

# The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/98th year, No. 118

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

50 cents

## GOOD MORNING

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## Bedke plan gets nod



A swarm of students rushes to board a row of school buses in Buhl. The Buhl School District is one of four Magic Valley districts that could lose some state funding for transportation.

## School official maintains proposal will harm education

By Julie Pence  
Times-News writer

**BOISE** — Despite Oakley Republican Rep. Scott Bedke's promise that public schools will be held harmless from budget cuts, the Twin Falls School District superintendent maintained on Tuesday they will not.

"I hope the powers that be will acknowledge this fact so that we don't have to wallow through the argument that less is more like we did a year ago," Terrell Donicht said. "It gets very confusing to teachers and to parents when we have to make cuts even though the state seemingly

appropriated more funds than previously."

A year ago, the Legislature appropriated \$920 million after initially promising \$930. As the economy deteriorated in 2002, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne had to call for holdbacks and the Legislature codified them. Since, there has been an ongoing argument about how much schools really got.

As of Tuesday, a plan put forth by Bedke, a freshman member of the Legislature's budget-writing committee, it appears schools will be getting about \$933 million. Another \$9.8 million is set aside

in the plan for potential holdbacks should the economy fail to improve.

A month late in adjourning, on Tuesday the Legislature's budget writers from both the House and the Senate re-united after a week-long standoff. They voted to increase public school funding by just 1 percent, and that 1 percent is the extra that would be necessary to cover projected enrollment increases.

But what Donicht says is of more importance is that the budget writers used the budget to make unprecedented changes in state education policy. Instead of using the House and Senate education committee's to make changes to the funding statutes after public hearings were held, the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee opted to make the changes.



Rep. Scott Bedke

JFAC does not hold hearings for the public before voting on statute changes. Educators as well as the State Department of Education were not privy to those discussions and only found out as they came to light last week.

"Dozens of statutes will be changed, and it was all done behind closed doors," Donicht asserted.

Bedke called the policy and spending decisions "our duty, responsibility and prerogative as the appropriations and finance committee to allocate scarce resources," he said. He also insists that school districts will get the same amount of money for classroom units as last year, or \$24,477.

But the plan leaves districts with less money for payrolls and

Please see SCHOOLS, Page A2

## Life span of men sparks 'health crisis'

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Like many men, NBA all-star Alonzo Mourning used to shrug off pain. "I, too, was one of the Superman syndrome-type guys," he said Tuesday at a briefing on men's health. "That's the mentality of many men of color."

It's also one of the reasons U.S. men die on average almost five years before women, and far sooner if they belong to racial or ethnic minorities. The American Journal of Public Health calls the phenomenon a "silent health crisis."

In its May issue, the journal reports that many minority men lack access to good health services and insurance: while 17 percent of white men are uninsured, 28 percent of black men and almost half the Hispanic men have no insurance. At the same time, it contends that cultural beliefs about masculinity also are undermining good health care.

"Men generally don't like to appear weak, needing advice, not being in control," said Louis Sullivan, former secretary of Health and Human Services.

Please see HEALTH, Page A2

## Troops open fire during Iraqi protest, killing 13

U.S. paratroopers say armed men shot first

The Associated Press

**FALLUJAH, Iraq** — U.S. paratroopers fired on anti-American protesters during a nighttime demonstration, and a hospital reported Tuesday that 13 Iraqis were killed and 75 wounded, including three young boys. Soldiers said armed men had mixed into the crowd and fired at them from nearby buildings.

The deaths outside a school in Fallujah, a conservative Sunni Muslim city and Baath Party stronghold 30 miles west of the capital, highlighted the tense and precarious balance as Americans try to keep the peace in Iraq.

Americans and Iraqis gave sharply differing accounts of Monday night's shooting. U.S. forces insisted they opened fire only upon armed men — infiltrators among the protest crowd, according to Col. Arnold Bray, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, 325th Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division, whose troops were involved in the shooting.

"Which school kids carry AK-47s?" Bray asked. "I'm 100 percent certain the persons we shot at were armed."

Protesters insisted their demonstration was unarmed and peaceful.

Dr. Ahmed Chandim al-Ahi, director of Fallujah's general hospital, said the clash killed 13 Iraqis and injured about 75. The dead included three boys ages 8 to 10, he said.



A U.S. soldier explains the American side of a shooting incident to an angry crowd of protesters in Fallujah, Iraq, school where U.S. soldiers fired on anti-American protesters the night before.

Some residents put the death toll higher, at 15. Survivors said the dead were buried quickly Tuesday morning, in accord with Islamic custom.

No Americans were injured. Other developments Tuesday in Iraq:

• Two Iraqis on the U.S.-led coalition's 55 most-wanted list — a weapons expert nicknamed the "Missile Man" and the governor of the southern province of Basra — have surrendered, the U.S. military and Iraqi opposition sources said.

