a \$1,000 scholarship by the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce Adult Ambassadors for his commitment to the ambassador program. Pictured from left, kneeling, students **Ryan Quale**, **Derek Duncan**; first row, **Dr. Kathleen McKay**, **Bobbi Pyle**; second row, **Heidi Heil**, **Bobbi Kelley**, **Melissa Pease-Hilarides**, **Melissa Earl**; third row, **Kim Martin**, **Beth Brierley**, **Curt Jones**, **Larry Briggs**, **Steven Bielenberg**, **Jennifer Devine-Hatch**, **Summer Brander**, **Sara Schorzman**, **Sandy Flora**; back row, **Lebron Burton**, **Greg Bedwell**, **Joe Rockne**, **Doug Gagliardi**, **Wayne Bohrn** (ambassador chair), **Pat Campbell**, **David Hickok** and **Donna Bohrn**.

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YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONE

MAGIC VALLEY BANK



Courtesy photo

Magic Valley Bank recently donated \$50 to the Region IV Idaho State Police Association. The funds were raised during Magic Valley Bank's Employee Appreciation Day and donated as part of the Powered by Community Program. Pictured from left: Monica Youree, Corporal Sean Walker, Jessica Walker and Master Corporal John Gibbs.

ZIONS BANK



Courtesy photo

Make savings a priority. That's the message local students heard when Zions Bank volunteers urged tomorrow's consumers to set money aside in honor of National Teach Children to Save Day, April 21. Zions Bank customer service manager Sharon Seifert and financial services representative Kelly Christiansen visited students at North Valley Academy Charter School in Gooding. They warned the students to understand the difference between needs and wants, and how it's better to save money instead of spending it on junk food, toys, or DVDs.



Courtesy photo

Anthony Williamson from Wood River High School won the Wood River-area drawing for a \$100 scholarship savings account from Zions Bank's Pays for A's program. Williamson, a twelfth grader, received the news from Zions Bank's Wood River Valley branch manager, Luawanna Nigra. Open to all Idaho and Utah students ages 13 through 18, Zions Pays for A's offers cash incentives for good grades. Teen students simply take their most recent term-end report cards from the current academic year into any Zions Bank location. They'll receive \$1 per "A" deposited into their Teengreen savings accounts, or .50 cents per "A" if they opt for cash.

MILESTONE

CLAUDE BROWN'S



Courtesy photo

Claude Brown's Home Furnishings/Carpet Cleaning, 202 Main Ave. S. in Twin Falls, cut the red ribbon recently along with the Twin Falls Area Chamber's Ambassadors as they celebrated 90 years in Historic Downtown Twin Falls. They are a member of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. They offer fine home furnishings and carpet cleaning. Information: 733-2108.

CON PAULOS



Courtesy photo

Con Paulos recently donated \$1,500 to BILLS Place from its Fishing for Charity Challenge. BILLS Place is a transition home that will house up to eight young women, who need temporary assistance to transition into responsible, independent living. A community board of volunteers operates the house. Residents are required to be gainfully employed, and participate in community service activities. Individual independent living plans include items such as organizational skills, time and money management, social development, goal setting and problem solving. Pictured from left: Kevin Sandau, board member; Bill Brockman, president; George Hilarides, Team Con Paulos; and Ken Robinette, board member.

MAGIC VALLEY BANK



Courtesy photo

Magic Valley Bank employees recently donated \$300 to Twin Falls High School Business Professionals of America group to attend National Competition in Dallas, Texas. The donated funds were awarded to employees during Magic Valley Bank's Employee Appreciation Day and in turn they were empowered to donate those funds to an organization of their choice. Pictured from left: Monica Youree, Jolene Whitaker, BPA member Dora Renteria, Katie Milam, Margo Hoffmeyer, BPA member Ashley Povey, BPA adviser Lorraine Rapp, Sue Grimsman, Anh Siegel and Larry Hall.

MAGIC VALLEY BANK



Courtesy photo

Magic Valley Bank employees recently donated \$250 to the Filer School District. The funds were awarded to Katie Milam during a quarterly drawing of employees that completed at least four hours of community service. The winning employees were able to make a donation on to an organization of their choice from Magic Valley Bank. Pictured from left: Monica Youree, Filer Elementary principal Matt Mahannah and Katie Milam.

Maurices donates to non-profit

Maurices in Burley is celebrating the anniversary of its store by donating \$500 to a local non-profit organization. "It's a wonderful experience to be a part of the community and we're excited about the coming year. We believe in giving back to the communities we are a part of and want to thank everyone for supporting our store," said Monica Fessenden, store manager.

"What is exciting about this donation is that our customers determine the charity that will receive the award. It's another way for us to support an organization that is important to our customers. Stop in at Maurices, 725 N. Overland Ave. in Burley, and nominate your favorite local charity through May 12.

The nominations will be tallied and the charity with the most customer votes will be awarded the donation.

Trade

Continued from Business 1

trade war, a tit-for-tat over champagne or cheese. With countries worldwide desperately trying to keep and create jobs in the midst of a global recession, the spat between the United States and its normally friendly northern neighbor underscores what is emerging as the biggest threat to open commerce during the economic crisis.

Rather than merely raising taxes on imported goods — acts that are subject to international treaties — nations including the United States are finding creative ways to engage in protectionism through domestic policy decisions that are largely not governed by international law. Unlike a classic trade war, there is little chance of containment through, for example, arbitration at the World Trade Organization in Geneva. Additionally, such moves are more likely to have unintended consequences or even backfire on the stated desire to create domestic jobs.

Take, for instance, Duferco Farrell Corp., a Swiss-Russian partnership that took over a previously bankrupt U.S. steel plant near Pittsburgh in the 1990s and employed 600 people there.

The new buy American provisions, the company said, are being so broadly interpreted that Duferco Farrell is on the verge of shutting down. Part of an increasingly global supply chain that seeks efficiencies by spreading production among multiple nations, it manufactures coils at its Pennsylvania plant using imported steel slabs that are generally not sold commercially in the United States. The partially foreign production process means the company's coils do not fit the current definition of made in the USA — a designation that the stimulus law

requires for thousands of public works projects across the United States.

In recent weeks, its largest client — a steel pipe maker located one mile down the road — notified Duferco Farrell that it would be canceling orders. Instead, the client is buying from companies with 100 percent U.S. production to meet the new stimulus regulations. Duferco has had to furlough 80 percent of its workforce.

"You need to tell me how inhibiting business between two companies located one mile apart is going to save American jobs," said Bob Miller, Duferco Farrell's executive vice president. "I've got 600 United Steel Workers out there who are going to lose their jobs because of this. And you tell me this is good for America?"

The United States is not alone in throwing up domestic policies assailed by critics as protectionist. Britain and the Netherlands, for instance, are forcing banks receiving taxpayer bailouts to jump-start lending at home at the expense of overseas clients.

But the number of measures, both proposed and enacted, from the Obama administration and Congress in recent months has raised an alarm among foreign governments, pundits and media outlets. The buy American provisions in the stimulus package, signed into law in February, were just the beginning. Last week, Obama unveiled a series of proposals aimed at increasing taxes by nearly \$200 billion over the next decade on U.S. companies doing business abroad. At a White House event, Obama said the measures were designed to "close corporate loopholes" that permit companies to "pay lower taxes if you create a job in Bangalore, India, than if you create one in Buffalo, N.Y."

Hot

Continued from Business 1

trade down, according to Leo J. Shapiro & Associates, a consulting firm in Chicago. That means eating dinner at the kitchen table instead of restaurants, buying used cars and shopping at do-it-yourself auto parts stores. It means spending less on clothes. Sales at Goodwill Industries International stores in the U.S. and Canada jumped by 7 percent in March.

"If you're used to eating out, maybe you're now buying a high-end steak at the supermarket," said Bill Patterson, analyst in Chicago with Mintel International, which supplies consumer, product and media intelligence. "If you eat at home mostly, maybe you are going down from the branded product to a private label."

People are not drinking as much beer or wine at bars and restaurants, but they haven't stopped. The Wine Institute says that despite the recession, U.S. sales of California wines totaled about 467 million gallons last year — 2 percent more than 2007. But people are looking closely at cheaper selections: The overall retail value of California wine sales fell slightly from 2007, the institute said.

Those on the go are not

shying away from footing the bill for sturdy running shoes. Sales increased 2 percent in 2008, said Tom Doyle at the National Sporting Goods Association in Mount Prospect, Ill.

"Runners aren't going to hurt themselves to save a few bucks," he said. Likewise, sales of bicycle helmets are up as parents continue to spend money to protect youngsters, he said.

The financial meltdown produced more interest in home safes. Coin dealers are awash in customers as investors big and small see the safety of gold.

Sunshine Minting Inc. in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, which supplies gold blanks to the U.S. Mint, doubled its work force in 2008.

"It just came on like gang-busters," said president Tom Power, who struggled to hire, train and get new equipment to handle demand that doubled, then tripled. "You can't just flip a switch and jump up production overnight."

Guns are selling well, too. Total firearms sales rose 27.5 percent at Smith & Wesson for the three months ending Jan. 31. It's not a sudden interest in hunting behind the increase; hunting firearm sales at the company declined during the quarter by 46 percent.

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India's young entrepreneurs see opportunity

By Rama Lakshmi
The Washington Post

NEW DELHI — A little more than a year ago, Rajesh Razdan quit his cushy, well-paying job with a global cellphone company here to launch a small start-up that would offer a slew of new services to cellphone users. India's recent economic boom, he said, was the perfect setting in which to become an entrepreneur.

For his new venture, mCarbon, Razdan, 33, had developed sophisticated call-management technology that included blocking unwanted calls on cellphones — a feature he hoped to pitch to high-powered corporate executives.

By the time his niche service was ready, however, the worldwide financial meltdown had begun, drying up cash flows.

He had to give the product a new spin.

"In a slowing economy, everybody looks for something extra for their money, so we quickly repackaged it as a service for the masses, not just high-end users," Razdan said recently. "We said, 'Our service will help you reclaim those personal moments that are lost when the cellphone rings or vibrates. When you are meditating or talking to your son at the breakfast table or driving — the service will allow only your preferred callers to get through to you.'"

Airtel, a large Indian telecommunications company that quickly signed on as an mCarbon client, is planning to launch the "do not disturb" service nationwide soon.

The economic slowdown is the first major challenge faced by India's new crop of entrepreneurs, forcing them to consider different business models and look for untapped markets.

Many, like Razdan, belong to the first generation of



RAMA LAKSHMI/Washington Post

Rajesh Razdan, 33, right, with colleagues at his new start-up that offers technological services to cellphone users. The economic slowdown is the first major challenge faced by India's new crop of entrepreneurs, forcing them to consider different business models and look for untapped markets.

risk-takers, who quit safe jobs and defied their families to launch start-ups in the rapidly expanding economy of the past decade. But after four years of growth topping 9 percent, the rate is expected to slow to about 6 percent this year.

The sagging economy, however, appears not to have curbed the dreams of India's budding entrepreneurs. Analysts say that although the amount invested in start-ups dipped in the first quarter of 2009, the number of deals did not.

"These start-ups are a product of India's economic boom," said Arun Sahay, chairman of the three-year old Center for Entrepreneurship in Gurgaon, outside New Delhi. "The willingness to take risks has

risen. For so long, Indian universities produced only job seekers. But now we want entrepreneurs, who are job creators."

"With the economic slowdown, entrepreneurship has become a real career option, and students are queuing up," added Sahay, whose center aims to help young people figure out how to turn their ideas into lucrative realities. "There is a fear that everybody is not going to find a job when they graduate."

Still, entrepreneurs say, India's seed-fund and venture capital network remains inadequate, while potential investors from abroad face numerous bureaucratic, legal and tax hurdles.

Many of the new entrepreneurs also face resistance

from their middle-class families, which push them to seek secure salaried jobs

rather than risk starting up a business.

"My parents' generation

sees risk as a gamble. My generation sees it as an opportunity," said Arun Balakrishnan, 33, who graduated from a business school last summer and decided to start a venture with a classmate. "My mother wept daily. Relatives said, 'You are so intelligent, why do you want to do business?' It just isn't respectable enough. My partner and I literally begged our parents to give us two years to prove ourselves."

They launched Zibika.com, a retail Web site seeking to tap India's vast, underserved insurance market, with a small amount of seed funding from a California-based investor. Balakrishnan calls the business "slowdown-proof."

"Indian start-ups are showing a certain maturity and pragmatism in reacting to the slowdown," said Alok Mittal, managing director of Canaan, a Gurgaon-based venture capital fund. "They are scaling back their ambitious, long-term projects and aiming for work that brings quick revenue so that they do not have to seek fresh rounds of funds during the slowdown."

"India is still growing," he added. "There is a lot of room to grow for start-ups. Nobody is folding up."

MAGIC VALLEY FLY FISHERS 40TH ANNUAL BANQUET AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE REPORT

Our 2009 banquet drew 162 attendees and netted over \$7,500! A big "Thank You" to all MVFF donors. The Century Club Donors gave \$100 or more to support the banquet!! Magic Valley Fly Fishers urge you to support the following merchants, companies and individuals whose generous support made this event possible and such a huge success!!!

*Adams Petroleum	Burley	Gooding Title & Escrow	Gooding	Robert Jones Realty	Twin Falls
*Alexander Dental Group	Twin Falls	Gourd Garden Creations	Caldwell	Rock Creek Restaurant	Twin Falls
Anglers	Boise	*Gowan Chemical Co.	Boise	*Rod McDowell	Boise
*Batise Springs Anglers	Pocatello	*Hagerman Ducks Unlimited	Hagerman	*Ron Ellis	American Falls
Bayer Crop Science	Kimberly	*Idaho Angler	Boise	**Scott Stanton	Hagerman
Beacon Burger & Brew	Twin Falls	*Ironman Metal Products	Twin Falls	*Scott McKinney	Twin Falls
*Best Western	Twin Falls	Jaker's	Twin Falls	*Salmon River Scenic Run	Challis
*Betsy Morishita	Twin Falls	**Jason Hicks	Twin Falls	*Silver Sage Realty	Hagerman
Black Rock Clothier	Buhl	Java	Twin Falls	*Simms Fishing Products	Bozeman, MT
*Blue Fly Café	Boise	**JC Rods	Kimberly	*Smith Action Optics	Ketchum
*Brant Oswald Fly Fishing	Livingston, MT	*Jerome Veterinary Clinic	Jerome	Snake River Grill	Hagerman
*Brian O'Keefe	Powell Butte, OR	*Jimmy's All Season Angler	Idaho Falls	Snake River Tire	Twin Falls
Buck's Bags	Boise	**Josh Barron	Buhl	Starbucks	Twin Falls
Buffalo Café	Twin Falls	*Ketchum On The Fly	Ketchum	Steve Christiansen	Kimberly
Carolyn Rambough	Jerome	Krengel's True Value	Twin Falls	*Steve's Electric	Burley
*Chad Chorney	Jerome	Lamb Weston/ConAgra	Twin Falls	Steve's Taxidermy	Twin Falls
Clear Springs Foods	Buhl	Les Schwab	Twin Falls	*Stitchin' Time	Twin Falls
Crittendon Social Club	Montello, NV	LL Bean	Freeport, ME	Sturtevant's	Ketchum
*Dale W. Quigley, MBA	Twin Falls	*Loon Outdoors	Boise	**Sportsman's Warehouse	Twin Falls
Northwestern Mutual Financial Network	Twin Falls	*Lost River Outfitters	Ketchum	*Sunrise Landscape Design	Twin Falls
D&D Tire	Twin Falls	*LY Cattle Co.	Gooding	*The Fly Shop	Redding, CA
*D.L. Evans Bank	Burley	Magic Valley Printing	Twin Falls	*The Nature Conservancy	Picabo
*Dr. Tak Ming Ko	Twin Falls	*Morgan Buckert	Ketchum	*Times News	Twin Falls
*Dr. Verlyn Broek and Dr. Jennifer Ruprecht	Twin Falls	*Murphy Ag Service	Burley	*Timothy Thompson Dentistry	Twin Falls
*Dry Creek Outfitters	Murtaugh	Olson's Ski Shop	Twin Falls	Twin Falls Title & Escrow	Twin Falls
*Early Morning Elk Ranch	Twin Falls	**Professional Frame	Twin Falls	**Wildlife Watercolors	Idaho Falls
Ed Tarter	Boise	Prudential Idaho Homes & Property	Twin Falls	*Unit 54	Burley
Elevation Sports	Twin Falls	**Purdy RR Ranch/Picabo Livestock Co.	Picabo	1000 Springs Park District	Hagerman
*Farm Credit Services	Twin Falls	**Red Shed Fly Shop	Peck	*93 Golf Ranch	Jerome
*Ferguson, Inc.	Twin Falls	*Rio Products	Idaho Falls		
G & R Office Products	Burley	River Adventure & Toys	Twin Falls		
*Glanbia Foods	Twin Falls	Riverborn Fly Co.	Boise		
*Good Nature Publishing	Seattle, WA				

**Denotes \$100 Club
**Denotes \$500 Club*

Pearlstein

Continued from Business 1

Graham, was always on the lookout for what he called "cigar butts" — cheap and unloved companies that had been tossed aside but still had a couple of good puffs left in them. If the Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Rocky Mountain News, Chicago Tribune, and Boston Globe don't qualify as "cigar butts," I can't imagine what would.

I realize, of course, that looking at current and projected cash flows, it is easy to conclude that buying a paper would simply be buying the right to "unending losses," as you put it at the Berkshire Hathaway annual meeting. Many of these papers are already caught in a death spiral in which further cuts in the quality and quantity of news content and marketing support will only lead to further declines in readership and advertising.

From an investment standpoint, the better way to look at these properties is to think of buying all of them. In a single stroke, and with a relatively modest amount of money, a strategic buyer could assemble a national syndicate with millions of readers capable of achieving the economies of scale that eluded our badly fragment-

ed industry. And with the near-death experience of these papers still fresh in the minds of readers and employees, a forceful new owner would have an opportunity to offer a different set of products based on a different and more-sustainable business model.

There are lots of ideas floating around for what this new model might look like. Here are mine:

- A smartly designed daily tabloid offering high-quality local, national and international news and opinion aimed at serious news consumers that on weekdays could be read in an hour. Revenue would come from a limited amount of high-priced display advertising and a daily newsstand price roughly equal to that of a small coffee at Starbucks. Local pages would be produced by a modest local news staff, with national and international pages from the syndicate.

- An advertising-supported tabloid aimed at casual readers offering short news stories, entertainment listings, sports scores, personality items and given away weekdays for free at subway stops and street corners.

- A partly free, partly paid Web site that carries the local banner with a full

offering of local content and advertising, but operates from a single national platform.

This is no place to lay out the numbers, but I've done a quick back-of-the-envelope pro forma that suggests such a syndicate could be profitable and offer a decent return. I realize it's not the typical Berkshire Hathaway investment. But surely it presents an interesting opportunity for an existing news organization looking for scale or scope, or a private-equity firm working with a network of local limited partners.

There is a lot that remains uncertain in our industry, and it may take a decade to shake out, but eventually the news business will again be stable and profitable, with a handful of global companies providing English-language content through whatever channels customers choose. My hunch is that one of those survivors will be the outfit that had the guts and the good sense to roll up big-city newspapers at today's fire-sale prices.

Respectfully,
Steven Pearlstein

Steven Pearlstein is a financial columnist for the Washington Post. He may be reached at pearlsteins@washpost.com.

Obama

Continued from Business 1

remarks "an oversimplification of the real world."

Particularly in the areas of finance and taxation, Obama's language often seems to echo, and perhaps fuel, public anger over matters such as the large bonuses paid to executives of AIG, an insurance giant that was bailed out with public money.

When the president called for ending tax breaks for corporations doing business overseas, he assailed a "broken tax sys-

tem, written by well-connected lobbyists on behalf of well-heeled interests and individuals."

In proposing to overhaul college loans, Obama said, "We have a student loan system that's rigged to reward private lenders without any risk."

After he accused a handful of Chrysler debt holders of seeking "an unjustified taxpayer-funded bailout," some reportedly received death threats.

Rutgers University political scientist Ross Baker says

Obama uses such pointed language to create an us-against-them dynamic in which he aligns himself with average Americans and depicts his opponents as selfish powers working just for themselves. Obama's targets, Baker says, usually are unsympathetic and faceless corporations or hedge funds.

"If you use inflammatory, populist language," Baker said in an interview, "it's best to use it on organizations or interests that aren't terribly popular."

Magic Valley Fly Fishers is a non-profit organization

Magic Valley Fly Fishers is a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation through education. Members actively work to promote, preserve, protect, and enhance fly fisheries. We support education and community involvement for the betterment of fishing and conservation in the Magic Valley and the state of Idaho. MVFF is affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited.

MVFF Funds Support These Activities:

1. Working with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Environmental Quality, other public agencies and private land owners to improve and promote fly fishing in Idaho and the Magic Valley area.
2. Educating the public regarding fly fishing and conservation issues.
3. Sponsoring Magic Valley Duck Tails, a youth fishing club open to all kids ages 6-16.
4. Supporting "Trout in the Classroom" projects in Idaho Schools.
5. Fencing riparian zones and maintaining water quality.
6. Creating lake & stream structure for habitat improvement.
7. Controlling litter along rivers, streams, and lakes.
8. Instructing fly fishing, fly tying, and related classes.
9. Building handicapped access for fishing.
10. Supporting the Ruel Stayner Scholarship program for College of Southern Idaho fisheries students. Recipients for 2009 are Miles Mullenix & Kyle Gardner.

Magic Valley Fly Fishers meet the third Thursday of each month, October through May at 7pm at the Rock Creek Restaurant, Twin Falls. Guests are always welcome. Please join us!

magicflyfishers@yahoo.com

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Businesses flock to e-verify immigrant program

Obama proposes to increase funding for Web-based identification program

By Anna Gorman
Los Angeles Times

The federal government's E-Verify program that seeks to reduce the hiring of illegal immigrants is becoming increasingly popular, with 1,000 new businesses signing up each week despite concerns about its reliability.

More than 124,000 businesses are signed up for the Web-based identification program that enables employers to check whether an employee is authorized to work, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Employers enrolled include restaurants, hospitals and temporary employment agencies.

Last week, the Obama administration announced that it wanted Congress to allocate \$12 million more to the program in the next fiscal year, bringing the bud-

get for the program to \$112 million. And Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said in a congressional hearing that the program is "a cornerstone of workplace enforcement across the country."

"E-Verify is an essential tool for employers to maintain a legal workforce," she said in written testimony. "Nevertheless, room for improvement always remains."

Napolitano said the government plans to improve accuracy of the databases and to strengthen the training of employers to protect workers against discrimination.

E-Verify, run by the Department of Homeland Security, uses government databases to check the names, dates of birth and Social Security numbers of new hires to determine whether those individuals

are eligible to work in the U.S. The program is voluntary, though a few states have passed laws requiring all businesses to participate, and several others mandate its use by public employers.

At the end of June 2009, all federal contractors and subcontractors will be required to begin using it. Last fiscal year, more than 6.6 million names were checked under the program, according to the citizenship agency.

E-Verify is an effective way to attack the jobs magnet for illegal immigrants, said Roy Beck, executive director of Numbers USA, which favors stricter controls on immigration. Beck said he hopes the increase in funding will result in more employers signing up.

"If there aren't jobs, they stop coming," he said. "We would rather solve the immigration problems not

with people wearing uniforms and guns but simply with papers, just running someone through the computer."

But Angela Kelley, vice president for immigration policy at the Center for American Progress think tank, said E-Verify is not "ready for prime time."

"Supporters frame this as an immigration enforcement solution," she said. "It's really American workers having to ask the government for permission to work."

Immigration attorney Peter Schey said that though the program may be politically popular, it is unlikely to solve the issue of illegal immigration and will only push more undocumented workers underground.

"They won't leave the country because of E-Verify," he said.

Business groups generally

support E-Verify but criticize the error rate. The government reports that the program has a 96 percent accuracy rate. But even a small error rate could disqualify millions of workers if the program were to be expanded to the entire workforce, said Randel Johnson, vice president of labor, immigration and employee benefits for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Despite that, many businesses want to be on the right side of the law and are willing to try out the system if it helps protect them from inadvertently hiring undocumented workers, said Tamar Jacoby, president of ImmigrationWorks USA, a national federation of employers.

But Jacoby said there is an even bigger problem for employers.

"We can't have a workable system of E-Verify if we

don't have a legal immigrant workforce," she said.

That's why many agricultural companies haven't signed on, said Bryan Little, director for labor affairs for the California Farm Bureau. Little said he worries about having enough people to work the fields.

"It's not in our benefit to hire illegal workers," he said. "The way the marketplace looks right now, farmers don't have a better option available to them."

Employment service AppleOne Inc., which places workers at a variety of businesses, started using E-Verify at all of its California branches in 2007. Human resources manager Linda Madigan said it shifted the burden of validating documents from the company to the government.

"The E-Verify program is one of the best things we did," Madigan said. "The (branches) don't have to look at the documents anymore and decide if it looks right or not."



Los Angeles Times photo

CEO John Replogle proves Burt's Bees is still green by dining on avocado butter hair treatment. 'If you can't put it into your mouth, you shouldn't put it on your skin.'

If it's none of your beeswax, maybe it should be

By David Zucchino
Los Angeles Times

DURHAM, N.C. — Logic suggests that boutique lip balms, hand creams and shampoos that cost double competitors' brands would be among the first luxuries jettisoned by strapped shoppers these days.

But low-tech Burt's Bees is making money and advertising for more workers here among the North Carolina pines, even in a state with the nation's fifth-highest jobless rate.

Burt's Bees, which says it uses only natural ingredients, has averaged 25 percent compounded growth each year since its founding 25 years ago, according to Chief Executive John Replogle. He says sales have doubled in the past three years. With 400 employees, the company has hired 30 people this year and intends to hire 30 more by December.

"We've been pretty much like a Swiss train here," Replogle said in the company's modern offices next to Research Triangle Park, the state's sprawling corporate technology center, where layoffs are rampant.

How does a quirky company founded by a reclusive beekeeper and a single mother — rooted in a 1970s' anti-corporate, granola ethos — succeed when nearby corporate titans are struggling to survive?

Burt's Bees hit on its recession-proof formula years ago. It went natural before natural was cool. And it made specialty personal care products before such items went mainstream.

No matter how bad the economy gets, "It's the small luxuries, the small indulgences, that people are reluctant to trade off," Replogle said.

The company touts itself as the nation's leading maker of natural personal care products. Once limited

to natural food stores in fringe markets, Burt's Bees is now sold in big box stores nationwide (Wal-Mart, Target, etc.) and in 12 countries. The company moved last weekend to a new corporate headquarters in downtown Durham three times the size of its former space.

Replogle says Burt's Bees is riding a dual wave: More consumers want products they think are good for them — and also won't harm the environment. "We play in both those spaces," he said.

Replogle says internal company estimates show the household penetration rate for natural personal care products was 6 percent five years ago. Today it's 12 percent and is projected to hit 25 percent in a few years.

More than 40 percent of Burt's Bees products contain 100 percent natural ingredients, the company says. The entire line of 150 products averages 99 percent, with a goal of 100 percent by 2011. Burt's Bees says it has never used harmful additives, and embraces green technology.

Waste oils are converted to biodiesel, and plant residue is converted to compost at the company's 100,000-square-foot processing plant in Durham, said manufacturing manager Keith Kochersperger. The plant has energy-efficient lights and waterless urinals.

But a primary ingredient — pelletized beeswax — is shipped from Ethiopia and other African nations, expanding the carbon footprint of a company that pledges to be entirely carbon-neutral by 2020.

According to Burt's Bee's lore, the company began after Burt Shavitz, then 49, a reclusive beekeeper who lived in a converted turkey coop and sold honey in pickle jars from the back of a truck, picked up a hitchhiker, Roxanne Quimby, 34,

"It's the small luxuries, the small indulgences, that people are reluctant to trade off."

— Burt's Bees CEO
John Replogle

a divorced mother of two, on a Maine roadside in 1984.

The two moved in together and began selling Quimby's hand-cut candles and Shavitz's honey at New England craft fairs. In 1988, Quimby began selling lip balm made from warm beeswax and clove oil. Burt's Bees incorporated in 1989, with Quimby holding a 70 percent stake and Shavitz 30 percent.

The new company's first factory was in an abandoned Maine schoolhouse. Burt's Bees moved to North Carolina in 1993. There, the couple had a falling out, and Shavitz moved back to Maine.

In 1999, according to news reports, Quimby bought out Shavitz for a fraction of what his stake would soon be worth. In 2003, Quimby sold 80 percent of the company to AEA Investors for a reported \$146 million. She has been quoted since as saying she paid Shavitz \$4 million from that sale. She sold her remaining 20 percent share when Clorox bought the company in 2007 for a reported \$925 million.

