

Tragedy during luge training casts dark cloud over Olympics opening ceremonies, SPORTS 1



Jerome considers whether it can handle waste from proposed chicken hatchery, BUSINESS 1

SATURDAY
February 13, 2010

TIMES-NEWS

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JFAC sets budget target below Otter's

Panel expects state revenue of \$2.29B in fiscal year 2011

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

BOISE — Heads up, state agencies. Deeper cuts are likely coming your way.

On Friday, the Legislature's Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee approved budget planning revenue projection that are lower than earlier estimates from Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter.

JFAC, with a 16-4 vote along party lines, approved the legislative Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment Committee's recommendation to plan on general fund revenues of \$2.29 billion for fiscal year 2011. That's \$59 million less than Otter's recommendation.

For the current fiscal year, which ends in July, JFAC also supported the legislative committee's recommendation of \$2.28 billion for the year, \$69 million less than the governor's recommendation.

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, and co-chairman of JFAC, said that even with an economic upswing there still would be a lag of months before the results of a rebound translate into state revenue increases.

"I think we'd all love to have our glass half full and we all would hope that that economic growth is going to be there," Cameron said in the hearing. "This committee is not projecting the economy. This committee is only setting a number to which we will budget to."

Cameron also urged the committee to be mindful of not placing too much risk on state agencies, a concern echoed by other lawmakers who stressed the value of avoiding mid-year cuts hitting the state's budget in fiscal year 2011.

"In reality what this committee does is not based on pessimism or optimism," Cameron said. "It's based on risk."

After the hearing, Wayne Hammon, Otter's budget chief, said in an interview that JFAC's approach was the prudent way to go about dealing with the budget challenge.

While there were differences between JFAC's figures the governor's, Hammon said that was because more revenue figures are available now for JFAC than what were available for Otter's original recommendation.

Minority party legislators, including Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, opposed going with the lower budget target. Jaquet said the entire year's revenues should be looked at, not just the past two months that have emerged since the legislative session began.

"The concern I have is we're adopting a forecast based on two months when we really should be looking at the entire year," she said.

Ben Botkin may be reached at bbotkin@magicvalley.com.

Area lawyers mobilize to help troops for free

Effort aimed at assisting soldiers headed overseas

By Andrea Jackson
Times-News writer

A handful of area lawyers discussed on Friday mobilizing a patriotic, pro-bono effort aimed at offering free legal assistance to soldiers expected to deploy soon with the Idaho Army National Guard.

Twin Falls lawyer Lynn Dunlap, a lieutenant colonel with the Guard, said Friday that an upcoming deployment is slated to involve 2,500 guardsmen from Idaho. He said servicemen expected to deploy to Iraq in August will need legal assistance for civil matters involving custody, child support, and creditor issues.

On Friday, Dunlap met with a judge and four other lawyers from the area to discuss the need.

Dunlap said most of the free legal assistance would involve a minimal time commitment, such as taking phone calls and filing forms. "I want these people to get help right away."

He said area lawyers should volunteer to help soldiers. "We have guys out

See **GUARD**, Main 2



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Idaho Army National Guard Lt. Col. Lynn Dunlap, back left, talks with Cassia County Judge Mick Hodges and Twin Falls attorneys Karen McCarthy, Mike McCarthy and David Heida Friday afternoon at Pandora's restaurant in Twin Falls. "We have 2,500 soldiers who are leaving the state so that leaves 2,500 families behind," Dunlap said.

Wendell cracking down on sewage violations

Cleaning firm's waste suspected cause of damage

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

WENDELL — Levi Diehl pried open the manhole cover, just like he has every other day recently, to check and clean the city of Wendell sewer filter in the alley behind Ace's Towel Service.

The water was clear but the metal filter was again

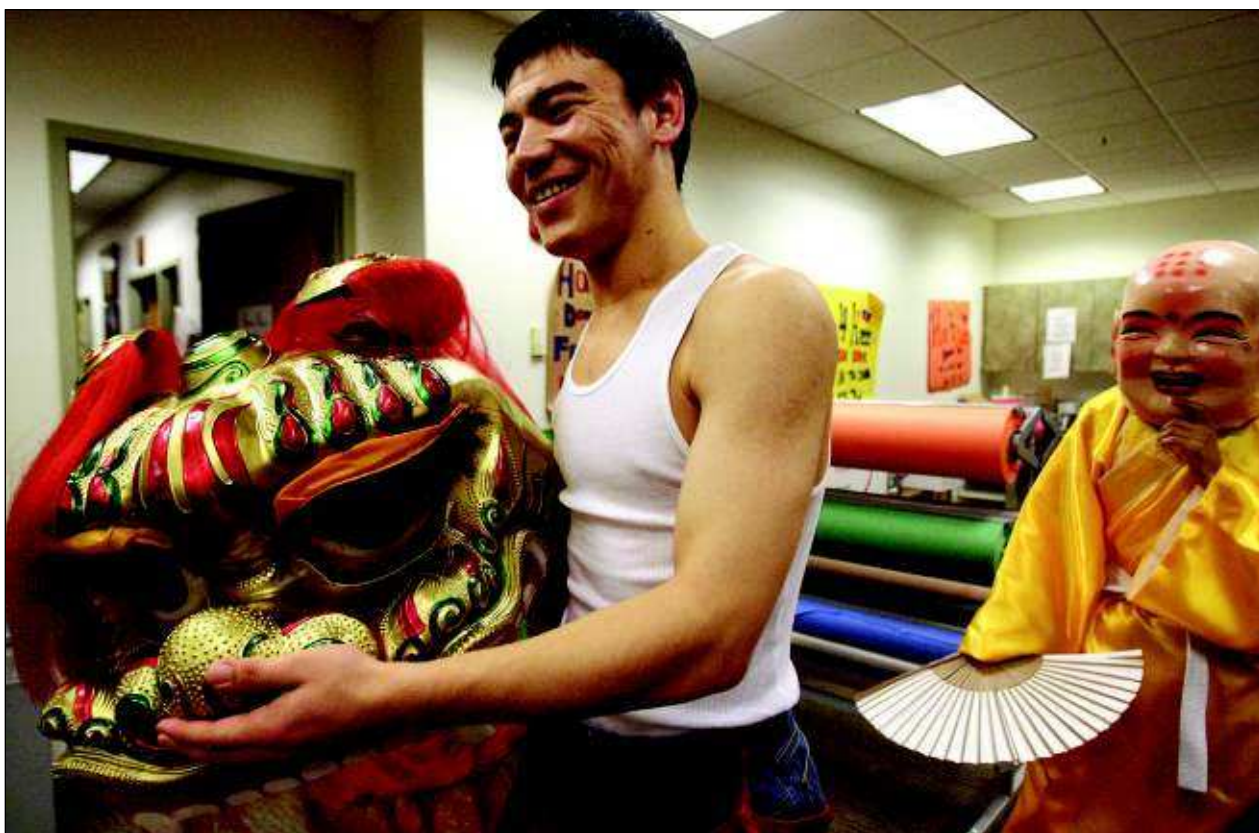
caked. Wendell Public Works Director Bob Bailey surmised the pipe has for years been the catching point for sand, mud, straw, cow manure — even rags — believed to enter the system from the towel-service business.

"The filter's pretty covered, same as last time," Diehl said, before snapping a few pictures of the filter with his cell-phone camera. "We've got to document everything."

The Public Works Department sent Ace's Towel Service owners Chad

See **SEWAGE**, Main 2

ENTER THE TIGER



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Ikboljon Kasimov, a College of Southern Idaho student from Uzbekistan, carries a costume lion head as he and fellow student Gerardo Aguilar, dressed as Buddha, prepare Friday night for the Chinese New Year celebration in Twin Falls. John Bowling, coordinator of the event benefiting the Asian Student Organization, said the group's mission is to increase cultural awareness in Twin Falls.

Asian students usher in Lunar New Year with traditions, food and fun at CSI

By John Plestina
Times-News writer

A traditional Chinese lion dance with several people beneath a costume resembling a dragon snaked its way through the audience as the College of Southern Idaho ushered in the Lunar New Year for the sixth time on Friday.

What CSI students and attendees at the Twin Falls festival may not have

known was that the Year of the Tiger actually begins on Sunday, but perhaps nobody was too concerned about that detail. Everyone was taking in the Asian buffet, traditional music and a judo demonstration in the Student Union building.

Celebrated worldwide, the Lunar New Year is also commonly known as Chinese New Year and Spring Festival. "It's a big event for us. We get 400 to

500 people. It's bigger than our own birthdays," said Maisie Trang, a first-generation Chinese-American student at CSI who serves as secretary of the Asian Student Organization that hosted the event. Trang, who was born in Twin Falls, said she is one of only a few of the club's more than 20 members who are American born.

See **NEW YEAR**, Main 2

One nation, under snow: 49 states have at least a dusting; Hawaii is the only holdout

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press writer

Forget red and blue — color America white. There was snow on the ground in 49 states Friday. Hawaii was the holdout.

It was the United States of Snow, thanks to an unusual combination of weather patterns that dusted the U.S., including the skyscrapers of Dallas, the peach trees of Atlanta and the Florida Panhandle, where hurricanes are more common than snowflakes.

More than two-thirds of the nation's land mass had

snow on the ground when the day dawned, and then it snowed ever so slightly in Florida to make it 49 states out of 50.

At the same time, those weird weather forces are turning Canada's Winter Olympics into the bring-your-own-snow games.

Who's the Great White North now?

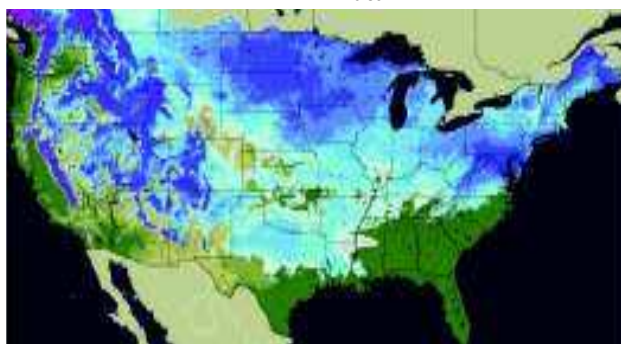
"I'm calling it the upside-down winter," said David Robinson, head of the Global Snow Lab at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

See **NEW YEAR**, Main 2

Snow coverage dominates the states

On Friday, 67.1 percent of the United States was covered by snow with an average depth of eight inches. Later in the day snow fell in various southern states, including Florida.

Snow depth in inches Friday As of 12:01 a.m. EST



SOURCE: National Weather Service AP



Comics.....Sports 6
Commodities.....Business 2
Community.....Sports 7

Crossword.....Classifieds 6
Dear Abby.....Classifieds 9
Movies.....Sports 8

Obituaries.....Religion 4
Opinion.....Main 6
Sudoku.....Classifieds 8

MARINES, AFGHAN TROOPS SWARM ON MARJAH
Major assault begins on Taliban-held town > Main 7

Law & Disorder...

... in Cassia County

From Jan. 21 police reports: **Disturbing the peace, etc.:** Police responded to a Burley residence regarding a female, 29, wearing "a black hooded sweat-shirt with pink pajama bottoms" breaking a window with a rock at about 10 a.m. and yelling at a woman in the house, telling her "to save herself." When questioned, according to Deputy Jarrod Thompson's report, the suspect "identified herself as President Monson of the Mormon Church." She reportedly said she was at the house "to save the children" and that she could "hear the children in her mind." The woman in the house, according to the report, said the suspect first knocked on her door, telling her "he doesn't mean to hurt you, save yourself" — then walked into the house. The victim said she pushed the pajama-

wearing woman outside and locked the door, which is when she reportedly broke the window and screamed, "He is going to strangle them ... Save yourself ... He will kill them all." The woman, who allegedly continued to insist she was Thomas Monson, was arrested for disturbing the peace, trespassing, malicious injury to property, and unlawful entry. Her 80-year-old grandfather said the woman is staying with him and that she "has not been diagnosed with any 'mental condition' nor is she on any prescribed medication." According to the report, he said she came home the previous night and "did not want to be bothered," went to sleep, then woke up at 2 a.m. "and had been ranting and carrying on ever sense (sic)."

— Damon Hunzeker

Paul to accept credit cards for city payments

By Coreen Hart
Times-News correspondent

PAUL — The Paul City Council on Wednesday agreed to begin accepting credit card payment for city bills and services. Councilman Bob Dempsay, who researched the credit card program, said the package Paul is buying will allow the city to accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover cards, and residents will also be able to pay their utility bills at Key Bank. He feels the added convenience will create further goodwill for the city. "Young people today do not use cash anymore," said Councilman Garth Baker. "They use credit cards." In other business, Councilman Bruce Hossfeld asked Minidoka County Undersheriff Vic Watson about the zoning charges against a property within city limits that is home to a tree-trimming business. Watson said the judge dropped the

charges stemming from zoning ordinance violations. "What he said was the criminal justice system was not the proper venue for zoning ordinance violations," said Watson. "His recommendation was that he would rather see this in the civil process." Also, the council discussed plans for the Paul City Park. "Planning and Zoning had a park meeting this week, and we reviewed the plans for the park for the disk golf and talked about the sponsorship," Hossfeld said. "We discussed plans for the trees for that, and the possibility that plaques would cost \$250. That was the recommendation of the council." "We have samples of the metal for the signs," said Public Works Director Richard Rau. "Actually what they are is cutouts." Rau is arranging for sponsorship of the 140 trees in the new park, and the plaques will bear donor names.

Hazelton chosen as Otter's next 'Capital for a Day'

Times-News

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter announced that Hazelton will be Idaho's "Capital for a Day" on Friday, Feb. 19. The first-come, first-served open opportunity to meet with the governor, selected members of his cabinet and other senior state officials is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Valley Christian Center located at 35 Main St., Hazelton. Otter will join Mayor Roy McDowell, other state and local leaders, and community members for lunch at the same location. "It's no surprise that the legislative district that includes Hazelton is represented by both co-chairs of the budget-setting Joint

Finance-Appropriations Committee and the chairman of the House Resources and Conservation Committee," Otter said. "It's an area that is particularly representative of Idaho's rural values and agricultural heritage. My cabinet and I are pleased to get the chance to make it the seat of state government for the day."

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

CASSIA COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS

Emily K. Thurber, 27, sexual abuse of child under 16, \$500 fine, \$797.50 costs, two years prison determinate, 10 indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; criminal conspiracy amended to sexual battery of minor 16 to 17 years of age, \$500 fine, \$788.50 costs, two years prison determinate, 10 indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; statutory rape of female under age 18, dismissed by prosecutor; sexual abuse of child under 16, dismissed by prosecutor; lewd conduct with child under 16, dismissed by prosecutor; criminal conspiracy, dismissed by prosecutor; statutory rape of female under age 18, dismissed by prosecutor; criminal conspiracy, dismissed by prosecutor; sexual battery of minor 16 to 17 years of age, dismissed by prosecutor; statutory rape of female under age 18, dismissed by prosecutor; criminal conspiracy, dismissed by prosecutor; sexual battery of minor 16 to 17 years of age, dismissed by prosecutor; statutory rape of female under age 18, dismissed by prosecutor; criminal conspiracy, dismissed by prosecutor. Kyle J. Edgar, 32, forgery, \$500 fine, \$100.50 costs, three years probation, two years prison determinate, five indeterminate, two days credited, penitentiary suspended; theft by receiving or possessing stolen property, dismissed by prosecutor.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS

Kaylyn Petersen-Jones, 45, driving under the influence, withheld disposition. Skylar David Lee Parton, 23, driving under the influence (second offense), \$400 fine, \$100 suspended, \$132.50 costs, driver's license suspended 365 days, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 80 suspended, two credited; driving without privileges (second offense), \$100 fine suspended, driver's license suspended 365 days, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 70 suspended, two credited. Ernesto Figueroa, 35, driving under the influence, \$300 fine suspended, driver's license suspended 90 days, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 167 suspended, 13 credited; failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, \$200 fine suspended, \$77.50 costs, driver's license suspended 90 days, 12 months probation, 30 days jail suspended.

MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS

Terry Lee Hatch, 55, public indecency, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 63 suspended, 27 credited; disturbing the peace, \$100 fine, \$87.50 costs, 12 months probation, 180 days jail, 63 suspended, 27 credited. Rick James Case, 43, failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, \$100 fine, \$87.50 costs. Zachary E. Rosa, 25, dispensing alcohol to minor, \$970 fine, \$152.50 costs, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 80 suspended. Catarina Jane Valero, 18, battery amended to disturbing the

MINIDOKA COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS

Jorge Sierra-Ruiz, 49, driving under the influence, \$112.50 costs, driver's license suspended two years, three years probation, one year prison determinate, four indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; misdemeanor reckless driving amended to felony attempting to elude an officer, bond reduced to \$2,500 with conditions, \$599.50 fine, three years probation, one year prison determinate, four indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; driving without privileges, dismissed by prosecutor; probation violation, 296 days credited, retained jurisdiction. Melissa Ann Marston, 25, lewd conduct with a child under 16 amended to injury to a child, three years probation, two years prison determinate, four indeterminate, penitentiary suspended. Sarah A. Merrick, 22, driving without privileges amended to driver's license violation, \$150 fine, \$87.50 costs. Jose A. Cabral-Murillo, 23, failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, \$200 fine, \$87.50 costs. Steven C. Matters, 27, violation of no-contact order, \$150 fine, \$117.50 costs, 90 days jail, 14 credited, seven days jail in lieu of fines and costs. Ruben Montoya-Candelas, 24, failure to carry driver's license on person, \$13.50 fine, \$87.50 costs. Pedro Bailon, 20, attempting to flee or elude an officer, \$100 fine, \$87.50 costs, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 88 suspended, two credited. Steven Kent Garner, 31, insufficient funds check fraud, dismissed by prosecutor. Erika L. Staker, 21, malicious injury to property, dismissed by prosecutor. Carlos Hurtado Gil, 19, failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, dismissed by prosecutor. Miguel Torres Ruiz, 45, failure to purchase or invalid driver's license, dismissed by prosecutor.

MINIDOKA COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS

Jorge Sierra-Ruiz, 49, driving under the influence, \$112.50 costs, driver's license suspended two years, three years probation, one year prison determinate, four indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; misdemeanor reckless driving amended to felony attempting to elude an officer, bond reduced to \$2,500 with conditions, \$599.50 fine, three years probation, one year prison determinate, four indeterminate, retained jurisdiction; driving without privileges, dismissed by prosecutor; probation violation, 296 days credited, retained jurisdiction. Melissa Ann Marston, 25, lewd conduct with a child under 16 amended to injury to a child, three years probation, two years prison determinate, four indeterminate, penitentiary suspended.

WANTED in Mini-Cassia

Alexis Nevarez Ybarra



Age: 26
Description: 5 feet, 7 inches; 176 pounds; black hair; brown eyes
Wanted for:

Failure to appear on possession of drug paraphernalia charge; carrying a concealed weapon while under the influence; \$15,000 bond. The Cassia County Sheriff's Office asks anyone with information pertaining to Ybarra to call 878-2251, or Crime Stoppers, at 878-2900.

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of

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Blaine County schools to seek judicial confirmation to borrow from bond

Money would give schools a jump-start on construction

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

Blaine County School Board Trustees hope a judge will give them approval to get a jump-start on construction projects by borrowing from a plant facilities levy voters approved in October. The school district will file a petition for judicial confirmation in Blaine County 5th District Court to borrow from the 10-year, \$59.8 million levy to fund several projects, including heating-system upgrades and a geothermal heating development the district has received a \$4 million U.S. Department

of Energy grant for. Funding from the levy won't become available in July, but area residents in January urged the school board to fast-track planned construction projects funded by levy dollars to save money in the long run and take advantage of current government building incentives. Many said doing so could stimulate the Wood River Valley economy, as trustees pledged to seek local bids and workers for the projects. The board voted 3-1 on Tuesday to seek judicial confirmation to borrow on future bond revenue. Paul Bates cast the lone dissenting vote, repeating a few residents' concerns that the district has not sufficiently prioritized the projects it wants to undertake should the funding come available. In other action, the school board voted to pay McKinstry Engineering of Seattle up to \$290,000 to

design the district's updated geothermal and heating system. A few residents have expressed concern that McKinstry, which has an office in Boise, isn't a local business. But district Finance Manager Mike Chatterton said McKinstry, which helped the school district get the Department of Energy grant, provided a service that couldn't be obtained locally. High school senior Brendan Freund and two parents lauded a plan allowing school sport participants to fulfill one of the two physical education credits the district requires high school students to take prior to graduation. Freund, who has been accepted to Stanford University, lamented that he was unable to take an advanced placement economic class because of the physical education requirement, even though he is on

his school's cross country team. Parents Penny Eagan and Joanne Brand pressed trustees to allow students to receive one credit per extracurricular sport. They emphasized they're not trying to do away with physical education requirements but want students already engaged in sports to have more flexibility in scheduling classes. Trustee Steve Guthrie said he'd be willing to consider awarding one credit per sport after mentally calculating how much time his child spends in extracurricular sports. Students who participate in extracurricular sports do better academically and have a lower dropout rate, said Wood River High School Principal John Blackman. District Superintendent Lonnie Barber noted that the physical education requirement is a requirement of the school district, not the state.

