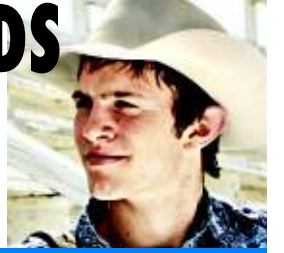




Good for your garden
Hailey students brew up worm 'tea' >> HOME & GARDEN 1

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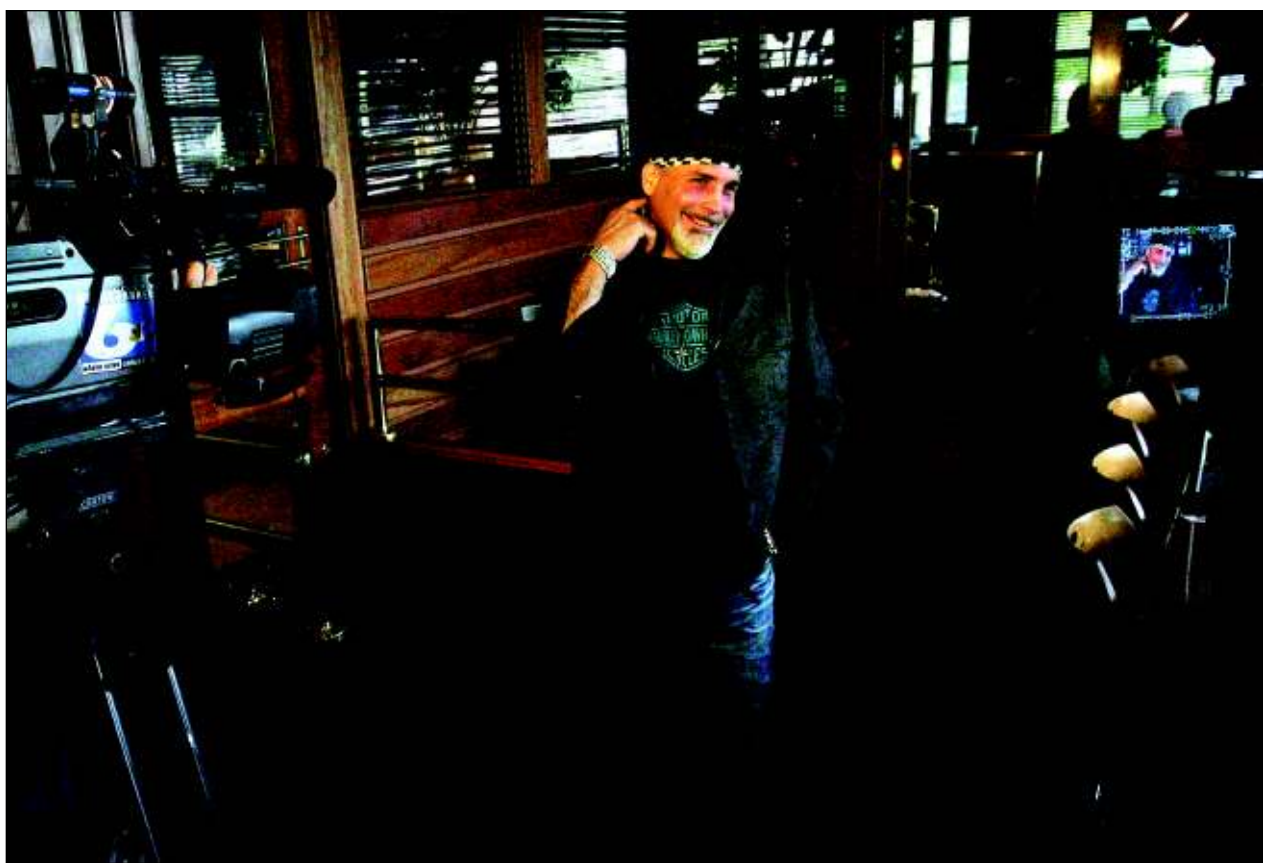
TUESDAY
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TIMES-NEWS

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LONG ROAD to a LONG JUMP



MEAGAN THOMPSON/Times-News

Daredevil Robbie Knievel, son of the late Evel Knievel, meets with media outlets to announce his plans to jump the Snake River Canyon — a feat his father tried and failed at in 1974 — on the Fourth of July weekend in 2011. Robbie Knievel has jumped across a 228-foot section of the Grand Canyon and over stationary objects like buses, but has never attempted to jump the Snake River Canyon.

Knievel, agencies explore possibility of 1974 repeat

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

At age 48, Robbie Knievel's already pursued his daredevil career longer than his father, the late, famous Evel Knievel.

But there's one jump the younger Knievel hasn't tried.

In 1974, Evel Knievel brought spectacle and, by many accounts, chaos to Twin Falls when he attempted and failed to jump the Snake River Canyon on his "skycycle" — essentially a large rocket.

On Monday, Robbie Knievel asked local-government agencies and tourism groups to let him try his

MORE ONLINE

MV VISIT an interactive Web page about Evel Knievel's jump and VOTE in a poll about Robbie Knievel's proposal to jump the canyon.
MAGICVALLEY.COM

father's failed feat, with a jump proposed for the same site on Fourth of July weekend in 2011.

"I don't ever think I'll be too old to push that 'fire' button, but let's get it done," Robbie Knievel told reporters after the meeting.

Knievel faces a number of hurdles if he's going to pull

the jump off, including a range of agreements with city, county, state and federal entities. He'll also have to overcome any bad feelings lingering from both his father's visit, when biker groups rioted and Evel allegedly skipped town without paying some debts, and his own attempt in the early '90s to stage a second jump, when Twin Falls County commissioners threatened to secure a court injunction against him.

A few of the people who attended the private afternoon meeting said later that they're willing to hear Knievel out, though they need more details from him



Courtesy photo
Evel and Robbie Knievel.

before deciding if a jump is permissible.

"It just needs to be managed properly and done right," Twin Falls County Commission Chairman George Urie said.

The jump by Evel Knievel, who died in 2007 at age 69, in many ways put Twin Falls on the map. Visitors still ask to see the dirt ramp that

See **KNIEVEL**, Main 2

BP and other companies point fingers in oil rig blast

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Early finger-pointing erupted Monday among companies involved in the oil rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico and unstopped leak of millions of gallons of oil, on the eve of the first congressional hearings into the accident.

A top American executive for BP, Lamar McKay, said a critical safety device known as a blowout-preventer failed catastrophically. Separately, the owner of the rig off Louisiana's coast said BP managed it and was responsible for all work conducted at the site. A third company defended work that it performed on the deepwater oil well as "accepted industry practice" before last month's explosion.

"We are looking at why the blowout preventer did not work because that was to be the fail-safe in case of an accident," McKay, chairman and president of BP America, said in testimony prepared for a Senate hearing Tuesday. A copy of his testimony was obtained by The Associated Press. "Transocean's blowout preventer failed to operate"

The chief executive for Swiss-based Transocean, which owned the oil rig and the blowout preventer, shifted blame to BP.

"All offshore oil and gas production projects begin and end with the operator,

in this case BP," CEO Steven Newman said in his Senate testimony, also obtained by the AP. Newman said BP was responsible for submitting a detailed plan specifying where and how a well is to be drilled, cased, cemented and completed.

Newman also said BP's contractor, Halliburton Inc., was responsible for encasing the well in cement, putting a temporary plug in the top of the well and ensuring the cement's integrity. That cementing process was dictated by BP's well plan, Newman said.

A Halliburton executive, Tim Probert, said the company safely finished a cementing operation 20 hours before the rig went up in flames. Probert said Halliburton completed work on the well according to accepted industry practice and at the direction of federal regulators.

The blame-game took hold on Capitol Hill as Congress and federal investigators were to begin a series of hearings in Washington and on the Gulf Coast. Two Senate hearings were set for Tuesday, and a House hearing was scheduled for Wednesday. In Louisiana, near the disaster site, a six-member panel that includes investigators from the Interior Department and Coast Guard was to begin two days of hearings.

See **OIL**, Main 2

Valley High grieves loss of student

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

Valley High School is mourning the loss of one of its students, who died this weekend in an accident after being hit with a tractor.

Robert Tayler Sellers of Eden, 15, a freshman at Valley High, was killed Saturday when he fell off the tractor he was riding on with his father, authorities said.

Sellers' school held a vigil on Sunday night that was attended by nearly 300, which included students and parents, said Rod Malone, the principal.

"He was a great kid," he said. "He probably had the most positive outlook on life of anyone."

At the school Sellers played football, basketball and golf.

"He got along with everybody and tried to look out for everybody," Malone said.

Because of the timing, students were able to talk

with their parents and clergy Sunday for guidance before coming to school Monday, Malone said, adding that staff is available for students who need counseling.

"We're just trying to get our kids focused and do what we can to get through this," he said.

Brian Ayers, the school's football coach, said: "He just made you better by knowing him. He was the team's biggest cheerleader. He always found the best in his teammates."

On the team, he played tight end, running back and quarterback — wherever he was needed, Ayers said.

"He saw the silver lining in everything," he said. "He was always optimistic."

Jerome County Sheriff Doug McFall said Monday the incident is considered an accident and no crime occurred.

Ben Botkin may be reached at bbotkin@magicalvalley.com or 735-3238.

Two vie in Democratic primary for T.F. County commission seat

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Two Democrats are asking Twin Falls County voters for their support this month, part of a crowded field seeking to replace sitting County Commissioner Tom Mikesell.

Gary Eller, 60, and Bill Shropshire, 57, both of Twin Falls, filed to pursue the Democratic nod for the District 2 commission seat on May 25. They're joined by three Republican candidates;



the winners of both parties' primaries will face independent candidate Randy G. Carpenter in November.

Commissioners oversee the county's \$36.9 million budget and are currently paid a little less than \$67,000 yearly. The District 2 seat is a four-year term.

Eller graduated from



Eller



Shropshire

Kimberly High School in 1967 and then left for the military. He retired from the Army in 1998 and returned to Twin Falls County, where he taught government for three years in Buhl and now ranch-

es on 80 acres south of the Twin Falls airport.

In 2008 and 2009 he wrote the "In The Middle" political blog for the Times-News, and said the discussions it led to opened his eyes to the range of political views Magic Valley residents have. He said he wants to bring more perspectives to the commission, returning two-party solutions to what he said has long been a single-party state.

See **COMMISSION**, Main 2



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SUPREME COURT NOMINEE

Obama chooses Elena Kagan > Main 5

Latham Jr.'s pretrial held by phone

Change of venue motion filed in battery case

Times-News

Robert Latham Jr.'s pre-trial hearing in a felony domestic battery case unfolded over the phone on Monday rather than in a Twin Falls courtroom, when a trial date was pushed forward to June, according to court officials.

Jailed since Feb. 14, the former car dealer remained in custody Monday at the Twin Falls County Jail on \$520,000 total bond, stemming from charges filed in multiple criminal cases. Charges against him include three counts of unemployment insurance fraud, a charge of conspiracy to obtain unemployment insurance benefits, two counts of violating a no-contact order, felony domestic

battery and three counts of destruction of a telecommunication line.

Judge Michael Crabtree, based in Cassia County, is presiding over the domestic battery case that was set for a pretrial on Monday in Twin Falls. Meeting minutes for the phone hearing were not immediately available on Monday afternoon, but according to a clerk at the Cassia County Courthouse in Burley, Latham's trial date this month was moved forward to June 28.

A change of venue motion filed on May 5 remains pending without a decision yet filed in court records Monday afternoon.

A multimillion-dollar civil complaint from Key Bank names Latham as a defendant and remains pending in court. Latham Motors in Twin Falls closed in 2008 before the criminal and civil complaints were filed.



Latham

Three seek GOP nod for Lincoln Co. Commission seat

By Amy Huddleston
Times-News correspondent

Three Republican candidates will vie for a two-year term on the Lincoln County Commission District 3 seat during the May 25 primary election.

Twenty-three-year incumbent Jerry Nance is running against challengers Carol Boudreau and Gary Russell. Each candidate brings a different platform and vision for governance in Lincoln County.

Aside from his duties as commissioner, Nance, 69, serves as Big Wood Canal Company board chairman, vice president of the Southern Idaho Solid Waste District Board and as vice chairman for the Idaho County Risk Management Program. He has operated a Dietrich-area ranch most of his life.

"I come with dedication and experience," he said. "I haven't missed a meeting in 23 years unless I've been on other business."



Nance said the county has kept a balanced budget through tough economic times and has kept taxpayer interests in mind during his tenure as commissioner.

"We have a sound county," he said. "My motto is to always remember who you work for, and that is the taxpayers."

Russell, 55, has been a transportation specialist at the Lincoln County Care Center since 2005.

"I've had people complain that property taxes are too high especially in the city," he said.

Russell is CEO of nonprofit Sims Ambulance, Inc., and serves as president of both the Shoshone Chamber of Commerce and Shoshone Rotary Club.

He referenced a study by the Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Health Institute, which ranked Lincoln County as the unhealthiest county in Idaho. The study took into account the county's unemployment rate, percentage of adults without health insurance, and percentage of residents living below the poverty level, among other factors.

"With Lincoln County facing falling revenues and increasing expenditures it is imperative that we continue attracting new businesses," Russell said. "We must build cooperative relationships with our neighboring counties and municipalities to enhance our ability to attract the much-needed growth."

Russell said luring more industry would help with Lincoln County's unemployment rate, which hit 17.7 percent in December and remained at 11 percent in March, according to the Idaho Department of Labor.

Carol Boudreau, 69, is concerned about low wages in the county. She has operated a horse ranch for 32 years, served as a probation officer for five years, and was Lincoln County's planning and zoning administrator for

seven years.

"I feel the citizens of Lincoln County should come first and foremost, and I want to see changes," she said. "You have a whole courthouse filled with people and everyone should have a say in (county) decisions."

Boudreau was Wendell's city clerk for four years. She said she has seen first-hand a loss of employees in the county due to low wages.

"It is time for a change and I would like to be that change," she said. "Wages are so low in this county, and I want to work on it. It won't change in a year, but there has got to be a way to do it. It is my goal to explore that."

Lincoln County Commissioners are paid \$16,800 per year, with the chairman receiving \$18,000 yearly. Commissioners also receive benefits of county employees, including health insurance.

District 2 Commissioner Marsha Hiatt, a Democrat, is running uncontested for her seat.



Boudreau



Russell



Nance

Twin Falls council approves BLM agreement

By Ben Botkin
Times-News writer

The Twin Falls City Council approved an agreement on Monday with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management for developing engineering designs for facility improvements at the BLM aerial firefighting base at the Twin Falls airport.

Before the 6-0 vote, there were a couple of questions from Councilmember David Johnson about why the proposal had a \$109,100 agreement with Riedesel Engineering for the designs when another firm may have charged less if bids were

sought. Through the arrangement, the city and Riedesel have an agreement for the designs, with the BLM reimbursing the city for all costs.

Johnson stressed he had no problem with Riedesel. "I want to make sure we're not just supporting a good old boys network," Johnson said.

Airport manager Bill Carberry said BLM and the airport have worked with Riedesel in the past and have a good relationship. He expressed confidence that the price was fair.

"In my opinion, I don't think it's excessive," Carberry said.

Johnson said his questions were simply part of the process of staying accountable as an elected official.

"Riedesel's not on trial," he said, before he cast his vote of approval.

Because it's a professional services agreement, there wasn't a requirement to seek bids, Carberry said. BLM's planned improvements include a building expansion, vehicle parking lot and an asphalt apron that can handle a C-130 load.

It's a long-term plan and the BLM wants to have designs ready when funding becomes available, said Larry Mabbutt, BLM avia-

tion manager.

In other business, the council voted 5-1 to change the signs posted at Dierke's Lake Park that forbid alcohol, with Councilmember Lee Heider opposing. The change will allow applicants for special events there to seek permission to have alcohol, which would require council approval.

The city considered the change at the request of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, which is planning a cardboard boat regatta at the lake. Cardboard boat regattas are sanctioned competitions that race boats built from cardboard.

T.F. accepting credit/debit cards for utility payment

Times-News

The city of Twin Falls is now accepting credit and debit cards for payments of utility bills, according to a city release Monday.

Payments can be made online or over the counter. To sign up for online payments, visit www.tfid.org and click on the "New - Pay your bill online" link.

There is a 4 percent surcharge for credit or debit card payment, which covers the processing, server hosting and accounting costs.

The city will still accept check and cash payments at City Hall. The city also plans to start using an online system for the payment of permits in a few weeks.

Castleford man sentenced in gun theft case

Times-News

Matthew T. Grill of Castleford was sentenced on Monday to a count of grand theft in a case involving stolen guns.

Grill, 23, was sentenced to three to eight years of prison with a retained jurisdiction program called a RIDER, after pleading guilty to the allegation, according to Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb.

Loeb said Monday that Grill has yet to tell authorities where the guns in question are located.

Grill was charged with grand theft in January after he was sentenced to 365 days in jail for obstructing police, a misdemeanor.

In that case, Twin Falls County sheriff's authorities accused Grill of being dishonest with them about dumping 21 stolen guns off the Owsley Bridge near Hagerman in December, which prompted two days of fruitless searching of the Snake River.

At the end of a RIDER, which usually lasts 180 days, defendants return to court, where their progress is evaluated to determine if probation is appropriate or if the rest of the original sentence will be served.