Shavitz (that's his bearded face on many Burt's Bees products) still lives in a converted turkey coop with no phone and minimal plumbing or electricity — "a pretty carbon-free lifestyle," according to Replogle, who has visited him. Shavitz is an adviser to the company and makes promotional appearances, he said.

RNC chief: Gay marriage will burden small business

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — Republicans can reach a broader base by recasting gay marriage as an issue that could dent pocketbooks as small businesses spend more on health care and other benefits, GOP Chairman Michael Steele said Saturday.

Steele said that was just an example of how the party can retool its message to appeal to young voters and minorities without sacrificing conservative principles. Steele said he used the argument while chatting on a flight with a college student who described herself as fiscally conservative but socially liberal.

"Now all of a sudden I've

got someone who wasn't a spouse before, that I had no responsibility for, who is now getting claimed as a spouse that I now have financial responsibility for," Steele told Republicans at

the state convention in traditionally conservative Georgia. "So how do I pay for that? Who pays for that? You just cost me money!"

As Steele talked about ways the party could position itself, he also poked fun at his previous pledge to give the GOP a "hip-hop makeover."

"You don't have to wear your pants cut down here or the big bling," he said.



Steele

Vermont and Iowa have legalized gay marriage in recent weeks, and a Quinnipiac University poll released in April found that 57 percent of people questioned support civil unions that provide marriage-like rights. Although 55 percent said they opposed gay marriage, the poll indicated a shift toward acceptance.

The chief of the RNC has been criticized by some social conservatives in recent weeks after GQ magazine quoted him as saying he opposed gay marriage but wasn't going to "beat people upside the head about it."

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LaVern Young

LAPOINT, Utah — LaVern Young was born Nov. 25, 1926, in Delores, Colo., to Ray Warner and Elizabeth Clarissa Clark Young. LaVern was the first born and two years later Robert (Bob) was born, followed by Dean and then the only sister, Norma Rae. LaVern was raised in the Blanding/Monticello area. He graduated from high school in Blanding the same year he met his bride to be. In 1949, he married Ruth Ada Norton and they settled outside Moab, Utah. They had their first child, Larry, the next year. Mickey was born in a couple of years later, then their only daughter, Donna, in 1955, and their fourth child, Clark, was born May 1958.

In 1958, LaVern took his family to the Manti Temple and had his marriage solemnized and his family sealed to him. Shortly after Clark was born, they moved to Wellington, Utah, where they raised their children and LaVern worked for the BLM and completed his FBI training and multiple other trainings regarding law enforcement.

Throughout his life, he enjoyed the outdoors, ranch work and thoroughbred horses. He enjoyed raising thoroughbred horses and running them on the track with his son, Clark, as their trainer. LaVern had a wonderful sense of humor and loved the Gospel, America, his family and children more than about anything. He enjoyed work in unusual fields and did them well.

LaVern was a wild horse and burro specialist and gathered them for adoption in the deserts of California. After retiring from the BLM, he moved Ruth and their foster daughter, Juanita, to Idaho, where he helped Mickey with rodeo stock contracting. In 1989, LaVern and Ruth, along with Donna, opened Young's Wen Zhong health store in Jerome, Idaho.

He was Head of Security for presidential candidate Bo Gritz, while Bo was in southern Idaho campaigning in 1992. In 1996, LaVern moved Ruth and his 'side-kick,' Morgan, to Price, Utah, where they continued to raise cows and horses, as well as work as a ranch manager. LaVern enjoyed taking Morgan hunting, on endurance rides and raising 4-H calves.

In 2001, LaVern had never lost his cowboy spirit or his talents as, at 75 years of age, he roped a six-point bull elk, while riding a half-broke thoroughbred horse. ...how did it end?? ...Yes, with LaVern on top!

In 2002, LaVern, Ruth and Morgan moved to Deep Creek, where they could have their own peace and quiet ranch life. They enjoyed the church and the wholesome life that the LaPoint community offered.

Ruth passed away Jan. 17, 2004. LaVern was never the same after her passing and her absence left a major void in his world.

He enjoyed his grandchildren and his horses, and he loved being surrounded by family. He had opportunity the last couple of years to go hunting and spend time outdoors with Larry. LaVern was pleased to be the grandfather of 13 and the great-grandfather of 23. Then LaVern Lowell Young, 82 years, returned to heaven to join his love, Ruth, May 14, 2009.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and brother, Dean.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, at the LaPoint LDS Church in LaPoint, Utah. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the Hullinger Mortuary in Roosevelt, Utah, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Tuesday at the church. Burial will be in the LaPoint Cemetery, next to his sweetheart. Online condolences may be sent to hm@hullingermortuary.com.

Ralph William Heck

Ralph William Heck, 71, of Twin Falls, passed away in his home May 15, 2009, due to complications from lung cancer.

Ralph was born Nov. 21, 1937, in Twin Falls, to Martha Leona Roszell and James Hayes Heck, the sixth of seven children. Ralph was married to June Teresa Nye in 1957 and through their union was born a daughter. Ralph later married Dollie Margaret Kayes on Sept. 1, 1959, and through their union eight children were born, four boys and four girls. He was a loving, devoted and dedicated father who, while definitely not having the patience of Job, did have the caring, understanding, and forgiveness that all children need from their parents. However, Ralph was a dotting, patient and indulgent grandfather to his many grandchildren who knew Grandpa would protect them from their parents.

Ralph joined the Marines in 1954 and upon discharge from the USMC he worked in the family masonry business, construction, Idaho Frozen Foods, loaded trucks, and drove truck. He was a hard worker who dedicated himself to providing for his family.

Ralph enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping with family and friends. In addition to being a sportsman, he enjoyed being home and playing cards, sometimes night after night, and the occasional trip to Jackpot. Ralph was always up for a family celebration as well and very much enjoyed being surrounded by his children



and grandchildren.

After his retirement, Ralph was a regular at the Depot Grill, where he spent many an afternoon visiting (harassing) his friends and drinking coffee, while giving the waitresses a hard time. He was a caretaker of his grandchildren and lifesaver for many of his children, while they worked or attended college. Ralph was a simple man who didn't ask for or expect much but gave much to everyone around him. He will be greatly missed.

Ralph is survived by his wife, June Teresa Heck of Twin Falls; six of his nine children, David (Gertie) Heck of Buhl, Timothy Heck, Kerry (Terry) Pratt, Debbie Heck, Randy Heck and Sarah (Cliff) Heck-Towne, all of Twin Falls; and son-in-law, Burke Neibaur of Rigby. Also surviving are many beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brother, John (Cloreen) Heck of Twin Falls; sister, Mary (LaRae) Brown of Richfield; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ralph was welcomed into heaven by the loving arms of his daughters, Shelly Heck Neibaur and Rona June Jiminez; and son, Rusty Heck; his parents, Martha and James Heck; and four brothers.

A celebration of Ralph's life will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls, with an inurnment to follow at the Twin Falls Cemetery. Condolences may be made at www.magicvalleyfuneralhome.com.

Beth Harper

BURLEY — Beth Hinson Harper, age 78, of Burley, passed away Saturday, March 28, 2009, at Hillcrest Assisted Living in Boise.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, at the Burley First Presbyterian



Church, 2100 Burton Ave., with the Rev. Dr. David Henry officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Cecil (Tom) Thomas

On May 13, 2009, Cecil (Tom) Thomas passed from this life into the waiting arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ at his home surrounded by his family.

Tom was born Feb. 15, 1926, in Gardena, Calif., to Doris Slater and Cecil Dewitt Thomas Sr. He attended school and, at age 17, enlisted in the Navy in 1943. He served with the B-24 Squadron VP117 off the carrier USS Tarawa, and in the South Pacific Islands of Saipan and Tinian. As a nose gunner, Tom is credited with several successful missions, earning him a Distinguished Flying Cross and a Presidential Citation.

On Feb. 26, 1945, Tom married his high school sweetheart, Delores Molle. They lived in Bellflower, Fullerton and Fallbrook, Calif., before settling in Heyburn in 1973, and finally Twin Falls.

Tom and Dee were married 64 years, and raised a family of three sons, Gary, Ron and Ryan, and two daughters, Jan and Sharon. The family enjoyed camping, boating and fishing trips together for over 40 years.

Tom owned and operated Tommy's Garage in Burley with his sons for many years before retiring in 1978. He came out of retirement several times to be able to purchase a new boat or motor home.

Tom's favorite pastime was fishing. From opening day to the close of the fishing season, no excuse was



ever needed to get on the water and wet a line. One of his greatest pleasures was sharing his love of fishing with his grandkids.

Besides fishing, Tom loved working with wood and building camping furniture for family and friends. Any spare time was spent in his workshop putting on his latest project. He also enjoyed watching old westerns and listening to music.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Gary (Bette) Thomas; daughter-in-law, Tami Thomas; and great-granddaughter, Aimee Heinemann. He is survived by his wife, Delores; his sister, Shirley Bolton; daughters, Jan and Sharon (Bruce Stephens); and sons, Ron (Joy) and Ryan (Karen); 13 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Tom was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, serving as an elder in the past. His love for his Lord and Savior was reflected in the way he loved his wife, raised his family and lived his life.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, May 18, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2055 Filer Ave. E. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Tom's name to Immanuel Lutheran Church. Arrangements are under the care of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at www.magicvalleyfuneralhome.com.

James Lawrence Crofts

BURLEY — James Lawrence Crofts, age 79, of Burley, passed away Friday, May 15, 2009, at River Ridge Care and Rehabilitation Center in Twin Falls.

He was born Nov. 5, 1929, in the Emerson District of Heyburn. He was the second child and the only son of Leslie Henry and Ida Pearl Moore Crofts. He received his education in Heyburn and Burley. Lawrence loved people and enjoyed visiting with family and friends. He worked several years at the Deseret Industries and enjoyed walking. He was often seen traversing back and forth throughout the community during his daily routine excursions. Even though he was challenged from birth, he enjoyed looking and studying books. Lawrence will truly be missed by his family and his many acquaintances.



Lawrence was a member of the Burley 1st Ward of the LDS Church.

He is survived by his three nieces, Karen (Irv) Gehres of Peoria, Ariz., Terri-Ann Campbell (his wonderful guardian and care giver) of Burley, and Carla (Richard) Gilbert of Jerome; six great-nieces; one great-nephew; and several great-great-nieces and nephews. Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Donna Campbell and her husband, Robert Campbell.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, where friends and family may call one hour prior to the service. Officiating will be Bishop Dan Alvey. Burial will follow at the Gem Memorial Gardens.

SERVICES

Robert (Bob) Leonard Stolk of Burley, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Monday at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Ethel Nutting of Jerome, memorial service at 2 p.m. Monday at the First Baptist Church, 308 First Ave. E. in Jerome (Hove) Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome).

Helen Allegretto of Twin

Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Edwards Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Judith Ann Lowry of Buhl, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Buhl First Christian Church; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

DEATH NOTICES

Heina Flight

Heina Flight, 92, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at River Ridge Care and Rehabilitation Center in Twin Falls.

A celebration of life will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 23, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Torrin Beehler

Torrin Skye Lynn Marie Beehler, infant daughter of David Michael and Shanna Lynn Beehler, died Thursday, May 14, 2009, at a local hospital.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 20, at Eternal Life Christian Center, 451

Orchard Drive in Twin Falls (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Linda M. Akers

BURLEY — Linda Marie Akers, 20, of Burley, died Thursday, May 14, 2009, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Arrangements will be announced by Hansen Payne Mortuary

Bertha L. Reece

Bertha L. Reece, 83, of Twin Falls, died Saturday, May 16, 2009, at River Ridge Care and Rehabilitation Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Linda Sue Evans

Linda Sue Evans, 62, of Twin Falls, passed away May 9, 2009, in Jerome of an extended illness.

She was born April 3, 1947, in Gary, Ind., the daughter of Andrew and Verla Evans. Prior to her retirement in 2007, Linda worked for Dell Computers in Twin Falls. Linda enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren. Prior to becoming ill, Linda enjoyed to garden. She was also passionate about skin care, selling Avon at one time. During her treatment, she volunteered at The Wig Center at St. Luke's Mountain States Tumor Institute.

Surviving are her daughter, Andrea (Ben) Alexander of Jerome and Veronica (Jeff) Delmar of Twin Falls; stepson, Ron (Debra) Crain of San Diego, Calif.; and



eight grandchildren, Matthew, Kristen and Kelly Alexander, Jacob, Andrew and Nathan Delmar, and Orlando and Ryan Crain. Linda was preceded in death by her parents. She will be loved and missed by all who knew and loved her.

A service of remembrance will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls. Private family inurnment will follow at a later date.

The family would like to thank the staff at St. Luke's Mountain States Tumor Institute for their loving care and support shown toward Linda and her family. Condolences may be made at www.magicvalleyfuneralhome.com.

For obituary rates and information

Ccall 735-3266 Monday through Saturday.

Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

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Utah's Huntsman seeks more moderate Republican Party

By Brock Vergakis and Beth Fouhy
Associated Press writers

SALT LAKE CITY — Republicans seeking a path out of the political wilderness are eyeing Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman, a Mormon who's nudged the conservative stronghold in a more moderate direction on the environment and gay rights. He's drawn praise from President Obama, whose administration he just agreed to join.

Obama on Saturday named the 49-year-old Huntsman as his choice to be ambassador to China. "What Jon brings to this post isn't just a steadfast commitment to advancing the interests of the American people. It's a lifetime of knowledge and experience that will help advance this important partnership," the president said at the White House with Huntsman at his side.

The popular governor has spoken publicly of the need to open the Republican Party to a wider range of view-



AP photo

Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman speaks during an interview about his stance on civil unions, Feb. 10 in Salt Lake City.

points if it is to attract younger voters. He's won praise from party elders, including 2008 GOP presidential nominee John McCain, who called the governor a potentially promising contender in 2012.

Huntsman has earned the respect of Obama's 2008 campaign manager, David Plouffe, whose election operation helped bring millions of new voters into the Democratic Party.

Plouffe said Huntsman is a Republican who "seems to understand the party has to adjust — not stubbornly believe that everything is OK and it is the country that has to change."

Huntsman, a married father of seven who made millions running his family's chemical company, is taking the sudden attention in stride.

"People are unsettled, they're looking to the future,

they're trying to find a sense of direction and I don't know if in my 30 years of party involvement that I've ever seen or heard of a period quite like this before," Huntsman told The Associated Press in an interview at the governor's mansion.

Asked frequently whether he will seek the presidency, Huntsman always demurs, saying it would be premature to speculate about the future.

Huntsman's path to the presidency may not be easy. He's angered conservatives on a number of issues.

He signed an initiative that would set a regional cap-and-trade effort to reduce global warming. Over the objection of many in heavily Mormon Utah, Huntsman loosened the state's restrictive liquor laws to make it a more appealing destination for visitors.

Most notably, he has said he favors civil unions for gay couples even though he backed a state constitutional

amendment passed in 2004 that prohibited same-sex marriage.

Huntsman has begun feeling the heat for his apparent leftward tilt.

Officials in Michigan last month canceled a GOP county fundraiser where Huntsman was to speak; they said he had abandoned important party principles.

The move was applauded by the American Family Association of Michigan, which has worked to ban gay marriages.

"In terms of who should be a leader of the party, you would expect them ... to be faithful to the principles of the platform," said the group's president, Gary Glenn.

Huntsman's views on climate change have drawn criticism from U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, the governor's former chief of staff. At the state GOP convention last year, Chaffetz taunted the governor for raising concerns about global warming.

"Jon Huntsman, as much as I like you, you're wrong on global warming. It's a farce," Chaffetz said to raucous applause.

Another potential problem for Huntsman is his Mormon faith. Many Christian conservatives, who are an important part of the GOP electoral base, believe it is a cult.

In 2008, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney — a wealthy Mormon businessman like Huntsman — lost the GOP nomination to McCain, in part because of resistance from Christian conservatives. In an interview this past week, Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele said Romney's faith was a major factor in his defeat.

Nonetheless, many political observers believe Huntsman's liabilities among GOP base voters are the very qualities that could help him expand the party's demographic appeal.

Boy abducted two weeks ago found safe, reunited with mom

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press writer

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — A 3-year-old boy abducted from his family home in San Bernardino nearly two weeks ago was being evaluated at a local hospital Saturday after returning from the Mexican border town of Mexicali, where he had been found wandering the streets, sheriff's officials said.

After the physical and emotional evaluations, Briant Rodriguez was expected to return home for the first time since two armed men snatched him from his house after bursting in and tying up his family, San Bernardino County Sheriff Rod Hoops said.

"I've been doing this for 30 years. I'm not saying it doesn't happen ... but the odds of finding him safe and alive — the odds of

finding him alive — went down every day," Hoops said. "Our detectives never gave up."

Briant and his mother, Maria Rosalina Millan, were reunited earlier Saturday in Calexico, Calif., a day after detectives and FBI agents received a call from officials in the neighboring Mexican city of Mexicali saying they found a boy that could be Briant, sheriff's Lt. Rick Ells said.

Ells said a municipal police officer in Mexicali found the boy wandering the streets by himself late Thursday.

The officer initially thought the child was from the neighborhood and took him to several houses seeking his family before leaving him in child protective custody, Ells said.

Mexican authorities did not realize who the child was and didn't notify U.S.



San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department/AP photo

Briant Rodriguez is shown with his mother, Maria Rosalina Millan, Saturday in Calexico, Calif. The 3-year-old, who was abducted from his family home in San Bernardino nearly two weeks ago by two armed men, was reunited with his mother Saturday.

authorities until Friday afternoon, he said.

Ells said Briant's mother, and investigators boarded a plane to Calexico Friday night.

FBI agents crossed the border and handled immigration paperwork for the boy, who holds dual U.S. and Mexican citizenship, he said.

The agents brought Briant back across the border for the reunion Saturday, Hoops said.

"I talked with one of the

FBI agents ... that came across the border and watched the mother and the son reunited and he said the last thing he saw was Briant clutching his mother's neck," Hoops said, becoming visibly choked up. "And that kind of says it all."

Hoops said Millan was not reunited with Briant until the day after her arrival in Calexico because of the amount of paperwork involved in the cross-border incident.

AROUND THE STATE

N A M P A Family names dead sugar factory worker

Nampa police, the Canyon County coroner's office and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration are investigating the death of an Amalgamated Sugar Co. worker at a processing plant in southwest Idaho.

A family member told the Idaho Press Tribune his name is Caldwell resident Mario Munoz, 45.

Munoz was reportedly caught in machinery and died before emergency crews arrived at the plant Friday. He worked for Amalgamated Sugar for 21 years and was the father of two children.

Amalgamated President and CEO Vic Jaro said the company was working with investigators and that the employee who died was current on training and safety procedures.

"Everybody here goes through a very detailed safety training program both at the time they're hired and ongoing as they work here," Jaro told the Press Tribune. "It's required that we go the extra mile."

OSHA records show there have been six fatal accidents at Amalgamated Sugar facilities in Idaho since 1985. The company is headquartered in Boise and has processing plants in Paul, Twin Falls and Nampa.

More than a decade has passed since a factory employee was killed on the job, Jaro said.

A 29-year-old worker died in 1995 after his arm was pulled off by a conveyor belt and he lost too much blood.

"You always hope that it's the last one," Jaro said. Canyon County Coroner

Vicki DeGeus-Morris said medical examiners would perform an autopsy.

Munoz appears to have been working alone when he got caught in an auger, Nampa Fire Chief Doug Strosnider said.

C A R E Y W O O D Toddler recovering from tractor accident

Steve Barnhart, the father of a 4-year-old who was accidentally run over by a rototiller on a farm in northern Idaho, says his son is expected to make a full recovery with extensive physical therapy.

The boy, Tytus Barnhart, was severely injured when he fell off the small tractor his father was driving last week while tilling the field near the family's home in Careywood.

The toddler was run over by a rotary cultivator trailing behind the tractor and suffered several skull fractures, a fractured humerus bone and a broken fibula bone.

Barnhart says his son is having some trouble walking, but is happy to be home.

M O S C O W Minnick urges China to free dissident

Congressman Walt Minnick says he plans to introduce a resolution in the House of Representatives calling on lawmakers to join him in demanding the Chinese government release prominent dissident writer Liu Xiaobo.

Minnick addressed University of Idaho graduates at a commencement ceremony on Saturday, urging them to become leaders and join him

in spearheading efforts to free the 53-year-old detained Chinese writer.

Police took Liu away Dec. 8, a day before the publication of a paper he co-authored calling for more civil rights and an end to the Communist Party's political dominance in China.

Minnick urged the 1,300 college graduates to write letters to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in support of the cause.

He also asked them to complete four other tasks that would teach them something about themselves and prepare them for leadership: Commit to a week of working for free and giving back to society, spend three days alone in a remote tent or cabin, give up a favorite comfort for 30 days, and make amends to the person they had most hurt while at the university.

— The Associated Press

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BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Sunny, dry and unseasonably warm. Highs in the middle 80s.
Tonight: Clear skies and mild temperatures. Lows near 50.

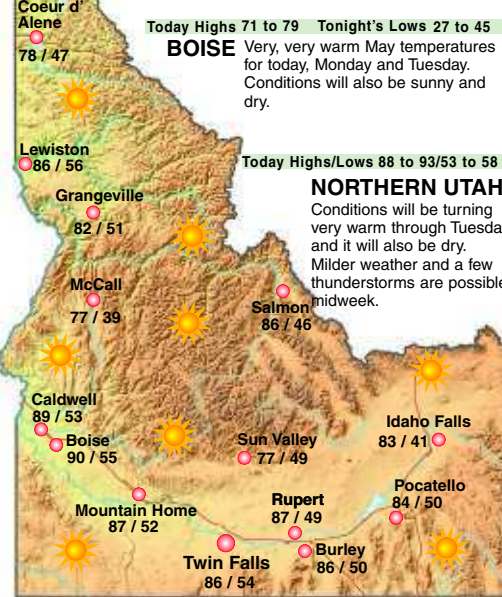
Tomorrow: Sunny and dry with breezy and very warm weather conditions. Highs in the upper 80s.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Temperature and Precipitation table for Burley. Includes Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and Precipitation data.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. High pressure will make for beautiful May weather today, Monday and Tuesday. Days will be sunny and warm with clear and brisk nights.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day forecast for Twin Falls from Today to Thursday, including weather icons and temperature ranges.

Yesterday's Weather

Table of yesterday's weather for various Idaho cities, including High, Low, and Precipitation.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac for Twin Falls including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, and Pollen Count.

Moon Phases table showing the progression from Last May 17 to Full June 7.

Moonrise and Moonset table providing times for Today, Monday, and Tuesday.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for various Idaho cities from Today to Tuesday.

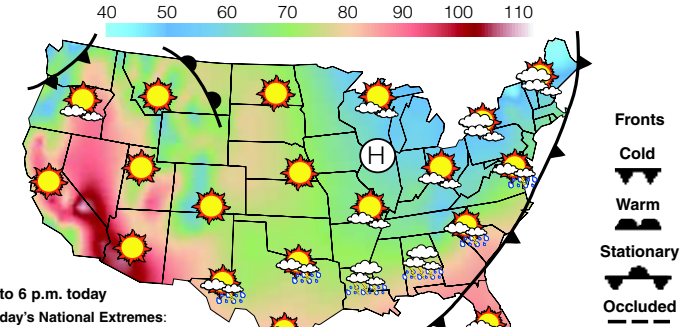
NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table for various US cities from Today to Tuesday.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table for various international cities from Today to Tuesday.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Advertisement for Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.'

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table for various cities from Today to Tomorrow.

More Magic Valley weather at www.magicvalley.com/weather
Get up-to-date highway information at the Idaho Transportation Department's Web site at 511.idaho.gov or call 888-432-7623.



Bureau of Land Management/AP photo

This undated image shows a Navajo pueblo in Gomez Canyon near Blanco, N.M. Tree ring dating shows the structure was built between 1735 and 1745.

Study looks at early Navajo use of smoke signals

By Susan Montoya Bryan Associated Press writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Archaeologists and volunteers armed with special flares will fan out over part of the Four Corners region on Saturday to study how early Navajos could have used smoke signals to warn against invaders.

There are more than 200 pueblitos — usually high on rock outcroppings overlooking the San Juan Basin — that archaeologists believe were built by Navajos three centuries ago to protect against

Spanish explorers and neighboring tribes.

"If you hear an enemy approaching, you climb into these things and pull up the ladder, and you can seal yourself in for a while," said Ron Maldonado, program manager of the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department.

The sites in the area where New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah meet feature the remains of what were once formidable struc-

tures made of stacked sandstone. The theory is that Navajos bunkered down inside the pueblitos and possibly used smoke to send warnings across long distances, said Jim Copeland, an archaeologist with the Bureau of Land Management in Farmington.

Copeland said experiments in the early 1990s showed the method of warning could work in general, but scores of new sites have been identified since then

and scientists want to know more about how the signals could have been relayed. Improved computer modeling and analysis has refined the idea of an "early warning system."

"We're still trying to confirm long distance and questionable views," Copeland said. "A lot of them are kind of no-brainers. You can pretty much see from A to B, but A to C was sort of questionable and that's the kind of thing we want to test."

Large advertisement for KeyBank savings plans. Features three CD options: 48-month (3.00% APY), 28-month (2.50% APY), and 8-month (2.00% APY). Includes text about retirement, college tuition, and unexpected expenses, and the KeyBank logo.

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are pleased to announce that they have returned to Ownership of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home & Crematory and Twin Falls Cemetery.

We are eternally grateful to Jared and Michelle Clinger and their family for the sacrifices that they made to purchase this business, and for the leadership and love they gave to it during Mike's illness and subsequent recovery!

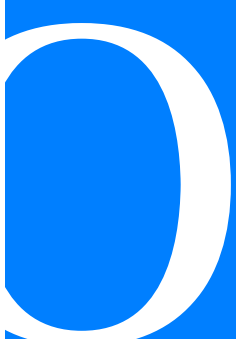
Mike has received a miracle and through God's grace, this miracle has allowed us to return to our life. We look forward to continuing to serve the Magic Valley with the same caring concern and affordability that have always been the trademarks of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home and Crematory and the Twin Falls Cemetery.

Thank you one and all for your many prayers and good wishes that have made this dream once again a reality in our life.

GOD BLESS! Mike & Catherine Parke

Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home logo and contact information: 2551 Kimberly Rd. • Twin Falls, ID 83301 • 735-0011

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India's ruling party wins resounding victory

See Opinion 7



Letters to the editor, Opinion 3 / Nation, Opinion 4-5 / World, Opinion 6-7

Opinion

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009

OPINION EDITOR STEVE CRUMP: (208) 735-3223 SCRUMP@MAGICVALLEY.COM

EDITORIAL

Seven reasons to vote in Tuesday's school board election

1. Unprecedented economic crisis. The just-concluded session of the Idaho Legislature cut funding for Idaho public schools for the first time in history. Fresh ideas and new strategies are needed to keep local school districts — and especially small ones — delivering quality education to students.

2. Declared emergencies. Under a new law approved by legislators, a school board can declare a financial emergency that allows the district to reduce teacher benefits and wages. The Minidoka School Board became the first in south-central Idaho to declare such an emergency three days after the Legislature adjourned, and there will be more.

For rural districts, having to declare an emergency or not doing so — which the Twin Falls, Blaine County, Filer, Gooding, Wendell and Dietrich school board have so far declined to do — can be the difference between retaining qualified teachers or losing them.

3. Dwindling enrollment. In more than half of south-central Idaho's 22 school districts, enrollment is on the downswing. Under Idaho's school funding formula, when enrollment declines, so does state reimbursement of costs. Many districts are being asked to do more with less.

4. AYP. Many south-central Idaho schools have failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress, the standard by which Idaho measures accountability through test scores. Those schools are under growing pressure to turn things around.

5. Charter school challenges. The Gooding School District has been thrown into financial crisis by the success of the public charter school, the North Valley Academy, that opened in Gooding last year.

As the number of charter schools increases, so will the economic problems facing traditional school districts.

6. School autonomy. Small school districts are under increasing pressure to consolidate services — and in some cases all operations — with adjacent districts. Within the next decade, it's likely there will be fewer districts in south-central Idaho.

7. Distance learning and dual credit. Emerging high school outreach programs by institutions such as the College of Southern Idaho are under financial pressure, yet they'll be critical to the future of rural school districts that can't afford to pay for their own advanced academic programs.

Fresh ideas and new strategies are needed to keep local school districts — and especially small ones — delivering quality education to students.

Who's running for school trustee?



Cassia County

In Zone 4, incumbent Cassia County school trustee Dee Jones, 49, of Burley, is being challenged by Kathy Millar, 34, a Burley homemaker, and Randy Noble, 52, a Burley insurance agent.

Voting will take place Tuesday from noon to 8 p.m. at Dworshak Elementary School, 102 E. 19th St., in Burley, and Ida Gold Farms, 246 E 300 S., Burley.