Jerome fire station becoming Regional Response Center

By John Plestina
Times-News writer

JEROME — At the urging of Jerome's fire chief, the city's Station No. 2 is becoming the Regional Response Center for southern Idaho. Jerome Fire Chief Mike Hatfield has more than 25 years of hazardous-material response experience, and offered to make available one of his facilities as the home base of the Magic Valley Emergency Response Team. "I stepped up to the plate and made the offer," Hatfield said. One of Hatfield's first priorities after coming to Jerome in September was to staff Station No. 2 on West Yakima Avenue. Built about five years ago, the modern facility had been used for storage over most of its life span. With the station near Interstate 84 now staffed, Hatfield suggested to other area fire chiefs to house the response team and its equipment at the facility. Most of the team's equipment currently housed at several located will be relocated to Jerome.

The team, comprised of firefighters from throughout the region, provides emergency response from the edge of the Treasure Valley nearly to Pocatello. Fire departments from throughout the region have participated in a mutual-aid agreement for hazardous material response since 1996, Hatfield said. Hazardous materials response is necessary, Hatfield said. "Every day there is some mad scientist making something new that finds its way out of the bottle," he said. Station No. 2 won't become a toxic materials storage or disposal facility, Hatfield said. It will, however, become a regional training facility. In preparation for the station becoming a regional training facility, the Jerome Urban Renewal Agency granted \$3,159 earlier this month for the purchase of tables and chairs for training sessions. *John Plestina may be reached at jplestina@mag-valley.com.*

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

TWIN FALLS COUNTY FELONY SENTENCINGS
Jack L. Merrill, 20, Cottonwood; issuing check with insufficient funds (\$250 or greater); three years penitentiary; one determinate, two indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Correction; \$500 public defender fee; \$100.50 costs; \$2,155.69 restitution; no bond. Darrell W. Friel, 52, Hansen; grand theft; five years penitentiary; two determinate, three indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Correction; \$125.50 costs; \$2,800 restitution; no bond. Janice S. Browne, 55, Twin Falls; delivery of methamphetamine; seven years penitentiary; three determinate, four indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Correction; consecutive; \$165.50 costs; \$2,114.48 restitution; no bond.

FELONY DISMISSALS
Byron G. Pearce, 41, Twin Falls; malicious injury to property; dismissed by state. Charles T. Shaffer, 23, Filer; possession of methamphetamine; dismissed by prosecutor.

FELONY ACQUITTALS
Michael A. Loya, 20, Twin Falls; rape; acquittal by unanimous jury; found innocent.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS
Justin T. Young, 24, Meridian; driving under the influence (excessive); \$800 fine, \$600 suspended; \$132.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 90 days jail, 80 suspended, credit for three served, 56 hours work detail in Ada county; driving privileges suspended 365 days; 12 months probation.

MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS
Jose E.R. Tzintzun, 35, Hailey; driving under the influence; withheld judgment; amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 10 days jail, balance suspended, credit for time served; six months probation. Aaron R. Torres, 22, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; \$600 fine, \$300 suspended; \$102.50 costs; 90 days jail, 88 suspended, credit for time served, 16 hours work detail; driving privileges suspended 180 days; six months probation. Timothy W. Campbell, 26, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; \$500 fine, \$250 suspended; \$102.50 costs; 90 days jail, 88 suspended, credit for time served, two days work detail; driving privileges suspended 180 days; 12 months probation. Aleksander V. Gelver, 25, Buhl; driving without privileges; amended to driving without privileges two or more; \$102.50 costs; 180 days jail, credit for 30 served; driving privileges suspended 365 days; consecutive. Michael D. Easley Jr., 30, Twin Falls; battery; \$500 fine, \$250 suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 90 days jail, 88 suspended, credit for two served; 12 months probation. Martin A. Buckley, 46, Twin Falls; possession of paraphernalia; \$127.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee uncollectible; 180 days jail,

credit for 96 served; concurrent with felony. Jessy A. Salas, 30, Twin Falls; possession of paraphernalia; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$127.50 costs; 180 days jail, 178 suspended, 16 hours work detail; 12 months probation. Victor S. Rodriguez, 22, Buhl; domestic battery; \$600 fine, \$300 suspended; \$117.50 costs; 180 days jail, balance suspended, credit for time served; 12 months probation, six months probation.

Ramiro R. Ramirez, 23, Jerome; battery; \$87.50 costs waived; 120 days jail, credit for time served; concurrent with felony. Diane L. Bower, 46, Buhl; petit theft; amended to wilful concealment; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 30 days jail, balance suspended, credit for time served; six months probation; \$40 restitution. David W. Corbett, 61, Filer; aggravated assault; amended to

assault; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days jail; 12 months probation; consecutive; aggravated assault; amended to assault; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; 90 days jail; 12 months probation. Dustin E. McCallister, 26, Filer; malicious injury to property; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs, \$75 public defender fee; 30 days jail, balance suspended, credit for time served; six months probation.

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Nugget Jewelry
Old Class Rings • Wedding Rings
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Platinum Bars
Platinum Jewelry
Platinum Wire
Crucibles

STERLING ITEMS

Silverware
Flatware
Jewelry
Tea Sets
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- * Fountain & Mechanical Pens
- * Military Items: Civil War thru Vietnam
- * Vintage Guitars, Marbles & Banks
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Idaho deal urges landowners to protect grouse

By Todd Dvorak
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Idaho and the federal government have signed an agreement that offers incentive and protection for ranchers and landowners who voluntarily take conservation steps to improve the plight of the sage grouse and its declining habitat.

The agreement, hailed by federal wildlife officials as the first of its kind anywhere in the bird's range, for now targets an isolated population across 640,000 acres in southwest Idaho. But similar pacts are being negotiated elsewhere in Idaho, Wyoming and other western states inhabited by a species being considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is under a court imposed deadline to make a listing decision on the bird by Feb. 26.

"Private landowners are a key for this effort.

We feel this will be good for sage grouse and private landowners."

— Cal Groen, Idaho Fish and Game director

The accord signed Friday by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the federal service would give landowners who voluntarily adopt habitat restoration measures protection from future land use regulations if the game bird is granted endangered status.

"We're trying to be proactive and do the right thing for the landscape," said Cal Groen, Idaho Fish and Game director. "Private landowners are a key for this effort. We feel this will be good for sage grouse and private landowners."

Once abundant in the sagebrush steppes stretching from the Dakotas to California, sage grouse populations and habitat suitable for breeding are dwindling

from threats posed by oil and gas development, livestock grazing, urban sprawl, invasive species, drought and wildfires.

State and federal researchers differ on exact population numbers but agree the chicken-sized bird now occupies about half its original year-round habitat. In 2005, federal biologists estimated 100,000 to 500,000 greater sage grouse lived across 11 western states.

The FWS has two weeks to meet a deadline imposed by U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill as part of a lawsuit filed by conservationists pushing to bolster sage grouse numbers and tougher habitat protections.

Under terms of the vol-

untary conservation agreement, landowners who agree to plant sagebrush, add wetlands or change grazing patterns to improve breeding ground habitat will be unburdened by tougher land-use rules typically imposed for endangered plants and animals.

For now, the 30-year accord applies solely to landowners in four counties in a region more than 75 miles northwest of Boise. The sage grouse in Adams, Gem, Payette and Washington counties are isolated from other colonies and have been in decline for decades, prompting Idaho to declare the area off-limits to hunting more than 20 years ago and rank it the highest risk for expiration in the state.

"This is proactive species conservation," Jeff Foss, state supervisor for the FWS, said of the pact. "It's a good balance for conservation issues on the ground

and some assurance for landowners."

But conservationists said that any voluntary measures taken by the region's ranchers and farmer will fall short of dealing with the bigger challenges of reversing the species' decline and reconnecting its fragmented habitat.

Todd Tucci, attorney for Advocates for the West, one of the groups that sued the government in 2005, said the bigger challenge is dealing with sage grouse habitat on public land, where wind energy development, oil and natural gas drilling and cattle grazing pose thornier policy questions. Research shows a quarter of sage grouse habitat is on private land.

"The problem with these agreements is they are seen through a lens of what is the minimum amount that needs to be done to say we're protecting the species," said Tucci.

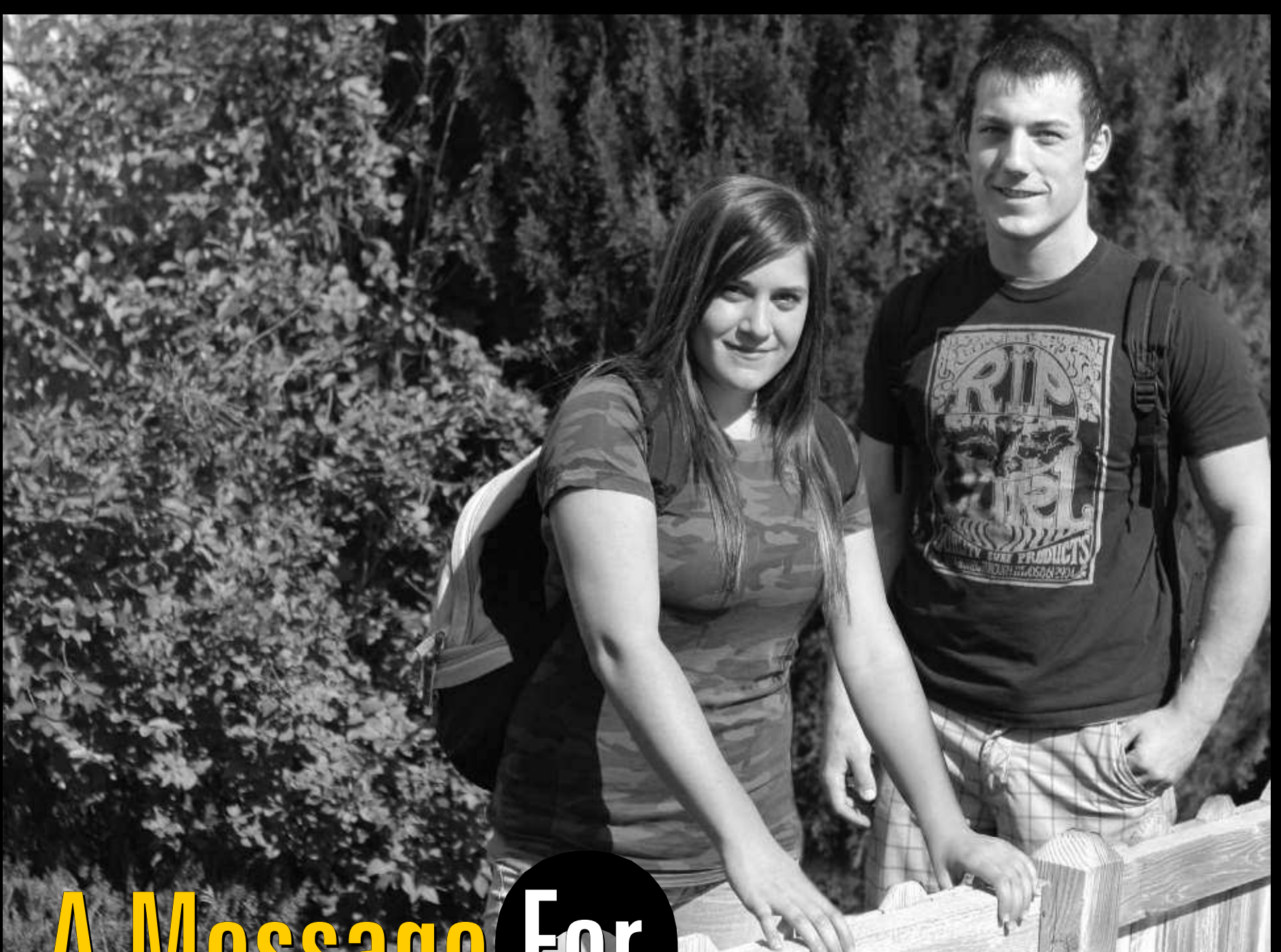
Utah lawmakers OK bill to hike tobacco tax

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Cigarettes in Utah could go up by about a dollar a pack under a bill passed by a House committee Friday.

House Bill 196, sponsored by Rep. Paul Ray, R-Clearfield, would raise the tobacco tax from 69.5 cents to \$1.70 per pack. The House panel passed it on a 5-2 vote.

This is the third year in a row that Ray has proposed bumping up the tax. A traditional aversion to hikes of any kind has stalled the bill in the past.

But Ray says the expected \$700 million budget shortfall will make it a more alluring option for former opponents, who might jump at the estimated \$22.5 million the tax would generate.



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OPINION

QUOTE

"I'm so glad to be back in my own home."
 — Chinese activist Feng Zhenghu, after arriving home Friday after spending more than three months camped in Tokyo's international airport because China had refused him re-entry

A license to picnic? You've got to be kidding

JEERS: To Midvale Republican state Rep. Judy Boyle, who wants the Legislature to make Idahoans buy a \$10 conservation permit to picnic or bird-watch on state lands now maintained with revenue from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

Those from outside Idaho would pay \$20. People who didn't comply could be cited.

Non-hunters have been getting a free ride for years, Boyle says. "A lot of the time folks go out there and picnic and leave all their garbage to be picked up," she said. "They bring weeds ... and the seeds sprout."

Seems to us that public lands are called "public" for a reason: The taxpayers own them.

The House Resources and Conservation Committee

introduced her bill on Thursday. It shouldn't have.

Rep. Lenore Barrett, a GOP lawmaker from Challis, doesn't like the idea of charging people to walk onto state land to "rubberneck" at birds.

Neither do we.

CHEERS: To state Sen. Tim Corder, for introducing legislation to clarify Idaho's animal cruelty laws and prepare for future growth anticipated from poultry and dairy farmers relocating here in the years ahead.

The Mountain Home Republican's proposal, introduced in the Senate

Agricultural Affairs Committee last week, comes at a time when tighter poultry regulations in California are expected to cause farmers to look else-



where, bringing potential growth to Idaho.

Corder also wants to give the Idaho State Department of Agriculture more oversight in enforcing agricultural regulations, including those concerning confined-animal feedlot operations and poultry operations.

The animal cruelty bill would include birds in the definition of animals, which currently isn't in place. That change would make cockfight-

ing a felony. The law currently only makes dogfighting a felony.

It's also written in a way that defines companion and production animals. The legislation is intended to be a proactive way to prepare for additional farmers who may come to Idaho, Corder said.

While California's regulations have driven farmers elsewhere, he said the intent of the bill is for Idaho to be ready for growth, not attract out-of-state farmers.

"We're not encouraging or discouraging," Corder said.

"We're preparing."

That's wise public policy.

Republican Sen. Chuck Winder's bill which would permit any licensed health-care provider to refuse to provide a treatment, service or medication related to abortion, emergency contraception, stem cell research or end-of-life care if it violates his or her conscience.

Idaho law already contains a "conscience" provision that protects doctors and hospitals that refuse to perform abortions. The state also outlaws euthanasia and assisted suicide.

What Winder's legislation might actually achieve is denying dying patients pain medication to which their providers object.

It's a waste of time and the taxpayers' money.

A plan to move the economy forward

Rep. Wendy Jaquet and I recently held town meetings in Gooding, Camas, Lincoln and Blaine counties. We heard much concern about the economy and the effects it is having on our schools, our parks, our public television programming, our businesses and worst of all our families whose breadwinner is unemployed. They wanted to know what is being done about job creation? Replacing those 60,000 Idaho jobs that have been lost is the cornerstone of getting our economy rolling again.

Idaho Jobs and Opportunity Blueprint, or I-JOBS, is a plan for our future offered by the Democrats in the Legislature. It is a package of six pieces of legislation that contain specific benefits for small business job development, tax incentives for job creation and help for small businesses seeking capital. They were focused on small business because that's traditionally where the majority of new jobs are created. The six bills are outlined below:

1. Each year Idaho sends almost \$3 billion out of state to purchase energy. That money and those jobs should stay in Idaho. SB1273, the Grow Green Idaho Jobs Act, is focused on the fact that Idaho is blessed with a variety of renewable resources that, if developed, will create jobs throughout the state.

2. To cultivate new and additional jobs, SB 1274 directs an advisory council comprised of both governmental and private representatives to make recommendations on job growth. The 2010 Idaho Jobs Council Act will bring new energy and directives for Idaho's businesses.

3. Eighty percent of Idaho's workforce is employed by small business. The Idaho Home Grown Business and Jobs Act, or SB1275, directs the Department of Labor to provide useful market intelligence to small businesses. This act will allow small businesses to better compete with large corporations. Also included in the



READER COMMENT
Rep. Donna Pence

I-JOBS package are three additional House bills that will be introduced to committee.

4. The Idaho Small Business Venture Capital Investment Act creates jobs by increasing access to capital for small businesses and offers a tax credit to venture capitalists who invest in Idaho companies.

5. Starting a new company is time and energy consuming. Businesses are often in need of additional resources to get their business off the ground running. The Small Business Incubator and Jobs Act directs the Departments of Commerce and Labor to focus existing low-cost resources to start-up companies.

6. The Small Business Jobs Development Act intends to jumpstart job creation for long term, livable wages. Long term job creation is dependent upon serious investment in Idaho's workers along with an innovative environment. This act will accelerate the creation of jobs for small businesses by providing a tax credit for jobs paying \$35,000 per year or more and health benefits.

So far the legislative response has been to cut so we have a balanced budget. While this is necessary, why not simultaneously invest in steps to turn the economy around? This lemon of an economy may be an opportunity to grow a 21st century economy that uses the creativity, talents and work ethic that is inherent in Idaho. I-JOBS is a vision of how to accomplish this. We invite our colleagues in the Legislature to join in, add to and improve this blueprint. Working together we can move Idaho forward

Rep. Donna Pence (D-Gooding), has represented Gooding, Blaine, Lincoln and Camas counties in the Idaho House of Representatives since 2005.

Despite retraction, anti-vaccine groups continue to sway parents

The doctor who launched the modern anti-vaccine movement acted "dishonestly and irresponsibly," Britain's General Medical Council has ruled. But fear not. Dr. Andrew Wakefield is still a hero to his many acolytes. And others, with curious credentials, fight on to terrify parents into not getting their children inoculated.

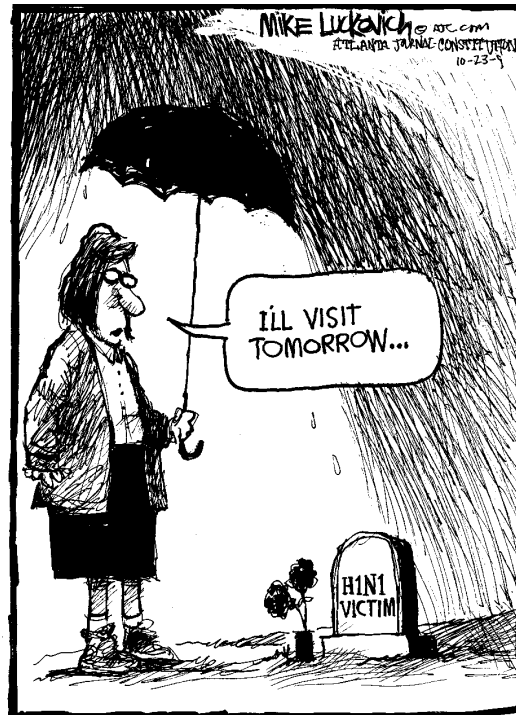


Michael Fumento

In 1998, Wakefield wrote and then vociferously hawked an article in the British medical journal *Lancet* linking autism to the MMR vaccine (measles, mumps and rubella). After the council's decision, *Lancet* last week retracted the article. Among the facts that have come out of the inquiry into Wakefield's research is that two years before his paper appeared, lawyers seeking to sue vaccine makers paid Wakefield the equivalent of \$700,000. After Wakefield's article appeared, vaccination levels plummeted in Britain and declined in the United States, and the diseases they prevented surged. Measles cases increased sevenfold in the United States.

"One person's research set us back a decade, and we're just now recovering from that," Mark Sawyer, a pediatrician and infectious disease specialist at Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, told me in an interview.

But are we recovering? Anti-vaccination groups have popped up like toadstools after rain, while older ones such as the National Vaccine Information Center were reinvigorated. For the most part, these groups have had only a marginal effect on national vaccination rates, but they have encouraged localized boycotts of immunization. The result has been a resurgence of diseases gone so long that some doctors don't even recognize them. And children die because of it.



"... people need to know they can infect other people's babies. It kills. People think these diseases don't exist anymore, but that's only because children are being vaccinated."

— Danielle Romaguera of New Orleans, whose month-old baby died of pertussis

Before the MMR vaccine became available in 1971, measles, mumps and rubella annually afflicted 530,000, 162,000 and 48,000 U.S. children, respectively, killing a total of more than 600. By the middle of the last decade, there were fewer than 7,000 new cases annually and zero deaths. But the anti-vaccine groups generally claim the injections were irrelevant and that factors such as better nutrition caused the declines.

Meanwhile, their "science" comes down to little more than that autism symptoms are often first recognized at the same age that children are getting their first vaccinations. So they lumped the MMR in with a list of other childhood vaccines that formerly contained the mercury-based preservative thimerosal, although the MMR never contained thimerosal.

And don't dismiss the power of a good old-fashioned conspiracy. "It's astounding to me that people can imagine that America's pediatricians and family physicians and public health officials are scheming to harm children," Sawyer says.

Never mind that by 2008, more than 20 articles published in peer-reviewed medical journals found no connection between MMR vaccine and autism, while two suggested a connection.

Lack of herd immunity is what killed Gabriella "Brie" Romaguera. The New Orleans baby died of pertussis, or whooping cough. At one time, this disease afflicted more than 250,000 American children yearly, killing 9,000. Vaccinations reduced that to just 1,000 new cases annually by 1976; but by 2008, cases had soared to more than 10,000 annually.