• U.S. forces have made significant progress in restoring electricity and water to Baghdad and hope to resume television and radio broadcasts by week's end.

Please see IRAQ, Page A2

## Panel agrees to cigarette tax hike

Decision could pave way to session's end

The Associated Press

**BOISE** — House and Senate negotiators agreed Tuesday to a two-year, 2-percent increase in the state cigarette tax, positioning the Legislature to end the longest session in Idaho history.

A joint conference committee hashed out a deal that would allow the first \$23.5 million dollars raised from the cigarette tax increase to be used to balance the 2003-2004 budget. Any extra collections would be deposited into a newly created account — called a "lock box" — along with all of the supplemental 2004-2005 cigarette tax collections.

In addition, new legislation would make it more difficult to lawmakers to spend money deposited in the lock box and the minimum fund, which holds Idaho's share of the multi-state tobacco settlement and has been used for the past two years to bail the state out of its fiscal crisis.

The agreement came after two days of negotiations, including a long-hour session with Gov. Dirk Kempthorne late Tuesday afternoon.

There is finally a light at the end of the tunnel, said Meridian Sen. Hal Bunderson, who co-chaired the eight-member joint conference committee.

The only dissenting vote came from Boise Democrat Margaret Henbest, one of two members of the minority party on the joint committee. Henbest said she did not want to appear to be lending her caucus's support because House Democrats were split on the issue.

Please see TAX, Page A2



Sen. Dean Cameron

## U.S. plans to remove troops from Saudi Arabia

Knight Ridder News Service

**RIYADH, Saudi Arabia** — U.S. military personnel have begun to withdraw from Saudi Arabia as part of a redeployment of America's forces in the Persian Gulf, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Tuesday.

Most U.S. forces at Saudi Arabia's Prince Sultan Air Base will be gone by August, members of Rumsfeld's entourage said. The allied air command, headed by Lt. Gen. Michael Moseley, moved from Prince Sultan to Qatar's Al Udeid air base Monday.

The decade-long presence of American forces in this conservative Islamic kingdom has been a source of discomfort to Saudi Arabia's ruling monarchy, particularly after the U.S.-led war against Iraq, which the Arab world widely opposed.

As many as 10,000 American personnel and 200 aircraft were assigned to the remote desert base at the height of the latest Iraq conflict. Troop strength already has been cut in half, U.S. officials said Tuesday. Eventually, only a small number of American troops will remain, primarily to train members of the Saudi military.

Rumsfeld, who is touring the region, addressed more than 1,300 troops Tuesday at the base, then went to an opulent palace in Riyadh for a joint news conference with Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz, the defense minister.

## U.S. gunfire kills 13

Responding to bullets fired from a crowd of protesters in Fallujah, U.S. gunfire left 13 dead and 75 wounded Monday night.



SOURCES: Associated Press

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Spotty rain showers possible. Highs near 54.
Tonight: Precipitation chances gradually diminishing. Lows near 35.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and relatively dry. Highs near 59.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast grid for Twin Falls showing Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday with weather icons and temperature ranges.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

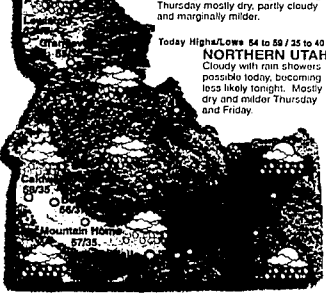
Today: Variably cloudy with a light breeze. Rain showers may develop. Highs in the 50s.
Tonight: Partly cloudy with a marginal chance of rain tomorrow. Lows in the 30s.
Tomorrow: Relatively storm free with patchy clouds. Highs in the middle 50s to lower 60s.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac section including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, and U.V. Index.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Cloudy and cool with off and on rain showers developing throughout the day. Showers chances diminishing overnight, leaving Thursday mostly dry and partly cloudy.
Today Highs 35 to 38. Tonight's Lows 17 to 27.
BOISE Cloudy with spots of rain and thunder developing. Chance of rain decreasing through the day. Showers Thursday mostly dry, partly cloudy and marginally mild.



Yesterday's State Extremes - High: 63 at Lewiston and Lowell. Low: 25 at Stanley.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, and Tomorrow, listing forecasts for Boise, Burley, Elko, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, and Tomorrow, listing forecasts for Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, and Tomorrow, listing forecasts for Albuquerque, Anchorage, Atlanta, etc.

Advertisement for 'Comunidad' newspaper, 'Every Thursday In The Times-News'.

Advertisement for 'CANADIAN FORECAST' with a table of city forecasts.

Advertisement for 'TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP' showing a map of the United States with weather indicators.

WHO lifts Toronto travel warning

GENEVA (AP) - The World Health Organization lifted its warning against nonessential travel to Toronto because of SARS on Tuesday, but in Asia the disease continued its spread as Hong Kong reported 12 new deaths, China nine and Singapore one.