Blaine County

In Zone 2, incumbent Kim Nilsen, 55, of Hailey, is being challenged by attorney Jim Laski, 43, of Bellevue, and Steve Guthrie, 47, of Hailey, the co-president of the Wood River Middle School Parent Teacher Association.

Incumbent Alexandra Sundali, a 52-year-old Ketchum resident who serves as the Blaine County School Board chairwoman, is being challenged in Zone 4 by Paul Bates, 56, of Hailey, vice president of the Wood River Middle School Parent Teacher Association.

Voting, which is scheduled from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, will be held at Hailey Elementary School for Zone 2. The address is 520 S. First St.

In Zone 4, voting will be at Ketchum's Hemingway Elementary School, 111 Eighth St. W.

Minidoka County

In Zone 1, School Board Chairman Brian Duncan, 49, of Heyburn, is being challenged by Damian Rodriguez of Heyburn, a 58-year-old vocational rehabilitation counselor for the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Jody Rockett of Heyburn, a 43-year-old veterinarian at the College of Southern Idaho.

In Zone 4, 15-year incumbent George M. MacDonald, 85, of Rupert, is being challenged by 37-year-old Jason Gibbons of Paul, the chief financial officer at Minidoka Memorial Hospital.

Patrons in Zone 1 will vote at West Minico Middle School, 155 S. 600 W., Paul, and at Heyburn Elementary School, 1431 17th St..

Residents in Zone 4 will vote at Rupert Elementary School, 202 18th St, and at Mount Harrison Junior/Senior High School, 310 10th St., Rupert.

Poll hours at 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Gooding

In Zone 1, incumbent Raymond Goodman, 33, of Gooding is being challenged by 44-year-old Gooding contractor Joe Sliman.

Voting will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Firehouse No. 2 and at the Gooding School District office, 507 Idaho St.

Valley

In Jerome County's Valley School District, 58-year-old School Board Chairman James Ritchie of Jerome is being challenged in Zone 3 by John Reed, a 44-year-old Hazelton farmer.

Voting will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Valley High School in Hazelton.

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 facts were right; the evidence wasn't

Writing headlines is tricky business. It involves the art and science of boiling an 800-word news article down to a handful of verbs and nouns that accurately convey the facts, the tone and the larger meaning of the story.

Sometimes we hit the target. Other times we're just shy of dead-center.

Last week Vicky King, a co-owner of the Double C Farms near Burley, said we missed the bull's-eye when it came to the headline on an Associated Press article about her husband's conviction on four felony counts of violating the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and one count of making false statements.



132 FAIRFIELD ST. WEST James G. Wright

That May 1 front page headline read "Burley feedlot owner guilty of polluting aquifer." It originated with the AP, and appeared word-for-word in publications as far-flung as *USA Today* and *Kansas Agland*.

Mrs. King, in a letter to the editor published Wednesday, called that headline inaccurate as well as "a grave injustice."

She's half right, at best. In a written statement announcing the April 30

jury verdict in U.S. District Court in Pocatello, Assistant U.S. Attorney for Idaho Marc Haws said, "Anyone involved in polluting ground water — the water we drink — in order to save some money by disposing of fluids into the aquifer without a permit is grossly irresponsible."

Considering the facts of the case and Haws' statement, it's easy to see how a reasonable person would conclude that King, who faces 14 years in prison, wasn't pouring Perrier down his wells.

Court papers filed by state and federal investigators describe irrigation systems intentionally built to pump water from wastewater ponds and ditches into four deep

wells. They also reported that "irrigation water was spraying into the cattle confinement area and the runoff was going into Willow Creek," and that they repeatedly saw cows standing in that creek adjacent to King's 20,000-head feedlot back in 2005.

The jury found that King intentionally injected "fluids" into the wells even though he knew it was illegal, lied to inspectors by telling them he didn't know about it and ordered his employees to hide evidence.

King argues the water tests were flawed, and that he injected only clean creek water drawn upstream from the feedlot. However, his lawyers didn't introduce any evidence about the content of that

pristine, was being injected more than 18 feet into the ground, which is clearly illegal. They didn't bother introducing the well water tests described in court papers as revealing fecal coliform and *E. coli* bacteria in the wells.

Water quality will likely play a bigger role when King is sentenced on Aug. 24; and in state court where the couple and a business partner face a 19-count civil and administrative lawsuit brought by two state agencies.

King argues the water tests were flawed, and that he injected only clean creek water drawn upstream from the feedlot. However, his lawyers didn't introduce any evidence about the content of that

water, either.

While the Kings portray themselves as victims of a shameless government power grab and the media out to make them look bad just to sell papers, their self-righteous indignation reminds me of the old joke about the guy who kills his parents and then pleads for mercy because he's an orphan.

Cory King put himself in the bull's-eye, not a headline that may have accurately described the facts of his crime while incorrectly describing the evidence used to secure his conviction.

Times-News Editor James G. Wright may be reached at 735-3255 or james.wright@lee.net.

OTHER VIEWS

Here's what Idaho newspapers are saying about ...

... the unkindest cuts

Post Register, Idaho Falls

In an effort to cut \$9 million from its budget, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is doing the right thing in looking first at administrative costs.

But it's one thing to save money.

It's another to kill innovation.

The department currently has directors in each of its seven regional offices. One idea is to get rid of four directors and their assistants — a cost savings of about \$680,000 per year — and consolidate oversight of the regional offices.

Eastern Idaho's Region 7, long considered the best and most innovative in the state, would no longer have a boss in Idaho Falls.

Instead, the regional director in Twin Falls would oversee operations from the Magic Valley to the Wyoming border.

At first blush, that doesn't sound bad.

Regional directors once had autonomy in handling

their business. An application for food stamps in Lewiston might have been handled differently than in Idaho Falls.

But the department has streamlined its processes, so the loss of four regional directors can probably be absorbed by staff on hand.

Here's what can't be replaced, though: the regional director's ability to help create the kind of innovations needed to combat Idaho's disturbing habit of warehousing drug addicts and the mentally ill in Treasure Valley prisons ...

Given a choice, most would undoubtedly fire a few paper-pushers and keep the troops in the trenches ...

The reality, however, is that this year's 5 percent cut plus last year's 6 percent reduction equals everything on the table.

And that's bad news for those looking for innovative solutions to some of the state's most pressing problems.

... Otter and Twitter

Idaho Statesman
(Kevin Richert's blog)

(Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch") Otter picked a needless fight with the Twitter community.



I mean, hasn't the guy been busy enough battling House conservatives and downtown coffeehouse owners?

But having jumped into Twitter, the popular social media site, Otter has done some things right, advancing the talking points behind his road-repair plan. In Twitter, with posts limited to 140 characters, all anyone can do is post political fortune cookie messages.

It's a start, at least. And it's something more politicians should do.

Otter wasn't the first Butch Otter to join Twitter. He took over the Twitter account @ButchOtter after the state ferreted out the identity of a Twitter user who had started up a satirical account under the same name. To some local Twitter fans, Otter came across as heavy-handed and hypersensitive.

Easy for me to say, but Otter could have just shrugged off the satire (it wasn't that biting or funny, really). He could have gone with a handle such as @GovernorOtter, and appeared far less touchy. Instead, he's called more attention to the satirists —

and true to form, there are now at least two new phony Otter sites on Twitter.

Quick quiz, Tweepers and Greek mythology buffs: What do Twitter political satire and a Hydra have in common?

Some Twitter protesters have since vowed to "block" the official Otter from their accounts. Instead, I'll give Otter's staff credit for trying.

Yes, the Tweets have been generic and mostly focused on (what else?) transportation. And no, there hasn't been any interaction with voters who have questions or comments.

There ought to be.

Now that Otter has the @ButchOtter account, he should put it to full use.

... Crapo and guns

Idaho Press-Tribune, Nampa

A bipartisan effort led by U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo seeks to provide more flexibility in the oversight of gun dealers, reducing overly tough penalties for minor paperwork errors by giving regulators more options.

The legislation is intended to change some of the oversight from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.



Here are some other components of the legislation backed by U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, according to the National Rifle Association:

- Change the process for imposing penalties by allowing firearms dealers to appeal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives penalties to a neutral administrative law judge, rather than to an employee of the agency itself.

- Allow a grace period for people taking over an existing firearms business to correct problems in the business' records.

- Eliminate a provision of the Youth Handgun Safety Act that requires those under 18 to have written permission to use a handgun for lawful purposes — even when the parent or guardian is present.

According to the National Rifle Association, the federal agency has revoked firearms dealer licenses "for insignificant technical violations — such as improper use of abbreviations, or filing records in the wrong order."

The problem: Under existing law, for most violations, the bureau has only two enforcement options — it can either give a federal firearms license holder a warning or totally revoke the license.

That means the agency must come down with a hammer when much-lesser penalties would be appropriate.

Crapo said the legislation would put checks on agency enforcement policies and personnel and offer a graduated system for penalties, including capped and limited fines ...

America's alarming national credit card balance

WASHINGTON — Just how much government debt does a president have to endorse before he's labeled "irresponsible"? Well, apparently much more than the massive amounts envisioned by President Obama. The final version of his 2010 budget, released last week, is a case study in political expediency and economic gambling.

Let's see. From 2010 to 2019, Obama projects annual deficits totaling \$7.1 trillion; that's atop the \$1.8 trillion deficit for 2009. By 2019, the ratio of publicly held federal debt to gross domestic product (GDP, or the economy) would reach 70 percent, up from 41 percent in 2008. That would be the highest since 1950 (80 percent). The Congressional Budget Office, using less optimistic economic forecasts, raises these estimates. The 2010-19 deficits would total \$9.3 trillion; the debt-to-GDP ratio in 2019 would be 82 percent.

But wait: Even these totals may be understated. By various estimates, Obama's health plan might cost \$1.2 trillion over a decade; Obama has budgeted only \$635 billion. Next, the huge deficits occur despite a pronounced squeeze of defense spending. From 2008 to 2019, total federal spending would rise 75 percent, but defense spending would increase only 17 percent. Unless foreign threats recede, military spending and deficits might both grow.

Except from crabby Republicans, these astonishing numbers have received little attention — a tribute to Obama's Zen-like



ROBERT SAMUELSON

capacity to discourage serious criticism. Everyone's fixated on the present economic crisis, which explains and justifies big deficits (lost revenues, anti-recession spending) for a few years. Hardly anyone notes that huge deficits continue indefinitely.

One reason Obama is so popular is that he has promised almost everyone lower taxes and higher spending. Beyond the undeserving who make more than \$250,000, 95 percent of "working families" receive a tax cut. Obama would double federal spending for basic research in "key agencies." He wants to build high-speed rail networks that would require continuous subsidy. Obama can do all this and more by borrowing.

Consider the extra debt as a proxy for political evasion. The president doesn't want to confront Americans with choices between lower spending and higher taxes — or, given the existing deficits, perhaps (BEG ITAL) less spending and more taxes. (END ITAL) Except for talk, Obama hasn't done anything to reduce the expense of retiring baby boomers. He claims to be containing overall health costs, but he's actually proposing more government spending (see above).

Closing future deficits with either tax increases or spending cuts would require gigantic changes. Discounting the recession's

effect on the deficit, Marc Goldwein of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget puts the underlying "structural deficit" — the basic gap between the government's spending commitments and its tax base — at 3 percent to 4 percent of GDP. In today's dollars, that's roughly \$400 billion to \$600 billion.

It's true that since 1961 the federal budget has run deficits in all but five years. But the resulting government debt has consistently remained below 50 percent of GDP; that's the equivalent of a household with \$100,000 of income having a \$50,000 debt. (Note: Deficits are the annual gap between government's spending and its tax revenues. The debt is the total borrowing caused by past deficits.) Adverse economic effects, if any, were modest.

But Obama's massive, future deficits would break this pattern and become more threatening.

At best, the rising cost of the debt would intensify pressures to increase taxes, cut spending — or create bigger, unsustainable deficits.

By CBO's estimates, interest on the debt as a share of federal spending will double between 2008 and 2019, from 8 percent of the total to 16 percent. Huge budget deficits could also weaken economic growth by "crowding out" private investment.

At worst, the burgeoning debt could threaten a future financial crisis.

The danger is that "we won't be able to sell it (Treasury debt) at reasonable interest rates," says economist Rudy Penner, head of the CBO from 1983 to 1987. In today's anxious

climate, this hasn't happened.

American and foreign investors have favored "safe" U.S. Treasuries. But a glut of bonds, fears of inflation — or something else — might one day shatter confidence. Bond prices might fall sharply; interest rates would rise. The consequences could be worldwide because foreigners own half of U.S. Treasury debt.

The Obama budgets flirt with deferred distress, though we can't know what form it might take or when it might occur. Present gain comes with the risk of future pain. As the present economic crisis shows, imprudent policies ultimately backfire, even if the reversal's timing and nature are unpredictable.

The wonder is that these issues have been so ignored.

Imagine hypothetically that a President McCain had submitted a budget plan identical to Obama's. There would almost certainly have been a loud outcry:

"McCain's Mortgaging

Our Future." Obama should be held to no less exacting a standard.

Newsweek columnist Robert Samuelson writes about economics.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jerome High School needs improvements

Jerome High School was built in the 1970s for around 650 students and now accommodates nearly 1,000. An upcoming bond levy election in Jerome County addresses the major needs of the high school.

New classrooms will be added. Major safety and security improvements will be made inside and outside the building. Overcrowding of the hallways, stairwell, cafeteria and gymnasium facilities will be addressed. Remodels of the fine arts department and auditorium will be made. Future jobs will require more of our students to be high school graduates, often with advanced training. These will include health care fields, technology and education.

It is more important than ever for us to come together as a community to gift our students with facilities that meet their needs and keep them engaged in education. Despite concerns about our economy, this bond is actually projected to cost a half million dollars less today than four to six months ago due to the competitive nature of the construction industry.

There is financial support to lower our costs from the state levy equalization program and the federal stimulus program.

Please vote yes for the Jerome High School bond levy on May 21.

DR. ELIZABETH SUGDEN

(Editor's note: Elizabeth Sugden is a physician in Jerome. The letter also was signed by other doctors, James S. Irwin, Lorraine TAngen, Elizabeth Jo Johnson, James Lohmann and Joshua Kern, all of Jerome.)

Gooding has proved 'Together We Can'

At the beginning of the 2008-09 school year, our superintendent, Dr. Heather Williams, kicked off the school year with the theme, "Together We Can." This indeed has been a year where the community, staff, students and parents have come together to do what was best for our children.

The staff of Gooding School District has worked hard and does a great job every day educating our students. We are proud of the significant growth they have achieved this year on the standardized assessments. The patrons of Gooding School District made the decision to support both a 10-year plant facility levy and a two-year supplemental levy during very difficult economic times. Dr. Williams has led the district in a series of strategic planning sessions where we've gathered input from stakeholders. These community meetings have been well supported and the input will offer direction for the coming years. Our parents and grandparents have come out in full force to support their children and our staff by volunteering countless hours in the schools. The entire school community has come together and worked collaboratively in many ways to move forward in a common direction for the good of all Gooding School District students.

We live in a great community where we have proven not only that "Together We Can" but also "Together We Do!" We are fortunate to have Dr. Williams and great leaders who are vested in our school community, and for a staff and community that are supportive and will continue to advance student achievement in the Gooding School District by working together.

DR. RAYMOND GOODMAN

(Editor's note: Raymond Goodman is the chairman of the Gooding School Board of Trustees. The letter was also signed by

Tracie Anderson, vice chairman; and Lucinda Gillette Rogers, Elaine Bryant and Lois Wartluft, trustees.)

Burley citizens can invest in library

On May 26, the citizens of Burley are being asked to renew the operations override levy for the Burley Public Library.

First approved in 2007, the proposed 2009 levy provides for the level of services currently being offered at the Library. However, due to prudent management, grants and an increase in the overall tax base of Burley City, the amount of tax per household will decrease significantly with the new levy.

Members of the library board understand budget constraints on households as well as businesses but also realize that in tough times, more people turn to their library for entertainment, a source of information, resources to find jobs, computer classes and many other programs.

Since 2005, circulation is up 35 percent and program attendance has increased 269 percent! In 2008, more than 84,510 people visited the library. Julie Woodford, director, and her staff provide excellent quality service to our citizens and are always looking for grants to enhance programs and provide new ones at no cost to our taxpayers. Our full-time children's librarian is funded by this levy.

Services are at risk if the levy fails!

Even if you personally do not use the library, this is an opportunity to invest in the good of the community for a small cost. Please call me or another board member with any questions. For additional information, visit the Web site, www.bplibrary.org.

I urge the citizens of Burley to vote in favor of the library override levy. Absentee ballots are available now at Burley City Hall during regular business hours, and anyone can take advantage of this convenience. Since the election falls on the Tuesday after Memorial Day, this important election could be

forgotten. Support your library!

TOMMIE DEAN Burley


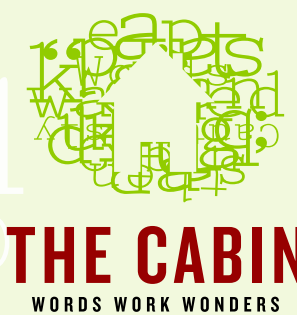
(Editor's note: Tommie Dean is a member of the Burley Public Library Board. The letter was also signed by other board members, Connie Cole, Janet Hansen, Sandy Pasley and Matt Seely.)

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Being a community hospital means doing more than caring for the sick and injured. It also means giving back and providing strength and support to our community – especially when times are tough.

That's why this year St. Luke's employees stepped up, dug deep, and gave to United Way in record numbers, making us one of a handful of organizations to break the \$100,000 mark.

It's also why instead of recognizing National Hospital Week by receiving a gift or enjoying a celebration, St. Luke's employees, physicians, and volunteers chose to celebrate by giving – stocking the pantries of the Idaho Foodbank and the Hunger Coalition.

In the Treasure Valley, the Magic Valley, and the Wood River Valley, St. Luke's collected thousands of pounds of food, along with cash donations, for those struggling during these tough economic times.

We know that healthy communities begin with healthy people, and every day a family has food on the table is a good day for us all.

As we conclude National Hospital Week, St. Luke's boards and leadership would like to thank the employees, physicians, volunteers, and you – our communities – for your support and commitment. Thank you.

St. Luke's employees gave back to the community during National Hospital Week, May 10-16.



Spacewalkers pull off toughest repairs yet on Hubble



NASA/AP photo

Astronaut Mike Massimino works with the Hubble Space Telescope in the cargo bay of the space shuttle Atlantis, Friday.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Spacewalking astronauts gave the Hubble Space Telescope a more commanding view of the cosmos by installing a new high-tech instrument Saturday, then pulled off their toughest job yet: fixing a broken camera.

It was the third spacewalk in as many days for the shuttle Atlantis crew and the most intricate ever performed because of the unprecedented camera repairs. Astronauts had never before tried to take apart a science instrument at the 19-year-old observatory.

Hubble's chief mechanic, John Grunsfeld, deftly opened up the burned-out camera and plucked out all four electronic cards that needed to be replaced.

"Somehow I don't think

brain surgeons go 'woo-hoo' when they pull something out," one of the astronauts observed from inside Atlantis.

To everyone's surprise, the new cards and power supply pack went in just as smoothly. In fact, the astronauts found themselves running ahead of schedule for a change, their spacewalk lasting the allotted 6½ hours. The first two spacewalks ended up running long because of unexpected difficulties encountered with Hubble, last visited seven years ago.

The astronauts cheered when Mission Control radioed up the news that the repaired camera had passed the first round of testing.

"That's unbelievable," Grunsfeld said.

A second round of testing was expected to last well into the night. Early Saturday evening, Mission Control told astronauts that a new spectrograph that spacewalkers also installed passed both its tests. Atlantis crew responded with what has become customary whooping it up.

Even with two spacewalks remaining, including the repair of a major instrument Sunday, NASA managers were handing out accolades and talking about how improved the telescope already is.

"At this point in time, Hubble has reached a new high in terms of its capability," Hubble program manager Preston Burch said at a news conference Saturday afternoon.

Army struggles to overcome stigma of emotional problems

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — A military culture that values strength and a "can do" spirit is discouraging thousands of soldiers from seeking help to heal the emotional scars of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, despite top-level efforts to overcome the stigma, commanders and veterans say.

Up to one-fifth of the more than 1.7 million military members who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan are believed to have symptoms of anxiety, depression and other emotional problems. Some studies show that about half of those who need help do not seek it.

"It's a reality that for some — certainly not all, but for some — there's a stigma to stepping forward for behavioral health," Maj. David Cabrera, who runs counseling services at a military hospital in Germany, told The Associated Press.

"Our goal is to eradicate the stigma," he said. "We're not there yet."

Encouraging more soldiers to seek help, and training leaders to spot signs of trouble, have taken on new urgency since the fatal shooting last Monday of five U.S. service members at a counseling center at Baghdad's Camp Liberty.

Army Sgt. John M. Russell has been charged with five counts of murder. He was finishing his third tour in Iraq and had been ordered to seek counseling at the center, the Army said.

Sergeants on their third or fourth assignments to Iraq or Afghanistan are more than twice as likely to suffer mental health problems as those on their first assignment to a combat zone, according to an Army study last year.

Combat stress is common in every war — including "battle fatigue" cases in World War II and the lasting trauma still suffered by thousands of veterans of the Vietnam conflict.

What makes the current conflicts different are the frequent, repeating rotations. Most soldiers spent just one or two assignments in Vietnam, but many American soldiers and Marines are on their third or fourth tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Units return home to the United States or Germany, only to begin soon preparing for their next deployment, adding strains on both the soldiers and their families.

Military officials insist they are keenly aware of the growing stress problem in the ranks and are moving quickly to expand counseling facilities not only in war zones but at bases in the U.S. and Europe for troops who return from the fighting.

Most major bases in Iraq maintain combat stress clinics, where soldiers can visit counselors and relax for a few days away from the pressures of their jobs.

Two of the officers killed last Monday at the counseling center had been visiting

units in the Baghdad area in the weeks before their deaths, explaining programs the counseling centers offer and encouraging soldiers to take advantage of them.

"The only way we're going to keep our soldiers fit to fight, if you will, is to make sure it is a holistic approach, not just the physical but mental readiness," Lt. Gen. Kenneth W. Hunzeker, an Iraq veteran and corps commander in Germany, told AP.

Some senior officers, notably Gen. Carter Ham, who now commands U.S. Army forces in Europe, have spoken openly about suffering from combat stress, including sleep problems and exaggerated emotions, after going through traumatic experiences on the Iraqi battlefield.

Ham, who commanded U.S. troops in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul during major fighting there, said he spoke out to encourage others to face the emotional scars of war.

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Please vote in favor of continuing the 2-year override levy.

According to library records, the community has increased library usage 2005 to 2008

- 87% Increase in computer use
- 269% Increase in program attendance
- 35% Increase circulation of materials
- 84,510 people visited the library in 2008 (Compared to 66,316 visits in 2005)

The 2009 levy continues the 2007 levy **at a lesser cost!** \$2.50/month per average household, **down** from \$3.47/month per average household.

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New reality show teaches old dogs (extreme) new tricks

www.magicvalley.com

By Russell Contreras
Associated Press writer

ACTON, Mass. — Max the Border Collie can roll over on command, herd crowds and sit still on a table while his owners eat.

But Grace and Michael Ham want their dog to do more — like climb people's backs and then leap into the air to catch a Frisbee. So, they have sought the help of Zak George, a dog trainer made famous from YouTube clips who now is hosting a reality TV show aimed at teaching old dogs new tricks.

A crew for Animal Planet's new show — tentatively called "Fetch Me a Beer" — recently filmed Max while he was learning his new moves. The 20-episode series, scheduled to premiere in October, will show George teaching other dogs such skills as riding a bike and helping a helpless human land a date.

"The dogs are easy. It's the people who are more challenging," George says. "There's nothing we can't attempt to teach a dog."

So far, eight episodes have been shot in Miami and the Boston area. Later this month, the crew will tape Brumby the Australian Shepherd com-



Max, a two year old border collie, catches a flying disc after jumping off the back of owner Michael Ham of Brookline, Mass., Wednesday in Acton, Mass., during the taping of a show for the Animal Planet channel.

AP photo

pleting his training with George on learning to bowl with his owner. Yes, bowl.

Seanbaker Carter, executive producer of Powderhouse Productions, says viewers will see all sorts of skills from dogs they didn't think were possible, such as seeing a dog "literally fetching a beer out of a fridge" and bringing it to its owner.

"It's the one trick we probably all need to happen," says Carter, whose company is producing the show for Animal Planet.

Another episode, he promises, will have a cat

using a toilet.

The show's producers discovered Max after Grace and Michael Ham, of Brookline, Mass., responded to a casting call earlier this year. Before the call, the couple had followed George's YouTube training videos.

Max was quickly picked and a crew began recording the dog's progress. Michael Ham says it took more than a month for Max to learn how to leap off his back and jump for a Frisbee. "He can do all sorts of tricks but this was pretty difficult," he says.

"The dogs are easy. It's the people who are more challenging!"

— Zak George, dog trainer



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Hungry bald eagles target Maine's coastal seabirds

By Clarke Canfield
Associated Press writer

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Bald eagles, bouncing back after years of decline, are swaggering forth with an appetite for great cormorant chicks that threatens to wipe out that bird population in the United States.

The eagles, perhaps finding less fish to eat, are flying to Maine's remote rocky islands where they've been raiding the only known nesting colonies of great cormorants in the U.S. Snatching waddling chicks from the ground and driving adults from their nests, the eagles are causing the numbers of the glossy black birds to decline from more than 250 pairs to 80 pairs since 1992.

"They're like thugs. They're like gang members. They go to these offshore islands where all these seabirds are and the birds are easy picking," said Brad Allen, a wildlife biologist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. "These young eagles are harassing the bejesus out of all the birds, and the great cormorants have been taking it on the chin."

The recovery of the bald eagle population has been well-documented, growing from 400 pairs to more than 10,000 pairs in the lower 48 states since the 1960s. But the revival has changed the natural order of things in Maine and other states, threatening other bird species.

With more eagles around and fewer fish in the waters than in the past, young eagles are turning to other birds to satisfy their hunger. Eagles are opportunistic feeders and will go after the easiest prey they can find, bird experts say.

In Alaska, many eagles have shifted their diet from fish to seabirds. In the



AP photo

An American Eagle is seen on display before a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York on April 4.

Midwest, they've been known to eat baby blue herons. And besides Maine's great cormorants, eagles are also feasting on baby double-breasted cormorants, gulls, eider ducks and even loons.

Nobody's raising a stink about the eagles' taste for double-breasted cormorants and gulls because those birds are so numerous and considered nuisances by many.

But the great cormorants are another matter, because their numbers in Maine are so small, said John Drury, of Vinalhaven, who's been counting seabirds on Maine islands for more than 25 years. Although the birds are widespread from Europe to eastern Canada, they are uncommon in Maine, which represents their southern range in the Northwest Atlantic.

Drury last summer counted only 80 great cormorant nests, the smallest number since 1984, the year after they were first spotted on Maine islands. Without protection, he fears the

Maine population could be wiped out.

Governmental agencies and conservation groups have put countless hours and dollars toward protecting other seabird populations such as terns — but little has been done for great cormorants, he said.



