

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny with a high of 38. Clear and cold tonight, low 18.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



Herrett expansion: A new community room and observatory is planned for the Herrett Center.

Page B1

New director: A retired Navy captain has been named executive director of the United Way of South Central Idaho.

Page B1

MONEY

Keeping it secret: Jerome leaders say they're ready to announce the arrival of a significant new employer to Jerome.

Page D4

FOOD & HOME



Twin Falls cook: Try her award-winning lemon pie.

Page C1

SPORTS

Boys town: The Boise area welcomes Idaho's best 16 boys' high school basketball teams for the Class A-4 state tourney starting today.

Page D1

OPINION

Added: Drug and alcohol treatment can slow the demand for Idaho prison beds, today's editorial says.

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Wage bill turns on its head

Senate panel accepts amendment to farm labor bill, striking exemption

By Michael Joume Times-News writer

BOISE — A whirlwind of dissent over the Legislature's solution to the farmworker minimum wage debate seemed to have disappeared Tuesday when a Senate panel endorsed amending a controversial bill. Farmworker advocates have long denounced House Bill 71, which was endorsed by a 49-20 vote in the House nearly three weeks ago, as a do-nothing bill that would not protect any more Idaho

farmworkers than federal law does.

Advocates, however, were thrilled Tuesday to endorse an amendment to House Bill 71 which removes the "small farm exemption" from the bill essentially bringing nearly all of Idaho's mostly Hispanic agricultural laborers under the state's minimum wage umbrella. "We look to them to act in the spirit of

Inside:
• Lawmakers send mixed signals on school funding.
• Lieutenant governor signs bills. Please see page B-3



fairness on this important issue," Idaho Migrant Council Director Humberto Fuentes said after the session. "This is a struggle that many people have worked hard in. We might get protection for farmworkers after all." The amendment, introduced by Sen. Bart Davis, R-Idaho Falls, strikes the minimum wage exemption for operations employing less than 500 man days of labor in a calendar quarter — or the equivalent of seven full-time workers annually. Advocates say about 40 per-

cent of farmworkers in Idaho work at such small operations. They said House Bill 71 would leave too many farmworkers without a minimum wage guarantee. Eric Johnson, executive director of the Idahoans for Farmworker Minimum Wage Coalition, said the amendment extends minimum wage protection to 95 percent of Idaho farmworkers. "This means everyone in Idaho has to pay minimum wage, with just three narrow exceptions," Johnson said. Those exceptions are local harvest laborers who worked less than 13 weeks the previous year, children younger than 16 who work alongside their parents, and range employees in the livestock industry.

Please see WAGE, Page A3

MORE GREEN FOR THIN BLUE LINE



Lt. Rob Storm logs into the evidence room at the Idaho State Police substation on Eastland Drive in Twin Falls. Local troopers have the services of only one part-time evidence clerk, but the Legislature might approve a \$20.7 million ISP budget that would add an evidence technician at the Twin Falls office.

BRUCE SPELDES/The Times-News

Committee OKs boost for state police

The Times-News and The Associated Press

TWIN FALLS — With the Legislature apparently poised to kick loose more money for the Idaho State Police, Magic Valley troopers are eager to get more patrol cars on the road and streamline the handling of evidence.

"We now have four teams, and three of the four teams have only one region car," said Lt. Rob Storm of the ISP's Twin Falls district headquarters. "So on any given day, we have one car in the Twin Falls area, and maybe two cars in the Burley-Rupert area."

Right now, the district is short

five patrol officers, Storm said. Three new officers are expected to be ready for duty by the end of March, still leaving the district two officers short.

It's that way for the ISP all over Idaho, said supporters of a measure to boost the ISP's budget by more than 28 percent. The Legislature's budget-writing Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee approved the measure Tuesday.

"They requested a lot and their needs are great," Senate

Finance Chairman Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, told the committee. "Idaho is growing.

'They requested a lot and their needs are great.'

— Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert

The demands are growing to keep our citizens safe. I'm hearing every day from constituents of mine that they're not seeing police on the road. But the logs show they're on the road more than ever."

After rejecting four alternatives — two on the 10-10 vote — the committee split 12-8 for a \$20.7 million general tax budget that puts two more troopers on the road in heavily populated south-

western Idaho and adds four more troopers to more rural areas of the state.

In addition, the 2001-02 budget creates a two-man team to battle Internet crime, adds three officers in the war on methamphetamine and puts evidence technicians at district offices in Twin Falls and Coeur d'Alene.

Storm said an evidence technician — a person who controls the inventory of evidence and also acts as a gatekeeper — would make life much easier at the Twin Falls station. As things are now, troopers and ISP detectives must label, file and keep track of all the evidence they collect, a

Please see ISP, Page A2

Buy-back program reaches deadline

By N.S. Nokkentved Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Is water worth more for power production than it is for raising crops in southern Idaho?

That's an underlying question raised by irrigation buy-back programs proposed by major electricity suppliers in southern Idaho. And it's one that has raised the eyebrows of a few legislators.

Idaho Power Co., the Bonneville Power Administration and PacifiCorp of Utah are offering to pay farmers to idle irrigation pumps this summer.

The programs set a troubling precedent about the value of water for energy production, said state Sen. Laird Noh, R-Kimberly. The river conservation group Idaho Rivers United disagrees. The program is temporary and would not be a threat to irrigated agriculture, said Sara Denniston of IRU.

For Idaho Power, the buy-back is not a water program, company spokesman Dennis Lopez said.

Please see BUY-BACK, Page A2

For larger industries

The Idaho Power Co. buy-back program also is being offered to large industries — any that could cut their loads by 1,000 kilowatts for short periods of time on short notice.

The deadline to sign up is March 14 and the program would run one year. Participants must be willing to cut their power for periods of at least two hours that no more than two days notice. The cuts would come during periods of peak demand.



Bush, in speech to Congress, urges retroactive tax cut

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush beckoned a divided Congress Tuesday night to support a large and retroactive tax cut, declaring in a nationally televised address, "The people of America have been overcharged and in their behalf, I am here asking for a refund."

On the 39th day of his presidency, Bush pledged to set the nation on "a different path" by slashing federal debt while increasing spending for popular programs such as education, environmental protection and health research.

Bush, the first Republican president since Dwight D. Eisenhower to address a GOP-led Congress, reached out to Democrats with a promise to tackle Social Security reform and end racial profiling. In a bid to conservatives, he renewed his call to privatize portions of Social Security.

Democrats warned that Bush is leading the nation toward another era of federal deficits with a 10-year, \$1.3 trillion tax-cut plan. Speaking for his party, Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle said enacting a large tax cut without a full understanding of future federal income is "an amazing demonstration of irresponsibility."

Please see BUSH, Page A3



President Bush delivers his address to a Joint Session of the 107th Congress Tuesday at the Capitol in Washington. Vice President Dick Cheney, left, and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., stand and applaud Bush.

President's budget blueprint satisfies Idaho delegation

By Guy Taylor States News Service

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush's budget address to a joint session of Congress Tuesday evening came close to earning all top marks with the Idaho delegation.

Aside from specific concerns regarding the handling of nuclear waste in Idaho, the state's Republican leaders were among those cheering loudest after the president's address.

"An outstanding speech," said Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho. "I agree with the president's pledge to make education his number one priority." Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, equally impressed, said the president's education agenda has "put him as one of the lead promoters of education in the 21st century."

The all-Republican delegation stood by the president's plan to divide the \$5.6 trillion budget surplus projected over 10 years.

"Paying down the federal debt and giving real tax relief is a combination that most Americans have been saying for a long time is a winning combination," Craig said. Craig said he would have like to have seen more cuts proposed but that he's also a realist who understands the need to build a tax plan that can be sold on both sides of the aisle.

"I look forward to working with him to provide tax relief to working families," Craig said. "In Idaho that means families will pay about \$1,600 less in taxes." Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, applauded the president's plan to increase spend-

Please see DELEGATION, Page A3

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

IDAHO

Idaho Extremes
 Yesterday:
 High 52°
 Low 10°
 Record low
 -10°
 Stanley

ALMANAC

Twin Falls through 6 p.m. yesterday
 Temperature
 High/Low 39/29°
 Normal High/Low 43/25°
 High/Low last year 49/25°
 Record high 62° in 1960
 Record low 1° in 1993
 Precipitation
 24 hours ending 8 p.m. - trace
 Month to date - 0.00"
 Normal month to date - 0.85"
 Year to date - 0.02"
 Normal year to date - 1.94"
 Humidity
 Yesterday at noon - 63%
 Barometric Pressure
 Yesterday at 6 p.m. - 30.14 in.
 Pollen yesterday in Twin Falls
 Grass - N.A. Weeds - N.A.
 Trees - N.A. Mold - N.A.
 Source: Asthma and Allergy of Idaho

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Turning out mostly sunny.	Mainly clear and cold.	Sunshine and a few clouds.	It might sprinkle or flurry.	Times of clouds and sunshine.	Partly to mostly sunny.
▲ 39°	▼ 18°	▲ 42° ▼ 22°	▲ 44° ▼ 24°	▲ 46° ▼ 24°	▲ 46° ▼ 26°

REGIONAL WEATHER

Southern Idaho: Patchy fog or low clouds early; otherwise, mostly sunny in the west today, while the east is partly sunny. Clear to partly cloudy and cold tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

Boise: Cold to start this morning with patchy fog, then plenty of sunshine the rest of today. Mainly clear and turning cold again tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

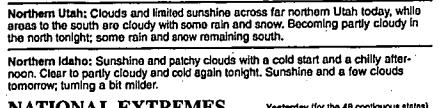
Northern Nevada: Sunshine across most of northern Nevada today, but there will be a few clouds from Elko southward. Clear to partly cloudy and cold tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

Northern Utah: Clouds and limited sunshine across for northern Utah today, while grass to the south are cloudy with some rain and snow. Becoming partly cloudy in the north tonight; some rain and snow remaining south.

Northern Idaho: Sunshine and patchy clouds with a cold start and a chilly after-noon. Clear to partly cloudy and cold again tonight. Sunshine and a few clouds tomorrow; turning a bit milder.

NATIONAL EXTREMES Yesterday (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High 67° in Fort Myers, FL Low -34° in Embarras, MN

NATIONAL WEATHER
 Shows the noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are given for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.



NATIONAL CITIES
 Today Thu. W
 City Hi Lo W Hi Lo W
 Atlanta 53 28 c 51 24 c
 Baltimore 38 22 pc 37 21 pc
 Billings 42 24 c 43 25 pc
 Birmingham 58 41 a 54 40 c
 Boston 30 17 s 29 16 s
 Charleston, SC 66 47 r 55 48 r
 Chicago, Ill. 28 17 a 28 17 a
 Denver 28 18 s 33 21 pc
 Cleveland 29 18 s 43 25 pc
 Des Moines 28 18 s 36 27 s
 Detroit 28 18 pc 34 22 s
 El Paso 60 38 c 63 37 c
 Fairbanks 16 4 c 15 7 c
 Fargo 24 8 pc 27 20 pc
 Honolulu 83 68 a 81 67 s
 Houston 66 48 s 69 51 r
 Indianapolis 35 19 a 42 25 s
 Jacksonville 80 58 c 72 56 c
 Kansas City 28 18 c 42 30 c
 Las Vegas 55 43 a 60 42 c
 Little Rock 42 36 r 46 40 a
 Los Angeles 63 49 pc 63 47 pc

CANADIAN CITIES

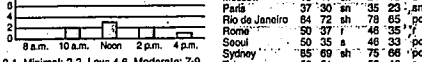
City	Today	Thu.	W
Calgary	34 18 pc	37 13 pc	
Edmonton	44 20 pc	49 24 c	
Halifax	50 31 pc	42 31 c	
Kelowna	41 27 s	40 29 c	
Lethbridge	41 22 s	43 18 a	
Regina	29 13 pc	34 7 pc	
Saskatoon	28 15 pc	30 7 pc	
Toronto	22 15 pc	18 3 pc	
Vancouver	50 34 pc	50 38 pc	
Winnipeg	23 7 pc	32 8 a	

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:15 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 6:26 p.m.
 Moonrise today 10:04 a.m.
 Moonset tonight none

First Full Last New
 Mar 2 Mar 9 Mar 16 Mar 24

UV INDEX TODAY



NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	W
Albuquerque	45 28 c	41 21 c	
Atlanta	44 28 c	41 21 c	
Baltimore	38 22 pc	37 21 pc	
Billings	42 24 c	43 25 pc	
Birmingham	58 41 a	54 40 c	
Boston	30 17 s	29 16 s	
Charleston, SC	66 47 r	55 48 r	
Chicago, Ill.	28 17 a	28 17 a	
Dallas	28 18 s	33 21 pc	
Denver	29 18 s	43 25 pc	
Des Moines	28 18 s	36 27 s	
Detroit	28 18 pc	34 22 s	
El Paso	60 38 c	63 37 c	
Fairbanks	16 4 c	15 7 c	
Fargo	24 8 pc	27 20 pc	
Honolulu	83 68 a	81 67 s	
Houston	66 48 s	69 51 r	
Indianapolis	35 19 a	42 25 s	
Jacksonville	80 58 c	72 56 c	
Kansas City	28 18 c	42 30 c	
Las Vegas	55 43 a	60 42 c	
Little Rock	42 36 r	46 40 a	
Los Angeles	63 49 pc	63 47 pc	

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and lows.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	W
Boise	44 22 s	46 20 s	
Bonanza Ferry	38 23 pc	39 29 pc	
Burley	38 22 pc	45 18 pc	
Coeur d'Alene	38 20 pc	42 28 pc	
Elko	40 15 pc	41 19 s	
Epine, OR	50 29 s	54 35 pc	
Hagerman	40 19 s	45 25 s	
Idaho Falls	35 14 pc	39 15 pc	
Kalispell, MT	34 17 s	40 20 s	
Lewiston	46 26 s	48 34 s	
Malad	37 21 pc	41 21 pc	
Malta	35 20 s	39 19 pc	

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Buy-back

Continued from A1
 The company is seeking only to reduce its peak load.
 BPA, however, would pay a small bonus to farmers who pump directly from the river for the water they would leave in the river.
 The deadline is 5 p.m. today to submit bids to Idaho Power. About 1,700 Idaho Power customers are eligible for the company's proposed buy-back program and already have been contacted by the company. But company officials don't know how many of those will submit bids, how many acres that would cover or how much power would be cut.
 The company anticipates paying about 12 cents per kilowatt hour saved.
 BPA is offering contracts to the

public utilities it supplies that have irrigator customers - such as electric cooperatives in the Mini-Cassia area. The agency would pay 7.5 cents per kilowatt hour saved, BPA spokesman Rick Imani said.
 The agency also would pay farmers who pump directly from the river for the water they leave in the river. The amount would vary from 7 to 1.6 cents per kilowatt depending on the location, he said.
 Only land that otherwise would have produced a crop would be eligible. Land going into any government program that pays farmers not to grow crops would not be eligible. The program would allow early irrigation of a cover crop that can't be harvested but could be grazed, Imani said.
 Only utilities that can cut their irrigation load by 500 average kilowatts would be considered, he said.

Buy-back by the numbers

TWIN FALLS - Two economists have taken their pencils to Idaho Power Co.'s proposed irrigation power buy-back program.
 C. Wilton Gray and Paul E. Patterson, extension economists with the University of Idaho extension service, have worked out an example involving a farmer irrigating 133 acres of a 160-acre plot with a center pivot drawing water from a 300-foot-deep well.
 The hypothetical photo is supplied by a pump that uses 220,900 kilowatt hours annually.
 Fixed costs that would have to be paid whether a crop is raised or not were \$22,854 - and that should be covered by the minimum bid of 10.5 cents per kilowatt-hour.
 Costs avoided by not raising a crop were \$28,816 in the example. The avoided costs were added to the amount received from the buy-back - \$23,195 - for a total benefit of \$52,056.
 That was balanced against the cost of weed control and maintaining a cover crop and the lost income from selling the crop and any federal subsidy payments - \$43,076 in the example.
 If the benefit exceeds the costs, the program would be profitable. In the example the hypothetical farmer would be \$5,900 ahead by joining the program annually.
 But Gray and Patterson noted that Idaho Power would impose a penalty if the actual amount saved is less than 95 percent of the amount bid. The penalty would be twice the bid amount - in this example 21 cents per kilowatt.
 In today's more volatile power market, the company would not say what an acre foot would be worth.
 One cubic foot per second over 24 hours equals two acre-feet, and enough to irrigate 80 acres. Over a six-month irrigation season that's 360 acre feet - or about 4.5 acre feet per acre.
 An acre-foot is enough water to cover one acre, one foot deep, or 325,850 gallons.
 Idaho Power is not likely to pay that much for water on a regular basis, Denniston said. The buy-back program is fine as a short-term conservation measure, but it is not a long-term solution to avoiding the high cost of peak power.
 A better way to do that would be with long-term energy efficiency programs and the company's proposed time-of-use program that would entice large power users to use more power at night, spreading the demand and decreasing peaks, Denniston said.
 Times-News environmental reporter N.S. Norkentved can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or by e-mail nids@magicvalley.com

ISP

Continued from A1
 time-consuming chore that takes off the road and away from investigations.
 With a technician in the office, officers could simply drop their evidence off and let the technician do the rest, Storm said. The technician would keep a record of who checks out evidence from storage, how long that evidence is kept and when it's returned.
 Storm said the Twin Falls office also hopes to get its patrol and investigative divisions - now housed across town from each other - under one roof sometime next year and the proposed budget boost might help pay for that.
 Overall, general tax support for the ISP would jump \$4.6 million, marking the largest increase for any state agency other than those dealing with education, prisons and health and welfare programs.
 The number of troopers per 100,000 has been steadily declining, and the situation has left some sections of non-inter-

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Lottery Update

Saturday, February 24, numbers	Saturday, February 24, numbers
POWERBALL 29 30 34 41 49 29 30 34 41 49	WILD CARD 3 5 7 13 29 WILD CARD: Ace of clubs
Tuesday, February 27, numbers RollDown 4 20 41 45 47	Tuesday, February 27, numbers PICK 3 7 4 3

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Bush

Continued from A1

Bush appeared relaxed and confident during his 49-minute speech, receiving several standing ovations from Republicans and polite applause from Democrats.

Members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Cabinet, along with one Supreme Court Justice, Stephen Breyer, joined lawmakers in the historic House chamber for the annual ritual. Applause and standing ovations began on one side of the aisle and rippled to the other — depending on the politics of the issue.

Making the hard sell for tax cuts, Bush said: "Some say my tax plan is too big." Democrats cheered the line, making clear they agreed.

"Others say it is too small," Bush continued, drawing applause from Republicans. "I respectfully disagree. This tax relief is just right."

Not even the pageantry of the moment could extinguish all echoes of last fall's recount. There were audible boos on the Democratic side of the aisle as the Supreme Court was announced. It was a reaction to the Supreme Court's 5-4 decision that stopped recounts in Florida and handed the presidency to Bush.

Standing before a Congress after midnight, Bush said: "Let us agree to bridge old divides," though he added: "Bipartisanship is more than minding our manners it is doing our duty."

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., a lightning rod for criticism from the political right, politely applauded Bush.

With the government awash in budget surpluses, the nation's 43rd president offered something for everybody over the next decade: \$1.6 trillion in tax cuts, including reductions in every income bracket; \$2 trillion in job reduction, increased spending for education, conservation and other programs; and protections for Social Security and Medicare.

"If it sounds too good to be true, maybe it is," House

Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., said. "We think we should be more skeptical, more cautious, in approaching this tax cut."

Bush announced the outlines of a budget approaching \$2 trillion. It favors education, law enforcement and other popular programs, while curbing growth in NASA, freeing the federal contributions to the arts and humanities and the operating deficit to the homeless.

In the first test of his leadership, Bush was trying to convince the American people and their legislators that cutting taxes would boost the sluggish economy and ensure that Congress doesn't squander the surplus on pork-barrel spending. Folks suggest voters are lukewarm to Bush's tax-cut package, which he presented on the campaign trail 14 months ago.

To the applause of Republicans, Bush urged Congress to cut taxes retroactively because the sluggish economy "needs a jump start." He added: "Tax relief is right and tax relief is urgent." Advisers have said Bush would support making tax cuts retroactive to Jan. 1.

Bush proposed increasing spending for Social Security, Medicare and entitlement programs by \$81 billion — much of which is due to the routine growth of the entitlement programs.