Hong Kong, Beijing and two Chinese provinces, as China's premier admitted his government failed to act quickly against the disease.
In return for the WHO's decision, the Canadian government promised to do more to prevent the spread of SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, by screening passengers leaving the country.

Health

Included, women are twice as likely as men to visit a doctor each year, and men's visits are shorter and less likely to include advice on behavioral changes that would improve health, sociologist David Williams of the University of Michigan wrote in the journal.
Among the journal's other findings:
• Men have higher death rates than women for each of the 15 leading causes of death except Alzheimer's disease. Men's death rates are at least twice as high for accidents, murder, suicide and sclerosis of the liver.
• Women have lived longer for the past century. Although the gap is narrowing, men's life expectancy remains almost five years shorter than women's - and black men normally die almost 12 years earlier than white women.
• When it comes to chronic disease, men are slightly more likely to get high blood pressure or can-

cer, and twice as likely to consume more than five alcoholic drinks a day.
Joseph Betancourt, a senior scientist at the Harvard University Institute for Health Policy, said trust and image problems also hinder effective relationships between doctors and their patients, minorities in particular.
Betancourt said doctors have to understand the priorities of their patients and work with them.
Mourning, a center for the Miami Heat, said realization came for him after his diagnosis with a rare kidney-destroying disease in 2000. Now, he said, "First and foremost, I make my health a priority."
Sullivan said he hoped that health advocates like Mourning would raise awareness and result in more research on men's health issues.
"From whatever side of the political spectrum you approach this, the need to act is critical," he said.

Iraq

Continued from A1
the commander of U.S. soldiers in the city said.
The shooting was the third reported fatal clash involving U.S. troops and Iraqi protesters in two weeks, underscoring the problems soldiers face as they try to switch from fighting to peacekeeping.
On April 15 and 16, Marines opened fire during angry demonstrations in the northern city of Mosul. Iraqis said 17 people were killed there, though details remained unclear and the Marines insisted they fired in self-defense.
The shootings, widely reported by Arab news media, have fueled resentment of the U.S. military weeks after the overthrow of

Saddam Hussein's regime.
U.S. forces serving in the area said they have been trained in crowd control. About half the company headquartered at the school in Fallujah served in Kosovo peacekeeping operations, said Lt. Devin Wynn, a spokesman.
It was unclear whether the protest that sparked the shootings grew from general animosity toward Americans in Fallujah, a city long hostile to U.S. troops because of Saddam support and site of factories suspected of involvement in banned weapons programs.
But it appeared a clash of cultures, at least, was involved.
Residents reportedly denounced battalion members' use of binoculars and night-vision goggles. They accused soldiers of spying on women from the school's upper floors and rooftop.

Monday's protest started after evening prayers in Saddam's birthday, in the past an occasion for weekend celebrations. Lt. Col. Eric Nantz said the demonstration involved no more than 200 people - an indication, Nantz said, of support for American forces.
The Iraqi dead and wounded in hospital wards and homes also included women and children shot inside their walked homes in the neighborhood.
"They shot everyone who moved," said Rafid Mahmoud, standing by the bed of his wounded brother at Fallujah hospital Tuesday. His brother's foot had been crushed by a bullet.
"Americans are criminals," said 37-year-old Ehtesam Shamudein, her leg bandaged. Her seven children surrounded her, one boy wearing clothes smeared with

bloody printings.
U.S. Central Command said paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division were fired on by about 25 armed civilians mixed within an "estimated crowd of 200 protesters outside a compound troops were occupying."
"Paratroopers, who received fire from elements mixed within the crowd and positioned atop neighboring buildings, returned fire, wounding at least seven of the armed individuals," the Central Command statement said.
A Central Command spokesman, Lt. Mark Kitchens, said paratroopers "have consistently demonstrated their efforts to avoid civilian casualties and practice restraint. Any allegations to the contrary are simply not based on fact."

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Daniel Watlock, circulation director
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Schools

Continued from A1
cuts about \$900 per classroom, about 30 percent, from the cash they got this year for buying books, paying utility bills and covering discretionary expenses.
The "Bedke plan" delivers only half the increase Republican Gov. Dirk Kempthorne had proposed in his hold-the-line budget more than 16 weeks ago.
In an apparent change of heart, however, the governor generally accepts the policies and spending levels in the bill, although he had not reviewed some last-minute changes from previous versions, Kempthorne Chief of Staff Brian Whitlock affirmed.
Democrats said the plan was nothing more than an attempt to cut education funding, even after a major tax hike to partially offset the deteriorated econ-

my. It also drew criticism from some moderate Republicans as well, including U.S. Senate Education Chairman Gary Schroeder of Moscow and two local committee members - Larry Nantz of Kimberly and Tom Lane of Burley. They argued that more of the burden will be shifted back to local school district property taxpayers, who will eventually be asked to fill the financial gap being created by the state.
Noh predicted a salary freeze that goes on longer than one year could force a situation in which the Legislature will find itself negotiating with the Idaho Education Association for increases to teachers' salaries.
"By essence, what it would mean is the Legislature setting the salary schedule - chapter and verse," Noh said. "And that in turn would also mean that statewide teacher strikes could take place."
Just three years ago, the House-Senate panel was lambasted by other lawmakers for adding to budget bills substantive policy changes that had either not been considered by