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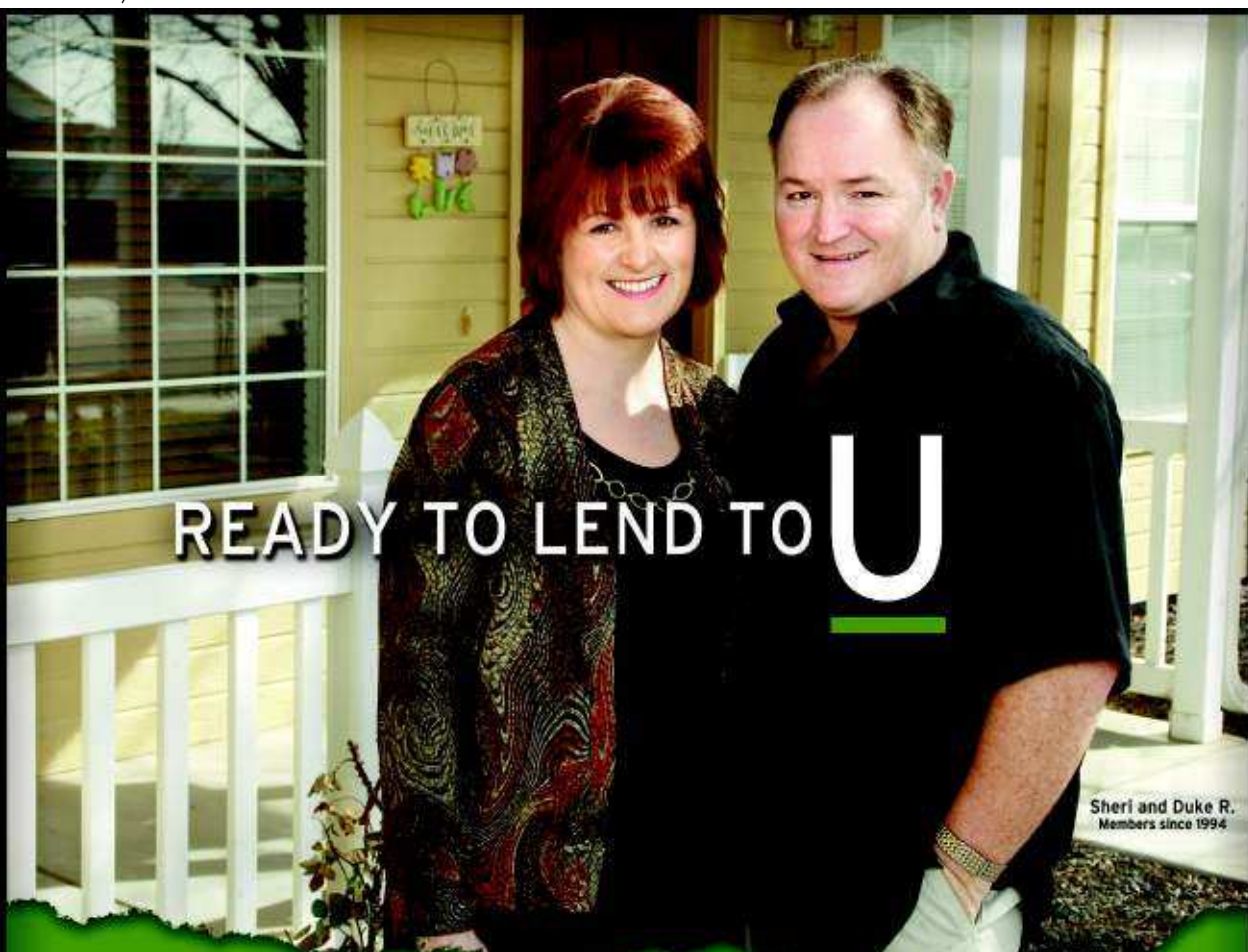
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Ambush interrupts aid mission at Afghan school

By Andrew Drake and Fishnik Abrashi
Associated Press writers

ALIABAD, Afghanistan — The bearded Afghan army officer dropped off bundles of pens and notebooks at the school and asked one boy which he preferred: The Americans or the Taliban?

"I don't know," the boy replied. But after a short silence other children in the classroom answered for him: "The Taliban."

Within minutes the discussion was punctuated by an insurgent ambush and the joint U.S.-Afghan patrol became pinned down in this area with forested mountains, caves and ravines that American soldiers call "the Valley of Death."

Heavy machine gun fire blanketed the patrol as troops used smoke grenades and cover fire to escape the ambush. No one in the patrol

was killed in the firefight Saturday.

The Korengal Valley in eastern Afghanistan's Kunar province has a reputation as one of most dangerous areas in the country, where its rugged mountainous terrain makes it a perfect insurgent playground.

The region's infamy for U.S. and Afghan troops dates back to June 2005, when a four-man team of Navy SEALs was caught in a militant ambush. Three were killed and the fourth was rescued days later by a farmer.

A helicopter carrying American special forces sent to rescue the SEALs was shot down with a rocket-propelled grenade, killing 16 American troops in one of the deadliest single attacks on the U.S. military since the war began here in 2001.

Since then, the insurgents have used the cover of caves

and trees to attack small American units patrolling the valley. Despite years of clashes and airstrikes, U.S. and Afghan forces have failed to subdue the Korengal Valley — one of the most staunchly anti-American regions in Afghanistan.

The tribes here speak a distinct language — Korengali — and adhere to the austere Wahabi brand of Islam most prevalent in Saudi Arabia, and practiced by Osama bin Laden and the Taliban.

The Saturday gunbattle erupted following a humanitarian mission to deliver 60 bags of school supplies to the students, aged 5 to 12 years old.

An Associated Press news team embedded with the U.S. troops dashed back to the American military base nearby on dirt trails. It was unclear what happened to



AP photo

Capt. Mubarak Shah of the Afghan National Army (ANA) kisses a child in a classroom in Aliabad in Afghanistan's Kunar province, where the ANA and their U.S. Marine trainers distributed U.S.-donated school supplies Saturday.

the students after the joint patrol retreated.

"Unfortunately the peo-

ple, the Taliban, they don't like us and the coalition

forces to have a good friend-

ship with the local people," Afghan army Capt. Mubarak Shah said.



AP photo

Norway's Alexander Rybak performs during the finals of the 2009 Eurovision Song Contest at the Olympic Stadium in Moscow, Russia, early today.

Boyish Norwegian wins Eurovision Song Contest

By Peter Leonard
Associated Press writer

MOSCOW — A boyish, fiddle-wielding Norwegian singer won the Eurovision Song Contest in Moscow on Saturday night, his bouncy ditty the highlight of the musical bonanza studded with pyrotechnic artistry and stunning electronic visuals on an epic scale.

Twenty-five performers from across Europe competed in Moscow in a musical bonanza that is one of the most watched annual television events in the world, despite being written off by some as European kitsch.

"Fairytale," penned and performed by 23-year-old fiddler Alexander Rybak, blew away competition from Iceland's Yohanna, who finished second, and Azerbaijan's AySel & Arash, who was third, with a folksy melody to the accompaniment of an acrobatic dance routine and two blonde female support singers.

The elfin-faced Rybak, the winning graduate of a Norwegian television talent show in 2006, accrued the most points in Eurovision's 53-year history, outstripping Finland's Lordi in 2006.

"Thank you so much, Russia. You are just great, thank you," an emotional Rybak, said, speaking in Russian from the stage after the result was announced. "You are the greatest public in the world," he proclaimed, before launching into a repeat performance of the winning entry.

Russia was trying to capitalize on the prestigious event to showcase the nation's hospitality and growing role in modern society, but those efforts were undermined several hours earlier when riot police attacked gay pride rallies in the capital.

Gay rights activists

sought to use the international competition to draw attention to what they call widespread discrimination against homosexuals in Russia. No injuries were reported.

Rybak criticized the protesters for choosing the same day as the contest — which has a large following in European gay communities — to vent their frustrations.

"I think it is a little bit sad that they chose to have (the protests) today. ... They were spending all their energy on that parade, while the biggest gay parade in the world was tonight" at Eurovision, Rybak said

Minsk-born Rybak, who left Belarus when he was 4 years old with his musician parents, earned the maximum number of points from several of the participating former Soviet satellite countries.

His performance was greeted by rapturous applause from the spectators thronging the Olimpiyskiy Sports Complex in central Moscow.

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Bombing, U.S. strike kill dozens in Pakistan

By Riaz Khan
Associated Press writer

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Bombs destroyed an Internet cafe, wrecked a bus carrying handicapped children and spread panic through Pakistan's main northwestern city on Saturday, killing at least 11 people in a day of carnage across the militancy-plagued region.

An apparent U.S. missile strike annihilated a Taliban raiding party mustering to cross into Afghanistan, officials said, while Pakistani troops claimed another 47 kills in their bid to retake the Swat Valley.

Violence is engulfing Pakistani territory along the Afghan border as American and allied forces crank up the pressure on al-Qaida and Taliban militants entrenched in the forbidding and barely governed mountains and valleys.

Washington and other nations are pouring in billions of dollars in aid and military assistance to prop up the pro-Western government in Islamabad, which on Saturday sought to allay concerns that its nuclear weapons could fall into extremist hands.

The first of two bombs to explode in Peshawar on Saturday was hidden in a car and devastated a street busy with traffic, shoppers and worshippers heading to mosques to pray.

Television images showed several vehicles burning fiercely and a stricken white-and-green bus that had been dropping handicapped children at their homes around the city.

All eight students still on board were injured, one seriously, along with the driver and an assistant, medics and police said. Four other children and seven adults were killed, and dozens more people injured, they said.

Ahmad Khan, a nine-year-old who had been on the bus, sat shaking on his mother's lap at the Lady Reading hospital as surgeons tried to save the life of a classmate.

He struggled to tell her what had happened to him, throwing up his arms to mimic the explosion, then burst into tears and buried his bandaged head in her arms.

"My child is mentally impaired, but we had hope for him and sent him to school. Now I am even more worried for his future," said his veiled mother, Gul Bibi. "How could any human being do this?"

Safwat Ghayur, a senior police official, said one of several buildings badly damaged by the blast was an Internet cafe — a favorite target for violent Islamist extremists in Pakistan who consider the Web a source of moral corruption.

India's ruling party wins resounding victory

By Gavin Rabinowitz
Associated Press writer

NEW DELHI — The ruling Congress party swept to a resounding victory Saturday in India's mammoth national elections, defying expectations as it brushed aside the Hindu nationalist opposition and a legion of ambitious smaller parties.

The strong showing by the party, which is dominated by the powerful Nehru-Gandhi political dynasty, laid to rest fears of an unstable, shaky coalition heading the South Asian giant at a time when many of its neighbors are plagued by instability, civil war and rising extremism.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh declared victory, telling reporters that voters had given the Congress party-led coalition a "massive mandate."

The left-of-center Congress, which has long tried to balance free market reforms with a vow to protect the downtrodden in this country of 1.2 billion people, wants a "stable, strong government which is committed to secular values," he said.

The results left the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, the country's other main party, vowing a period of introspection after they failed to capitalize on the economic uncertainty and increased turmoil in Pakistan, India's longtime rival.

"We will analyze these results in detail," said Arun Jaitley, a senior BJP leader



Congress party supporters celebrate news of early election result trends in New Delhi, India, Saturday.

conceding defeat. "The BJP accepts the mandate of the people of India with all humility."

With most votes counted, the Election Commission said the Congress-led alliance had won — or was leading in — races for 254 seats in the 543-seat Parliament. The BJP alliance came up short with 153. The Congress party alone, without the support of its coalition allies, had won or was leading in 204 seats, putting it far ahead of all other parties.

While the results were a clear victory for the Congress coalition it still leaves it short of the 272 seats needed to govern alone and will require the support of other parties. India has been ruled by coalition governments for most of the

last two decades.

For months, polls and political observers had predicted that neither of the country's two main parties would emerge a clear winner, forcing an unstable and unwieldy coalition that could have conceivably included dozens of smaller parties.

Analysts said that Congress — which posted the best results by an individual party in nearly two decades — reaped the rewards of dramatic economic growth during their last term and a series of high-profile pro-poor programs.

"It's not just because it oversaw four years of nine percent growth. What has probably helped was that its agenda was one of inclusive growth," said Mahesh

Rangarajan, a political analyst in New Delhi.

That perception also saw Congress make deep inroads into the base of their former allies, the Communist parties — a result welcomed by business leaders who said it would enable India to embrace economic reforms as it faces the global downturn.

The communists, a traditional power in Indian politics, had supported Congress for much of the previous term, but broke ties over the Indian-U.S. civilian nuclear agreement, the cornerstone of warmer relations between New Delhi and Washington.

Until their departure they repeatedly frustrated economic reforms that would have allowed India to fur-

ther open up its economy.

Venu Srinivasan, president of the Confederation of Indian Industry, said Congress' re-election would provide welcome stability and continuity, calling on the party to ensure reforms are "fast tracked."

President Barack Obama congratulated India on its "historic national elections," a White House statement said Saturday.

"By successfully completing the largest exercise of popular voting in the world, the elections have strengthened India's vibrant democracy and upheld the values of freedom and pluralism that make India an example for us all," it said.

While the results marked the success of the government's policies, it also heralded the next chapter in the country's deep ties to its most powerful political dynasty.

The Congress party has long said that Singh, 76, an economist and technocrat who helped open India's economy nearly 20 years ago, would return to power if it won. But the election was also a clear victory for party chief Sonia Gandhi's son, Rahul, who emerged as a key strategist during the campaign and became the party's most visible face.

While a relative political newcomer, he has been increasingly viewed as a future prime minister. "This is the beginning of the real rise to power of Rahul Gandhi," said Rangarajan, the analyst.

Fear of Taliban influx in largest Pakistani city

By Ashraf Khan and Nahal Toosi
Associated Press writer

KARACHI, Pakistan — Taliban fighters seeking money, rest and refuge from U.S. missile strikes are turning up in increasing numbers in Pakistan's largest city and economic hub, Karachi, according to militants, police officials and an intelligence memo.

The Taliban presence in this southern port city, hundreds of miles away from the Islamist extremists' strongholds in the northwest, shows how quickly their influence is spreading throughout the nuclear-armed nation.

Karachi is especially important because it is the main entryway for supplies headed to U.S. and NATO attack forces in Afghanistan, as well as the city most critical to Pakistani commerce. Few believe the Taliban could actually take over this diverse metropolis of more than 16 million, but there is fear that they could destabilize it through violence and rock the already shaky national economy.

Karachi is a place where plenty of Western-dressed young men and women mingle in swanky malls, listen to Britney Spears and cruise through neighborhoods that feel like wealthy U.S. suburbs.

But it is also where U.S. journalist Daniel Pearl was



Samiullah Wazir, a 25-year Taliban member, sits with a hood over his face to protect his identity during an interview with the Associated Press on May 8 in Karachi, Pakistan.

kidnapped and found beheaded in 2002. Al-Qaida operatives including suspected Sept. 11, 2001, attack plotter Ramzi Binalshibh have been found here. And the city is believed to have been a launching pad for militants who killed 164 people in India's commercial capital of Mumbai last year.

As the Pakistan military intensifies its attacks in the northwest and the U.S. keeps launching missiles there, more insurgents are seeking safety in Karachi and other urban areas, militants said.

"We come in different batches to Karachi to rest and if needed, get medical treatment, and stay with

many of our brothers who are living here in large numbers," 32-year-old militant Omar Gul Mehsud told The Associated Press while strolling along the beach, astonished at the vastness of the sea, which he'd never seen before.

Shah Jahan, a 35-year-old who said he commands about 24 Taliban fighters in the South Waziristan tribal region, told the AP that militants are scattering throughout Pakistan to avoid the U.S. missile strikes. He said groups of 20 to 25 fighters would fight for a few months, then take leaves of up to one month in cities including Karachi.

"We are more alert and cautious following the drone attacks, and we understand that it is not a wise approach to concentrate in a large number in the war-torn areas," he said.

On the outskirts of Karachi, large settlements of Afghan and Pakistani refugees have swelled over the past year by as many as 200,000 people. These refugees are mostly Pashtun, the ethnic group that dominates the militancy. An intelligence report obtained by the AP warns that such neighborhoods have become favored hideouts for militants linked to Baitullah Mehsud, Pakistan's top Taliban commander.

Sri Lanka president declares victory in civil war

By Ravi Nessiman and Krishan Francis
Associated Press writer

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Sri Lanka's president declared victory Saturday in his nation's quarter century civil war with the Tamil Tigers rebels. But the group's top leaders remained at large as troops and the cornered insurgents fought fierce battles across the war zone.

A triumph on the battlefield appeared inevitable after government forces captured the last bit of coastline under rebel control early Saturday, surrounding the remaining fighters in a 1.2-square mile patch of land.

Thousands of civilians who had been trapped by the fighting poured across the front lines, the military said.

"My government, with the total commitment of our armed forces, has in an unprecedented humanitarian operation finally defeated the LTTE militarily," President Mahinda Rajapaksa said referring to the rebels by their formal name, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

"I will be going back to a country that has been totally freed from the barbaric acts of the LTTE," he said in a speech in Jordan that was distributed to the media in Sri Lanka.

The rebels, who once controlled a de facto state across much of the north, have been fighting since 1983 for

Obama to visit Ghana after G-8, Russia talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Obama will make his first official trip to sub-Saharan Africa this summer, the White House announced Saturday, spending two days in Ghana with his wife, Michelle, after visiting Russia and Italy.

The visit of the first African American U.S. president will be heavy with symbolism.

Press secretary Robert Gibbs said in a statement Saturday that Obama will meet with Ghanaian President John Atta Mills

in Accra to discuss a variety of issues.

"The President and Mrs. Obama look forward to strengthening the U.S. relationship with one of our most trusted partners in sub-Saharan Africa, and to highlighting the critical role that sound governance and civil society play in promoting lasting development," Gibbs said.

Obama announced earlier this month that he will visit Egypt on June 4 to deliver an address to the Muslim world.



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Sat - Sun 12:15 3:15 7:00 9:30

Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Daily 7:00 9:20
Sat - Sun 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

Obsessed (PG) Daily 7:30 9:50
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

Hannah Montana: The Movie (PG) Daily 7:30 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:45

The Knewing (PG) Daily 7:20 9:40
Sat - Sun 1:00 4:00 7:20 9:40

17 Again (PG) Daily 7:00 9:20
Sat - Sun 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

Fast & Furious 4 (PG) Daily 7:30 9:50
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

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Twin Cinema #4 Daily 7:15 9:50
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Twin Cinema #8 Daily 6:45 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:00 3:30 6:45 9:30

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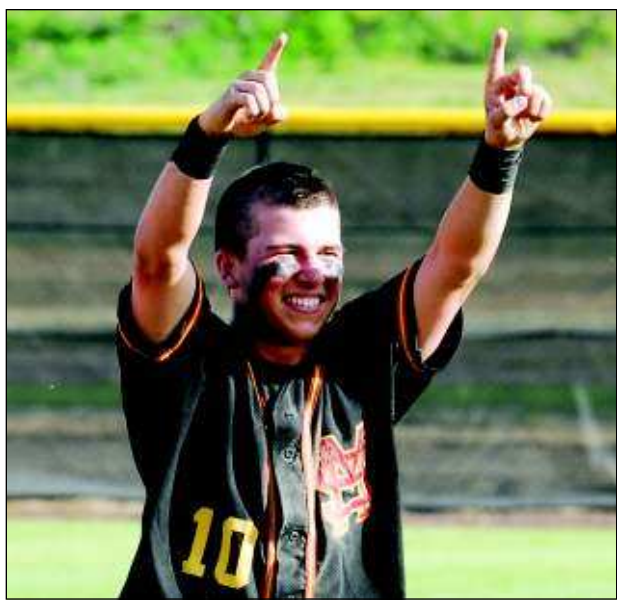
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Rachel Alexandra becomes first filly in 85 years to win the Preakness Stakes. Sports 8

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SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009

SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: (208) 735-3239 SPORTS@MAGICVALLEY.COM



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Minico junior first baseman Dylan Winmill celebrates the Spartans' Class 4A state baseball championship victory over Hillcrest Saturday in Boise.

Hard work pays off

Spartans run-rule Moscow for title win

By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

BOISE — Alex Moon stood on the infield grass at Bishop Kelly High school with Minico's Class 4A state championship trophy tightly clutched under his arm, unwilling to let anyone take it away from him.

Head coach Ben Frank explained why.

"When you work that hard for something," he said, "you fight a lot more, you scrap a lot more."

And in the end, the rewards mean a lot more, too.

As sophomores, they were state runners-up. As juniors they finished third.

The seven Minico seniors needed just one more trophy to complete the trifecta, and

they got it, winning the Class 4A state baseball championship with a dominating 11-1, five-inning victory over Moscow Saturday at Bishop Kelly High School.

And boy, did they earn it. After starting the season 3-9, Minico, led by its seniors, went to work. They put in extra practice sessions and started to do the little things to get better. The

Spartans won 19 of their last 21 games and completed their fairy-tale, turnaround season with run-rule wins in the semifinal and championship games. In three tournament games, they allowed just nine hits and three runs.

"Hard work pays off," Moon said. "Dreams come true."

See **MINICO**, Sports 6

On the fast track



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

ABOVE: Buhl freshman Skyler Barger, left, runs to victory in the 800 meters at the Class 3A Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.



JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

Kimberly's Nellie Makings (4), right, Whitney Carlton, center, and Gentry Funk (3) left, embrace after defeating the Fruitland Grizzlies in the 3A state softball championship Saturday afternoon in Kimberly.

Kimberly claims 3A softball crown

Bulldogs already taking about repeat

By Diane Philbin
Times-News writer

KIMBERLY — Celebrating wasn't the only order of business.

As the Kimberly Bulldogs soaked in their Class 3A state softball championship Saturday afternoon, a common theme quickly emerged from the conversations.

"We want to go out with another one," junior Alex

Pfefferle said of claiming a repeat title in 2010.

With four juniors, four sophomores and three freshmen making up a Kimberly team that beat Fruitland 6-3 for the title, the Bulldogs should be primed to do just that.

"Everyone from the top to bottom stepped up," said Pfefferle. "This team is really good about separating the offense from the defense. If someone is not having a good day at the plate they are still able to

See **KIMBERLY**, Sports 6

Buhl girls, Kimberly boys earn state titles; Bulldog girls finish second

By John Derr
Times-News writer

BOISE — The Buhl girls carried a lofty goal into the Class 3A Idaho High School Track and Field Championships. On Saturday, they made their dream a reality, claiming a state championship at Bronco Stadium.

"We knew we had a chance if we worked hard and kept our spots," said junior Liz Comer, who earned a silver medal in the medley relay and gold in the 4x400-meter relay.

Buhl's 112 points topped conference foe Kimberly (92) as the teams battled for points all day.

On the boys side, Kimberly's relay victories keyed a run first-place trophy as the Bulldogs earned 77 points. Buhl was seventh with 48 points and Gooding was eighth with 37.

"To be able to put a banner up in the high school is special, especially for us seniors," said Kimberly's Isaac Makings, a senior who earned medals in the 4x200

See **TRACK**, Sports 4



Kimberly's Eric Marvin reacts as he finishes the anchor leg in first place in the 3A 4x100-meter relay Saturday at the Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.



Magicvalley.com

WATCH: A slide show of all the action from the Class 3A-1A Idaho State Track and Field Championships.

Pilots fall just short

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

NAMPA — One by one, members of the Glens Ferry baseball team stepped forward to receive their runner-up medals.

The disappointment of a 6-5 loss to Nampa Christian in the Class 2A championship game at Rodeo Park was evident in senior Cody Crawshaw's reddened, tear-stung eyes. Fellow senior Erick Gutierrez dropped to his knees on the infield as the Trojans celebrated their victory.

But still, it wasn't all gloom and doom.

"We played the hardest bracket, against the best

See **PILOTS**, Sports 6



STAN BREWSTER/For the Times-News
Glens Ferry players Gabe Arevalo (15) and Rory Hance (7) show their disappointment after the Pilots' 6-5 loss to Nampa Christian in the Class 2A baseball state championship game.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Raft River High School's Sally Hansen wins the 200-meter dash Saturday at the Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.

Raft River girls take 1A track crown

Oakley boys finish second

By Dustin Lapray
Times-News correspondent

BOISE — Sally Hansen won three gold medals in the sprints on Saturday to lead the Raft River girls to the Class 1A Idaho State Track and Field Championship. It's the

Trojans' first girls title since 2001.

Hansen won the 100-meter dash in 12.83 seconds, set a state record in the 200 (25.68, a full second ahead of second place), and blew away the field in the 400 (58.66).

"Last year I had a rough year and I didn't really help this team much," Hansen said. "That was hard. This year I am finally like 'Yes! I contributed!'"

Raft River tallied 96

team points, while second-place Lapwai had 66.5 points. Camas County took third with 55.5.

The Oakley boys took the lead from Raft River early Saturday, but gave it up on the last event of the meet. Liberty Charter of Nampa won with 62 points. Oakley took second with 59 and Raft River third with 57 points. Dietrich finished sixth and Lighthouse Christian placed 10th.

The Oakley boys (Payson Bedke, Hunter Wadsworth, Colton Wadsworth and Brian Babbitt) blazed the 4x200 relay, with nearly perfect exchanges along the super staggered lane assignments, narrowly crossing the finish before Lighthouse Christian.

"They've been our competition all year," Bedke said. "They beat us, we

See **1A**, Sports 4

A-Rod's two-run shot lifts Yankees past Twins

NEW YORK — Alex Rodriguez belted a game-ending, two-run homer in the 11th inning to give New York a 6-4 win over the Minnesota Twins on Saturday.

Rodriguez hit a long drive off Craig Breslow (1-2) into the seats in left after Mark Teixeira led off with a walk. A jubilant Rodriguez threw his arms up as he rounded first, then discarded his batting helmet as he made it to the plate and was mobbed by teammates.

Teixeira tied a career high with four hits and also had four RBIs for New York, which has won four straight. Alfredo Aceves (1-0) pitched a scoreless inning to earn the victory.

RAYS 4, INDIANS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — B.J. Upton homered for the second consecutive day and Matt Garza pitched six effective innings for Tampa Bay.



AP photo

New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez reacts after hitting a home run to end the game in the 11th inning against the Minnesota Twins Saturday in New York. The Yankees won the game 6-4.

Gabe Gross and Akinori Iwamura pulled off a double steal in the fifth, giving Tampa Bay at least one stolen base in 18 straight games, which is the longest stretch in the AL since the New York Yankees had a 19-game

run in 1914. Both scored on Jason Bartlett's single to make it 3-0.

BLUE JAYS, 2 WHITE SOX 1

TORONTO — Jose Bautista drove in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, and the Blue Jays beat Chicago to give rookie right-hander Robert Ray his first major league win.

ORIOLES 3, ROYALS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Rich Hill came off the disabled list to pitch into the sixth inning, picking up his first victory in more than a year for the Orioles.

Hill, who had been out with a strained left elbow, limited the Royals to two runs on seven hits — six of them singles — and two runs in 5 2-3 innings.

TIGERS 9, ATHLETICS 1

DETROIT — Miguel Cabrera drove in four runs, Ryan Raburn hit a three-run homer and the Tigers

roughed up the Athletics for the second straight night.

RANGERS 5, ANGELS 3

ARLINGTON, Texas — John Lackey, activated from the disabled list earlier Saturday, was ejected after hitting Texas leadoff batter Ian Kinsler in the Rangers' win.

NATIONAL LEAGUE METS 9, GIANTS 6

SAN FRANCISCO — Randy Johnson's pursuit of 300 wins will take a little longer.

Johnson dug himself an early hole against New York and ace Johan Santana, and the potent Mets beat the San Francisco Giants 9-6 on Saturday.

CUBS 5, ASTROS 4

CHICAGO — Alfonso Soriano drove in Bobby Scales with the winning run in the ninth inning after the Cubs had squandered a four-run lead.

BREWERS 1, CARDINALS 0

ST. LOUIS — Jeff Suppan threw seven scoreless innings in his favorite stadium and Corey Hart hit his first homer in 27 games to lift Milwaukee over the Cardinals.

PHILLIES 8, NATIONALS 5 PHILLIES 7, NATIONALS 5, 5 INNINGS

WASHINGTON — Brett Myers cranked out seven innings in the afternoon, emergency callup Andrew Carpenter pitched into the fifth in his first major league start in a nightcap that was called in the sixth inning due to rain, and Philadelphia swept a doubleheader from Washington.

Raul Ibanez hit three long home runs as the Phillies again battered the National League's worst pitching staff in 8-5 and 7-5 victories.

MARLINS 6, DODGERS 3

MIAMI — Countless silver pompon strands blew onto the diamond Saturday

on pompom giveaway night, but Florida emerged from the litter with a win to break a five-game losing streak.

Andrew Miller (1-1), activated from the disabled list before the game, won for the first time since June 16. John Baker broke a 2-all tie in the fifth inning with a two-run homer for the Marlins, who scored five of their runs with two out.

DIAMONDBACKS 12, BRAVES 0

ATLANTA — Max Scherzer pitched six scoreless innings for his first major league win and Chris Snyder hit a grand slam in the ninth, capping Arizona's rout of Atlanta.

Snyder matched his career high with five RBIs, including the grand slam off Buddy Carlyle in a six-run ninth. Rookie Gerardo Parra drove in three runs with three hits as Arizona ended a four-game losing streak.

— The Associated Press

IA

Continued from Sports 1

beat them. We got the better of them today."

The Hornets' time of 1:32.02 set a new classification state record. The Lions ran a 1:32.58 as Aaron Borchardt, Chase Dille, Kevin McCullough and Matt Storm set school records in both second-place relays.

"We wanted to set a school record and we did that," Dille said. "That's what we really came here for. We wanted gold, but we really wanted to be in the 1:32's."

The Lions broke their school record by two seconds.

For Oakley, Colton Wadsworth fell just as he made the handoff to Babbitt.

"I actually had a dream last night I was going to have to dive to get it to (Babbitt), as strange as that seems," Colton Wadsworth said. "I saw him ahead of me and I was like, 'My gosh! My dream!'"

Babbitt caught the

exchange and hammered home the anchor leg.

"You always want to be the best, so you just work harder to get better each time," Babbitt said.

Oakley's 4x100 team of Bedke, Hunter Wadsworth, Rhyann Greenwell and Babbitt also took gold (45.01), edging out Lighthouse Christian (45.61) again, which ran the same four runners in the 4x100 as the 4x200.