He also would increase discretionary spending by an additional \$26 billion, a 4 percent increase. That is a bit higher than inflation but lower than the growth of government in each of the last three years.

Bush was careful to cultivate Democrats, paying tribute to cancer-stricken Rep. Joe Moakley of Massachusetts, praising Philadelphia Mayor John Street and quoting John F. Kennedy, a Democratic icon.

Bush said his plan will pay off \$2 trillion of the \$3.2 trillion in publicly held debt over 10 years. It would leave enough money, he said, for a \$1 trillion contingency fund "for unexpected needs (and) additional priorities."

Delegation

Continued from A1

ing for Medicare and Social Security by \$81 billion.

"I agree with the idea to use much of the budget to pay down the national debt without touching Social Security and the Medicare trust fund," Simpson said.

Despite his approval to the president's overall plan, Simpson had specific concerns relating to his district.

"I have concerns with the department of energy's budget being able to deal with the commitment left over from the nuclear legacy," Simpson said.

"At issue is the processing of nuclear waste in Idaho. Since 1996, the state has had an agreement with the Department of Energy to perform continued safe storage of spent nuclear fuel from plants around the Midwest until a permanent repository becomes available.

The Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, which handles nuclear waste, is in Simpson's district.

"In Idaho, the government has an agreement to the federal government to clean up nuclear waste. I'm concerned the money for the department of energy is not sufficient for us to meet our commitment to cleaning up

waste. If we can't meet that commitment, we'll face penalties," Simpson said.

That will cause problems for other states with similar commitments as well, he said.

PHOTO BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

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Wage

Continued from A1

The compromise was reached after Davis and Rep. Tom Trail, R-Moscow, who took up the farmworkers' cause when they first introduced the issue to the Legislature five years ago, worked on the amendment over the weekend.

Advocates' frustration over the issue led them to contend the lack of action by the Legislature during that time was racially discriminatory since the majority of farmworkers affected were Hispanic. Emotions came to a head Feb. 19 when a number of Boise State University students were arrested for disrupting Senate proceedings for nearly a half hour to draw attention to the issue.

Davis and Trail convinced Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, who had endorsed House Bill 71 when it emerged from an interim study committee last autumn, to support the amendment.

The Idaho Farm Bureau's commitment to "not oppose" the amendment, despite its long-held opposition to any minimum wage regulation at all, ensured at least the Senate committee's support.

That support should carry over into the full Senate, Trail and Johnson said.

But whether or not the House Agricultural Affairs Committee, which seemed committed to the passage of House Bill 71 when the issue was before them, will sign on to the amendment is still unknown.

Trail is "cautiously optimistic" Kempthorne and the Farm Bureau's support will get it through the House.

"But it's a long way from the Senate committee to the pen of the governor," Trail said. House Agricultural Affairs Committee Chairman Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert, said that he would support the bill if it comes back to the agriculture committee for consideration as long as the "piece

work" provisions of the law remain intact.

"We've got to bring some finality to this," Stevenson said. "This was never a labor issue. It was a social issue and maybe this will bring some finality."

Rep. Wayne Kendall, R-Aberdeen, an outspoken critic of taking away the farmworker exemption, said he would support the amendments proposed Tuesday.

House agriculture Chairman Doug Jones, R-Filer, the original sponsor of House Bill 71, was out of town Tuesday and could not be reached for comment.

House Bill 71 has had a few conflicting bills that have been pulled by their sponsors or defeated outright. One, penned by Davis, was pulled Tuesday just before House Bill 71's amendments were announced. Other bills drafted by Trail and Rep. Ken Robison, D-Boise, to give lawmakers an option to House Bill 71 died in Jones' committee.

Times-News politics and state government reporter Michael Journe can be reached in Boise at (208) 331-2510 or by e-mail at mjourn@magicalvalley.com.

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Fever	Sometimes	NO	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
Pain in Upper Teeth	Sometimes	NO	NO
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Coughing	Sometimes	Sometimes	YES
Nasal Congestion	YES	Sometimes	YES
Sneezing	NO	Sometimes	YES

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In blow to industry, Supreme Court upholds Clean Air Act

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court, turning aside the stiffest challenge to the Clean Air Act in the law's 30-year history, upheld the way the federal government sets clean-air standards.

In so doing, the high court on Tuesday unanimously rejected industry arguments that officials must balance compliance costs against the health benefits of cleaner air.

The ruling was a major boost for the federal Clean Air Act. It said the law does not require the government to consider the financial cost of reducing harmful emissions when it sets air-quality standards.

The justices also ruled against industry arguments that the Environmental Protection Agency took too much law-making power from Congress when it set

tougher standards for ozone and soot in 1997.

But the court ruled unlawful the EPA's policy for implementing new ozone rules, saying the agency's interpretation of a section of the Clean Air Act was unreasonable.

The Clean Air Act "unambiguously bars cost considerations" from the process of setting air-quality standards,

"and thus ends the matter for us as well as the EPA," Justice Antonin Scalia wrote for the court.

The federal law, "which ... we interpret as requiring the EPA to set air quality standards at the level that is ' requisite' - that is, not lower or higher than is necessary - to protect the public health with an adequate margin of safety, fits comfortably within the scope of discretion per-

mitted by our precedent," Scalia wrote.

"This decision is a victory for the Clean Air Act and for the health of the American people," said American Lung Association leader John R. Garrison.

Edward W. Warren, the lawyer for industry groups that challenged the law, said, "We're no worse off than we've been all along ... but we didn't win. That's disappointing to me."

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<p>Save 40% Sag Harbor® roll-sleeve linen-look jacket</p> <p>Sale 21.60, reg. 36.00. Misses and petite sizes.</p> <p><small>Not available in Bellevue Square.</small></p>	<p>Additional 30% off just-reduced & clearance fashion jewelry</p> <p>Now 7.00-70.00, orig. 20.00-200.00, then 10.00-100.00.</p>	<p>Save 33-65% entire stock sportcoats</p> <p>Now 57.75-197.65, reg./orig. 165.00-295.00.</p> <p><small>Intermediate markdowns may have been taken.</small></p>	<p>Buy 1, get 50% off 2nd Royal Velvet towels</p> <p>Value prices 4.99-16.99. 2nd towel sale 2.49-8.49.</p> <p><small>Royal Velvet Event ends March 25, 2001.</small></p>	<p>Sale 29.99 blender or George Foreman grill</p> <p>Reg. 34.99. Hamilton Beach 14-speed blender #S4250, or Champ grill #gr10.</p>
<p>Save 30% entire stock moderate pant suits</p> <p>Sale 62.00-68.60, reg. 89.00-98.00. Misses, petite and women's sizes.</p> <p><small>Misses and petites not available at Bellevue Square.</small></p>	<p>Additional 30% off just-reduced & clearance handbags</p> <p>Now 13.13-50.65, orig. 28.00-108.00, then 18.76-72.36.</p> <p><small>Excludes Designer Handbags.</small></p>	<p>Save 25% knit & woven sportshirts</p> <p>Sale 19.50-31.88, reg. 26.00-42.50.</p>	<p>Price Break Royal Velvet sheets</p> <p>Sheet price break 12.99-47.99, reg. 23.00-70.00, sale 17.99-57.99.</p> <p><small>Royal Velvet Event ends March 25, 2001.</small></p>	<p>Save 20% Calphalon® selected open stock</p> <p>Sale 32.00-171.20, reg. 40.00-214.00.</p> <p><small>Excludes price of food.</small></p>
<p>Sale 19.99-31.99 junior denim</p> <p>Reg. 29.99-42.00. Choose from i.e.i., Mudd and Paris Blues.</p>	<p>Additional 40% off women's clearance boots & shoes</p> <p>Now 15.67-63.91, orig. 39.00-169.00, then 26.13-106.53.</p>	<p>Save 25% kids' greendog™ playwear</p> <p>Sale 6.75-24.00, reg. 9.00-32.00.</p>	<p>Save 59.99 Olympia 2-pc. black traveler set</p> <p>Reg. 120.00. 18" rolling duffel and 26" upright.</p> <p><small>Not available in Burlington.</small></p>	<p>Sale 79.99 "Hercules" 3-pc. black luggage set</p> <p>Reg. 159.99. 600-denier fabric. Set: 18", 22" and 26" uprights.</p> <p><small>Not available in Burlington.</small></p>

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ACROSS

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- Lady's address
- Sling
- Right to capture
- Seaweed
- Patrol Naitan
- Line of a letter
- Bam
- Dehydrated
- Dry, as wine
- Playwright
- Herrick
- Abu ... UAE
- Husk
- Severe
- Bahamian
- Butterfly
- Drying skin
- Crow's cry
- Ridiculous
- PC operator
- Do dough?
- Author/director
- Kazan
- Meaningful
- sequence of words
- Union patrol
- GRP
- Thin strip
- Right to authority
- Aim
- "White Man ..."
- Drying skin
- Commence
- Stairway
- Twisting turn
- Cross-country
- Walk
- Assistant
- Household pest, shortly
- Surreal photos
- ... there, done
- that
- Flourish
- Floes of bits
- Formerly
- Formerly
- DOWN
- Flourish
- Not a weather
- Buyer
- Simian
- 4 A mean Amin
- 5 Second drink
- 6 Atlas pages
- 7 Medicinal plant
- 8 Meeting plan
- 9 Gymnast's cushion
- 10 Former rulers of Iran
- 11 Gem weight
- 12 Mystery excuse?
- 13 Dice
- 14 Lineman
- 23 Royals' love
- 25 Extremist
- 27 Good ... to bad
- 28 ... du jour
- 29 Laundry
- 30 Pale
- 31 Twill weave
- 35 Varnish
- 37 Fragrant
- 38 Uncomfortable
- 39 Use a rotary phone
- 36 Grub
- 41 Simian
- 44 Edinburgh man
- 46 More than a little strange
- 49 ... and feathered
- 50 Phony!
- 51 City near Rome
- 52 Gathered, as tallon leaves
- 53 News media
- 57 Caesar's date
- 58 Transmitted
- 60 Desert Storm missile
- 61 Females of the species
- 63 Actor Vigoda
- 65 Single

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

QUESTIONS SAME VAL
TROPIC AWOL AGO
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REV PETTS BETRAY
LIVE ALAS ESTAYE
RITIS GIES FIAN

Family of six tries not to burden host

DEAR ABBY: I have tried for years to contact some of my husband's Army buddies. I have finally gotten in touch with one of them, and we'll be visiting him and his family for a weekend in the near future.



DEAR ABBY
Abigail VanBuren

They told us our large family is no problem, and it would be easier for us to stay with them than in a motel. Because of the size of our family, I feel we should stay in a motel. My husband thinks we should stay with them. Abby, what should I take with me when we visit them? What would be an appropriate hostess gift? I have never met these people, although we've communicated often via phone calls and

online communications. Should I bring groceries or go shopping with the hostess and pay for some of the food? Should I send money in advance to help with the extra expenses of our visit? Should I take towels for our family? Six showers a day equals a lot of laundry. I would appreciate your

guidance.
-UNEASY VISITOR
IN BATH, N.Y.

DEAR UNEASY: Because of the size of your family, ask your hosts if they would like you to bring towels, pillows, sleeping bags or linens and blankets. If they aren't needed, they will

forget about taking groceries since this is only a weekend visit, but do take your hosts out for a meal during your stay. Take along a lovely basket of fruit you can all enjoy as your hostess gift, and following your visit, be sure to thank your hosts in writing for their hospitality.

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Taurus: Romance heats up

IF FEBRUARY 28TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... you are an original thinker, can be determined to degree of being stubborn. You are romantic, sensual and passionate. During March you could be part of "romantic journey." In April you make fresh start in new direction. In September: major domestic adjustment.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Count your change! Aura of deception relates to payments, collections and earning power. Define terms, get promises in writing. Pisces represented.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Cycle high, focus on organization, priorities and distribution. Personal relationship is "hot and hot."

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Message kept secret will be revealed to your advantage.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make fresh start, some of your fondest hopes, aspirations could become reality.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Focus on home, family, direction and marital status. If single you could encounter future mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Diversify, be selective, entertain and be entertained. Sagittarian represented.

HOROSCOPE

Sydney Omarr

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Rewrite, material once rejected could now be accepted. Review and rebuild. Test structure, workability of tools. Money owed will be repaid.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Check legal aspects, have time alone, meditate. Lie low, don't be too available. Read and write.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Accent on domestic issues, possible change of residence, marital status.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look behind scenes for answers. Someone wants to "tell you a secret." Be analytical, get commitments in writing. See people, places in realistic light.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sale or purchase of home is distinct possibility. Transform being stubborn into being determined. Leo, Scorpio individuals will figure prominently.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Keep appointment with relative who is sorely in need of counsel. Aries, Libra persons play fantastic roles.

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EDITORIAL

Drug treatment beats building new prisons

A subtle but significant change is under way in Idaho's criminal justice system. Convicted criminals are increasingly likely to receive treatment for their drug and alcohol problems.

Few people weep for prisoners, so the trend is all but lost in the turmoil of the times. But 2001 may someday be recognized as the year in which Idaho began to strike a better balance between mere imprisonment and meaningful correction.

Rather than build more prisons, the aim of drug and alcohol treatment is to reduce the number of prisoners. Drugs and alcohol are central to most criminal convictions, so breaking the cycle of addiction is an obvious way to keep prisoners out of the pen.

The upshot is that effective drug and alcohol treatment can conserve expensive prison beds for dangerous crooks.

Now consider this. Slowing the demand for \$50 million prisons could save the state a lot of money over the long haul. That's money that could be spent on better things.

Though cheaper than building prisons, drug and alcohol treatment does come at a price. It's a price that all three branches of state government now appear willing to pay.

The Legislature's Joint Finance Appropriations Committee unanimously approved \$3.9 million for substance abuse programs for prisoners, felons on probation or parole, and drug offenders who are routed through special drug courts. That's up from the current figure of \$2 million. On top of that, JFAC agreed to provide another \$2.7 million to replace federal

funds for substance abuse programs offered by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

The Legislature is in good company on this issue. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has made additional drug and alcohol treatment a key goal. And Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice Linda Coppel Trout says the judiciary's top priority is a system of drug courts wherein judges can sentence convicted addicts to treatment - not internment.

Note that no one is pushing to legalize drugs. Nor is anyone proposing to go easy on criminals who pose a serious threat to society.

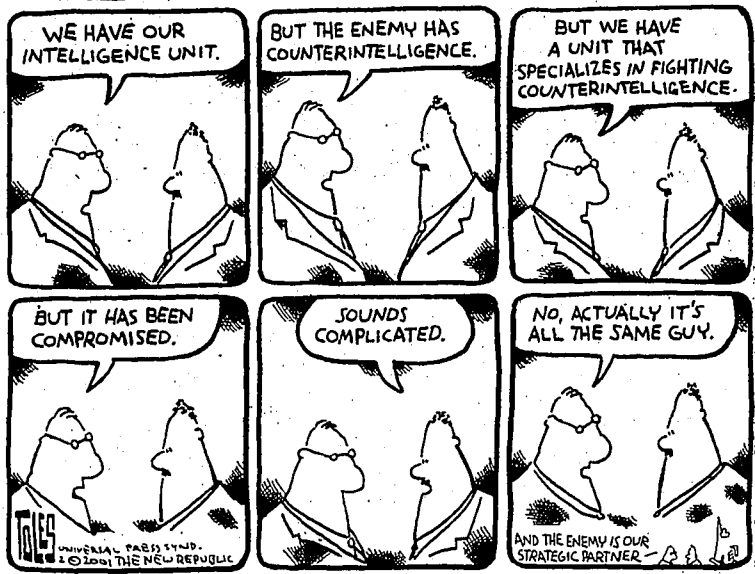
The intent is to head off relatively victimless crimes of addiction before they spiral into other crimes that threaten civil society. There are endless variations, but most of the themes are familiar. Somebody gets drunk, then turns nasty and violent. Somebody else gets strung out on narcotics and, unable to work for a living, begins stealing to pay for drugs.

Far too many of Idaho's serious crimes are committed by drug addicts and alcoholics who, for all intents and purposes, are addicted to crime as well. If their addictions go untreated, they will continue to crowd Idaho's prisons.

Treating the root causes of crime, rather than the end result, makes sense for taxpayers and convicts alike. Drug and alcohol treatment for prisoners, and for those on probation and parole, deserves everyone's support.

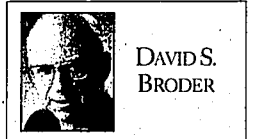
Far too many of Idaho's serious crimes are committed by drug addicts and alcoholics who, for all intents and purposes, are addicted to crime as well. If their addictions go untreated, they will continue to crowd Idaho's prisons.

Spy vs. Spy vs. Spy vs. Spy



America's governors emerge as a force

The nation's governors have been hanging out in Washington, but to hear them talk, you would have thought they were in the Promised Land. Back home, some of them face energy crises and worries over an economic slump, and almost all are in the mid-wrestling stage of their legislative sessions. But in the capital for four days of conversations with the newly installed Bush administration, the members of the National Governors' Association (NGA) were celebrating as if they didn't have a care in the world.



DAVID S. BRODER

The Republicans, who hold 29 of the governorships, rejoiced in the fact that their favorite former member, George W. Bush, whose campaign they helped launch with a wave of early endorsements at the same meeting two years ago, was waiting to welcome them at the White House. Even the outnumbered Democrats said they hoped for a new era of cooperation between Washington and the state capitals - and not just because of Bush's tenacity.

Similar hopes were expressed eight years ago when Bill Clinton, a former NGA chairman, moved from the Arkansas governorship into the White House. But Clinton, in the view of many governors, was stronger on the rhetoric of federalism than he proved to be in practice. "He'd say all the right things," said Utah's Republican Gov. Mike Leavitt, "but then his staff would shake their heads, no."

As Michigan's Republican Gov. John Engler pointed out, "In only four of the last 25 years have we not had a former governor in the White House." The elder George Bush interrupted a string that began with Jimmy Carter of Georgia and Ronald Reagan of California and that continued with Clinton and now Bush, until last month the governor of Texas.

But things have changed radically in both the state capitals and in Washington since Carter was elected in 1976. A quarter-century ago, the Southern states were still suspect when it came to ending the legacy of segregation and guaranteeing civil rights. Then, talented politicians wanted to work in Washington; now members of Congress routinely leave to seek election as governor. Then, many states had revenue systems too fragile and too regressive to support ambitious programs; in the last few years, most states have had enough money coming in to finance both tax cuts and bigger

spending. When Reagan proposed letting the states handle welfare, establishment opinion in Washington warned that it would be a disaster. But when Clinton and a Republican Congress actually made that decision in 1996, the states stepped up to the responsibility better than the critics imagined.

Bush clearly trusts the governors to do the same thing with the biggest federal education program, the funds to aid schools in teaching underprivileged children. His proposal would give the states far more flexibility in the use of federal money, in return for a promise that the governors will set high performance standards for their schools and measure their educational results. The governors want some fine-tuning, but by and large, are enthusiastic about the Bush proposal.

But it is not just Bush's election that is likely to enhance their role in government. The Supreme Court, in a series of narrow decisions, the latest just last week, has curbed Congress' authority to mandate state actions or restrict state powers. And politically, the states exercise unusual leverage over Congress at this moment, because district lines for members of the House of Representatives will be redrawn in the next few months. Members of Congress are lobbying legislators and governors to preserve their seats.

As Glendening said, the close division between the parties in Washington creates a real opportunity for the governors, who often can put aside their partisan differences and agree on common policies, to influence the national debate. Bush is encouraging them to do just that. So it's no surprise that the governors are happy campers.

David S. Broder is a national political reporter for The Washington Post.

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LETTERS

Coyotes are not the problem

To Idaho Fish and Game Commissioner Fred Wood:

I urge you to reconsider the new predator-control program you and the other commissioners have planned for selected areas of southern Idaho. All evidence indicates that coyotes are not responsible for the sage grouse population depletion, yet you are willing to embark on an expensive and gruesome "test" study using M44 cyanide-charged coyote-poisoning devices. As you know, when a coyote or any other animal such as a dog happens upon the apparatus and tugs at the bait, a spring snaps, forcing cyanide into the victim's mouth. The animal dies minutes later.

Some of the commissioners suggested using leg-hold traps because these were more "publicly acceptable." Mr. Wood, neither method is an acceptable way to treat wildlife! Furthermore, this is a totally unnecessary study.