the policy-setting committee or had been rejected.
But in a series of lopsided partisan votes, the committee's Republican majority:
• Limited annual property tax relief for school district taxpayers to \$75 million, renegeing on the 1995 tax relief promise to pick up a full 25 percent of basic school district tax levies. The limit will affect school budgets in 2004-2005.
• Dramatically changed the way schools are reimbursed for bus expenses, penalizing such districts as Valley, Wendell, Gooding and Buhl. Wendell Superintendent Larry Manly, whose district is more than 10.73 percent over the state average, explained his district has to pay for a higher number than average of severely handicapped students who require special buses and care.
• Capped future compensation increases teachers and administrators get for education over experience at this year's 1994 reforming part of the 1994 reform of formula the state used to disburse education salary support.

Financed subsidies for interest on school construction bonds from half the profits of the state Lottery. In 1994, the state promised schools would get that money for building maintenance.
The proposed change in the way district transportation costs was prompted by the disparity in charges the districts have been submitting in the past when they have received 85 percent of their busing expenses.
The new plan, which Bedke adjusted on Tuesday from an earlier version, will pay the districts 110 percent of the statewide average cost of transporting students next year, 105 percent of the average the year after and then 103 percent after that.
The public school budget heads to the House early today and is predicted to pass, though the House is expected to amend it. But in the Senate, the vote is too close to call.

CORRECTIONS

Dean Hicks spoke at support group

A story in Sunday's Times-News did not correctly identify Dean Hicks, a woman who spoke at an informal support group for parents and spouses of military servicemen and women.
The Times-News regrets the error.

R.V. hookup fees at parks are \$6, \$10

A story on recreational vehicle hookup fees in Monday's paper had incorrect information. Hookup fees at Murrow Lake Waterfront Park and Twin Falls County Waterfront Park are \$6. Hookup fees at Rock Creek RV Park, still under construction, will be \$10.
The Times-News regrets the error.

Tax

Continued from A1
The proposed increase would push the cigarette tax from its current 28 cents per pack to 57 cents. It is a net rise less than the 34-cent increase requested by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne at the beginning of the legislative session - 114 days ago.
The final sticking point in the negotiations was not over how much tax to charge, but how long it would be in effect. House Republicans had insisted that it be only one year.
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rating, potentially costing millions.
Even as committee members reached consensus late Tuesday afternoon, they continued to stress different aspects of the plan.
For Rupert Sen. Dean Cameron, chairman of the Senate Finance committee, the important part of the additional revenue will be there if it's needed this year and next.
"Isn't it an ideal situation, but it's certainly worth passing," Cameron said.
Cameron's bill would require House Republican Floor Leader Lawrence Denney said it

was the prospect of slowing state spending that would appeal to caucus. However, Speaker Bruce Newcomb cautioned that it is still not certain whether the measure will achieve the 36 percent necessary to pass.
The cigarette tax increase leaves a razor thin margin for error that made Emmett C. Brad Link reluctant to proceed.
Out of the state's \$2 billion spending plan, \$270,000 would be left over.
"But \$700,000 to the position is a long way from where we've been. Let the game begin," Link said.

# Tax writers look for cooperation

## White House presses for cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are under intense pressure to find room in their tax cut legislation for most of President Bush's program to jumpstart the economy. A Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, told GOP leaders there will have to be a measure of bipartisanship and warned them not to put so much pressure on moderates that they might flee the party. Vermont Sen. Jim Jeffords left the Republican fold two years ago and headed control of the Senate to Democrats for 1.5 years.

"Republicans don't get everything they want, and if Republicans push too hard, you have what happens to us two years ago with Senator Jeffords leaving the party," Grassley said in a CNN interview Monday.

Grassley immediately clarified that he doesn't know of any lawmakers who have threatened to leave. "I don't expect that to happen, but you know, at least that's the reality of what happened two years ago. And I think that we should learn from history," he said.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said Tuesday the environment had changed since Jeffords switched parties. "I don't think there is any indication we have the environment like that," he said.

Republican aides working on the Senate's tax cut said parts of the legislation will draw bipartisan support, such as aid to cash-strapped states. Helping the states would help draw backing from moderate Democrats, but aides said supporters may not get the \$30 billion to \$40 billion they want.

The White House will weigh in this week to make sure the bill includes items they want. Frist and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., will meet with the president Tuesday evening.

The meeting will be an opportunity to plot strategy and mend fences between the parties after a fight over the size of the tax cut earlier this month. "I'm going to be in meetings all day long as to how to grow this growth package," Frist said. "For me it will be inter-

esting to see how much the White House and House focus on the past, or how much they're focusing on the future."