Brie contracted the disease when she was a month old, too young for her first pertussis vaccine. "I'm not laying blame," her mother, Danielle, told me. "But people need to know they can infect other people's babies. It kills. People think these diseases don't exist anymore, but that's only because children are being vaccinated."

Romaguera is especially upset by "celebrity science," as exemplified by Jenny McCarthy. The actress and former *Playboy* playmate claims vaccines made her

son autistic but that she "cured" him. There is no cure. McCarthy's antics include yelling at three physicians on "Larry King Live," and exclaiming: "My son died in front of me from a vaccine injury!" Her son is alive, as she later acknowledged.

Yet she'd be little more than an opinionated pinup girl but for being invited to share her "expertise" on "Larry King," ABC's "20/20," "Good Morning America" and other popular shows. All this has helped propel McCarthy's two books on autism to best-sellerdom.

"Celebrities are entitled to support a cause," said Sawyer. "But when they give professional advice, I think that's dangerous."

"It makes it hard for doctors," Romaguera said. "Our pediatrician says parents tell him all the time they don't care what the science says. And because of it, babies and kids are dying."

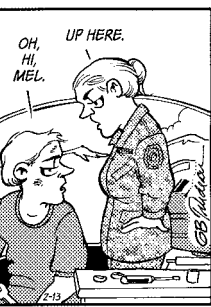
Michael Fumento is head of the Independent Journalism Project, where he specializes in health and science issues. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



U.S. forces launch attack in Afghanistan

By Alfred de Montesquiou and Christopher Torchia
Associated Press Writers

NEAR MARJAH, Afghanistan — Helicopter-borne U.S. Marines and Afghan troops swooped down on the Taliban-held town of Marjah before dawn Saturday, launching a long-expected attack to re-establish government control and undermine support for militants in their southern heartland.

The assault on Marjah is the biggest offensive since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan and will serve as a major test of a new NATO strategy focusing on protecting civilians. The attack is also the first major combat operation since President Barack Obama ordered 30,000 U.S. reinforcements here in December to try to turn the tide of the war.

Marine commanders say they expect between 400 to 1,000 insurgents to be holed up inside this southern Afghan town of 80,000 people in Helmand province, including more than 100 foreign fighters. Marjah is the biggest southern town under Taliban control and the linchpin of the militants' logistical and opium-smuggling network.

"The first wave of choppers has landed inside Marjah. The operation has begun," said Capt. Joshua Winfrey, commander of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, which was at the forefront of the attack.

Several hundred U.S. Marines and some Afghan troops were in the first wave of troops, flying over minefields the militants are believed to have planted around the town, 360 miles southwest of Kabul.

The operation, code-named "Moshtarak," or Together, was described as the biggest joint operation of the Afghan war. Maj. Gen. Nick Carter, the commander of NATO forces in southern Afghanistan, says 15,000 troops were involved in the operation, including some 7,500 troops fighting in Marjah and British forces to the north in the district



A U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter with the Charlie Company, Task Force Talon, takes off at a forward operating base south of Marjah, Afghanistan, Friday. The Talon MEDEVAC in Helmand is one of several army aero-medical units positioned around southern Afghanistan.

AP photo



SOURCE: ESRI

surrounding villages. The Afghans' ability to restore those services is crucial to the success of the operation and to preventing the Taliban from returning.

Tribal elders have pleaded for NATO to finish the operation quickly and spare civilians — an appeal that offers some hope the townspeople will cooperate with Afghan and international forces once the Taliban are gone.

At the Pentagon, a senior U.S. official said Afghan president Hamid Karzai had signed off on the attack.

Another defense official said Karzai had been informed of planning for the operation well in advance. The official said it marked a first in terms of both sharing information prior to the attack and planning collaboration with the Afghan government.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because there were not authorized to speak publicly. The second official said the number of Afghan security forces in the district have roughly doubled since Obama's first infusion of some 10,000 Marines in southern Afghanistan last year.

The Marjah offensive involves close combat in extremely difficult terrain, that official said. A close grid of wide canals dug by the

United States as an aid project decades ago make the territory a particularly rich agricultural prize but complicate the advance of U.S. forces.

On the eve of the attack, cars and trucks jammed the main road out of Marjah on Friday as hundreds of civilians defied militant orders and fled the area ahead of the assault. For weeks, U.S. commanders had signaled their intention to attack Marjah in hopes that civilians would seek shelter.

Residents told The Associated Press by telephone this week that Taliban fighters were preventing them from leaving, warning the roads were planted with land mines to slow the NATO advance.

Still, many people fled anyway for the provincial capital of Lashkar Gah, 20 miles to the northeast. They told journalists they had to leave quickly and secretly to avoid recrimination from Taliban commanders.

Some said they slipped out of town when Taliban commanders weren't watching.

"We were not allowed to come here. We haven't brought any of our belongings; we just tried to get ourselves out," said Bibi Gul, an elderly woman in a black headscarf who arrived in nearby Lashkar Gah with three of her sons.

House Dems offer mixed signals on Senate jobs bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democratic leaders sent mixed signals Friday on a new jobs bill supported by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and a senior Republican senator predicted his party will block action on the Senate floor.

The two events further complicated plans to quickly pass election-year legislation addressing huge job losses.

Senate Democrats scrapped a bipartisan jobs bill Thursday in favor of one they say is leaner and more focused on putting Americans back to work, all but daring Republicans to vote against it.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said Democrats may lose that bet, at least at a key procedural stage.

"I personally believe that every Republican would have to vote against cloture," Hatch said in an interview, using the term for the 41 GOP senators' power to keep the bill from coming to the floor for an up-or-down vote. They would do so to protest Reid's decision to scrap the broader bipartisan bill, which could have passed the Senate easily, Hatch said.

If the Senate manages to pass the scaled-back bill, however, House Democrats will be under pressure to hand President Obama a badly needed political victory while addressing the biggest economic issue facing the country — the loss of 8.4 million jobs since the



Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada speaks to the media on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, following a meeting with the Senate Democratic Caucus.

start of the recession. Supporters hope nervous lawmakers facing congressional elections in November, and an unemployment rate just below 10 percent, will feel obligated to support a jobs bill.

Reid wants to quickly pass the bill after Congress returns from a weeklong break Feb. 22.

House Democrats were at odds over the pared-down Senate bill. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland said he could live with it, but House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California said she wants to pass key provisions of a much broader House-passed bill centered more on spending than tax cuts.

Pelosi issued a statement Friday saying she would work with Reid, but she said

she wants to salvage parts of the House bill, including \$27 billion in aid to states, mainly to save teachers' jobs.

Hoyer gave a different assessment.

INSIDE
Critics say bill won't create jobs.

See Business 1

"The answer is yes," he said when asked whether the House would support a scaled-back Senate bill.

"We feel it's very important to pass a bill which will help expand the economy and grow jobs, so we'd be very inclined. If the Senate can pass something, we're going to pass that, and we know we can pass that," he told reporters Friday in Annapolis, Md.

The new Senate bill features tax breaks for businesses that hire unemployed workers or buy new equipment, along with funding for highway programs and local infrastructure projects.

Justice Dept. wants phone locales without warrant

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Should the government be allowed to track a person's movements based on cell phone records, without evidence of criminal wrongdoing?

A showdown on the issue unfolded Friday in a federal appeals court in Philadelphia, as the Justice Department battled electronic-privacy groups.

The privacy groups say the information could reveal when someone goes to a religious service, medical clinic or political rally, or is having an extramarital affair. Third U.S. Circuit Judge Dolores Sloviter seemed to share that concern.

"You know there are governments in the world that would like to know where some of their people are or have been," Sloviter challenged Justice Department lawyer Mark Eckenwiler, an associate director of criminal enforcement operations.

"Can the government assure us that it will never try to find out these things?" she asked. "Don't we have to be concerned about this? Not this government right now, but a government?"

Law enforcement agencies hope to obtain cell phone location data from cellular providers without first showing probable cause of a crime — and

without the customer's knowledge. The data comes from cell phone towers, and in densely populated cities can pinpoint a person's location to within a few hundred yards.

The issue is not whether the government can obtain the information, but whether a probable-cause warrant should be required first.

"An individual has no Fourth Amendment-protected privacy interest in business records, such as cell-site usage information, that are kept, maintained and used by a cell phone company," Eckenwiler wrote in his brief.

Sloviter countered by asking Eckenwiler why there was a need to skip a probable-cause showing, saying that she knew no magistrates reluctant to grant search warrant applications.

He replied that the relevant law does not require them. Eckenwiler said probable-cause warrants are only needed to obtain the contents of electronic communications, such as a text or e-mail, or to wiretap a phone.

He believes the 1986 Electronics Communications Privacy Act allows police to obtain "non-content" data without a warrant.

Three dead, 3 hurt in Ala. campus shooting

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — A woman opened fire during a biology faculty meeting at the University of Alabama's Huntsville campus Friday, killing three faculty members and injuring two other faculty members and a staff member.

The shooter was in custody, but university spokesman Ray Garner said he could not identify her or the victims. Local television stations reported she is a faculty member.

No students were hurt.

Huntsville Hospital spokesman Burr Ingram said two of the injured were in critical condition and the third was in stable condition.

Sophomore Erin Johnson told The Huntsville Times a biology faculty meeting was under way when she heard screams coming from the room.

The shooting happened in the university's Shelby Center, a science building. University police secured the building and students were cleared from it.

The Huntsville campus has about 7,500 students in northern Alabama, not far from the Tennessee line.

The city is home to NASA's Marshall Space

Flight Center. The university posted a message on its Web site Friday afternoon telling students the campus was closed Friday night and all students were encouraged to go home. Counselors were available to speak with students.

Garner said the campus was closed while police gathered evidence. He said at a news conference that the shooting was not unlike one the area experienced a week ago, when a 14-year-old student was shot to death in a middle school hallway, allegedly by a fellow student.

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GOP retirements prompt speculation about gains

By Chris Cillizza and Paul Kane
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A trio of House Republican retirement announcements over the past 10 days have sparked a debate between the leaders of the two major parties over whether the GOP is losing momentum in its quest to score major gains at the ballot box this fall.

With the three latest lawmakers choosing not to seek reelection in November, Republicans will now have to defend 18 open seats this fall while Democrats must protect 13 of their own, raw numbers that contradict the conventional wisdom that Democrats would head for the sidelines in the wake of GOP Sen. Scott Brown's special election victory Jan. 19 in Massachusetts.

But GOP strategists are brushing aside the retirement gap, arguing that many of their House members see an improving political environment and are jumping ship to run for statewide

MCCAIN FACES RE-ELECTION BATTLE

PHOENIX — Defeated just two years ago as the Republican presidential candidate and with his bonafides as a true conservative again being challenged, John McCain finds himself in a struggle to get even his party's nomination for another term in the Senate.

Many conservatives and Tea Party activists are lining up behind Republican challenger and former talk radio host J.D. Hayworth, reflecting a rising tide of voter frustration with incumbent politicians. Only 40 percent of Arizonans have a favorable view of McCain's job performance.

Faced with his toughest re-election battle ever, McCain has moved to the right on several hot-button issues, like gays in the military and climate change, and has built a campaign war chest of more than \$5 million. Former running mate Sarah Palin and newly elected Republican Sen. Scott Brown, both popular with conservatives, are pitching in. Hayworth, who will officially launch his campaign Monday, began using his talk show on conservative radio station KFYI to drum up opposition to McCain.

"You have a consistent conservative challenger and an incumbent who calls himself a maverick but in fact is a moderate," Hayworth said.



McCain

office, and that other retirements are occurring in mostly conservative terrain that will be easy to defend in the fall. Democrats counter that the GOP retirements are a

sign that most rank-and-file Republicans do not believe they will recapture the majority anytime soon.

Rep. Pete Sessions, R-Texas, chairman of the

National Republican Congressional Committee said that "not all retirements are created equal," adding that the Democratic retirements are coming in far less friendly territory for the majority. "The fact of the matter is Democrats in swing districts are retiring because they know what November has in store for them," said Sessions.

"The fact that you have 10 percent of House Republican retiring suggests they don't believe their own hype about taking back the House," said Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "If that was a realistic prospect people would be running for office, not from it."

On Thursday, Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., became the latest casualty, announcing that he would not seek a 10th term in his Miami-area seat.

Less than 24 hours earlier, Rep. Vern Ehlers, R-Mich., had decided not to run again and, late last month, Indiana

Rep. Steve Buyer also called it quits.

At this early stage of the campaign season, independent political handicappers Charlie Cook and Stuart Rothenberg predict Democratic losses of at least 20 seats, putting Republicans halfway to the 40 seats they need to take back the majority. The ripest targets are often seats left behind by incumbents, and a look at the 31 open seats does suggest that Democrats are likely to be harder hit by the retirements announced so far.

Of the 13 Democratic open seats, Arizona Sen. John McCain carried five of them in 2008 and lost another — Kansas' 3rd district — narrowly.

Of the 18 Republican-held seats, President Obama won just two and came close in districts held by Lincoln and Mario Diaz-Balart around Miami.

Two-thirds of the Republican retirees, 12, are running for higher office, a sign, party strategists say,

that Republicans view their party as ascendant and are leaping at opportunities. In addition, the most recent retirees — Buyer, Diaz-Balart, Ehlers — are veterans whose upward mobility is limited in the House.

Still, Republicans would rather not have to deal with open seats. Modern political history suggests that open seats are far more likely to switch parties than those where the incumbent is running for re-election — meaning that any vacant seat has at least the potential to become competitive.

"In this environment, every open seat has to be watched, and there will be GOP open seats where the NRCC will have to spend money they wouldn't have had to if the incumbent had run for re-election," said Carl Forti, a Republican consultant and former communications director for the House GOP's campaign arm. "This will take away from what they have to spend on offensive opportunities."

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\$499

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Matching pcs. available

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Matching Reclining Loveseat \$649

\$699

Reclining Sofa

Matching Reclining Loveseat \$749

\$799

Power Lift Recliner

\$899

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Queen Bed

Matching pcs. available

\$999

*With approved credit, finance offer includes monthly payments. See store for details.

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Jerome sewage capacity might delay hatchery

By John Plestina
Times-News writer

JEROME — A Mini-Cassia poultry company will have to wait to find out if Jerome's sewage treatment plant could accommodate waste from a chicken hatchery the company is considering building near Jerome.

Jerome city officials didn't identify the company that has inquired about necessary infrastructure to accommodate a hatchery.

"We simply discussed a possible approach to determining a policy," Mayor John Shine said following a City Council workshop that addressed the request Tuesday night.

"At this point the city staff is going to do some research on our sewer capacity," he said. "We need to determine what our policy is going to be in terms of inviting additional sources of effluent to be processed by the Jerome sewage treatment plant."

There will not be an immediate answer, Shine said. He didn't

know how long it would take the city to make a determination.

"What we do not want to do is sell any of Jerome's capacity and put the current residents at risk of running out of capacity. We're going to proceed with caution," Shine said.

City Administrator Ben Marchant said the city received a request from the poultry company for a connection to the city sewer system.

He said the company is interested in building an \$8 million poultry hatchery facility at a site

near the Idaho Department of Fish and Game district office off U.S. Highway 93. He said the facility would employ about 25 people. The proposed building site is outside Jerome city limits.

One issue the City Council must address if the facility is to be built is a current policy against expansion of water and sewer services beyond Crossroads Point Business Park.

John Plestina may be reached at jplestina@magicvalley.com or 208-358-7062.

Retail sales increase more than anticipated

By Bob Willis
Bloomberg News writer

WASHINGTON — Retail sales climbed in January for the third time in four months, signaling the consumer spending recovery that began in late 2009 continues into the new year.

The 0.5 percent increase was larger than forecast and followed a 0.1 percent drop the prior month that was smaller than previously estimated, Commerce Department figures showed Friday in Washington. Purchases excluding autos rose 0.6 percent.

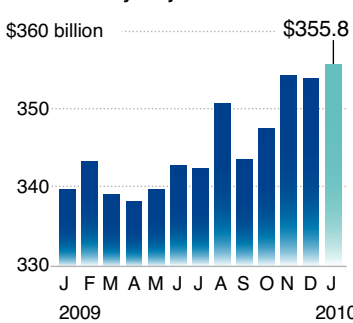
A drop in unemployment and a longer workweek last month signal the economy is poised to generate jobs, which will lead to gains in income that may further lift demand. Macy's and Gap are among retailers driving profits up by keeping stockpiles lean after the biggest household spending slump in three decades.

See SALES, Business 2

Retail sales rise

Total monthly sales for retail trade and food services.

Seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: Department of Commerce AP

Family fun center opens in Burley

By Judy Albertson
Times News writer

If the kids are antsy to go out and play but it's too cold or too wet, there's a perfect get-away in Heyburn.

Dawn and Daniel Lage opened Party Hardy Family Edutainment Center in December inside the former Heyburn Elementary School at 1430 17th St. in Heyburn.

Dawn Lage said they wanted to open a place where children of all ages could come and have fun.

"We started with inflatable rentals in 2007 and people started asking about an indoor center. We knew the economy was bad, but we felt this area needed something like this, and we were willing to risk it," Lage said. "And the way things fell into place for us, we couldn't not do it."

Since opening the family fun center they have already catered a dozen birthday parties, with several more scheduled weeks in advance.

They have 30 people on their payroll, with Janet O'Rear as assistant manager.

"The days could be a little busier, but I think our location has something to do with that," Lage said. "Because of the size of the inflatables, we were limited with the amount of space available."

He said the business leases from the city of Heyburn.

The business will expand during the summer into an outdoor area, possibly adding a miniature golf course and other activities.

The indoor area includes an Air Arena, which has a 22-foot long slide as well as four jump houses — one just for children under 5.

Aside from a myriad of inflatable slides, funhouses and other activities, the facilities also include three private party rooms — each with an inflatable throne for birthday royalty, an arcade room that includes air hockey and a quiet room where mothers can take their infants.

A full service snack bar is available as well as a dining room. They serve sandwiches, salads, soups and good healthy snacks. Anyone can stop by the snack bar for lunch or a meeting.

"We have business meetings, family reunions. We can do just about anything. In the summer we will be able to handle much larger groups outside," Lage said.

Everything is provided by the facility, so parents can take it easy.

"Moms are lost at the birthday parties because there's nothing for them to do but enjoy the party," Lage said. "The hardest thing they have to do is send out invitations and get RSVPs."

The business will have outdoor interactive inflatables, water slides, a jousting area, bungee run and obstacle course as the weather improves.

General admission is \$5.49 for children ages 1 to 5, and \$6.49 for ages 6 to 18. The facility is open seven days a week.

Flights grounded as storm socks South



AP photo

A Delta airplane is de-iced at Washington's Ronald Reagan National Airport. Delta Air Lines, based in Atlanta, and its feeder partners canceled 1,100 flights in anticipation of 2 to 4 inches of snow in the metro Atlanta area Friday.

Travel plans for many altered as hundreds of flights across the country are cancelled; financial toll still being determined

By Harry R. Weber
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — Airlines canceled hundreds of flights across the nation Friday as snow pounded parts of the South and threatened to dump several inches of white on Atlanta, home to the world's busiest airport.

The snow totals weren't expected to be big by mid-Atlantic and Northeast standards, but for a region of the country that rarely gets snow and doesn't budget snow and ice removal the way folks in other parts of the country do, airlines weren't taking any chances.

Airline passengers were encouraged to check the status of their flights before leaving for airports. Passengers seemed to be heeding that advice. Officials reported short lines at ticket counters at Hartsfield-Jackson

Atlanta International Airport. Other flights were taking off on time and the airport was beginning to pretreat taxiways and runways to slow the buildup of snow and ice.

It was not immediately clear how many passengers were affected by all the cancellations, which piggybacked on previous cancellations due to the double whammy snowstorms that hit the Washington area and the snow that hit the Northeast earlier in the week.

The financial toll the airlines face from all the cancellations was still being tabulated.

Delta Air Lines, based in Atlanta, and its feeder partners canceled 1,100 flights in anticipation of 2 to 4 inches of snow in the metro Atlanta area.

American Airlines and its American Eagle affiliate canceled about 400 flights Friday,

including 228 at its hub at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. The snowfall there made this the snowiest winter in the Dallas-Fort Worth area in 32 years.

Back in Atlanta, AirTran Airways canceled 62 flights because of the snow.

US Airways had 61 cancellations on Friday, while United Airlines, which is relatively small in the South compared to other carriers, canceled 40 flights, according to spokeswoman for the two carriers.

JetBlue Airways, based in New York, didn't cancel any flights on Friday, but did cancel all flights out of the New York metro area, Richmond, Va., Washington and Baltimore on Wednesday for a total of 387 flights canceled that day. It canceled an additional 105 flights on Thursday, spokesman Mateo Lleras said.

Jobs bill short on making jobs

By Stephen Ohlemacher
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — There's a problem with the bipartisan jobs bill emerging in the Senate: It won't create many jobs.

The bill includes tax cuts to please Republicans and its passage would hand President Obama a badly needed political victory. But even the Obama administration acknowledges the legislation's centerpiece — a tax cut for businesses that hire unemployed workers — would work only on the margins.

Tax experts and business leaders said companies are unlikely to hire

workers just to receive a tax break. Before businesses start hiring, they need increased demand for their products, more work for their employees and more revenue to pay those workers.

"We're skeptical that it's going to be a big job creator," said Bill Rys, tax counsel for the National Federation of Independent Business. "There's certainly nothing wrong with giving a tax break to a business that's hired a new worker, especially in these tough times. But in terms of being an



AP photo

President Obama meets with bipartisan House and Senate leaders to discuss the economy and jobs, Tuesday, in the Cabinet Room of the White House. From left are, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md.; House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio; House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.; Obama; Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

incentive to hire a lot of workers, we're skeptical."