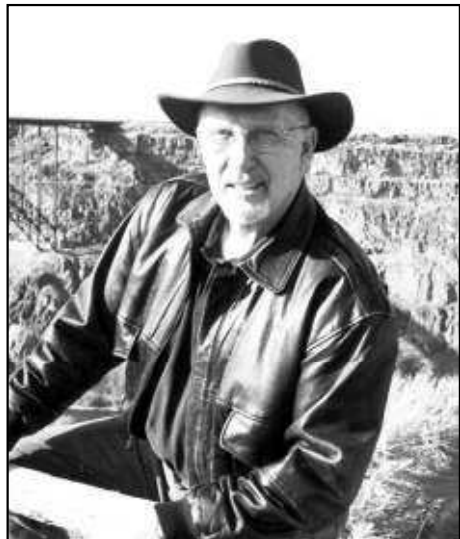
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RE-ELECT



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THE AUTHORITY SINCE 1965

Idaho priest on leave for misconduct allegations

By Todd Dvorak
Associated Press writer

BOISE — The Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise has placed a priest in Post Falls on administrative leave amid allegations that he engaged in sexually inappropriate behavior with a male under 18 nearly three decades ago.

Bishop Michael Driscoll notified members of the northern Idaho parish last weekend that the Rev. William R. Gould was placed on leave May 4.

Gould, 71, was ordained in 1965

and has served as priest at St. George's Catholic Church in Post Falls since 1990. Gould has denied the allegations, according to a statement issued Monday by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise.

"Father Gould, as well as the person who made the allegation, will remain in my prayers as this difficult situation is resolved," Driscoll said in the statement.

The bishop said he is following procedures for handling the allegations as directed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002 at the peak of a priest sexual

abuse scandal that rocked Catholic churches across the nation.

Driscoll said there is no way to determine how long it will take to investigate the case. Findings will also be sent to Rome for guidance.

Administrative leave means Gould cannot function publicly as a Catholic priest, can't wear a priest collar and is forbidden from publicly celebrating mass. The diocese is arranging to have priests fill in temporarily during Gould's absence.

The allegations date back 29 years ago when Gould was assigned

to a parish in Idaho Falls. Diocese spokesman Michael Brown said he didn't know the specific church Gould was assigned at the time the alleged inappropriate conduct would have occurred.

Brown also said he is not aware of any other accusations of inappropriate sexual behavior involving minors against Gould, who has served in parishes across the state in the last 45 years.

But Gould was placed on administrative leave in 2005 after an investigation substantiated claims he engaged in sexual misconduct

with an adult. He was sent for treatment to an out-of-state facility, then reassigned to St. George's in Post Falls at the request of the parish, Brown said.

Gould began his career as an assistant pastor in Cottonwood in 1965 before moving later that year to Twin Falls. In 1971, he was named chaplain at Sacred Heart Hospital in Idaho Falls, then associate pastor at Holy Rosary in Idaho Falls. He has also served as pastor at churches in Aberdeen, American Falls, Shelley, Arco, Mackay, Mud Lake, St. Anthony's and Roberts.

'Not in our town'



Billings Police and Fire Departments investigate a firebomb that was thrown into a medical marijuana business and 'NOT IN OUR TOWN' was spray painted on the storefront early Monday in Billings, Mont. The fire was quickly put out. Billings police are investigating. The Billings City Council is scheduled to vote Monday night on whether to place a moratorium on medical marijuana businesses. The city has issued more than 80 business licenses for the stores.

Firebomb thrown at marijuana business in Montana

By Matt Volz
Associated Press Writer

HELENA, Mont. — Someone threw a Molotov cocktail through the window of a Billings medical marijuana business early Monday and spray-painted "NOT IN OUR TOWN" on its storefront, the second such act in as many days, authorities said.

The attempted arsons come as the Billings City Council is scheduled to vote Monday night on whether to place a six-month moratorium on new medical marijuana businesses opening in the city.

A rock was used to break the glass of Montana Therapeutics at 4:30 a.m. Monday, and a beer bottle filled with gasoline was lit and thrown inside, Billings police Sgt. Kevin Iffland said. A passer-by reported the fire.

Fire crews quickly put out the small blaze, Deputy Fire Marshal Trevor Schilling said.

A day earlier, at about 5 a.m., surveillance video showed two young men spray-painting "NOT IN OUR TOWN" on the front of Big Sky Patient Care, and then throw a rock through the front door followed by a flaming bottle, Big Sky owner David

Couch said.

Nobody was injured in either instance.

Trevor McFarren, co-owner of Montana Therapeutics, said his business provides medical marijuana for about 50 people and has operated since January. Until now, the business has never had a problem, a complaint or even a bad phone call, he said.

McFarren said he believes Monday's council vote has something to do with the timing of the act that he estimated caused \$2,500 in damage.

"I'm sure they're trying to fuel the fire about (the vote)," he said. "It's more of an attack on the community than anything."

Couch also said he has not had any complaints about his business since it opened in April. He declined to say how many patients Big Sky has.

"If anything good comes out of this, it will probably be a desire for more education in the general public," he said.

Police have no suspects, Iffland said. Surveillance video may have captured what happened, but the building's owners do not want to release the video to police until they speak to their attorney, Iffland said.

ney, Iffland said.

Detectives were investigating whether the acts were done by opponents of medical marijuana businesses ahead of the council's vote or by business rivals, Iffland said.

The medical marijuana trade has boomed in Montana since the Obama administration last year said it would not prosecute medical marijuana cases. The state has approximately 15,000 patients — up from 800 in 2008 — and about 5,000 registered "caregivers" providing them with medical marijuana, according to the state Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Montana is different from other states in that it has no medical marijuana dispensaries. Instead, each patient is required to designate a caregiver who provides that patient with medical marijuana.

The growth has exposed holes in the state medical marijuana law that was

passed by ballot initiative in 2004, and the state Legislature is hearing recommendations from law enforcement, cities, schools and the medical marijuana community on changes when it goes back into session in January.

Meanwhile, Montana's cities and towns are testing different ways to deal with commercial growers. Some have banned them from their city limits; others are seeking ways to regulate them like other businesses. Several cities have imposed temporary moratoriums on new businesses, such as the one Billings' leaders are considering, while they figure out a permanent solution.

Councilman Jim Ronquillo said the council is likely to pass the six-month ban, and then another one if a solution has not been found by then.

"We want to kick it back for six months and see if we can cool these issues down," Ronquillo said.

Idaho teen who killed dad to be sentenced Wed.

BOISE (AP) — Contact the Canyon Supporters of a southwest-ern Idaho teen who fatally shot his father with a hunting rifle will hold a vigil before his sentencing on a voluntary manslaughter charge.

Zachary Neagle was a 14-year-old eighth-grader at Vallivue Middle School when he shot his father while the man slept in 2009. Neagle pleaded guilty in March as part of an agreement with prosecutors.

He is due to be sentenced at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Canyon County Courthouse in Caldwell. An hour before that, Neagle supporter Teresa Bennett said she and others will gather at the courthouse.

"It could be our last opportunity to show him he's not alone," Bennett told the Idaho Statesman.

Neagle, now 15, originally faced a first-degree murder charge in the death of Jason Neagle, 32. In the year that followed the teen's arrest, an online petition asking people to

contact the Canyon County prosecutor and urge leniency for him collected more than 640 signatures.

Last month, Neagle testified in court that his father molested him the morning of May 16, 2009, and said it was part of a pattern of abuse that began when he was 8 or 9.

Neagle contends that he believed the abuse was soon going to expand to include his younger brother and sister, then age 6 and 9, and panicked after his father started to wake up from a nap.

Jason Neagle died from a single gunshot wound in the family's Caldwell home.

Under the plea deal, Neagle faces seven years to 30 years in custody. He remains charged as an adult, but the deal calls for a sentence that could keep him in juvenile custody until he is 21.

District Judge Bradley Ford will rule on whether he'll accept the agreement at sentencing.

Fire center: Northern Rockies face big fire year

BOISE (AP) — The northwestern United States enter wildfire season with drier-than-normal conditions following a mild winter that left little snow.

Robyn Heffernan, a deputy fire weather program manager at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, blames the El Nino weather pattern that suggests higher-than-normal fire wildfire potential for the northern Rocky Mountain states.

That includes Montana, Washington, northwest-

ern Wyoming and southern Oregon, as well as northeastern California.

Though Nevada had a dry winter, it's also had a dry spring, meaning desert grasses aren't growing as quickly. It should see below-normal fire activity.

While El Nino left the northern Rocky Mountains dry, it deposited heavy snow and rain on Arizona, New Mexico and southern Utah and Colorado, meaning those areas could also see below-normal fire activity.

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The Back-up Plan PG-13
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Shows Nightly 7:25 & 9:25
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Brendan Fraser in A Fun Family/Adventure

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as the Citizens Advisory Board deliberates on cleanup at the Idaho National Laboratory Site including:

- ➔ Progress to Cleanup
- ➔ INL Site-wide 5-year Review CERCLA Long-Term Ecological Program
- ➔ Sodium Bearing Waste Integrated Waste Treatment Unit Construction--Operational Readiness Plans
- ➔ D&D Status
- ➔ DOE-ID White Paper on Spent Fuel and High-Level Waste
- ➔ Multi-Purpose Haul Road
- ➔ AMWTP Extension Modification Statement of Work

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May 12 (Wednesday), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Public question and comment sessions will be held periodically throughout the meeting. For a detailed agenda or other information, contact Robert Pence, U.S. Department of Energy-Idaho Operations Office, Federal Coordinator at 208.526.6518 or visit www.inlemcab.org.

INL Site Environmental Management
CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

The Citizens Advisory Board provides advice to the Department of Energy on issues related to the Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management cleanup.

Elena Kagan chosen by Obama for Supreme Court

For the first time, three females could be part of U.S. Supreme Court

By Ben Feller
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Obama nominated Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the Supreme Court on Monday, declaring the former Harvard Law School dean “one of the nation’s foremost legal minds.” She would be the court’s youngest justice and give it three female members for the first time.

The nomination to replace liberal retiring Justice John Paul Stevens set the stage for a potentially bruising summertime confirmation battle before the court begins its next session, though mathematically Democrats should be able to prevail in the end.

At 50, Kagan is relatively young for the lifetime post and could help shape the high court’s decisions for decades. If confirmed by the Senate, she would become only the fourth female justice in history.

Obama cited what he called Kagan’s “openness to a broad array of viewpoints” and her “fair-mindedness.”

Standing beside the president in the East Room of the White House, Kagan said she was “honored and humbled by this nomination.”

“I look forward to working with the Senate in the next stage of this process, and I thank you again, Mr. President, for this honor of a lifetime,” she said.

Republicans are expected to criticize her for attempting to bar military recruiters from the Harvard Law campus while she was dean. That issue was used against her by critics during her confirmation hearing last year for her current post.

Democratic officials said Kagan would begin making the rounds of senators’ offices on Wednesday.

With control of 59 votes in the Senate, Democrats should be able to win confirmation. However, if all 41 Republicans vote together, they could delay a vote with a filibuster.

Republicans have shown no signs in advance that they would try to prevent a vote on Kagan, but they are certain to grill her in confirmation hearings over her experience, her thin record of legal writings and her decisions at Harvard.

The senator who will preside over her confirmation hearing, Democrat Patrick Leahy of Vermont, said, “The Senate should confirm Ms. Kagan before” Labor Day.

“Our constituents deserve a civil and thoughtful debate on this nomination, followed by an up-or-down vote,” said the chairman

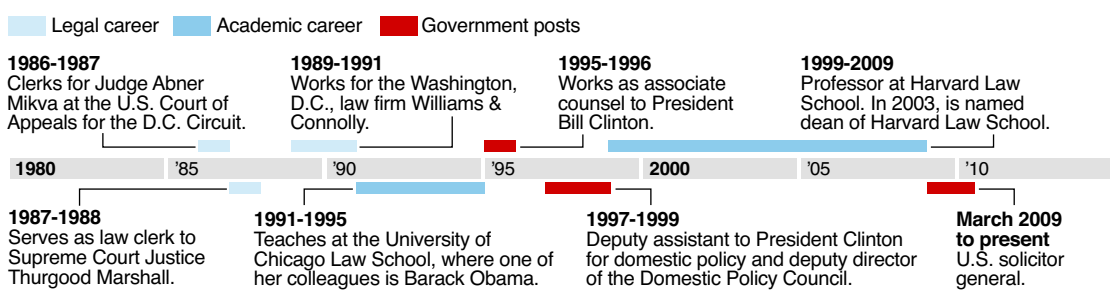


AP photo

Solicitor General and Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan looks to President Obama as she speaks during an announcement in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Monday.

Obama picks Kagan to serve on nation’s high court

President Barack Obama nominated Elena Kagan to replace retiring Justice John Paul Stevens. The nation’s only female solicitor general would give the high court three women justices for the first time. She would be the youngest justice, and the court’s sole member without prior judicial experience in almost 40 years.



AP

of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Republican Senate leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, said his party would make sure there was a “thorough process, not a rush to judgment” on the nomination.

“Judges must not be a rubber stamp for any administration. Judges must not walk into court with a preconceived idea of who should win,” he said, adding that Republicans would have a vigorous debate on that principle.

Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, top Republican on the Judiciary Committee that will conduct the confirmation hearing, said the president’s timetable for a vote by early August “should be doable.” He said Kagan’s lack of experience as a judge was a weakness but wouldn’t disqualify her.

Sen. James M. Inhofe, R-Okla., said flatly that he would oppose Kagan. He said she had shown “seeming contempt” for the Senate confirmation process and a “lack of impartiality when it comes to those who disagree with her position.”

Obama introduced Kagan as “my friend.” Kagan and Obama both taught at the University of

Chicago Law School in the early 1990s.

“Elena is widely regarded as one of the nation’s foremost legal minds. She’s an acclaimed legal scholar with a rich understanding of constitutional law. She is a former White House aide, with a life-long commitment to public service and a firm grasp of the nexus and boundaries between our three branches of government,” Obama said.

Kagan served in the Clinton White House.

Obama began with high praise for the retiring Stevens, a leader of the court’s liberals, calling him “a giant in the law,” impartial and having respect for legal precedence.

Kagan “embodies the same excellence, independence and passion for the law,” Obama said.

He noted that neither Kagan’s mother nor father “lived to see this day, but I think her mother would relish this moment. I think she would relish, as I do, the prospect of three women taking their seat on the nation’s highest court for the first time in history ... a court that would be more inclusive, more representative, more reflective of us as a people than ever before.”

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said Kagan would continue to work on cases as solicitor general but would not take on any new ones. He said the administration recognizes that, if confirmed, she will have to recuse herself from cases before the high court on which she has worked. Gibbs said that would probably amount to about a dozen in her first year.

Seven Republicans voted for her confirmation last year as solicitor general.

One of them, Orrin Hatch of Utah, a member of the Judiciary Committee, issued a statement saying his decision this time “will be based on evidence, not blind faith. Her previous confirmation and my support for her in that position do not by themselves establish either her qualifications for the Supreme Court or my obligation to support her.”

Kagan would become the only justice who had no prior experience as a judge. The other justices all served previously as federal appeals court judges. She was named to a federal appeals court by President Bill Clinton, but the Senate never brought that nomination to a vote.

Nine militia members to stay in jail for time being

By Ed White and Mike Householder
Associated Press writers

DETROIT — Nine Midwestern militia members accused of conspiring against the government must stay locked up while prosecutors challenge an order that would release them until trial, a federal appeals court said Monday.

A three-judge panel of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said it would continue a temporary stay ordered Thursday while the nine were at the federal courthouse in Detroit expecting to be released with electronic monitors.

The court said the government’s appeal should be heard swiftly but no deadline for a decision was set. The ruling raised questions about some conclusions reached by U.S. District Judge Victoria Roberts, who last week said the militia members could be released under strict conditions.

Monday’s decision was a victory for federal prosecutors, who claim the nine are a risk to the public and should remain

behind bars.

“We’re grateful for the chance to be able to argue our position,” U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade said.

Members of the Michigan-based group, called Hutaree, are charged with conspiracy to commit sedition, or rebellion, against the government and the attempted use of weapons of mass destruction. They have been in custody since late March.

Feds focus on conservation areas in Utah

By Mike Stark
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Federal officials are beginning to decide how to manage more than 100,000 acres in southwestern Utah designated by Congress last year as important for conserving plants and animals, including the threatened Mojave desert tortoise.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management said Monday it’s developing plans for the 63,500-acre Beaver Dam Wash and the 45,000-acre Red Cliffs area.

Both are newly created national conservation areas, where the top priority is preserving natural and cultural resources.

That will be a guiding principle over the next three

years or so as the BLM decides how best to manage the two areas, said Keith Rigtrup, a planner at the agency’s office in St. George.

One of the key issues will be how people use the land, particularly where they’re allowed and what kind of motorized recreation will be permitted. Motorized vehicles are currently restricted to designated roads.

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AROUND THE WORLD

UNITED KINGDOM

Gordon Brown to resign so his Labour Party can seek coalition with Liberal Democrats

LONDON — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown made a dramatic bid to keep his beleaguered Labour Party in power after it was punished in elections last week, announcing Monday he will resign by September at the latest even if the Liberal Democrats — being wooed by the Conservatives — decide to join his party in government.

The political theater, played out in front of the iconic black door of No. 10 Downing Street, comes as David Cameron's Conservatives — which won the most seats in Parliament but fell short of a majority — struggled in their attempts to win over the third-place Liberal Democrats.

Brown's party has been willing to entertain supporting the Liberal Democrats' demand for an overhaul of the voting system toward proportional representation, which would greatly increase that party's future seat tallies. But the evening brought a further twist with a counteroffer from the Conservatives — a referendum on a less dramatic type of electoral reform.