For three years, Fish and Game implemented a predator-eradication program in the Shoshone region in an effort to increase pheasant populations. For three years, the commissioners ignored the opinions of their biologists and the objections of many and proceeded with killing foxes, coyotes, skunks and even cats in heinous traps. No victim was ever found to have ingested a pheasant. Of course, the pheasant population never improved because predators were not causing their demise in the first place - that is, except

for human predators. Over-hunting and habitat loss were the factors.

I would like to remind you once again that you have been appointed commissioner to "protect, preserve, perpetuate and manage" all wildlife, not just animals that you and other hunters wish to kill.

MARILYN MARTIN
Ketchum
(Editor's note: Marilyn Martin is the founder and president of Idaho Animal Advocates.)

Bring back white nurse uniforms

Whatever happened to nurses that wore white uniforms?

Whatever it is, it is a disgrace to the human race. You go to the doctor's office. No one is in white. Who knows what you are getting. Or who's giving it to you.

I wore my white uniform for 20 years. As Irene Oliver said, now wear it, you earned them. Only lady I have seen in a white uniform was worn at the clinic. She was in white from her feet up and looked very professional.

In our class of licensed practical nurses, Carmen Miller, our instructor, no long hair, all up off collar.

Someone off the street could come in and give you a shot. I still go for white for nurses. I have never been sorry I took my nurse's training. I'm an LPN and proud of it.

RUTH RIDLEY
Filer

Thanks for the support

I wanted to take this time to praise and compliment the students of Jerome School District. The support they show at the girl's basketball games is phenomenal. I have known most of these students and players since they were third-, fourth- or fifth-graders. I am very proud and honored to know all of them.

The high school band, drill team and the cheerleaders are always at the games to contribute their excellent performances, and Patrick Crozier adds a special touch by singing the National Anthem. Our players are respected for their true devotion and hard work.

Jerome is a great community with many outstanding and exceptional students.
BRENDA FORD
Jerome.

Washington deserves more honor

George Washington is not being given proper recognition and honor due him.

If Abraham Lincoln was here today, he would acknowledge George Washington. He once commented that "to add brightness to the sun or glory to the name of Washington is alike impossible."

And Ronald Reagan said, in his 1983 Christmas radio address to our nation, that Washington "personified a people who knew it was not enough to depend on their own courage and goodness; they must also seek help from God, their father and preserver."

Abraham Lincoln has been given so much attention because of the Civil War and slavery. He didn't fight in battle, but George Washington fought in the battles of the Revolution with his men in the

LETTERS

field. In eight years, he was only home with Martha, his wife, at Mount Vernon 10 precious days.

Our Idaho congressmen are celebrating Abraham Lincoln because he was the first Republican president. Why don't they at least celebrate George Washington every other year?

Are you aware that only one in four children today know whose portrait is on the dollar bill? Are you aware that hardly any of our children know who the first president was?

Let's once again put the first president's life and sacrifice back in our nation and back in our schools. All our early forefathers played an enormous role in our country's progression.
PAUL C. VICTOR
Twin Falls

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



FBI needs a new leader who will inspire confidence within the bureau

At Louis Freeh's press conference on the espionage arrest of FBI agent Robert P. Hansen, a reporter asked how much responsibility he accepts for the apparent fact that Hansen evaded detection by the bureau for 15 years. "Well, the buck stops with me," Freeh declared. "I'm accountable for it. I'm responsible."

Freeh's response was good public relations, but it masked the fact that the director had, in fact, failed to adopt a proposal that might have stopped Hansen's alleged activities.

In 1994, just after the arrest of CIA officer Aldrich Ames for espionage, bureau officials developed a plan to screen FBI agents by using polygraph tests. The idea was not radical. CIA officers and National Security Agency employees had long been subject to routine polygraph exams.

More recently, the FBI urged the Energy Department to require polygraph tests at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Mesmerized by their own legend of incorruptibility, many FBI agents objected. But most acknowledged that the FBI's position as the agency in charge of catching spies shouldn't exempt it from scrutiny. In the end, Freeh took no action on the polygraph proposal, leaving the FBI in the curious position of advocating polygraphs at other agencies but not for itself.

Asked about this, John Collingwood, the FBI's assistant director for public and congressional affairs, said that while Freeh was aware of the discussions, he never received a formal proposal from bureau officials to institute polygraph screening, because there was no consensus among them on the issue.

To be sure, polygraphs had not been effective in detecting Ames' spying. But the CIA had misread its own polygraph results. When FBI polygraph examiners later looked at the CIA's charts, they concluded that Ames, when asked about spy activities, clearly had shown signs of deception.

The FBI is perfectly happy to polygraph criminal suspects, if they consent. Because of Freeh, the bureau also now polygraphs applicants to the FBI. It polygraphs counterintelligence agents assigned to especially sensitive cases like the Ames investigation. While polygraphs are not infallible, they clearly serve as a

RONALD KESSLER

deterrent. If failing to adopt agency-wide polygraph testing were Freeh's only lapse, he could be forgiven. But, under Freeh's leadership, the FBI has lurched from one debacle to another. In almost every case, Freeh has been personally involved and has often contributed to the fiascos.

Most recently, in the case of Wen Ho Lee, Freeh encouraged senior experts in Chinese counterintelligence to retire. When the case came up, the bureau had no experienced personnel at headquarters to supervise the investigation. Then, despite flimsy evidence, Freeh approved the bureau's request that the Justice Department indict the Chinese scientist.

When the FBI interviewed Richard Jewell during the investigation of the Atlanta Olympic bombing, Freeh called from Washington to insist that agents read Jewell his Miranda rights, as would be required if he were being held as a suspect. In fact, there was no need to read him his rights, and when the agents did so, Jewell — who had agreed to the interview — clammed up. Ultimately, the FBI found he was not involved. Had he talked, the FBI might have reached that conclusion sooner, sparing Jewell and the bureau embarrassment.

Earlier in his administration, Freeh ignored the advice of his laboratory director, John W. Hicks, who said the work of the lab would be severely impaired if Freeh proceeded with his plan to transfer to field offices about half the lab's 130 examiners who were agents. The staff cut diminished the quality of the lab's work, and its case backlog grew from six months to a year. An ensuing investigation determined that the lab might have mishandled 50 cases.

Despite the fact that Freeh's pal Larry A. Potts was immersed in controversy for mishandling the standoff at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, Freeh promoted Potts to deputy FBI director.

Why has Freeh been able to escape serious criticism of his performance? If for nothing else, it is because he is as good as they get at public relations. Through adroit manipulation of the press

and a heavy presence on the Washington social scene, Freeh has maintained a Teflon presence.

Within the bureau, the story is entirely different. When Freeh was first appointed, FBI agents

were pleased. Here was a former agent who had been both a federal prosecutor and a federal judge. Yet agents quickly became disillusioned. What Freeh lacked most, they felt, was the ability to listen.

While Freeh has two more years before his 10-year term expires, the president doesn't have to wait to replace him. President Bush should move quickly to replace Freeh with a director who will inspire confidence.

Ronald Kessler, a former Wall Street Journal and Washington Post reporter, is author of "The FBI: Inside the World's Most Powerful Law Enforcement Agency." He writes this commentary for The Washington Post.

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734-2515; Fax 734-0414
In Washington: Dirksen G-50
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-6342
e-mail messages can be sent via: Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

Sen. Larry Craig
In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Matthews, regional director
1292 Adelstein Ave. E.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
734-6780, Fax 734-3905
In Washington: 520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2752
e-mail: larry_craig@senate.gov

Rep. Mike Simpson
In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director
1101 Falls Ave. E., suite 25
Twin Falls, ID 83301
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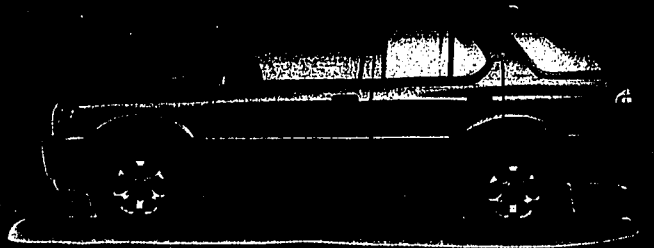
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Simpson field rep to hold meetings

TWIN FALLS - An aide to U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson will hold meetings in three Magic Valley communities today.
Simpson aide Linda Culver will meet with constituents from 9 to 10 a.m. at Murrough City Hall; from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Hansen City Hall; from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Ageless Senior Citizens Center in Kimberly; and from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Kimberly City Hall.
For more information, call Simpson's Twin Falls office at 734-7219.

Oregon Trail, Perrine schools report to board

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls School Board today will hear annual reports from more school principals.
Principals Ted Popplewell from Oregon Trail Elementary School and Kent Anderson from T.B. Perrine Elementary School will be making their reports to the board. Principals from each school will continue updating the board on school goals throughout the rest of the school year.
The board also will decide whether to approve the purchase of anti-virus software for school district computer systems.
The board will meet at 7 p.m. in the district administration office at 201 Main Ave. W.

Centennial Commission to talk celebration plans

TWIN FALLS - The city's Centennial Commission will meet tonight to continue planning Twin Falls' big birthday bash.
The Centennial Commission was formed to begin organizing the city's 100th birthday celebration in 2004-2005. However, the commission lacks a leader which will likely be a main topic of discussion tonight.
Former Chairman Jeff Gooding stepped down last year because of a time constraint.
The commission will also discuss upcoming fund-raising efforts to raise money for the celebration. The commission has already spearheaded other fund-raising efforts, including selling rose clippings from the Lucy Stricker historical site in Hansen for \$1,000 a piece.
The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is encouraged to attend.

Mayor says Halley's electric bills could jump

HAILEY - The mayor has issued a warning to his citizens that is sure to strike an anxious nerve with aficionados of the Internet, cable TV, hot tubs and electric mixers.
Mayor Brad Siemer said Idaho Power Co. representatives have told him that residents of Hailey can expect to see their electrical bills jump as much as 50 percent this summer. And they may even experience rolling blackouts, thanks to California's energy crisis and a snowpack that is only half of what it should be.
Siemer said he has directed city staff to research ways the city can conserve energy. Hailey Public Library staff have also pledged to research ways residents can serve and make that information available to the public, said Library Director Ann Tabler.

Hansen City Council reschedules meeting

HAILEY - The regular City Council meeting scheduled March 12 has been moved to March 19.
The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. at City Hall, 388 N. Main St. The meeting is open to the public.

Heyburn leaders will discuss zoning issues

HEYBURN - The City Council tonight will vote on a new ordinance regarding the location of sexually-oriented businesses.
The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 941 18th St.

Compiled from staff reports

United Way names local director

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A retired Navy captain has been named as executive director of the United Way of South Central Idaho.
James F. Ponzio, 54, will start his new job Thursday.
Ponzio is familiar with the United Way, having worked as the organization's campaign chairman for the past three years and as board president in 1999 and 2000.
"I'm looking forward to the opportunity of continuing the work (former executive director) Diane Boyd started," Ponzio said



James F. Ponzio
Ponzio is familiar with the United Way, having worked as the organization's campaign chairman for the past three years and as board president in 1999 and 2000.

to keep the momentum going so that more of our less fortunate friends and neighbors can get the help they need."
Ponzio, a 28-year Navy veteran, flew helicopters and worked for two years as a military attaché to Portugal.
He and his wife Lynn and their son Colin have lived in Twin Falls for the past five years.
As executive director, Ponzio will be in charge of month-to-month chapter operations, agency interactions and its relations with different community groups.
Ponzio was not sure how much money he would make as execu-

utive director - which will likely become a full-time job for him.
"I'm basically working 30 (to) 40 hours a week," he said.
When he has the time, Ponzio said he will continue his current work as a travel agent.
Ponzio said he looks forward to two things in his new job: He wants to continue building awareness of what community partners for United Way are doing, and to increase local participation in the United Way.
He said there is one drawback to the job.
"You're a lightning rod anytime there is an article about the United Way," he said.

Herrett Center looks toward expansion



From left, Jim Woods, Herrett Center director; Joan Edwards, executive director of the College of Southern Idaho Foundation; Barbara Allen, Rick Allen's wife; and Alan Homer, president of First Federal Savings Bank sit in front of a model of the expanded Herrett Center. On Tuesday, Allen and Homer presented the foundation with a sizable donation from the bank in support of the planned Rick Allen Memorial Hall.

Memorial to honor former bank president, CEO

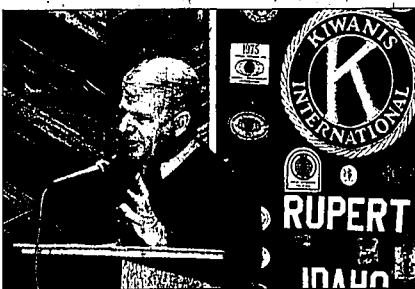
By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - More people are sharing in Norman Herrett's dream.
A planned addition to the Herrett Center for the Arts and Sciences includes both a commu-

nity room named for another Twin Falls civic supporter, and the public observatory envisioned long ago by Herrett.
The College of Southern Idaho Foundation received a \$25,000 donation Tuesday from First Federal Savings Bank in memory of the bank's former

President and CEO Rick Allen. The bank has donated a total of \$75,000 to the Rick Allen Memorial Hall, which will be used for lectures, meetings, dinners and community events at the Herrett Center. Allen died in 1998. His wife, Barbara Allen, said the memorial is a fitting

honor to his memory.
"I had no idea how many people knew him. I still get letters," she said.
Her husband valued education and CSI's presence in Twin Falls, she said.
The memorial is significant
Please see HERRETT, Page B3



Jim Cozine, a brigadier general representing the Idaho Military Division of the U.S. Army, spoke Tuesday to the Rupert Kiwanis Club. He said U.S. National Guard members from throughout the Magic Valley will participate in upcoming peacekeeping missions to Bosnia.

Possible deployment

Idaho National Guard plans mission to Bosnia

By Aaron Brock
Times-News writer

RUPERT - Several upcoming U.S. National Guard missions will likely include members from the Mini-Cassia area and throughout the Magic Valley, the Rupert Kiwanis Club was told on Tuesday.
Jim Cozine, a U.S. Army brigadier general representing the Idaho Military Division, gave a presentation at two planned peacekeeping missions to Bosnia. Each mission will last six months and will take place between

September 2001 and October 2002, he said.
The first mission will run from September 2001 to April 2002, and will include 186 Idaho National Guard members from around the state.
"They're training up for that mission now," Cozine said, adding that many of the Idaho reservists will be deployed with attack helicopters which are used as a deterrent to native hostilities.
A second mission, from March 2002 to October 2002, will include 74 Idaho soldiers and would certainly include members from the Twin Falls and Burley battalions, Cozine said.
He said employing reserve soldiers in missions is important because full-time military enrollment has slipped. In fact, 54 per-

cent of the Idaho National Guard is currently on active duty.
Please see BOSNIA, Page B3

Former Cassia sheriff gets fine, probation

By Ruth Streever
Times-News writer

BURLEY - A former Cassia County sheriff was sentenced to a \$1,000 fine and probation after admitting to illegally refilling some prescriptions last summer.

Billy Crystal, 53, pleaded guilty Friday in 6th Judicial District Magistrate Court to four counts of misdemeanor prescription refilling.
Bannock County Judge Boyd White fined Crystal \$250 for each count and sentenced him to 14 months of supervised probation, county prosecutor Mark Hiedeman said.
On Sept. 7, 2000, the Cassia County prosecutor's office asked the Idaho State Police to lead an investigation into Crystal, ISP Capt. Chuck Rollins said.

The ISP typically handles cases which pose a potential conflict, but its investigators cannot always be completely detached.
"It was not a fun investigation to do," Rollins said Tuesday. "Anyone you do an investigation on someone you know to be a stand-up guy, yeah, it's tough. But it's our job to find the facts."
Rollins said the investigation began when a physician notified the Idaho Board of Pharmacy of a problem with some prescriptions: The board subsequently notified the Cassia County prosecutor's office.

After the ISP took charge of the case, investigators served warrants at a Burley pharmacy and interviewed Crystal, Rollins said. The warrants turned up prescriptions illegally filled on four

different dates in August. According to court documents, Crystal refilled prescriptions on Aug. 4 and Aug. 7 for Xanax, a medication for anxiety. On Aug. 17 and Aug. 19 he refilled prescriptions for Tylenol 4, a pain reliever containing codeine.
Crystal was charged on Dec. 28 and the case was turned over to Bannock County for prosecution.
Crystal could not be reached for comment Tuesday, and he did not have an attorney representing him at Friday's sentencing, Hiedeman said.

In a December interview, Crystal said he was going through some personal problems at the time of the illegal refills.
"My problems that resulted with these allegations came at a time when I was dealing with my sister's death, and when I was just diagnosed with sleep apnea. So there were times when I was in my right senses," Crystal said.

Cassia County Sheriff Jim Higns, who hadn't known about Friday's sentencing, said the whole incident was unfortunate.
Voters elected Higns over Crystal in the November election, giving Higns a 75 percent majority. Crystal, who had been sheriff since 1985, announced plans after the election to retire from law enforcement.

Crystal was sentenced to 14 months of supervised probation, county prosecutor Mark Hiedeman said.

Meeting today

A public hearing to discuss a proposed county light ordinance is scheduled at 3 p.m. today at the Twin Falls County Office Building, 246 Third Avenue E. in Twin Falls. The ordinance, if passed, would require residential, dairies and other commercial and industrial operations to put in light systems that don't create glare.

No glare

TF plans public meeting on proposed light ordinance

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A public hearing has been scheduled today to discuss a proposed countywide light ordinance that aims at cutting down the amount of glare from lights at residences, dairies and other commercial and industrial operations.

If passed, the ordinance would require commercial, industrial and confined animal feeding operations to have a lighting designer set up the operation's lighting system.
A lighting designer, as defined in the ordinance, is an independent electrical engineer or person qualified to perform lighting system design.

Complaints from county residents about glare from commercial and industrial operations, including some dairies, prompted county commissioners to form a committee to look into the problem.

The committee, made up of a former electrical engineer, a dairy owner and several residents, has been working on the ordinance for about six months.
The proposed ordinance will be discussed by county leaders in detail at today's meeting and residents will have an opportunity to voice their opinions about it.

The ordinance, after it goes through public hearings, will go to county commissioners for their approval. A decision is not expected today.

If approved, new commercial, industrial or animal operations would have to conform to the ordinance requirements within three months from the date of permit approval. Existing operations would have three years to conform to the code, according to the ordinance.

Any operation - industrial, commercial or animal - that doesn't comply with the ordinance could be fined \$300 per day, the proposed ordinance says.

But Richard Showell, a committee leader, said it could be difficult to get operations to comply with the new ordinance.
Under the ordinance, it would be up to the county Planning and Zoning Commission to enforce the rules. That would mean inspecting a facility and issuing an order if the facility is in violation of the ordinance.
But mostly, compliance with the ordinance will be honor-based, Showell said.
"This committee never point

Please see LIGHTS, Page B3

MAGIC VALLEY

New noxious weed hits Idaho, but new legislation could help win battle

By Lorraine Cavener
Times-News correspondent

SHOSHONE - If you see a pickup parked in front of the Lincoln County Courthouse with a bumper sticker that says "Noxious Weeds: Everybody's problem," it could belong to Terry Ruby, weed control superintendent for Lincoln, Gooding and Jerome counties.

Ruby Monday gave Lincoln County commissioners an update about potential weed problems.

A bill now on the floor of the state Senate - Senate Bill 1042 - would require a noxious weed management plan for every new subdivision, Ruby said.

Weeds on subdivisions have been a problem, and the Senate bill would provide another tool to help combat the problem, he said.

The subdivision problem could become particularly bad in the three Northside counties, where about 30 new subdivisions are projected for the next year.

"Everything north of Shoshone is being subdivided," he said.

Often, the land is purchased and subdivided by someone who does not live on it.

"It just grows weeds until

To report problems
To report possible noxious weeds in Lincoln, Gooding or Jerome counties, or for more information, call Terry Ruby at Tri-County Noxious Weed Control, 934-8569.

someone moves onto it," he said.

The bill would require the county to write into the plat that property owners were notified about noxious weed control.

Ruby would rather have people call and ask about a weed if they are not sure what it is, rather than have to clean it up later, he said.

Scotch thistle has particularly been a problem on subdivisions in the past, he said. But a new noxious weed threat in Idaho is Eurasian water thistle.