The bipartisan Senate plan would exempt businesses from paying a 6.2 percent Social

Security tax on the wages of new employees, as long as the workers have been unemployed at least

See JOBS, Business 2

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	23.40	▲ .11	Dell Inc.	13.84	▼ .11	Idacorp	31.75	▲ .17	Int. Bancorp	1.80	▲ .10
Lithia Mo.	5.75	▲ .15	McDonalds	63.59	▼ .20	Micron	8.44	▼ .09	Supervalu	14.77	▼ .14

COMMODITIES

For more see Business 2

Live cattle	89.38	▼ .03	March Oil	74.18	▼ 1.10
Feb. Gold	1,092	▼ 2.2	March Silver	15.52	▼ .07

NATION & WORLD

Administration may abandon civilian 9/11 trial

By Devlin Barrett and Ben Feller
Associated Press writers

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration, after weeks of controversy over its proposal to hold a civilian terror trial in New York, gave ground Friday and revived the possibility of using a military tribunal to try professed Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed.

Both Attorney General Eric Holder and White House spokesman Robert Gibbs did not rule out a military trial when asked about

the Obama administration's options.

Trying Mohammed in military court would mark a further political retreat from Holder's announcement last year that the five Sept. 11 suspects now held at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, would be tried in federal court in New York.

The Obama administration is trying to head off a possible vote in the Senate that could stop any terror suspects currently held at Guantanamo from being



Mohammed

brought to the United States to face a civilian trial. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., is offering such legislation, after losing a vote last year on the issue.

At stake is the public's perception of the administration's handling of national security, already shaken last year by strong congressional opposition to transferring any Guantanamo detainees to American soil. A Hill defeat over the trial issue could

embolden the GOP minority to raise national security concerns in the midterm elections later this year.

The prospect of such a vote could test of how many moderate Democrats have abandoned Obama on the issue.

White House officials said Friday that Obama and his top advisers will play a direct role in ultimately deciding how to prosecute Mohammed. The administration initially decided to try the five terror defendants in New York but have since appeared to backtrack.

As a result of Holder's decision to seek a civilian prosecution, Bush-era military charges that had been pending against the five suspects were dismissed last month. Those military charges could now be revived.

The administration is reconsidering Holder's plan to put the five men on trial in a federal court in Manhattan, after local officials there balked at security and logistics complications.

"Obviously there are efforts on Capitol Hill through legislation to

restrict either the type of or the venue of a trial for Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and his coconspirators.

That, by definition, involves the White House and ultimately the president," Gibbs said.

"So since this effort has moved from strictly a Justice Department decision to something that's in the legislative arena, the White House — and by definition the president — are involved."

Gibbs also suggested critics' opposition is disingenuous.

ONE MONTH AFTER



A man raises his hand in prayer outside the earthquake damaged national palace during a national day of mourning in Port-au-Prince, Friday. Thousands gathered one month after the deadly magnitude-7 quake that left the Caribbean country struggling for survival.

Haitians hold day of mourning on quake anniversary

By Paisley Dodds
Associated Press writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Atop the rubble of destroyed churches, in parks and on sidewalks, thousands of Haitians prayed Friday in a national day of mourning, one month after a magnitude-7 earthquake killed more than 200,000 and left this Caribbean country struggling for survival.

Leaders of Haiti's two official religions — a Catholic bishop and the head of the Voodoo priests — joined Protestant ministers for a prayer service in the shade of mimosa trees near the shattered National Palace.

A Muslim preacher also attended.

Men wore black armbands of mourning, girls frilly white dresses. Among them were earthquake amputees in wheelchairs, casts and hobbling on crutches.

President Rene Preval wept during the service, his black-clad wife trying to console him.

"The pain is too heavy — words cannot describe it," Preval said in one of the first major public addresses he has made in weeks.

Aid groups fear Haitian relief effort will divert funds from other countries

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government's disaster-assistance program has committed more than half its annual budget to help earthquake-ravaged Haiti, raising concern among humanitarian groups that programs for the needy in countries such as Sudan or Somalia could face cuts.

Samuel Worthington, the president of InterAction, a coalition of more than 150 humanitarian groups, wrote Thursday to top officials at the State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) that he was "deeply concerned about the impact" that reductions would have in other regions.

Some aid groups said they have been told there probably will be no money for new programs, at least until the disaster fund gets a boost from Congress.

USAID officials denied Thursday that they have ordered any cutbacks, adding that they hope they will not have to do so. But that will depend, they said, on whether their disaster fund is replenished by a supplemental spending bill that Congress is expected to take up in the next few weeks.

"We're working very hard to make sure all our programs can continue full speed ahead," said Susan Reichle, a top USAID official. She said agency officials had started prioritizing projects in different parts of the world in case the congressional funds are slow to arrive or are less than anticipated.

— The Washington Post

Preval said he was there as a father — not the president — but urged people to keep supporting the government. He made no mention of the many small demonstrations this week demanding that he

resign over a lack of leadership in the wake of the crisis.

Parishioners filled churches in Port-au-Prince's Petionville suburb and set up loudspeakers so those in the streets could

follow. Others stood on debris that used to be a Catholic Church and an evangelical church to remember victims anonymously buried in mass graves outside the devastated capital, Port-au-Prince.

People raised their hands to the heavens as they sang. Hymns and gospel music pumped throughout the city's apocalyptic landscape of flattened concrete and buildings uprooted at strange angles from their foundations.

"All families were affected by this tragedy and we are celebrating the memory of the people we lost," said one mourner, Desire Joseph Dorsaintvil.

Those killed in the Jan. 12 quake included church leaders, missionaries and children studying at faith-based schools. The Roman Catholic archbishop of Port-au-Prince, Joseph Serge Miot, was among those who perished.

Many Port-au-Prince church landmarks were destroyed, including the Roman Catholic Cathedral; the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, Haiti's oldest, and the iconic Episcopalian Church of the Holy Trinity.

White House sends out invites for health summit

By Erica Werner
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — In a make or break move, President Obama on Friday challenged three dozen Republicans and Democrats to participate in a one-of-a-kind televised summit this month to thrash out a deal on health care.

House Republicans immediately greeted the invite to the Feb. 25 event with derision, casting doubt on whether it would yield any bipartisan agreement to extend coverage to millions of Americans and rein in medical costs. "We need answers before we know if the White House is more interested in partisan theater than in facilitating a productive dialogue about solutions," said Kevin Smith, a spokesman for House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio.

But Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., was more receptive, saying he would work with the White House "to maximize the effectiveness of the meeting."

The summit is considered a last, best attempt to revive Obama's yearlong quest, now stalled after Democrats lost their filibuster-proof Senate majority.

Yet since Obama proposed the summit last weekend, Republicans and Democrats have voiced skepticism, with some in the GOP wondering if it would be nothing but a spectacle that could benefit the president at their expense.

By presiding over a meeting with three dozen lawmakers trying to get a word in edgewise, Obama may be able to dominate the conversation and the visual images. That's what many Democrats say he did at a Jan. 29 session when he faced a roomful of GOP House members in Baltimore, controlling the microphone for much of the event.

The Baltimore event proved riveting for many Americans because it ranged over many topics and included numerous moments of partisan

INSURANCE RATES SOAR

TRENTON, N.J. —

Consumers in at least four states who buy their own health insurance are getting hit with premium increases of 15 percent or more — and people in other states could see the same thing.

Anthem Blue Cross, a subsidiary of WellPoint Inc., has been under fire for a week from regulators and politicians for notifying some of its 800,000 individual policyholders in California that it plans to raise rates by up to 39 percent March 1.

The Anthem Blue Cross plan in Maine is asking for increases of about 23 percent this year for some individual policyholders. Last year, they raised rates up to 32 percent.

In Oregon, multiple insurers were granted rate hikes of 15 percent or more this year after increases of around 25 percent last year for customers who purchase individual health insurance, rather than getting it through their employer.

Premiums are far more volatile for individual policies than for those bought by employers and other large groups, which have bargaining clout and a sizable pool of people among which to spread risk. As more people have lost jobs, many who are healthy have decided to go without health insurance or get a bare-bones, high-deductible policy, reducing the amount of premiums insurers receive.

sparring. A half-day televised session on the complexities of health care may prove much less inviting to the average viewer.

In its invitation, the White House argued that remaking health care was imperative, and Obama challenged Democrats and Republicans to come up with comprehensive bills before the Blair House event — legislation that would be posted online.

AP source: Obama to announce nuke plant loan

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Obama next week will announce a loan guarantee to build the first nuclear power plant in the United States in almost three decades, an administration official said Friday.

The two new Southern Co. reactors to be built in Burke, Ga., are part of a White House's energy plan that administration officials hope will draw Republican support. Obama's direct involvement in announcing the award underscores the politi-

cal weight the White House is putting behind its effort to use nuclear power and alternative energy sources to lessen American dependence on foreign oil and reduce the use of other fossil fuels blamed for global warming.

Loan guarantees for other sites are expected to be announced in the coming months, the official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the decision had not yet been made public. The federal guarantees are seen as essential for

construction of any new reactor because of the huge expense involved.

Even with next week's announcement, actual construction of the first reactor is still years away. The Southern Co. has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a construction and operating license for the plant, one of 13 such applications the agency is considering. NRC spokesman Elliott Brenner said the earliest any of those could be approved would be late 2011 or early 2012.

Laser knocks down missile off Calif. coast

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A high-powered laser destroyed a target missile in flight off the Central California coast in a milestone test of a futuristic but troubled national defense system, the Air Force announced Friday.

A laser weapon mounted on a Boeing jumbo jet tracked the missile as it accelerated over the ocean off the Point Mugu Naval Warfare Center Thursday night, then fired an energy beam that heated the mis-

sile until it cracked and broke up, according to statements from the Air Force and two aerospace companies involved in the program.

The test is a boost for a program that has had billions in cost overruns and saw its budget sharply cut last year by Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who called the concept "fatally flawed" and destined if for minimal research-and-development.

While the success of the test is a technological triumph, it won't save the airborne laser program from being placed on life-support, a defense analyst said.

"The program results are, unfortunately, two years behind the secretary's decision to cancel the program," said Jim McAleese of McAleese and Associates, a lawyer and defense consultant in Virginia who is not affiliated with the project.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy and cool. Highs mid 40s.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy to cloudy. Lows middle 20s.

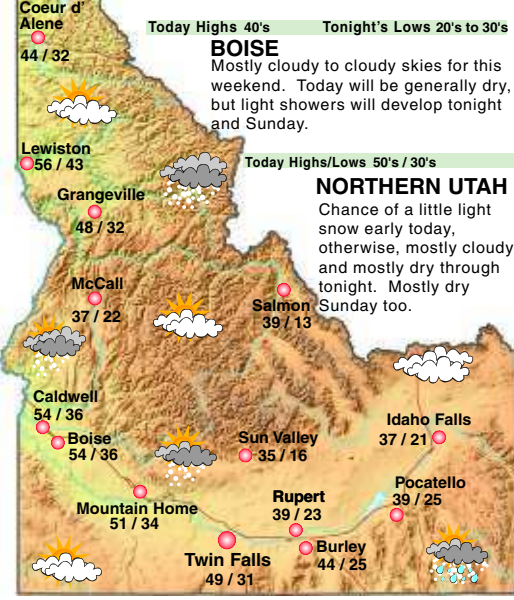
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy and mostly dry. Highs lower 40s.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation. Includes Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and Avg. Water Year to Date.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Flurries or a few snow showers tonight. Light snow and small accumulations by Sunday night.



Yesterday's State Extremes - High: 55 at Lowell Low: 16 at Dixie weather key: su-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, mc-mostly cloudy, c-cloudy, th-thunderstorms, sh-showers, r-rain, sn-snow, fl-flurries, w-wind, m-missing

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 7 columns: Today, Tonight, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo, Prcp. Lists weather for Boise, Challis, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Jerome, Lewiston, Lowell, Malad City, Malta, Pocatello, Rexburg, Salmon, Stanley, Sun Valley.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and Avg. Water Year to Date.

MOON PHASES



MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Includes Moonrise and Moonset times for Today, Sunday, and Monday.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Includes barometric pressure and sunrise/sunset times.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Includes sunrise and sunset times for Today, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

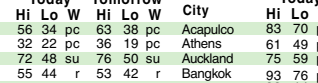
REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Monday. Lists weather forecasts for various regional cities.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Monday. Lists weather forecasts for various national cities.

TODAY'S U.V. INDEX



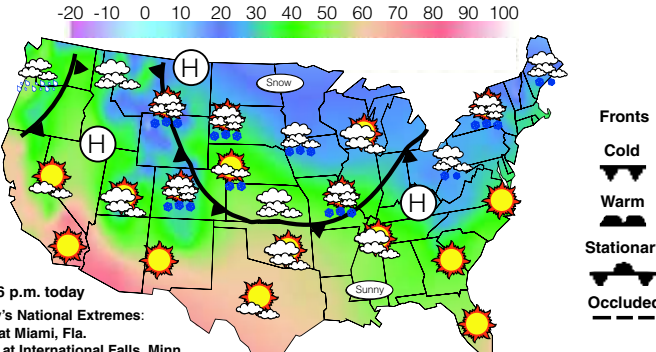
WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Monday. Lists weather forecasts for various international cities.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Monday. Lists weather forecasts for various Canadian cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Advertisement for Gregg Middlekauff's quote of the day: 'Find what makes your heart sing and create your own music.' Includes a photo of Gregg Middlekauff.

OUT OF LUCK

\$2.5M Hoosier jackpot goes unclaimed

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Hoosier lottery players have been digging through their trash, scouring their cars and bringing fistfuls of old tickets, some in shoeboxes, to an Indianapolis store, hoping they would find the winning — but unclaimed — \$2.5 million jackpot ticket.



A Hoosier Lottery display is pictured at Meijer convenience store in Indianapolis, Friday. A \$2.5 million Hoosier Lotto jackpot went unclaimed.

“Pretty sad for somebody if they happen to have it out there,” said Hoosier Lottery spokeswoman Lucia Anderson. The winning ticket had been all the buzz among customers this week at the Meijer convenience store where it was sold.

through old tickets Thursday but came up empty. He worried that he might have had the winner but lost the ticket somehow. “I hope it wasn’t me that forgot the damn ticket and lost \$2.5 million,” said Newton, 31. Some wondered why anyone would leave a million-dollar bonanza untouched in a time of high unemployment and economic need. Had they forgotten? Had they lost it? Had they died? “It’s probably one of those things where they put it in a drawer and forgot they had it,” said Meijer spokesman Frank Guglielmi. Lottery players have left money on the table before. Hoosier Lottery spokesman Andrew Reed said a \$5 million Hoosier Lotto jackpot went unclaimed in March

2004, and no winner stepped forward in September 2002 to claim their \$50 million Powerball jackpot. In 2007, a \$19 million New Jersey Lottery prize wasn’t claimed. Florida’s largest unclaimed payout was a \$50 million Lotto ticket sold in 2003, and no one produced a winning \$7 million Lotto Texas ticket last year. Reed said no Indiana winner has ever stepped forward so late to claim a large prize. Lottery officials had received a phone call earlier Friday from a man who thought he had the winning ticket and was concerned he might not be able to get to the downtown office in time to redeem it, said Anderson. But they couldn’t stay open indefinitely, she said.

Love stinks! Minn. farmer creates manure valentine

ALBERT LEA, Minn. (AP) — Nothing says “I love you” like a half-mile wide heart made out of manure. A southern Minnesota man created the Valentine’s Day gift for his wife of 37 years in their farm field about 12 miles southwest of Albert Lea.

Bruce Andersland told the Alberta Lea Tribune that he started the project with his tractor and manure spreader Wednesday and finished Thursday. His wife, Beth, says it’s the biggest and most original Valentine she has ever

received. She says some people might think it’s gross, but she says it’s cute and “Why not do something fun with what you got?” She says the heart would be darker except for the recent heavy snowfall that mixed with the manure.

www.magicvalley.com

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NEW HOLLAND - 8870 TRACTOR - 180 H.P. - DUALS - SUPER STEER ... REDUCED
NEW HOLLAND - T6020 TRACTOR - 90 H.P. - CAB - 4WD - NEW TIRES CALL
FORD - 8730 TRACTOR - CAB - 4WD - 140 H.P. REDUCED
MASSEY FERGUSON - 1080 - CAB - 2WD - 80 H.P. REDUCED

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Is it 'Chiie' or 'Chile'? Coins have spelling error

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — An engraver fired by Chile’s mint for an error that led to the release of 1.5 million coins featuring the country of “CHIEE” said Friday that his bosses deliberately covered up the mistake.



More than a million of the Chilean 50 peso coins, seen here, were printed in 2008 with the name of the country misspelled as 'Chiie', rather than 'Chile'.

to anyone” about the error, he said. The Central Bank, which issues the coins, did not learn of the error until it was reported by the newspaper El Mercurio in December, the same month that Urzua was fired, the engraver said. The head of his department was fired in January. The press department at the mint said Friday that officials would not comment. No one could be reached at the Central Bank. The 50-peso piece is 2.5 centimeters across, just under an inch — making it difficult to immediately see on the faulty coins that Chile is spelled “Chiie.” Urzua is suing the mint for denying him severance pay — based on what he says is the mint’s false claim that he was doing work for other employers at his house, something forbidden in his contract.

The error showed up on Chilean 50-peso pieces for the year 2009. Engraver Pedro Urzua Lizana told The Associated Press he unknowingly left off the bottom part of the letter “l” when, in December 2008, he was hurriedly fixing a minor deformity in the original mold for making the dies to stamp out the coin. The coins were released to the public last year but no one at the mint, including Urzua, knew about the error until a coin collector called in October to point it out, he said. Once informed, officials at the mint fixed the stamp for future 50-peso pieces, but



Bruins bang past Jerome at home

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

Jon Pulsifer freely admits shooting free throws isn't his strong suit. Hitting them in the clutch, however, is.

At the line with the momentum of the game in his right hand, Pulsifer knocked down two free throws in the same trip for the only time all night to give Twin Falls its first lead since the second quarter, and the Bruins escaped with a physical 53-49 win over Jerome at Baun Gymnasium on Friday.

Pulsifer scored 11 of his team-best 14 points in the second half for the Bruins (18-2, 9-1 Great Basin), who clinched a share of the GBC

regular-season title and the No. 1 seed for the upcoming district tournament with the win.

He and fellow post Marcus Jardine had a field day down low after forcing Jerome's three-headed interior monster of Chace Capps, Nolan McDonald and Jake Hollifield into foul trouble in the fourth quarter. That was when the Bruins made their move.

"They weren't letting us get at them defensively. They slowed it down and that kind of stalled us a little," said Pulsifer, hinting at Twin Falls' prolific transition game being stunted. "When I knew they had four fouls, I told Marcus that we needed to attack them and



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Twin Falls High School's Marcus Jardine and Brennon Lancaster (2) scramble for a loose ball with Jerome's Jake Hollifield Friday night in Twin Falls.

be aggressive, and get them out of there."

Spencer Parker had 10 points for Jerome (11-9, 5-5), which played without star

ing eight points in transition, but was largely ineffective in the second half. Callen, despite the Twin Falls fans needling him that his twin sister Aubree is the better basketball player, showed he's pretty good too, hitting a trio of 3-pointers (two with a hand in his face) and finishing with a game-high 23.

But he couldn't keep Jerome in the lead with all the other offensive options drying up around him.

"With Pearce out, I just try and step up and do some of the things he does, like being aggressive and going to the hole, and finding open guys," Callen said.

See **BRUINS**, Sports 2

CSI men win late at Salt Lake

Times-News

Signature road win? Check.

Charles Odum scored 24 points and made four free throws in the final 10.7 seconds as the College of Southern Idaho men's basketball rallied from a 13-point second-half deficit to beat Salt Lake Community College 68-65 Friday night in Salt Lake City.

"You just can't count these kids out," CSI head coach Steve Gosar told 1450 AM KEZJ. "They're going to give us a heart attack before the year is out, but they have just great character and they're just finding ways to win right now."

Down 50-37 with 13:16 remaining, the Golden Eagles (17-8, 9-6 Scenic West Athletic Conference) clawed their way back. Down 60-55, Josten Thomas got a steal and was fouled on the break. He made his first free throw before missing the second, but Carrick Felix grabbed the rebound and put it back with a foul and free throw to bring CSI within 60-59.

CSI knotted the game at 62-62, but missed three shots with the score tied at 64-all and sent SLCC point guard Darian Norris to the line with 21 seconds left. Norris hit 1 of 2.

On the other end, Odum was fouled with 10.7 seconds on the clock and hit both foul shots. Thomas blocked a Norris runner and Odum hit

See **CSI**, Sports 2



Odum

GAMES GO ON



AP photo

USA's Mark Grimmette carries the flag during the opening ceremony for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Friday.

Opening ceremony festive despite luger death

By David Crary
Associated Press writer

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — In time-honored tradition, the show went on.

Despite the training-run death earlier in the day of a luger from the country of Georgia, the Olympics' opening ceremonies were launched Friday night with a jubilant countdown by the crowd filling BC Place Stadium.

The festive mood, including a snowboarder's leap through giant Olympic rings, contrasted sharply with the grief that befell the

games earlier in the day when luger Nodar Kumaritashvili died in a horrific crash on the sliding track at Whistler.

The ceremonies were dedicated to Kumaritashvili, and a moment of silence was observed in his memory. The seven remaining members of the Georgian team, who decided to stay and compete, wore black armbands as they marched behind a black-trimmed flag. Most of the crowd rose to give respectful applause.