While uncertainty prevails, to the displeasure of the markets, one thing appears certain: The career of Brown — the Treasury chief who waited a decade in the wings for his chance to become prime minister — is winding to an end.

Brown, looking statesmanlike but resigned to political reality, accepted blame for Labour's loss of 91 seats in last week's election and its failure to win a parliamentary majority.

WASHINGTON

Govt: Employer health premiums will rise nearly 1 percent due to young adult coverage

WASHINGTON — Letting young adults stay on their parents' health insurance until they turn 26 will nudge premiums nearly 1 percent higher for employer plans, the government said in an estimate released Monday.

The coverage requirement, effective starting later this year, is one of the most anticipated early benefits of President Obama's new health care law. Many insurers have already started offering extended coverage to families who purchase their coverage directly. And employers say parents have flooded their benefits departments with questions.

The Health and Human Services Department released estimates of the costs and benefits of the requirement as part of a regulation directing employers and insurers how to carry it out.

The new benefit will cost \$3,380 for each dependent, raising premiums by 0.7 percent in 2011 for employer plans, according to the department's mid-range estimate. Some 1.2 million young adults are expected to sign up, more than half of whom would have been uninsured.

Extended coverage will be required starting this fall, for health plan years beginning on or after Sept. 23.

CALIFORNIA

Sunday school teacher charged in death of Central Calif girl, 8, pleads guilty to murder

TRACY, Calif. — A California Sunday school teacher accused of kidnapping, raping and killing an 8-year-old playmate of her daughter, then stuffing the body in a suitcase, pleaded guilty Monday to murder.

Melissa Huckaby, 29, entered the plea in San Joaquin County Superior Court to a charge of first-degree murder with a special circumstance of kidnapping. As part of a deal with prosecutors, all other charges — including two involving rape and lewd or lascivious conduct with a child under 14 — were dropped, according to court spokeswoman Sharon Morris.

The surprise plea came during what was scheduled to be a routine pretrial hearing Monday morning. The initial charges in the grand jury indictment last year would have made her eligible for the death penalty if convicted. Her trial had been set to begin in October.

Morris said Huckaby now faces a sentence of 25 years to life in prison without the possibility of parole when she's sentenced June 14.

Authorities say Huckaby killed Sandra Cantu, a playmate of her young daughter, in March 2009. A search for the girl ended after 10 days when her body was found stuffed in a black suitcase pulled from an irrigation pond a few miles from the Tracy mobile home park where both the child and the defendant lived.

Feds recall more kids' jewelry due to toxic metal, say they're expanding probe

LOS ANGELES — Federal regulators announced another recall of children's jewelry with high levels of the toxic metal cadmium Monday, also saying they've expanded their investigation in an effort to keep dangerous items off store shelves in the first place.

A spokesman for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission told The Associated Press its inspectors at 10 of the nation's largest ports are now screening children's jewelry — typically imported from China — for cadmium.

"Our surveillance and detection program has now been expanded" through the use of special guns that shoot X-rays into jewelry to estimate how much cadmium each item might contain, spokesman Scott Wolfson said.

Word of increased scrutiny came as the agency announced the voluntary recall of about 19,000 "Best Friends" charm bracelet sets made in China and sold exclusively at the jewelry and accessories store Claire's, which has more than 3,000 stores in North America and Europe.

ARIZONA

Organizers drop Arizona referendum drives fighting law targeting illegal immigration

PHOENIX — The two proposed referendum drives challenging Arizona's new sweeping law targeting illegal immigration are being abandoned, organizers said Monday. Andrew Chavez, a professional petition circulator involved in one of the efforts, said its backers pulled the plug after concluding they might not be able to time their petition filings in such a way as to put the law on hold pending a 2012 public vote.

Jon Garrido, the chief organizer of the other drive, attributed its end to a belief that the law would have been subject to legal protections under Arizona's Constitution if approved by Arizona voters.

The law takes effect July 29 unless implementation is blocked by court injunctions requested under at least three of the four pending legal challenges already filed by an Hispanic clergy group, police officers and other individuals.

Its provisions include requiring that police enforcing another law must question a person about his or her immigration status if there is "reasonable suspicion" that the person is in the United States illegally. It also makes it a state crime to be in the country illegally.

Critics have said the law will result in racial profiling of Hispanics. Supporters deny that and say the law will pressure illegal immigrants to leave the country on their own.

— The Associated Press

Kan. lawyer is architect of many immigration laws

By John Hanna

Associated Press writer

TOPEKA, Kan. — When politicians and police across the country want to crack down on illegal immigration, they often reach out to the same man: a little-known Kansas attorney with an Ivy League education who is the architect behind many of the nation's most controversial immigration laws.

Kris Kobach could not attend West Point because of diabetes, but he regards his efforts on immigration as a substitute for military service.

"They can't call him trailer park trash, which is the kind of comment you hear about advocates on our side," said Michael Hethmon, director of the Washington-based Immigration Reform Law Institute.

Kobach helps draft proposed laws and, after they are adopted, trains officers to enforce them. If the laws are challenged, he goes to court to defend them.

While at the White House, he created a post-9/11 Justice Department program requiring immigrants from 25 mostly Muslim nations who were already in the U.S. to re-register with the federal government. Civil libertarians argued that it led to unwarranted detentions of law-abiding immigrants.

His most recent project was advising Arizona officials on a new law that empowers police to question anyone they suspect of being in the country illegally. Critics say it violates the Constitution's provisions against unreasonable search and seizure by allowing police to engage in racial profiling.

But Kobach insists an officer stopping a crowded van for a traffic violation has a reasonable suspicion its occupants are illegal immigrants if none of them has an ID, the van is traveling a known smuggling route and the driver is evasive.

"I could not care less whether they come from Mexico or Germany or Japan or China," said Kobach, who speaks with the affable air of a college professor, even when making cutting political remarks. "An alien who also is here with terrorist intentions can carry any passport. This isn't about race or national origin."

Before the law was passed last month, Kobach spent several years consulting with its main sponsor. And he has a \$300-an-hour contract to teach deputies in Maricopa County, which includes Phoenix, to enforce immigration policies.

Detractors are not impressed by Kobach's degrees from Harvard, Oxford and Yale, or the coveted White House fellowship he served during George W. Bush's first term.

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The lawyer for Canada's so-called Prince of Pot said Monday that his client has been ordered extradited to the United States.

Marc Emery has sold millions of marijuana seeds around the world by mail over the past decade, drawing the attention of U.S. drug officials, who want him extradited to Seattle.

Emery's lawyer, Kirk Tousaw, said Canada's Minister of Justice Rob Nicholson signed off on his extradition shortly after the marijuana advocate turned himself in on Monday to authorities.

The justice minister's spokeswoman, Carole Saindon, would not comment on the order or the timing of his surrender, saying only that Emery has the option of a court appeal of the order.

The department said



AP photo

Attorney Kris Kobach poses for a photo in Kansas City, Mo. When politicians and police across the county want to crack down on illegal immigration, they often reach out to Kobach, a little-known Kansas attorney with an Ivy League education who is the architect behind many of the nation's most controversial immigration laws. Kobach helps draft proposed laws and, after they are adopted, trains officers to enforce them. If the laws are challenged, he goes to court to defend them. His most recent project was advising Arizona officials on a new law that empowers police to question anyone they suspect of being in the country illegally.

But Kobach drew attention by challenging a Kansas law that reduced tuition rates for illegal immigrants. The law survived, but frustrated conservatives took note of his work.

Mayor Lou Barletta, of Hazleton, Pa., called Kobach in 2006 to discuss a proposal to fine landlords who rent to illegal immigrants and to deny permits to businesses hiring them. Kobach later defended the law in federal court.

The mayor said he contacted Kobach after a news report quoted him saying Hazleton had the authority to enact such an ordinance, contradicting other legal scholars. "It really only took one conversation to realize that he truly knew what he was talking about," Barletta recalled.

Kobach largely wrote and then defended a similar ordinance in Valley Park, Mo., that was upheld by a federal appeals court.

Last year, he defended Farmers Branch, Texas, in a federal lawsuit targeting its landlord law. And this year, he represented residents of Fremont, Neb., outside Omaha, as they forced a vote on their own immigration proposals.

Federal judges struck down the Farmers Branch and Hazleton ordinances, but both are on appeal.

Kobach also wrote sections of a 2008 Missouri law cracking down on illegal immigration and this year drafted an unsuccessful proposal in

Idaho requiring employers to screen workers.

Kobach said he's consulted with legislators in at least six other states on various measures.

"I would say he is the brain behind most of them," said Muzaffar Chishti, director of the Migration Policy Institute's office at the New York University School of Law.

Kobach, elected Kansas state GOP chairman in 2007, quit early last year to launch a campaign for secretary of state. His first proposal for legislators: require new voters to prove citizenship when they register and make all voters show photo IDs at the polls.

"You can take steps to address the national security issues and still be left with the problem of millions of people here illegally taking jobs in a recession from lawful residents," he said.

Critics suggest Kobach's immigration work is designed to boost his political career. A "Krazy Kris Kobach" website features an anonymous blogger who exhorts followers to end Kobach's career.

Arizona state Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, a Phoenix Democrat and attorney who voted against her state's new law, said Kobach is not to be underestimated.

"What I'm concerned about," she said, "is there are all these legislators in all these states who think he's a good guy and want to take his advice."

Canada's 'Prince of Pot' ordered extradited to U.S.

By Jeremy Hainsworth

Associated Press writer

Emery's extradition was sought on charges of conspiracy to manufacture marijuana, conspiracy to distribute marijuana and conspiracy to engage in money laundering.

Emery reached a plea deal with U.S. prosecutors last year, agreeing to plead guilty to conspiracy to manufacture marijuana in return for a sentence of five years in prison.

The charges are in connection with his Vancouver, British Columbia-based seed-selling business.

Emery's wife, Jodie Emery, said she was appalled that the Canadian justice minister would

order the extradition.

"It's the worst option. We didn't even entertain it as an option," she said. "I'm just stunned."

She accused Nicholson of wanting "to silence the most vocal opponent of the drug war."

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DEATH NOTICES

Lester Duggan

BUHL — Lester Duggan, 99, of Buhl, died Sunday, May 9, 2010, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center in Twin Falls.

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 13, at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 12 at the mortuary.

Jesse B. Frame

HAGERMAN — Jesse Bayard Frame, 60, of Hagerman, died Friday, May 7, 2010, at his home.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 14, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls;

inurnment will be at the Boise Veterans Cemetery at a later date.

Dorothy Jones

Dorothy "Ruth" Jones, 88, of Twin Falls, died Saturday, May 8, 2010, at Cedar Draw Assisted Living in Filer.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at Rosenau Funeral Home, 2826 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Gordon A. Harrell

FILER — Gordon Alan Harrell, 55, of Filer, died Thursday, March 25, 2010 in Filer.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May

15, at the Hideout Tavern on Washington Street in Twin Falls; private family inurnment will follow at a later date.

Bertha Collins

MALTA — Bertha Collins, 66, of Malta, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at the Life Care Center of Boise.

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

Ronald M. Fowles

MILNER — Ronald Marion Fowles, 74, of Milner, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at his home.

Arrangements will be

announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Nile Gorringer

BURLEY — Alfred Nile Gorringer, 96, of Burley, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at Warren House Assisted Living in Burley.

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

Nellie Montgomery

GOODING — Nellie Montgomery, 93, Gooding, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at DeSano Place in Gooding.

Arrangements will be

announced by Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel.

Jack Long

GOODING — Jack Long, 70, of Gooding, died Saturday, May 8, 2010, at Helping Hands of Gooding.

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

Glenn Schutte

GOODING — Glenn Schutte, 53, of Gooding, died Sunday, May 9, 2010, at North Canyon Medical Center in Gooding.

Arrangements will be announced by Demaray

Roger A. Graefe Sr.

Roger A. Graefe Sr., 74, of Twin Falls, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at his home.

Arrangements will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Fidela R. Quintana

BURLEY — Fidela R. Quintana, 73, of Burley, died Monday, May 10, 2010, at her home.

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

SERVICES

Kay LeRoy Eames of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley; visitation one hour before the service today at the funeral home.

Elva Adell Palmer Heyman of Twin Falls, funeral at 1:30 p.m. today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Janet Dee Castaneda of Burley, funeral at 3 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley; visitation one hour before the service at the funeral home.

Janice Elaine Cicle of Twin Falls, graveside service at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Twin Falls Cemetery; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Chester M. "Chet" Bartlett Jr. of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Twin Falls LDS Stake Center, 2085 South Temple Drive.

Ruth Hiatt Bryson of Clinton, Utah, and formerly of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Twin Falls LDS 4th Ward Chapel, 667 Harrison St.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at White Mortuary in Twin

Falls and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Martha Sellars of Olympia, Wash., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial Mass at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. John's Cathedral in Boise.

Donnis June Croskey of Twin Falls and formerly of Butte, Mont., celebration of life at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Twin Falls (Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Allen Severe Hardy of Portland, Ore., and formerly of the Magic Valley area, memorial service Saturday, May 15, in Sandy, Ore.

Samuel "Blackie" Jose Martinez of Burley, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley; tree dedication and refreshments follow at Syringa Plaza Apartments in Burley.

Norma Kathleen Ploss Justice of Boise and formerly of Jerome, memorial at 2 p.m. Sunday at Eryre Rookery, Kathryn Albertson Park in Boise (Accent Funeral Home in Meridian).

Dennis Eugene Venzon of Port Angeles, Wash., and formerly of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Monday, May 17, at the John Wayne Marina in Sequim, Wash.

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Manager: Fantasy artist Frazetta, 82, dies in Fla.

By **Maryclaire Dale**
Associated Press writer

PHILADELPHIA — Pioneering fantasy artist Frank Frazetta died Monday in a Fort Myers, Fla., hospital, a manager said. He was 82.

Frazetta had been out to dinner with his daughters Sunday but suffered a stroke at his Boca Grande home later that night and was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital, manager Rob Pistella said. A hospital spokeswoman confirmed the death, as did his daughter Heidi Frazetta Grabin.

"He's going to be remembered as the most renowned fantasy illustrator of the 20th Century," Pistella said.

Frazetta created covers and illustrations for more than 150 books and comic

books, along with album covers, movie posters and original paintings. His illustrations of Conan the Barbarian, Tarzan, Vampirella and other characters influenced many later artists.

His children have fought over an estate estimated to be worth tens of millions of dollars, filing lawsuits in Pennsylvania and Florida.

His son, Alfonso Frank Frazetta, 52, was charged in December with using a backhoe to break into the artist's museum in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains and trying to remove 90 paintings insured for \$20 million. The charges were dropped late last month after two days of mediation produced a truce.

"It is resolved, but there's always new issues that can come out," daughter

Heidi Frazetta Grabin said.

Frazetta had a history of strokes, but appeared well and was still painting, she and Pistella said.

Grabin and her sister, Holly Frazetta Taylor, dined out with their father Sunday to celebrate Mother's Day, then walked with him on Englewood Beach.

"We had a lovely time, and he just talked about how beautiful the sunset was, and how his next studio was going to have windows around it overlooking the Gulf," Grabin said.

Alfonso Frank Frazetta did not return a message Monday.

A lawsuit he had filed in Florida alleged that his sisters and brother Billy were plotting to wrest control of the family business and fortune from him after their mother died in July 2009.

Barrier-breaking jazz star Lena Horne dies at 92

By **Verena Dobnik**
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Lena Horne, the enchanting jazz singer and actress known for her plaintive, signature song "Stormy Weather" and for her triumph over the bigotry that allowed her to entertain white audiences but not socialize with them, has died. She was 92.

Horne died Sunday at New York Presbyterian Hospital, said hospital spokeswoman Gloria Chin, who would not release details.

Quincy Jones, a longtime friend and collaborator, was among those mourning her death Monday. He called her a "pioneering groundbreaker."

"Our friendship dated back more than 50 years and continued up until the last moment, her inner and outer beauty immediately bonding us forever," said Jones, who noted that they worked together on the film "The Wiz" and a Grammy-winning live album.

"Lena Horne was a pioneering groundbreaker, making inroads into a world that had never before been explored by African-American women, and she did it on her own terms," he added. "Our nation and the world has lost one of the great artistic icons of the 20th century. There will



AP file photo

Singer Lena Horne, who broke racial barriers as a Hollywood and Broadway star famed for her velvety rendition of "Stormy Weather," has died at age 92.

never be another like Lena Horne and I will miss her deeply."

"I knew her from the time I was born, and whenever I needed anything she was there. She was funny, sophisticated and truly one of a kind. We lost an original. Thank you Lena," Liza Minnelli said Monday. Her father, director Vincente Minnelli, brought Horne to Hollywood to star in "Cabin in the Sky," in 1943.

Horne, whose striking beauty often overshadowed her talent and artistry, was remarkably candid about the underlying reason for her success: "I was unique in that I was a kind of black that white people could accept," she once said. "I was their daydream. I had

the worst kind of acceptance because it was never for how great I was or what I contributed. It was because of the way I looked."

In the 1940s, Horne was one of the first black performers hired to sing with a major white band, to play the Copacabana nightclub in New York City and when she signed with MGM, she was among a handful of black actors to have a contract with a major Hollywood studio.

In 1943, MGM Studios loaned her to 20th Century-Fox to play the role of Selina Rogers in the all-black movie musical "Stormy Weather." Her rendition of the title song became a major hit and her most famous tune.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

OPINION

QUOTABLE

"I wouldn't say it's failed yet. What I would say is what we attempted to do ... didn't work."
 — BP chief operating officer Doug Suttles after an attempt to use a 100-ton box to cover an oil well gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico was aborted

EDITORIAL

In her quiet way, Jones gets the job done

We didn't editorially endorse Republican Donna Jones when she ran for state controller four years ago because we thought the other candidate — Democrat Jackie Groves Twilegar — had better qualifications.