The weed looks like moss and grows in lakes and private ponds. It has become a problem in Coeur d'Alene and on Lake Payette and on ponds in Canyon County.

"I doubt that it's down here, but we will be looking for it," he said.

Mollit is expensive to get rid of, he said. Divers must pull up the weeds from the bottom of the pond, suck weeds up with a big pump, then dry them and burn them.

The weed can clog ponds and lakes quickly if not eradicated, said Ruby, who asks that anyone who spots an unfamiliar moss-like weed to report it immediately.

Times-News correspondent
Lorraine Cavener can be reached at 532-4809 or lcavener@pm.com

SADDLE & TACK AUCTION

Monday, March 5th, 7 p.m.
Doors open for Preview at 6 p.m.
West Coast of Twin Falls
formerly Cavanaugh's Convention Center.

Three Bar Saddlery of San Antonio, Texas has ordered a complete foreclosure and disposal of all merchandise from their Montana Distributor. Per order of creditor and distributor, all merchandise must be disposed of at public auction in several locations.

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Blaine extends moratorium on towers

By Karen Bosack
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Blaine County Commissioners Monday approved a second four-month emergency moratorium prohibiting new wireless communication towers.

The ordinance replaces an earlier one that expired Monday. Unlike the first moratorium, however, no one showed up to protest the moratorium or seek an exception.

The city of Hailey, which is working with the county on an ordinance, passed a similar moratorium two weeks ago, replacing an earlier moratorium about to

expire.

Commissioner Dennis Wright said the county moratorium was designed to preserve the status quo on an issue that is "as important today as it was several months ago."

County Administrator Linda Haavik said the county was moving as quickly as it could on the issue. The county hired a consultant to help draft an ordinance regarding wireless towers, in an effort to avoid hillsides full of antenna farms.

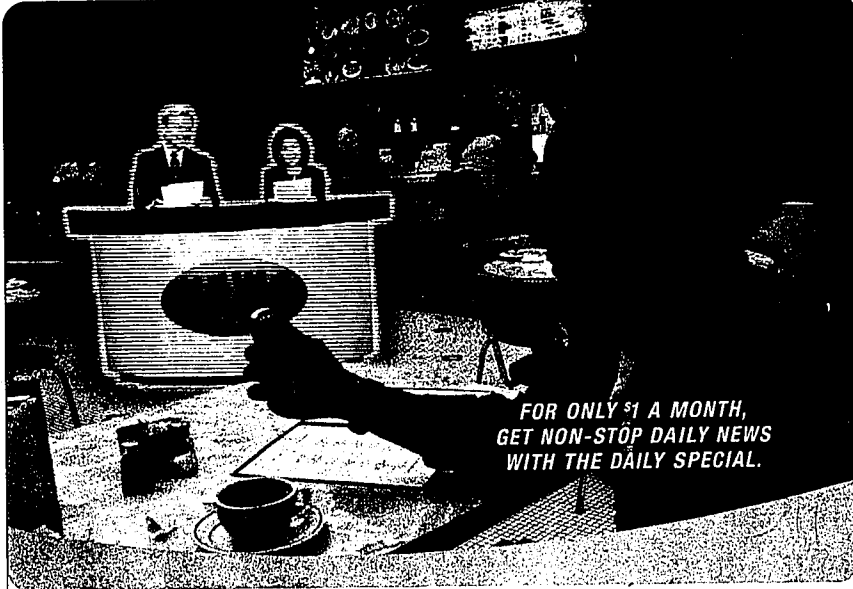
Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on a proposed draft ordinance on Feb. 22 and will continue considering the issue on March 8.

Haavik said the commission would likely send the draft ordinance back to the consultant for review, then re-examine it again, before passing it on to commissioners. Likely, it will be May or June before commissioners get to tackle it, she said.

A third emergency moratorium ordinance can't be imposed, Commission Chairwoman Mary Ann Mix noted. The moratorium can be voted and the new ordinance put in place if the county applies the finishing touches before the four-month expiration date.

AUCTION LISTINGS THROUGH MARCH 31

<p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28-6:00PM Furniture - Tools - Collectibles Household - Misc. - Twin Falls Taking Commitments Daily HUNT BROTHERS AUCTIONS 208-734-2648</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7-11:00AM Scott Loveland Farms - Farm Equip. - Dedic Advertisement - Ag Weekly 274, 33 Times-News 34 MUSSER BROS AUCTIONEERS, LLC www.mbauction.com</p>
<p>THURSDAY, MARCH 8-11:00AM Larson Farms, Inc. - Herson, Idaho Farm Equipment Auction Advertisement Ag Weekly 217 & 224 Advertisement Times-News 2/25 MUSSER BROS AUCTIONEERS, LLC www.mbauction.com</p>	<p>THURSDAY, MARCH 8-11:00AM Shelby Barren MCDoug Irrigation Equipment - Jerome Advertisement - March 8 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>THURSDAY, MARCH 8-11:00AM Row Crop Equipment Commitment Ontario, OR Advertisement - February 25 BAKER AUCTION CO. www.bakerauction.com</p>	<p>THURSDAY, MARCH 8-11:00AM G.L. Deen & Sons, Inc. - Farm Equip. - Rupert Advertisement - Ag Weekly 274, 33 Times-News 35 MUSSER BROS AUCTIONEERS, LLC www.mbauction.com</p>
<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM TKS Farms, Inc. - Tarry & Kay Theater Farm Machinery - 4 Wheelers - Household - Filer Advertisement - February 27 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM John Christ - Farm Equipment - Rupert Advertisement - March 8 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM Devo Dabweller & Neighbors - Farm Machinery Spud Equip. - Irrigation Equip. - Twin Falls Advertisement - February 28 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM Janie & Ron Pierce - Farm Machinery - Rogerson Advertisement - March 7 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM Pokot Farms - Don Kasel Row Crop Equipment - Nampa Advertisement - February 25 BAKER AUCTION CO. www.bakerauction.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 10-11:00AM Hazel & Ralph Schneel - Farm Machinery Livestock Equipment - Rogerson Advertisement - March 8 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 9-11:00AM Homedale Consignment Auction Farm & Ranch Equipment - Homedale Advertisement - February 25 BAKER AUCTION CO. www.bakerauction.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 10-11:00AM JKD Ranches - Farm Parts - Hayburn Advertisement - March 8 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 3-11:00AM Auto Auction - Saturday Cars - Trucks RV's - Equipment Consignments Welcome - Twin Falls HUNT BROTHERS AUCTION 208-734-2648</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 10-10:00AM Jerry & Dana Werner and Steven & Bonnie Torie Farm Machinery - Hazelton Advertisement - March 8 NORTHWEST MARKETING ASSOC. (208) 420-3679</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 3-11:00AM Gene & Peg Morris - Farm Machinery - Gooding Advertisement - March 1 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>MONDAY, MARCH 12-11:00AM Johnson Brothers - Farm Equipment Tractors - Trucks - Hazelton Advertisement - March 10 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 3-11:00AM Thompson Cash Yield Auction Shop - Tools - Collectibles - Hayburn Advertisement - March 1 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>	<p>TUESDAY, MARCH 13-11:00AM Lawkoff Farms - Farm Equipment - Dedic Advertisement - Ag Weekly 33, 310 Times-News 311 MUSSER BROS AUCTIONEERS, LLC www.mbauction.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 3-11:00AM Roverend Jim Davis - Retirement Auction Furniture - Collectibles - Guns - Misc. - Hogoman Advertisement - March 1 ALL AMERICAN AUCTION CO. www.auctionidaho.com</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14-10:00AM Gom Mountain Farms - Tractors - Trucks Potato & Onion Equipment - Sprinklers Tremonton, Utah Advertisement - March 12 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>SUNDAY, MARCH 4-12 NOON James LaFue & Family - Household - Horse Mule & Tack - Livestock & Shop Items - Hollister Advertisement - March 2 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 16 Dean Monson - Farm Equipment - Paul Advertisement - March 14 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>MONDAY, MARCH 5-11:00AM Owen Bennett Farms Row Crop Equipment - Nyssa, OR Advertisement - February 25 BAKER AUCTION CO. www.bakerauction.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 17 Lawkoff Farms - Farm Equipment - Dedic Advertisement - Ag Weekly - 33 & 310 Times-News - 311 BILL ESTES & ASSOCIATES (208) 664-2648 or 670-0248</p>
<p>MONDAY, MARCH 5-11:00AM Ted & Howard Hardor - Farm Machinery - Buhl Advertisement - March 3 MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>TUESDAY, MARCH 20 The Woods - Late Model Spud Equipment Tractors - Trucks - Oakley Advertisement - March 18 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>TUESDAY, MARCH 6-5:00PM Household - Tools - Antiques Consignments Welcome - Jerome KLAAB AUCTION BARN 208-324-5821</p>	<p>FRIDAY, MARCH 23 R&O Farms - Farm Equipment - Hay Equipment Tractors - Hayburn Advertisement - March 21 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>TUESDAY, MARCH 6-11:00AM Scott Farms - Farm Equipment - Wendell Advertisement - Ag Weekly 274, 33 Times-News 34 MUSSER BROS AUCTIONEERS, LLC www.mbauction.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 24-11:00AM Annual Twin Falls Community Auction Trucks - Cars - Tools - Equipment Misc. - Twin Falls New Taking Consignments ALL AMERICAN AUCTION CO. 734-4867</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7-11:00AM Pollack Farms Row Crop Equipment - Payette Advertisement - February 25 BAKER AUCTION CO. www.bakerauction.com</p>	<p>MONDAY, MARCH 26 ISAAC Auctions - Potato Equipment - Tractors Trucks - Farm Equipment - American Falls Advertisement - March 24 US AUCTIONS www.us-auctioneers.com</p>



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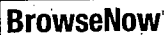
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What's the best way to prepare for a move?

Ask friends, neighbors and real-estate agents for recommendations when you hire a moving company. Get several estimates, and be sure you understand all of the charges and terms of the contract. Most people entrust their fragile items to movers, since many companies will accept liability only for things they have packed themselves.

Several weeks before the move, sort through your belongings and give away (or organize a tag sale for) Salvage grocery-store cartons; sturdy, new cardboard boxes are best for fragile objects. You'll also need natural or white tissue paper, blank newspaper, brown wrapping (kraft) paper, flexible corrugated cardboard, bubble wrap, 2-inch-wide packing tape, permanent markers, a box cutter and scissors. You can purchase these supplies from moving companies and packaging-supply stores.

Use small boxes for heavy items, large boxes for light ones; each box should weigh no more than 50 pounds. Label each box with your name, contents (keep a more specific list with you), the room in which the box belongs, arrows indicating which side is up, and "Fragile," if necessary. Pack a box or two with items you'll need right away - plates, glasses, flatware, napkins, paper towels, snacks, bed linens, towels, toiletries, change of clothes, telephone, light bulbs, trash bags, basic tools (hammer, screwdriver, pliers, utility knife), cleaning supplies, favorite toys. Label those boxes "Last On/First Off Truck." Carry valuables such as jewelry and important documents with you.

Here are some tips for packing fragile items:

- **PLATES:** Pad cardboard box bottom with a thick cushion of wadded paper. Cover each plate with a single sheet of tissue paper, then newspaper or bubble wrap. Arrange plates standing vertically in the box, using sturdy cardboard pieces to separate each; a horizontal pile puts too much weight on the bottom pieces.
- **BOWLS:** Wrap each bowl in newspaper. Nest two or three bowls together, then wrap the bundle in more newspaper.
- **STEMWARE:** Place crumpled tissue paper inside each glass. Roll in another sheet of tissue, then in a sheet of newspaper. Cut bubble wrap or flexible corrugated cardboard for one final layer around each item.
- **KNIVES:** Roll up a knife in one or two turns of newspaper. Lay another knife in the opposite direction and continue rolling. Mark sharp items clearly.
- **MIRRORS:** Purchase special cardboard mirror boxes. Use masking tape to make a crisscross pattern across the glass: If the mirror breaks, the shards will be held together. Cover the glass with crumpled newspaper, then wrap the mirror in kraft paper, taping it down as you go. Make the bundle as flat as you can. Place into a mirror box, and tape the two pieces together, and tape securely. Artwork and framed prints can be packed in the same manner.
- **LAMPS:** Remove the shade, bulb and harp. Wrap the harp in newspaper, and label it. Secure the cord with a piece of tape. Lay the lamp on its side, and fill any space under the base with tissue paper. Roll the lamp in newspaper, and place it base-down in a box with crumpled paper. Wrap shade in newspaper and pack separately.
- **HOUSEPLANTS:** Many moving companies will not handle plants, and some states have regulations against bringing them over the border. (Contact the department of agriculture in the state you're moving to.) For short distances, stake any tall, woody stems, wrap the plants in kraft paper to contain the leaves and place in cardboard boxes, with crumpled paper supporting the pots. Transport in the back seat of your car, and unpack as soon as you arrive.

Questions should be addressed to Martha Stewart in care of The New York Times Syndication Sales Corp., 122 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10168. Or visit www.marthastewart.com (unpublished letters cannot be answered individually). "Martha Stewart Living" is on KSAW-TV at 9 a.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

ASK MARTHA

Martha Stewart

HOW SWEET IT IS

Magic Valley woman shares talent for baking

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Molly Marciel likes to cook Chinese and Mexican foods, but she said her true talent is baking sweets - pies, cakes, cookies and other pastries.

She lives with her dog on a ranch outside of Twin Falls. She first moved to Jerome, from Gault, Calif., about seven years ago. Gault is located near Sacramento and is like Jerome was about 10 years ago, Marciel said. She moved to the Magic Valley to be close to family. Her mom moved to the area 12 years ago.

Marciel's two adult sons still live in California, as does her new grandson, who is just 6 months old.

Marciel said she hasn't met the grandson yet, but is planning a spring break trip to California.

Marciel injured her back in an accident, she said, so she is now attending college for retraining. She attends Idaho State University through the outreach offices at the College of Southern Idaho. She cooks a lot to occupy her time while she is retraining.

Marciel likes the slower-paced style in the Magic Valley, she said. When she first moved to the ranch, she planted her yard from scratch. Now, there are 30 trees.

Several years ago, Marciel took a lemon meringue pie to the Kimberly Good Neighbor Days and won a blue ribbon for it.

BLUE RIBBON LEMON MERINGUE PIE

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 3 tablespoons flour
- Dash of salt
- 1 1/2 cups hot water
- 3 slightly beaten egg yolks
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 recipe meringue (recipe follows)
- 1 baked 9-inch pastry shell (recipe follows)

In saucepan, mix first four ingredients; gradually add hot water, stirring constantly. Cook and stir over high heat till the mixture comes to boiling. Remove heat; cook and stir 2 minutes. Stir small amount of hot mixture into egg yolks, then return to hot mixture. Bring to boiling and cool 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Add butter and

lemon peel. Slowly add lemon juice, mixing well. Pour into pastry shell. Spread meringue over filling, sealing to the edge of the pastry. Bake 350 degrees for 12 to 15 minutes. Cool to room temperature before refrigerating.

Meringue:
Beat 4 egg whites with 1/2 teaspoon real vanilla and 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar till soft peaks form. Gradually add 1/2 cup of sugar, beating till stiff peaks form and all the sugar is dissolved.

Crust:
2 cups flour
3/4 cup Crisco shortening
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
Cut in all ingredients with a pastry blender until the shortening is the size of peas (don't work the ingredients too much). Add 1/3 cup of cold water mixed together with milk (half and half). Blend in with a fork. Turn half of the pastry onto a floured surface and pat into a circle, adding

enough flour so it doesn't stick. Roll the pastry a little bigger than the pie plate. Put in pie plate, and crimp the edges. Use a fork to prick the bottom and sides. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or till light brown.

This recipe makes two single crusts or enough for one double-crust pie.

PEANUT BUTTER CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 butter-flavored Crisco bar (1 cup)
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon real vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup chopped peanuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl combine the sugars, shortening, peanut butter, eggs and vanilla. Blend well. Add flour, baking soda and salt. Stir in chips and peanuts. Drop dough by heaping teaspoons two inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes or till light brown.

NOTE: Airbake cookie sheets cook evenly and work great.



Molly Marciel bakes chocolate chip cookies at her home in Twin Falls.

LOGAN GASTON/The Times-News

enough flour so it doesn't stick. Roll the pastry a little bigger than the pie plate. Put in pie plate, and crimp the edges. Use a fork to prick the bottom and sides. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or till light brown.

This recipe makes two single crusts or enough for one double-crust pie.

THIRTY-MINUTE CINNAMON ROLLS

- 3 1/2 cups very warm water
- 1 cup oil
- Mix and let sit in a warm place for 15 minutes.
- Add:
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 6 tablespoons yeast
- 10 1/2 cups flour

Add enough flour so dough is not sticky. Knead till smooth. Roll one-third of this into a large rectangle. Spread with melted butter or margarine. Sprinkle with a mixture of cinnamon and sugar (1 cup sugar to 1 tablespoon cinnamon, or to taste). Roll up one long side and slice into 12 pieces. Place in a greased pan and let rise in a warm place for 10 minutes or till risen as big as desired. Bake at 375 degrees for 18 to 22 minutes or till light brown. Drizzle with frosting (recipe follows) as soon as taken out of the oven. The recipe makes three dozen rolls. The recipe can be divided by thirds for a smaller batch.

NOTE: A warm bowl and a warm kitchen help the rolls rise faster.

Frosting:
Melt 1/4 cup butter or margarine; add 1/4 cup milk and 1/2 teaspoon real vanilla. Mix in 2 to 3 cups (or enough) powdered sugar to make the frosting smooth; pour over the rolls.

Flower fashion trends lead to fun for amateur artists

Netherlands Flower Bulb Information Center

Everyone needs an artistic outlet, and sometimes the necessary supplies can be as simple as seasonal cut flowers, a vase or container, a sharp knife and water from the tap.

The secret to success is to have fun. No matter what you do, the flowers will be beautiful.

Even creating a floral masterpiece is easy, and each arrangement lasts only a week or two, so you can always try something new. The hottest floral trends from Europe offer enticing ideas.

"Two major floral trends dominate right now - and they're direct opposites," said Mieke Stap, a floral design expert for the International Flower Bulb Center in Holland. "You could call them Sublime Simplicity and



Carefree sophistication is the theme when bright, cut tulips bring color and joy to your home.



Blue magic is all about flowers like hyacinths and muscari, to remind you that spring is on the way.

Extreme Combinations.
Sublime Simplicity is soothing, featuring single-color combinations, said Stap. "This look emerged in the late '90s and continues to get stronger and stronger." It's subtle, calm, pretty. "Think of pink-on-pink mixes of color-related tulips and Persian Buttercups." Only one color choice is necessary. The rest of the choices for the arrangement revolve around flower shapes, textures and how they are arranged in the vase of one's choice.

Extreme Combinations are energizing looks - bright, shiny, chaotic and high contrast, explained Stap. "This look is creeping into fashion now. It's cutting edge, part of the new design world evolving in the new millennium."

There are two ways to achieve this look. You can mix wildly different flowers together in one

"blow-out bouquet," or you can place vivid single color arrangements into jarring, high contrast settings.

"You might mix orange, hot pink and yellow flowers in one flower arrangement," Stap said. Or you could place a single-color bouquet of searing orange tulips into a room with hot pink walls and yellow curtains: "Either way, the overall effect is totally discordant - energizing."

While there are no hard and fast rules anymore for what makes a good flower arrangement, there are some timeless classic tips.

Professional flower arrangers have long been taught that the vase should occupy a third of the arrangement, for example, and the flowers the rest, to create the most pleasing balance. Still, flaunting that lesson, today's arrangements often invert that proportion (more bottom, less top) or throw it out the window entirely in creations where the flowers are short, or shorter than the vase.

Some arrangements are even created inside the vase, with nothing peeking over the rim. Naturally, this works best with clear glass containers so you can see the flowers. (TIP: Pull out and dust off any large cylindrical glass vases you pushed to the back of your cupboard.) Generally out of fashion since the '80s, suddenly they're hot again.

If clear vases make a perfect vessel for "flowers under glass," dark, dense pots or vases are just the thing for secreting flowers within. Try this for its surprise effect. The idea is to view flowers



Simply romantic pink tulips and Persian buttercups are tucked into a chunky dark pitcher.

from above, whether the container is placed on a low coffee table, a dinner table or even the floor.