International Olympic Committee president Jacques Rogge and the top

Vancouver organizer, John Furlong, urged the athletes to compete in Kumaritashvili's honor.

"May you carry his Olympic dream on your shoulders and compete with his spirit in your heart," Furlong said.

More than 60,000 people packed into the stadium for the evening extravaganza, the first Olympic opening or closing ceremony ever held indoors. The loudest ovation came midway through, when the red-clad Canadian team — aiming for a first-place finish —

See **OLYMPICS**, Sports 4

Georgia team to compete in Olympics to honor luger

The Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Georgian athletes will compete in the Vancouver Olympics despite the death of their teammate, luger Nodar Kumaritashvili.

"Our athletes decided to be loyal to the spirit of the Olympic Games and they will compete and dedicate their performance to their fallen comrade," a somber

and emotional Nikolos Rurua, Georgia's minister of culture and sport, said Friday.

Rurua noted that Georgian athletes continued to participate in the Beijing Olympics in August 2008 even though Georgia and Russia fought a brief war that month. At that time, many of the 35 Georgian athletes were

See **LUGE**, Sports 4



Kumaritashvili

Minico outscrapes Preston

By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

RUPERT — It didn't seem as significant at the time, but Coltin Johnson's hustle play at the end of the first half on Friday proved to be the turning point in Minico's 68-61 nonconference win over Preston in the regular-season finale.

After Minico trailed most of the first half, Johnson hit a clutch 3-pointer to put Minico up two, and then hustled back to steal the ball and take it in for a layup to give the Spartans a 37-33 halftime lead.

enough swing in a tightly contested ballgame that lacked flow from start to finish, largely due to the teams combining to shoot 67 free throws.

"It was just strange," said Minico coach Mike Graefe. "I thought our guys fought hard and competed. We block a lot of shots, and sometimes refs aren't used to that. But we didn't adjust (to the way the officials called the game)."

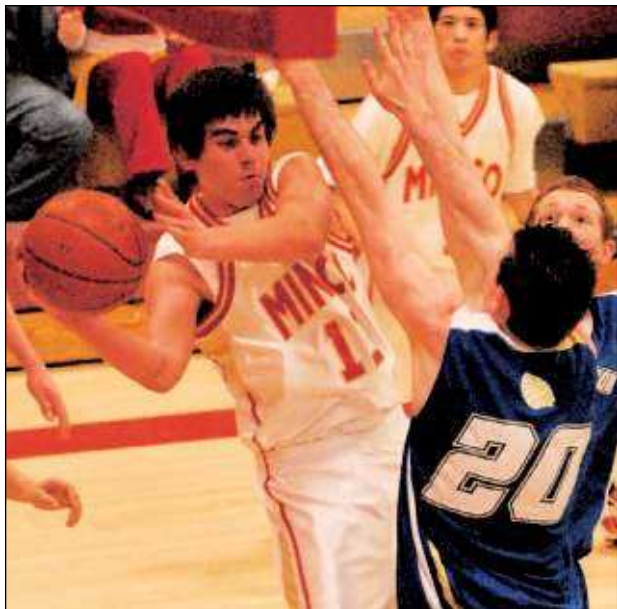
Another hindrance for Minico was it started a different lineup for senior night and struggled to function outside its normal rotation.

"We never got into a rhythm," said Minico junior Casey Christiansen. "It wasn't a great shooting night. We didn't play our best, but we scrapped for a win."

However, one thing the Spartans had going for them was the inside game of Kevin Jurgensmeier. The 6-foot-10 post scored 24 points, including 12-for-12 from the foul line.

Ever-hustling, Preston (12-8) kept it close as nine different players scored, led by Chaz Spackman's 15 points. The Indians,

See **MINICO**, Sports 2



RYAN HOWE/Times-News

Minico's Bronson Miller drives and dishes the basketball against Preston Friday night.

CSI women rally past Salt Lake

Times-News

Felicity Jones found her shot. Nicole Harper made her free throws. And the College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team earned a 55-53 road win over No. 6 Salt Lake Community College Friday night in Salt Lake City.

The Golden Eagles (18-7, 10-5 Scenic West Athletic Conference) won despite shooting 19 percent in the first half. They survived by forcing 13 Bruins turnovers before intermission and trailed only 20-14 at the break.

Salt Lake (19-5, 11-4) led 37-26 with 13:21 remaining and looked poised to pull away when Jones hit a jumper and a 3-pointer to ignite an 18-4 CSI run.

"Flip was the difference," CSI head coach Randy Rogers told 1450 AM KEZJ of Jones. "She hit some big shots for us."

The loss knocked the Bruins out of a share of the SWAC lead and marked their fourth loss in six games after starting 9-0 in league play. North Idaho College (21-3, 12-3) took sole possession of first place with a 75-55 win at Snow College (18-7, 9-6). Snow's loss leaves CSI alone in third place entering today's 3 p.m. road game against the Badgers.

See **RALLY**, Sports 2



Jones



AP photo

David Duval chips to the No. 17 green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links during the second round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament in Pebble Beach, Calif., Friday.

Six-way tie for the lead at Pebble

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Given the talent on tour, Paul Goydos is not the least bit surprised that six players were tied for the lead Friday at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Being part of that group? Under the circumstances, Goydos found that highly unusual.

Goydos arrived at Spyglass Hill and headed to the putting green, only to realize he wasn't wearing golf shoes. He had left those back in his car in the main parking lot at Pebble Beach. Then, he had to tackle a course where he had never broken 70.

More than five hours and seven birdies later, he had a 7-under 65 and was part of an eclectic mix of atop the leaderboard on a day when the threat of showers gave way to sunshine along the Monterey Peninsula.

Defending champion Dustin Johnson was the biggest presence, even after a 2-under 68 at Monterey Peninsula in which he kept hitting it close for birdie and tapping in for par.

Also at 10-under 132 were Alex Cejka (67 at Spyglass), Bryce Molder (65 at Monterey), J.B. Holmes (67 at Monterey) and Matt Jones, who had a 67 at Pebble Beach and was the only player among the leaders who has not played the Shore Course at Monterey Peninsula, the newcomer to the rotation and the only course playing as a par 70 this week.

All three courses had one thing in common.

"There is no defense on any of these golf courses," Goydos said, noting that while the rain has stayed away, so has the wind that can make some of these seaside venues so tough.

Equally surprising, to most everyone but him, is that David Duval was one shot out of the lead. The former No. 1 player in the world was at No. 882 last summer when he tied for second in the U.S. Open, although he hasn't done much since.

After a 67 at Spyglass, Duval shot a 68 at Pebble Beach to stay in the hunt.

Luge

Continued from Sports 1

nervous about loved ones back home, but they still won two golds and two bronzes in wrestling.

Georgia's seven remaining athletes marched in the opening ceremony with black armbands, and the country's flag bore a black ribbon to honor Kumaritashvili. They received a standing ovation from the crowd in BC Place. Olympic flags at the IOC hotel in Vancouver were lowered to half-staff.

Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, who is visiting Vancouver, "is devastated as are all the teammates of Nodar," Rurua said.

Kumaritashvili lost control of his sled, went over the track wall and struck an unpadded steel pole near the finish line at Whistler Sliding Center earlier Friday. Doctors were unable to revive the 21-year-old luger, who died at a hospital, the

"I'm hitting the ball pretty good. Had to shake a few putts in on these greens," he said. "Kind of the recipe you need to have out here."

COUPLES SHARES ACE GROUP CLASSIC LEAD

NAPLES, Fla. — Ronnie Black shot a 3-under 69 for a share of the lead with Champions Tour newcomers Fred Couples and Tommy Armour III during the suspended first round of the ACE Group Classic.

Black was one of only nine players in the 81-man field to finish the round after high wind that gusted near 40 mph forced the suspension of play.

Couples completed 10 holes, and Armour played 11 in the his tour debut. Paul Azinger was 1 under through 11 holes in his first Champions Tour start. Defending champion Loren Roberts was 1 over after six holes.

WOODS' INDEFINITE BREAK CONTINUES

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Rampant speculation on Tiger Woods' returning to golf at the Match Play Championship ended quietly Friday when the PGA Tour released its 64-man field minus the No. 1 player.

Woods did not meet the deadline for entering the Match Play Championship next week in Arizona, the tournament where he made his comeback a year ago from knee surgery.

The indefinite break goes on.

Woods announced Dec. 11 that he was stepping away from golf as he tries to salvage his marriage after confessing to infidelity. He has not been heard from since then, including the announcement Friday.

Phil Mickelson already said he would skip next week to take a family vacation that previously was postponed due to his wife's treatment for breast cancer. That makes Steve Stricker the No. 1 seed when the tournament begins Wednesday at Dove Mountain north of Tucson.

— The Associated Press

All-Star talk: Trades, labor and weather woes

DALLAS (AP) — Amare Stoudemire heard the latest trade rumor had him going to Dallas.

When he looked out his window, he surely must've preferred the one that would send him to Miami.

The business of All-Star Friday was business, with plenty of talk about trades, free agency and the NBA's labor situation that hung over Dallas like the gray clouds that dumped a foot of snow on the city the day before.

Some of the players were still missing Friday morning, with Steve Nash, Jason Kidd and Brandon Roy all delayed by the largest one-day snowfall total in city history. It's expected to clear before the game Sunday, when more than 90,000 fans are expected at Cowboys Stadium and there's even talk of cracking 100,000.

"I was thinking about it until this weather. Hopefully we can at least get 40 now," Miami guard Dwyane Wade said. "Hopefully everybody can get in, hopefully it calms down either tonight or the next day and we can get everyone come out and enjoy this experience. Unfortunately the weather hit this way. We're looking for this to be an unbelievable event, the first of its kind."

Wade said he hadn't talked yet to Stoudemire, who for the second straight year arrived at the All-Star break as perhaps the biggest name in trade speculation. The Heat are one of the teams rumored to be interested in the Phoenix forward, who will start at center for the Western Conference and then wait to see if he still plays for a West team once the league's Thursday afternoon trade deadline has passed.

"It hasn't been explained to me why every year I'm the subject of trade talks. At the same time, it's a business," Stoudemire said. "They've never really explained to me why they want to trade me. At the same time, I can't control what I can't control. I stay out of it, and try to keep my focus on the court."

Even without a trade, Wade and Stoudemire could end up as teammates in the summer. They can become part of a star-studded free-agent class that also could be topped by LeBron James and Chris Bosh, and teams such as the Heat hope they can land at least two of them.



AP photo

Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James answers questions during media availability for the upcoming NBA All Star basketball game, Friday in Dallas.

Would a player of James' stature give up maximum money to join someone else?

"I think LeBron would be all right," Wade said. "When you get guys that would be going into their eighth year in the league and haven't won, and now you're really itching to win, and I've won and I'm still itching to win even more now, so I think at the end of the day it's more about winning than it is about getting the extra bucks at the end of the day. LeBron can make it up."

Nobody knows what kind of contracts the superstars, or anybody else, will be receiving whenever the next collective bargaining agreement is approved. The current one expires on July 1, 2011, and with players and management far apart early in the negotiations, the fear of a potential work stoppage continues to grow.

"It's pretty difficult, pretty awkward because there's a good reality that maybe there's not one of these weekends in a couple of years," Denver's Chauncey Billups said. "You never know."

The sides met Friday afternoon, about a week after the league sent a proposal for a new deal that calls for dramatic changes to the current salary structure. New Orleans guard Chris Paul is the only All-Star on the bargaining committee, but many players vowed to get more involved as they hear how much they could be affected.

"We've got to make sure everyone knows how serious it is and I think more so now

UNION: NBA TEARS UP PROPOSAL AFTER HEATED MEETING

DALLAS (AP) — The executive director of the NBA players' association said Friday the league tore up its proposal for a new collective bargaining agreement after a "contentious" 90-minute session.

But Billy Hunter said that doesn't mean the league is closer to a lockout when the current deal expires on July 1, 2011.

"No, I think that everybody has a different sense of things and nobody wants to see this thing that David Stern has worked and built, the NBA, the successful entity that it is, the brand, we're not out to damage it or destroy it," Hunter said after a press conference.

"So we're going to make every effort to get an agreement done, we just want an agreement that's a lot more equitable and one that doesn't have a structure that's oppressive."

Hunter said the union will submit its own proposal, but offered no timetable for when that would happen. He's in no rush, since the players believe the current system is working for both sides, and it doesn't expire for another 16 months.

The sides met Friday, with negotiators for the players fortified by the presence of All-Stars such as LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony and Kevin Garnett, who came to the meeting instead of attending the community service events they were scheduled for. A number of top players vowed earlier in the day to get more involved in the process.

than ever guys are more informed about what's going on and what's taking place," Paul said. "It's our league, and we've got to be forceful about what's going on."

There was some basketball talk, as Dirk Nowitzki of the hometown Mavericks was told he would replace the injured Kobe Bryant in the West lineup, and East coach Stan Van Gundy tabbed Atlanta's Joe Johnson to start for Allen Iverson, who pulled out for family reasons.

Though the players are

most of the NBA's best, they know the game could be a bit sloppy Sunday. There are nine first-time All-Stars who have to battle nerves, and even the most accurate shooters know they could struggle in something as enormous as Cowboys Stadium.

"It's going to be different, especially shooting-wise with the backgrounds being so far away," Nowitzki said. "It's definitely going to be different, but it's going to be exciting being part of history in basically my new hometown."

With training canceled, race postponed, Vonn waits

WHISTLER, British Columbia (AP) — Warm, wet weather is turning this mountain into a mushy mess, wiping out training runs and postponing the opening women's Alpine race.

Hardly ideal conditions at any competition, let alone the Winter Olympics, right? Try telling that to Lindsey Vonn. She loves the way things are going. Every delay provides extra time for her badly bruised right shin to rest and heal.

"I'm lucking out pretty heavily because of all the cancellations," the American said Friday. "Normally I would be disappointed. But for my shin, I think, this is

the best possible scenario."

The first women's event, Sunday's super-combined, was put off because racers will not have had a chance to train on the downhill course. Thursday's training run was scrapped after two racers started, and practice was canceled altogether for Friday and Saturday.

Much was unknown, including when the women will train and when the super-combined will be raced.

Such schedule disruptions might distress plenty of people — from athletes to spectators, from Olympic and skiing officials to TV types — but certainly not Vonn.

The two-time overall World Cup champion has been pegged as a medal contender in all five Alpine events, and an overwhelming favorite for golds in the downhill and super-G.

But that was before Vonn revealed Wednesday that she was hurt last week in pre-Olympic practice. She fell during a slalom training run and slammed her right boot against her leg.

For a week or so, it was a struggle simply to put on her ski boot and stand still in it — forget about trying to speed down a slope — and Vonn raised the possibility that she might not be able to compete at all.

After taking "a bunch" of

painkillers and rubbing Novocaine-like cream on the shin Thursday morning, Vonn did ski for the first time since getting hurt Feb. 2, albeit only in a free run and not on the official course. That was enough, however, to convince her she was ready to take part in full-fledged training.

Then again, as much as she would like to get a true sense of where things stand with the injury by skiing all-out, Vonn figures the best possible medicine at this point is staying off that shin.

"This helps us, for sure," said Thomas Vonn, who serves as a coach and adviser to his wife.

Olympics

Continued from Sports 1

waterfront — giving Vancouver a visible symbol for the rest of the games that the indoor stadium could not provide.

Rain was forecast through the weekend in Vancouver, with high temperatures near 50 degrees, prompting some to dub these the Spring Olympics. Rain also has disrupted Alpine skiing events at Whistler.

About 2,500 athletes from a record 82 countries are participating in the games, vying for medals in

86 events — including the newly added ski-cross competition. First-time Winter Olympic participants include the Cayman Islands, Columbia, Ghana, Montenegro, Pakistan, Peru and Serbia.

The overall favorites include Germany and the United States — which finished first and second four years ago in Turin — and also Canada, a best-ever third in 2006 and now brashly proclaiming its intention to finish atop the

medals table on its home turf.

"We're still going to be nice, but we're going to be nice in winning," said Michael Chambers, president of the Canadian Olympic Committee.

The Canadian team marched exultantly behind flagbearer Clara Hughes, defending gold medalist in the 5,000-meter speed-skating race. Prime Minister Stephen Harper was among the thousands in the stadium rising to applaud.



AP photo

Frank Thomas, two-time Most Valuable Player with the Chicago White Sox, speaks about his retirement during a press conference as U.S. Cellular Field Friday in Chicago.

Bye bye Big Hurt

Frank Thomas announces retirement

CHICAGO (AP) — Saying he's "at peace" with his decision, Frank Thomas announced his retirement Friday following a 19-season career in which he hit 521 homers and won two American League MVP awards with the Chicago White Sox.

Considering he didn't play last season, the news was hardly shocking.

"It took awhile to get to this point," the 41-year-old Thomas said during a news conference at U.S. Cellular Field. "I know I hadn't played since 2008, but I had to get baseball out of my system before I made this announcement. I'm happy with this announcement. I'm at peace with it. I had one heck of a career. I'm proud of it."

With his power and ability to hit for a high average and reach base, Thomas figures to land in the Hall of Fame when he becomes eligible.

A five-time All-Star who batted .301 with a .419 on-base average, Thomas is tied for 18th with Ted Williams and Willie McCovey on baseball's home run list while driving in 1,704 runs. And in an era clouded by performance-enhancing drugs, he was outspoken against their use.

Thomas split his final three seasons between Oakland and Toronto, but he'll be remembered most for a 16-year run with the White Sox.

He quickly emerged as one of the best players after debuting in 1990, winning MVP awards in 1993 and 1994 and a batting title in 1997 while setting club records for home runs (448) and RBIs (1,465) before a bitter split following the 2005 World Series-winning season.

Thomas was upset when the club bought out his option for \$3.5 million that December, and things got particularly nasty during the 2006 spring training. He sounded off in an interview with The Daily Southtown of suburban Tinley Park, Ill., and general manager Ken Williams responded by calling him "an idiot."

Thomas was angry with the organization for portraying him as a damaged player, although injuries to his left ankle limited him to 34 games and made him a spectator as the White Sox grabbed their first World Series title since 1917.

He criticized owner Jerry Reinsdorf for not calling him before the team decided to let him go.

"We all know Kenny Williams and I had a big blowup," Thomas said. "We both moved on. When you're pretty much considered an icon in a city as a player, it's always hard to let those players go. It's never a pretty or nice scene. We've seen it over the years. You think of a Brett Favre, (Shaquille O'Neal) leaving LA, Allen Iverson leaving Philly — he's back in Philly, I'm happy for him. When players get to a certain level, it's never easy to say goodbye."

Thomas wound up going to Oakland and hit 39 homers with 114 RBIs in 2006 before signing an \$18.12 million, two-year contract with Toronto. The Blue Jays released him early in the 2008 season, a day after he became angry after being taken out of the lineup. Thomas wound up back in Oakland, appearing in 55 games with the Athletics before a right thigh injury ended his season — and, ultimately, his career.

Film study helps Danica prep for step up to NASCAR

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Danica Patrick's preparation for her NASCAR debut in Saturday's Nationwide series race at Daytona International Speedway is a little like a football player getting ready for a big game.

She's studying film and getting coached up.

Patrick watched replays of last year's race, noting trends and tendencies. Based on what she has seen, her car could be even more of a handful in the race than it was in practice.

"I did some in-car camera and race footage from last year," Patrick said. "I watched the first bit of the race (Thursday) morning. I'm in the garage telling the guys, 'Everyone went loose last year, everyone went loose last year. Please, I'm already loose!'"

Patrick's talent, confidence and preparation have helped her make a good first impression at Daytona this week, earning respect from some in the NASCAR garage who weren't sure she'd be able to make a smooth transition from IndyCar — although a few dissenting drivers have complained about the cascade of media attention she's drawing.

In addition to watching video, Patrick has sought advice from some of the sport's top drivers and crew chiefs. Beyond Dale Earnhardt Jr. — who is a co-owner of the family racing team, JR Motorsports, that Patrick is driving for — she also has talked to Juan Pablo Montoya, Tony Stewart and Chad Knaus, Jimmie Johnson's crew chief.

"Guys have been extremely generous," Patrick said. "I don't plan on wasting that or taking that for granted."

Patrick's stock car racing debut came last Saturday in the ARCA race at Daytona, where she rallied from a spinout to finish sixth. Based on that run, she and the team decided she was ready to try the Nationwide race at Daytona.

"I can honestly say, just by watching what she did in IndyCar, I knew she had a lot of talent," said 1999 Cup series champion Dale Jarrett, now an analyst for ESPN. "I wasn't sure she could come here and mix it up. I was wrong. She did a great job the other night. But now it's on to some more intense testing."

Going from ARCA to Nationwide is a significant step up — like going from high school to college football, according to Jarrett. But Patrick is setting modest expectations, talking about finishing the race, avoiding



AP Photo

Danica Patrick will be behind the wheel for today's NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

trouble on the track and learning as much as she can.

And while she knows she's bound to have bad days during her partial Nationwide schedule this season — she'll continue to race full time in IndyCar — she keeps using the same word to describe her experience in NASCAR: fun.

"All in all, these are really fun cars to drive," Patrick said. "I love the racing. I love there's passing, I love there's side-by-side (racing). Not only is it fun for the drivers, but it's fun for the fans, too, and they're important."

Patrick's move to NASCAR has revved up interest, something most drivers say they welcome.

"I'm glad she's here and (for) the fans she's bringing in," Johnson said. "The thing that is going to be tough for her, she doesn't even get out of the car to get a bottle of Gatorade without a camera on her. So at some point, that stuff is going to be aggravating. As long as she's used to it

and ready for it, she's going to do a good job with it."