Jones, after all, doesn't have a college degree, although she has broad experience in real estate, served 12 years in the Legislature and chaired the powerful House Revenue and Taxation Committee. Groves Twilegar has a master's degree in business administration from Northwestern University and 12 years of corporate accounting experience with the FMC Corp.

But Jones has been a pleasant surprise as state controller. She had the good sense to retain the capable staff hired by her predecessor, Keith Johnson; she's handled the state's checkbook ably and she's done her due diligence as a member of the State Land Board.

And really, that's 90 percent of the state controller's job. She or he pays the state's bills. No politician is required.

Jones' challenger in the May 25 GOP primary election is Keith Hatfield, an accountant who owns a log home business. He's an outspoken opponent of national health care reform who would likely use the state controller's office as a platform to articulate his conservative views about government.

If so, he's seeking the wrong job. The three constitutional offices that control the nuts and bolts of the day-to-day operations of state government — controller, treasurer and secretary of state — work best when the boss doesn't wear ideology on his or her sleeve. Johnson (a Republican), Johnson's predecessor J.D. Williams (a Democrat) and Joe Williams (a Democrat who held the job for 30 years) were prime examples.

Jones' major new initiative has been to put the state's checkbook online; she hasn't gotten it done yet because the Legislature hasn't given her the money, but there's every indication she will if reelected.

Not a lot of headlines have come from the controller's office under Jones' watch. And that's just fine with us.

TIMES-NEWS

Brad Hurd publisher Steve Crump Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Steve Crump, Bill Bitzenburg and Mary Lou Panatopoulos.

Election letters deadline is May 19

The deadline for submitting letters to the editor about candidates and issues in the May 25 Idaho primary election is Wednesday, May 19, at 5 p.m. All election letters must be 300 words or less.

Tell us what you think

ONLINE: Register at magicvalley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition.
ON PAPER: The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.
JOIN THE DISCUSSION: Voice your opinion with local bloggers: Progressive Voice and Conservative Corner on the opinion page at magicvalley.com.

How Mexico treats illegal aliens

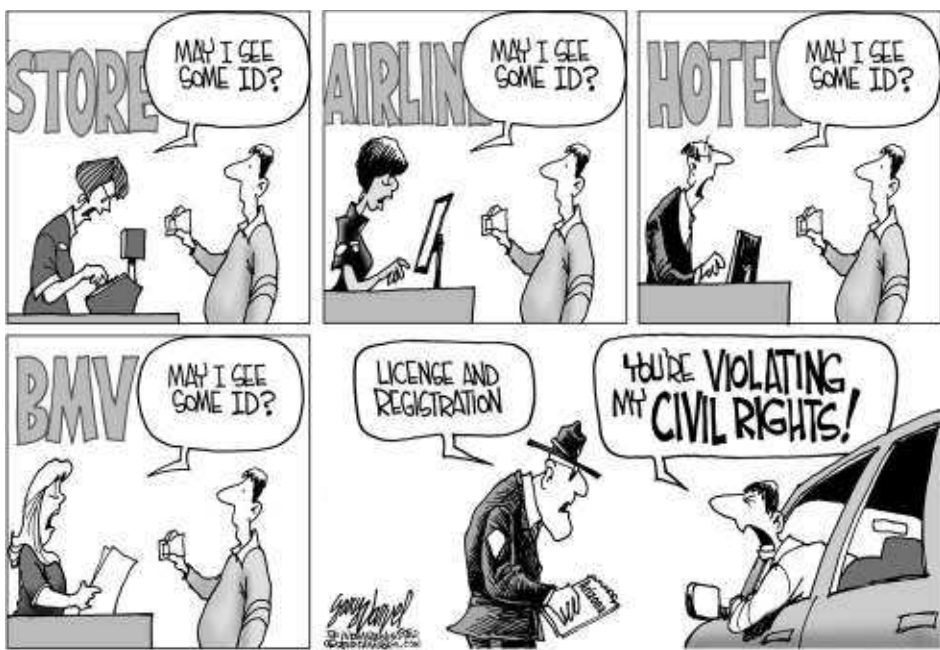
Mexican President Felipe Calderon has accused Arizona of opening the door "to intolerance, hate, discrimination and abuse in law enforcement." But Arizona has nothing on Mexico when it comes to cracking down on illegal aliens. While open-borders activists decry new enforcement measures signed into law in "Nazi-zona" last week, they remain deaf, dumb or willfully blind to the unapologetically restrictionist policies of our neighbors to the south.



Michelle Malkin

The Arizona law bans sanctuary cities that refuse to enforce immigration laws, stiffens penalties against illegal alien day laborers and their employers, makes it a misdemeanor for immigrants to fail to complete and carry an alien registration document, and allows the police to arrest immigrants proving they are in the U.S. legally. If those rules constitute the racist, fascist, xenophobic, inhumane regime, then what about these regulations and restrictions imposed on foreigners?

- The Mexican government will bar foreigners if they upset "the equilibrium of the national demographics." How's that for racial and ethnic profiling?
- If outsiders do not enhance the country's "economic or national interests" or are "not found to be physically or mentally healthy," they are not welcome. Neither are those who show "contempt against national sovereignty or security?" They must not be economic burdens on society and must have clean criminal histories. Those seeking to obtain Mexican citizenship must show a birth certificate, provide a bank statement providing economic independence, pass an exam and prove they can provide their own health care.



every member of the population, who must carry a citizens' identity card. Visitors who do not possess proper documents and identification are subject to arrest as illegal aliens.

All of these provisions are enshrined in Mexico's General Law of the Population. There's been no public clamor for "comprehensive immigration reform" in Mexico, however, because pro-illegal alien speech by outsiders is prohibited. Consider: Open-borders protesters marched freely at the Capitol building in Arizona, comparing GOP Gov. Jan Brewer to Hitler, waving Mexican flags, advocating that demonstrators "Smash the State?" and holding signs that proclaimed "No human is illegal" and "We have rights."

But under the Mexican constitution, such political speech by foreigners is banned. Noncitizens cannot "in any way participate in the political affairs of the country."

As for abuse, the Mexican government is notorious for its abuse of Central American illegal aliens who attempt to violate Mexico's southern border. The Red Cross has protested rampant Mexican police corruption,

intimidation and bribery schemes targeting illegal aliens there for years. Mexico didn't respond by granting mass amnesty to illegal aliens, as it is demanding that we do. It clamped down on its borders even further. In late 2008, the Mexican government launched an aggressive deportation plan to curtail illegal Cuban immigration and human trafficking through Cancun.

Meanwhile, Mexican consular offices in the United States have coordinated with left-wing social justice groups and the Catholic Church leadership to demand a moratorium on all deportations and a freeze on all employment raids across America.

Mexico is doing the job Arizona is now doing — a job the U.S. government has failed miserably to do: putting its people first. Here's the proper rejoinder to all the hysterical demagogues in Mexico now calling for boycotts and invoking Jim Crow laws, apartheid and the Holocaust because Arizona has taken its sovereignty into its own hands:

Hypocritas.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Constitutional question judicial candidates should be asked

The upcoming debate and argument between Justice Jones of the Supreme Court and Judge Bradbury should be very informative and interesting.

Judge John Bradbury is seeking to unseat Justice Roger Burdick in the May 25 judicial election and Justice Jones is running uncontested.

Why the debate between these two?

One question that should be asked to all three involved but probably will not be asked, is judicial preparation of a bill with amendments to the Constitution presented to the Legislature for their approval in violation of Article 2 of the Constitution?

I refer any reader to decide the question for them by reference to the foregoing Article 2 and the case State v. Bennion 112 Idaho 32 which test case provided judicial notice and opinion that the Idaho Traffic Infractions Act was constitutional.

Justice Jones was attorney general at the time and Justice Burdick, who drafted

amendments to the Trial Judges Manual both should be very knowledgeable regarding the proposed questions as it involves the oath of office.

ARLO R. KENT
Rupert

Jerome voters urged to support jail bond

On May 25, you will be asked to vote concerning a new jail for Jerome County. The current jail was dedicated in 1975 and was built to house 34 inmates. The current average daily population is 75 inmates, causing the county to house an estimated 40 inmates out of our county at an average of \$50 per day per inmate. The question is simple; we can either pay now for a new jail and use the current cost saving to help offset the lease costs or we can continue down the same path of doing nothing and pay other counties to house our prisoners. Either way, our tax dollars are going to be spent to house prisoners; we might as well keep the money in our county and not give it to other counties.

The preferred building site is in Jerome on Victory Lane near the Idaho State Police

and WOW Logistics. As Jerome County continues to grow, so does crime and its inmate population and costs. A yes vote on May 25 would give Jerome County commissioners permission to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for a new jail. In short, private investors will supply the capital and build the new jail and, in turn, Jerome County will then lease the jail from the investors, with an option to buy at the end of the lease. Jerome County will operate the new facility with its staff.

Please vote yes for the new Jerome Detention facility on May 25.

MIKE POHANKA
Jerome

Disgusted by partisan Republicans

As I live and breathe, I was in total shock when I turned to the *Times-News* opinion page of April 30 and had the pleasure of reading Robyn Bulmner's article titled, "Republicans are doing banks' bidding." It was hard to believe this "pro" Republican newspaper even allowed Robyn's article to be printed.

My husband is the one

who subscribes to the *Times-News*. He brought this article to my attention. When I spend any time reading a newspaper, I direct my efforts to reading online, the highly rated, worldwide newspaper, Christian Science Monitor, that does not print "yellow journalism."

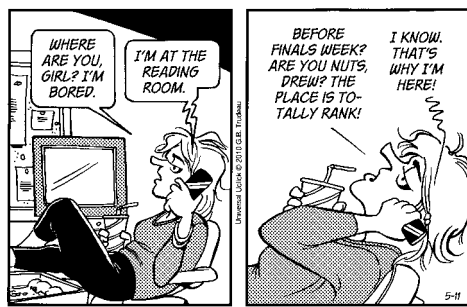
I am disgusted with what the Republican Party has become! If anyone in the Republican Party was walking around with a "diaper full of you know what" and a Democrat offered to change that "diaper," the Republican party would vote "no," and would continue to walk around with a "stinking diaper full of you know what." There is no other way to describe what the Republican Party has become and stands for.

The Republicans are sore losers and are not for the citizens or working people of this country. Their sole focus on life is "If we put out enough garbage together and dump the garbage into citizens' homes, there are idiots in the country who will swallow it and eat it up and we will win the next election!"

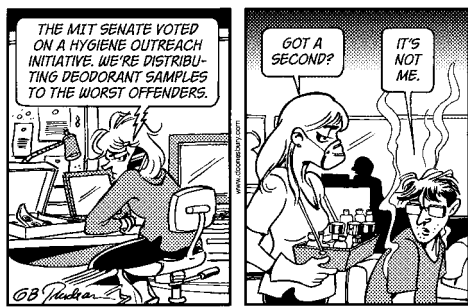
DAYLE CLICK
Twin Falls

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury



Mallard Fillmore



By Garry Trudeau



By Bruce Tinsley



Budget numbers show wisdom of conservative approach

Well, the April financial numbers are in for Idaho's state budget and perhaps there's an opportunity here to review the sound budgeting principles adopted by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and the Legislature this past winter.

April's state revenue figures came in some \$55 million below projections, and a cumulative year-to-date shortfall of about \$83 million, with two months to go in the budget year. April was the seventh month of the last ten in which revenues fell short. If the pattern continues in May and June, Idaho's 2010 budget will end with revenue of about \$2.2 billion, some \$150 million below the previous estimate of \$2.350 billion, a significant decline by any accounting.

So how has Idaho's legislature and governor handled this downdraft? The answer is, pretty darn well, and not much differently than you would in your home budget if you had experienced an almost 30 percent decline in



READER COMMENT
Rep. Stephen Hartgen

income. You would cut your expenses dramatically, "cutting the cloth to fit," to use an old phrase. That's what we legislators have done.

As the 2010 session ended in March, we approved reserves of about \$107 million, meaning the shortfall likely can be covered, says a report this week by the Legislative Service Office. We will end the budget year on June 30 with a balanced budget and no new significant tax increases. Compare this to the situation in other states, and that achievement seems even more impressive.

Despite calls from minority party legislators, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Keith Allred and their press chorus, the April number show the wisdom of this more conservative approach. As of the end of April, Idaho's budget is a

mere \$13.5 million below projections, with two months to go in the budget year.

If we had adopted the "spend more-tax more" approach advocated by legislative Democrats, we would now be in a world of financial hurt. These folks advocated a budget some \$60 million higher, and even that was lower than what they wanted. On vote after vote for agency appropriations, legislative Democrats (and an occasional Republican), voted against the recommended number. They all wanted to spend more, not less. Allred himself has the revised budget of \$2.28 billion "irrationally pessimistic." Today, we're way below that in actual collections but he's sticking by his claim that we didn't budget high enough. How would that "hokey-changey" thing have worked out if we had adopted his higher spending line?

A budget, even one as large as the state's, is essentially a balance between incoming revenue and out-

going expenses. The current recession has evaporated nearly \$800 million from two years ago, a decrease of nearly 30 percent on an original budget then of \$3.0 billion. Short of printing money (which is reserved to the federal government under the Constitution and which they seem to be doing plenty of), Idaho must adjust expenses to meet incomes every year.

Tax spenders in both parties (Yes, there are a few Republicans in this camp) argue that we have to protect the current level of state services to Idaho's people. This is a noble goal, but what they don't usually say explicitly is that taxes would have to be raised to accomplish this. Thus, when Allred advocates examining current sales tax exemptions, he is really advocating tax increases on you. There are many sales tax exemptions in Idaho law, including medicine and health care, accounting, legal services, and even one for newspapers and their production costs. We'll take these editorialists'

cries for removing these exemptions more seriously when they're willing to give up their own exemption, a position we have yet to see them adopt. Meanwhile, do you want to pay 6 percent more for health care, even before the costs of Obamacare? That's what an Allred budget of removing the health care exemption would mean.

A basic principle we legislators have tried to follow is not to spend money we do not have, and with state revenue now well below estimates, raising state spending would be imprudent at best. Allred's idea of raising the budget and then increasing taxes to fund it is simply another way to drive up costs of government at the very time we should be doing all

we can to hold them in line. It would be good for voters to keep these principles in mind as they make leadership choices.

Idaho's overall economic prospects long term continue to be good, that April's low revenue should serve as a reminder that cautious budgeting is still the best way to proceed. If they want higher state taxes and more state spending, voters should choose Allred and his Democratic minions. That would bring real change to Idaho's budget, and not for the better.

Stephen Hartgen, a Twin Falls Republican, has represented Twin Falls and Owyhee counties in the Idaho House of Representatives since 2008.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Idaho needs leaders not followers

So Lee Heider thinks Chuck Coiner should be replaced because he didn't vote with his party's majority. It's enlightening, though rare, to see a politician think for himself and stand up for what's right. Good for you, Chuck Coiner. As a Magic Valley resident, I totally agree with and appreciate your votes. You used common sense and tried to save Idaho revenue that now, because of the majority vote, will be wasted on nonsense.

If we've learned anything from politics, we've learned that the majority isn't always right. A majority of fools are still fools. A perfect example was invading Iraq.

Idaho seems to have more than its share of fools in the statehouse. Chuck Coiner is obviously not one of them. I've been trying to figure out what Butch Otter has done to make Idaho a better place. He gets his horses vaccinated every year. That's about it. Atta boy, Butch! Now maybe he should just gallop on back to the ranch and stay there.

We need a leader in Boise, not a cowpoke. Especially not one who cuts jobs and vital programs and then expects our sympathy for his having to make hard decisions. Now he and his entourage travel the state campaigning for re-election, often disguising it as "Capital for a Day," a blatant waste of tax dollars involving a silly program that should have been eliminated before any state jobs were.

We need someone with the ability to guide our state through these rough times with the help of the Legislature instead of belly-aching when things don't go his way.

Most politicians are like prescription drugs. Their value is grossly overrated; you rarely get the results that they claim they'll deliver and, in the long run, they usually do more harm than good.

KEN WHITE
Twin Falls

Buhl voter supports Jones for committeeman

I am writing to endorse Patrick Jones for the Republican Precinct committeeman in Buhl Precinct 1.

Father of 15 children, Dr. Jones operates a solo veterinary practice in Buhl and owns and operates the local animal shelter for the city of Buhl. He also is the president of Foyer de Sion Inc., a nonprofit organization that runs an orphanage in Haiti.

Patrick Jones understands the role of government at the federal, state and local level. He is concerned with the increasing disregard among our elected officials for the Constitution of the United States. Jones honors the U.S. Constitution and he understands that government power should lie in the hands of the state and local authorities, rather than the federal Legislature.

In his own words, "If you believe that the U.S. Constitution should be honored, cherished and followed, that the Bill of Rights in non-negotiable, that the greater government power should lie in the hands of the state and local authorities rather than the federal Legislature, that candidates should be accountable for their voting records and be called to task when they fail to honor their campaign promises, then I hope you will join me in making the local voices of conservative Idahoans heard."

Please support Patrick Jones on May 25 for Republican Precinct committeeman for Buhl Precinct 1.