Choose a broad stone bowl, silver pitcher or trophy, or even large impounded food cans (painted Chinese and Italian cans are particularly pretty). Pour a few inches of water into the vessel itself or into a small glass vase placed within. Now add the flowers, standing upright, peeking out to be viewed from above. The effect is fun - and charming.

Here, simplicity rules. Use only one kind of flower, all one color. Sticks and stones, bamboo, sea shells, twigs, vines, odd leaves, wire, string, berries, nuts and fruits are just a few of the things (natural or not) that can help bring a floral creation to life while adding a bit of life to their own. Found objects added to an arrangement can provide structural support and visual interest. This is both a classic tip and an over-revisited trend.

FOOD & HOME

Check soil temperature before planting

I want a soil thermometer. It's the only thing that'll cure me.

It all started the other day when a friend gave me five packs of peas. Peas are wonderful. Peas are one of the earliest things you can put in the ground and expect to come up. Peas taste good. These peas have given me a burning case of spring fever.

Most pea packets tell you that you can put them in the ground as soon as it's workable. That means that the soil has to thaw out and stop being mushy.

You know the soil is dry enough to work when you squeeze some in your hand. Pick up a handful of earth and give it a good, hard squeeze. If your fingers left a definite imprint, it's too wet. If the soil falls away in light crumbles, it's just right.

But thawed isn't quite good enough. Peas need a soil temperature between 35 and 38 F to sprout. And to complicate things, I want to put a whole garden in containers this year. Including the peas. So is the soil in the containers as cold as the air temperature? Do the daytime and



GREEN THUMBPRINTS
Cathy Walworth

evening temperatures sort of even out? I could lick my finger and ... no, that's to test the wind.

I need a soil thermometer to tell me when I can put my peas in the ground. It's too hard to guess when the soil temperatures are right. A soil thermometer is the only thing that'll cure this spring fever.

DEAR CATHY: Recently, I acquired a southernwood lemon tree. It has small, light green leaves and is about 28 inches tall. It has one trunk with two newer branches 14 to 18 inches tall, growing straight up, starting about two inches from the soil. It has been growing well in bright light near a south window. I like its delicate leaves. What can you tell me about its origin and care?

-SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

DEAR SOUTHERN: Thanks for writing about your unusual houseplant. I had to guess, though, what we're talking about. A "southernwood" is an *artemisia abrotanum*, and is native to southern Europe. It is a nice, hardy herb with fine, feathery leaves that have a lemony scent. Grown outside, it can be trimmed to be used as a small hedge about three feet tall. Its aromatic leaves are used in pot-pourri and as an insect repellent. Some hang dried fronds in the closet to repel moths. And if you burn a few leaves, it should dispel cooking odors. But it isn't a lemon tree.

So if we're talking about the same plant, you have a lovely little herb that is easily propagated from softwood cuttings in summer or hardwood cuttings in fall. You can harvest the leaves as you like in summer and use them fresh or dried.

NOTE TO READERS: Be sure to log on to www.nationalgarden.com for an in-depth look at what's happening in my garden. There, you can click onto any of 14 regions in the country and learn about current gardening conditions and trends. I run pictures from my garden, sometimes recipes and book recommendations on my page, which is the Inland Northwest High Desert region. Stop by soon.

What's bugging your garden? Write to Cathy in care of this newspaper or e-mail her at: cwtwo@pmt.org.

The Times-News: Your guide to life In Magic Valley

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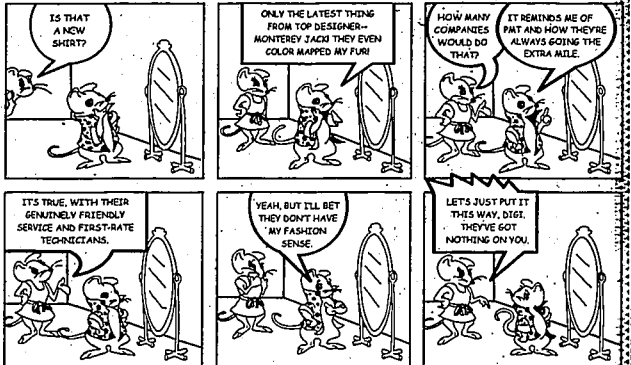
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PMT Service... Are you getting it?

Organizers plan Boise flower show

The Times-News

The Fifth Annual U. S. Bank Boise Flower and Garden Show is set to run March 29 through April 1 at the Boise Centre on the Grove.

Hours are 5 to 9 p.m. March 29 (Preview Night), 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. March 30, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. March 31 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 1.

Organizers are planning a spectacular theme garden to greet visitors at the show. "A Garden Room" is being sponsored by the Idaho Botanical Garden and will represent a complete outdoor living space (extended living garden) with

furniture, botanical artwork and a conservatory filled with tropical plants.

The show will also feature seminars for all levels of gardeners. Special guest speaker is nationally acclaimed writer/columnist Ann Lovejoy, who will give presentations titled "Designing Sustainable Gardens" and "Natural Gardening" on March 30 and 31. "For the Birds" will allow children to make their own pinecone birdfeeders. Silent auctions will benefit charity, and there will be a plant sale. The "Water Fountain

Giveaway" is a prize valued at \$1,900.

More than 1,500 booths will feature plants, floral displays, bulbs, yard structures, fountains, books, pottery, furniture, tools, garden art, landscapers, designers and more.

Admission is \$6.50 for adults, \$5 for seniors (Friday only), \$2.50 for youth ages 7 to 12 and free for children 6 and under. Preview Night is \$10 and is only for adults 21 and older. Two-day passes are \$10.

For more information, call (888) 888-7631 or visit www.gardenshowboise.com

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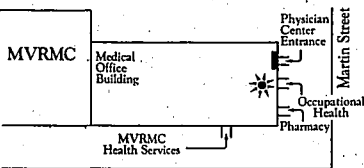
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By Ellen Hawks
The Baltimore Sun

PIINEAPPLE DELIGHT CAKE

- 1 box graham crackers
 - 2 cups milk
 - 4 eggs, separated
 - 2 cups sugar
 - 1/2 cup (1 stick) margarine, at room temperature
 - 3 teaspoons baking powder
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - Topping:
 - 1 cup crushed pineapple
 - 1 cup granulated sugar
 - 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- Crumble graham crackers in a bowl and pour milk over crumbs. Allow to soak. Meanwhile, beat egg whites until stiff and set aside. In another bowl, cream together sugar, margarine and egg yolks.

Add graham-cracker mixture, alternating with baking powder and vanilla. Fold egg whites into the mixture.

Pour into a greased tube pan. Bake 1 hour in preheated 350-degree oven or until toothpick comes out clean. Allow to cool.

To make topping: Cook all ingredients over medium heat until thickened, about 5 minutes. Spoon over cooled cake.

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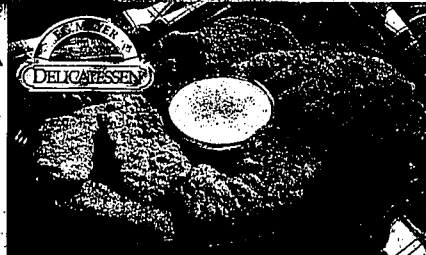
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*CAR LOAN APR valid with Auto Payment from First Federal checking account. Normal rates without Auto Pay from First Federal checking. No loan fees. HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT APR valid for loans having LTV (loan-to-value) up to 65% with a first mortgage. Variable rate plan. Rate may increase after consummation of loan. Rate may vary based on LTV. The line of credit has a 150 annual fee.

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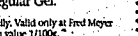
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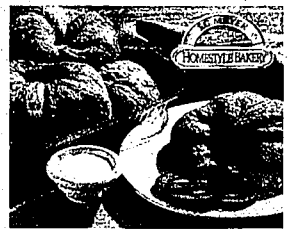
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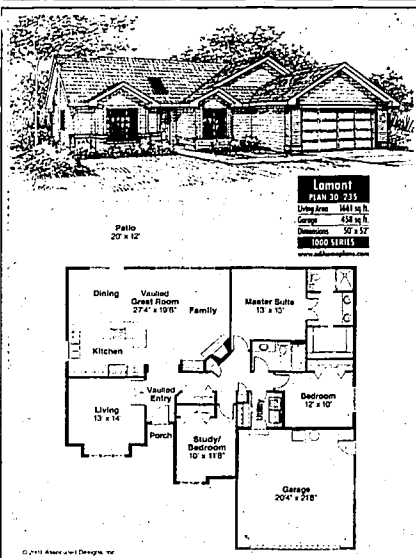
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FOOD & HOME



Lamont
Plan 30-235
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1000 SHEET

Patios 20' x 12'

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Dining
Kitchen
Living 13' x 14'
Porch
Study/Bedroom 10' x 11'6"
Bedroom 12' x 10'
Garage 20'4" x 21'8"

The Lamont is well-suited to the needs of young families.

Street appeal

Lamont design features bay windows, gables

Custom brick detailing, multi-paned windows and four variously sized gables boost the Lamont's street appeal. This compact, single-level home is well-suited to the needs of young families. Empty nesters and individuals who use wheelchairs will also find much to appreciate here.

Entering, you step into a skylit vaulted entry. Double doors on the left open into a formal living room expanded by a wide rectangular window bay.

Straight ahead is the vaulted great room, through an arched opening with an overhead plant shelf. Spacious, naturally bright and entirely open, it combines the functions of kitchen, dining room and family room.

Work surfaces in the large kitchen are in plentiful supply. Family members and friends can combine culinary efforts here without getting in each other's way. If outfitted with stools, the far edge of the meandering work island becomes an eating and conversation bar.

When skies are gray, the gas fireplace provides a cheerful focal point, as clean-burning as it is mess-free. The cabinetry next to it houses a home entertainment center, with space for a television, VCR, DVD and the like. Across the room, one set of windows slides open for patio access.

Amenities in the Lamont's master suite include a large walk-in closet and a two-section bathroom with double vanity. The pocket door slides closed to isolate the toilet and shower for steam containment and privacy.

Bedroom three, to the right of the entry, could be used as a study or home office. If desired, the owners can add an exterior door for direct porch access.

The pass-through utility room is a handy place for cleaning up muddy paws and shucking dirty footwear.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Drive, Department W, Eugene, OR 97402. Please specify the Lamont 30-235 and include a return address when ordering. A catalog featuring more than 350 home plans is available for \$15. For more information, call (800) 634-0123.

Rack of lamb racks up compliments

By Laura Ressler
Fort Worth Star Telegram

One of my favorite dishes when I go out for dinner is rack of lamb. It is featured on many restaurant menus and carries with it an aura that seems to say: available only at restaurants; too difficult to cook in your kitchen. But really, making an outstanding rack of lamb at home is not much more complicated than broiling a steak.

My favorite method is a heavily modified version of a recipe in a 1989 cookbook by Pierre Franey and Brian Miller. It has just been re-released in paperback as "Cuisine Rapide: A Classic Cookbook From the 60-Minute Gourmet." Franey, Miller and Craig Claiborne were the foundation of the food section of "The New York Times," in the years I learning to cook.

I usually prepare two racks, pulling one out of the oven a minute early, so I have one rack rare (for my husband and me) and one medium-rare (for friends and relatives who prefer it that way). The crucial step in this recipe, as with most roasted or broiled meats, is to let the meat rest after cooking and before cutting into it. This allows the juices from the meat, which are released by the heat of cooking, to flow back into the meat.

I hope you treat yourself and your loved ones to this special recipe at home; they'll be so impressed by your skills that there will be no need to go out just to enjoy rack of lamb.

- 1. Also, I save and dry the stalks and toss them in the fireplace later to enjoy their fragrance.)
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped fine
- 2 shallots, chopped fine (Shallots are sold near the garlic at many supermarkets. If you can't find them, substitute the white part only of 5 scallions.)
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted (I usually do this in the microwave.)

Preheat the broiler to high. If your oven and broiler are separate, preheat the oven to 500 degrees. Using your fingers and a sharp knife, pull and slice off the top thick layer of fat from the racks of lamb, as well as any connective tissue. The meat should be almost clean of fat. Sprinkle both sides of the racks with salt and pepper. Rub both sides with olive oil, using 1 tablespoon per rack. Place both racks, meat side down, in a baking dish large enough that the racks lie flat in one layer. In a large bowl, combine remaining olive oil, bread crumbs, parsley, rosemary, garlic and shallots. Place the racks of lamb under the broiler and cook 3 minutes. Turn the racks over and cook 3 more minutes. If the broiler is part of the oven, switch the setting to bake and 500 degrees. Leaving the racks in the baking dish, cover the racks with the bread-crumble mixture, paying special attention to covering the meaty end. Pour the melted butter over the racks. Place the baking dish in the 500-degree oven and bake for 7 to 8 minutes

for rare lamb, 8 to 9 minutes for medium-rare, 9 to 10 for medium. Let the meat rest for 5 to 7 minutes, then remove the racks to a cutting board. Slice between the ribs to cut the rack into chops, or you can slice each rack in half and let your guests cut into chops. Serve with boiled red potatoes tossed with a little melted butter and chopped parsley, and steamed green beans. Scoop up the extra breadcrumb

mixture and serve it on the plates - it is too tasty to waste.

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RACK OF LAMB WITH ROSEMARY
Serves 4, generously
2 racks of lamb (Have the butcher remove the chine bone at the top of the ribs - these should weigh about 2 1/2 pounds.)
2 teaspoons kosher salt
2 teaspoons freshly ground pepper
1/2 cups extra-virgin olive oil, divided
1 cup Italian-style bread crumbs (I use the canned kind, and they work great)
5 tablespoons chopped Italian parsley (flat-leaf parsley)
10 sprigs (4 to 6 inches each) fresh rosemary, leaves stripped from the tough center stalk (I keep the leaves whole, but if it bothers you, chop them up a bit.)

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FOOD & HOME

French onion soup makes a très bon broth

By Francis Dionot
The Washington Post

French Onion Soup is a classic dish that achieves the perfect balance of sweet and sour, bitter and salty. Too often if you order it in a restaurant, you are served a dark beef broth with a few onions floating in it, topped with a soggy piece of bread and a blanket of cheese. You'll never order it again once you realize you can make your own superior version.

The best soups begin with good stock, in this case chicken stock, so we've provided you with a recipe for a rich and flavorful one. We recommend that you make this stock the day before you plan to make the soup.

Serve the soup, accompanied with red wine, as a first course for dinner or with a salad for lunch.

FRENCH ONION SOUP
(4 servings)

- 4 pounds yellow onions (not sweet varieties)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- Coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 4 cups defatted chicken stock (see recipe)
- 14 slices French bread, each 1/4-inch thick
- 2 cups (8 ounces) coarsely grated Gruyere cheese
- Slice the onions. In a 12-inch saute pan or skillet over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the onions. If the size of the pan is appropriate to the amount of onions, you will be starting with the onions piled in a mound 2 to 3 inches deep. If the pan is too wide, and the onions are only 1 inch deep, they will cook too quickly. If the pan is too small, and the onions are 5 to 6 inches deep, they will cook too slowly.
- Add 1/2 teaspoon salt to start. (You can correct the amount later.) Add four twists of black pepper from a mill or grinder.
- Saute and caramelize the onions. Scrape the caramelized onions into a stockpot. Pour 3 cups of the defatted stock into the stockpot with the onions; set

aside. Pour the remaining 1 cup stock into the saute pan and cook over medium or medium-low heat, stirring constantly, until you have scraped all of the brown bits from the bottom of the pan.

When all of the brown bits have been scraped up, transfer the contents of the saute pan to the stockpot. Place the stockpot over high heat, bring the mixture to a boil, reduce the heat to low and simmer, uncovered, for 10 minutes. Season with salt to taste.

For the crotons: Preheat the oven to 300 degrees. Place the French bread slices on a baking sheet and bake, turning once, for 10 to 12 minutes. The crotons should remain perfectly flat, not curled up, and will not change color. The crotons used in the French Onion Soup should be completely dehydrated. If they are not dry enough - if they are more like toast - they will sink when you place them on top of the soup and become a piece of soggy bread.

Increase the oven temperature to 400 degrees. Ladle the soup into four individual ovenproof bowls or crocks. Top each with a croton and sprinkle each with 1/2 cup grated cheese. Place the bowls on a baking sheet and heat until the soup is hot and the cheese is melted and crisp in spots, about 5 minutes.

Chicken Stock:
(Makes 12 cups)

- 2 3/4 pounds chicken parts
- 1 pound onions (1 large), coarsely chopped
- 1/2 pound carrots (2 large), peeled and coarsely chopped
- 1/4 pound celery (1 1/2 stalks), coarsely chopped
- 12 cups cold water
- 2 small bay leaves
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves (not ground thyme)
- 6 or 7 sprigs parsley
- 12 whole black peppercorns

Place the chicken parts, onions, carrots, celery and water in an 8-quart stockpot. The chicken parts should occupy no more than half of the stockpot and the cold water should just cover the chicken and vegetables. Bring the liquid to a

boil. When it starts to boil, you will see a white-brown foam forming on the surface. Let the foam come to the top and do not disturb it. When the foam becomes thick and stops accumulating, take a slotted spoon and carefully slide it under the foam, then lift it out and discard it. Again, try to disturb the stock as little as possible.

Add the bay leaves, thyme, parsley and peppercorns. (These are the ingredients that make a bouquet garni. Some recipes require that you wrap these in a small piece of cheesecloth, but that is not necessary for this stock.) Push the herbs down in the liquid so that they are submerged. The water should just cover the contents of the stockpot. Simmer the stock, uncovered, over low heat for 2 hours. To keep the stock clear, do not stir it for those 2 hours.

Strain the stock through a sieve or colander, discarding the chick-

en parts and all other solids. Transfer the stock to a saucepan. Over a medium heat, bring the stock to a simmer, then reduce heat to medium-low or low and simmer for 1 1/2 hours. At this time, the stock should be reduced by half, from 12 cups to about 6.

Refrigerate the stock for 3 hours (until fat becomes solid on the top) or overnight. (May refrigerate for up to 5 days or freeze for as long as 3 months.) When ready to prepare French Onion Soup, remove the stock from the refrigerator and with a spoon or spatula carefully lift off and discard the layer of fat that has formed on the surface.

NOTE: Chicken bones - uncooked - make exceptional stocks. Or you may use wings, backs, necks, gizzards and hearts, but not the liver. If you are using a whole chicken or chicken pieces, remove as much visible fat as possible. It will give you a clearer stock.

Follow daily business trends in the Magic Valley. Read the expanded Money section Tuesday through Sunday.