Raft River junior Whitney Holtman won gold in the 300 hurdles, securing a state championship for her team.

"I just started running these halfway through the season ... and I liked them," Holtman said. "So I just worked hard on them and it paid off."

Dietrich's star sprinter Jaren Stoddard came up a few meters short in the 100, 200 and 400 meters, falling to Donnie Hazzard of Idaho City. Stoddard ran times of 11.32, 22.72 and a 50.07, respectively.

"The best runner won," Stoddard said. "It's not what I wanted, but it's satisfying."

Jordan Lee of Raft River placed second in the 110 high hurdles in 16.19 seconds. Weston Cooper of Oakley was right behind him in third place.

"I didn't see Weston until districts," Lee said. "My goal today was to beat him."

Lee missed state by .5 seconds last year. He beat his personal record Saturday.

"I started out the year just wanting to go to state," Lee said. "I just wanted to come this year and do good and this is where I ended up. You can't finish any better than a PR at the end of the year."

Carey's Amy Ellsworth placed second in the 800, improving on her previous best by 12 seconds. She finished just behind Taylor Hewett of Culesac.

"I knew if I could follow her, keep up and maybe kick, I could have a shot at it," Ellsworth said. "It's kind of cool to see what you can



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Oakley senior Brian Babbitt crosses the finish line first in the 4x100-meter relay Saturday at the Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.

do, how much you can improve. You may think to yourself 'I can't do it,' but you can."

Ellsworth also took third in the 1,600 meters and joined Nicky Gomez, Kelsey Green and Micaela Adamson

on Carey's third-place 4x400 relay team.

The Raft River girls 4x100 team (CeAnn Carpenter, Kassie Otley, Hailey Higley, Whitney Holtman) took third (53.37) and its girls 4x200 team placed fourth.

Both races, though not winners, helped the Trojans on their way to the title.

"Every little bit helps," Otley said.

Colton Gilbert placed third in the 800 and 1,600 for the Raft River boys.

Track

Continued from Sports 1

and 4x400 relays.

Bertrand Alcaraz Garcia, a Buhl exchange student from Spain, was golden on Saturday as well, earning four first-place medals.

3A Girls

Employing the same strategy she used to win the 3,200 on Friday, Buhl freshman Skyler Barger won the 800 meters on Saturday. Barger seems to have perfected the art of hanging back in the back and sprinting to the lead in the final stretch.

"That's what I have been told," said Barger, who also took third in the 1,600. "I am just having fun, pacing myself throughout the race."

Teammate Desiree Hepworth was fifth in the 800, while Megan Breeding of Kimberly took sixth.

The Bulldogs 4x200 relay team of Hannah Lentz, Lexa Murphy, Ariel McKay and Sarah Lentz led from the start on their way to a personal best time and a first-place finish. The team finished second last year and was primed for gold on Saturday.

"We were ready. We have three seniors and have been waiting for this," said Sarah Lentz.

McKay, Kaitlyn Keller and the Lentz sisters made it two in a row for the Bulldogs in the 4x100.

Keller, who had just finished taking second to defending state champ Brooke Hansen in the 100 meters, was the anchor leg. Right next to her was Hansen.

"I was thinking run away from her and keep going," said Keller.

For McKay it is a simple matter of desire. "We just want it so bad, we are focused and ready."



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Kimberly's Ethan Richmond won the 3A 300-meter hurdles race Saturday at the Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

Buhl's Bertrand Alcaraz Garcia reacts after winning Class 3A 200-meter dash Saturday at the Idaho High School Track and Field Championships at Bronco Stadium in Boise.

In the 100 meters, Buhl's Clara Comer was third while Hannah Gallon was fourth.

Bulldog Kaitly Gerard

topped the 1,600 and left no doubt as to her favorite race.

"I like it a lot. It is not too long and I practice," said

Gerard, who finished sixth in the 3,200. "It is amazing. I was hoping to win, but didn't think I could do it."

Comer found gold in the 400 despite having a strained hamstring. Starting slowly, she caught the competition in the final 100 meters to win going away.

"I have been having problems with my hamstring, so I didn't start with blocks. Once I got going, I just went with it," said Comer.

With the victory already in hand, the Indians put an exclamation point on their title with a come-from-behind victory in the 4x400 relay. Berger, Liz Comer, Page Ward and Clara Comer, who passed three runners on the back stretch, claimed yet another gold.

Comer, with her leg taped, was drained after the race. "I barely had enough left in the tank," she said.

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3A Boys

Kimberly's 4x200 relay

team of Makings, Alan Cazeau, Jordan Cazeau and Eric Marvin earned a second place.

"When you come to state, you expect to do your best. We just focused on handoffs," said Jordan Cazeau.

The Casezu brothers, Marvin and Brandon Nield had a personal best time in the 4x100 on their way to a huge victory. Close early, Jordan Cazeau shot to the lead in the second leg.

"I was upset after districts, I didn't think I did well so I was mad. I run better when I am upset," said Jordan Cazeau.

As for Buhl's Garcia, the exchange student trailed early in the 100 before grabbing the win.

"I started slow, but it made me run faster. It wasn't easy," said Garcia.

In the 400, Garcia cruised to the lead in the back stretch, winning in 48.79 seconds for a 3A.

"I can't feel better than this," said Garcia. He had a personal best time of 21.79 in the 200. Kimberly's Keegan Brady took fourth while teammate Marvin was sixth.

Garcia's last gold came with some dramatics. As the anchor leg of the 4x400 relay, he held off Sugar Salem by mere inches to get the win.

"I left it all out on the track," said Garcia.

Ethan Richmond of Kimberly earned a fifth-place medal in the 110 high hurdles. That left him disappointed and motivated for his next event.

Facing the defending state champion from Payette in the finals of the 300 intermediate hurdles, he chased him down in the final 50 meters to claim gold for the Bulldogs.

"I just put this in my

head, I want this really bad. I wasn't going to settle," said Richmond.

2A

The best finish of the day for the Canyon Conference came in the final event.

Alli Webb, Myca Burch, Christina Christiansen and Brittni Duncan took second in the 4x400 relay.

"I thought we were cursed. We were ranked last, but we took 10 seconds off our best time," said Christiansen.

Duncan will come home with another medal after finishing sixth in the 200. "I feel really good about my times," said Duncan, who clocked 13.6 seconds in the 100 and 27.15 in the 200.

On the boys side, Dawson Bowcut of Declo finished sixth in both the 100 and 200 meters.

"I was kind of nervous yesterday and didn't get the best starts, but I came back today and did my best. I am going home with four medals so I am pretty happy about that," said Bowcut, who was on the medley relay team Friday and joined Tanner Field, Logan Knopp and Larson Webb for a fourth-place finish in the 4x100 relay.

Declo's Thomas Koyle took third in the 110 high hurdles, but he wasn't happy with it.

"This is kind of slow for me. I have a problem paying too much attention to the people around me," said Koyle, who added a seventh-place finish in the 300 hurdles.

The Hornet boys finished ninth overall.

The Valley boys also found success on the final event, taking fifth in the 4x400 relay with the team of Derek Gerrato, Matt Ivey, Brogen Reed and Jacob Mikesell.

Celtics don't take Game 7 home success for granted

WALTHAM, Mass. (AP) — The Boston Celtics are exactly where they want to be for Game 7 — home. Now they must keep Dwight Howard from getting to his favorite spots, right near the basket.

Defense will mean more than decibel level when the defending NBA champions try to control the Orlando Magic's powerful center Sunday night.

The winner faces a huge challenge in the Eastern Conference finals — LeBron James and his playoff-perfect Cleveland Cavaliers, who swept their first two series.

The Celtics are in their second straight seven-gamer. They beat Chicago in the first series and bobbled themselves into the Game 7 against Orlando by blowing a 10-point, third-quarter lead and losing 83-75. Howard had 23 points and 22 rebounds Thursday night.

"Game 7 is the ultimate players' game. I've always thought that," said Boston coach Doc Rivers, who feels their will and execution mean more than coaching tips. "If you need a rah-rah speech for Game 7, your team's probably in a little trouble."

So he plans to forego any inspirational pre-game words. The fans will be loud enough.

But the Celtics don't want to hear about home-court advantage.

"You can't go into any



Game 7 Magic at Celtics 6 p.m., TNT

situation thinking that you're comfortable at home," Ray Allen said. "You've got to play basketball and it starts with not getting too comfortable at home."

The Celtics beat Atlanta and Cleveland at home in Game 7 of the first two rounds last year. They did it again against the Bulls, a series in which four games reached overtime.

They're 17-3 in seventh games at home.

"You can't think about the aura of Boston while you're playing them," Magic guard Rafer Alston said, "but the days before, leading up to it, you have a thought in your mind about it. There's nothing bad about it. The history of that organization to me is fascinating, the fact that they consistently get it done in their building in decisive games."

The Celtics did lose the opener there when Howard had 22 rebounds. He was even more dominating in Game 6 in Orlando after he complained that he didn't get the ball enough.

So he got it himself with 10 offensive rebounds.

Inconsistent Lakers hope for hot start in today's Game 7

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Western Conference semifinals between the Los Angeles Lakers and Houston Rockets appears to come down to a simple question.

Which Lakers team will show up for the decisive Game 7?

The one that blew out the undermanned Rockets by 40 points in Game 5 to set up what most everyone thought would be the clinching game? Or the one that quickly fell behind by double digits two nights later and lost by 15?

The Lakers, it seems, will be the ones who determine whether Sunday's matinee at Staples Center is a feel-good story or a horror show.

The winner of this physical, sometimes-testy series will advance to the conference finals to face the Denver Nuggets, who've been resting since eliminating Dallas on Wednesday night.

Kobe Bryant admits it's a mystery why the Lakers have been so wildly inconsistent against a team few

Game 7

Rockets at Lakers
1:30 p.m., ABC

expected would reach the second round, let alone push the top seed in the West to a Game 7.

"Yeah, that's the million-dollar question," Bryant said Saturday. "There's a bunch of other teams in the past that went through the same thing for whatever reason. It's just the emotions of an NBA season, I guess."

Bryant expects to see "the team that won all those games this year. We're continuing to evolve, too."

"I think the second half of that game in Houston we picked up our defensive intensity and saw kind of what we're capable of by playing as hard as we did on the defensive end," Bryant said. "Hopefully we'll get off to a hot start."

After being outmuscled by the now-sidelined Yao Ming in the opener at home, the Lakers dominated Games 2, 3 and 5. Los

Angeles was twice embarrassed in Texas by a Rockets team that's been without Tracy McGrady since February, backup center Dikembe Mutombo since the first round and Yao since he broke a bone in his left foot in Game 3 of this series. Chuck Hayes, a 6-foot-6 forward who's now the Rockets' starting center, is a full foot shorter than Yao.

Lakers coach Phil Jackson acknowledged before Game 5 his team has a split personality.

"This team has a Jekyll and Hyde in it a little bit, I'll admit that," Jackson said. "They have a tendency to get on their heels at times as a basketball team, but they've always responded."

It's just that there's no more room for error for a team that allows itself to be dominated in the paint one game and then does the dominating the next; lets Rockets point guard Aaron Brooks penetrate at will one night and then controls him the next time they meet; or sees the largely ineffective

Andrew Bynum score 14 points in Game 5 and then zero in Game 6.

Bryant said there's "a lot" of pressure on the Lakers. "But this is what we do so, we're supposed to be here and as players you have to respond. If you're going to be an NBA champion, you've got to be able to respond to situations like this."

Going against popular opinion, Jackson thinks Game 7 will be about which Rockets team shows up.

"They've been the provocateur and they've been the one that has been the team that goes out and makes a decided difference in games," Jackson said. "Their activity level was certainly much greater in games 4 and 6."

A quick start will be important. The team leading after the first quarter has won all 12 of Houston's postseason games.

"It's going to be crazy," Houston coach Rick Adelman said. "They're going to come out and try to put a hit on us early."

Stewart wins 1st race as owner

CONCORD, N.C. (AP) — Tony Stewart won his first race as a team owner Saturday night, breaking through for a \$1 million payday with a victory in the annual All-Star race.

Stewart passed Matt Kenseth with two laps to go in a thrilling final 10-lap shootout to win for the first time in 11 All-Star event starts. It was the first victory since he left Joe Gibbs Racing at the end of last year, after two championships and 10 successful seasons, to become co-owner of Stewart-Haas Racing.

In just six months, Smoke has turned his new toy into a championship contender.

He came into the race second in the Sprint Cup Series standings — surprising because most people predicted a rocky first year for a driver accustomed to winning. Instead, he's put both himself and teammate Ryan Newman (eighth in points) in position for berths in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Both have been closing in on Victory Lane for the past month, and Stewart won the race to give the organization its first victory dating to its 2002 debut as Haas CNC Racing.

The win at Lowe's Motor Speedway was in front of co-owner Gene Haas, who was at the track for the first time since the completion of a 16-month federal prison term for tax fraud.

"Man, he's not going to miss a week now," Stewart said. "He gets here and we win a race."

Stewart became the second driver/owner to win the All-Star race, joining Geoff Bodine, the 1994 winner.

His crew urged him to the climb the fence in celebration — a tradition he started several years ago — but the driver who turns 38 next week declined.

His crew climbed for him. Kenseth finished second and was followed by Kurt Busch, Denny Hamlin and Carl Edwards.

The format of the Sprint-sponsored event was once again changed, this time to cut the 100-lap race into four segments that culminated with a 10-lap sprint to the finish. It was a nod to races past, which had a history of dramatic dash-for-the-cash finishes.

It didn't disappoint.

After a follow-the-leader parade for most of the first three segments, the action picked up at the drop of the flag of the final shootout. Kyle Busch used a three-wide pass to dart from fourth to first, aggressive driving that slowed the cars behind him. Denny Hamlin ran into the back of Jimmie Johnson, sending Johnson

into a spin that he masterfully saved from a race-ending accident.

A caution period set up another restart, and this time Jeff Gordon raced to the front. A hard-charging Ryan Newman decided to enter the action with a three-wide move to the outside, and Gordon and Kyle Busch touched at least once before all three cars collided.

It sent Gordon into a spin through the grass then back up across the track, where he crashed into the outside wall to end his race.



Tony Stewart raises the trophy after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup All-Star auto race at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C., Saturday.

AP photo



AP photo

Zach Johnson watches his tee shot on the No. 18 hole during the third round of the Texas Open golf tournament in San Antonio, Saturday. Johnson tied the course record with a 10-under-par 60 and leads the tournament at 15 under par.

Johnson shoots 60 to top Texas Open

SAN ANTONIO — Defending champion Zach Johnson matched the La Cantera course record with a 10-under 60 on Saturday to take a three-stroke lead in the suspended third round of the rain-soaked Texas Open.

Johnson holed out from 84 yards for an eagle on the par-4 seventh and had eight birdies on the soggy course in the round interrupted by a five-hour rain delay. He tapped in for par on 18 seconds after the horn blew and darkness suspended play.

Paul Goydos and three-time champion Justin Leonard were 12 under through 12 holes. They'll resume the round Sunday morning.

"I hit a lot of quality shots. I think I had to get up and down twice for par," Johnson said. "I don't think I missed a green on the backside."

Johnson wore his sunglasses down to the end as dusk turned to dark, having to peer over them on the tee box at No. 18 before pushing them right back on his face. He needed just 11 holes to erase a seven-stroke deficit after waiting until nearly 4:25 p.m. to start his round.

An afternoon storm dumped more than 2 inches of rain, causing the longest delay on the PGA Tour this year. Fourteen players will finish the round Sunday before starting the final 18, when they'll re-pair.

Marc Leishman and were

Scott Sterling were 11 under when play was suspended. Leishman had one hole left and Sterling will resume at 15.

Kent Jones and Fredrik Jacobson were 10 under through 14.

PETTERSEN, OH SHARE SYBASE LEAD

CLIFTON, N.J. — Suzann Pettersen and Ji Young Oh shot 3-under 69s to share the third-round lead in the LPGA Tour's Sybase Classic.

Pettersen and Oh had 12-under 204 totals on the Upper Montclair course.

Second-round leader Brittany Lincicome (72) was 11 under, and Michelle Wie (68) and Paula Creamer (68) followed at 9 under. Three-time defending champion Lorena Ochoa was 2 under after a 72.

PLAY SUSPENDED AT REGIONS CHARITY CLASSIC

HOOVER, Ala. — Gene Jones and Keith Fergus topped the leaderboard at 10 under when play was suspended by rain in the second round of the Regions Charity Classic.

Rain delayed play for 3½ hours in the morning and it was suspended with the threat of storms looming. Jones played 14 holes, and Fergus completed nine holes in the Champions Tour event on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Ross Bridge.

— The Associated Press

CSI Golden Eagle Challenge

3 ON 3

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY

May 30, 2009

DOUBLE ELIMINATION



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CHAMPIONSHIP SATURDAY

Minico

Continued from Sports 1

Winning pitcher Chris Joyce threw four innings with eight strikeouts, two walks and three hits.

"We've been close three years in a row and we finally got it done," Joyce said. "It was hard to keep playing after we started losing so much, especially after winning so much last year. We finally decided to put in the work and turned it around."

Struggling early in the season was rough on the Spartans, especially after last year's school-record 26-win season. But the adversity turned out to be exactly what the team needed.

"We knew we were going to have some struggles at the front of the year, but we were going to have to grow from it and get better and better," Frank said. "We told them we were going to have to work harder than any other year. We needed some senior leadership, and those guys stepped up in a huge way. To their credit, they did everything we asked them."

It is the sixth piece of state hardware in seven seasons — including the 2005 championship — under coach Frank, who battled through his own personal adversity off the field throughout the past year with a court trial and the death of his father.

"I give all the credit to my savior Jesus Christ. He's been my anchor throughout the year," he said.

Minico's leadoff hitter reached base in every inning as the Spartans jumped on Moscow (16-10) from the get-go.

With Minico up 2-1, the game-changing play came in the third inning. Pete Coats jacked a towering



Photos by RYAN HOWE/Times-News

ABOVE: From left to right, Chris Joyce, Alex Moon, Landon Barnes and Barak Frank celebrate the Spartans' Class 4A state baseball championship victory Saturday in Boise.

LEFT: Minico's Casey Christiansen tags out Moscow's Logan Brooks during the Spartans' Class 4A state baseball championship victory.

three-run home run that swung all momentum to the

Spartans.

"Biggest moment of my

life," said Coats. "I had to come up big because this is

the state championship, and I came up bigger than I expected. It was huge. It was the knife in the back, then we just had to twist it with the four spot, then after that it was just playing Spartan baseball."

The "four spot" Coats refers to was the four runs the Spartans put up in the fourth inning, highlighted by a two-RBI single by Casey Christiansen. Kris Copeland added an RBI fielder's choice and Landon Barnes was beamed — for the second time of the game — with the bases loaded to score another.

Christiansen batted 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBIs. Joyce went 2-for-3 with a triple. Barnes didn't get a hit, but the Spartans'

"We knew we were going to have some struggles at the front of the year, but we were going to have to grow from it and get better and better."

— Ben Frank,
Minico coach

leadoff hitter finished the tournament batting a team-best .600 and reached base safely in nine of 12 plate appearances.

"Compared to the teams we've had in the past, this team might not have had all the talent, but we had the heart and the work ethic," Barnes said. "This year we knew we were going to have to come in and leave everything on the field."

The Spartan seniors — Moon, Barnes, Joyce, Barak Frank, David Martsch, Bubba Dessel and Roy Benevidez — did just that.

"From where we started to where we are now, you can't put it into words. Amazing. Incredible. Unthinkable."

Class 4A championship

Minico 11, Moscow 1, five innings
Minico 113 42-11 10 0
Moscow 100 00-1 4 2
Chris Joyce, Casey Christiansen (5) and Alex Moon; Jake Hebling, Zach Hull (3) and Nate Sanchez, W. Joyce, L. Hebling.
Extra-base hits — 3B: Minico, Joyce, Christiansen. HR: Minico, Pete Coats.

Ryan Howe may be reached at rhowe@magicvalley.com or 208-677-8786.

Kimberly

Continued from Sports 1

make the play on defense. We set our goal from the beginning to win state. We knew we were playing state at home on our field. Now we'll have good memories and pick it up from here next season."

The Bulldogs played solid team ball for four tournament games in earning the champions. They weren't perfect, but the young Bulldogs got it done. Every team member talked of the value of their teammates and what each player added to the success of the team.

"We're all excited about this win," said junior Gentry Funk. "This season we were pretty solid and didn't have any real down times. For the most part we played like we should and had fun. We all love to be around each other and know how to pick one another up when we need to."

Kimberly sophomore catcher Averie Schroeder set the tone early with a leadoff double as the Bulldogs struck first blood, putting three runs on the board in the first inning. They added another run on a two-out rally in the second and pushed across single runs in the fourth and sixth.

"I was pretty excited with the hit," said Schroeder.

The Kimberly players enjoyed most of the game, but sophomore Whitney Carlton felt some nerves when the Grizzlies stormed back with two runs in the fifth.

"It was a very fun game except in the inning when they scored," said Carlton. "As young as this team is we are really experienced and feel comfortable from playing a lot of games together. We know if something bad happens that somebody will make a play to get us going again."

Fruitland outfit Kimberly seven to four, something not many teams managed



JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

Kimberly's Mikki Corder (14) catches the ball at first base for an out during the Bulldogs state championship game against Fruitland Saturday afternoon in Kimberly.



JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

Kimberly High School's Alex Pfefferle (11) celebrates with teammates after defeating the Fruitland Grizzlies to take the Class 3A state softball championship Saturday afternoon in Kimberly.

against the Bulldogs. But that stat didn't seem to bother Kimberly coach Rich Bishop.

"You just have to make the most of the hits you do get," said Bishop. "It was a great team effort. This is a great bunch of kids and everyone stepped up and made the plays when they needed."

Kimberly pitcher Nellie Makings recorded nine strikeouts, issued two walks and gave up seven hits. Schroeder led the offense with two hits. Makings, Pfefferle and Bailey Allsop each picked up an RBI.

Shelby Zamora led Fruitland, going 2-for-4. With both Kimberly and

Fruitland fielding young teams in 2009 — Fruitland has only two seniors — there's a good chance the Bulldogs and Grizzlies could square off again in 2010. If Kimberly's 2010 class members (Funk, Alex Pfefferle, Mikki Corder and Jandy Altomose) get their way, they'll leave high school on a winning note.

Fruitland eliminated Payette 6-4 to earn the spot in the championship game. Tara Hutchison recorded seven strikeouts. The big blow for Fruitland was a three-run home run over the center-field fence by short-stop Cheyenne Barger.

Class 3A championship game

Kimberly 6, Fruitland 3
Fruitland 000 120 0-3 75
Kimberly 310 101 x-6 81
Tara Hutchison and Jarica Matarano. Nellie Makings and Averie Schroeder. W: Makings. L: Hutchison. Extra-base hits — 2B: Fruitland, Shelby Zamora, Matarano. Kimberly, Schroeder. 3B: Fruitland, Jandee Carlson.

Championship play-in

Fruitland 6, Payette 4
Payette 000 000 1-4 35
Fruitland 203 001 x-6 81
Mary Hershey and Shiloh Page. Tara Hutchison and Jarica Matarano. W: Hutchison. L: Hershey. Extra-base hits — 2B: Fruitland, Matarano, Reba Daws, Jandee Carlson. HR: Fruitland, Cheyenne Barger.



STAN BREWSTER/For the Times-News

Glenns Ferry catcher Cody Crawshaw tags a Nampa Christian player at home plate during Saturday's Class 2A baseball championship game.

Pilots

Continued from Sports 1

teams, and we played really well," Crawshaw said, referring to the Pilots' road at state — opening against consolation winner Potlatch and facing third-place New Plymouth before falling in the title game. "Obviously we'd like to have had two more runs, but I really don't have anything to complain about as far as how we played."

Glenns Ferry's near miss, its third title-game setback in seven years, was a painful case of close, but not quite. The Pilots (16-11) rallied from a 5-0 deficit but were unable to overcome an early dearth of timely hitting. In each of the first three innings Glenns Ferry left two runners on base, five of those in scoring position.

"We just couldn't get them in. One hit there, and that's the difference in the end," said Pilots coach Denis Uhl. "But if anyone told me three months ago that we'd be playing for the

state championship, you could've knocked me over with a feather. We've come a tremendous way to be here."

Gutierrez echoed the sentiment, noting that just he and Crawshaw are departing from the current Pilots squad.

The senior second baseman expressed his pride in his young teammates, for the difference they made this season and the mettle they showed when the chips were down Saturday.

"We proved we deserved to be here, and we played a hell of a game," Gutierrez said. "Coming back from 5-0 shows that each one of these guys has character. In my heart, they're all champs."

Class 2A championship game

Nampa Christian 6, Glenns Ferry 5
Nampa Christian 112 101 0-6 11 2
Glenns Ferry 000 210 2-5 6 4
James McDonald, Tim Ryan (4) and Nick Hinrichsen. John Acord, Cody Crawshaw (4) and Crawshaw, Mike Crane (4), W: McDonald, L: Acord. SV: Ryan. Extra-base hits — 2B: Nampa Christian, Hinrichsen, Dustin Kamper, Mitchell Miller. 3B: Nampa Christian, Ryan; Glenns Ferry, Acord.

Find more news at
www.magicvalley.com

MARTIAL ARTS



Courtesy photos

Pil Sung competes at Taekwondo tourney

Pil Sung Martial Arts took part in the annual HTF Taekwondo Tournament at Immanuel Lutheran School, hosting by InterMountain Martial Arts of Twin Falls. Pictured are Pil Sung participants. LEFT: From left, Theodore Bisson, Austin Toner, Devin Lewis and Stephanie Pezzaniti. CENTER: Pil Sung's Blackbelts from left, front row: Kaitlin Wilcox and Sarah Woodward; back row: Shaela Richards, Jeffrey Sjolholm, Chuck Duppong, Nikki Praegitzer and Neka Bethke. RIGHT: Felix Duppong and Alex Jerke.



Courtesy photo

Hansen earns junior black belt

Tyler Hansen earned his junior black belt at Success Martial Arts from Senior Instructor Brian Higgins after passing the lengthy final rite of passage on May 2. The rank is the culmination of at least four years of training and a 13-month black belt prep training cycle. To qualify for the threshold event, Hansen completed 20 separate Success Challenges covering respect and courtesy, teamwork and positive thinking as well as self control and a whole range of character traits development. He completed three empathy or gratitude days which included one day blind, one day deaf and one day handicapped to build compassion and empathy for others. He has completed more than 432 classes, as many as 50 private lessons, five six-hour boot camps, more than 50 physical conditioning sessions and more than 200 rounds sparring. Hansen also a member of the junior leaders program, developing his public speaking, rapport building, time management and interpersonal skills.

GOLF

Canyon Springs grabs early Intercity lead

The Magic Valley Intercity women's golf league held its first outing of the season May 7 at Clear Lake Country Club in Buhl. Canyon Springs holds the early league lead with 11.5 points, while Clear Lake is second with 10.5. Blue Lakers (9.5), Rupert (8.5), Burley (6.5), Gooding (5.5), Twin Falls Muni (4.5) and Jerome (3.5) follow in the standings. The intercity league will meet again Tuesday in Jerome.

DRAG RACING

High Desert Speedway season begins

Below are results from April's drag racing action at High Desert Speedway in Gooding.

High Desert Speedway results April 26
Super Pro Class: 1. Dusty Howsden, 2. Larry Dekker
Pro Class: 1. Joe Witherspoon, 2. Kevin McCall
Street Class: 1. Karen Shulz, 2. Bill Fleming
Combo Class: 1. Gary Quam
L & M Enterprises Junior Dragster Class: 1. Janice Witherspoon, 2. Jordon Quam
Jackpot Race: 1. Scott Fitch, 2. Shirley Crawford

April 25
Super Pro Class: 1. Jim Thompson, 2. Mike Shulz Sr.
Pro Class: 1. Gene Lee, 2. Cheri Chambers
Combo class: 1. Gary Quam
Street Class: 1. Karen Shulz, 2. Scott Kincaid
L & M Enterprises Junior Dragster Class: 1. Jordon Quam, 2. Janice Witherspoon
Jackpot Race: 1. Scott Fitch, 2. Larry Hardenbrook
April 5
Jackpot Race: 1. David Burling, 2. Michael Shulz Jr.
April 4
Jackpot Race: 1. Joe Witherspoon, 2. Michael Shulz Jr.

RC RACING

Following are Race 1 results from Almosta Ranch R C's Championship Off Road Racing event.

Race 1
 1. Magic Valley Motors Yellow, 2. Fairbanks Painting, 3. Holland Chiropractic, 4. Magic Valley Motors Blue, 5. MLB Farms, 6. Pro-Masters.

Let us know

Send Your Sports info and photos to sports@magic-valley.com, drop it by 132 Fairfield St. W. in Twin Falls or call us at 735-3239.