LYNN SCHNEIDERMAN
Buhl

Business owners warn patrons about parking

To all our valued customers of El Sombrero Restaurant and Academy di Firenze in Jerome:

We first want to thank you for your continued patronage through the years. Your support has

made doing business in Jerome a pleasure! We want you to know that we are very sorry for the inconvenience of the parking issues that have come to light over the last few weeks.

We do not own the property behind our businesses and the owner of that parking lot has chosen to not allow parking during the normal week days to any of our customers. He has contracted a towing service and already has had vehicles towed at the owners' expense.

We want you to know that there is still plenty of parking on the Main Street and on the side street of Alder in Jerome, and we would like to ask you that if you are visiting our businesses to please be aware of this so that your vehicle does not end up being towed.

ROSE PAIZ
WENDY FLORENCE
Jerome
(Editor's note: Rose Paiz and Wendy Florence are the owners of the El Sombrero Restaurant and Academy di Firenze in Jerome.)

Filer voters back Coiner for Senate

We are writing to support

the re-election of Chuck Coiner to the Idaho State Senate from District 24.

He is very knowledgeable on the vital water issues so crucial to all of us.

He has broad-based experience and wisdom on the other important issues such as farming and resource management and conservation.

We urge voters to be informed and vote for Chuck Coiner for the benefit of all Idaho.

GERALD TEWS
NANCY TEWS
Filer

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responsibility (n)

- reliable or dependable in fulfilling the obligation that one promises

You have a responsibility to your family; we have one to you.



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BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: More showers. High 49.

Tonight: Lighter showers. Low 35.

Tomorrow: Partial clearing. High 57.

ALMANAC - BURLEY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation. Rows include Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and Month to Date statistics.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Map of Idaho showing weather forecasts for various regions including Sun Valley, Boise, and Northern Utah. Includes a legend for weather symbols and a key for state extremes.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Five-day forecast table for Twin Falls with columns for Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Includes icons for weather conditions and high/low temperatures.

Yesterday's Weather

Table listing weather data for various Idaho cities including Boise, Challis, Coeur d'Alene, and others, with columns for High, Low, and Precipitation.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, and Humidity. Rows include Yesterday's High/Low, Normal High/Low, Record High/Low, and Month to Date statistics.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table showing weather forecasts for various Idaho cities like Boise, Burley, and Coeur d'Alene, with columns for Today, Tomorrow, and Thursday.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table showing weather forecasts for various national cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, and others, with columns for Today, Tomorrow, and Thursday.

WORLD FORECAST

Table showing weather forecasts for various international cities like Moscow, Paris, London, and others, with columns for Today, Tomorrow, and Thursday.

Moon Phases section showing icons for New, First, Full, and Last moon phases with their respective dates.

Moonrise and Moonset section showing times for today, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Today's U.V. Index section showing a scale from 1 to 10 and a current index of 5.

Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: "Consciously cultivating thankfulness is a journey of the soul, one that begins when we look around us and see the positive effects that gratitude creates."

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table showing weather forecasts for various Canadian cities like Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

National weather map showing temperature ranges and weather icons across the United States.

Stock futures surge on central bank actions

By Stephen Bernard, Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Stock futures skyrocketed Monday after European leaders agreed to a nearly \$1 trillion rescue plan to avoid a major debt crisis and the U.S. Federal Reserve said it would also provide loans overseas.

of the euro, which is used by 16 countries, could be in trouble. The euro rose Monday against the dollar. "Europe has unequivocally said, 'We will defend the euro's integrity,'" said Oliver Pursche, executive vice president at Gary Goldberg Financial Services in Suffern, N.Y.

4.7 percent, Germany's DAX index surged 4.6 percent, and France's CAC-40 rallied 9.2 percent. Japan's Nikkei stock average rose 1.6 percent. The U.S. Federal Reserve and other central banks also stepped up with financial support to help head off what some analysts believe could have been a broader financial crisis.

Stocks were incredibly volatile at the end of last week as investors shrugged off signs of an improving U.S. economy and focused on European sovereign debt problems. The Dow fell 5.7 percent last week to erase its gains for the year, while broader indexes fell even further. On Thursday alone, the Dow was down nearly 1,000 points late in the day before recovering some of those losses.

marketplace,' Pursche said. He noted the lack of turbulence in previous months was abnormal and that problems still remain. Some European countries still need to enact austerity measures and unemployment remains high in the U.S., Pursche said.

In Iraq's bloodiest day of 2010, attacks kill 100

By Rebecca Santana and Lara Jakes, Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — A man with explosives strapped to his body blew himself up in a crowd, bombers struck a southern city and gunmen sprayed fire on security checkpoints in Iraq's deadliest day this year.

anyone.' More than two months after the March 7 election, Iraq's main political factions are still struggling to put together a ruling coalition. Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's Shiite bloc has tried to squeeze out election front-runner Ayad Allawi — a secular Shiite who was heavily backed by Sunnis — by forging an alliance last week with another religious Shiite coalition. The union, which is just four seats short of a majority in parliament, will likely lead to four more years of a government dominated by Shiites, much like the current one.

troops in Iraq over the next four months. The U.S. and Iraq have claimed major blows against al-Qaida in Iraq over the last month — most notably the killings of two militant leaders Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri in an April 18 raid on their safe-house near Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit.

The worst violence hit the Shiite city of Hillah, the capital of Babil province 60 miles south of Baghdad. First, two parked car bombs near a textile factory exploded as workers were leaving the factory around midday, said Babil provincial police spokesman Maj. Muthana Khalid.

AP photo of an Iraqi soldier standing guard at the site of a bombing in Basra, Iraq. Includes caption: An Iraqi Army soldier stands guard at the site of a bombing in the southern Shiite port city of Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, 340 miles southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, Monday.

IDAHO COIN GALLERIES advertisement featuring 30 Years Same Location, Buy & Sell, and Open Only Tuesday - Wednesday & Thursday.

The Herrett Forum presents Dr. Skip Lohse, Idaho State University Professor of Anthropology, 'Reconstructing the Paleo-Indian Lifeway in Idaho and the Far West'.

Claude's Sports Golf Sale advertisement featuring Sun Mountain Push Carts, All Golf Equipment, Ladies Complete Set Golf Clubs, and Innova Disk Golf.

Calling all southern Idaho urban gardeners

Yes, even agricultural southern Idaho has urban gardeners.

As more of the region's population lives in cities instead of farms, cramped-but-creative gardeners learn to use space wisely to regain a closer connection with their food.

Will that be you this season? The *Times-News* is

looking for people who cram vegetable gardens into tiny spaces; use unusual spots such as public lots or street-side boulevards for their veggies; or rely on pots, balconies, window boxes or roofs to grow food.

If that describes you or someone you know, contact photographer and writer Meagan Thompson this week at meagan.thompson@lee.net or 735-3251.



Parsley starts labeled with the names of children in Lisa Thilmont's second-grade classroom at Hailey Elementary School are growing quickly, thanks to nutrient-rich worm 'tea' made by the students.

Wriggly

and gross, but good for your garden



Schools learn composting, make fertilizer from worms

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

HAILEY — To an 8-year-old kid, what could be grosser than a hundred worms oozing across each other under a moldy banana peel?

For students in the second and third grades at Hailey Elementary School, worms are a part of daily life — the kids feed them scraps, monitor their health and, once a week, pour water through the worm bins to collect nutrient-rich "tea."

Teachers Iliana Sandoval and Lisa Thilmont first got the idea of bringing worm bins into the classrooms at a Boise conference, and they quickly persuaded their principal to fund a multidisciplinary project around the bins.

"It was a great way to integrate all the subjects," Sandoval said, describing how the students have applied math, vocabulary, biology and environmental studies, among others, to the red wiggler worms. The school district is moving toward project-based learning, she said, so this was a good test of how it would work in a classroom.

The bins were in Thilmont's classroom for the first semester of the year and now sit in a corner of Sandoval's, with plastic party cups under each bin's spigot to help catch leaks.

"It's gotten to a point where they (the kids) do the whole process; I just observe," Sandoval said.

Of course, the students did have to get over that initial "gross" factor, and there are still parts of the process that get their noses wrinkled up.

"You want to faint when you smell it," said Gustavo Perez, 8, of Bellevue, talking about the worm tea. He's not wrong; it's a pretty pungent odor for the few moments that the liquid — which contains a few of the tiny worms that filter through with the waste nutrients — is open to the air.

Perez volunteers facts about the worms' diet: "They can eat bananas and lettuce, but no oils or meat, no mayonnaise. ... If a worm dies, another worm will eat the worm."



Photos by ARIEL HANSEN/Times-News

Kasey Johnson, 8, of Hailey, holds up a bucket of worm 'tea' — water infused with the nutrients from worms' waste — before pouring it into a recycled water bottle to sell. Hailey Elementary School second- and third-grade classes use the worms as part of multidisciplinary learning, and proceeds from the sale of the nutrient-rich liquid go to charity.



Eeww! Hundreds of red wiggler worms dangle from the bottom of a composting worm bin layer in Iliana Sandoval's third-grade classroom at Hailey Elementary School. Students have learned math, biology, environmental awareness and other subjects through the worm bin project.

Many of the kids have taken bottles of worm tea home for use on houseplants and, now that the weather is warm enough, vegetable gardens.

"The first day, it (the plant) was like this," said Cearter Strobe, 8, of Hailey, bending his knees and crouching, "and the second day it was like this," he said, straightening to his full height with a flourish.

The worm tea is poured into plastic water bottles

rescued from the recycle bin, and labels hand-decorated by the kids are taped on. The tea is sold to parents and other visitors to the school for a donation of a dollar or two per bottle, and the proceeds go to a charity that helps those affected by the earthquake in Haiti.

"My mom used it to make her plants big, and now she keeps buying more and more," said Yasmin Torres, 8, of Hailey. "Instead of throwing out the peels of



Occasionally, stray worms make it through the filter when Hailey Elementary students make worm tea — which one student describes as so stinky 'you want to faint.' The nutrient-rich 'tea' increases plant growth and production by 20-30 percent.

WANT WORMS?

- Visit Hailey Elementary School on Mondays to buy bottles of worm tea, or visit the school's worm-bin website at thewormteaproject.com for videos, descriptions and photos of the process.
- Mario de Haro Marti, University of Idaho Extension educator at the Gooding County office, has examples of different kinds of worm bins at his office, and he is eager to share tips and tricks and to connect producers and purchasers of worm castings and worm tea. Call him at 934-4417.

bananas, we can use them to make more worm tea."

Worm tea isn't the only useful thing that comes from worm bins, said Mario de Haro Marti, a University of Idaho Extension educator at the Gooding County office.

"Worm castings are the top organic natural product and fertilizer; they are better even than normal compost if they are done properly," he said, describing the waste the worms leave behind. "Some people use the tea,

which has bactericide and insecticide properties, to make the plants grow."

De Haro Marti is trying to put together an association of local producers of worm castings so the supply will be consistent enough to sell it on the Internet. Separately, students at Gooding High School are running a worm and composting process to support the school's greenhouse program. "The idea is to run some trials at the school on tomatoes at the greenhouse, to show the

students and the public this is the difference," he said.

Growers using worm castings or worm tea can expect a 20 to 30 percent increase in the size and productivity of their plants, and the bins are affordable enough to be used even on a small scale. "It can be done at a house level, or up to municipal level or institutional level," de Haro Marti said. "It provides not only nutrients but acids, and it stimulates the microorganisms to work better in the soil."

And they aren't as gross as 8-year-olds might assume.

"The worm bins you can get today are so user-friendly and they don't smell," said Jill Metcalfe, owner of G'Day Care in Hailey, who bought a bin to teach her preschoolers about recycling after purchasing worm tea from the Hailey Elementary students. "Kids today need to know the cycle of life and where we get our food from and what happens to our leftovers."

Next year, the elementary school kids will be taking that cycle a step further, with the first grade growing a vegetable garden — for which the second and third grades will supply worm tea and castings.

"It would be a beautiful world if every single room had a worm bin," Thilmont said.

Ariel Hansen may be reached at ahansen@magic-valley.com or 788-3475.

This 36-volt lawn mower with a fixed battery weighs only 62 pounds and cuts an 18-inch path.



Courtesy of Black & Decker

Charging mower battery is cheap way to cut the grass

DEAR JIM: My old gasoline lawn mower needs service again. I thought about buying a cordless, battery-powered walk-behind mower. Will charging its battery drive up my electric bills, and do they work well? — **Greg M.**

DEAR GREG: To answer your second question first, I have tested and used many cordless lawn mowers since they first came out more than a decade ago. I have been extremely happy with most of them and would not switch back to a gasoline-powered one. There was only one model I did not like and its production was discontinued more than five years ago.

Most of the newer rechargeable cordless lawn mowers are designed to have enough electric charge to cut the typical 1/3-acre house lot. This is assuming a medium length grass to be cut — perhaps one-week growth maximum. If you cut your grass less often and let it grow tall between cuttings, a gasoline-powered mower might be better for you.

Gasoline lawn mowers, especially older ones, produce huge amounts of air pollution, are noisy and require disposal of old engine oil. Newer overhead-valve engine designs are cleaner, but still produce pollution.

Cordless models produce no pollution where they are used. Some pollution is created at the electric plant, but it is much easier to control pollution from one electric plant stack than from thousands of gasoline mower mufflers.

The only drawback to a cordless lawn mower is it is heavier than many gasoline-powered models and is not self-propelled. I have a sloped lot with many soft mole hills, so it is a bit of a chore pushing the cordless mower up the slope, but not excessively difficult. Since a cordless mower starts by just pushing a button, it is easy to stop anytime and rest. It can also be recharged while you are resting.

The most powerful new cordless mowers use a 36-volt battery. I just started using one, and it does have adequate power to cut through tall grass and

SENSIBLE HOME

James Dulley



weeds. Some 24-volt models are up to 15 pounds lighter and easier to push. I used 24-volt models for many years and they had adequate power for typical grass cutting tasks.

Most cordless chargers consume from about 45 or 90 watts of electricity and provide a full charge overnight. At an electric rate of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, it costs only about 5 to 10 cents for each cutting. This is magnitudes less than the total cost to use a gasoline mower.

My favorite model is the 36-volt Black & Decker CM1936 cordless mower.

Other than its power, the best feature of the CM1936 mower is the battery is removable. This comes in handy for storing the mower in a backyard shed or when using the mower away from your house. The battery can be placed near an electrical outlet. The charger connector can be plugged directly in the removed battery or into the mower with the battery still installed.

DEAR JIM: I have an electric water heater which costs a lot to operate.

I want to set the water temperature lower to save some money. The water heater has two elements and thermostats. Which should I set lower? — **Mike M.**

DEAR MIKE: You can save a significant amount on your electric bills by reducing the water temperature. The lower thermostat/element is the main one. The upper element comes on when it is running low on hot water.

You should set both upper and lower thermostats lower to the same temperature. A target of 120 degrees is good. If you leave the top one set higher, you will have more hot water, but the savings will be less.

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

Part art, part plant

Try container gardening this season — in a pretty pot you make yourself.

Next week in Home & Garden

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Got overflow? Purge, then organize your self-storage unit

By Judy Hevrdejs
Chicago Tribune

America, you've got stuff. Amish armoires and barbecue grills. Granddad's beer-stein collection and grandma's mahogany dining-room table. Christmas decorations and oak veneer Malm chests you bought for your teens.

Chances are you've piled it all into a self-storage unit.

So have a few of your fellow Americans, judging by the 2.2 billion square feet of self-storage facilities peppering the country.

What's with that? Why are we paying to store stuff we don't — or almost never — use?

Is it because you're between homes? A sentimental softy? Or do you just not have time to sort through 10 years of Architectural Digests and your husband's college CD collection?

Grant K. Gibson understands your conundrum. The San Francisco-based interior designer just helped a client winnow down the contents of a \$1,000-a-month storage unit.

"We sorted through everything, and we brought it all into the basement of their home and stored it in large Tupperware-type things and labeled them," he says. "And then we got rid of all the junk."

Gibson, like most designers, has his own self-storage. He's got a small (\$90-a-month) unit filled with some furniture and leftover fabrics (never know when a project's going to need repair) and a blow-up bed. It helps him keep his own house orderly. This is a guy, we should note, who moved from a 200-square-foot New York apartment to a 250-square-foot place in San Francisco to a 1,000-square-foot apartment — and is dreaming of a house.

"If I see something that I think — this is just so beautiful maybe I can use that someday when I buy a house — I store it," he says. "I think that's sort of what I see clients doing as well." Designers often store finds they know that clients will someday use, and even pieces that they rotate in and out of their own homes. It's a well-known hazard of those who love to decorate.



YOUR LIFE IN STORAGE

Here's how to make self-storage work for you:

Do store pieces you use periodically (holiday decorations, etc.).

Don't store important family heirlooms and documents.

Do store sensitive items (art, wine) in a climate-controlled unit.

Do organize it. Designer Grant K. Gibson has a photo inventory and list of everything in his unit. Otherwise, stuff "is going to get lost in there, and you're never going to remember you have it."

Do use covered plastic containers to avoid mold and mildew.

Do label stuff. "Once things have a home," says Gibson, "you tend to keep more organized."

Do choose a secure self-storage facility. "You want to be comfortable with the place," says Timothy Dietz, of the Self-Storage Association. "You want to walk in and see the security."

Do make sure, Dietz says, that "your homeowners insurance policy covers self-storage off-premise; if it doesn't, look into tenant insurance."

"If I see something that I think — this is just so beautiful maybe I can use that someday when I buy a house — I store it"

— Interior designer
Grant K. Gibson

New York uber-designer Miles Redd used to have self-storage space. One day, though, "I looked at what I paid in storage, and I got rid of it. I do not want to be attached to this kind of stuff," he says, of items that ranged from furniture purchased for interior decorating projects to books.