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, said he talked to Frist twice over the recess and feels comfortable the two chambers will get along better. "From our perspective, the Senate isn't going to go away and we have to deal with them. I know we can work together and get some things done."

The White House has been lobbying the Senate to match the House and cut taxes by \$550 billion over the next decade. Republicans do not have enough votes in the Senate to pass more than \$350 billion in tax cuts, and Grassley said he will stick to that limit.

# Palestinian vote approves leader; bomb rocks Tel Aviv

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — The Palestinian parliament approved a new prime minister Tuesday, removing the last remaining obstacle for the launch of a U.S.-backed peace plan. But the historic event was followed within 12 hours by a suicide attack on a Tel Aviv bar that killed three people.

The bombing illustrated the challenge facing Mahmud Abbas, who spoke out strongly against terrorism in presenting his Cabinet to the legislature. "There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but even as the parliament was meeting, the Islamic militant movement Hamas warned it had no intention of disarming or ending attacks on Israelis."

Abdel Aziz Rantisi said his group would "never drop its weapons and will not allow anyone to disarm it."

The bomb exploded about 1 a.m. and blew the front off the seafood bar and demolished walls, doors and furniture inside, police said. A witness told Army Radio that a security guard at the bar prevented the bomber from entering. The dead included the bomber. It was the 89th suicide attack in 2.5 years of fighting.

The night spot features live music and stands on a promenade that runs for several miles along the Tel Aviv beach. The U.S. Embassy is nearby, but was not damaged and was apparently not a target.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Nancy Beck said the Mideast peace process would move forward despite the violence.

"This despicable attack was undertaken by those opposed to the restoration of dialogue and the peaceful pursuit of a comprehensive peace in the region," she said in Washington.

# U.S. courts grapple with budget crunch

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — There is no justice dispensed in Oregon courts on Fridays. That's when the court system shuts down to save money.

"I have to answer my own phone on Fridays," Chief Justice Wallace Carson said recently on one of those days in an otherwise abandoned Supreme Court building.

Oregon appears to be the only state so far to take such a drastic step, but budget cuts are hurting courts and law enforcement agencies across the nation. Judges, district attorneys and public defenders are all carrying extra burdens and some officials fear there has been a decline in public safety.

In Texas, where lawmakers face a \$1.8 billion shortfall, the chief justice has proposed a constitutional amendment to cut two of the nine justices on the state Supreme Court to save money.

New York has had a hiring freeze in effect for 18 months, leaving 700 court jobs unfilled. In Colorado, a potential \$800 million shortfall has triggered cuts that include mandatory furlough days for court employees, delayed starting dates for new judges and fewer courthouse hours.

California, facing a \$10 billion budget deficit before July 1, has seen 29 courtrooms closed and 250 layoffs in Los Angeles County alone.

With the nation's economy still struggling, courts could face an even greater squeeze in the months to come.

"We're all holding our breath, we're all on the edge of our seats," said Judith Kaye, chief judge of the New York State Court of Appeals and president of the national Conference of Chief Justices.

Court systems are not the only agencies affected as states grapple with their worse budget crisis in decades.

Last summer, for example, the Oregon State Police closed one crime lab and laid off 85 of its 135 technicians. Three of the remaining seven labs may be closed in July if the budget is not increased.

At the same time, spending cuts have also forced district attorneys to consider lesser charges in hundreds of cases and pushed lawmakers to consider decriminalizing some offenses.

Multnomah County District Attorney Mike Schruck says he may be forced to reduce charges against more than 3,000 people accused of nonviolent misdemeanors and property crimes so



Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court Wallace Carson sits in Salem, Ore., earlier this month.

they face only a fine that does not require a defense attorney or possible jail time.

Although it is so far unclear whether Oregon's slashing of court funding is resulting in more crime, Schruck believes it's inevitable.

"It's kind of like a toothless tiger," Schruck said. "The system is unable to take care of itself."

Oregon Legislature slashed \$50.6 million from the \$416.7 million budget of the Oregon Judicial Department, which oversees courts. That forced Carson to shut down courts every Friday, reduce court employees' pay by 10 percent and limit the appointment of public defenders to only the highest priority criminal cases until July.

"There is no state judiciary that I know of that is immune from the kind of financial cutbacks Oregon is experiencing," said Roger Warren, president of the National Center for State Courts in Williamsburg, Va.

"I'd say it's the worst fiscal crisis to confront the state judiciary in 50 years," Warren said. A survey released last week by the National Conference of State

Legislatures shows that 34 states have overspent their budgets for fiscal 2003 and 27 still have deficits to close before July 1.

In all, the survey indicates states are \$21.5 billion short of the money they need to balance

their budgets by July 1 — and courts are fighting for every dollar they can get.