Your Sports

BOWLING

BOWLADROME, TWIN FALLS
MEN'S SERIES: Todd Fiscus 792, John Bonnett 792, Cobey Magee 790, Tony Everts 782, Tom Smith 769, Jon Powlus 763, Bob Leazer 760, Cody Hicks 753, Rick Morrow 750, Juan Hernandez 741.
MEN'S GAMES: Jon Powlus 300, Robert Hanway 299, Neil Welsh 299, Chris Macfee 297, Wayne Huft 290, Rick Morrow 290, Ron Salsler 290, Tony Everts 289, Cody Hicks 289, Cobey Magee 289, Ron Marshall 289, Bill Palmer 289.
MEN'S AVERAGES: Cobey Magee 226, Tony Everts 220, Bob Leazer 218, Cory Moore 218, Nathan Ybarra 212, Rocky Bennett 211, Ian DeVries 211, Jon Powlus 210, Tom Smith 210, Todd Fiscus 209, Rob Maxfield 209.
LADIES SERIES: Kristy Rodriguez 690, Lisa Allen 668, Julie Shull 647, Ann Shepherd 643, Kim Leazer 639, Kay Puschel 638, Gail Cederlund 633, Susan Kepner 631, Georgia Randall 631, Diana Brady 628.
LADIES GAMES: Kim Leazer 288, Kristy Rodriguez 268, Ann Shepherd 265, Lisa Allen 255, Georgia Randall 254, Diana Brady 253, Kay Puschel 249, Barb Reynolds 248, Bernie Smith 248, Karla Williams 248.
LADIES AVERAGES: Kristy Rodriguez 185, Julie Shull 183, Georgia Randall 180, Kim Leazer 179, Michele Seckel 178, Gail Cederlund 176, Kay Puschel 176, Barb Reynolds 175, Diana Brady 172, Lisa Allen 171, Michelle Baughman 171, Mary Cooke 171, Sylvia Inman 171.
SENIOR
MEN'S SERIES: Tom Smith 728, Myron Schroeder 707, Ed Dutry 660, Blaine Ross 648, Harry Burket 647, Bill Boren 641, Doug Sutherland 640, Blaine McAllister 638, Eddie Chappell 637.
MEN'S GAMES: Harry Burket 300, Blaine Ross 297, Tom Smith 279, Myron Schroeder 267, Blaine McAllister 255, Ed Dutry 253, Bill Boren 247, Guy Matsuoaka 247, Doug Sutherland 246, Bud Flenniken 245.
MEN'S AVERAGES: Tom Smith 204, Myron Schroeder 189, Eddie Chappell 188, Blaine Ross 188, Dave Wilson 184, Ed Dutry 182, Bill Boren 180, Bob Chalfant 178, Chelcie Eager 178, Blaine McAllister 177.
LADIES SERIES: Belva Coval 598, Jean McGuire 576, Linda Vining 571, Charm Petersen 561, Bernie Smith 560, Dottie Hagood 557, Edith Sutherland 557, Bonnie Draper 550, Barbara Frith 550, Dee Hall 546.
LADIES GAMES: Linda Vining 233, Sandy Schroeder 232, Dottie Hagood 231, Dee Hall 227, Bernie Smith 227, Jean McGuire 225, Belva Coval 222, Susan McCann 220, Bonnie Draper 217, Shirley Kunsman 212, Charm Petersen 212.
LADIES AVERAGES: Linda Vining 164, Bonnie Draper 159, Charm Petersen 159, Jean McGuire 158, Linda Cline 157, Shirley Kunsman 156, Jeane Miller 154,

Dee Hall 152, Joann Burket 152, Gloria Rudolph 150, Sandy Schroeder 150.
TUESDAY MAJORS
BOYS' SERIES: Tyler Black 684, Nicholas Parsons 516, Anthony Vest 505.
BOYS' GAMES: Tyler Black 258, Nicholas Parsons 202, Steven Maher 188, Anthony Vest 179.
GIRLS' SERIES: Koti Jo Moses 538, Miranda Curtis 431, Erica Reeves 397, Megan McAllister 349.
GIRLS' GAMES: Koti Jo Moses 183, Miranda Curtis 154, Erica Reeves 143, Megan McAllister 143.
TUES. NO TAP
MEN'S SERIES: Ed Dutry 671, Maury Miller 648, Tom Morgan 642, Doug Sutherland 641.
MEN'S GAMES: Bill Boren 280, Maury Miller 264, Doug Sutherland 251, Victor Hagood 249.
LADIES SERIES: Ada Perrine 670, Shirley Moser 656, Doris Brown 607, Jeane Miller 605.
LADIES GAMES: Shirley Moser 297, Ada Perrine 267, Jeane Miller 228, Kimberlie Lee 213.
THURS NO TAP
MEN'S SERIES: Nathan Ybarra 722, Ian DeVries 691, Frank Delia 606, Josh Serr 606.
MEN'S GAMES: Nathan Ybarra 278, Ian DeVries 263, Frank Delia 247, Josh Serr 222.
LADIES SERIES: Teri Lehr 404, Brandi Fisher 387.
LADIES GAMES: Teri Lehr 159, Brandi Fisher 143.
MAGIC BOWL, TWIN FALLS
MEN'S SERIES: Cobey Magee 831, Mike Tackett 811, Tad Capurro 804, Ron Dawson 789, Rick Frederiksen 768, Leon Klimes 757, Zach Black 746, Bob Leazer 742, Kent Stowe 741.
MEN'S GAMES: Cobey Magee 300, Kent Stowe 300, Mike Tackett 300, Ron Dawson 298, Leon Klimes 297, Dale Black 296, Ian DeVries 290, Tim Soran Sr. 289, Chet Stone 289, Jack Boyd 288.
MEN'S AVERAGES: Cobey Magee 228, Mike Tackett 223, Rob Maxfield 218, Kent Stowe 218, Ron Dawson 216, Steve Hart 211, Leon Klimes 210, Bob Leazer 210, Tony Brass 207, Chad Kepner 206.
LADIES SERIES: Tawnia Bryant 668, Bobbie Thompson 668, Sylvia Inman 664, Julie Shaffer 657, Nicole Trump 653, Margie Adema 652, Cheri Freeman 650, Julie Shull 645, Leslie Vanderham 635, Sunny McKelvey 632.
LADIES GAMES: Margie Adema 269, Barb Reynolds 267, Bobbie Thompson 267, Nicole Trump 267, Edie Barkley 257, Ida Countryman 256, Sylvia Inman 256, Georgia Randall 256, Leslie Vanderham 248, Julie Shull 246.
LADIES AVERAGES: Toni Champlin 186, Margie Adema 185, Tawnia Bryant 184, Nicole Trump 182, Brenda Aftin 181, Cheri Freeman 180, Barb Reynolds 180, Bobbie Thompson 180, Georgia Randall 179, Julie Shull 179.
SENIORS
MEN'S SERIES: Blaine Ross 708, Ed

Dutry 701, Chelcie Eager 658, Jack Boyd 646, Fred Ott 638, Bud Whismore 633, Maurice Fuller 640, Roy Couch 627, Roger Graefe 619, Robert Bluteau 615.
MEN'S GAMES: Blaine Ross 279, Ed Dutry 268, Charles Lewis 268, Maurice Fuller 258, Jack Boyd 257, Russ Bartlett 247, Roy Couch 246, Rich Farnsworth 246, Chelcie Eager 245, Hubert Bluteau 244, Tom Glass 244.
MEN'S AVERAGES: Blaine Ross 194, Jack Boyd 183, Roy Couch 182, Chelcie Eager 182, Russ Bartlett 180, Ed Dutry 179, Charles Lewis 178, Bud Whismore 178, Fred Ott 176, Hubert Bluteau 175, Tom Glass 175, Howard Harder 175.
LADIES SERIES: Barb Smith 649, Charm Petersen 580, Jean Stokesberry 564, Pat Glass 563, Gloria Harder 563, Dot Van Hook 562, Margie Howard 555, Gloria Rudolph 549, Dee Hall 545, Shirley Kunsman 535.
LADIES GAMES: Barb Smith 242, Gloria Harder 225, Pat Glass 224, Charm Petersen 221, Jean Stokesberry 212, Gloria Rudolph 204, Shirley Kunsman 203, Belva Coval 202, Sharon Knudson 202, LaVona Young 202.
LADIES AVERAGES: Barb Smith 175, Pat Glass 163, Charm Petersen 162, Jean Stokesberry 160, Dot Van Hook 159, Gloria Harder 158, Dee Hall 154, Margie Howard 154, Gloria Rudolph 154, Vi Crowshaw 153.
SUN. ROLLERS 4/26
MEN'S SERIES: Zach Black 633, Dave Wilson 621, RD Adema 609, Michael Wilson 595.
MEN'S GAMES: Zach Black 270, RD Adema 234, Dave Wilson 227, RD Adema 215.
LADIES SERIES: Sylvia Inman 600, Nicole Trump 599, Ashlee Rackham 574, Amanda Crider 548.
LADIES GAMES: Nicole Trump 246, Sylvia Inman 211, Ida Countryman 203, Ashlee Rackham 203.
SUN. ROLLERS 5/3
MEN'S SERIES: Zach Black 670, Ed Chappell 624, Rick Frederiksen 608, RD Adema 596.
MEN'S GAMES: Zach Black 256, Brent Lasure 244, Ed Chappell 236, Steve Hart 234.
LADIES SERIES: Sylvia Inman 590, Ann Shepherd 565, Margie Adema 547, Nicole Trump 534.
LADIES GAMES: Margie Adema 216, Sylvia Inman 215, Nicole Trump 215, Sylvia Inman 213.
FIFTY PLUS
MEN'S SERIES: Roy Couch 593, Bud Whismore 587, Eddie Chappell 586, Tom Morgan 580.
MEN'S GAMES: Charles Lewis 247, Eddie Chappell 225, Jim Brawley 225, Bud Whismore 224.
LADIES SERIES: Dot Van Hook 527, Charm Petersen 503, Virginia Mulkey 485.
LADIES GAMES: Charm Petersen 193, Dot Van Hook 191, Dixie Eager 191, LaVona Young 190.

CSI Golden Eagle Challenge

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY

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FIRST FILLY TO WIN IN 85 YEARS

Rachel Alexandra wins Preakness by 1 length

By Beth Harris
Associated Press writer

BALTIMORE — Girls rule!

The best 3-year-old in the land just happens to be a filly named Rachel Alexandra.

Jockey Calvin Borel all but guaranteed victory in the Preakness Stakes and, boy, did she deliver, becoming the first filly in 85 years to win the second leg of the Triple Crown.

A rangy bay — as big as most of the horses she beat — Rachel Alexandra shot to the front Saturday and wasn't seriously challenged until a late close by Kentucky Derby winner Mine That Bird.

She led by a head at the quarter and half-mile poles. She stretched it to a half-length at the three-quarters pole. She was ahead by four lengths going down the stretch. In the end, the 9-5 favorite won by a length in her first race against the boys.

The win also validated Borel's decision to climb off Mine That Bird and stay on the filly as her regular rider.

Now Borel may get a shot at a personal Triple Crown, if Rachel Alexandra goes on to the Belmont Stakes in three weeks. The 1 1/2-mile race is the most grueling of the three.

"I'm not worried about nothing," he said. "It's going to take a racehorse to beat her."

Rachel Alexandra had already beaten up on her own gender, winning her five previous races by a combined 43 1/2 lengths.

Musket Man finished third, as he did in the Derby, followed by Flying Private and Big Drama.

Rachel Alexandra covered 1 3-16 miles in 1:55.08 and became the first horse to win at Pimlico from the No. 13 post on the far outside. She paid \$5.60, \$4.60 and \$3.60. Mine That Bird returned \$6.60 and \$4.80, while Musket Man paid \$5 to show.

"I'm thrilled to death with the race my little horse ran," said Chip Woolley Jr., who trains Mine That Bird. "You have to give that filly credit. She's a great one."

Rachel Alexandra earned \$660,000 from the purse of \$1.1 million.

Papa Clem was sixth, followed by Terrain, Luv Gov, General Quarters, Friesian Fire, Pioneer of the Nile, Tone It Down and Take the Points.

The last filly to win the Preakness was Nellie Morse in 1924. Rachel Alexandra became the second filly to go off as the wagering favorite and win. Whimsical at 8-5 odds was the first, in 1906.

Rachel Alexandra stumbled slightly leaving the gate, then stuck her head in front at the first turn and refused to give way.

Her first challenge was to get rid of Big Drama, a persistent presence from inside down the backside and into the final turn. Once she shook him loose and opened up the four-length lead at the top of the stretch, Mine That Bird made a run at her.

Borel sensed she was tiring, and took firm hold of the reins.

"I had to put the bit in her mouth because she was kind of struggling," he said. "It kind of took a lot out of her."

Still, she had enough left at the end and crossed the finish line to the cheers of 77,850 fans — the smallest crowd since 1983 — at Pimlico.

"Awesome," said Bob Baffert, who trains Pioneer of the Nile. "Rachel Alexandra is amazing. She took the heat and kept on going."

The most impressive of Rachel Alexandra's performances was her stunning victory by 20 1/4 lengths in the Kentucky Oaks, the day before the Kentucky Derby.

This ending was far different from the last time a filly challenged the boys.



AP photo

Jockey Calvin Borel celebrates aboard Rachel Alexandra after winning the 134th running of the Preakness Stakes horse race at Pimlico Race Course on Saturday in Baltimore.

Eight Belles finished a gallant second in last year's Kentucky Derby, then broke both front legs while galloping past the finish line and was destroyed on the track.

This time, it was all cheers. No tears.

"Rachel Alexandra was great," trainer Todd Pletcher said. "She took it right to them, led every step of the way. She deserves a lot of credit."

Rachel Alexandra, marked by two white spots on her head, wasn't even supposed to be in the Preakness. Her original owners, who named the filly after a 13-year-old granddaughter, didn't nominate her to the Triple Crown races, believing fillies should run only against their own gender.

After the Oaks, Rachel Alexandra was sold to Jess

Jackson, founder of Kendall-Jackson winery, and Harold McCormick.

They ponied up \$100,000 to buy her a spot in the race, and the gamble paid off.

"There was a lot of social criticism and doubt about whether she was capable," Jackson said. "I think I would've taken some heat if she hadn't performed well, so that takes some heat off my shoulders."

Borel had total faith in the filly, making the unprecedented decision to dump Mine That Bird after his stunning Derby victory at 50-1 odds.

"She's the best horse in the country right now, bar none," he said.

The last filly to win a Triple Crown race was Rags to Riches, who beat the Jackson-owned Curlin in the 2007 Belmont Stakes. Her victory was the first by a filly in that race in 102 years.

The start of the Preakness was delayed slightly when Big Drama reared up in the gate and dumped his rider. Rachel Alexandra stood at the opposite end, waiting patiently for the biggest test of her life.

Unlike the Derby, Mine That Bird had a tougher trip with Mike Smith, Borel's replacement, aboard. A light rain fell at the start of the race, but it didn't turn the dirt track into the kind of slop that he flew through to win at Churchill Downs.

"My hats off to her. She's a talented, talented mare," Smith said. "Anyone else would have caved."

Borel crossed the finish

line, wagging his right index finger to signal their No. 1 status.

"Turning for home, I knew I was home free," he said.

Fans hoping for a rematch in the Belmont will have to wait a few days for a decision, although Mine That

Bird will definitely run.

"I'll depend on her. The horse always tells you if they're ready," Jackson said. "Would we love to run? Yes. Could she win? We think so. We've already shown she can run with colts. It's a question now of her best interest."

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207 Education

EDUCATION

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6 temp. farm workers & irrigators needed in ID (3) & MT (3). Approx. 6/1 to 12/1/09 (start & end dates vary). \$7.25 to \$11.69 hr. or piece rates, 48hrs/wk. Single worker housing provided if unable to return daily to residence. Tools/supplies provided. Guaranteed pay for 3/4 of contract. Travel cost reimbursed at 50% of contract & upon completion of contract for out-of-area workers. For more details, employer names, specific locations/wage rates/dates & to apply, report or send resume to nearest State Workforce Agency or contact Idaho Dept. of Labor (208)332-3570 & refer to JO#s 1338926 & 1338927 or Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry (406)444-3480 & refer to JO#s 1516994 & 2975510.

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209 General

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GENERAL
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GENERAL
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GENERAL

The City of Twin Falls is now hiring for the position of RECREATION COORDINATOR. Apply immediately. The job description and employment applications are available at www.tfid.org. For additional information contact the Human Resource Office at (208) 735-7266. The position closes June 5th. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace.

REMEMBER
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209 General

GENERAL

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To apply stop by our office at 840 Meadows Dr. Ste #2 In Twin Falls or call us at 208-736-2851

209 General

GENERAL
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209 General

GENERAL
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211 Medical

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GENERAL

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EOE/AA


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St Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
P.O. Box 409, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409 (208) 737-2671 or FAX (208) 737-2741
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211 Medical

MEDICAL
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211 Medical

MEDICAL
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213 Professional

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Can you handle working in a fast paced, ever changing, fun filled environment?

Full Time Housekeeping Supervisor \$10.20 per hour

Do you enjoy keeping things clean, neat and organized?
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 EOE/Drug Free Workplace

SALES

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American Family Insurance is now hiring a **Marketing Specialist** in Twin Falls. Must have a good driving record and six months clean credit. Please either fax resume to (208) 552-2488 or email resume to bharada@amfam.com. If you have any questions, please call Britanni at (208) 552-2411

SALES

Dispatcher in Training

Pacific Supply Twin Falls is currently accepting applications for a Dispatcher in Training. This position is responsible for providing great customer service and being a resource of product knowledge. Qualified applicants will have superior communication skills & the ability to work professionally with customers and other employees. Must pay close attention to details. Basic knowledge of building materials is a plus. We offer a competitive salary and benefits. Apply in person at: 1641 Highland Ave., Twin Falls, ID 83301. Phone (208) 736-8899. Fax (208) 733-8877. We are a drug free company and EOE. www.pacocoast.jobs

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Top Pay for qualified individuals. MyBullfrog.com/a Verizon Wireless Premium Retailer is seeking a full-time Sales Representative in the Burley area. Experience in sales and customer service preferred. Knowledge of the wireless industry and bilingual is a plus. Submit resumes & references to email llogel@mybullfrog.com or call Lincoln at 208-870-0195

216 Trades

TRADES
 Hilex Poly Co. LLC, has an opening for a **Machine Technician**

Successful applicant will be responsible for performance of bag making equipment, printers, and extruders. Minimum 2 years experience in a manufacturing environment preferred. Must possess outstanding safety leadership and communication skills. Overtime and rotating shift schedules will be required.

Salary range for this position is \$13.11 to \$15.30 per hour based on experience and qualifications. Benefit package includes medical / dental / vision / life / 401k / paid vacation & holidays.

Must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED and be legally authorized to work in the U.S.

Qualified Applicants Please Submit your Resume and Salary History to:

Hilex Poly Co., LLC
 540 West Nez Perce Way
 Jerome, ID 83338
 Attn: Human Resources
 Or e-mail to: liz.mack@hilexpoly.com
 Hilex Poly is a Drug-Free Workplace

TRADES

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Spilling virtual beans lands surprised friend in hot water



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: A few months ago, my friend and neighbor, "Jill," told me how much she enjoyed an online mothers group she participated in, so I joined. Last week, Jill announced on the Web site that she's pregnant with her second child. I congratulated her online, then congratulated her husband in person when I ran into him in the neighborhood later that day. He was flabbergasted. Apparently, Jill hadn't told him about the baby!

Jill is now furious with me because I "spoiled her surprise" by revealing something that was supposed to be a secret. How could I have possibly known her pregnancy was secret? She posted it on the Internet! Jill claims any information exchanged in the online community should be confidential as it is never mentioned in the "real world." I think she should have told her husband before telling her online friends.

How was I supposed to know this "rule" about privacy when it's never discussed? And how do I fix our friendship? I don't think I did anything wrong. Jill thinks I hurt her on purpose.

— **ONLINE MOMMY IN THE NORTHWEST**

DEAR ONLINE MOMMY: An online chat group is not a 12-step meeting where members guard their anonymity as girls do their chastity. Unless a privacy warning was clearly posted on the site, there is no way you — or anyone else — could

have known that the discussions were confidential. One apology should be enough. Jill's feelings of persecution may be hormonal and connected to her pregnancy — so try not to take this too personally.

DEAR ABBY: My colleague, "Allison," is a nice person, but she's also a major hypochondriac. Every day she complains about her latest ailment — or a family member's — and the intensive treatment it requires. Headaches, bathroom issues, rashes, aches, sinusitis, strange diseases, you name it. Still, she rarely exhibits any obvious symptoms and almost never misses an entire day of work.

Many of our co-workers pamper her and give her the attention she obviously wants. Because I tend to downplay her ailments I am considered insensitive and cruel. I am frustrated because I simply no longer care to listen to her made-up maladies. She also tries to convince everyone else in the office that their minor sniffles, fatigue and pulled muscles are symptoms of serious ailments.

Ironically, we are health-

care workers, and talking about health issues is part of our job. I'm sick and tired of Allison the Hypochondriac. Have you any ideas on how to handle this woman?

— **HEARD IT ALL IN N.Y.**

DEAR HEARD IT ALL: Allison does have an illness, but it is not of a physical nature. Until the poor woman is ready to accept and deal with it — or your supervisor or human resources person is ready to urge her to — there is nothing you can do to "fix" her. Because her constant complaints are stressing you out, my advice is to move out of earshot as soon as she starts another chorus of her daily "organ recital."

DEAR ABBY: Can you tell me the proper way to place your knife and fork after you finish eating? I was taught to turn my fork over at the 4 o'clock position and the knife just to the left of the fork. I fold my napkin and place it to the left when dinner has been completed.

Am I old-fashioned?

— **GERRY IN SUGAR LAND, TEXAS**

DEAR GERRY: No. You're practicing proper table etiquette. According to "Emily Post's Etiquette," at the end of the course the knife and fork should be "laid diagonally across the plate" in the position you have described, and "the knife blade faces inward, but the fork tines can be either up or down."

IF MAY 17 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You might be tempted to take a chance by making a weighty decision, but could also be distracted by an illusionary carrot at the end of the stick. Be sure to ask for sound advice from trusted friends or companions because it is easy for you to mistake something of dubious value as the real thing until the end of this month. The best time to make a business or job-related decision is in July when your business sense is in top form. In September the boss might expect perfection and loved ones might be testy, so that is a poor time to take on extra obligations or run up debts. Your decks will be cleared for a vacation in October, but you can press forward with any crucial matter during that favorable time, too.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Changes in plans or changes in friendships could be on your celestial menu in the week to come. You could experience some fleeting confusion about what you want or whom you wish to spend time with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There is a tendency to speak more and spend less than necessary during the upcoming week. You might have an urge to overshare your thoughts and feelings while tightening the purse strings.

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Even the best-laid plans of mice or men can become subject to various interpretations in the week ahead. You may be surprised by sudden changes and alterations within your social circle.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): When and if push comes to shove, you may occasionally feel like the pusher. You may be forced to act in more logical ways in the week ahead. Those close to you could exaggerate their net worth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Those boots were made for walking and those minds were made for changing. New information could convince you to reconsider and re-evaluate decisions that pertain to key relationships in the week ahead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The media is the message. You might mistake evasiveness for broadmindedness during the week ahead. Since there could be mix-ups concerning key communications, you must be vigilante and diligent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): To everything there is a season — and this week you

might be wise to shun your carefree ways and spend extra time staying on top of your responsibilities. It will pay to be more organized.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): No matter what state the economy is in, you will feel better when you conserve your pennies. This is a week to cook out on the patio or rent a movie and pop your own popcorn with family members.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Continue to seek the best and highest. In the week ahead, keep pen and paper close by so you can jot down your thoughts and inspirations. You may have some valuable ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Finances can thrive under these celestial conditions, but you may be tempted to disturb the income stream due to news on the grapevine in the week ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You know a good thing when you see it. Some people may call you a copycat, but in reality you are wisely adapting to circumstances in a beneficial way. Find ways to improve your life this week.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be disappointed by someone or something that has not lived up to your expectations, but will besurprised because of a pleasant change this week.

Today is Sunday, May 17, the 137th day of 2009. There are 228 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:
 On May 17, 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously struck down racially segregated public schools in its Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka decision.

On this date:
 In 1792, the New York Stock Exchange had its origins as a group of brokers met under a tree on Wall Street.
 In 1814, Norway's constitution was signed, providing for a limited monarchy.
 In 1849, fire erupted in St. Louis, resulting in the loss of three lives, more than 400 buildings and some two dozen steamships.
 In 1875, the first Kentucky Derby was run; the winner was Aristides.
 In 1938, Congress passed the Second Vinson Act, providing for a strengthened U.S. Navy. The radio quiz show "Information, Please!" made its debut on the NBC Blue Network.
 In 1939, Britain's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth arrived in Quebec on the first visit to Canada by

TODAY IN HISTORY

reigning British sovereigns.

In 1946, President Harry S. Truman seized control of the nation's railroads, delaying — but not preventing — a threatened strike by engineers and trainmen.

In 1973, the Senate began its televised hearings into the Watergate scandal.

In 1980, rioting that claimed 18 lives erupted in Miami's Liberty City after an all-white jury in Tampa acquitted four former Miami police officers of fatally beating black insurance executive Arthur McDuffie.

In 1987, 37 American sailors were killed when an Iraqi warplane attacked the U.S. Navy frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf. (Iraq and the U.S. called the attack a mistake.)

Ten years ago: The Supreme Court banned states from paying lower welfare benefits to newcomers as opposed to longtime residents. Labor Party leader Ehud Barak unseated Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Israeli elections. Makah Indians in Washington state harpooned a gray whale for the first time in 70 years.

Five years ago: Massachusetts became the first state to allow legal same-sex marriages. Abdel-Zahraa Othman, also known as Izzadine Saleem, head of the Iraqi Governing Council, was killed in a suicide car bombing in Baghdad. More than 100 people were killed in a prison fire in northern Honduras. Transsexuals were cleared to compete in the Olympics for the first time. Actor Tony Randall died in New York at age 84.

One year ago: Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., was flown to a Boston hospital after suffering a seizure at his Cape Cod home. (He was later diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor.) Nearing the end of his five-day Mideast trip, President George W. Bush held a rapid-fire series of diplomatic meetings at the Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheik in Egypt. Kentucky Derby winner Big Brown ran away with the Preakness.

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Sunday, May 17, 2009

THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff: I doubled the same contract that my partner had just doubled. What is the appropriate penalty? Repeat Offender, Elmira, N.Y.

ANSWER: This is bad news for your side. When an illegal second double is made, the call is canceled and you get the right to make any call you like. But there may be lead penalties imposed on your partner, AND if the auction continues, your partner is barred for the duration.

Dear Mr. Wolff: I'm not a great fan of pre-empting with unsuitable shape. But if you held ♠ Q-J-10-4-2, ♥ 7-3-2, ♦ 4, ♣ J-7-6-4, would you ever open two spades in third seat nonvulnerable? My partner thought this was very undisciplined. I felt my intermediates justified the risk. Wild Thing, Union City, Tenn.

ANSWER: The problem with such actions is not the result you get this time, but what will happen the next time your partner hears you open in third seat and can't decide whether to trust you. I don't think your choice is such a bad one; but you need to discuss with your partner whether your style in third seat is wild and undisciplined (in which case you should let the opponents know) or if this is the exception.

Dear Mr. Wolff: In third seat I had ♠ Q-7-3, ♥ A-2, ♦ A-10-3, ♣ 7-6-4-3-2 and my partner opened one club. The next hand bid one diamond, and I was not sure whether to bid no-trump or to raise clubs; if the latter, to what level? Your recommendation? Sanity Check, Spartanburg, S.C.

ANSWER: This is a good hand facing an unbalanced hand, but an unremarkable one if partner has

12-14 balanced (his most likely hand-type at this point in the auction). I agree that playing a partscore in no-trump may be the best spot, but I'll opt for the cuebid raise to two diamonds, and expect to play two no-trump if partner shows no signs of life.

Dear Mr. Wolff: What are the merits of leading unsupported aces? What about in bid and supported suits? Aces and Spaces, Mitchell, S.D.

ANSWER: Leading an ace when the opponents pre-empt or when the contract is at the five-level or higher sometimes makes sense. Equally, in bid and supported suits I'm not opposed to the lead of my partner's suit, but it is less attractive when I've bid the suit first. Of course, if the opponents have rejected no-trump because of a concern about one suit, be it bid or unbid by us, it makes the lead a logical one.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Are you currently involved in bridge politics at a national or world level? And if not, why not? Policy Wonk, Wichita Falls, Texas

ANSWER: I've served my term in bridge politics in the United States; it is time for younger (if not wiser) heads to prevail. At the world level I'm still interested in the appeals process, but I do not hear as well as I used to. I hope to attend the tournament in Rio, but I suspect my days of chairing appeals are over. I do enjoy commenting on appeals for the ACBL, and will never stop trying to have justice done.