It has, he says, taken his mother 10 years to sift through all the stuff in his grandmother's home ("a Depression-era baby — she saved string"). "I don't want that kind of legacy."

But there's more than sentimentality involved in opting for a self-storage unit — it's also a lifestyle choice. "People moving, transitioning households is about 50 percent of the industry," says Timothy Dietz, spokesman for the Self-Storage Association

based in Alexandria, Va., citing retirees, soldiers, college students and small-business folks among the most common users.

"You also have a lot of other folks who have chosen to make self-storage a permanent part of their lifestyle, because they want to make their garage into a family room or they want to make their basement into a theater room," he says.

Still, says Gibson, "For the most part, I really see grandma-type stuff in there, or this is a family piece that my great-aunt or grandma had, and because it's a family piece, I can't get rid of it," he says.

"The other thing is, I think people maybe get lazy, and they put it in the storage unit because they don't have to think about it," he says. "Out of sight, out of mind!"

His suggestion: Get help — from a designer or organizer or a friend — to come in and say, "Let's clean this up," Gibson says.

"Storage is the stopgap for us to get our mind around what we really need," says Redd. "Edit your life."

Or at least edit your storage unit.

'CLEAN HOUSE' GURU: SIFT, THEN STORE

Since she began hosting "Clean House" on Style Network seven seasons ago, Niecy Nash has been tackling homes "possessed by possessions" with a team of experts. Nash, an actress, comedian and mother of three, also knows how hard it is to sort through "stuff."

Here's how she gets it under control:

How much is too much?

"If the things that you have have overwhelmed your space, they automatically become clutter," says Nash. "You want to see whether or not the thing you're holding onto is something that you are using. If you're not using it, then you may want to rethink why you still have it."

How do I start?

"You're looking around your whole house, and you're like, 'I've got stuff everywhere' — well, you have to remind yourself to eat the elephant one bite at a time. You didn't wake up overnight and have a house that looked like this. So tackle it a little bit at a time."

And then?

"You want to store things in clear containers so that you can see right away what you have. That's the way to keep up with it."

So I want to keep it, what now?

"Everything should have a place. You know sometimes you have stuff that is seasonal — certain things you hold onto because you know you're going to use them again. But if you know you're not going to use it again — or you have no idea when you may use it again — then that's when you need to consider letting it go."

Should you store at home or off-site?

"Well, if you have a reasonable amount and space and you can store something in a way that is neat and organized and you can keep up with it, that's one thing. But if you don't have the space, you may want to consider storage. I like to keep things at home because they're easily accessible, and storage can be expensive."



Nash

How to fix the drippy bathroom

By Karen Youso
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Q: I get excessive moisture in my bathroom, to the point that walls and windows drip water even though I run the exhaust fan.

A: Be sure the fan actually exhausts (you should see the fan housing on the roof or wall above the fan). It should not exhaust to the attic or other interior space. Also: Check the fan for effectiveness. Pull apart a two-ply facial tissue and hold it up to the operating exhaust fan. If it pulls and holds the tissue to it, it's probably effectively exhausting the bathroom.

Run the fan longer. Many people make the mistake of running the exhaust fan

only when showering or bathing. It needs to run for 15 or more minutes after you've showered or bathed. (Noisy fans are annoying, so people often turn them off before they can finish their work. If you decide to replace your fan, get as quiet a model as possible.)

CLEANING CORNER

Question:
As you suggested, I'm starting my spring cleaning by tackling all my hard surface floors. Holy cow Lori! My back and knees are killing me! I've tried using a mop, but they leave a lot of streaking behind. I'm only half way through my house and my body says "no more!"
"On my knees for help!"

Answer:
I know what you mean about mops leaving streaks... not the Don Aslett Microfiber Mop! It'll remove dirt and grime on even your toughest floors. Save your back and knees. Don't clean another floor without one.

P.S. During May get a FREE bottle of Clean & Brite or Wood Wash floor cleaners with the purchase of a Don Aslett Mini Pro Mop.

Frustrated with a stubborn cleaning problem? Write or e-mail your questions to:
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B.C. By Mastroianni and Hart

SEE HOW THE MOMMA RAPTOR TENDS TO HER EGGS.

CHOMP

CRUNCH CRUNCH

I DON'T THINK THOSE WERE RAPTOR EGGS.

OH, THE HUMANITY!

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Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

DAD! DAD! DAD!

DAD! DAD!

YOU MAY NOT GO UP INTO THE--

ATTIC WITH ME.

AW! PLEASE?

©2010 Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

WHACK!!

SARGE HITS THE BALL HARDER THAN ANYONE I'VE EVER SEEN!

DO YOU THINK HE'S "ON" SOMETHING?

YOU MEAN, BESIDES "PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING PIZZA"?

©2010 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved. 5-11 GREG+MORT WALKER

Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake

HONEY, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I DON'T WANT TO DISCUSS WORK THIS EVENING

OH, THAT'S TOO BAD, DEAR. I HAD A GREAT CATERING DAY TODAY!

YOU DID? YOU HAD FUN?!

OF COURSE, SWEETHEART... I GENERALLY DO

GEEZ LOUISE, WHAT'S FAIR ABOUT THAT?!

©2010 by Dean Young & Stan Drake

Dilbert By Scott Adams

CAROL, FORM A TIGER TEAM TO MOVE THE JUNK FROM THE SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM.

I'M GLAD YOU CALL IT A TIGER TEAM SO I DON'T FEEL SAD THAT MY JOB INVOLVES RELOCATING JUNK.

COULD I BE LESS HAPPY RIGHT NOW?!

I ORDERED TIGER COSTUMES.

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The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

What are you up to now, Axe?

Pasta with a garlic fennel marinara at the moment

I've been getting reports of missing property all over Elderpark...

Given your history, you can understand my suspicion.

Given your history, you can understand why the next words from my mouth will contain "tattletale," and why your hair's about to contain garlic and fennel marinara.

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For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

DADDY SAY WE LEAVE HIM ALONE AN' GO HELP MOMMY.

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Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

"DOGS PLAYING ONLINE POKER"

POKER

POKER

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Garfield By Jim Davis

ODD LOOKING BALL OF YARN

THAT SPAGHETTI WAS FOR DINNER!

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Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

DO YOU REALIZE ALL THAT POUNDING IS GIVING THE QUEEN A TERRIBLE HEADACHE?!

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Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

WOOF! WOOF! WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO WAKE UP AT THE SOUND OF SEVEN WOOF!

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Luann By Greg Evans

SO ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE A CD WITH QUILL?

I GUESS

I STILL DON'T GET WHAT YOU'LL RECORD. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CAN STEAL LADY GAGA SONGS

MAYBE PUBLIC DOMAIN STUFF?

MAYBE

"LUANN SINGS THREE BLIND MICE, THE FARMER IN THE DELL AND PAT-A-CAKE, PAT-A-CAKE." SHOULD BE A BIG SELLER

©2010 by Greg Evans

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

NO, THAT'S NOT A STAR... IT'S A COMET..

HOW DO I KNOW? IT SAYS SO ON THE SIDE..

HE NEVER BELIEVES ANYTHING I TELL HIM..

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Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

ALL RISE. RAT, THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF THE UNIVERSE, IS NOW PRESIDING, WITH A JUDGMENT ON THE MOST PRESSING ISSUE OF OUR AGE.

WHAT NOW?

I HEREBY DECREE THAT ANYONE GAINING THIRTY OR MORE POUNDS MUST— AND I MEAN MUST— UPDATE THEIR 'FACEBOOK' PHOTO.

THAT'S THE MOST PRESSING ISSUE OF OUR AGE?

IT'S VERY ANNOYING.

WILL THERE BE PRISON TIME INVOLVED? :o)

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Pickles By Brian Crane

GRAMMA WAS JUST HERE LOOKING FOR YOU, GRAMPA.

ARE YOU REALLY READING THE PAPER OR JUST HIDING FROM GRAMMA?

NELSON?

©2010 by Brian Crane

Rose is Rose By Pat Brady

I'M GETTING SOAKED!

HE'S AT IT AGAIN!

REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE HAD A QUIET DAY AT HOME?

HE GOT A TELESCOPING SCRUBBING BRUSH!

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Non Sequitur By Wiley

MAYBE DADDY HAS FORGOTTEN I'M GROUNDING HIM NOW

I DOUBT IT

OH, C'MON...

...IT'S BEEN SO LONG, I CAN'T REMEMBER WHY I GOT GROUND IN THE FIRST PLACE!

A-HEM

WABT..

FOUR WORDS.. "CHERRY BOMB" AND "TROUT FARM"...

OH, YEAH.. WELL... WHAT-EVER

©2010 Wiley

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

A GIFT FOR THE KING FROM YOUR PALS, THE TROJANS

TELL THEM THANKS BUT NO THANKS. IT'S NOT REALLY MY TASTE

I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE GONE WITH MAHOGANY

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Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketchum

"MIND IF WE STAY WITH YOU TILL IT STOPS?"

©2010 by Hank Ketchum

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

JEREMY, DO YOU HAVE A MIN--

WHY DO YOU GET THAT APPROACHING-A-WATERFALL-IN-A-CANOE LOOK ON YOUR FACE WHENEVER I WANT TO TALK TO YOU?

SORRY

ANYWAY, I FOUND THIS ARTICLE ON BIRTH CONTROL THAT I WANTED TO SHARE...

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Ad Space Open

Contact Kate Essma at 208-735-3298 • Kate.Essma@magicvalley.com

Draperies are back in favor

For around \$300, they can transform a room

By Stacy Downs
McClatchy Newspapers

After more than a decade, draperies are finally getting their curtain call.

Windows for years were unadorned, except for subtle shades or wooden blinds. Now the fabric is back, even in minimalist interiors.

"Draperies add elegance while softening the room, making it cozier," said interior designer Sherry Worth of Overland Park, Kan. "They also hide ugly views and create privacy. I think people have come to realize bare is boring, and when windows are naked, they're truly naked."

The main reason Worth appreciates draperies: For \$300 or so, they can transform a room.

"That's the least expensive thing you can do besides paint," she said. "It's certainly less expensive than remodeling or moving into a new home."

However, Worth can see how others feel scared of window treatments. Many of us are still experiencing flashbacks of goopy draperies with heavy valances and yards of fabric mounding at the floor.

But the majority of today's styles are timeless side panels that merely frame the window. Gone is anything fussy.

"Customers want transitional, something that's in between traditional and modern," said interior designer Chrissy Roelchen, who works at the drapery showroom of One Stop Decorating in Overland Park. "They're going for simple styles."

Form and function

Although panels typically are used for enhancing the mood of a room, draperies can be used to solve problems. Hanging in front of windows, they can keep a room warm or cool, insulating us from the outside temperatures. They also can darken a room from blinding sunlight in the morning.

For those issues, Roelchen recommends lining draperies with special felt-like fabrics. Lined draperies also are fuller and



MCT photos

Jaclyn Banash, owner of Urban Dwellings Design in Kansas City, had these drapes custom made for her home in Leawood. The rod, also a custom piece, is made of wood and painted to resemble a metallic rod.



Drapery medallions are used to hang custom-made drapes at One Stop Decorating in Overland Park, Kan.

tend to hang better.

Draperies can disguise architectural flaws, too. For example, strategically hung curtains can conceal the problem of a window installed off center in the room.

Dressy or casual?

Silk draperies typically go in dining rooms and sometimes master bedrooms, Roelchen said. Customers want casual draperies for family and hearth rooms.

"They're going for bolder but casual looks in lower levels and rec rooms," she said. "They're taking more risks, with bigger, more playful prints in basements."

Color and pattern

Worth cautions clients about being too trendy with draperies, because the price tag can add up.

"You don't necessarily want the latest color or pattern, because you don't want to change them out every three years," she said. "Stick with classics, maybe even solid colors, unless you can sew. If you do want something trendy, buy a pillow or candle in the hot color."

How about height?

Worth says to hang a drapery rod at least 4 to 6 inches above the window trim — ideally just below the ceiling trim — to make a



Store bought drapery panels were lengthened by interior designer Sherry Worth of Overland Park, Kan.

WHAT'S HOT

Fabrics: Bigger prints, especially geometrics such as diamond patterns. There's a lot of banding, where one fabric (often a solid color) is outlined with another fabric (sometimes prints).

Trims: Wooden beading, capiz shells and brushed fringe.

Styles: Side panels. For top treatments, spare cornices — not valances. Grommets at the top give the drapes a casual feel. French pleats add some fullness to panels.

Hardware: Streamlined, industrial rods. Silver-colored and oil-rubbed bronze finishes are popular. Mixing metals lends a warmer, more lived-in look.

Tiebacks: Metal holdbacks are more popular than traditional fabric ties or tassels, though for a sleek and casual appearance, panels usually hang without tiebacks.

Drapery shopping: The 5 essentials

1. **Fabric samples** such as a furniture arm cover.
2. **Paint swatches** of the wall colors.
3. **Photos of the room**, especially the windows.
4. **Pictures** from design publications showing drapery looks you like.
5. **Measurements** if you're buying ready-made draperies.

room appear grander yet create a cocoon-like coziness.

Roelchen thinks the bottom of drapery panels should skim the floor or come just above it.

"You definitely don't want yards and yards of puddling," she said. "That would be a throwback."

Tankless water heaters cost more to purchase, but less to operate

By Al Heavens
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Q: I'm hoping you can give a brief explanation of the tankless water heater. I can't seem to make my husband understand. Our water heater is on the opposite side of our house from the bathrooms and laundry room. Consequently, it takes running the water a long time before we get any warm/hot water. Isn't the tankless heater something that allows you to tap into hot water on demand?

A: That's true. Tankless units cost more than storage heaters, but since you are not heating a big tank of water 24 hours a day, they cost less to operate.

Although more complete examples are available at the Web sites of manufacturers — Bosch, Rinnai, Noritz, Paloma, Rheem, Titan, Takagi, PowerStar, Eemax, and Seisco — here are a few basics to present to your husband, who shares the skepticism of a lot of plumbers.

Heating water accounts for 20 percent or more of a typical household's annual energy expenditures, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. The yearly operating costs for conventional storage-tank water heaters average \$200 for gas units, \$450 for electric ones.

Storage-tank water

heaters raise the temperature to the setting on the tank, usually between 120 and 140 degrees, and maintain it there. Even if no hot water is drawn from the tank (and cold water enters the tank), the heater will operate periodically to maintain the temperature.

This is the result of what is called standby loss — the heat conducted and radiated from the walls of the tank and, in gas-fired water heaters, through the flue pipe. Standby losses represent 10 to 20 percent of a household's annual water-heating costs.

By providing hot water immediately where it is used, tankless heaters waste less water: You don't need to let the water run as you wait for warmer water to reach a remote faucet.

Equipment life may be longer than with tank-type heaters because tankless models are less subject to corrosion. The expected life of tankless water heaters is 20 years, compared with 10 to 15 years for tank-type heaters.

Tankless heaters range in price from \$200 for a small under-sink unit to \$1,000 for a gas-fired unit that delivers 5 gallons per minute. Those numbers do not include installation, which can add \$150 to \$300 to the price.

Typically, the more hot water a unit produces, the higher the cost. Electric tankless heaters typically cost more to operate than gas units.

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Make your gardening experience more rewarding by following some steps that will make your plants grow healthy.

Tips to begin planning Your Garden Decide on where you want your garden to be in your landscape. There are many factors to consider when deciding a location for your garden.

Take a Soil Test Once a location is decided for your garden take a soil test to determine the soil pH level of your soil and to find out which nutrients are needed for the types of plants you're planting.

PREPARE YOUR SOIL. Follow the soil test report recommendations and apply fertilizer, lime and/or organic matter to help give your plants the start they need. More tips continued in next weeks directory.
Source: www.nrcs.usda.gov

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Battered beets



Times-News file photo

Snow rests in fields surrounding a storage facility near Twin Falls in this photo. Low temperatures, high winds and even brief snow flurries last week have pummeled many sugar beet crops. Some beet producers may have to replant fields that were damaged Thursday.

Low temps, high winds damage sugarbeet crops

By Cindy Snyder
Times-News correspondent

Two weeks of March-like weather have taken a toll on Magic Valley crops, with temperatures falling 11 degrees below normal last week.

And it's sugarbeets that have taken the brunt of the cold and windy weather. And unfortunately, sugarbeet emergence continues to run ahead of normal thanks to brief period of warm weather in mid-April. Nearly two-thirds of sugarbeets planted in the Magic Valley had emerged by the end of last week, up from 29 percent year ago and the five-year average of 55 percent.

Winds that reached over

40 miles per hour early last week rocked small seedlings back and forth in the ground. While the fields looked fine initially, growers and agronomists who have dug up small plants are finding a small, but defined pinch point that causes damping off. Frost can cause the same phenomenon.

Agronomists who checked fields late last week and thought they were lost, are going back to recheck plant populations and finding the fields are doing better than expected. Others are finding the opposite.

It's too early to tell how many acres will need to be replanted. Matt Nail, who farms south of Murtaugh, says some warm weather will make the decision. If

temperatures warm up and the crop wasn't too damaged, plants will take off and start growing. But if too many plants have a pinch point below the soil surface and can't take up water, warm temperatures will be the final weather insult.

Beet seed for replanting is limited but companies are bringing in seed from other states to help meet the demand. Most growers will make the decision to replant or not by mid-week.

Duane Grant, who farms near Rupert, was amazed at how many beet plants survived approximately 9 hours of below freezing temperatures last Friday. Temperatures dropped as low as 18 degrees Fahrenheit on May 7.