But in a sport where media exposure directly affects a driver's value to sponsors, some competitors have vented frustration about the attention Patrick is receiving.

Scott Speed posted a note on his Twitter feed saying that the media seems to consider Patrick the best driver since Dale Earnhardt Sr. and is "also related to Jesus." Regan Smith used his Twitter account to suggest that ESPN should dedicate one channel to Patrick and another, lower-profile channel to the rest of the drivers.

ESPN officials say they're trying to strike a balance between feeding casual fans who might tune in to watch Patrick and hard-core fans who might be turned off by too much coverage of one driver.

Patrick says she can't control what's being said or written about her. She says she's in NASCAR to race and

learn, not to overshadow other drivers.

"That's not my mission, is to be the big story," she said.

And Patrick isn't going away after Daytona. She's scheduled to drive a total of 13 races for JR Motorsports this season, including the next two races at California and Las Vegas, and hasn't ruled out a full-time move from IndyCar to NASCAR down the road.

If Patrick wants to sharpen her NASCAR skills away from the track, she recently got a present from crew chief Tony Eury Jr.: one of the sophisticated racing computer simulation setups Eury and Earnhardt Jr. use to race against each other online.

Patrick hasn't fired it up yet, but has been warned that Eury just might put her into a virtual wall.

"Him and Dale Jr. were talking about it last night," Patrick said. "They just get so excited. They said Tony Jr. will take me out, so those are things I'll be ready for."

Lincecum set with \$23 million deal, Hart wins arbitration

NEW YORK (AP) — Tim Lincecum and the San Francisco Giants avoided a potentially divisive salary arbitration hearing, reaching a preliminary agreement Friday on a \$23 million, two-year contract that gives the two-time NL Cy Young Award winner a huge raise.

The sides had been scheduled for a hearing Friday, and the lean right-hander with a

high leg kick and stringy hair had asked for an arbitration-record \$13 million. The Giants offered \$8 million to the two-time All-Star, eligible for arbitration for the first time after making \$650,000.

Lincecum gets a \$2 million signing bonus, \$8 million this year, \$13 million in 2011 and



Lincecum

the chance to earn performance and award bonuses. The agreement is subject to a physical.

"It's a win-win for both sides," Giants vice president of baseball operations Bobby Evans said. "I

was not expecting a settlement, at all. I don't know what changed. It's always

ideal to have something both agree to as opposed to a third party figuring it out. We can focus on baseball from here forward."

On Jan. 19, the same day proposed arbitration figures were exchanged, Lincecum agreed to pay \$513 to resolve marijuana charges against him in Washington state. He originally faced two misdemeanor charges of marijuana

and drug paraphernalia possession stemming from a traffic stop on Oct. 30. The charges were reduced to a civil infraction.

Outfielder Corey Hart beat Milwaukee in the first arbitration decision of the year after hitting .260 with 12 homers and 48 RBIs last season. He was awarded a raise from \$3.25 million to \$4.8 million by arbitrators

Elizabeth Neumeier, John Sands and Sylvia Skratek rather than the Brewers' offer of \$4.15 million.

Eligible for arbitration for the first time, outfielder B.J. Upton argued for a raise from \$435,000 to \$3.3 million, and Tampa Bay defended its \$3 million offer. Neumeier, Gil Vernon and Elliott Shriftman were expected to issue a decision Saturday.

Goodell given new contract until March 2015

NEW YORK (AP) — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has been given a new five-year contract as the league heads into a key period of labor negotiations that could lead to a work stoppage in 2011.

Goodell replaced Paul Tagliabue on Sept. 1, 2006, and his contract was due to expire this September. The NFL said Friday that owners voted to award the new contract when they met in December, and his new deal runs until March 2015.

"We're going into a major negotiation. It will be very difficult probably in many ways and we want to have someone who has his own views, who's going to have to make some hard decisions that maybe

some of us won't like," New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft said during a telephone interview.

"But in the end, I think we're confident that he and his team will do what's for the best long-term interest of the league," said Kraft, a member of the league's compensation committee. "Having stability in our management team is critical."

Goodell's new deal and the NFL's latest federal tax filing were first reported Friday by Sports Business Journal, and the league then released the information to The Associated Press.

Next season, the last in the



Goodell

current agreement, is on track to be played without a salary cap. NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith said last week the union views the chance of a lockout as a "14" on a scale of 1-to-10. That would end a streak of labor peace since the 1987 strike led to the cancellation of 14 games.

"Commissioner Goodell and his staff have done an outstanding job and this is a statement of confidence in Roger's leadership," said Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank, who chairs the compensation committee. "NFL ownership recognizes his

already significant list of accomplishments and is fully behind his strategic vision for the future of our league."

While all terms of the new deal have not been completed, Blank said Goodell's annual compensation will be unchanged.

The NFL said a year ago that Goodell voluntarily took a cut of 20 to 25 percent, and that he and other league executives were freezing their salaries for 2009. That announcement was made at the same time the league announced it cut 169 jobs through buyouts, layoffs and other staff reductions, a drop of just over 15 percent of a work force that had been 1,100.

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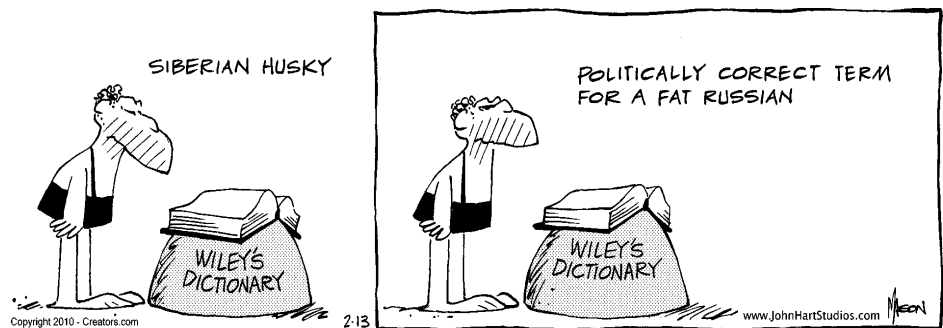
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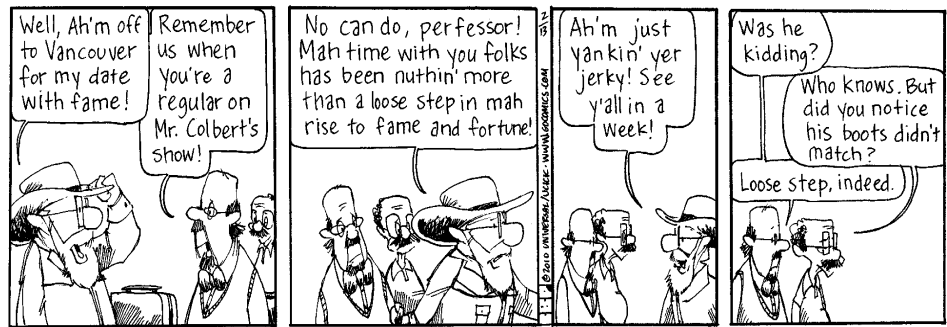
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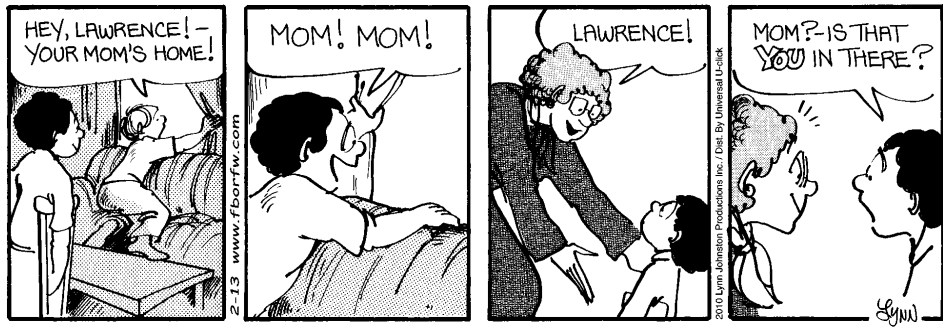
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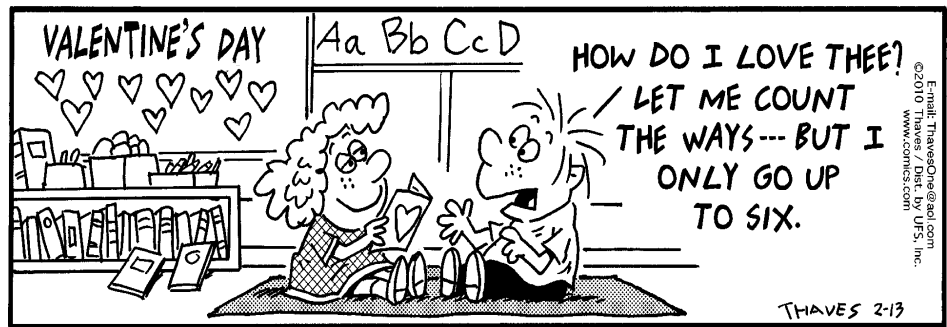
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

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Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



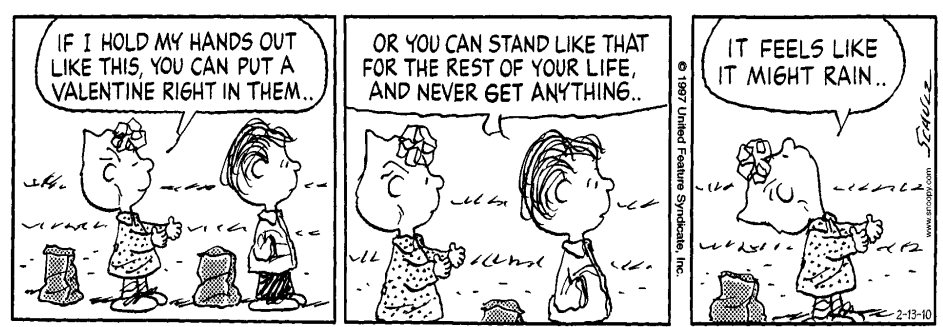
Luann

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Classic Peanuts

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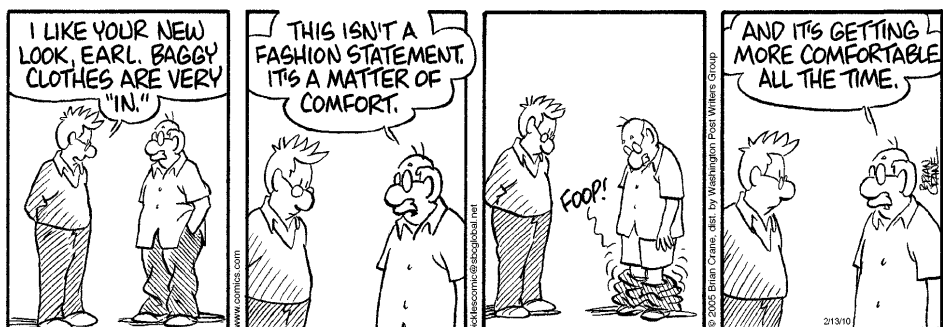
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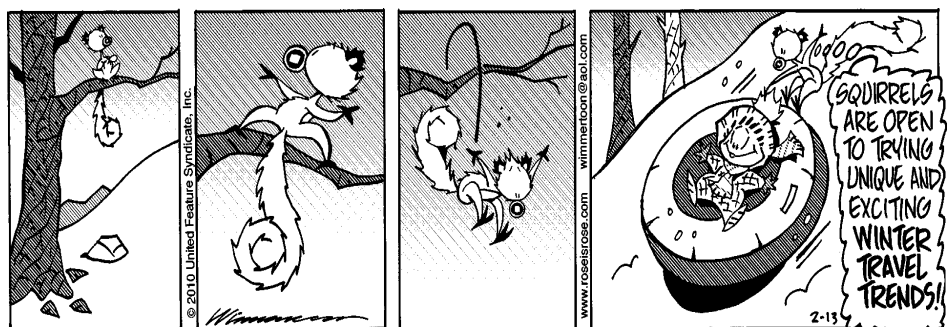
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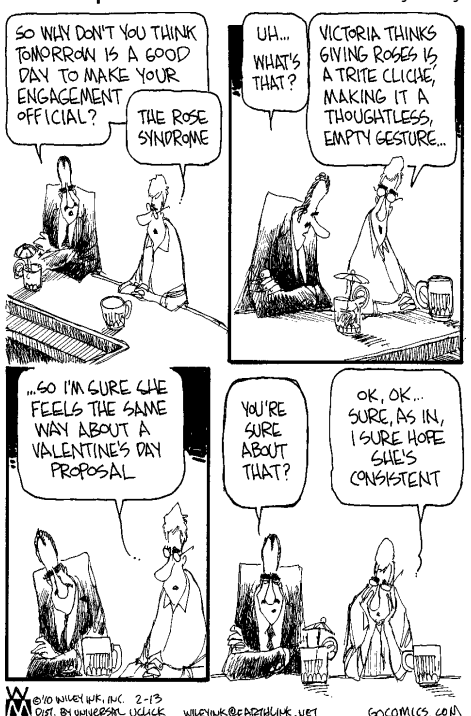
Rose is Rose

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Non Sequitur

By Wiley



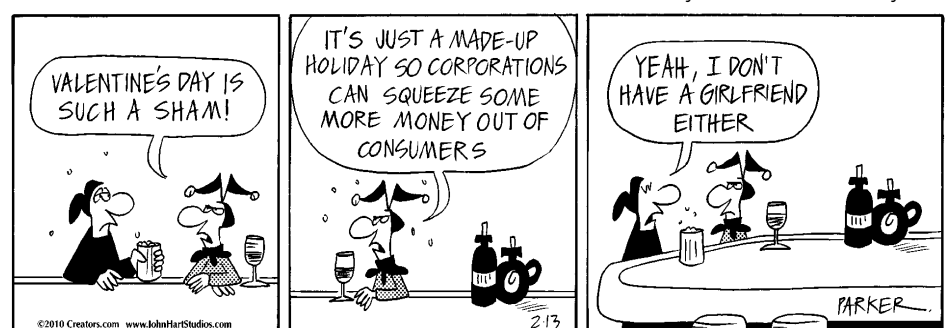
Dennis the Menace

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The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Ad Space Open

COMMUNITY

JONES TWINS PROMOTED TO SERGEANT IN MARINE CORPS



Courtesy photo

Pictured Chad, left, and Caleb Jones, who were promoted to the rank of sergeant in the Marine Corps on Jan. 4. The twins shared the promotion ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Caleb is presently stationed at the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, while Chad is at Camp Pendleton preparing for deployment to the Helmand Province in Afghanistan. The brothers are the sons of Robert and Sue Jones of Twin Falls.

Laws clearly prohibit serving alcohol to minors, the intoxicated

Q: While I was recently at a bar, I saw three rather intoxicated young men beg and swear at a bartender because she wouldn't serve one of them who didn't have his ID.

They threatened to call the bar's owner to have him vouch for the man's age. But the bartender held firm and said she wouldn't serve him without seeing his ID. Can you explain why she was so strict? I don't think customers know how strict the laws are and think bartenders are being jerks.

A: There are several factors to take into consideration. One is, that according to Idaho Code 23-605, dispensing alcohol to an already intoxicated or apparently intoxicated person is a misdemeanor offense.

This is also a great rule because civilly if that person is involved in a crash that kills or injures somebody and it is proven that the intoxication was a result of the business dispensing alcohol to the apparently intoxicated driver, the business, bartender or both could be sued as well. Liability could also fall upon the person in charge of a private party.

I've also heard but not yet seen that the responsible party could be charged as an accessory, receiving half the penalty of the person charged, to any criminal act by the intoxicated person which results in injury or death.

The other rule is that alcohol can't legally be dispensed to a person who doesn't have a valid, current form of state-issued identification. Failure to provide ID can get you charged with a misdemeanor if an officer asks for it and you have been consuming or are in possession of alcohol.

Q: According to the Idaho Driver's Manual, center lanes are reserved for making left turns or U-turns when permitted. But people use them as an approach lane or merge

POLICEMAN DAN

Dan Bristol



lanes to enter traffic. Why don't police crack down more on center-lane misuse?

A: The best answer I can give is that I don't know. Another answer is that just like many infractions, if an officer doesn't observe the violation, the officer can't issue a citation. I tend to notice most officers usually don't see these kinds of violations until they're off duty, in their personal vehicles. There's one way we do see this while on duty — when we're called to the scene of a crash where such violation is a factor.

Reliance on the public becomes of great importance in these cases. If you observe the violation you can sign the citation yourself. Of course, you'll need to be prepared to go to court and testify.

Officer down

Please put these officers, killed in the line of duty, and their families in your prayers. God bless them all.

- Trooper Andrew C. Baldridge, Ohio State Highway Patrol
- Parole Agent Ellane Aimiuwu, Illinois Department of Corrections
- Deputy William Frederick Schuck III, Oconee County Sheriff, South Carolina
- Cpl. Jeremy McLaren, Spring Hill Police, Tennessee
- Capt. Timothy Joel Bergeron, Terrebonne Parish Sheriff, Louisiana
- Deputy Don McCutcheon, Clark County Sheriff, Missouri

Be safe, I'll be back next week. E-mail questions to policemandan@yahoo.com.

Dan Bristol is the Heyburn chief of police.

M-C celebrates random acts of kindness

Times-News

Feb. 15-21 is Random Acts of Kindness Week.

The week was originated in 1982 by Ann Herbert, who coined it "Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty."

"It's just a time for people to be aware of other people

around them who might be in need. It's about stepping out of your boundaries and looking to others, whether you know them or not," said Ranae Higley, coordinator for the Mini-Cassia area.

"This is the 15th year for the Mini-Cassia area. It's actually a national thing centered around Valentine's

Day when people are doing good deeds for others," Higley said.

Higley said although people usually do things for friends and family on Valentine's Day, it's the hope of organizers that area residents will include others in their plans. Higley, a teacher at Heyburn

Elementary School said organizers are encouraging children to be aware of others, too.

"We try to get others involved. There are so many things you can do. Just say 'Hi' to a stranger or hold a door for someone or read to a child. Everyone can get involved," Higley said.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wrigley to deploy with Army Reserve

Army Reserve Pfc. Jared L. Wrigley has been mobilized and activated at Fort Dix, N.J., in preparation for deployment to serve in support of either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Wrigley is a member of the 382nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, based in Seattle. Wrigley, an infantryman, has four years of military service.

He resides in Pocatello, and is the son of Sherrie L. Eddings of Rupert.

Wrigley is a 2005 graduate of Minico High School in Rupert.

M-C Service Providers to meet

A Mini-Cassia Service Providers Community Resource meeting and no-host lunch will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, at Connor's Cafe, Interstate 84 Exit 208 and Idaho Highway 27, Heyburn.

Presenters will be Sonya Nowland, Army National Guard family assistance specialist; Marcus Olsen, with Warren House; and Jennifer Egbert, with the Red Cross of Idaho.

Attendees are invited to bring business cards, flyers, brochures, or other items to share. Information: 677-4872 ext. 2.

BJ bridge results announced

The BJ Duplicate Bridge Club in Rupert has announced the results of play for Tuesday.

North-South: 1. Steve Sams and Kent Gillespie, 2. Trudi Carver and Nancy Gibson, 3. Barbara Carney and Eunice Merrigan, 4. Lila Bumann and Marian Snow.

East-West: 1. Jane Keicher and Donna Moore, 2. Dee Keicher and Leo Moore, 3. Sheila Hubsmith and Mildred Woolf, 4. Clarence and Sylvia Neiwert.

Games are held at 1 p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks Lodge, 800 S. 250 W. For

partners and more information: Steve Sams, 878-3997 or Vera Mai, 436-4163.

Muscular dystrophy fundraiser nears

Mini-Cassia business leaders will be arrested and locked up at Morey's Steakhouse in Burley to raise money for Jerry's Kids from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb 18. The fundraising inmates will be served a jail meal there.

The event hopes to raise \$1,600 for the Muscular Dystrophy Summer Camp.

The Snake River Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association helps more than 450 southern-Idaho families, through summer camps, medical services, clinical care and public health education. Information: 327-0107.

CSI offers Photoshop Essentials class

The College of Southern Idaho Community Education Center is offering a noncredit class, Photoshop Essentials, taught by Chika

Daggett, from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning Wednesday and running through March 10, in CSI Library 101 in Twin Falls.

Students will work with Adobe Photoshop CS4, learning to enhance their skills and optimize creativity while exploring different techniques of the software.

Registration is \$79. The number for the series is XCMP 058 C01. Class size is limited, so early registration is suggested.

Information: 732-6290 or csi.edu/community.

Herrett Forum discusses Fort Boise

Kenneth Swanson, the executive director of Idaho's Military Historical Museum, will talk about "The History of Military Fort Boise" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Rick Allen Community Room of the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Lecture admission is free.

—Staff reports

Biermann celebrates 90th birthday

Longtime Burley resident Evelyn Biermann will celebrate her 90th birthday on Feb. 20.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Snake River Queen Dry Dock Restaurant, 197 W.



Biermann

U.S. Highway 30, Burley.

The event will be hosted by Biermann's children, Mike (Susan) Biermann and Charles (Sandra) Biermann. Light refreshments will be served; please no gifts.

Daughter needs attentive physician to diagnose problems

DEAR DR. GOTT: I hope you can help my daughter, as I am worried about her. She is not getting the help she needs. In February 2009, she started suffering from a skin condition on her scalp, which flakes. She also started losing large amounts of hair. She then developed a rash on her face and body.