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About Healthy Kids Baby & Children's Faire Schedule of Events

<p>Free Center Court Activities Friday, March 2, 2001</p> <p>4:00pm-6:00pm Patricia Kempthorne, Idaho's First Lady Amber Cnossen, Olympic High Jumper Twin Falls Elementary Schools Orchestra Cat in the Hat Story Time New Year Baby and Native Idahoan Tuition Fund Recipient Celebration</p> <p>6:00pm Sage Gymnastics 6:30pm Mauldin's Dance Academy 7:00pm Healthy Cooking with Kids 7:30pm Exercise for Kids 8:00pm Pie Throwing Contest. Your chance to throw a pie at Mom or Dad!</p>	<p>Free Center Court Activities Saturday, March 3, 2001</p> <p>All Day Events Scooter Obstacle Course Computer Game Tournament Drawings for Prizes Every Hour 10:00am Stroller Parade - Best decorated stroller and driver wins a \$100 gift certificate. \$75 for 2nd and \$50 for 3rd. 10am-1pm SAFE KIDS Car Safety Seat Installations and Inspections (JC Penney parking lot) 11:00am Dance Rhythms 11:30am Barnes and Noble Story Time 12:00pm Adult Baby Food Eating Contest (Moms, Dads, and Grandparents are welcome!)</p>	<p>12:30pm Pet Partners. Learn pet safety and watch them perform amazing tricks 1:00pm Sawtooth and Perrine Elementary Drama Clubs perform scenes from The Wizard of Oz and 'Bye, Bye Birdie' 1:30pm Hygiene Presentation, South Central Health District 2:00pm Noilsen's Star Gazers 2:30pm Tooth Fairy Presentation on Healthy Teeth, South Central District Health 3:00pm Daddy's 'n Diapers. Compete in an old-fashioned cloth diaper contest. 3:30pm Children's Fashion Show 4:00pm Exercise for Kids 4:30pm Sage Gymnastics</p>	<p>5:00pm Adult Baby Food Eating Contest 5:30pm Clown 'n Ministry. 6:00pm Martial Arts Demonstration 6:30pm Pie Throwing Contest 7:00pm Healthy Cooking with Kids 7:30pm Cat in the Hat Story Time 8:00pm Grand Prize Drawing for FREE Video Camera!</p>
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COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



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Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



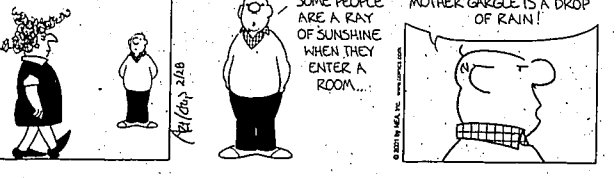
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane

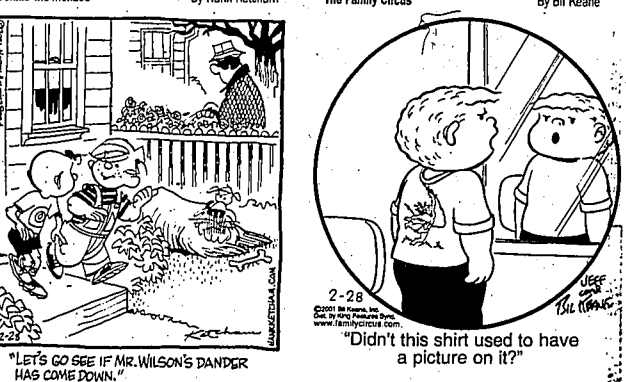


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



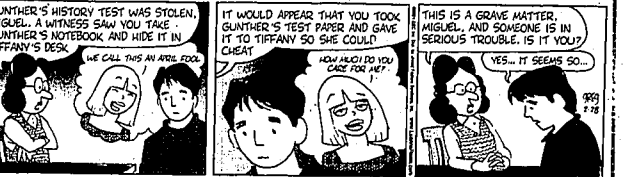
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans

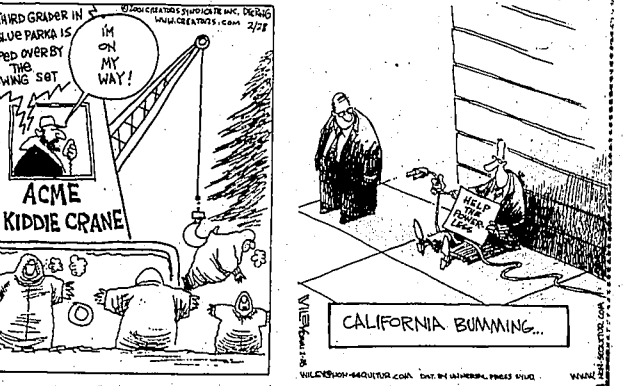


Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequiter

By Wiley



Crockpots, spring yard work go hand in hand

I can feel the promise of spring in the air. I have been getting the urge to get out into the yard and do something. So far, I have been saved by the snowstorms that keep running through the valley every few days, just often enough to keep my front yard covered with the white stuff, or a sea of mud.

A couple of March windstorms and the ground should be dried out enough to hunt up a shovel and do some digging or something. I have a box of strawberry plants stored in the garage that a friend dug up for me last fall, plus a tree that needs planting.

When I do finally get out into the yard, I believe I will dig out the crockpot to make dinner with. Crockpots are so nice. You just fill them up, turn them on and forget about them till dinner time.

A big pot of stew or pot roast will taste good after a long day in the yard getting all muddy and sore from exercising muscles not used since last fall.

OLD-FASHIONED BEEF STEW

Serves 6 to 8
2 pounds stew meat, cut into 1 1/2-inch cubes

1/2 cup flour, 2 tablespoons oil, 1 bay leaf, 1 onion, 1 cup chicken stock, 1/4 teaspoon pepper, 2 teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon sugar
6 carrots, peeled and chopped, 1 cup celery, chopped, 4 potatoes, peeled and chopped, 2 tomatoes, chopped, 12 small white onions, 2 medium turnips, peeled and chopped

4 cups water
1 cup cooked okra (if desired)
Spices as desired (I like oregano, basil and rosemary)

Coat the meat with the flour and brown in the oil in a skillet. Set excess flour aside. Place the browned meat in slow cooker and add the rest of the ingredients. Add more water if needed to cover all. Cover and cook on low for 6 to 8 hours. Turn control to high. Thicken with excess flour, left from coating the meat, dissolved in a little water. Cover and cook on high about 15 minutes.



VALLEY COOKING
Dixie Thomas Reale

till slightly thickened. Remove bay leaf before serving.

ITALIAN POT ROAST

6 to 7 servings
3- to 4-pound chuck roast
Salt and pepper
1 (1 1/2 ounce) package spaghetti sauce mix

2 tomatoes, chopped
Sprinkle meat with salt and pepper and the dry spaghetti sauce mix. Place in a slow cooking pot. Top with the chopped tomatoes. Cover and cook on low for 7 to 9 hours or until the meat is tender. Slice and serve with spaghetti noodles and sauce.

BUSY WOMAN'S ROAST CHICKEN

Serves 6 to 7
1 (6 ounce) package Stove Top Dressing, 1 1/4 cups water, 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 12 carrots, peeled and chopped

1/4- to 5-pound roasting chicken
Salt and pepper
Prepare dressing according to package directions with the 1 1/4 cups water. Set aside to cool. Cook carrots in small amount of water for 5 minutes. Drain and place in the slow cooking pot. Rinse and dry the chicken; stuff with the dressing. Place on top of the carrots in the pot, add soup and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Cover and cook on low for 6 to 8 hours, or until the chicken is tender. If a broiler chicken is desired, place in a baking pan in a 400-degree oven for about 15 minutes. Serve with the carrots.

RHINELAND SWEET AND SOUR RED CABBAGE

Serves 6 to 8
4 slices bacon, diced
1/4 cup brown sugar, 2 table-

spoons flour, 1 teaspoon salt, 1/8 teaspoon pepper, 1/2 cup water, 1/4 cup vinegar

1 medium head red cabbage, shredded, 1 small onion, chopped
Brown bacon in a skillet. Set aside. Combine 1 tablespoon bacon drippings in slow cooking pot with sugar, flour, salt and pepper. Stir in water and vinegar; add cabbage and onion. Cover and cook on low for 3 to 4 hours. Spoon into serving bowl; sprinkle bacon on top.

4 to 5 servings
4 cups unflavored bread cubes, 1/2 cup melted butter or margarine, 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg, 1/8 teaspoon salt, 3/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar, 4 cups chopped, peeled cooking apples
Mix bread cubes with butter, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt and brown sugar. Arrange in alternate layers with the apples in the slow cooking pot. Cover and cook on high for 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 hours, or until the apples are tender. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

APPLE BROWN BETTY



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FOOD & HOME

Prepare tasty salmon meal right at home

By Linda Gassenheimer
Knight Ridder News Service

On a charmed visit to Seattle the weather was beautiful and the scenery spectacular. I tasted fresh, wild salmon. It was smoked over alder wood, but you can cook fresh salmon at home under the broiler for a great flavor. The potatoes make the perfect go-with.

SALTED WINTER POTATOES
1/2 pound red potatoes, washed and sliced
1/2 pound sweet potatoes, washed and sliced
1/2 cup fat-free, low-salt chicken broth

1 teaspoon olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tablespoon chopped walnuts
2 scallions, washed and sliced
Place sliced potatoes in a large skillet. Add the chicken broth and olive oil. Bring to a simmer over medium high heat. Then cover, reduce to medium heat and cook 10 minutes. Uncover and cook until the liquid has evaporated, 2 to 3 minutes. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Remove to individual plates or a serving platter and sprinkle with walnuts and scallions. Makes 2 servings.

HERB-CRUSTED SALMON
Olive oil spray
3/4 pound salmon fillet
1/4 cup plain bread crumbs
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
Preheat broiler. Line a baking

Bake these crowd-pleasing Snickerdoodles

By Elaine Magee
Knight Ridder News Service

Keep the crowd-pleasing cookies called Snickerdoodles but lose some of the fat and calories.

SNICKERDOODLES
Makes 3 dozen
1/2 cup butter
1/4 cup light corn syrup
1/4 cup light cream cheese (in tub)

1 1/4 cups white sugar
1 egg
2 egg whites
2 teaspoons double-strength vanilla extract (regular can be used)

2 3/4 cup unbleached flour
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons white sugar
3 teaspoons ground cinnamon
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Coat a thick cookie sheet with canola cooking spray. Cream together butter, corn syrup, cream cheese, 1 1/4 cups sugar in mixer on medium speed. Add the egg, egg whites, and the vanilla and beat until blended. Add the flour, cream of tartar, soda, and salt to mixing bowl. Beat on low speed to form a dough. Refrigerate for 2 hours or until firm enough to handle. Add 3 tablespoons sugar and cinnamon to small, shallow bowl and blend well. Use a cookie scoop (or heaping tablespoon) to form cookie balls and roll each generously in the cinnamon sugar mixture. Place on cookie sheet, 2 inches apart. Bake about 8 minutes or until set, but not too hard. Remove immediately from cookie sheet.

Per serving: 99 calories, 1.5 g protein, 17 g carbohydrate, 2.9 g fat, 1.7 g saturated fat, 13 mg cholesterol, 3 g fiber, 90 mg sodium. Calories from fat: 26 percent.

Dinner in minutes
sheet with foil. Spray with olive oil. Rinse salmon and pat dry with a paper towel. Mix bread crumbs and ginger together. Dip salmon in bread crumbs, making sure both sides are covered. Place on baking sheet and spray with olive oil spray. Broil about 5 inches from heat for 5 minutes. Remove and turn over. Spray again with olive oil. Return to broiler for 5 minutes. Remove, place on 2 plates, sprinkle with cilantro and serve. Makes 2 servings.

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BOYS' state

JOURNEY

Boys' State Pairings

First-round pairings for this week's boys' high school basketball tournaments by classification, with venue and record listed:

- Class A-1, Div. I**
Thursday
At the Idaho Center in Nampa
Lake City (17-5) vs. Highland (14-11), 1:45 p.m.
Madison (17-8) vs. Capital (13-10), 3:15 p.m.
Pocatello (16-8) vs. CDA (11-14), 6:30 p.m.
Meridian (15-8) vs. Rigby (19-8), 8 p.m.
- Class A-1, Div. II**
Thursday
At Northwest Nazarene U., Nampa
Bonneville (15-8) vs. Bishop Kelly (16-8), 1:45 p.m.
Nampa (12-12) vs. Moscow (14-8), 3:15 p.m.
Skyview (15-8) vs. Century (16-8), 6:30 p.m.
Emmett (13-10) vs. Vallivue (12-13), 8 p.m.
- Class A-2**
Thursday
At Meridian High School
Declo (23-0) vs. Preston (20-4), 1:45 p.m.
Sage-Salem (18-8) vs. Lakeland (15-8), 3:15 p.m.
Magic Valley (15-8) vs. Middleton (21-1), 6:30 p.m.
Salmon (20-2) vs. Bonners Ferry (9-13), 8 p.m.
- Class A-3**
Thursday
At Capital High School, in Boise
Hwy (12-7) vs. New Plymouth (20-5), 1:45 p.m.
Wiley (21-1) vs. Lapwai (22-0), 3:15 p.m.
Palladin (14-8) vs. West Side (14-7), 6:30 p.m.
Homedale (15-8) vs. Madad (14-11), 8 p.m.
- Class A-4**
Today
At Caldwell High School
Coeur d'Alene (13-8) vs. Rockland (13-9), 1:45 p.m.
Genesee (13-10) vs. Carey (17-8), 3:15 p.m.
Fort River (14-9) vs. Notus (15-9), 6:30 p.m.
Coe Valley (21-1) vs. Oakley (15-8), 8 p.m.
- Vallivue High School**
Coeur d'Alene (11-13), 1:45 p.m.
Richfield (23-2) vs. Cascade (17-5), 3:15 p.m.
Vernick (17-6) vs. Meadows Valley (10-13), 6:30 p.m.
Kootenai (11-9) vs. Council (18-4), 8 p.m.

- ### TODAY'S SCHEDULE
- College baseball**
McDonald's Slugout:
CCSN vs. Ricks, at Frontier Field, 5:30 p.m.
- Boys' high school basketball**
State tournaments:
Class A-4, at Vallivue and Caldwell H.S.
- High school bowling**
Mixed Tournament, at Filer, 4 p.m.

IN BRIEF

- Buhl teams plan annual father/daughter hoops game**
BUHL - Buhl High School's Lady Indians will hold their annual Father/Daughter Basketball Game Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the Buhl Middle School gym.
The game is for freshman, J.V. and varsity girls' basketball players to play against their fathers. The mothers will be involved in a shooting contest at half-time of the game and may be involved in the actual game if they desire.
Admission is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Parents are asked to bring a dessert for a post-game social. For more information, contact Joe Shepard at 543-8292.
- Jerome youth baseball needs volunteer coaches**
JEROME - Youth All-Star baseball teams (ages 9-12) are in need of volunteer coaches.
Leagues play at weekend tournaments around the Magic and Wood River valleys in June and July. If interested, call Larry Bos by March 5 at 324-3414.
- Sign-ups for Magic Valley Babe Ruth are March 7**
TWIN FALLS - Sign-ups for Magic Valley Babe Ruth Baseball will take place March 7 from 7-9 p.m. at the Harmon Park Recreation Building.
Registration is open to players age 13-18 (born between Aug. 1, 1982 and July 31, 1988). A copy of birth certificate, a release signed by a parent or guardian and a \$55 registration fee is required. The season runs May-June.
For more information, call Gary Levitt at 733-5532 or Linda Brittain at 733-4600.
- Compiled from staff reports

MEN ON A MISSION

One year removed from runner-up finish, Tigers crave taste of title

By Joe Sunnen
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD - With five teams from the Magic Valley headed to the Class A-4 boys' state basketball tournament, odds are good that at least one will be competing for a championship on Saturday.
Too bad odds are something that Richfield High boys' basket-

State begins
• A-4 bracket, team previews inside, Page D2
• Coming Thursday: A-1, A-2, A-3

ball coach Garr Ward doesn't believe in.
"We like to control our environment," Ward said. "At this stage, I think 90 percent of winning is a state of mind.

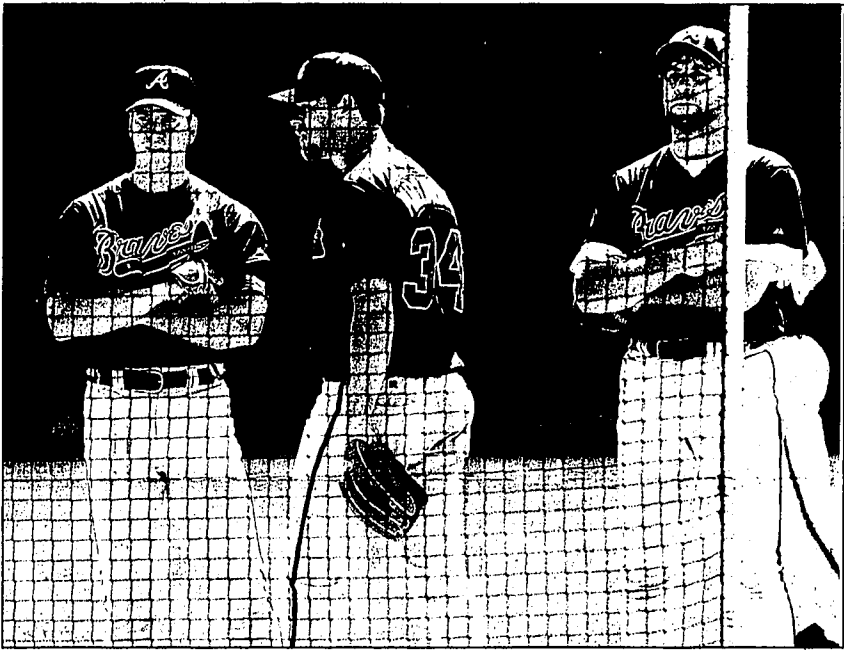
Everybody is 0-0 at the state tournament and the skill level is just about even, so it comes down to how well you can handle the pressure. At that point, it becomes a mental game."

The Tigers flourished under the pressure of the regular season, rolling to a 23-2 record and the District IV championship. Now the Tigers head to state as a favorite to win it all after coming

up short in the championship game against Mackay last year.
"You could say we're the favorites," Ward said. "But until somebody beats Mackay, they're the champions. That team just knows how to win. We hung with them for three quarters last year and then just ran out of gas. But I think we learned something from that."
While the Tigers spent the reg-

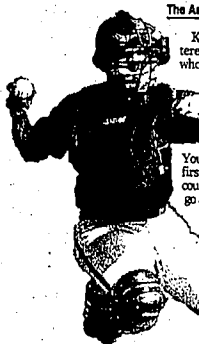
ular season preparing their minds and bodies for the chance to compete for the state title again, District IV, No. 2 seed Raft River High School spent the year simply trying to get their foot in the door.
The last time the Trojans boys' basketball team made an appearance at the state tournament was in 1993. And it's been 25 long years. Please see TIGERS, Page D2

The new zone



Atlanta Braves pitchers Tom Glavine, left, Kevin Millwood, center, and John Smoltz watch from the infield as an umpire calls batting practice to demonstrate the new strike zone on Tuesday at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Cy Young specialists size up new pitching policy



The Associated Press
KISSIMMEE, Fla. - They clustered in the middle of the infield, a who's who of pitching all wondering just how they'll be affected by the new strike zone.
Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and John Smoltz - with seven Cy Young Awards among them - got their first look Tuesday at a change that could profoundly impact the way they go about their business.
Umpires Jeff Nelson and Laz Diaz crouched behind the plate as the Atlanta Braves took batting practice, giving an orientation on baseball's plan to call the strike zone by the rule book definition this season.
Glavine and

Maddux, in particular, could be affected by the change. They have thrived for the past decade by pitching on the outside corner of the plate and beyond.
"Supposedly, many of those pitches will no longer be strikes."
"Of course, I'm concerned," said Glavine, a two-time Cy Young winner who went 21-9 with a 3.40 ERA last season. "But we don't know what's going to happen. They can say they're going to call it uniform all they want, but there's still the human element."
Opponents have grumbled for years that Glavine and Maddux rarely throw strikes but usually get the call on pitches that are several inches away from the outside corner.
That won't be the case anymore, according to Diaz. The rule book says a strike is any pitch over the plate from the top of the knees to the midpoint between the top of the shoulders and the top of uniform pants.
"They're going to have to throw it

over the plate," Diaz said. "In the past, we would give them a pitch that was off the plate half a ball. Now, at least part of the ball has to go over the plate."
Maddux, who won four straight Cy Youngs from 1992-95 and was 19-9 with a 3.00 ERA last season, conceded that he might have to make a few adjustments. But he was adamant that he won't change his basic philosophy: keep pitches down and away.
"I'm not concerned where I throw pitches," he said. "I'm concerned about how I throw pitches. If you want someone to talk about the strike zone, don't talk to me."
But what happens if Maddux keeps pitching off the outside corner and the umpires keep calling balls?
"I guess I'll throw two or three innings and go home," he replied with a shrug. "What are you going to do?"
Smoltz, more of a power pitcher
Please see STRIKE, Page D2

Carrying the flame Knicks stuff Sonics in Ewing's return

The Associated Press
NEW YORK - Patrick Ewing received a three-minute standing ovation and played the first three minutes like the Ewing of old.
There was little love for the big fella after that, though, as the New York Knicks spoiled his Madison Square Garden return with a 14-92 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics on Tuesday night.
Chants of "Patrick Ewing" accompanied a loud and long ovation during pregame introductions as the player who was the face of the franchise for 15 years stood with a smile on his face.
Please see NBA, Page D3

Want to run?
Do you want to be an Olympic torch bearer? Do you know someone who would? Starting Tuesday, nominations will be accepted online at the Salt Lake Organizing Committee's Web site, at Coca-Cola retailers and at Chevrolet dealerships.
Applications will be taken until April 30.
On the Net:
Salt Lake Organizing Committee: <http://www.saltlake2002.com>
Chevrolet: <http://www.chevrolet.com>
Coca-Cola: <http://www.coca.com>
or Chevrolet dealerships.
The torch will stop in Boise on Jan. 25, 2002. On Jan. 26, 2002, the torch will make a stop in Twin Falls, followed by stops in
Please see TORCH, Page D2

Seattle's Patrick Ewing chats with former teammates
Houston, left, and Latrell Sprewell before their game Tuesday at Madison Square Garden in New York. It was Ewing's first visit to the Garden since his trade to the SuperSonics.
Please see NBA, Page D3



Eagles return to work
Experience may outweigh winning at annual Slugout
By Joe Sunnen
Times-News writer
TWIN FALLS - The season is just starting for the College of Southern Idaho baseball team, but already the Golden Eagles have faced enough adversity to make a coach cringe.
In their first 11 games, they have played in sub-freezing temperatures, endured a snowout and surrendered a forfeit. About the only thing that hasn't kept the team off the field this year entering the McDonald's Slugout today is a swarm of locusts.
"It's been frustrating," CSI coach Jim Walker said. "We just get to play a little bit, get in a couple of games, start doing some things pretty good and then you just have to shut it down. It really takes us off course mentally."
The Eagles will have to refocus quickly.
Eight teams from around the country, including Ricks College, endured the trip to Twin Falls for CSI's biggest regular-season tournament of the year. The four day event is a tune-up for the Eagles before conference play begins, and will also give the club another chance to face pitching-loaded Community College of Southern Nevada should the teams meet in the seeded games on Saturday.
The Eagles open the tournament with Northlake College of Texas at 2 p.m. today, then meet Lane Community College on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Lane finished third last season at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community College tournament and boasts the best four-year winning percentage of any school in the Northwest.
"Getting to the end of the tournament doesn't really matter," Walker said. "It's just about playing tough games."
The Eagles finish bracket play with Douglas Community College Friday at 5:30 p.m., then move into seeded play. Winning the Slugout championship would be nice, but right now the only thing CSI is concerned with is getting out on the field and gaining experience.
"I'm really getting tired of holding meetings," Walker said. "Our expectations about what we want the players to do and how we want them to do it have just gone right out the window. How can you have
Please see CSI, Page D2

SPORTS

LETTER

Jerome showed class

Sports editor: I enjoyed the coverage of the news regarding the Jerome Tigers girls' basketball team. I do not have a student going to Jerome High School. I have had the opportunity to see the Jerome girls a number of times. They have won. They have lost. In either case, I have been most impressed with their approach to sports.