For details of Bobby Wolff's autobiography, "The Lone Wolf," contact kay1002@aol.com. If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff@mindspring.com. Copyright 2009, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

1			4	3	8			
			3	2	4			
				7				
1								5
	7	1	3	8	9			
4								2
	1							
	8	7	5					
3	6	9						4

Answer to previous puzzle

7	8	5	6	4	9	1	2	3
4	6	1	8	2	3	9	5	7
9	3	2	7	5	1	4	8	6
6	9	8	3	7	5	2	1	4
3	1	4	9	6	2	5	7	8
5	2	7	4	1	8	3	6	9
8	5	3	2	9	7	6	4	1
2	4	9	1	8	6	7	3	5
1	7	6	5	3	4	8	9	2

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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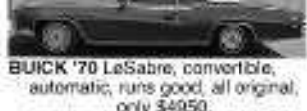
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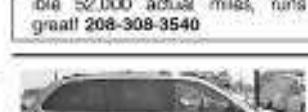


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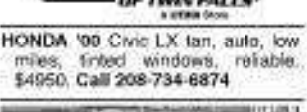
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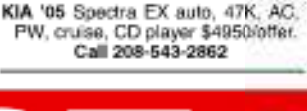
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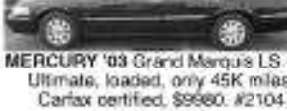
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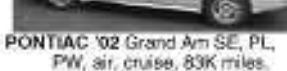
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SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009

FEATURES EDITOR VIRGINIA HUTCHINS: (208) 735-3242 VIRGINIA.HUTCHINS@LEE.NET

INTRODUCE US TO A SPECIAL DAD

Perhaps you know a particularly inspiring father. One who set a splendid example for his children or overcame tremendous obstacles. Or one who spread his arms, opened his heart and cared for families other than his own. If so, please tell us about him.

On Father's Day next month, we want to devote the Family Life section front to an extraordinary southern Idaho father. But we need you to introduce us to him.

By e-mail, you can nominate a father who lives in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka or Twin Falls county. Tell us why his

story would be inspiring to our readers.

Also include: Your full name; how you're connected with the father you're nominating; contact information for both you and him; and the towns where each of you live. Please make sure all your information is correct, including name spellings.

E-mail your nomination: Send it to virginia.hutchins@lee.net with "Father" in the subject line.

The deadline: We must receive your nomination by Sunday, June 7.

In our Father's Day story, we may quote from any nomination we receive.



Times-News photo

Jim Beat, the subject of last year's Father's Day feature, holds his dog as he drives his four-wheeler on a Magic Valley outing with his family in 2008.

Waffles for dinner is not a criminal act

It may take a few years, but eventually you learn when to let go of the inner guilt that makes you feel like a negligent parent.

Here's my latest liberation from parental shame: I no longer feel bad when serving breakfast for our kids' dinner.

I know I'm not alone here, people. Whether it's a bowl of Wheaties, or a heaping plate of pancakes, many parents routinely turn breakfast fare into an easy excuse for a meal. Sometimes it's for taste, sometimes it's to save time. But always, it leads to maple syrup stains on my dining room table.



SPILT MILK
David Cooper

Who's the source for this convenient slide into slothful cuisine? Like any patriotic American, I blame the French. With their exotic culinary flair for souffles, omelets and crepes, our sophisticated allies across the pond whip up sweet gluttony onto a plate for any meal, at any hour, and without a trifle of regret.

We Yankees, however, have taken it to a whole new level that Europeans wouldn't recognize. Last year my wife and I traveled to Europe. Within a few days, she grew painfully tired of the customary continental breakfast involving bread, cheese, cold cut meats or a poached egg. "Doesn't anyone make a short stack over here?" she asked one day. In spite of our earnest efforts not to look like ugly Americans abroad, we couldn't help looking for a Denny's or IHOP.

Since I can't blame European cuisine, I'll turn to the mass media conglomerate that's modernizing our dietary habits. I'm talking, of course, about the Food Network and its massive amount of programming dedicated to comfort food, greasy spoons and roadside diners.

Even the Iron Chef crew is serving breakfast grub for their judges — although it's usually something like beignets with kiwi chutney, and not Aunt Jemima and Mrs. Butterworth.

What these network programmers are plugging into is a connection to familiar cuisine. They're also showing most of it at night, and featuring restaurants that serve up comfort food at any time of the night. Put two and two together and you've got a legitimate excuse to whip up French toast for supper.

Late-night breakfast even has a name — brinner. For years, I called it lazy parenting. Children should eat healthy offerings at dinner, I always told myself. And if you're letting kids eat Lucky Charms before they go to bed, you're riding a slippery slope that could land you in a custody hearing.

That idea of perfect parenting, however, is unrealistic. Serving bacon and hash browns at dinner doesn't cause the food nutrition pyramid to flip upside down. And an occasional evening waffle doesn't usher your kid into a lifetime of obesity.

But for a parent who relishes a chance to sit down with his kids for at least one meal a day, it's a welcome relief. Comfort food for the kids and comfort for the parents, who don't have to argue with the tots about why zucchini is good for them.

David Cooper is a father of five. Reach him at dcooper@magicvalley.com.

Giving city kids a chance to ride

Group pairs castoff horses with kids who need an animal for show

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

FILER — Adults huddled in cars or on the bleachers next to the open-air arena, seeking shelter from the harsh wind. The kids, wrapped up in gossiping and warming up their horses, didn't seem to mind the cold.

Most of the children saddled and rode their horses with ease, but Chris Overlin took his time. This was the 10-year-old's first time meeting Penny, and he wanted to get to know her. He brought over his blanket and saddle and, after being reminded not to walk behind an unfamiliar horse, got the mare ready to ride.

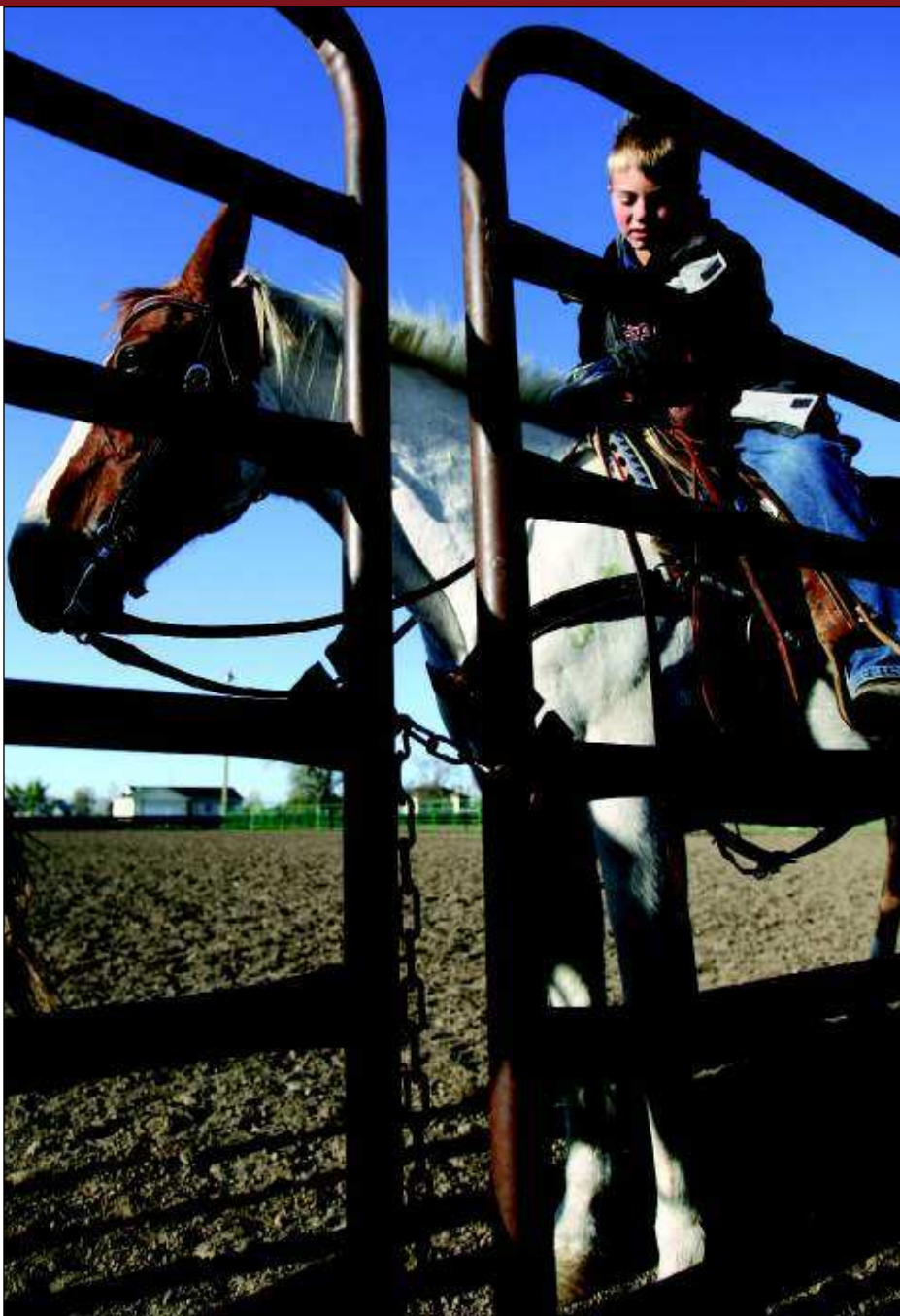
Overlin and Penny are the benefactors of Mark Gawlinski's offer to take in donated horses and pair them with kids who need an animal to show.

The program is designed for kids who want to ride through 4-H but may not have the money or land for an animal. Overlin's family has a 3-year-old untrained horse, so the Twin Falls boy is dependent on the club for riding. The horses live on Gawlinski's Twin Falls property, where the kids are expected to learn how to feed them, groom them and ready them for shows.

See **HORSES**, FL 3



Rowdy waits to be brushed before the start of a 4-H club activity May 7 at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer. Club leader Mark Gawlinski took in the donated horse in the hope that it would provide a service to children who couldn't otherwise participate.



Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

A member of the Silver Spurs 4-H club, 10-year-old Chris Overlin gets used to Penny — one of two horses that Mark Gawlinski adopted in order to share them with children who wouldn't otherwise be able to participate in the club. Penny was given up because her previous owner, a single mother from Hollister, couldn't afford feed.

CAN'T FEED THE HORSE?

Silver Spurs 4-H is willing to take in a couple of additional horses for its riders. If you would like to donate a horse to Silver Spurs 4-H, contact Mark Gawlinski at 736-7103. If you want to surrender a horse that might not fit the Twin Falls club's criteria, contact Robin Hess of Twin Falls, who wants to rescue horses, at 404-3316.

That wedding was wild!

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

Your wedding is supposed to be a perfect day, right? Talk to any bride and groom, though, and you'll quickly find that there's almost always some little thing that goes wrong. It's those little things that can make a wedding memorable — and wild!

We asked our readers to tell us about their wedding mishaps, and here are a few of their best stories.

Take Jim Plunk and his wife, Katherine. Now of Twin Falls, they were married in 1973 in

Medford, Ore. Jim was in the service, and the couple had to leave for one of his assignments across the country on New Year's Day. So they arranged with their preacher to meet at his house on Dec. 31 to get hitched.

"You've heard of weddings where the bride didn't show up, and you've heard of weddings where the groom didn't show up," Jim says. "We went over to the preacher's house on New Year's Eve with all our witnesses, and it was dark and he was gone."

Turns out the preacher had gotten a little overbooked, and

was out at parishioners' homes for holiday dinners. The Plunks were able to track him down, and he ducked out of the festivities to perform their ceremony.

"He came to his home, apologized profusely, married us, then went back to his dinner," Jim says. It was a little nerve-wracking though, since Katherine had already had some second thoughts. "She said, 'If this is an omen, we probably shouldn't get married.' Thirty-five years later, I think it took!"



Photo courtesy of JACK FRANK
Jack and Edna Frank of Twin Falls, both marrying for a second time, went ahead with their ceremony despite a grandchild's protest.

See **WEDDING**, FL 3

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center

530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; lounge and pool rooms; bargain center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Daily lunches are available for take-out from 11 a.m. to noon; seniors 59 and under, \$5.50; seniors 60 and older, \$4.50. 734-5084.

MENUS:

Monday: Beef stroganoff
Tuesday: Turkey pot pie
Wednesday: Ginger chicken
Thursday: Pot roast
Friday: Spaghetti

ACTIVITIES:

Today: Melody Master Dance, 2 to 5 p.m.
Monday: Quilting, 8 a.m. Bridge, 1 p.m.
Tai chi, 1 p.m., \$1
Duplicate bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday Blood pressure, 10 a.m. to noon
Oil painting by appointment, 734-0509
Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m.
Exercise class, 1 p.m.
Let's Dance, 6 to 11 p.m.
Wednesday: Cinnamon rolls for sale, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; \$1.50 each; coffee and roll, \$2
Quilting, 8 a.m.
Gem State Fiddlers, 11 a.m.
Duplicate bridge, 12:30 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tai chi, 1 p.m., \$1
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Oil painting by appointment, 734-0509
Friday: Quilting, 8 a.m.
Bingo at lunch
Texas Hold'em, 1 p.m.
Tai chi, 1 p.m., \$1
Saturday: Bingo, 1 to 3 p.m.

West End Senior Citizens Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60. Sunday buffet: 1 p.m.; \$5, seniors; \$6, under 60; \$4, under 12. Center hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday.

MENUS:

Monday: Chicken noodle soup and sandwich
Tuesday: Spaghetti
Wednesday: Pancake, eggs, bacon
Thursday: Birthday dinner, hot beef sandwich
ACTIVITIES:

Today: Chicken dinner, 1 p.m.
Haak's Band
Monday: SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bus runs for lunch pickup, call 543-4577 by 10:30 a.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m.
Jackpot, Nev., trip, 3 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bus runs for lunch pickup, call 543-4577 by 10:30 a.m.
Bingo, 1 to 3 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Friday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m.

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St., Filer. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Baked ham
Wednesday: Deep-fried trout
Thursday: Pork chops
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 12:30 p.m.
Cards, 1 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m. Fiddlers
Bingo, 1 p.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 7 p.m.

Wendell Senior Meal Site

105 W. Ave. A. Lunch served at noon Mondays. Hours, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ageless Senior Citizens Inc.

310 Main St. N., Kimberly. Lunch and full-serve salad bar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; take-out; home delivery. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Spaghetti
Wednesday: Swedish meatballs
Friday: Oven-fried chicken
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Nu-2-U Thrift Store open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
AA meeting, 8 p.m.
Al-Anon meeting, 8 p.m.
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.; everyone over 18 welcome
Wednesday: Nu-2-U open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: NA meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday: Nu-2-U open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Bingo, 11:50 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizen Center

308 Senior Ave., Gooding. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50 for seniors. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Chicken a la king
Tuesday: Liver and onions
Wednesday: Chili dogs
Thursday: Chicken dijon
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Pinochle, 12:30 p.m. Wild one, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Hand and foot, 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilt social, 9 a.m. Music by the Fiddlers
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge and duplicate bridge, 1 p.m.
Saturday: Pinochle, 7 p.m.

Hagerman Valley Senior and Community Center

140 E. Lake, Hagerman. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$5, under 60; \$2, under 12. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; thrift shop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; free high-speed Internet.

MENUS:

Monday: Roast beef
Wednesday: Lasagna
Friday: Soup and salad bar
ACTIVITIES:
Friday: Fossil Days renaissance in the park
Saturday: Fossil Days Breakfast fundraiser, 7 to 11 a.m.

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E., Jerome. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free transportation to and from center Wednesdays through Fridays, call center for information at 324-5642.

MENUS:

Monday: Barbecue riblets
Tuesday: Beef stroganoff
Wednesday: Country-fried chicken
Thursday: Turkey
Friday: Birthday dinner, polish sausage and kraut
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: SilverSneakers exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Bridge, 12:30 p.m.

Last Resort Band
Commission for the Blind
Book club fundraiser, 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Potato bar, \$1
Tuesday: Gem State Fiddlers
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.; early bird, 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m.
Bridge, 12:30 p.m.
Dick and John
Threads of Time, 1 to 4 p.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Free Will Baptist Church
Potluck, 6 p.m.
Creekside
Friday: SilverSneakers, 10:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Last Resort Band
Kids Club, 4 to 6 p.m.

Silver and Gold Senior Center

210 E. Wilson, Eden. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 8 a.m. to noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Sausage patty
Thursday: Salmon patty
ACTIVITIES:
Wednesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Years Senior Citizens Inc.

218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday; 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Beef taco salad
Wednesday: Roast beef sandwich
Friday: Stroganoff
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Quilting, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m. Bingo
Wednesday: Black Out Bingo, 12:30 p.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m. Bingo

Camas County Senior Center

127 Willow Ave. W., Fairfield. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$4, under 60; \$2, under 10. Quilting, pool, table games, puzzles, TV, videos. Center

hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
ACTIVITIES:
Thursday: Art class, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Richfield Senior Center

130 S. Main, Richfield. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50, seniors; \$5.50, under 60.

MENUS:

Monday: Baked ham
Thursday: Pizza

Blaine County Senior Center

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$5, non-seniors. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

MENUS:

Tuesday: Cook's choice
Wednesday: Hamburgers
Friday: Fish and chips or chicken strips
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Salad and soup bar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Fit and Fall-proof, 1 p.m.
Duplicate bridge, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Foot clinic, 10 a.m. Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Fit and Fall-proof, 1 p.m.
Win on Wednesday
Friday: Table tennis, 9 a.m.
Fit and Fall-proof, 1 p.m.
Springfest at the Community Campus
Saturday: Springfest

Carey Senior Center

Main Street. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$3, seniors; \$5, non-seniors.

ACTIVITIES:

Thursday: Foot clinic 10 a.m. to noon
Blood pressure
MENU:
Thursday: Birthday lunch, pasta salad

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$5, seniors; \$6, non-seniors; \$3, under 12; \$4.50, home delivery. Gift shop: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Center hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Pork chops
Tuesday: Taco salad
Wednesday: Chicken-fried steak
Thursday: Ham
Friday: Chicken or fish
ACTIVITIES:
Monday: Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m. Pool, 1 p.m.

Tuesday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Walking, 9 a.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 1 p.m. Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.
Thursday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Walking, 9 a.m.
SHIBA and Medicare assistance, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; call George Schwindeman at 436-9107 or Kitty Andrews at 677-4872 for appointments
Friday: Pool, 1 p.m. Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m. Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center

2421 Overland Ave., Burley. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4.50, seniors and children under 12; \$6, non-seniors. Center hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Spaghetti
Tuesday: Ham and beans
Wednesday: Roast beef
Thursday: Nachos
Friday: Potato bar
ACTIVITIES:

Monday: Pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Exercise
Tuesday: Pool
Wood carving, 8:30 a.m.
Radio show, 9:06 a.m.
Exercise
Community bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Exercise
Thursday: Pool
Exercise
Movie, 9:30 a.m.
Community pinochle, 6 p.m.
Woodcarving, 6 p.m.
Friday: Pool
Exercise
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Three Island Senior Center

492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glenns Ferry. Lunch at noon. Suggested donation: \$4, seniors; \$6, under 60; \$2.50, under 12. For rides: 366-2051. Center hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MENUS:

Monday: Barbecue meatballs
Tuesday: Chicken-fried steak
Thursday: Fish fillet
ACTIVITIES:
Tuesday: Fit and Fall-proof, 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: Fit and Fall-proof, 10:30 a.m.
Business meeting
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.
Cardio, 1 p.m.
Saturday: VFW coffee break at rest area

Mom blogs dole out advice – with corporate backing

By Melissa Rayworth
For The Associated Press

Bedtime stories and beloved teddy bears? Snack-time silliness and bath-time hijinks? For “mommy bloggers” across the country, the rules are clear: If it relates to your kid, go ahead and blog about it.

But when Christine Young does it — when she writes, say, about how adorably orange her children's fingers get when they gobble down handfuls of yummy Cheetos — things get a bit more complicated.

Young has, in her words, a “relationship” with Frito-Lay, the maker of Cheetos. She isn't paid a salary, but the perks include free snack food for her family of eight and a recent trip to Los Angeles, complete with parties and pampering at a ritzy hotel.

Like many mom bloggers, Young originally wrote about products she bought at her Web site fromdatestodiatpers.com. Then companies came calling. They asked her, “to test products in exchange for a little bit of buzz on my site,” she says, and she happily obliged. Raising six kids, she's grateful for the flow of free products, including a Nintendo Wii and other pricey items. She hopes to keep them coming.

It's become the standard model for successful parenting blogs: Women review products on their Web sites, sometimes mentioning that



Christine Young pauses from working on her blog, 'From Dates to Diapers,' to admire a drawing by her son, Ben, 3, at her home in Lincoln, Calif.

they've received the items for free. But products also pop up conversationally, amid anecdotes about family life.

“I try to be very natural with my reviews and when I talk about companies and products,” Young says. “I don't want it to look like one big commercial.”

Readers flock to these blogs for real opinions from real moms whose lives appear to resemble their own. Marie Hulquest, a mother of two who lives near Boulder, Colo., and Stephanie Joynes, a mother of one in suburban Washington, D.C., say they've bought products specifically because they

were recommended by mom bloggers.

But can mothers who have relationships with corporate sponsors, formal or informal, really speak without any agenda about these products, unaffected by the flow of freebies?

The Federal Trade Commission has begun reviewing their advertising guidelines with mom bloggers in mind.

“Those who are compensated to promote or review a product” on their personal Web sites “are not exempt from the laws governing truthful advertising,” said Richard Cleland, the FTC's assistant director of advertising practices,

in a recent statement.

Traditional journalists are expected to refuse freebies to avoid any conflict of interest. Magazines and large parenting Web sites do receive product samples for review. But for an individual woman writing a blog from home, a free shipment of diapers represents a huge savings in her monthly budget. It's hard not to get excited about that.

On popular social networks, it can be difficult to monitor which impromptu post about lunch with toddlers is also a carefully crafted salespitch. “There's no way to monitor what goes on outside the discussions themselves,” including whether a poster has been

compensated, says Tara Connell, spokeswoman for Gannett Co. Inc., which runs the network MomsLikeMe.com.

At CafeMom.com, mothers are invited to join the site's Influencer program. If chosen, they receive products to try out and write about, sharing their thoughts with other moms.

Participants aren't required to say anything positive about the products, says CafeMom marketing executive Laura Fortner. But the experience clearly delights many of them.

Tonya Smith-Baker was chosen three times as an Influencer, once receiving a free HP TouchSmart laptop to review and keep. She was informed each time that her review should be unbiased. Her post about the product, which she said her kids loved, is glowing. The page is filled with exclamation points and smiley emoticons.

Getting something so valuable for free was a fantastic experience, she says, and she'd love to participate in more Influencer giveaways. “I'd never had it happen before,” she says of receiving a free computer. “It is just so cool.”

Even with lower priced items, there's a clear excitement at receiving something for free. In 31 posts about the Influencer program for Hot Pockets microwaveable meals, only one included a mildly negative sentence. It

was nestled between words of praise: “The kids loved them,” one mom wrote, “me not so fond, but I would buy for the kids!!!”

The rest were effusive comments from those who'd gotten free Hot Pockets or hopeful queries from moms praising Hot Pockets and asking how they, too, could qualify for a free box.

Despite the flow of freebies, mothers say they trust that mom bloggers speak from the heart. “There is a loyalty amongst parents,” Joynes says via e-mail, “that we have a duty to each other to be straight about how to spend their hard earned money and whether something is worth it or not.”

Beth Feldman, who blogs at RoleMommy.com and has received products and free travel from Frito-Lay and many other companies, says transparency is the key issue. It's crucial, she says, that bloggers reveal their relationships with retailers and make clear which items they've been given for free. Most mom bloggers do just that, she says.

The FTC's commissioners are expected to vote on their new guidelines this summer. In the meantime, the marketing juggernaut continues. This month, Christine Young will be flown to Nestle's headquarters in Ohio and days later to Disney World.

Lavish gifts baskets, she says, will be waiting in each hotel room.

AP photo



Photos by MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Amber Doramus, 17, brushes her horse Drake as the teen prepares for her 4-H session at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds. 'He's better than a guy,' says Doramus of the horse that is like a best friend. Among her clubmates is one kid without a horse of his own, and the club welcomes more; they get to ride donated animals.



Amber Doramus leads Drake out of the trailer for 4-H on May 7 in Filer.



Wendy Kohntopp leads 9-year-old Tanner Kohntopp on his horse Skip during Tanner's 4-H session at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds on May 7. 'He's been on hay all winter, so this is like heaven for him,' says Wendy as Skip munches spring grass.

Horses

Continued from FL 1

Gawlinski, leader of Silver Spurs 4-H, said the club isn't a rescue group. The most important thing, he said, is matching horses with children who might not have access to the animals otherwise.

"We're willing to take the horses as long as the kids can ride them," Gawlinski said.

His plan couldn't have come at a better time. As the economy takes its toll on families and the price of hay rises, some Idaho horse owners are unable to feed their horses or find buyers for them. In November, 12 horses were abandoned on public lands in Owyhee County in a three-week period — up from one horse from the same time in 2007.

Some volunteers, like Robin Hess of Twin Falls, have also offered to take in

unwanted horses. But the Silver Spurs club appears to be the only 4-H club in the area to pair the castoffs with kids.

So far, the horses have come from owners who could no longer care for them. Rowdy came from an elderly man who didn't have the strength to tend horses. Penny came from a single mother who couldn't afford to feed the mare anymore.

"I wouldn't say (Penny) was skin and bones, but she had a little less weight than she does now," Gawlinski said.

Before Gawlinski started taking in horses, he and co-leader Dale Doramus would arrange for children to ride other horses. Last year, Overlin rode one of Doramus' horses — and ended up taking several ribbons at the Twin Falls

County Fair, just three months after he first saddled up.

"It's an understatement to say he was thrilled," Doramus said.

But now, Overlin has a chance to bond with Penny. After a couple of times

around the arena, his shy excitement glowed through the cold evening wind.

"I like her," he said simply.

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 208-735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.

Wedding

Continued from FL 1

Edna Kuiken Frank also called in, with a story about her wedding five years ago. She and her now-husband, Jack Frank, had lost their spouses six months apart and were introduced by friends a few years into their loneliness. It was the professions of their adult children that gave this wedding its first unique element.

"My daughter is a Presbyterian minister in San Jose, one of his sons is a Methodist minister in Pennsylvania, and the other son has one of the biggest churches in Reno," Edna says. So all three took part in the marrying of their parents. "They all have good senses of humor, which made it funny to start with."

But it was the ceremony that really got them laugh-

"For some reason my then-4-year-old grandchild hollered out loud and clear, 'I don't,' and I'll tell you, it brought the house down."

— Edna Kuiken Frank

ing, the portion of the proceedings where the audience is asked to confirm that they support the marriage. Voices were raised in a unanimous, "I do!" Almost unanimous, that is.

"For some reason my then-4-year-old grandchild hollered out loud and clear, 'I don't,' and I'll tell you, it brought the house down," Edna says. "When he realized he'd done something

that made everybody laugh, he got embarrassed and got under his daddy's chair."

Grandson Adam was never able to explain why he disagreed with the consensus, but that wasn't the last moment of humor. Instead of the usual kiss to seal the proceedings, one of Jack's sons declared them husband and wife, then said, "You may now hold hands!"

Even the organist who played for the Franks told Edna that of hundreds of ceremonial performances, their wedding was the most fun.

If you have video of the wildness at your wedding, you could submit it to The Learning Channel's "Wild Weddings" show, like one Twin Falls bride did this spring. Identified only as Heidi, this bride had the idea

to untie her bouquet before throwing it off a balcony, so all the bachelorettes in the audience could get a flower or two. But she didn't take into account the height of the roof. So when she threw the flowers, instead of spreading beautifully, they hit the ceiling and all fell directly down into the champagne glasses on the bar.

To share your story, visit Magicvalley.com and search "wild weddings" to type your tale in our comment box. After all, weddings can be stressful, but laughter is always welcome — and you might help a future couple avoid mistakes!

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

STORK REPORT

St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center

Sonny Yellow Horse Andrew Austin, son of Juliann Tom Nephi of Twin Falls, was born April 29, 2009.

Ashlynn Rose Bolzen-thal, daughter of Brenda Lea Hettich of Kimberly, was born April 29, 2009.

Kyreese David Alvarez Hottman, son of Veronica Chavez of Twin Falls, was born April 29, 2009.