Many states are looking to cut funds for public defenders appointed to represent indigent defendants, said Scott Wallace, director of legal services at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association in Washington, D.C.

There are 23 states where funding for public defenders is provided by the state, rather than by a county, and most of those states are suffering from unemployment and declining income tax revenue, he said.

The Oregon cutbacks have led to federal lawsuits filed this month by public defenders, creating an unusual alliance with prosecutors who support a possible constitutional showdown between government branches — if that's what it takes to keep courts open.

"I think it's unlikely, but one can't rule that out," said Chief Justice Ronald George of the California Supreme Court, who is president-elect of the national Conference of Chief Justices and will succeed Kaye.

"When we do get together we talk about Oregon as a poster child for our problems," George said.

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NATION



Supervising engineer Nasser Kassom adjusts the pressure on the flow of crude oil at the K-1 tank farm and pumping station Thursday in Kirkuk, Iraq.

## Engineers tackle problems of oil fields

DOHA, Qatar (AP) - The unexploded bombs littering Iraq's oil fields are the only obstacle to rebooting the country's once-booming petroleum sector.

Other damage dates back to decades of conflict, neglect, patchy repair work and environmental disregard by a cash-strapped Iraqi regime - problems now surfacing as U.S. oil engineers peel back the curtain on what was a secretive national industry.

"We're trying to put something back together that was being held together with string and chewing gum. It's tough," said one U.S. oil engineer involved with repairs.

Broken parts, missing parts, bypassed safety standards and pools of sludge are just some aspects of Saddam Hussein's legacy that still challenge oil workers.

Iraq's prized oil industry was savaged by the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war and the 1991 Gulf War. It was then cannibalized, neglected and run into the ground over more than a decade of U.S. sanctions imposed as punishment for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Jump-starting the business is key to U.S. reconstruction plans. Iraq has the world's second-biggest proven crude reserves. And cashing in on exports is billed as a way to pay for reconstruction costs that could reach \$100 billion over the next decade.

But the industry's fitful start highlights how damage done long ago still lingers.

The latest struggle has been trying to restart a key refinery in the southern city of Basra, where supplies of gasoline, kerosene and propane are running out. Officials had hoped to restart it Monday, but now say it could

take four or five more days.

The refinery is riddled with leaks of years gone by. And one of its two production trains is inoperable because of Gulf War damage and a lack of maintenance, according to an oil team official from the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance.

"There was damage left over from the first war and then the lack of spare parts and other issues," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "There's going to be a lot of ongoing work."

Analysts long knew Iraq's oil industry had fallen on hard times, but it was difficult to tell how bad things were. The inner workings of the Oil Ministry were closely guarded by Saddam's regime, and estimates on oil production and exports were distorted by widespread smuggling and sanction-busting.

Catastrophic predictions that retreating Iraqis would sabotage hundreds of oil wells never happened in the latest war. But repair workers say they are just as surprised by how decrepit the oil system appears to have been before the bombs fell.

The U.S. interim administration wants to restore Iraqi crude production to its prewar level of 2.8 million barrels a day as soon as possible. But analysts say that level was sustained by shoddy safety and environment standards that don't pass Western muster.

"It's no big secret that the Iraqis have had to improvise, to put it mildly, to keep the industry operating," said Jan Stuart, an oil analyst with ABN Amro in New York.

## Iraqi curators want border secured

LONDON (AP) - Professional thieves appear to have slipped in among the bands of looters in Iraqi museums, authorities said Tuesday as they urged U.S. authorities to tighten border security and stop the flow of stolen treasures.

Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of coalition forces in Iraq, said Monday that the looting in Baghdad did not appear to be the work of organized thieves.

But Donny George of the Iraqi National Museum said Tuesday that glass cutters and bunches of keys found amid the museum's debris suggested at least some of the items had been snatched by

robbers with expert eyes.

He said some of the looters "had come into the museum with some kind of preparation to take objects they had in mind."

"They knew what those pieces were ... In one of the corridors we had a fake statue. They never touched it."

At a meeting in London, the world's top curators said antiquities are still being smuggled out of the country, three weeks later.

"American control at the border is almost zero," said George, research director at the museum, whose collection of 170,000 pieces spanning half a million years was pillaged after the col-

lapse of Saddam Hussein's regime this month. "Anyone can take anything and go out ... the bleeding of antiquities is still going on."

Iraq's museums held priceless, millennia-old collections from the Assyrian, Sumerian and Babylonian cultures. Ancient Mesopotamia - modern-day Iraq - was the cradle of urban civilization.

After the fall of Saddam's government, looters stole and smashed priceless archaeological treasures from the National Museum in Baghdad and other museums and libraries.

Many Iraqis criticized U.S.

troops for doing little to stop the theft.

George said a staff member at the museum had begged U.S. troops to park their tanks nearby to discourage looting. But nothing was done for several days, he said.

Neil MacGregor, director of the British Museum, also said it was "extraordinary" that American troops did not prevent the theft.