CSI

Continued from D1

high expectations if you can't have repetition in what you do? Baseball is that way. You have to have repetition.

Walker estimates that the bad weather has put the Eagles about two weeks behind already. And if rain or snow cancels their four McDonald's Slugout games, it could be the beginning of a long season. "Our fingers are crossed," Walker said. "The weather can change every five minutes. We have teams flying in and we're really looking forward to having them. We'll do anything possible outside of controlling the weather to play."

Notes

Pitcher Justin Frank will miss the remainder of the season and will likely have surgery March 12 to repair an injury in his throwing shoulder. ... The Eagles watched film of some of

Michelle Skyles. She builds more than basketball players. She is creating fine young women. At a time when self-esteem is being developed in her players, this coach presents a positive, supportive, loving attitude. She has a system that includes all of the players.

I would predict that, in the future, there will be continued success at Jerome High School. I will enjoy this sports experience as a fan. Congratulations to all. DR. CRAIG D. HOLMAN Jerome

McDonald's Slugout

Tuesday: CSI vs. Northlake, at Frontier Field, 2 p.m. CCSN vs. Ricks, at Frontier Field, 5:30 p.m. Thursday: Edmonds vs. Ricks, at Bruin Field, 10:30 a.m. Lane CC vs. Douglas, at Frontier Field, 10:30 a.m. Douglas vs. Northlake, at Bruin Field, 2 p.m. PBA vs. CCSN, at Frontier Field, 2 p.m. CSI vs. Lane CC, at Frontier Field, 5:30 p.m. Friday: Edmonds vs. PBA, at Bruin Field, 10:30 a.m. Lane CC vs. Douglas, at Frontier Field, 10:30 a.m. Ricks vs. PBA, at Bruin Field, 2 p.m. Edmonds vs. CCSN, at Frontier Field, 2 p.m. CSI vs. Douglas CC, at Frontier Field, 5:30 p.m.

baseball's greatest sluggers and discussed hitting techniques last Friday to stay in a baseball mindset while snow fell on Frontier Field. ... Entering this week, CSI had held just two full practices outside this year. Twenty-six of the Eagles' remaining 42 games are at home.

Times-News sports writer Joe Sunnen can be reached at 735-3230 or by e-mail at jsunnen@magicvalley.com

Torch

Continued from D1

Pocatello and Idaho Falls. Officials plan a short ceremony in each of those cities.

The torch will not make a stop in the Mini-Cassia area. It will be transported, perhaps by air, directly to Pocatello, according to Olympic officials.

From Idaho, the torch will travel to Montana, Wyoming, Colorado then Utah and Salt Lake City. Applications will be taken until April 30. Olympic sponsors will select the bulk of candidates. The SLOC will name 170 runners. By rights, the International Olympic Committee will designate as many as 100.

Sponsors and organizers are looking for runners who have experienced an inspiring, come-from-behind life moment and can tell it in less than 100 words. They want people who have overcome adversity, inspired others or served their community selflessly. Five hundred runners will be notable Olympians. Organizers haven't identified

Strike

Continued from D1

than Maddux and Glavine, could benefit from the change if recovered from an elbow injury that kept him out of all last season.

While umpires are supposed to narrow the width of the strike zone, they've also been ordered to call the high strike.

their candidates for the final torch bearer, who will open the 2002 Games by lighting the Olympic cauldron.

Retired boxer Muhammad Ali captured the honors at the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta.

"We'll have our own ways of touching people's hearts," SLOC President Mitt Romney said Monday.

Coke and Chevrolet will heavily promote the event, with Coke spending \$40 million, he said.

"Our budget to promote the torch is pocket change," he said.

The flame will arrive in a special container aboard a plane from the Olympic birthplace of Athens. The relay will start Dec. 4 in Atlanta. It will follow a 65-day, 46-state course, arriving in Salt Lake City on Feb. 8, 2002. The only states the Olympic torch will not visit are Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Hawaii.

The torch will travel part of its way by train, dog sled, skier, horse-drawn sleigh and snowmobile.

Runners will be able to buy their silver-fluted, gas-flame torches for about \$300 as a keepsake.

"Yeah, it's going to help me," said Smoltz, the 1996 Cy Young winner. "Hitters have been taught not to swing at that pitch."

But Glavine has no desire to take advantage of the upward expansion in the strike zone. Just try throwing a high changeup to Mark McGwire.

"That's not my way to pitch," Glavine said. "I've been conditioned to keep it down, so I'm still going to keep it down."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Slade, Dotson cut in NFL cap scramble

NEW YORK - Financial scrambling was the game plan for most NFL teams Tuesday as free agency rapidly approaches.

That meant several starters, including New England linebacker Chris Slade, Green Bay tackle Earl Dotson and Chicago running back Curtis Enis were left without jobs.

Slade, 30, was the most accomplished of the players cut as teams attempt to get under the \$67.4 million salary cap before Friday, when the league's calendar year begins. A second-round draft pick out of Virginia in 1993, Slade is fifth in Patriots history with 51 sacks. He had at least nine sacks in three of his first five seasons, but finished with four last season. Slade was to make \$1.7 million next season.

Vizquel lands a \$15 million extension

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. - Omar Vizquel, Cleveland's perennial Gold Glove shortstop, has agreed to terms on a \$15 million, two-year contract extension with the Indians, a baseball source told The Associated Press on the condition he not be identified.

Vizquel had been signed through 2002 at \$3 million per season. The extension includes a mutual option for 2005.

Jeff Gordon's crew chief fined \$25,000

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - The crew chief for three-time Winston Cup champion Jeff Gordon was fined \$25,000 by NASCAR on Tuesday for fielding a car that failed to meet the minimum height requirement in the Dura Lube 400.

Robbie Loomis was fined after a post-race inspection following Monday's event in Rockingham, N.C. Gordon's No. 24 Chevrolet finished third in the rain-delayed race, won Monday by Steve Park.

TF Muni announces opening scramble

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Golf Course Men's Association will hold its annual opening scramble Sunday at 10 a.m.

Players must be members of the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course Men's Association to take part. The \$20 entry fee includes breakfast from 8-9:30 a.m. Players need to register before 6 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call the golf course at 733-3326.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

BOYS' STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS



Tigers

Continued from D1

ance at the state tourney was in 1993. And it's been 25 long years since Raft River hoisted the title, in 1976.

"Everybody is real excited and really nervous," Raft River coach Jeff Greenwood said. "The kids aren't used to going and we're a fairly young team so we just need to find a way to relax."

Raft River will need four big games from junior scoring machine Jacob Nelson to claim a title, but finding a few other bodies that can finish in double digits will be the real key for the up-and-down Trojans.

Coming Thursday

- Declo's back at it
- High Valley hopes

"I keep telling the kids that this is just the frosting on the cake," Greenwood said. "A lot of kids don't get to go to state. We just need to have some fun."

Personal state qualifiers Carey, Oakley and Hagerman will also be making the trip to Boise knowing how to win at state. The Pirates took home the fourth-place trophy in 1999 and lost in the title game in 1998. Oakley has had trouble in the first round four of the last six years, but has played in four consolation champi-

onship matches during that span, winning the consolation trophy in 1997 and again last year.

Carey is a veteran of the state playoffs, having been to the tourney five times in the last six seasons, but hasn't been able to claim a trophy.

Yet this time the Panthers come in as the only team to beat Richfield - not once, but twice. This could be the year they take home hardware.

But to win a title, they'll have to beat the Tigers again.

"We have one more mission to fulfill," Ward said. "We're going to state to accomplish something."

Times-News sports writer Joe Sunnen can be reached at 735-3230 or by e-mail at jsunnen@magicvalley.com

If you go

Directions to venues hosting this week's boys' Class A-1, Div. I and II, Class A-2, Class A-3 and Class A-4 high school basketball tourneys:

A-1 and all championships and all championships The Idaho Center, in Nampa

- West on I-84
- Take the Idaho Center Exit in Nampa
- Go right, or north, and you will see the Idaho Center signs leading to the parking lot

A-1, Div. II Tournament Northwest Nazarene Univ., Nampa

- West on I-84
- Take Exit 36, Franklin Road, in Nampa
- Turn left on Franklin, and go south about a mile
- Turn right on 11th Ave. North and go about a mile
- Take a left on 3rd St./ID-45, and go a little over a mile
- Take a left on East Dewey Ave.
- About a mile down, you'll come to Holly St. Turn right. School is on Holly.

A-2 Tournament Meridian High

- I-84 West to Meridian Exit
- Turn right off the freeway - that will put you on First Street
- Go straight until you reach the light at Pine Street
- Take a left on Pine
- Go straight for several blocks - school is on the right-hand side

A-3 Tournament Capital High

- I-84 West to the Cole Road Exit (just past the Boise airport)
- Stay in right hand lane on the off-ramp, bearing right and going underneath the overpass
- At traffic light, make a left on Cole Road - stay on that about five or six miles
- Cole Road ends in a T - make a left at the T on a road called Mountain View
- School is on your left just a few blocks down

A-4 Tournament Caldwell High

- I-84 West to Ext. 29
- Make left off off-ramp and go over the freeway
- Turn left on 21st (the road forks and goes downhill at that point)
- At the second traffic light, turn left on Cleveland
- Turn right on South Indiana (your first right off Cleveland)
- Come to a four-way stop, go straight through - the school is about a mile down on your left

Vallivue High

- I-84 West to Ext. 35
- Turn right off freeway and go to a four-way stop (the sugar beet factory will be directly in front of you)
- Turn left at the four-way stop onto Karcher
- Go over the overpass and over the Nampa-Caldwell road, and Karcher will turn into Highway 55
- Stay on Hwy. 55 until you see a cemetery on your left, then get ready to turn
- Take a right on Indiana
- Take a left on Homedale and go straight - school takes up the entire block. Can't miss it

CLASS A-4 TEAM BY TEAM

Class A-4 Boys' Real Dairy Shootout tournament bracket. Includes team rosters for Carey Panthers, Cascade Rammers, Clark Fork Wampus Cats, Cole Valley Chr. Chargers, Council Lumberjacks, Genesee Bulldogs, Hagerman Pirates, Kootenai Warriors, Mackay Miners, Meadows Valley, Richfield, and Rockland. Lists game times and locations for today, Thursday, and Saturday.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

UI extension sponsors specialty-foods event

TWIN FALLS - The University of Idaho Cooperative Extension System will present the Southern Idaho Farm Conference and Selling Your Specialty Food Product Workshop on Friday and Saturday at Cavanaugh's Best Western Convention Center in Twin Falls.

For Friday's "Starting to Sell Your Food Specialty," registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. Workshops will be throughout the day with lunch at 11:45 a.m. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be an author and farmer best known for his books "The New Organic Grower" and "Four-Season Gardening."

Saturday registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. for "Family Farm Alternative Crops and Markets." The day's workshops adjourn at 4:30 p.m. Registration for Friday's specialty-foods event is \$40; Friday's speaker and dinner, \$22; Saturday's farm conference, \$40; complete conference program, \$100.

To register, call UI extension educators Jo Ann Robbins at 788-5585 in Hailey, Cindy Kinder at 764-2230 in Fairfield or Joan Parr at 878-9461 in Burley, or contact the UI Cooperative Extension System office in your county.

Qwest aims to buy stake in Japanese telecom firm

WASHINGTON - Qwest Communications International chief Joe Nacchio told utility regulators this week that Qwest intends to buy a stake in a Japanese communications company and that it has no plans to sell rural phone lines.

Speaking to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in Washington, Nacchio said Qwest hopes to establish a network in Japan through buying a stake in PNJ Communications Inc. He intended to meet with PNJ officials in Denver Tuesday.

"The fact is, we're only into the early part of the negotiations," Nacchio said. "I'm guardedly optimistic that we'll find our way into the Japanese market, but that's still several months off."

Nacchio also told the regulators Qwest has no "contingent plans" to sell any large chunk of the rural telephone operations it inherited in its \$44 billion purchase of U S West, which served much of the Magic Valley. The statement marked a change of direction from last year, when Qwest officials hinted the company would like to sell as many as 6 million of its 18 million lines.

Several Wall Street analysts have speculated Qwest will seek to sell rural lines in favor of serving larger, more lucrative population centers.

"Some people think you ought to sell all this stuff," Nacchio said, noting the company's Montana operations were supposedly on the block. "These are good customers. I have a hard time - unless you can't make money - to sell good customers."

Much of Nacchio's speech focused on the company's service improvements and better relations with state officials and competitors since it absorbed U S West. Qwest needs to convince state and federal regulators that it has allowed competition for local phone service in U S West's 14-state territory before it gets approval to offer long-distance service there.

First-quarter net income soars for Longview Fibre

TWIN FALLS - Longview Fibre, Wash.-based Longview Fibre Co. - which has a Twin Falls container plant that's a major Magic Valley employer - this month reported first-quarter 2001 net income was up 47 percent from a year ago.

Operating results improved in the manufacturing segment of the business but declined in the timber segment, the company said. The first quarter ended Jan. 31. Longview Fibre's report shows first-quarter net income of \$8.19 million, or 16 cents per share, up from \$5.55 million, or 11 cents per share, a year earlier. The per-share dividend paid remained at 12 cents. The company pegged net sales at \$219.56 million, up from \$205.45 million in first quarter 2000. Operating profit was \$23.77 million, up from \$17.93 million a year earlier.

In the converted-products segment, Longview Fibre said, first-quarter 2001 results were negatively affected by higher costs of containerboard produced at the (Longview, Wash.) mill which is used to manufacture boxes. In the segment, it said, "demand was strong and prices were firm during the quarter. The company continues to develop its specialty products in order to improve margins."

Compiled from staff and wire reports

BID revs to leap forward

By Julie Pence
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Leaders of the business improvement district in historic Twin Falls want to see some changes downtown, and they want those changes now.

"I want to do something now. I want some drastic things that make people take notice," said BID Chairman Ron Thompson Tuesday as the BID's board met with city planning consultants Tom Hudson and Lorraine Hingston Roach.

The first thing Thompson wants is the two Second Avenues changed from three lanes to two lanes with diagonal

Board favors changing Second Avenues back to two lanes with diagonal parking.

parking. "It would create 200 more parking spaces," he said.

And he wants those avenues changed from one-way to two-way streets, as they were during his growing-up years in Twin Falls.

"It would spawn more retail business," he said, adding that customers constantly must take the long way around to reach their destinations. He gave an example: a shopper forced to travel an extra eight blocks and sit through two stoplights and

several stop signs to reach a certain store that, with two-way Second Avenues, could be accessed directly by driving two blocks.

But Hudson said sometimes changes must be taken slowly. "I fully endorse this - over the long term," he said. "But my intuition is saying that we ought to transition this."

Hudson recommended - with the blessing of the Idaho Transportation Department, he said - changing to two lanes with diagonal parking as soon as possible.

However, he said, from his experiences with other communities, people must be prepared for changes before they demand the changes. He also said the city would more easily afford a gradual change to two-way streets because hardware, such as stoplights, could be installed at intervals.

Still, Thompson maintained the change to two lanes would not cause much disruption and is already being requested by Twin Falls citizens; he said everyone he had talked to requested the return to two-ways.

Indeed, a straw poll of the board showed all the members

Please see BID, Page D5

STORE-WITHIN-A-STORE



Leonard Roberts, chairman and chief executive officer of RadioShack Corp., left, and John Antico, chairman and chief executive officer of Blockbuster Inc., are seen Monday at a Blockbuster store in New York City. The two companies, which both have Twin Falls stores, announced a strategic alliance Tuesday that will bring a RadioShack store-within-a-store concept to Blockbuster locations. The intent of the alliance is to create a full-service home entertainment destination within Blockbuster, while increasing RadioShack's reach to more consumers, more frequently and expanding its distribution network.

Fingerhut drags down Federated earnings

Bon Marche parent manages to beat Wall Street forecast

BlidgeNews

CHICAGO - Federated Department Stores Inc., which has a Bon Marche store in the Magic Valley Mall, said Tuesday its fourth-quarter earnings fell 26 percent as it dealt with credit problems at its Fingerhut catalog unit and took restructuring charges to cover the closing of the Stern's department store division.

Federated, which owns department stores such as Bloomingdale's and Macy's, posted net income of \$332 million, or

\$1.65 per share, compared with \$448 million, or \$2.04 a share, a year earlier. Sales rose 2.4 percent to \$6.12 billion.

Excluding restructuring charges, the company earned \$2.15 per share in the fourth quarter, beating Wall Street expectations by 5 cents. "This has been a disappointing year overall, primarily due to the negative impact of the Fingerhut credit problem on Federated's earnings performance," Chief Executive James M. Zimmerman said in a statement. "However, our department stores performed well despite a difficult economic climate, and we generally are pleased with the results from that segment of our business."

Fingerhut, a catalog business that sells everything from

kitchen items to apparel, was acquired by Federated for \$1.7 billion in March 1999. The unit quickly amassed a mountain of bad debt and the company, under growing pressure to improve its performance, agreed in October to auction off \$2.4 billion in customer IOUs in a bid to raise cash. It also said it would slash Fingerhut's workforce by nearly 25 percent and take as much as \$100 million in charges to restructure the struggling unit.

Earlier this month, Federated said it would close its Stern's department store group, converting most of the stores to Macy's and Bloomingdale's.

For the full year, Federated posted a net loss of \$184 million, or 90 cents per share, compared with net income of \$795 million, or \$3.78 a share, a year earlier.

Same-store sales, or sales at its department stores open at least a year, rose 1.6 percent from a year earlier. Investors and analysts use same-store sales to gauge retailers' performance because the figure excludes sales from new or closed stores.

The Cincinnati-based retailer said it expects first-quarter earnings to come in between 37 cents and 42 cents a share. Analysts surveyed by First Call/Thomson Financial expected earnings of 40 cents per share.

"While 2001 will not be an easy year," Zimmerman said, "we do expect it to be consistent with our previously targeted \$4-to-\$4.25-per-share earnings estimate."

Analysts estimate full-year earnings at \$4.03 a share.