Kalup Scott Heward, son of Nicole Sherie Jay of Twin Falls, was born April 30, 2009.

Kaitlyn Marie Hudson, daughter of Jennifer Lynn and Aaron Jesse Hudson of Twin Falls, was born May 3, 2009.

Ellie Anna Armstrong, daughter of Laurie Ann and Jason Ryan Armstrong of Twin Falls, was born May 4, 2009.

Josie Kay Carpenter, daughter of Jessica Lee and Randy G. Carpenter of Twin Falls, was born May 4, 2009.

Dalila Delalic, daughter of Muhiba and Denis Delalic of Twin Falls, was born May 4, 2009.

Lynx Kaylin Ellis, daughter of Trista Rae and Jakob Wendell Ellis of Twin Falls, was born May 4, 2009.

Hyrum Nathan Walker, son of Suzanne Marie and Nathan Dee Walker of Gooding, was born May 4, 2009.

Brayden Curtis Cooley, son of Yvette and Curtis Paul Cooley of Twin Falls, was born May 5, 2009.

Aunnalee Kaitlynn Springer-Horrocks,

daughter of Kelsey Ann Springer-Horrocks of Twin Falls, was born May 5, 2009.

Trey Antonio Ruiz III, son of Kimberly Michelle and Antonio Ruiz Jr. of Twin Falls, was born May 6, 2009.

Hannah Jadynn Tellez, daughter of Nancy and Daniel Tellez of Jerome, was born May 6, 2009.

Rihana Marie Elizarraras, daughter of Remedios and Juan Carlos Elizarraras of Wendell, was born May 7, 2009.

Raelyn Anne Parish, daughter of Amber Marie and Jacob Michael Parish of Wendell, was born May 7, 2009.

Noah Alexander Miller, son of Jennifer Dawn Hurd and Blake Aaron Miller of Gooding, was born May 8, 2009.

Dakota Kathryn Van Sickle, daughter of Codi Mari and Eric Jack Van Sickle of Hansen, was born May 8, 2009.

Austin Owen Eaton, son of Shana Mae and Brock Ryan Eaton of Twin Falls, was born May 9, 2009.

Easton Gehrig Sorenson, son of Lacey Nicole and Stanley Glenn Sorenson of Twin Falls, was born May 9, 2009.

Paige Rebecca Conover, daughter of Hannah Joy and Joshua Nathaniel Conover of Gooding, was born May 10, 2009.

Jayden Urijah Moses, son of Amber Lee Pruet and Jeffry Alan Moses Jr. of Twin Falls, was born May 10, 2009.

Alexia Janette Luevano, daughter of Crystal Lee Duke of Twin Falls, was born May 11, 2009.

Medical mystery

Jerome family deals with child's rare disorder.

NEXT WEEK IN FAMILY LIFE



Check out what's new online at

www.magicvalley.com

CLEANING

Question:

My family (especially my husband) refuses to squeegee down the shower after every use. He claims he's making an extra effort if he squeegeys just once a week! Aside from banning them all from showering in my house, I'm at a loss as to what to do!

"Trying to get Louiegy to squeegee!"



Lori Chandler
Cleaning Center owner
734-2404

Answer:

I'm going to let you in on a great little secret. There is a spray called Finishing Touch that nearly eliminates the need to squeegee your shower! BUT DON'T TELL YOUR HUSBAND! What he doesn't know won't hurt him, and it does a man good to squeegee periodically to relieve guilt! *This silicone spray repels water by building a protective layer without an unsightly buildup. It works wonders on glass and tile showers, as well as granite and marble countertops.

Frustrated with a stubborn cleaning problem? Write or e-mail your questions to: lchandler@cleaningcenters.com

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Ray & Lois Fyke

want to thank all the wonderful people who made their 70th Anniversary party such a memorable occasion for us!



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Jesse Posey

May 24th, 2009 • 2pm-4pm
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Birthday
Open House

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Wendy & Scott
Priest home
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Hosted by her children
No gifts requested

Don't let vet bills leave you in the doghouse

By Linda Lombardi
For The Associated Press

When her dog Liza starting having seizures, Alison Taub was alone at home for the first time since having major surgery — and her regular vet was closed for the weekend.

The problem turned out to be in Liza's heart. "The emergency vet was actually a specialist in heart problems and pacemakers which was really lucky," she said. "But they were also very expensive and demanded money upfront." Taub had to leave a \$2,000

deposit before treatment could begin — treatment that would eventually add up to almost \$6,000. The only bright side of the otherwise bad timing? Taub had just signed up for a CareCredit health credit card to pay for her own surgery, a card that was also

accepted by the vet. "The emergency vet had a three-month interest-free option set up, so I knew I had some time to work it all out," said Taub, of Lake Forest, Calif. Veterinary medicine can do amazing things nowadays, like

implant a pacemaker though a dog's jugular vein — treatment that Taub said "had a huge effect." But the bills can be equally astonishing, especially when we're all worried about the economy. It helps to plan ahead and know what your options are:

>>Managing your finances<<

• **Before you get a pet**, make sure you understand what your expenses will be, says Anna Worth, president of the American Animal Hospital Association. The initial cost of a puppy or kitten — whether it's a thousand dollars for a purebred or a smaller fee from a shelter — is a small fraction of the lifetime care costs.

• **Consider pet health insurance.** A couple of places to start: the guide to plans recommended by the American Animal Hospital Association (<http://www.healthy-pet.com/sealbuyersguide.aspx>), and the insurance plans offered by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (<http://www.aspcapetinsurance.com>).

The ASPCA offers options starting with an accident-only plan at \$7.50/month for cats and \$9.50/month for dogs, and part of the proceeds from each plan go to support the work of the ASPCA.

• **A health credit card** may help you manage your cash flow. Vets who accept the CareCredit card, for example, may offer payment plans with no-interest periods starting at three months.

Be careful to read the fine print for both of these options, however. All insurance plans have some exclusions, and if you don't make the payments on your CareCredit card by the end of the interest-free period, you will owe interest retroactively. You also need to qualify via a typical credit card application process.



Sharon DePauw, left, a veterinarian with the Washington Animal Rescue League, shows Carol Freeman how to brush the teeth of her dog, Dakota. To save money on vet bills, have your vet show you how to do some routine care yourself, such as nail clipping and toothbrushing.

AP photo

>>At the vet<<

• **Vets do charge differently**, so when first choosing a vet, you may want to factor this into your decision. But afterward, Worth recommends that you avoid shopping around for each procedure on the basis of price. Consistency is important to your pet's care, and what's more, a vet is more likely to be flexible when you're in a bind financially if you have a long-term relationship.

• **Don't be uncomfortable** about mentioning money — there is almost always more than one treatment option. "Talk to your vet and ask what are the simplest things that you can start with. Start with the least expensive. Maybe you don't need to test for everything at once," say Jim Monsma of the Washington Animal Rescue League.

• **Don't neglect preventative care** and medication, which can save you money in the long run. Spay and neuter your pets, which prevents health problems as well as unwanted litters: for referral to low-cost providers go to <http://www.spayusa.org>.

• **Have your vet show you** how to do some routine care yourself, such as nail clipping and toothbrushing.

>>Vet bill prevention cheaper than cures<<

Pet owners are fortunate to have access to many preventative medicines and procedures, but if you've never experienced a problem, you may wonder if the cost of prevention is worth it.

For proof, take a look at these figures provided by Emily Pointer, veterinarian at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:

• **Heartworm disease**

Prevention: Monthly pills for a 25-pound dog: \$60 per

year; yearly test, \$25. Treatment: Exam, bloodwork, radiographs and injections for a straightforward case, about \$500. The cost can go into the thousands for a complicated case, and many dogs die or have a shortened lifespan even if treated.

• **Flea and ticks**

Prevention: About \$20 per month for topical medication for a 25-pound dog. Treatment for flea- and tick-borne disease: Exam, diagnostic testing and 30 days

of antibiotics would cost about \$200 for a simple case; Pointer has one case where the owner has spent over \$3,000 treating complications from a tick bite infection.

• **Kennel cough**

Prevention: Exam and vaccine \$105. Treatment: Exam, radiograph and medication about \$270. If pneumonia develops, hospitalization and treatment are about \$1,200-\$1,600.

Is sass from kids of all ages getting out of control?

By Leanne Italie
Associated Press writer

I walked into the dining room one night and asked a cheery and simple question of my seemingly well-rested 9-year-old as she sat at the table.

"Whatcha reading?"

"A book," she sneered, not bothering to look up.

Urgh. I rolled my eyes and walked away to avoid getting snippy myself, later wishing I had calmly drawn her out instead.

While people who know me might not be all that surprised by my child's capacity for a little lip, my husband's sweeter nature usually prevails. But neither of us had anticipated a teenager-y sass factor so early.

Were we the only ones with a wonderful but sometimes sassy kid? When did it begin? And most importantly, how do we make it stop while navigating that space between developmentally natural and vein-popping, consequence-inducing out of line?

As I set out in search of its origins, I quickly realized that sass wasn't just our problem. It's all around us, in toddlers to teens. And it seems to be wrapped up in the debate on helicopter parenting, aka overparenting, and what appears to be

an overindulgence of an entire generation.

"I wasn't talking to you Abigail," a friend's not-yet 4-year-old snipped one afternoon when her mother dared interject as she chatted with a little friend.

Mom froze, clenching silently for an instant before letting the remark slide unacknowledged. Was that the right thing to do?

"When a child talks back or speaks inappropriately the goal of any parent isn't to make them feel terrible about it," said Tamar Chansky, a child psychologist in Plymouth Meeting, Pa., and author of "Freeing Your Child from Negative Thinking and Freeing Your Child from Anxiety."

"The goal is to help them learn what is appropriate and what is not. Less is more when it comes to parental responses. The best reply is to say, 'Excuse me?' or 'Try that again?' I'm sure that's important but you're going to need to say it a different way: Then when the child fixes it and restates, they get kudos rather than time-out."

Psychotherapist Susan Stiffelman in Los Angeles offers a shorthand that speaks volumes. She calls it "MOM TV." Here's how it works:

Little Julia is in the back seat, bored out of her mind, but she has to drive with Mom to take big brother to soccer. She doesn't want to. She has nothing fun to do. So she starts kicking the back side of Mom's seat.

"Honey, stop kicking Mommy's seat."

Kicking.

"Sweetheart, Mommy needs you to stop kicking."

Kicking.

"Julia! I said stop kicking! Do you want me to have an accident?"

Kicking.

Mom pulls the car over, turns around with nostrils flaring, face red, and shouts, "How many times have I told you ..."

Julia is no longer bored.

"That's MOM TV. It works in lots of scenarios," said Stiffelman, who wrote the upcoming "From Chaotic to Calm: Raising Kids Without Power Struggles, Negotiations or Meltdowns."

In the New York City home of single mom Wendi Friedman Tush, sass from her nearly 6-year-old daughter has MOM TV flipped on way too much. Tush said the talking back from Gabrielle usually falls into three categories:

Dissociative Disrespect

"I say, you have to clean up your room. Until you do, there is no story time and no game time. She says, I actually don't have to do what you say. I say, actually you do. If you don't you lose those privileges. She says, then I don't care about those privileges."

What would Tush have done differently?

"Not reasoned with her about whether she has to listen to me or not. I should somehow have made it an absolute. She had control because she decided not to care about the punishment."

The Drama Queen

"My daughter uses my lines back at me in the most

ridiculous ways. She learns these lines well and delivers them with conviction. I say, you have 10 minutes to finish breakfast and brush your teeth. If you don't make the bus, I won't take you to school. She says, don't you ever talk to me like that again!"

What does Tush do? "Usually laugh. What do I wish I had done? No idea."

The Litigator

"Me: Go to bed. Gabrielle: What happens if I don't? Me: One, you will be miserable in the morning and two you will be punished by me. ... Gabrielle: If we can't make a deal I will just stay up for a few minutes and see what happens."

And then? "I usually give up, here," Tush said.

Stiffelman offers these strategies:

• **Don't get reactive**, sucked in or heavily engaged in the behavior. Notice it and distract yourself nonchalantly as a way to "break whatever spell the child is under."

• **If you suspect** the talking back is an attention-getting strategy, try giving them more attention, especially when they aren't asking or demanding it. "A child who feels nourished with attention is less likely to push buttons to get it, although they are fairly insatiable and addicted to our focus."

• **Give The Look.** "Parents underestimate the power of silence, accompanied by a stern, straight-faced gaze."

Some sass, Stiffelman



"When a child talks back or speaks inappropriately the goal of any parent isn't to make them feel terrible about it."

— Tamar Chansky, a child psychologist in Plymouth Meeting, Pa., and author of "Freeing Your Child from Negative Thinking and Freeing Your Child from Anxiety."

>>At home<<

• **Feed quality food**, but don't overfeed — it's not only a waste of money on the food, but being overweight can cause costly health problems in pets.

• **Keep cats indoors**; it's safer and better for their health.

• **Train your dog.** A dog that comes when you call is less likely to run off and get into an accident. Your dog should also respond to a command like "leave it" or "drop it" when he's about to grab and eat something that might make him sick.

• **Exercise your dog**; it's good for him, and a tired dog is less likely to find ways to get into trouble. And make sure your home is always dog-safe. There's a good reason that ASPCA insurance excludes coverage for multiple instances of foreign object ingestion: It can happen to anyone once, but if your dog eats several tennis balls in a row, you're neglecting to keep him safe from eating tennis balls.

>>In a financial bind<<

• **If your vet** is accredited by AAHA, he or she can apply to their assistance fund.

• **Ask your vet** if a payment plan is possible. But remember that most vets are small businesspeople and times are hard for them too.

• **Call your local shelter.** In a few lucky communities, there are low-cost clinics for low-income residents. But even where these are not established, the shelter may be able to refer you somewhere, especially if the alternative is taking in a surrendered animal because its owner can't pay for its care.

• **If all else fails**, there is a list of small charities that help with vet bills on the web site of the Humane Society of the United States (http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_care/). But these may be overwhelmed with requests, so your best option is to start local.

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Timothy Adams, 38, exchanges vows with Christina Valdovinos, 24, with their two daughters from previous marriages as flower girls. The couple chose to get married in the small chapel at the Beverly Hills courthouse in Beverly Hills, Calif., to save money and because, as Adams said, 'It sounds better than Van Nuys courthouse.'

AL SEIB/
Los Angeles Times



Tie a simple knot the civil way

By Susan Carpenter
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Despite the gloom of the economy, couples still say, "I do." The number of weddings expected to take place in the U.S. in 2009 is on par with recent years, holding steady at about 2.2 million.

But the style and scope of weddings are in flux. Many couples are reconsidering big blowouts and big dresses. They are embracing less-expensive locations, cutting back on guest lists and renting gowns.

Some are even grabbing friends and running off to the county courthouse.

Jill Cooper was as excited as any bride-to-be when her boyfriend proposed in 2008. Within hours of receiving her engagement ring, she started planning a 275-guest, \$150,000, New Year's Eve wedding.

She booked the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego's La Jolla neighborhood for the ceremony and reception. She found her wedding gown at Saks. She sent out save-the-date announcements and put down deposits for the cake, dress an eight-piece band.

Then Cooper and her fiancé, Bryce Clements, got cold feet — for a Big Wedding. They canceled, opting to get married at the courthouse in Beverly Hills.

"Although it was going to be this amazing, classy event, it felt really tacky to be so splashy and flashy in these times," said Cooper, 30, a publicist who owns Michele Marie public relations agency in Los Angeles. Cooper's fiancé, who works for a hedge fund, agreed. So they held on to their invitations. They forfeited \$25,000 in deposits. They did, however, dress for the occasion — her fiancé in a tuxedo and Cooper in a strapless Amsale gown.

"I didn't need to put on a frilly fairy-tale wedding for everybody else," said Cooper, who bought a bouquet on her way to the courthouse. "We really just wanted to get married."

In Los Angeles County, civil wedding ceremonies performed in government buildings were up 17 percent in 2008 over 2007.

Nationally, the number of couples marrying in civil, rather than religious, ceremonies in the first quarter of 2009 increased by 60 percent over the same period last year, according to Shane McMurray, chief executive and founder of the Wedding Report, a research company. "The increase in (civil) weddings really just says that people are quickening the ceremony process," said McMurray, who is based in Tucson, Ariz. "Those types of ceremonies are certainly on the increase, and I would have to say it has a lot to do with the economy."

Courthouse weddings have become so popular that Anja Winikka, editor of Knot.com, is creating a section for them on the popular wedding-planning Web site.

"We were planning to do something bigger, but the economy right now makes it kind of difficult. We wanted to get married no matter what, so we decided to do it this way and then hold off on having a bigger wedding maybe later on."

— Robert Perea

DailyCandy.com, the online destination for things to do, buy and see, launched a Weddings edition recently, and ideas for city hall weddings are getting some play. Served up on the site recently: The suggestion that couples getting married at New York's new City Hall chapel have friends wait outside in pedicabs to whisk them away to an after-party.

According to Dannielle Kyrillos, editor at large for DailyCandy, the pedicab idea is "fun, it's eco, it's resourceful and it's memorable, and those are all at the very fore of every bride's mind these days."

Or groom's. "I was just laid off a couple weeks ago, but that wasn't going to stop me from getting married," said Robert Perea, who until late March worked for an aerospace manufacturer in Camarillo.

Dressed in a gray suit, Perea was holding the hand of his fiancée, Dorjpagam Gankhuyag, outside the Beverly Hills courthouse on a recent morning.

"We were planning to do something bigger, but the economy right now makes it kind of difficult," said Perea, 34. "We wanted to get married no matter what, so we decided to do it this way and then hold off on having a bigger wedding maybe later on."

Gankhuyag, 32, picked up her lacy white dress and jacket the night before at a mall. Their wedding pictures and video were to be shot by family members. Perea planned to edit the footage himself and make a DVD.

At the courthouse, Perea, Gankhuyag and 10 family members ran a gantlet of security guards, emptying pockets and sending purses and wallets through an X-ray machine. They checked in at the County Registrar-Recorder's office and waited for their names to be called.

"Robert Perea?" asked Bronwen Savage, a smiling wedding officiant in a black judicial robe.

Inside the courthouse chapel, decorative touches toned down the institutional feel. Doors, walls and lockers were veiled with white chiffon. Nine chairs were dressed with ribboned covers.

"It's not bad for a govern-

To submit engagement, wedding and anniversary announcements, contact Janet Cranney at 735-3253, or e-mail her at announcements@magicvalley.com.

Deadline is 5:00 pm Tuesday for the following Sunday.

ment office," said Savage, a deputy commissioner of civil marriage for the Beverly Hills courthouse

who, every 15 minutes on Thursdays, walks brides and grooms through the vows.

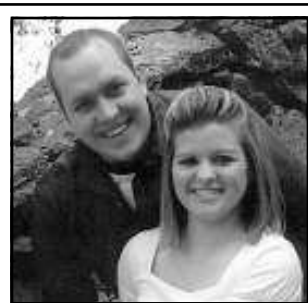
WEDDING

Searle-Bell

Todd and Natalie Searle of Burley announce the marriage of their daughter, Lexie Searle, to Wesley Charles Bell, son of Chuck and Coleen Bell of American Falls.

Searle is a 2005 graduate of Oakley High School. She will be attending Idaho State University in Pocatello this fall, majoring in radiology. She is employed at Portneuf Medical Center.

Bell is a 2004 graduate of American Falls High School, and served a mission in San Paulo, Brazil Interlogues Mission. He also is attending ISU,



Charles Bell and Lexie Searle

majoring in mass communication. He works at Idaho Central Credit Union.

The wedding was Friday, May 15 in the Twin Falls Temple. They will reside in Pocatello, where they will continue their education.

ANNIVERSARY

The Moyles

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Moyle of Filer will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, May 24th.

Jay and Barbara Holden were married May 24, 1959, in Elko, Nevada.

They resided in Heyburn for six years, raising mink with his mother and family before moving to Filer in 1966, where they also raise mink with their son, Dean, and family.

The Moyles have made many wonderful friends and loved raising their family here. They have two sons, Emmett Allen (Karla) of Wendell, Dean Edward (Kelly) of Filer and one daughter, Tina Dawn (Gary) Sutton of Meridian, Idaho.



Jay and Barbara Moyle

The couple has six grandchildren, Kevin and Rodney (Wendell), Rex and Shelby (Filer), and Macy and William of (Meridian)

This milestone will be celebrated at the Snake River Elks Lodge #2807 in Jerome May 24th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Friends and relatives are invited.

ENGAGEMENTS

Ritchie-Thibault

James and Karlyn Ritchie of Eden are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Marie Ritchie, to Kevin Lawrence Thibault, son of Kent Thibault of Jerome and Jerry and Jan Grant of Eden.

Jessica is a graduate of Valley High School and the University of Utah, where she received a degree in biology. She is currently a student at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Kevin is also a graduate of Valley High School. He received an undergraduate degree in architecture from



Jessica Ritchie and Kevin Thibault

the University of Utah, and recently graduated with a masters degree in architecture from the University of Idaho.

The wedding and reception are planned for May 30th in Twin Falls. The couple will reside in Seattle, Washington.

Mandis-Taylor

Neil Mandis and Jennifer Taylor are happy to announce their engagement to be married. Neil and Jennifer are residents of Twin Falls.

Neil has been a service advisor at Lithia Motors for the past 4 years. Jennifer graduated from Twin Falls High School in 2007 and has been attending college at CSI for the past two years.

Jennifer is the daughter of Gary (Julie) Taylor and Kim Taylor of Twin Falls. Neil is



Neil Mandis and Jennifer Taylor

the son of Mark Mandis of Ketchum and June (Wayne) Powers of Jerome.

The couple plans to be married later this summer.

Fry-Harrington

Jill Fry and Jerry Auten of Jerome announce the engagement of her daughter, Lindsay Ann Fry, to Clinton Wade Harrington, son of James and Karen Harrington of Blackfoot. Lindsay is the daughter of the late John Fry.

Lindsay is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and received her bachelors degree in social work from Idaho State University. She is employed by the State of Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, in Child Services. She will continue her education in June of 2009 to receive her masters degree.

Clint is a graduate of Blackfoot High School, and received his bachelors



Clinton Harrington and Lindsay Fry

degree in communications from Idaho State University. He is employed by S.L. Start Associates, an agency that provides services for the developmentally disabled.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, June 20, 2009, at St. Edwards Catholic Church, with a reception to follow at The Ballroom in Twin Falls. The couple will reside in Boise.

Woods-Stiverson

Nelson and Kate Woods of Buhl, Idaho, announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Grace Osborne Woods, to Russell David Stiverson II, son of Russell and Nancy Stiverson of Corvallis, Oregon.

Elizabeth is a graduate of Buhl High School, and Yale University, in New Haven, Connecticut, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in economics. She works as an associate at The Boston Consulting Group, in Los Angeles, California.

Russell is a graduate of Hesperia Christian High School, in Victorville, California, and Biola University, in La Mirada, California, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in organizational leadership.



Russell Stiverson II and Elizabeth Woods

He is the Vice President of Inventory Management at 1-800-DENTIST, in Los Angeles, California.

The wedding is planned for June 6, 2009, at The Gainey Vineyard, in Santa Ynez, California. A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony. The couple will honeymoon in London, and settle in Los Angeles, California.

Callen-Silva

Tim and Gayelynn Callen of Hazelton, Idaho, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah, to Joseph Silva, son of Ernie and Angie Silva of Kimberly, Idaho.

Sarah is a 2007 graduate of Valley High School. She is currently attending Idaho State University in Pocatello, majoring in nursing. Sarah was active in volleyball, basketball and track during high school. She was also an active member of 4-H, showing dairy heifers and horses. She is currently employed at Sizzler.

Joey is a 2005 graduate of Kimberly High School. He is currently attending Idaho State University in Pocatello, majoring in civil engineering. Joey was active in high school football, wrestling and baseball. He



Sarah Callen and Joseph Silva

also wrestled for ISU the last two years. He is currently employed by Whiteheads in Twin Falls.

The wedding is planned for May 29th in the Twin Falls Idaho LDS Temple. A reception will follow on Saturday, May 30th, from 7:00-8:30 pm at Sweetheart Manor in Burley, Idaho.

The couple will reside in Twin Falls this summer, and move back to Pocatello in the fall to continue their education.

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Kids Only



Lincoln Park Zoo photo by GREG NEISE

At Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo a Bolivian gray titi monkey carries its baby, born April 9, on its back. These monkeys are native to South American tropical forests.



San Francisco Zoo photo by GEORGE NIKITIN

Wild herbivores (animals that eat plants) tend to give birth in the spring because that gives the babies the best chance to grow big and strong and put on some fat before winter comes. Kristin the giraffe nuzzles her new baby at the San Francisco Zoo. The little giraffe was born April 2.



National Zoo photo by MEGHAN MURPHY

On March 12, a giant anteater was born at the Smithsonian's National Zoo, only the second giant anteater to be born in the Washington zoo's history. Shown at six days old, the baby has been named Cyrano.

This sport really rocks

By Fred Bowen
Special to The Washington Post

Lots of kids love to climb. Little ones climb on furniture even though grown-ups tell them not to. Older kids scramble up rocks and sand dunes at the beach or climb on jungle gyms at the park.

But did you know that climbing is a competitive sport? I spoke to Mike Lyons, the head climbing coach at the Earth Treks Climbing Centers. Lyons grew up playing football and running cross country in Ohio, and now he coaches climbing. His teams, which include boys and girls ages 9 to 19, travel around the country and sometimes the world to compete in indoor and outdoor rock climbing competitions. I met Lyons under the 50-foot climbing walls at the Earth Treks center in Rockville, Md. Here's what he told me about climbing.

Q: How did you get into climbing?

A: When I was about 14 years old, a cousin took me to an indoor climbing gym. I practiced inside for a while and then started rock climbing outdoors.

Q: What did you like about climbing?

A: I liked climbing right away. It was a great feeling to be on something so big with just your body weight holding you to the surface. And there was a real rush to be up so high and look down.

Q: Is climbing scary?

A: It's like the first time

you ice skate or ski. It's a little scary at first if you haven't done it. But the more you climb, the less scary it becomes.

Q: Is climbing dangerous?

A: If you are in the wrong situation, such as rock climbing with people who don't know what they are doing, climbing can be dangerous. At an indoor facility, however, the instructors are trained, and the equipment and the procedures make climbing very safe. Because of the ropes and harnesses, a climber can only fall a couple feet if they slip off the wall.

Q: What does it take to be a good climber?

A: You have to be someone who is willing to try new things. Climbing is a bit like gymnastics. You are going to feel a little uncomfortable at first, and you will have to try to make moves that are above your level. You also have to make a commitment to get in better shape; remember, you use your whole body in climbing.

Q: What should a kid do if he or she wants to start climbing?

A: Go to an open climb session at a climbing gym. You will pay a fee for a certain number of climbs. That way you can find out if you like the sport.

Q: What is a good age to start climbing?

A: I have had kids as young as 5 years old start climbing. But for most kids, it's good to start somewhere between 9 and 12 years.

A SPRING BABY BOOM

Many wild animals have their young now

The Washington Post

What do an iguana, an elephant, an anteater and an orangutan have in common? Well, when they're babies they're all adorable.

But you may be wondering why so many animals have babies in the spring. Not all animals give birth in the spring. Dogs and cats can give birth any time of year, for example. But wild herbivores (animals that eat plants) tend to give birth in the spring because that gives the babies the best chance to grow big and strong and put on some fat before winter comes. Here are some of our favorite pictures of newborn animals, including Cyrano, the 8-week-old baby anteater at the National Zoo in Washington.

Meanwhile, the National Zoo is paying special attention to female panda Mei Xiang round-the-clock because she might be pregnant. You can watch, too, on the zoo's panda-cam at nationalzoo.si.edu. (And you can see the zoo's male pandas, dad Tian Tian and 3-year-old Tai Shan when they're out in the panda yard each day, but the Panda House is closed to give Mei Xiang some quiet.)

Baby pandas are so tiny

— about the size of a stick of butter — that the expectant mother doesn't look pregnant.

Zoo officials are encouraged that Mei Xiang has been carrying bamboo into a dark, quiet

area of the den, perhaps preparing to give birth. She has also been eating less and "cradling" some food, such as pears. If Mei Xiang is pregnant, she would likely have her cub within a couple of weeks.

BABY ANIMAL FACT

The record number of puppies born in one litter is 24. They were bull mastiffs born in England in 2005.

IDAHO WRITING CAMPS

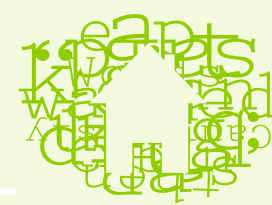
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BIKE RODEO - children 6 to 12 years old pedal their way through multiple "riding skills" stations that teach and reinforce the basics of bicycle safety. The first 100 participating kids will get FREE bike helmets signed by Olympic gold medal cyclist Kristin Armstrong.

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