Temperatures that cold for that long normally mean death for seedlings just emerging from the soil, but the frost damage hasn't been as widespread as feared. Grant has heard farmers say that a couple nights of light frosts will harden off the seedlings and allow them to survive an otherwise killing frost. That may be what happened this year.

"We know there are fields that are going to have to be replanted," he said. "But we're more optimistic today than we were earlier."

Rain showers predicted for early this week followed by temperatures reaching the upper 60s by the end of the week are just what the crops need, growers say.

House Ag Committee starts on farm bill

By Cindy Snyder
Times-News correspondent

NAMPA — The 2008 farm bill doesn't expire for another two years, but the House Agriculture Committee is already traveling around the country listening to producers' feedback on the existing bill. The second in a series of hearings was held in Nampa on May 1. Ten Idaho producers, representing commodities from apples to wool, testified.

But the House Ag Committee's early start has caught many Idaho producer groups unprepared. For example, the Idaho Grain Producers Association will not determine what provisions the organization would like to see in the 2012 farm bill until its annual meeting later this year. The National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Barley Growers Association are just now polling members about what they'd like to see in the next farm bill.

The 2002 Farm Bill was set to expire in 2007, but lawmakers extended it for another year.

The direct and counter-cyclical payments have been popular in Idaho, said Scott Brown, a barley and wheat grower from Soda Springs. Grain producers would like to see the crop insurance program more robust with higher coverage levels. Farmers are only able to insure their crop at 75 percent of the value.

Sugarbeet growers are also mostly satisfied with the 2008 farm bill.

"The (sugar) provisions of the 2008 farm bill are working," said Galen Lee, who raises sugarbeets near New Plymouth and is on the Snake River Sugar Company board of directors. "The sugar program

operates at no cost to taxpayers and it gives sugar producers a chance to make a profit from the market."

Producers do not receive subsidy payments from the government. When the 2008 farm bill was written, sugar users argued for tax-payer sugar subsidies to keep domestic sugar prices lower. Given high sugar prices over the last year, growers are preparing to debate the issue again.

Adrian Boer, a dairy producer from Jerome, also testified. He is a member of National Milk Producers Federations and serves on the federation's Strategic Planning Task Force.

In his written testimony, he pointed out that the next farm bill should not put one commodity at risk while enhancing another commodity — as was done in the government ethanol subsidy programs that dramatically increased input costs for Idaho livestock producers.

He added that a future bill should not discriminate based on operation size, nor should it camouflage market signals such as the Milk Income Loss program, which he said encourages overproduction at times when the market is indicating a reduction is needed.

Cindy Siddoway, a sheep producer from Terreton and past president of the American Sheep Industry Association, said she is in favor of increasing the base loan rate for wool and changes to loan rate formats to mirror those used by other

USDA fiber programs. She added that the U.S. still has no barriers to lamb meat imports and has become the market of choice for lamb exporters from around the world.

THE WEIGHT OF THE WEATHER ON OTHER CROPS

Alfalfa and grain

Small grain and alfalfa fields are behind normal development for this time of year. Growers have reported cutworm activity in some fields, but most blame abnormally cold temperatures and wind for stunting crops. Many growers will begin the first hay cutting between May 20 and May 25, but with the crop barely 6 to 8 inches tall, growers may push back cutting.

Potatoes

Potatoes that were planted in mid-April started sprouting when soil temperatures reached the 50s, but two weeks of abnormally cold air temperatures have dropped soil temperatures back into the 40s. Potato growers report potatoes planted in late April haven't sprouted yet. About two-thirds of the potato crop in southern Idaho has been planted on track with about 2 percent emergence, both on track with the five-year averages.

FSA enrollment deadlines approaching

Times-News

Producers have less than a month left to sign up for the 2010 direct and counter-cyclical program, but enrollment is lagging behind last year.

Only about 35 percent of the contracts in Twin Falls County had been signed by May 10, leaving about 600 left to complete by June 1.

For the last couple of years, the deadline for enrolling in the DCP has been extended into the summer. That's not the case this year. Not only is the deadline June 1 but there are no late signups, said Lance Phillips, Farm Service Agency executive director for Twin Falls County.

The direct and counter-cyclical program is the guaranteed payment made to growers based on their history of planting commodity crops. Wheat, corn, barley and oats acres are all counted in base crop acres.

See **ENROLLMENT**, Agribusiness 2

Farmers: Immigration reform needed

Producers worry over labor shortage

By Lisa Rathke
Associated Press writer

Even during the recession, foreign workers harvested vegetables, milked cows and picked apples on U.S. farms, doing work that farmers say Americans don't want to do.

To get the jobs done, many farmers hire foreign workers, including some who are illegal, and they say a crack-down on illegal immigration combined with changes to a visa program for temporary workers could make it even harder for them to find reliable employees.

Farmers want Congress to pass an "AgJobs" bill that would enable those who have worked in U.S. agriculture for at least 150 days in the previous two years to get some kind of legal status.



AP photo

Pedro Duino prunes peach trees at Singer Farms in Appleton, N.Y.

They also say the visa program for temporary workers needs to be simplified. Without those changes, farmers say they may have to cut back production because of a shortage of reliable labor.

California's Imperial Valley used to be a big asparagus producer, but the area planted with asparagus dropped from 786 acres in

2006 to 373 acres in 2008 partly because farms couldn't get enough workers to cut, sort and pack the vegetable — all of which must be done by hand, said Ayrton Moiola, the executive director of the Imperial Valley Vegetable Growers Association.

"Asparagus in the Imperial Valley is an indicator as to

what happens with crops that are labor intensive and what happens when labor becomes unfeasible economically and also just hard to find," she said.

Jim Bittner, who relies largely on migrant workers, said he cut down a quarter of his cherry and peach trees at Singer Farms in Appleton, N.Y., because of competition from cheap fruit imports and a lack of workers to hand-pick the fruit.

"We can find tractor drivers, people who apply pesticide and truck drivers, but we can't find people to do the harvest," Bittner said.

In 2006, before the economy collapsed, Washington state and its apple growers tried to recruit pickers to fill 1,700 jobs. They set up orientation and training sessions in six towns in eastern Washington and advertised

See **LABOR**, Agribusiness 2

Dates and rates

DATES — June 1 - DCP/ACRE sign-ups close. Extensions will NOT be accepted.
June 1 - Recons Should be filed.
June 30 - Crop reporting deadline.

RATES — 90-Day Treasury Bill 0.125%; Farm Operating, Direct 2.875%; Farm Ownership, Direct 5.00%; Farm Ownership, Direct Down Payment 1.50%; Emergency 3.75%; Farm Storage Facility 4.250%.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Sub-sections include MOST ACTIVE, GAINERS, LOSERS, and DIARY.

INDEXES

Table with columns for various stock indices including Dow Jones Industrials, S&P 500, and Russell 2000.

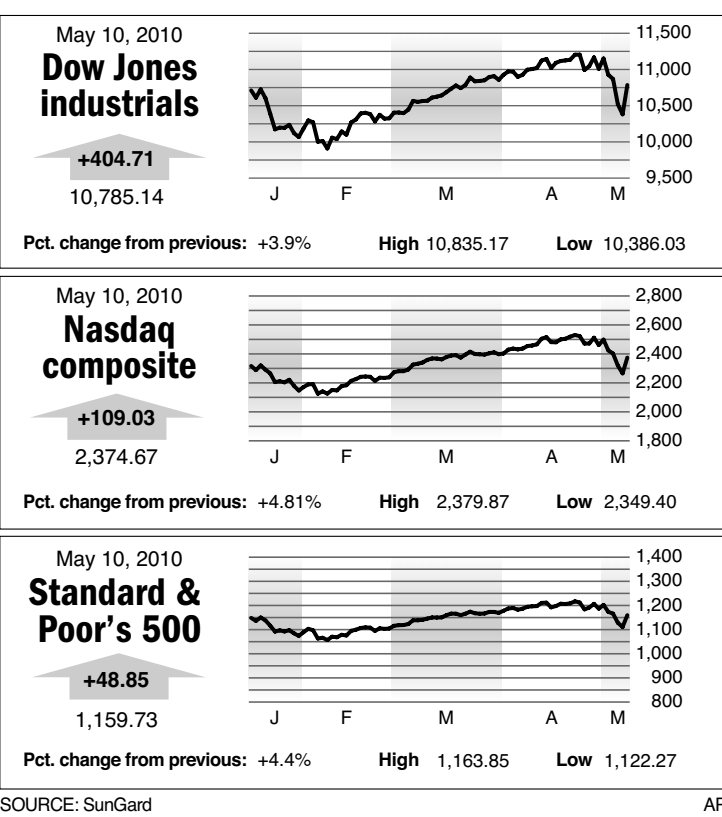
STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stock tickers and their corresponding prices and changes.

HOW TO READ THE REPORT

Stock Footnotes: cc - PE greater than 99. dd - Loss in last 12 mos. d - New 52-wk low during trading day. g - Dividend in Canadian \$. Stock price in U.S. \$. n - New issue in past 52 wks. q - Closed-end mutual fund; no PE calculated. s - Split or stock dividend of 25 pct or more in last 52 wks. Dv begins with date of split or stock dividend. u - New 52-wk high during trading day. v - Trading halted on primary market. Unless noted, dividend rates are annual disbursements based on last declaration. pf - Preferred. pp - Holder owes installment(s) of purchase price. rt - Rights. un - Units. wd - When distributed. wi - When issued. wt - Warrants. ww - With warrants. xw - Without warrants.
Dividend Footnotes: a - Also extra or extras. b - Annual rate plus stock dividend. c - Liquidating dividend. e - Declared or paid in preceding 12 mos. f - Annual rate, increased on last declaration. i - Declared or paid after stock dividend or split. j - Paid this year, dividend omitted, deferred or no action taken at last meeting. k - Declared or paid this year, accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Annual rate, reduced on last declaration. p - Init div, annual rate unknown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 mos plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock in last 12 mos, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or distribution date. x - Ex-dividend or ex-rights. y - Ex-dividend and sales in full. z - Sales in full. vv - In bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies.
* Most active stocks above must be worth \$1 and gainers/losers \$2.
Mutual Fund Footnotes: e - Ex-capital gains distribution. f - Previous day's quote. n - No-load fund. p - Fund assets used to pay distribution costs. r - Redemption fee or contingent deferred sales load may apply. s - Stock dividend or split. t - Both p and r. x - Ex-cash dividend.
Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

YESTERDAY ON WALL STREET



The Dow Jones Industrial rose 404.71, or 3.9 percent, to 10,785.14. At its peak, the Dow was up nearly 455 points. The climb came after four straight days of losses and was the biggest advance since March 2009...

COMMODITIES REPORT

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of commodity futures prices including live cattle, hogs, wheat, corn, soybeans, and various oil products.

without notice. Producers desiring more recent price information should contact dealers. Pintos, no quote, new crop great northers, no quote pinks, no quote, new crop small reds, no quote, new crop. Prices are given by Rangens in Buhl. Prices current May 5.

Round Red 50-lb sacks Size A Wisconsin 13.00. Round Red 50-lb cartons Size A Minnesota-N. Dakota 10.00.

LIVESTOCK

POCATELLO (AP) - Idaho Farm Bureau Intermountain Livestock Report for Monday, May 10. LIVESTOCK AUCTION - Burley Livestock Market on Thursday. Utility and commercial cows 65.00-75.50 canner and cutter 52.00-63.00 heavy feeder steers 95.00-112.75 light feeder steers 108.00-126.00 stocker steers 125.00-134.00 heavy holstein feeder steers 72.00-78.00 light holstein feeder steers 72.00-84.00 heavy feeder heifers 90.00-108.00 light feeder heifers 103.00-116.00 stocker heifers 115.00-124.00 bulls 65.00-76.50 Remarks: no comments.

GRAINS

Valley Grains Prices for wheat per bushel: mixed grain, oats, corn and beans per hundred weight. Prices subject to change without notice. Soft white wheat, ask barley \$5.70 oats, \$5.80 corn, \$6.90 (15 percent moisture). Prices are given by Rangens in Buhl. Prices current May 5.

METALS/MONEY

By The Associated Press Selected world gold prices. Monday. London morning fixing: \$1188.25 off \$14.00. London afternoon fixing: \$1196.50 off \$5.75. NY Handy & Harman: \$1196.50 off \$5.75. NY Englehard: \$1191.95 off \$5.76. NY Englehard fabricated: \$1289.12 off \$6.19. NY Merc. gold Apr. Mon. \$1200.40 off \$9.60. NY HSBC Bank USA 4 p.m. Mon. \$1200.00 off \$10.00. NEW YORK (AP) - Handy & Harman silver Monday \$18.515 up \$0.760. H&H fabricated \$22.218 up \$0.912. The morning bullion price for silver in London \$18.460 up \$0.690. Englehard \$18.530 up \$0.990. Englehard fabricated \$22.236 up \$1.188. NY Merc silver spot month Monday \$18.530 up \$0.101. NEW YORK (AP) - Spot nonferrous metal prices Mon. Aluminum - \$0.9266 per lb., London Metal Exch. Copper - \$3.1165 Cathode full plate, LME. Copper \$3.2150 NY Merc spot Mon. Lead - \$1978.00 metric ton, London Metal Exch. Zinc - \$0.9266 per lb., London Metal Exch. Gold - \$1196.50 Handy & Harman (only daily quote). Gold - \$1200.40 Troy oz., NY Merc spot Mon. Silver - \$18.515 Handy & Harman (only daily quote). Silver - \$18.530 Troy oz., NY Merc spot Mon. Platinum - \$1697.00 Troy oz., NY (contract). Platinum - \$1693.50 Troy oz., NY Merc spot Mon. n.q.-not quoted, n.a.-not available r-revised. NEW YORK (AP) - Key currency exchange rates Monday, compared with late Friday in New York. Dollar vs. Exch. Rate Pvs Day Yen 93.10 91.35 Eur o\$1.2804 \$1.2731 Poun o\$1.4881 \$1.4808 Swiss franc 1.1085 1.1090 Canadian dollar 1.0250 1.0433 Mexican peso 12.5160 12.8290

CHEESE

Cheddar cheese prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Barrels: \$1,380.0, .0075; Blocks: \$1,387.5, .0075

POTATOES

CHICAGO (AP) - USDA - Major potato markets FOB shipping points Friday. Russet Burbanks Idaho 50-lb cartons 70 count 10.50-11.00: 100 count 4.50-5.00. Baled 5-10 lb film bags (non Size A) 2.50-3.00. Russets Norkotahs Wisconsin 50-lb cartons 8.00-8.50: 100 count 6.00. Baled 5-10 lb film bags (non Size A) 4.50. Russet Norkotahs Washington 50-lb cartons 70 count 7.00-8.00: 100 count 6.00-7.00. Baled 5-10 lb film bags (non Size A) 2.50-3.00.

BEANS

Valley Beans Prices are net to growers, 100 pounds, U.S. No. 1 beans, less Idaho bean tax and storage charges. Prices subject to change. Quotations from Sinclair & Co. 733-6013 or (800) 635-0821

Get more stocks and commodities information online at Magicvalley.com/business/

AGRIBUSINESS BRIEFS

ND, MN farmers worry about crops after frost

GRAND FORKS, N.D. - Frost over the weekend has some farmers in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota worried about their crops.

American Crystal Sugar Co. chairman Neil Widner, who farms near Stephen, Minn., said his sugar beets already have been above ground about a week because of above-normal warmth in March and April.

The fact that temperatures did not stay below 30 degrees very long increases the likelihood of the crops escaping damage, but "frost is funny," Widner said.

"It doesn't seem like one frost is like the next one," he said. "How much is the ground temperature, the duration of the cold, other factors all make it hard to figure out."

Bill Barrett at the National Weather Service office in Grand Forks said the lowest temperature recorded in northeast North Dakota was 27 degrees in Towner County near the Canadian border.



AP photo Jay Lee pulls weeds as he works on his farm, in Ankeny, Iowa.

Hmong farmers search for way to grow water spinach

DES MOINES, Iowa - Jay Lee and about a dozen other Hmong farmers living in central Iowa are asking for

permission to grow water spinach, a staple among many Asian populations that is considered a noxious weed in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture generally bans Americans from growing or possessing the vegetable because it can create a quick-growing mat on lakes that kills or crowds out native species. It's illegal in Iowa now.

A USDA official from Nebraska discovered several Des Moines-area farmers with the plant last year. That has set off a lobbying effort for Iowa to allow the spinach, which tastes like the common varieties sold in the United States.

"Lots of Asians love this food dearly, so we wish to grow this," Lee said.

Agriculture Secretary Bill Northey sympathizes with the farmers. "This would be like if someone said you couldn't grow sweet corn in Iowa," he said.

Except that sweet corn doesn't spread on its own.

USDA strengthens salmonella standards for poultry

WASHINGTON - The Department of Agriculture is setting new standards for the levels of salmonella and another pathogen in young chickens and turkeys as part of an effort to strengthen food safety.

The new standards would hold poultry slaughterhouses more accountable by decreasing the number of samples allowed to test positive for the pathogens.

Salmonella is the most common cause of food poisoning in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Close behind is campylobacter. Both can sicken those who eat raw or undercooked poultry or eggs. USDA said

the new standards could help prevent an estimated 39,000 illnesses due to campylobacter and 26,000 illnesses due to salmonella.



AP photo John Siscel Jr., 87, climbs onto his 1950's era Farmall Super C tractor and prepares to till land.