State slates international trade officials

The Times-News

BOISE - Trade, communication and education in North and South America will be the themes of a day-long seminar, "The Americas: Exploring Our Common Future," from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Boise State University Student Union Lookout Room.

Consul Generals from Canada, Mexico and Argentina will be featured along with the U.S. Commercial Service, BSU, Monterrey Tec of Monterrey, Mexico, and private organizations, the Idaho Department of Commerce said.

"Idaho exports to Canada and Latin America are critical to the state's total export picture," Commerce Director Gary Mahn said.

Mahn said the Americas seminar will teach businesses more about issues that affect leadership and service in the global community.

Mary Delmege, western regional director of the U.S. Commercial Service, will deliver the luncheon keynote address on Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA), an agreement to increase trade and cooperation, harmonize trade regulations and eliminate trade barriers among countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Fees for the event are \$65 and include seminar sessions and lunch. Tickets for the luncheon and keynote address are available separately for \$25.

Call Vicki Thomas at the Idaho Department of Commerce, 334-2470, for information.

Partners purchase former Norco building

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A group of local investors has taken over ownership of the former Norco Windows building on Washington Street South, but Twin Falls County officials still have their eye on it as a possible space for new jail space.

David Price, a Burley real estate broker, said he and several partners - all are local business people - bought the former Norco manufacturing plant for an undisclosed sum in late December. Price and his partners, he said, took over a lease agreement between Jerome Cheese Co. Inc. and the South Washington building's former owner, Jeld-Wen Inc. of Klamath Falls, Ore.

Jerome Cheese stores a whey product in the old Norco building, which it has leased for the past two years, said Price, who declined to say how long the cheese maker's lease is effective.

"We'll just see what the market bears as far as tenants in the future," said Price, who didn't elaborate on the new owners' plans for the building. "We just bought it for an investment, and it's a warehouse. ... We're just in the storage business."

If someone wanted to buy the Norco window, he said, he and his partners would consider a sale.

The former Norco plant, about 150,000 square feet on 36 acres, was vacant for a little more than a year after the factory ceased operation in October 1997.

The building caught the eye of

Twin Falls County Sheriff Wayne Tousey, who in August suggested the county buy the old Norco building and convert a portion of it into new jail space. But County Commissioner Bill Brockman at that time said the county budget had no room for a major building purchase, and it would be at least two years before the county could consider even having a private company buy and renovate the Norco building to lease to the county.

"It's still under consideration. We haven't given it up," Capt. Bob Wright, a Twin Falls County jail administrator, said Tuesday.

Price said he didn't want to comment on whether the building's new owners are in discussions with the county.

The county is still interested in the Norco building, County

Commissioner Marvin Hempleman said Tuesday.

"We've engaged a company to explore the idea of putting a jail there. Then we would lease the jail from them," Hempleman said.

The county signed a contract - with no money involved - for that company to study a building conversion and explore whether the county could pay for the proposed lease through inmate-housing arrangements with other entities, he said.

The county expects an answer in early or mid-April, Hempleman said.

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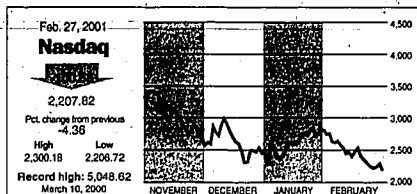
Technology stocks plummet Consumer confidence drops to its lowest level since 1996

NEW YORK (AP) — A report showing consumer confidence at a more than four-year low sent the Nasdaq composite index to its weakest finish in 14 months Tuesday. Analysts say investors were growing increasingly anxious about the economy and the Federal Reserve's ability to reverse its decline.

The selloff reflected Wall Street's disappointment that the Fed did not cut interest rates Tuesday — a move that would have been an extraordinary step, coming three weeks before the central bank's next meeting. "I think the expectation was building that we would get an intra-meeting cut, but when nothing happened today, the market sold off," said Jim Brorson, director of equities at Northern Trust. "People are waiting for a catalyst, like a Fed rate cut, before jumping back in and buying tech stocks."

The Nasdaq closed down 106.68 at 2,207.82, its worst finish since Dec. 31, 1998, when the technology-focused gauge closed at 2,192.69.

The Dow Jones industrial average



age fell 5.65 to 10,636.88, keeping most of the 200-point gain it racked up Monday on speculation that an interest rate cut was imminent. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 9.71 to 1,257.94.

Tech stocks remained under pressure Tuesday as investors punished stocks they feared would perform poorly in a weak economy.

Some of the biggest losers: IDS Uniphase, which tumbled 44.91 to \$27.81, and Cisco Systems, which fell \$2.06 to \$24.

The Dow was hurt by losses in

its technology components, including IBM, off \$2.71 to \$102.59, and Hewlett-Packard, down \$1.40 to \$28.60.

Brorson, the Northern Trust analyst, said the hemorrhaging reflects the fact that many tech stocks are still pricey, even when the sharp declines of the last six months are considered.

"Some of these stocks are still trading at a price that's 57 times the current year's earnings," he said. "That's expensive."

Blue chips fared better but were not immune to investors' skittishness.

NEW YORK (AP) — Worries about jobs and the business climate dragged consumer confidence in February down to its lowest level in more than four years. The Conference Board said Tuesday its Consumer Confidence Index fell to 106.8, down from 115.7 in January. It was the fifth consecutive drop of the monthly index, which has not been this low since June 1996.

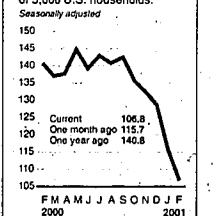
"Consumers are seeing all the layoff news, they're hearing all the doom-and-gloom comments, and they've gotten worried. There's no question about it," said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pa.

The pessimism was reinforced by the two reports released by the Commerce Department on Tuesday. Orders to U.S. factories for big-ticket items plunged in January to their lowest level in 19 months, while new-home sales plummeted 10.9 percent, the biggest drop in seven years.

For now, the economy continues

Consumer confidence

Here is a look at the Consumer Confidence Index from a survey of 5,000 U.S. households. Seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: The Conference Board

to walk a tightrope, avoiding a plunge into recession, said Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board's Consumer Research Center.

"The erosion in consumer confidence continues to be fueled by weakening expectations regarding business and employment conditions," Franco said.

The Conference Board index, based on a monthly survey of about 5,000 U.S. households, is considered an important indicator because consumer spending accounts for about two-thirds of the nation's economic activity. The index compares results to its base year, 1985, when it stood at 100.

The overall February confidence figure was lower than the reading of 110 that had been expected by analysts.

Still, one economist noted that some figures in the Conference Board's report are not as worrisome.

"Generally, it's a weak number on the headline, but the details show a little more encouragement," said Gary Thayer, chief economist for A.G. Edwards & Sons in St. Louis.

BID

Continued from D4

Were in favor, Thompson said the change to three lanes, more than two decades ago, happened.

More people circulating in the retail areas of Historic Old Towne would generate more business and therefore more taxes, which would help finance stoplights and signs, he said.

Hudson agreed, saying he had just signed an order from Bonner County, where a 1 percent increase in retail sales creates 255 more jobs.

"This isn't just about warm fuzzies — things that sound nice for a community," he said. "This is about tangible stuff like

jobs."

Board members also said truck traffic could be rerouted to the old truck lane on Minidoka Avenue, which should please truck drivers. Changes in retail ways would also discourage 18-wheelers from going through a roundabout that is recommended for the Blue Lakes and Addison five points.

Traffic and parking changes, though, need the assistance and approval of several agencies, and the board and Hudson will discuss how to carry out the changes at a board retreat from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. this evening at Uptown Bistro.

At that meeting, they also will lay out

implementation of several ideas that Hudson has studied since September. They include:

• Running a two-way Second Street South to Second Street, which would intersecting Main Avenue East, where a street used to exist by the Idaho Youth Ranch store, coupled with creation of a park park behind Rogerson Mall.

• Establishing a year-round outdoor-urban farmers' market that encourages the processing and marketing of local value-added products, along with a downtown business incubator.

• Upgrading the former warehouse district.

• Developing a business-retention program, which would emphasize securing Everton Mattress Factory Inc., and a promotional campaign for downtown.

• Establishing a formal arts district and developing a plan to dress it up.

• Developing a business-recruitment plan.

• Creating and scheduling downtown economic, organization and design committees.

• Changing the names of the Second Streets — not the Second Avenues — but keeping residence numbers the same.

Also Tuesday, BID Executive Director Tim Jones said he would be making openings and expansions. They include an expansion of The Music Center, the purchase of the building housing Main Street Treats by a Pocatello cell phone company and the addition of Agape Café at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship.

Jones also introduced Lindsey O'Neill as an administrative assistant who will work for the first 90 days on an approval basis for \$5 per hour for about 25 hours a week.

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Lists various stocks and their price changes.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Includes columns for Most Active, Gainers, and Losers.

LOSERS (BY PERCENT)

Table listing top losing stocks and their percentage declines.

DIARY

Table showing market status for various sectors like Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, Total Issues, and New Highs.

INDEXES

Table showing performance of various market indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks and their price changes.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 825 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the NASDAQ National Market and 100 most active on the American Stock Exchange. Mutual funds are listed in alphabetical order by fund name.

Stocks are listed alphabetically by the company's full name (not an abbreviation). Company names made up of initials appear at the beginning of each letter's list.

Div: Current annual dividend rate paid on stock, based on latest quarterly or semiannual declaration unless otherwise indicated.

Chg: Daily net change in the NAV.

P/E: Price-earnings ratio. P/E based on last 12 months of earnings.

YTD: Year-to-date percentage change in price.

52-Week: High and low prices over the last 52 weeks.

Volume: Daily trading volume in shares.

Market: Market capitalization in billions of dollars.

Source: The Wall Street Journal.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ national market stocks and their price changes.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks and their price changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange stocks and their price changes.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for market type (Commodity, Energy, Metals, etc.), price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and various metals.

BEANS

Table listing various bean futures contracts such as Soybean, Soybean Meal, and Soybean Oil with their respective prices and changes.

GRAINS

Table listing grain futures contracts including Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans with price and change data.

SUGAR

Table listing sugar futures contracts such as Sugar No. 11 and Sugar No. 12 with price and change information.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing livestock futures contracts including Live Cattle, Hogs, and Pigs with price and change data.

POCATELLO API - Idaho Farm Bureau Intermountain

Table listing Pocatello API oil futures contracts with price and change information.

CHICAGO API - Futures trading on the Chicago

Table listing Chicago API oil futures contracts with price and change information.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table listing soybean oil futures contracts with price and change data.

SOYBEAN MEAL

Table listing soybean meal futures contracts with price and change data.

WHEAT

Table listing wheat futures contracts with price and change data.

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IRS updates Web site for self-employed taxpayers

WASHINGTON - Ever had a question you'd like to ask the Internal Revenue Service but were afraid because it was too much trouble or, all things considered, you preferred not to attract the agency's attention?

Now the IRS is trying to make itself more accessible to the nation's 45 million small-business and self-employed taxpayers by rolling out this week.

The idea is to improve service to those taxpayers, but it also represents the first stage in revamping the IRS's entire site to deliver better service to the public generally, the agency said.

The IRS said improvements that will be visible at the site include:

- Answers to many basic tax questions and a calendar of important deadlines.
Online access to many IRS forms.

Industry-specific tax information for construction and restaurant industries, including helpful tips to avoid common tax problems.

News and events specific to new businesses as well as specific industry information for the "Self-Employed."

Appellate judges blast judge from earlier Microsoft trial

WASHINGTON - Federal appellate court judges reviewing Microsoft's landmark antitrust case blasted trial Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson for granting media interviews while the case was on-going, and sent strong signals that his decision to split the case in two could be reversed.

Microsoft launched a sweeping legal attack against Jackson's ruling, attacking everything from the court's factual findings to the break-up of the company.

Microsoft's chief legal officer, David H. Hoggan, said the government's case was clearly demonstrative of bias.

A seven-judge panel of the U.S. Federal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit heard a second and final day of arguments Tuesday.

The "breakup" was motivated by an illegitimate desire to punish Microsoft, Hoggan told the judges.

Something missing?

We're able to customize our market report to match readers' interests. If you're interested in a stock or mutual fund that's not in our report, just call us and we'll try to

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table listing various mutual funds such as American Mutual, Fidelity, and others with their respective prices and changes.

MECHANICAL Looking for energetic NACNA's to join our team. Experience in long term care and behavioral units a plus! Highly competitive wages! ...

MECHANICAL Wanted alignment person/mechanic. Apply at A's American Car Care, 1819 Kimberly Rd., Twin Falls, 734-4280. ...

MEDICAL Opportunity for RN interested in ventilator care. Excellent pay and benefits package to work with a top-notch team in state-of-the-art facility. ...

MEDICAL CNA's Twin Falls Care Center now has immediate openings for CNAs for Day, Evening & Night shifts. We offer: Sign on bonus ...

MEDICAL CHIROPRACTIC ASST. PT wanted in busy office on Ft. & Seton. Bring resume to office at 8:00 pm only. ...

MEDICAL Receptionist & Assistant needed immediately. Salary DOE. Send resume to: 191 Addison Ave. ...

MISCELLANEOUS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS Advertising Sales & Heavy Factory-Aid Shifts. Construction, Forklift, Mechanics, Welders, Radiology Tech ...

MISCELLANEOUS General labor for nursery work FT. Call 834-4834. RESTAURANT Party/Inns hiring banquet Servers FT/PT. ...

TECHNICIAN Snowmobile & ATV technician needed. Position Motivated person with snowmobile & ATV service experience. ...

USED CAR DEALERS. 1981 PONTIAC TRANSPORT \$3688 OR \$0 DOWN \$119 MO. 1982 MERCURY TOPAZ \$3988 OR \$0 DOWN \$99 MO. 1982 GMC SAFARI VAN \$4988 OR \$0 DOWN \$159 MO. 1982 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER \$4988 OR \$0 DOWN \$119 MO. 1983 DODGE DAKOTA 4x4 REG. CAB \$5588 OR \$0 DOWN \$139 MO. 1985 FORD CONTOUR \$5988 OR \$0 DOWN \$149 MO. 1983 FORD EXPLORER \$6388 OR \$0 DOWN \$159 MO. 1987 PONTIAC SUNFIRE \$8188 OR \$0 DOWN \$169 MO. 1987 CHEVY LUMINA \$8688 OR \$0 DOWN \$169 MO. 1988 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX \$8988 OR \$0 DOWN \$189 MO. 1988 MERCURY TRACER \$9988 OR \$0 DOWN \$189 MO. 1988 CHEVY BLAZER LS \$12488 OR \$0 DOWN \$239 MO. -- Tax, Title (\$8.00) and Dealer DOC Fee (\$131.00) Are Not Included In Sale Prices or Payments. Units subject to prior sale or lease -- Good Thru Wednesday, February 28, 2001. LATHAM MOTORS

Part Time Employees needed. Must be Reliable and willing to start immediately. \$6.50/hr (Guaranteed wage, min. hrs. required). Part Time Hours 4:00pm-10 pm Monday-Friday 8am-5pm Saturday

NOW HIRING: Full time Night RN 6pm - 6am. BRIDGEVIEW OFFERS: Two Week Paid Vacation, Sick and Holiday Pay, Paid Comp Days for Good Attendance, 401K Retirement Plan, Health, Dental, and Optical Insurance, College Tuition Assistance (Scholarship) ...

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PERSONNEL PLUS PUBLISHING NEWS PAPER INTERNSHIP For Magic Valley Students The Times-News, a 24,000 circulation daily newspaper in Twin Falls, offers a variety of paid summer internships for college students (or exceptional high school students) who grow up in our circulation area.

SOS STAFFING RESOURCES 665 Blue Lake Blvd. N. Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-4473. Start Today by Calling 732-5259 1399 Fillmore Suite A502 Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

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217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 912-757-3000.

218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS DISTRICT 5 MOTOR-ROUTE 617. The Times-News is currently looking for an Independent Motor Route in the Shoshone, Richfield, Cambo, Carey, Dietrich & Battlevue areas. Valid drivers license & reliable vehicle a must.

LOT TECHNICIAN Full time position, very competitive pay plans, group accident and health insurance, paid vacations, paid holidays and 401K plan. Apply in person at: Randy Hansen IMPORT CENTER 1310 Poleline Road East Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WAREHOUSE Warehouse Operator. Full time job. Experience required in inventory control, roster operations. Must have a Class A CDL, and must be able to obtain one. Fax resume to: 208-432-5211 or High Tech 1200 N. Hurstwood, ID 83344 Attention Casey.

218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS DISTRICT 5 MOTOR-ROUTE 617. The Times-News is currently looking for an Independent Motor Route in the Shoshone, Richfield, Cambo, Carey, Dietrich & Battlevue areas. Valid drivers license & reliable vehicle a must.

THE TIMES-NEWS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT JR EMPLOYEES AVAILABLE IN THE GOODING AREA. ROUTE 500 500 2nd Ave. W 500-700 3rd Ave. W 500-700 4th Ave. W 500-700 5th Ave. W 200-700 Arizona 200-700 Texas 300-900 Utah

WAREHOUSE Warehouse Operator. Full time job. Experience required in inventory control, roster operations. Must have a Class A CDL, and must be able to obtain one. Fax resume to: 208-432-5211 or High Tech 1200 N. Hurstwood, ID 83344 Attention Casey.

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MINIDOKA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL is currently hiring for the following positions: ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT Part-time; valid Idaho CNA license and Idaho drivers license required for this position. HOME HEALTH CNA Full-time; valid CNA license required for this position. PHARMACY TECHNICIAN Full-time; prior experience required. CASH RECEIPT CLERK Full-time; 10 key computer experience required.

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2001 DODGE NEON

Stock #1DN-38. Color: Steel Blue • Air Conditioning • AM/FM Cassette • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$16540

TOTAL SAVINGS \$4107

FACTORY INVOICE \$12433

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$199 MO.



2001 DODGE STRATUS

Stock #1DS-16. Color: Black • Air Conditioning • Power Windows & Locks • Cassette • Cruise Control • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$22485

TOTAL SAVINGS \$5379

FACTORY INVOICE \$17106

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$249 MO.



2001 CHRYSLER SEBRING LX

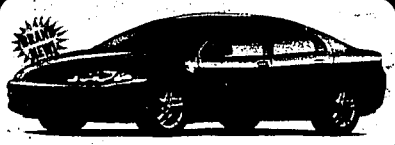
Stock #1SE-03. Color: Silver • Loaded • Air Conditioning • Cruise Control • Tilt Steering • Power Locks & Windows • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$24200

TOTAL SAVINGS \$5576

FACTORY INVOICE \$18624

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$279 MO.



2001 DODGE INTREPID

Stock #1DI-06. Color: White • Air Conditioning • Cruise Control • Power Locks & Windows • Cassette/CD • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$24380

TOTAL SAVINGS \$4643

FACTORY INVOICE \$19737

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$299 MO.



2001 DODGE 1500 REG. CAB 4x4 SLT

Stock #1T-13. Color: Medium Bronze • Automatic • CD Player • V-8 Engine • Cruise • Air Conditioning • Power W, L & M • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$29695

TOTAL SAVINGS \$8500

FACTORY INVOICE \$21195

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$289 MO.



2001 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB 4x4

Stock #1TD-366. Color: Silver • Trailer Tow • Air Conditioning • V-8 Engine • AM/FM Stereo Cassette/CD • Automatic • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$32125

TOTAL SAVINGS \$6729

FACTORY INVOICE \$25396

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$339 MO.



2001 DODGE DURANGO

Stock #1DR-378. Color: Patriot Blue • Sport Package • Air Conditioning • Cruise Control • Tilt Steering • Power Locks & Windows • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$35170

TOTAL SAVINGS \$9600

FACTORY INVOICE \$25570

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$349 MO.



2001 CHRYSLER 300M

Stock #1M-06. Color: Inferno Red • Air Conditioning • Cruise • Tilt • Power Locks, Windows & Seats • Leather • Cassette CD • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$35940

TOTAL SAVINGS \$6454

FACTORY INVOICE \$29486

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$399 MO.



2001 DODGE 2500 QUAD CAB 4x4

Stock #1T-264. Color: Blue • Trailer Tow • Automatic • AM/FM Stereo • Air Conditioning • Power W, L & M • Cruise • Tilt • Dual Air Bags • 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance

RETAIL \$40520

TOTAL SAVINGS \$10945

FACTORY INVOICE \$29575

OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$399 MO.

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