She has been seen by

ASK DR. GOTT
Dr. Peter Gott



three doctors and four dermatologists all connected to a local medical center, which is part of a college. One of them said she had polycystic ovary syndrome

(PCOS), and another said she didn't. She has had nine lab tests, including a CA-125, a testosterone test and a DHEA test. She is still waiting for some of the results because the doctors and medical center are being lax about sending the information to her new off-campus physician.

When this first started, my daughter suggested to

one of her doctors that perhaps her birth-control pills were the problem, but the physician refused to change them until my daughter quit smoking, which she did. She also suggested that my daughter get her tubes tied instead. My daughter, 41, has no children but hopes to some day.

This new doctor did an

ultrasound and found a black mass on one of her ovaries that he is watching, but he does not respond to her repeated calls about her lab results. The lab has said it sent some of the results to him and that they cannot help her. She just graduated college and is trying to find a job, but it is being made hard by the fact that she has this rash and is los-

ing her hair. She is getting very discouraged and depressed, and cries all the time. She also doesn't have insurance, so this whole thing is costly.

Please help.

DEAR READER: Based on your description, the first thing that comes to mind is psoriasis or some

See **DR. GOTT**, Sports 8



Idaho author writes religious book for young people

Jay McCall talks to children about his book 'Jeremiah's Angel' Friday morning at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship in Twin Falls. Most of the 95-page book was written in about six days, he says.



ANDREW WEEKS/
Times-News

By Andrew Weeks
Times-News writer

Two years ago, Jay McCall felt inspired to write a story for young people. He sat down to write two pages that later became the introduction to his book.

Later, still feeling the inspiration, he sat down again and wrote 26,000 words in six days.

"People to whom word counts don't mean anything don't understand it," he said. "And those who do don't believe it." He claims the words were given to him as a "gift."

"I always knew I was going to write," he continued. "But I didn't believe I had anything important to

BOOK SIGNING TODAY

Jay McCall will sign copies of his book, "Jeremiah's Angel," today from 12-3 p.m. at The Living Word, 233 Main Ave. E., and 4-6 p.m. at Hastings, 870 Blue Lakes Blvd., both in Twin Falls. For more information or to purchase the book: <http://www.jeremiahsangel.com/>



said. "By the time readers are finished they probably won't even know they've read the verses."

Readers get to journey with Jeremiah through life experiences in school, fly fishing in the Gem State, and even time traveling with him to the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Along the way the story teaches about faith, love and forgiveness.

"I like it a lot actually, because I can relate to it really well because I'm 12 years old too," said Miriah Thornquest of Twin Falls, who is reading the book with her mom and two siblings during their home schooling. She wasn't

say until recently."

His book, "Jeremiah's Angel," tells about the relationship 12-year-old Jeremiah has with his grandfather, whom he calls "Papa," and Jeremiah's guardian

angel, Ian.

"It's a pretty simple story, but definitely has some twists and surprises," McCall said. It also contains 13 verses of Scripture.

"But it's not preachy," he

See **BOOK**, Religion 2

The way to HEAVEN



AP photo

Rev. Ton Hay gives the benediction at Midday Prayer on Tuesday in the chapel at the denominational offices of the Presbyterian Church USA in Louisville, Ky. The Presbyterian Panel's "Religious and Demographic Profile of Presbyterians" found that 36 percent of members disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement: "Only followers of Jesus Christ can be saved." Another 39 percent, or about two-fifths, agreed or strongly agreed with the statement.

Some Presbyterians see salvation by other faiths

By Dylan Lovan
Associated Press writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The Presbyterian Church USA's statement of faith says God through Jesus Christ delivers followers "from death to life eternal."

But one in three members of the nation's largest Presbyterian denomination seem to believe there's some wiggle room for non-Christians to get into heaven, according to a recent poll.

The Presbyterian Panel's "Religious and Demographic Profile of Presbyterians" found that 36 percent of members disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement: "Only followers of Jesus Christ can be saved." Another 39 percent, or about two-fifths, agreed or strongly agreed with the statement.

"There seems to be some universalist streak in Presbyterianism, where some Presbyterians are open to the idea of other paths that folks in other faiths might be taking," said Perry Chang, administrator of the Presbyterian Panel,



On the Web:

Presbyterian Church USA: <http://www.pcusa.org/>

which convenes every three years.

The Presbyterian Church USA, with about 2.1 million members, is the largest Presbyterian denomination in the country. A total of 3,450 Presbyterians responded to the study, which was mailed in October 2008. The panel issued the religious and demographic report last month.

Polls asking similar questions about views on salvation have provided a wide range of results.

A 2005 national survey funded by Baylor University found that 53 percent of the 1,721 adults who were polled agreed with the statement, "Many religions lead to salvation," and another 19 percent said "My religion is the one true faith that leads to salvation."

A 2007 poll by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life found that 70 percent of

Americans with a religious affiliation believe many religions can lead to eternal life.

Another study found that evangelical Christians may adhere to a much stricter interpretation of salvation. The 2008 report by Lifeway, the publishing and research arm of the Southern Baptist Convention, found that 75 percent of Protestants who hold "evangelical beliefs" strongly disagreed with the statement, "If a person is sincerely seeking God, he or she can obtain eternal life through religions other than Christianity."

The Rev. Dirk Ficca, a Presbyterian minister in Chicago, said a majority of Presbyterians feel that "the God they know in Jesus" can bring salvation to non-Christians.

"I'm a Christian. And so I can't think about God or about the nature of salvation apart from Jesus of Nazareth" said Ficca, executive director of the Chicago-based Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions. But "that God I know in Jesus, I find at work in people who aren't Christians."

"... Some other traditions

would say, 'No, God is only at work in us,'" said Ficca, who was not a part of the Presbyterian Panel's study. "And that is a big divide in the Christian community."

Chang said the panel has been asked the salvation question in the exact same way since 1996. He said in that time, there's been virtually no change in the way Presbyterians have responded.

The study broke down responses in four categories: members, elders, pastors and specialized clergy. The panel found that 45 percent of elders agree or strongly agree that "only followers of Jesus Christ can be saved," while 31 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed. More pastors disagreed (45 percent) than agreed (35 percent) and a majority of specialized clergy (60 percent) disagree.

Evangelicals and Pentecostals are more likely to claim they have had a "personal experience with a divine kind of healing" than Presbyterians, which may help explain the Presbyterian church's divide on

See **SALVATION**, Religion 2

Family, religion key to woman's longevity

By Megan Eckstein
Frederick's News-Post

FREDERICK, Md. — Louise Harris loves her family and her religion, and she credits the two with keeping her healthy and happy into her 90s.

Harris, who turns 91 next month, said she stays busy by praying at the Asbury United Methodist Church every Sunday morning and eating a big dinner with her children every Sunday evening.

Good genes may play a role, too. Harris' oldest brother and a cousin are both 95 years old, and her Uncle Fred died at 97.

Harris was born March 9, 1919, on a farm near Adamstown. The third of 10 children, she left the farm at age 12 to go to school.

"When I was a child, there was a school about a fourth of a mile from us, a white school — I had to walk two miles down to Della School," Harris said, adding that there were no days off for bad weather or vacations. She walked the two miles every day, regardless of the conditions.

"I went to Della School until seventh grade," she said. "At that time there were no buses for me to go to high school."

A shame, she said, because she loved all the subjects she studied, especially math.

Harris then went to work in a house in Poolesville as a live-in cook and maid. She met a dairy farmer, Carl Harris, and the two returned to Frederick County to rent a dairy farm with about 70 cows.

"I did everything on the farm," she said. "I did the milking, I drove the trucks and tractors, everything. Get up at 5 o'clock in the morning, go do the milking — and at 5 o'clock in the evening go to the barn and do the milking again."

Working on the farm "was a hard life," especially while trying to raise five sons and two daughters, but she said life was good.

Harris and her family moved to Frederick in 1971, and she has been in the same house ever since. She worked for 10 years as a custodian at the Department of Energy office in Germantown, and her husband worked for five years as a custodian at Frederick High School.

Carl Harris died in 1984, just before his 84th birthday. Louise Harris lives with one of her sons, Carlwell, and visits with her other relatives frequently.

"I have around 15 grandchildren, and a lot of great- and great-great-grandchildren," she said. "I didn't even count 'em, there's so many."

Her favorite memories are big family get-togethers. She throws holiday picnics in her backyard for the extended family, and she invites her children and their families over for traditional Christmas dinners. One of her favorite events was her 90th birthday party, where she entertained 35 friends and relatives.

See **LONGEVITY**, Religion 3

Volunteers work 'round clock for 'church in a day'

By Karen Wink
The American Press

GRAND LAKE, La. — Although knee-deep mud delayed construction, Grand Lake Apostolic Church was finished in time to hold its first service in the new building on time last Sunday.

The Rev. Trevor Kelley and his wife, Deana, started in 2006, with services in their living room as a United Pentecostal mission church. They eventually moved into a 20 foot-by-30 foot metal building, but the congregation outgrew that, as well.

"It's a tight fit, and we are packed in like sardines at times," said Deana Kelley.

The Rev. Kelley's background in missions with the United Pentecostal Church International led him to seek help from its "Church in a Day" program, started in 1997 to help mission and small churches that are



KAREN E. WINK/The American Press

Todd Kekke, of Bogalusa, La., cuts siding for Grand Lake Apostolic Church's new building during the United Pentecostal Church International's Church in a Day program in Calcasieu Parish, La., on Feb. 5.

unable to build freestanding churches on their own. The program has built more than 112 churches nationwide, and the Grand Lake Apostolic Church was its second in Louisiana.

The denomination's Home Mission Division pays

for building materials, and labor is volunteer, said the Rev. Brian Montgomery of Winnfield, a residential builder who directs Church in a Day projects in Louisiana.

"So they are able to get into a nice facility that will

sit about 100 people for a fraction of the cost," he said.

Preparation began Feb. 4, in a steady downpour.

Friday and Saturday were clear. By noon on Friday, more than 300 volunteers had waded in mud to help raise the walls and put the roof on the new church.

Volunteers from Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia worked in shifts. Construction continued throughout Friday night and into Saturday.

Saturday afternoon was filled with sheet-rock, painting, flooring and other finishing touches to prepare the building for its first service, on Feb. 7.

"We just want to thank everyone for all the hard work and donations. This new building will help our church grow to the next level to help our congregation and community," said the Rev. Kelley.



AP photo/Sundance Film Festival

In this Nov. 7, 2008, publicity image released by the Sundance Film Festival, people gather to protest at Mormon headquarters and their support of California's 2008 Proposition 8, a ballot initiative banning gay marriage, in Salt Lake City. The Mormon position on gay marriage is the focus of the documentary '8: The Mormon Proposition.'

Filmmaker: Prop 8 movie's distribution rights sold

By Jennifer Dobner
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — A film distribution company has bought the rights to a documentary about the Mormon church's role in a California ballot initiative to ban gay marriage.

Filmmaker Reed Cowan says "8: The Mormon Proposition" will hit theaters this spring and a DVD will follow. Cowan says he sold the film's North American distribution rights to the newly formed Red Flag Releasing.

The film, which had its debut at the Sundance Film Festival last month, is Red Flag's first acquisition, said Paul Federbush, a partner in the company.

"I think it's a very important issue to us, not only gay marriage, but the issue of separation of church and state," said Federbush. "We saw it at Sundance and felt it connected with the audience."

The film drew strong reactions from Sundance viewers, including sustained standing ovations and tears. Some dismissed the movie as anti-Mormon propaganda.

Cowan declined to disclose the financial details of the deal. He said he's also in talks with others for an international distribution deal.

The 80-minute movie had its debut at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City last month. It contends that the Salt Lake City-based Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the driving force behind Proposition 8. The initiative reversed a court decision that legalized gay marriage.

"I'm pretty excited," said Cowan, a former Mormon who is gay. "Now the film

does truly go on to be seen all over the United States and people can decide for themselves."

Church officials have denounced the film as inaccurate and biased. But at the time of the Jan. 24 premiere, they said they hadn't seen the movie.

On Thursday, church spokeswoman Kim Farah declined to comment on the film's distribution deal.

Cowan said he'd like to know which parts of the film are wrong. He also wants an opportunity to interview church officials and add their comments to the movie. Church officials declined requests for interviews during the making of the film.

"I would hold a screening at church headquarters for them," Cowan said in a telephone interview from his home in the Miami-area. "I would love to know line by line what's inaccurate."

In 2008, church leaders urged Mormons to give their time and money to support Proposition 8, which passed with 52 percent of the vote. Church members were among the campaign's most vigorous volunteers and by some estimates contributed tens of millions to the effort.

After the vote, many gay rights advocates turned their anger toward the church in protests and marches outside Mormon temples — efforts chronicled in Cowan's film.

California's Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the vote, but the gay marriage ban is now the subject of a federal lawsuit.

Like many faiths, Mormons believe traditional marriage is an institution established by God. The church has consistently fought gay marriage legislation across the U.S. since the 1990s.

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING



AP photo

A woman stands before a cross at the earthquake damaged Sacred Heart church during a national day of mourning in Port-au-Prince, Friday. Thousands of people gathered one month after the deadly magnitude-7 quake that left the Caribbean country struggling for survival.

Pro-life advocates launch 40 Days for Life campaign

Times-News

Twin Falls area pro-life advocates on Feb. 14 will join people of faith and conscience in communities coast to coast to kick off the area's own version of the 40 Days for Life campaign.

The kick-off will be 2 p.m. at St. Edward's Parish Hall,

161 Sixth Ave. E., Twin Falls.

40 Days for Life is an intensive pro-life initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, 40 days of peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and 40 days of grassroots educational outreach. The 40-day timeframe is drawn from examples of biblical history where

God brought about world-changing transformation in 40-day periods.

Since its inception, a total of 678 campaigns have been conducted in 282 cities in all 50 states and numerous foreign countries. The efforts of hundreds of thousands of people of faith have saved the lives of 2,168 unborn chil-

dren, have resulted in the closure of five abortion facilities and 27 workers have terminated their abortion employment. Churches of different denominations have come together to work for an end of abortion in their cities.

To learn more: www.40daysforlife.com/ Twin Falls

RELIGIOUS BRIEFS

Claim: Instructor quotes Bible to condemn abortion

SAN FRANCISCO — An instructor at a public community college in Fresno has been presenting his religious views on homosexuality, abortion and global warming as fact to students in an introductory health science class, the American Civil Liberties Union claims.

Elizabeth Gill, a staff attorney for the ACLU, said at least two students at Fresno City College have complained that health science instructor Bradley Lopez quoted the Bible as

proof that human life begins at conception, characterized homosexuality as a mental illness, and discussed apocalyptic Christian prophecies during a lesson on climate change.

If the students' descriptions are correct, Lopez's teaching methods would violate California laws protecting gays from discrimination and prohibiting religious indoctrination at public schools, Gill said. She sent a letter to college president Cynthia Azaria asking the school "to act immediately to ensure that all its health classes provide only accurate and unbiased information."

An e-mail to Lopez and a telephone message left at his office were not returned.

Provo OKs expanding missionary center

PROVO, Utah — Brigham Young University has received approval to expand one of the buildings at its Missionary Training Center.

Provo's planning commission approved a permit for a more than 40,000-square-foot, three-story building that will house clinics, a travel office and other services for the center.

It also will have rooms for senior missionaries.

The Missionary Training Center can accommodate up to 4,000 missionaries.

Catholic priest charged with assault

LA CROSSE, Wis. — A visiting Catholic priest in La Crosse has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman he was counseling through a divorce.

The La Crosse Tribune reports that the Rev. Edmund Donkor-Baine has been charged in La Crosse County Circuit Court with misdemeanor fourth-degree sexual assault.

— The Associated Press

Airport body scanners violate Islamic law, Muslims say

By Niraj Warikoo
Detroit Free Press

DETROIT — Saying that body scanners violate Islamic law, Muslim-American groups are supporting a "fatwa" — a religious ruling — that forbids Muslims from going through the scanners at airports.

The Fiqh Council of North America — a body of Islamic scholars — issued a fatwa

this week that says going through the airport scanners would violate Islamic rules on modesty.

"It is a violation of clear Islamic teachings that men or women be seen naked by other men and women," reads the fatwa issued Tuesday. "Islam highly emphasizes haya (modesty) and considers it part of faith. The Quran has commanded the believers, both men and

women, to cover their private parts."

The decision could complicate efforts to intensify screening of potential terrorists who are Muslim. After the Christmas Day bombing in Detroit by a Muslim suspect from Nigeria, some have called for the use of body scanners at airports to find explosives and other dangerous materials carried by terrorists.

Some airports are now in the process of buying and using the body scanners, which show in graphic detail the outlines of a person's body.

But Muslim groups say the scanners go against their religion. One option offered to passengers who don't want to use the scanners would be a pat down by a security guard. The Muslim groups are urging members to undergo those instead.

Longevity

Continued from Religion 1

Harris loves cooking for special occasions. She even worked for Hood College, cooking and baking for big events.

"I'm known for my apple pie and my lemon meringue pie, and the caramel cake," she said, laughing. "I've been baking that for years."

Her house is filled with fancy serving plates, antiques from her Uncle Fred, but most noticeably are the religious statues she has collected.

After retiring, Harris took up painting ceramics; she has a large collection of

angels she's painted throughout the years, proof of her faith she said has guided her into her old age.

"We have a nice family life," she said, smiling as she showed off her living room.

Jesus Is The Answer
SMILE GOD LOVES YOU
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REAL ESTATE & CLASSIFIEDS

Crossword, 6 / Service Directory, 7 / Sudoku, 8 / Aces on Bridge, 9 / Dear Abby, 9 / Jumble, 10

Real Estate

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010

CLASSIFIEDS: (208) 733-0931, EXT. 2 AND AT MAGICVALLEYREALESTATE.COM

REAL ESTATE

501 Open House

KIMBERLY



Open House Sat. 12 to 3pm.
715 Center St. E. #120
Price: \$69,700 Well kept home with great views of the park, with 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Ready to move in!
MLS# 98418748 - Chris 948-5623

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KIMBERLY



Open House Sat. 12 to 3pm.
715 Center St. E. #152
Price: \$59,900 Great home in Friendly Village, 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Gorgeous views of the South Hills.
MLS# 98410442 - Kasey 308-1038

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Selling Property?
Don't pay any fees until it's sold.
For free information about avoiding time share and real estate scams, write to:
Federal Trade Commission,
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501 Open House

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- 2142 Sherry Lane -
Call 208-481-2009

502 Homes For Sale

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin or an intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian; pregnant women and people securing custody or children under 18.

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3006 NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY R., HAGERMAN
7.4 ACRES on private setting above National Fish Hatchery land. Over 4,400 sq.ft. home offers 5 beds, 4 baths, tiled kitchen, spectacular views from large wood deck. Fenced pasture and 1,400 sq.ft. shop. MUST SEE! MLS# 98423715 \$269,000 Call John today at 731-6510

Call 731-6510 A Key Person to Know!

John P. Irwin REALTOR

OPEN HOUSES!

206 West 8th Ave, Jerome
Time: 11-1 p.m.
2 bedroom, 1 bath home. Landscaping is to die for as well as a huge backyard. There is also an awesome deck on the back & a patio on the side of the house. Mls#9842636

Tami L Shirley
539-9368

1590 Princeton, Twin Falls
Time: 11-1 p.m.
4 bedroom, 2 bath, Formal Living & Family Room. New windows, brand new furnace. Hot Tub. Must See! Mls#98404749

Vicki Overacker
280-0404

192 Buckingham, TF
Time: 2-4 p.m.
East on Willow, then right on Buckingham.
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large master w/ Jetted tub & large walk in closet, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, RV parking. Mls# 98426082

Vicki Overacker
280-0404

www.westerratwinfalls.com

OPEN HOUSES FROM 1-4 PM

www.Assist2SellTwinFalls.com

324 CARRIAGE LANE, TWIN FALLS
East on Elizabeth Blvd off of Eastland Dr. South on Carriage Ln to the end
3 bedrooms, 2 baths
1691 Sq Ft. \$153,900
REDUCED!!!

833 EL MONTE STREET, TWIN FALLS
South on Hudson off of Falls St E. East on San Lane Ave. South on El Monte St
3 bedrooms, 2 baths
1496 Sq Ft. \$159,000
REDUCED!!!

2862 LEEANN DRIVE, TWIN FALLS
South on Hudson off of Elizabeth East on Leeann Dr
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths
1742 Sq Ft. \$189,900

1688 BROOKFIELD CT., TWIN FALLS
North on Hudson off of Falls St E. West on Brookfield Ct
3 bedrooms, 2 baths
1650 Sq Ft. \$234,900

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QUIET CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION!



10-12 PM

2272 Candleridge Cir. E, Twin Falls
Wonderful 4 BR, 3BA Family Home w/ Granite, Tile, Extra Lg Pantry, Security System, Surround Sound Wiring, Fully Landscaped and So Much More To See!
MLS# 98419589 \$289,000
Host: Ronda Lyda-Jones 731-2369

BEAUTIFUL CRAFTSMANSHIP



10-12 PM

363 Jeweler St, Twin Falls
Brand New 3 BR, 2 BA Home w/ Beautiful Kitchen, Ash Cabinetry, Walk In Closet in Master BR, Covered Patio & Sprinkler System. Mls# 98420788 \$144,900
Host: Lynn & Donna Rasmussen 410-2807 or 320-2751

VERY WELL KEPT HOME



10:30-12:30 PM

508 19th Ave. E, Jerome
3 BR, 1 BA home w/ new flooring, new vinyl windows, new roof & Fresh Exterior Paint. Lg Fenced Back Yd w/ a storage shed. Mls# 98426622 \$106,900
Host: Troy Henson 308-8964

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD



11-1 PM

340 Cayuse Creek Rd., Kimberly
Great 4 Bedroom Home w/ Wood Floors, 3 Car Garage, Lg Kitchen & Lg Master Bedroom. Mls# 98425872 \$224,900
Host: Devry Nield 308-3737

AMAZING REMODEL



11-1 PM

215 Madison St., Kimberly
This 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath home has 2 Laundry Rooms, 2 Kitchens, 2 Family Rooms, Hardwood Floors, & Granite! Awesome Home! Mls# 98424019 \$181,900
Host: Rasmussen Real Estate Co. 308-3737

THIS ONE WON'T LAST!