"This is without question the greatest disaster to a national collection since the Second World War, without question," MacGregor told British Broadcasting Corp. radio.

## Lawyer who helped Lynch gains asylum

WASHINGTON (AP) - An Iraqi lawyer who helped U.S. commandos locate and rescue prisoner of war Jessica Lynch has been granted asylum in the United States, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge announced Tuesday.

Lynch, a 20-year-old Army supply clerk from Palestine, W.Va., was captured March 23 after her 507th Maintenance

Company convoy was ambushed. She was rescued from an Iraqi hospital in the city on April 1 after U.S. forces received a tip about her whereabouts from a lawyer known only as "Mohammed."

Ridge identified the man as Mohammed Al Rehaief and said the lawyer and his wife and 5-year-old daughter arrived in the United States earlier this month.

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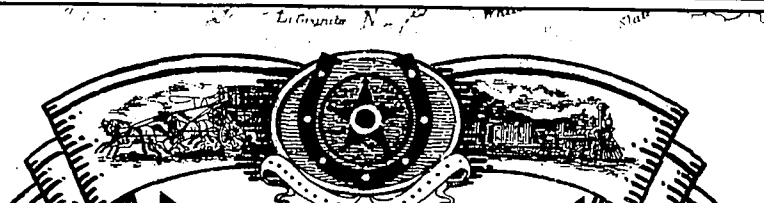
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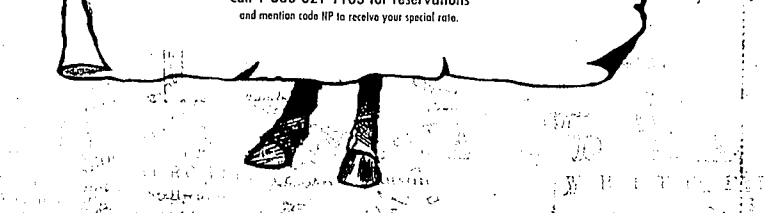
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## Baghdad police force increases

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Iraq's American administrators paid Baghdad policemen \$20 each Tuesday and promised to bring in 4,000 more of their own officers as Iraqis at a town hall-style meeting told the U.S. administrator that security is their top priority.

Outside the meeting, Iraqis furious about the lack of security demonstrated against the United States, and said the Geneva Conventions require an occupying army to keep the peace.

"Our people are like a horse that broke its legs in a race. We need a bucket of money to end our lives," said Fadel Abbas Ali, a 30-year-old carpenter. "They are looting my house, my oil and my food."

U.S. forces said they were doing their best, but insisted the 12,000 soldiers in Baghdad were too few to police the city of 5 million. The Army said it had detained 5,000 people mostly for looting, and that the reconstituted Iraqi police force had arrested 1,000 more.

## Wrinkle Discovery Praised Worldwide

**SPECIAL.** Women across the world are flocking into stores to buy exciting EBS Facial Cream, developed by American pharmacist Robert Helfford (shown on right). Word has spread in Canada and Europe about the cream that is working wonders to improve the appearance of facial wrinkles, crows feet, crepey neck, "feather" lips, uneven blotches and dry, slack skin. Back in the U.S.A., EBS Facial Cream is rated the #1 selling cream for aging skin in all JCPenney stores nationwide!

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NATION

# Evicted? Skipper says he'll miss space station

**Five-month space mission winds down**

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) - His five-month mission almost over, the space station's skipper said Tuesday he will miss living in orbit, but can't wait to be reunited with his family and with colleagues who are still suffering from the Columbia disaster.

"I feel a little bit like I'm being kicked out of my apartment for not paying my rent," said U.S. astronaut Kenneth Bowersox, surrounded by his two roommates and the two-man replacement crew that arrived Monday. "But when I get back to Earth, the best part is going to be, to be able to hug my wife and hug my kids."

Bowersox and his crew, American Donald Pettit and Russian Nikolai Budarin, will return to Earth this weekend aboard the Soyuz capsule that has been docked to the station for the past six months. They were supposed to come back aboard space shuttle Atlantis in March, but the fleet has

been grounded since Columbia broke apart during descent on Feb. 1.

Instead of Florida, they will land in Kazakhstan.

"I'm actually sort of excited about it," said Bowersox, 46, a Navy captain. "I went through a lot of training there in Star City (Russia) and I always thought, 'Aw, I'm doing this training and I'm never going to get to use it in the Soyuz.' And now we're going to... so I think it's going to be a very, very interesting life experience."

Pettit, 48, a chemical engineer, said all three of them have "a heap of training" in both Soyuz and shuttle landings - "and either one is fine with us." His wife and 2.5-year-old twin sons will be waiting for him in Russia. Bowersox and Pettit will be the first NASA astronauts to land in a Russian spacecraft; their touchdown is scheduled for Saturday night Houston time. The only other American to do so was California millionaire Dennis Tito, the world's first paying space tourist, two years ago.