Indiana man still farms the old-fashioned way

EVANSVILLE, Ind. - A triple bypass and two knee replacements later, 87-year-old Evansville resident John Siscel Jr. takes advantage of any opportunity he has to farm, relying on older farming equipment handed down by his father.

Siscel's farming roots stretch from his school days when he helped his grandfather to his modern-day work on about an acre of ground on the West Side.

"Growing up, when I was a kid, I helped grandpa first," Siscel said. "I used to take my vacations out of school and help him on the farm."

The tractor that Siscel uses to this day is a 1953 International Harvester McCormick Super C Farmall. It's a hand-me-down used by his father.

"I was 10 years old or so when my grandfather bought this tractor," Siscel said. "I drove it back to the farmhouse after he bought it in an auction. I remember the day my grandfather gave it to my dad, and he was in tears to see the tractor leave."

Before Siscel inherited the tractor, he relied mostly on tillers to farm his crops. - The Associated Press

Labor

Continued from Agribusiness 1

them in newspapers and on the radio, but only 40 people showed up, and just 10 applied for jobs and were hired.

Washington officials say they seem to have enough workers this year, but as the job market slowly recovers, no one expects farmers' hiring to get easier.

"Nobody who is informed on this issue seriously contends that somehow some great societal shift is going to cause a whole

bunch of Americans to go back into these jobs," said Craig Regelbrugge, vice president for government relations with the American Nursery and Landscape Association and co-chair of the Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform.

More than half of the crop workers hired in the U.S. between 2005 and 2007 were in the country illegally, according to the federal government's National Agricultural Worker Survey.

Enrollment

Continued from Agribusiness 1

"For the first time in two years we have a firm deadline for the direct and counter-cyclical program," Phillips said. "What that means is that if you don't have all signatures representing one hundred percent of the DCP payment will be lost with no options for appeal."

He is concerned that growers are busy doing spring field work and are putting off the DCP enrollment until June when they come in to do their crop acre reports for crop insurance. Those crop reports are due by June 30th, but Phillips stressed again that the DCP enrollment ends at 4:30 p.m. on June 1.

Growers also have until June 1 to decide whether to convert their DCP to the ACRE (Average Crop Revenue Election) Program. ACRE looks at both farm and state guarantee price and yield triggers.

Finally, growers have until June 15th to comply with the average gross income review. Producers who received payments from FSA, the Natural Resources Conservation Service or other U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies were required to certify they met the average gross income criteria for the programs in 2009.

Now those producers must complete a form giving permission to review those AGI statements.

Advertisement for Horse Monthly magazine, highlighting a chance to target equine owners and advertise in the publication.

Advertisement for BRIDLE BAGS, featuring images of bags and listing various items like blankets, coolers, and sheets.

Do-It-Yourself Ideas



Adirondack Chair

Adirondack-style outdoor furniture is popular for its built-in comfort, durability and good looks. This Adirondack chair is built from standard pine and fir and requires no special tools. The pieces are simply traced onto wood from full-size patterns, cut out, sanded and assembled.

The completed chair measures about 38 inches tall by 39 inches deep.

- Adirondack Chair plan (No. 55) . . . \$9.95
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Holstein open heifers. 208-734-5123 or 208-420-5123

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UPRIGHT FREEZER Huge GE. Will hold 1/2 a beef. \$500. Call 308-1470 to make appt to see.

810 Furniture & Carpet

COFFEE TABLE & END TABLE, glass top, good shape, \$45. Duncan Phyle drop leaf table and 6 chairs, \$500. Call 208-308-1470 to make appointment to see

MOVING must sell immediately. Blue queen hide a bed couch, tan rocker/recliner, dressers & oxygen machine. 539-5551 or 358-5023

814 Lawn & Garden
CUB CADET Series 1000 hydrostatic riding lawn tractor, 42" deck, well cared for, serviced regularly. 3 years old, new sells for \$1799 MSRP will sell for \$1200. Call 208-308-1470 to make appt to see.

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SWATHER TRAILER, bumper pull. Asking \$1,750. Call 208-731-0307.

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HAY 200 ton 3" Alfalfa, 350 ton 2" Alfalfa, 150 ton Grass Alfalfa, all big bales. 734-5123 or 420-5123.

MISCELLANEOUS
802 Appliances

MOVING must sell immediately. GE Stove, GE black Side by Side refrigerator, Washer & GE Dryer, Upright Freezer, & Portable Dish-washer. 539-5551 or 358-5023

UPRIGHT FREEZER Huge GE. Will hold 1/2 a beef. \$500. Call 308-1470 to make appt to see.

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814 Lawn & Garden

TROY BUILT
6 hp Rototiller, \$300/offer. Call 208-734-4034

816 Miscellaneous
BLAZE KING wood burning stove with all accessories, \$475. Call 208-734-0637.

MEMBERSHIP to the Jerome County Club for sale. 2010 dues paid \$1100. Call 321-230-7131.

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WANTED
3 wheel pull type golf cart and bag. Call 208-734-4034

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CHEVY '78 1/2 T pickup, 350 4 bbl, AT, 2WD, short bed, black, runs good, \$1500. Located in Twin Falls. Call 210-862-5154.

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TOYOTA '03 Tundra Limited, loaded, plus GPS, shell, bed liner, 2 studded tires, 115,000 mi., 2WD as is. \$9100. 208-733-9223

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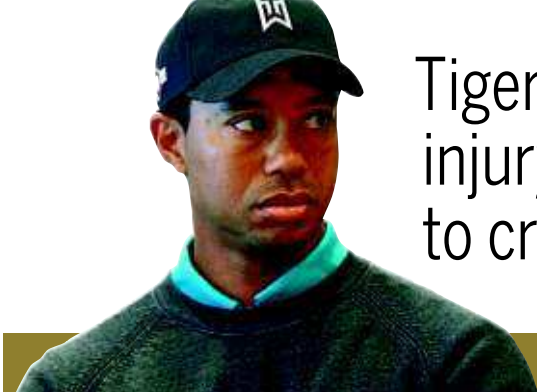
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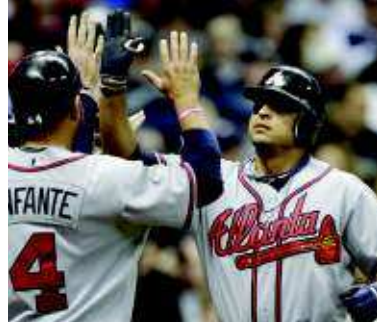
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TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010

SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: 735-3239 SPORTS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

Tigers outlast Riverhawks, Bruins move on

By John Derr
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A long, wild day despite steady rain, lots of offense arrived at the Great Basin Conference softball tournament Monday. A couple of blowouts and a pair of slugfests highlighted the first day. Top-seeded Twin Falls easily moved on with an 11-0 run-rule victory over Minico. Jerome and Canyon Ridge battled for nearly four hours and eight innings

before the Tigers came away with 22-21 victory. In the early games, Jerome dominated Burley 17-0 while Minico upset Wood River 19-18 in a three-hour marathon that also went extra innings. Action continues today with Wood River and Burley meeting at 1 p.m. with the winner playing Minico at 3 p.m. The Bruins and Tigers tangle at 3 for a berth in Thursday's championship game. The final game today pits Canyon Ridge against the survivor among Burley, Minico and Wood River.

TWIN FALLS 11, MINICO 0
Jaquelyn Corr pitched a one-hitter as Twin Falls advanced. "It was a big game, the first game in the tournament. We needed to take care of business," said Corr. The Bruins tallied only four hits, but took advantage of a couple errors and free passes. Katelyn Van Loo smacked a two-run single in the bottom of the fifth to spark a seven-run inning to end the game early. "I hadn't been hitting well. It was right there and it slipped through," said Van Loo.

Maddie Traveller had a triple for the only extra-base hit for Twin Falls. **JEROME 22, CANYON RIDGE 21**
Down 10 runs after the first two innings, the Tigers rallied to take the lead only to see the Riverhawks match them every inning after that. Jerome took advantage of a pair of throwing errors in the top of the seventh to move in front. Down by three, Karley Huddleson had the answer for Canyon Ridge as the sophomore smacked a two-run

double, her third of the game, to force an extra frame. With a runner starting at second, freshman Crystal Luna took little time to put the Tigers back on top with a double to center. Her motivation was simple. "They told me if I got a hit I could go to the bathroom," said Luna. Tyler Ostler chipped in an RBI single and the lead was two runs. "I hadn't hit all game, I was glad to finally find a hole," said Ostler. Canyon Ridge scored a quick run

See **SOFTBALL**, Sports 2

EIGHT IS ENOUGH

Defending state champion saddle bronc rider Brady Manning of Oakley has his sights set on another title

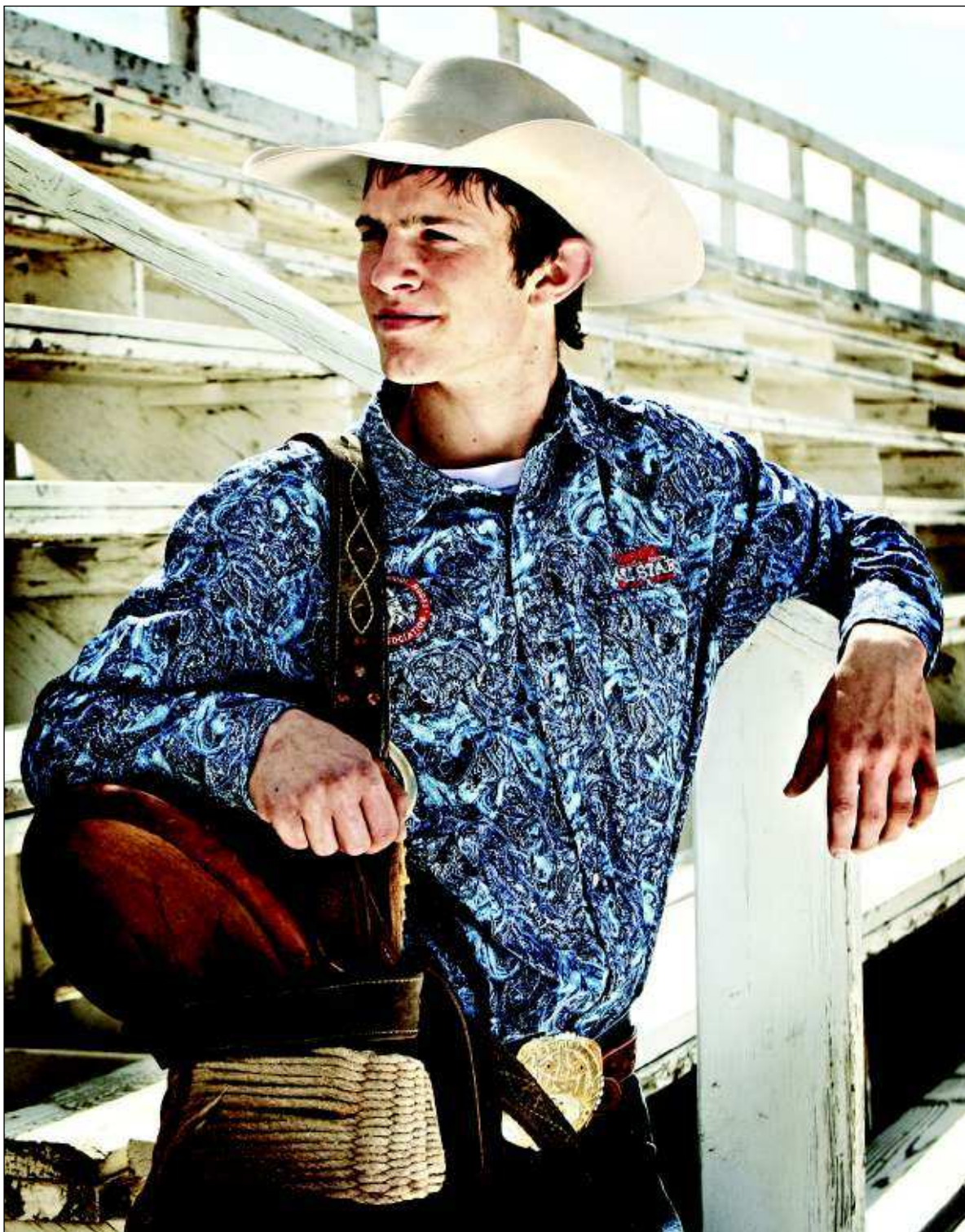
By Ryan Howe
Times-News writer

OAKLEY — "I'll get nervous till the day I die," says Oakley cowboy Brady Manning. Nerves are a two-edged sword, according to Manning. It's a delicate balance: The right amount of nerves keeps a rodeo champion on a competitive edge, while too many nerves can cloud his focus. After winning last year's Idaho state championship in saddle bronc, Manning headed to Farmington, N.M., to compete at the National High School Finals Rodeo. But the trip ended quicker than Manning anticipated, as he was bucked off twice and went home without earning a score. "I got nervous and got bucked off," Manning said. "In the end, I just froze up and didn't ride." Despite the disappointment, Manning's experience on the big stage of nationals may have paid off in the long run. Last fall, Manning helped the Oakley football team go undefeated and win the Class 1A Division I state championship. In crunch time of the state title game,

See **MANNING**, Sports 4

MORE ONLINE

WATCH an interview with Oakley saddle bronc rider Brady Manning
MAGICVALLEY.COM



Brady Manning of Oakley is the defending state champion in saddle bronc.

RYAN HOWE/Times-News

CSI sluggers gear up for Region 18 tourney

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

If the second season is as unpredictable as the first, hang on to your hats. The College of Southern Idaho baseball team treks to Henderson, Nev., for the Region 18 tournament this week, where the Golden Eagles will be one of four viable candidates for the region title and a berth in the Western District Tournament the following week. The top four teams finished within 5 1/2 games of each other, stretching from league champion and tournament host Southern Nevada down to CSI. Each of the four boasts a pitching staff capable of winning the tournament, according to CSI coach Boomer Walker. "I think it makes for a good tournament," Walker said. "I've been saying it all year, I think the league's really good this season. Any of the top four teams would have had a chance

See **CSI**, Sports 4

REGION 18 BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

At College of Southern Nevada, Henderson, Nev.
All times MDT
Wednesday, May 12
Game 1: No. 6 Colorado Northwestern (4-47) vs. No. 3 Salt Lake (36-16), 2 p.m.
Game 2: No. 5 Eastern Utah (15-38) vs. No. 4 CSI (35-20), 5 p.m.
Game 3: Loser 1 vs. Loser 2, 8 p.m.
Thursday, May 13
Game 4: Winner 1 or 2 (lower seed) vs. No. 1 Southern Nevada (43-13), 2 p.m.
Game 5: Winner 1 or 2 (higher seed) vs. No. 2 Western Nevada (40-15), 5 p.m.
Game 6: Winner 3 vs. Loser 4 or 5 (lower seed), 8 p.m.
Friday, May 14
Game 7: Winner 4 vs. Winner 5, 2 p.m.
Game 8: Winner 6 vs. Loser 4 or 5 (higher seed), 5 p.m.
Game 9: Winner 8 vs. Loser 7, 8 p.m.
Saturday, May 15
Championship: Winner 9 vs. Winner 7, 1 p.m.
Second championship: if necessary, 30 minutes following

Winner advances to Western District Tournament, at Region 9 champion, May 20-22.

Kimberly wins tough battle against Wendell

By Michael Cole
Times-News writer

Kimberly — Kimberly is going back to Buhl. The Kimberly baseball team outlasted Wendell 8-7 in eight innings to clinch a shot at the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Tournament championship at Buhl on Wednesday. As black clouds loomed overhead the Bulldogs and Trojans hoped to get in seven innings of baseball but got more than they bargained for as a back-and-forth battle ensued. "We did not know if we were going to get to play," said Kimberly coach Darin Gonzales. "It was a mud pit down the line. That was the big unknown for this game." But what a game it was. As the rain started to fall and the runs started to pour in, it was clear that neither team was ready to call it a season.

See **BASEBALL**, Sports 2

Huft's 68 leads Kimberly boys to state

Times-News

Gage Huft regularly visits the 70s. On Monday, he made his way to the 60s. Huft fired a four-under 68 on Monday, earning medalist honors at the Class 3A District IV state golf qualifier at Canyon Springs Golf Course in Twin Falls. Huft's round led Kimberly to a 311 team score, advancing the Bulldogs to state along with Filer (353). Alex Stal of Buhl shot a 75 to finish second individually, but Buhl's 366 team total wasn't enough to extend its season. Kimberly's Stephen Clements, Dalton Harmon and Austin Askew shot 81s to round out the individual leaders. Filer was led by Jesse Vierstra's 84. The Kimberly and Buhl girls teams advanced to state with scores of 414 and 456, respectively. Gooding's Angela Vitek claimed medalist honors with an 86 in her final outing of the season. Kimberly's cause was led by a 92 from Taylor Thomas. The Class 3A state golf tour-



Kimberly High School junior Gage Huft uses an iron on the No. 16 fairway Monday at Canyon Springs Golf Course in Twin Falls during the 3A state qualifier.

ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News

ament is slated for next Monday and Tuesday at The Links Golf Course in Post Falls. **CASTLEFORD CRUISES AT 2A QUALIFIER**
Travis Robinson shot a 78 to earn medalist honors at the Class 2A District IV state qualifier Monday at Clear Lake Country Club in Buhl. Dillon

Kinyon carded an 82, leading Castleford to first place. The Wolves shot a 352 and qualified for state as a team along with Declo (390) and Oakley (426). Castleford had four of the top eight golfers in the field including Nick Howard (85), Kegan

See **GOLF**, Sports 4