11-2 PM

163 Ramage St., Twin Falls
Beautifully Remodeled 3 BA, 1 BA Home with New Carpet, Flooring, Texture, Paint, Vinyl Siding & a Full Unfinished Basement. Mls# 98425880 \$89,900
Host: Jeff & Jenny Miller 320-2751

ARE YOU THE LUCKY ONE?



11-4 PM

2162 Tendoy St., Twin Falls
Brand Sparkling New, 3BR w/ an office/den, 2BA home. 3 Car Garage and Simply Magnificent Throughout! Mls# 98391545 \$249,900
Host: Sherri Kirtland 731-2988

HERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY!



12-2 PM

284 Coronado Ave., Twin Falls
You will get a Great Buy on this 1247 sq. ft. Home that Features 3 BR, 2 baths, Cute Kitchen, Lg Fenced Backyard & Oversized 2 Car Garage! Hurry!
Mls# 98426714 \$109,900
Host: Ron Kirtland 404-1810

GREAT FAMILY LIFE LAYOUT!



12-2 PM

535 Carriage Lane, Twin Falls
Great 6 BR, 3BA Home w/ 2 Fireplaces, RV Parking, 3 Decks, New Windows, Exterior Doors, Garage Doors, Roof, Water Heater, Furnace & Heat Pump.
Mls# 98425873 \$198,500
Host: Diana Whitney 731-3588

VERY FUNCTIONAL & SPACIOUS!



12:30-2:30 PM

322 Linden Dr., Twin Falls
This 4 BR, 2.5 BA Home has a Very Well Thought Out Floor Plan, RV Parking, Lg Patio, Central Vac, Hardwood Floors, Alder Cabinets & Much More.
Mls# 98422474 \$184,998
Host: Ronda Lyda-Jones 731-2369

PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP



1-3 PM

1742 Borah Ave. E, Twin Falls
Very Nice SDR, 2BA home with Huge Private Back Yd, Fresh Paint & Carpet, Covered Patio & Hot Tub.
Mls# 98423420 \$127,500
Host: Rasmussen Real Estate Co. 308-8964

PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP



1-3 PM

9th Ave. E, Twin Falls
Beautiful well Built 3BR, 2BA Home w/ Lg Back Yard, Fully Fenced, Covered Deck, New Carpet & Formal Living & Family Room. Mls# 98425775 \$145,900
Host: Rasmussen Real Estate Co. 308-3737

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 Ronda Lyda-Jones 731-2369	 Lynn Stewart 410-2807	 Jenny Miller 320-2751	 Ron Kirtland 404-1810	 Devry Nield 308-3737	 Troy Henson 308-8964	 Sherri Kirtland 731-2988	 Diana Whitney 731-3588	 Jeff & Jenny Miller 320-2751	 Ronda Lyda-Jones 731-2369	 Lynn Stewart 410-2807	 Jenny Miller 320-2751	 Ron Kirtland 404-1810	 Devry Nield 308-3737	 Troy Henson 308-8964	 Sherri Kirtland 731-2988	 Diana Whitney 731-3588	 Jeff & Jenny Miller 320-2751
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502 Homes For Sale

BUHL 3 bedroom home on 30+ acres with TFCC water. \$287,000
 HOLLISTER 3 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home, garage. \$39,900
 TWIN FALLS 5 bedroom, 3 bath home, 2800+ sq ft, gas heat, & 2 car garage close to new high school. \$189,000

NELSON REALTY LLC
 734-3930

EMERSON



Country living 1.5 acres, 3,000+ sq ft, 6 bdrm., 3 bath, 3 car garage, 6x10 shed, 3 rail fenced pasture, decorative pond, priced below appraised, tax assessed value \$199,000. 208-678-2525

HAZELTON



Steve Koch Property Auction Wed, March 3 Hazelton, ID 2538 sq ft home, 320 acres of farm ground, granary & out bldgs go to www.us-auctioneers.com for more info or call US Auction: 208.434.8666

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Brian Hunter...208-404-4067

JEROME Possible owner carry with \$5000 down. New construction, 1 available, building more. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 4 bks west of Pizzas Hut. \$139,900-\$142,900. Homes quality for \$8000 Federal tax rebate. Call 208-639-3613

MURTAUGH
 For Sale By Owner in Milner area. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, finished bsmt with wood stove, 2 car garage and small shop on 1.4 acres. Call 208-308-6696

RUPERT 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath with full unfinished basement, approx 3000 sq ft. New paint/carpet/vinyl, at \$87,000 w/buyers rebate a very affordable house. No calls before 5 pm. 208-436-3064 or 208-312-7005

SHOSHONE Country Property. 2 acres, 3000+ sq ft stone home, with recent carpet throughout, recent propane heating system, 1 year old hot water & pressure tanks, 1000 sq ft heated shop with concrete floor, outbldgs., great school dist. Great views! Highly motivated seller. Call 208-726-4734

TWIN FALLS (East) 1600 sq ft, up w/1600 sq ft, bsmt, 1850 finished w/1300 unfinished, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, fireplace, custom cabinets, granite, tile floors, white vinyl fencing, 3 car garage. \$209,800. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921.

TWIN FALLS (East) 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1500 sq ft. New sub'd, custom cabinets, solid surface counter tops, fully landscaped, white vinyl fencing, fireplace, 2 car garage. \$149,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921

TWIN FALLS (East) 4 bdrm, 3 bath, family room, granite counter tops, custom cabinets, fireplace, tile floors, white vinyl fencing, 3 car garage. \$199,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921.

TWIN FALLS (East) Morningsun Sub'd. 1800 sq ft, w/bsmt, 2660 finished, 940 unfinished, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, huge family room, computer room, granite, many upgrades, 3 car garage. \$249,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921.

TWIN FALLS
 Find peace & quiet in this immaculate 2 bdrm, 2 bath home, with 80x50 shop, on 1.58 acres \$154,900. MLS #98417451
 Call Lynn 208-410-2807 or Donna 208-320-2751
 Rasmussen Real Estate Co.

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 Free list of foreclosures
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TWIN FALLS
LOOK WHAT \$105,000 WILL BUY...
 3 bedroom home complete with all appliances and some furniture. Cbl carport with storage, fenced yard with sprinkler and much more.
 Call Jim Brawley 731-4144
BRAWLEY REALTY

TWIN FALLS: Nice 3 bdrm., 2 bath w/completely furnished GUEST QUARTERS. All apts, laminate floors, lots of cabinets, & much more. Lg garage, lg fenced yd, garden area. Lg covered patio. By owner \$217,000. 602-791-8388



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BREATH-TAKING HOME
 For the entire family, 4,100 SF on 0.43 acre, 4 bedrooms 3 1/2 baths, 4-car garage, with top quality extras throughout. Realtor owned. Butler's Pantry with 2nd dishwasher, 2 laundry rooms, welcoming front courtyard & back covered patio with 2-sided fireplace. 98422716 \$595,000
 Doug Volmer 420-5650

LOTS OF EXTRAS HERE!
 Great 3 bedrooms 2 baths home on one acre with a super 36' x 40' shop w/overhead doors for big RV or 4-car garage, plus a 3-car attached garage. Split bedroom floor plan w/new granite countertops and oak floors. See this one! 98426043 \$345,000
 Jim Herrett 731-3096

SALMON RIVER
 Build your cabin right on the Salmon River, 1.11 acres just 5 miles NE of Lower Stanley on Hwy 75. Easy access to this site among trees & on the famous Salmon River. 98202033 \$187,500.
 Doug Volmer 420-5650

EDEN BUILDING LOT
 approximately 71' x 122'. City will allow manufactured home on foundation or stock-built home. 98407858, 98407860 \$17,900.
 Jim Herrett 731-3096

GOOD OFFICE BUILDING
 2 blocks from Court House, remodeled and in good condition. Street parking and city parking lot across the street. Plenty of work space, storage and office spaces. 98354892 \$510,000
 Doug Volmer 420-5650



208-734-5650
 210 6th Ave E, Twin Falls, ID 83301

OPEN HOUSES TODAY



130 Quincy St
2 Beds/ 1 Baths
Open 1-3 PM
\$94,900

130 Quincy St
2 Beds/ 1 Baths
Open 1-3 PM



215 Fillmore St
4 Beds/ 2 Baths
Open 1-3 PM
\$118,900

215 Fillmore St
4 Beds/ 2 Baths
Open 1-3 PM



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\$245,000 SHOSHONE



Large, classy, exclusive custom brick home!
 Expansive floor plan w/privacy. Dream kitchen, extra large bedrooms with built-ins. Huge family room w/full bar. Large covered patio for lounging & entertaining. MLS# 98427060
Call Linda Virgin 308-7721 or Gaea Lete 886-2186

\$222,500 TWIN FALLS



Ranch Style Home- could be your Bonanza. Over 3/4 acre, 3 bed 3.5 bath, 3350 sq ft with 400 sq ft enclosed patio, dog run, attached shed/workshop, recreation room, circular drive way, lots of storage. MLS# 98425436
Call Amy Harper 420-5848 or Linda Ekren 539-3458

\$200,000 JEROME



Beautiful Brick Home 3 bed 2 bath home with new carpet. Approximately 3000 sq ft of living space on one acre lot with mature landscaping. In quiet area, priced well below appraisal. MLS# 98363998
Call Bonny Ross 539-0795 or Bonnie Booker 731-7304

TWIN FALLS (East) 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1500 sq ft. New sub'd, custom cabinets, solid surface counter tops, fully landscaped, white vinyl fencing, fireplace, 2 car garage. \$149,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921

TWIN FALLS (East) 4 bdrm, 3 bath, family room, granite counter tops, custom cabinets, fireplace, tile floors, white vinyl fencing, 3 car garage. \$199,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921.

TWIN FALLS (East) Morningsun Sub'd. 1800 sq ft, w/bsmt, 2660 finished, 940 unfinished, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, huge family room, computer room, granite, many upgrades, 3 car garage. \$249,900. For sale by builder Josh Ruf 208-539-1921.

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TWIN FALLS
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TWIN FALLS
LOOK WHAT \$105,000 WILL BUY...
 3 bedroom home complete with all appliances and some furniture. Cbl carport with storage, fenced yard with sprinkler and much more.
 Call Jim Brawley 731-4144
BRAWLEY REALTY

TWIN FALLS: Nice 3 bdrm., 2 bath w/completely furnished GUEST QUARTERS. All apts, laminate floors, lots of cabinets, & much more. Lg garage, lg fenced yd, garden area. Lg covered patio. By owner \$217,000. 602-791-8388

\$189,900 JEROME



Sharp, Sharp Property! - This 3 bed/2 bath home, with approx 1680 sq ft is in like new condition. Included is an all insulated shop 24 x 30 with electrical and has water plumbed to the outside. One owner property. MLS# 98410698
Call Louisa Harris 280-0822

OPEN HOUSES TODAY

\$137,500 JEROME



New Price!! This Won't Disappoint... - A perfect home for the first time homebuyer or buyer looking to downsize. Perfect yard, great floor plan. Move in ready. MLS# 98417757
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\$129,500 11-1PM



480 Silver Pheasant, Twin Falls
A SWEETHEART DEAL! PRICE REDUCED! to make this a SWEET deal for you! Newer 3bd/2bath home, great floor plan & upgrades! Directions: Washington S, turn R on Orchard, L on Kenyon, L on Silver Pheasant. FREE REFRESHMENTS! MLS# 98421566
Call Anna Hoobler 420-6169

\$132,700 12:30-2:30 PM



347 BUCHANAN, T.F.
 Great location / Great 2,254 SF Steel Sided Home w/ Basement. Freshly Painted. You will love the large double car garage w/ attached 16'x34' shop (air compressor/wood stove). MUST SEE. MLS# 98421165
Call Ray Sabala 539-3321

\$139,500 1-3 PM



403 Pheasant Road W, Twin Falls
Ready to move in! This newly constructed home is one that will make you look. 4 Bedrooms/2 baths, stainless steel appliances, fully landscaped and more. MLS# 98417277
Call Erik Andersen 420-0125

\$139,900 2 TO 4 PM



176 Seven Springs, Twin Falls
A GREAT ROOM & SEPARATE LIVING ROOM
 Split bedroom plan. Very well maintained home. Move in ready! MLS# 98385204
Call Gerry Turner 420-6101

\$144,900 2-4 PM



1655 Atlantic St, Twin Falls
Immaculate home! Upgrades throughout this immaculate home. Garden windows in kitchen, tile entry, custom countertops & great ceiling fans. 15x25' covered patio. Great Landscaping! MLS# 98416526
Call Barbara Morales 539-2272

\$799,000 11:30-2:30



3431 Moonlight Drive, Kimberly
OPEN HOUSE ** Thursday ** February 18th Realtor & Public OPEN HOUSE! Another fine home built by Dan Brown available for sale. Come take a look & enjoy some homemade beef stew and biscuits. MLS# 98413768
Call Susan Brown 731-7210

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Requires excellent customer service skills, attention to detail, as well as good communication skills. Demonstrated experience in research, scheduling and follow-up is preferred. Lifting, twisting, standing or working on feet for long periods is also required.

Compensation based on experience. Applications are available at the local Job Service office or downloaded from www.thehousingcompany.org. Please send completed applications to:

**Human Resources Department
THE HOUSING COMPANY
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Boise, Idaho 83707-1899**

Above description is not inclusive of all job duties. Qualified candidates must be able to perform essential functions with or without accommodation. EOE/AA

EVENT PLANNER
Seeking **Event Planning Contract Employee** to oversee the Perrine Bridge Festival. Applicant must have event planning experience and be comfortable approaching sponsors for monetary support. Candidate will have experience leading volunteer committees. Public speaking skills are essential. College degree in marketing/advertising/communications preferred. Position extends from March, 2010 to September 30, 2010 and the hours vary. Please send a cover letter and a resume to **Box 952022 c/o Times-News PO Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.**

Assurance Inspector



Quality Assurance Inspector for 2nd shift
CNC/Machining experience preferred
Must have excellent Math skills;
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Must have CDL Class A and Haz Mat certified. Doubles Experience Required. Clean driving record. We offer Competitive Pay, Good Benefits and Good Equipment. For Additional info and to fill out an application go to www.oakh.com/employment We are an EOE employer.

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GENERAL



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Are You Looking For A Career Change?

Do you want to make a difference?

We at Sunset Memorial Park are an affiliate of Service Corporation International, the largest provider of funeral and cemetery services in the world. We currently have career opportunities waiting for motivated sales professionals who care about others. We are seeking individuals with integrity, who are service minded, financially ambitious, and enjoy helping others. Experience in the Funeral Home or Cemetery Industry is helpful but not necessary. We provide excellent structured training both in the classroom and in the field in addition to a full benefit package.

We currently have openings at
Sunset Memorial Park,
2296 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho.

If you desire the opportunity to earn a substantial income while helping others in their time of need, and in advance of need, please call or pick up an application at our office located on the corner of Kimberly Road and Eastland.

For more information, check out our corporate web site at www.sci-corp.com. Additional information on SCI's products and services is available at www.dignitymemorial.com and www.mem.com. Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V.



GENERAL



Swire Coca-Cola, USA is accepting applications to fill the following positions:

Entry Level Sales Merchandising

Duties include

- Stocking shelves
- Building displays
- Customer service
- Frequent lifting

In order to apply, you must bring:

- Proof of auto insurance
- Current 3 year driving record

Route Driver

Responsibilities include:

- Delivering product
- Filling shelves & coolers
- Building displays
- Invoicing
- Frequent lifting

Qualified applicants will have:

- Good driving record
- CDL (Class A or B or learning permit)
- Ability to pass a background check and drug test

Apply in person with a current 3 years driver's license record.

Swire Coca-Cola offers:

- Base + Commission
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No Phone calls please
Swire Coca Cola, USA
398 Victory Ave.
Twin Falls, ID.
EOE/AA

EDUCATION

Murtaugh School Dist. is looking for a **MS-HS Principal** and an **Elementary Teacher** to join our team. Full benefits are available. Must pass a background check.

Please call for an application or send your resume to Superintendent Michele Capps. To have application emailed contact vonie.adams@murtaugh.k12.id.us



**Murtaugh School Dist. 418
P.O. Box 117
Murtaugh, ID 83344
208-432-5451**

IT Help Desk



Filer Mutual Telephone Co. is a highly successful rural telecommunications company with competitive salaries, and an excellent benefits package, dedicated to providing the rural community with state-of-the-art network technologies.

We are looking for a positive, upbeat, customer oriented employee that has a comprehensive knowledge of the following for an entry level position:
TCP/IP, Basic network configuration, knowledge of Microsoft Office and related applications, Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7.
This position is the primary point of contact for customer technical support on DSL network connectivity, wireless broadband, and dialup systems.

Must be able to troubleshoot e-mail issues, assist with home network configuration, know basic PC repair and maintenance. Will also assist in support and management of company's LAN. Windows and Linux server admin experience, A+ certification, and Active Directory Server admin desired. Some on-call required.

NO Phone Calls Please.

E-mail resume through February 28, 2010 to: smcpherson@filertel.com.
EOE.

MEDICAL

ATTN: OR/SURGERY SCRUB TECHS:
Leave Your Back Table Behind & Step to the NEXT LEVEL of your Surgical Career!

- **Do you have O.R. experience?**
- Have you worked with Laparoscopic/Endoscopic Surgical Procedures and Instruments?
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If you answered **YES** to these questions, AES wants to talk to you

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BOISE, ID**

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Please send/tax/email resume to:
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Creekside Crossing III, 8 Cadillac Drive
Suite 200, Brentwood, TN 37027
Email: sbowen@aesendo.com
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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LIRLT
 [][][][][]
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LEEPO
 [][][][][]

RETHEN
 [][][][][][]

NOSTEX
 [][][][][][]

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



ANOTHER NAME FOR A WITCH.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A " [][][][] - [][][][][] "

(Answers Monday)
 Yesterday's Jumbles: PROBE MAGIC IMPACT SNAPPY
 Answer: The matrons described the x-rated movie as a - "SIN-EMA"

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TOYOTA '89 4Runner, 5 speed, V6, custom rack, filled, lots of custom parts, removable top. Must see to appreciate. \$3500/offer. 731-0628

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CHEVY '08 Cobalt, 4 door, auto, 32 mpg. Now \$10,988. STK#2939 208-324-3900

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LINCOLN '06 LS low, low miles, 4 dr, super clean, CD, tilt, moon roof, leather, cool, warm, all records, book \$20,900 reduced \$19,448. Pearl white. Power everything. 208-733-9601.

MAZDA '07 CX-7, AWD, \$18,988. # 2911U9 208-735-3900

NISSAN '06 Maxima 52K, AC, CD, PW, PL, sunroof, local trade, only \$15,900.

PONTIAC '04 Grand Prix GTP, 55K, leather, OnStar, Moonsoon radio+8 disc CD, only \$11,900.

1010 Autos

FORD '04 Focus, loaded, 76K miles, exc. cond. Standard trans. PW/PL \$5000/offer. Call 208-410-7209

MERCEDES '91 Benz 420 SEL, runs good, 256K miles. \$1500/offer. Call 208-484-7704

TOYOTA '99 Camry LE, AC, PW, PL, power mirrors, automatic, only 80K miles. \$8995

VOLKSWAGEN '07 Jetta, 2.0L Turbo, 6 speed trans, leather loaded, sunroof, alloys, multi CD. Stock#7M044652 208-733-3033

VW '04 Jetta TDI, low miles, \$12,888. Stock#03684A 208-735-3900

1008 SUVs

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GMC '07 Acadia SLT, loaded. \$27,888. #226604A 208-735-3900

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1008 SUVs

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 When purchasing a vehicle, make sure that the title is in the name of the seller. Under Idaho motor vehicle code a vehicle cannot be sold unless the title is in the name of the seller (exception: Idaho licensed dealer). The seller shall provide the new purchaser a signed bill of sale showing the following: Full description of the vehicle, vehicle identification number, amount paid and name(s) and address of the new purchaser. The bill of sale must be signed, dated and show actual mileage at the time of sale. If you have any questions, please contact your local assessor's office.

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NEW 2010 YARIS 4 DOOR

35 MPG HWY!^{1a}

\$14,980* Or Get **0% APR for 60 mo.!**^{**}

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AVAILABLE IN ALL-WHEEL DRIVE!

\$4,000 OFF MSRP ON ALL IN STOCK VENZAS!^{1b}

OR

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\$195/mo. FOR 36 MONTHS

\$1995 total due at signing

Lease a new 2010 Camry LE 2.5L 4cyl. 6speed auto - rml 2532 for \$195 a month for 36 months with \$1995 due at signing, which includes 1st mo. payment, \$1150 down payment, \$14 title fee, \$128.30 dealer doc fee, \$0 security deposit and \$650 acquisition fee. Lease and purchase option is \$14,235. Closed end lease. Payment plus tax. On approved credit through TFS Tier 1+.

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