During a news conference with

all five spacemen, Bowersox noted that his colleagues in Houston are still suffering quite a bit from the loss of Columbia and its seven astronauts.

"It's going to be hard for Don and I, after being away from it all, to suddenly be confronted with all that emotion," he said. "But at the same time, I think it's going to be very good for us to be back there with our friends and help them work through it and let them help us work through the changes that we'll be going through."

U.S. astronaut Edward Lu, who just moved in with Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malchenchenko, said a smaller two-man crew ought to do "just fine." Because of the absence of shuttles and their large shipments, the two will have to conserve on some things, Lu said, "but I don't think it will be that bad."

Lu and Malchenchenko, who both briefly visited the space station during a shuttle assembly mission in 2000, will spend the next six months there and return to Kazakhstan this fall aboard the Soyuz capsule they came up on.

## Shuttle investigators say they're progressing

HOUSTON (AP) - Columbia accident investigators said Tuesday they are close to zeroing in on where a hole opened up in the spaceship's left wing and strongly suspect the fatal blow was caused by a chunk of flyaway foam at liftoff.

"I feel that we're probably within 30 inches of where the actual breach occurred," said Roger Teraut, a member of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board. "We're closing in."

A fragment of a panel or seal along the vulnerable leading edge of Columbia's left wing is almost certainly what was missing when Columbia descended through the atmosphere three months ago this week, the board said. This missing mystery object floated away two days into the doomed flight, unnoticed by the crew or ground controllers. Teraut said he and colleagues have narrowed down the location of the deadly breach to either the lower half of a reinforced-carbon panel or a section of one of the carbon seals on either side.

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# Two Koreas agree to peacefully resolve issue

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - South and North Korea agreed Wednesday to try to peacefully resolve the nuclear crisis, but the communist state has warned that talks are useless unless the United States drops its demand that the North first scrap suspected atomic weapons programs.

The agreement between the two Koreas was made after four days of talks in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital.

"South and North Korea will thoroughly consult each other's position on the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula and will continue cooperation to resolve this issue peacefully through dialogue," a joint statement said.

The North has insisted that the South should not meddle in the

nuclear standoff, calling it a dispute with the United States, according to South Korean news reports from Pyongyang.

The statement came after Secretary of State Colin Powell said the United States was reviewing an offer by North Korea to give up its missiles and nuclear facilities in exchange for substantial U.S. economic benefits.

The North Koreans floated the proposal in talks with U.S. envoys in Beijing last week. According to a senior U.S. official, North Korea said for the first time during that meeting that it had nuclear weapons and was contemplating exporting or even using them, depending on U.S. actions.

# Rare earthquake in the South shakes seven states

FORT PAYNE, Ala. (AP) - An uncommon Southern earthquake shook people out of their sleep early Tuesday, fraying nerves and cracking foundations but causing no major damage or injuries.

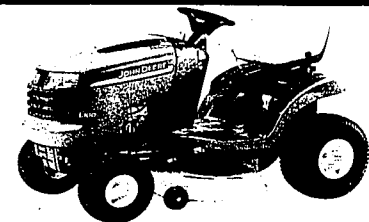
Some people thought the boom and rumble was a bomb, a gas truck explosion, a tornado, even terrorism, but their fright soon gave way to nervous laughter.

"The quake shook up the chicken shed so bad they all laid scrambled eggs," Jim Toler joked over breakfast at a restaurant. "It bounced us pretty heavy."

The magnitude 4.9 quake, tying the record for Alabama, struck around 4 a.m. and was centered near Fort Payne, close to the Georgia line, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

It was felt in parts of Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Mississippi.

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## EDITORIAL

### Will Libertarians sing, 'Here We Have Idaho'?

The state of Idaho, far too long the punchline of jokes about neo-Nazis and pot-smokers, may have a new reputation in the political world - potential Mecca for the Libertarian movement - or maybe not.

Members of a Libertarian project have identified 10 states which could serve as a political home base for limited government. Since Idaho has a strong independent streak and a general distaste for government growth, it's a state high on the list.

Now, independent minded voters are certainly welcome to Idaho, and they may appreciate this state. But the idea of a Libertarian political movement is a political contradiction in itself. It probably would fail before it even gets started.

The "Free State Project," is the brainchild of 26-year-old Yale political science student Jason Sorens, who thought up the idea after the Libertarian Party's lousy performance in the 2000 election.

The group has 3,100 members, who want to expand to 20,000 advocates of limited government, then move to a lesser-populated state that's favorable to their politics.

"Rather than change the whole nation it makes sense for all of us to gather in one place," said Elizabeth McKinstry, vice president of the project, who recently spoke about the concept in Coeur d'Alene.

Members would move into the selected state aiming to reduce its state government by one-half to two-thirds. Their campaign could include the abolition of laws regulating drugs, gambling, prostitution, guns and drinking.

Joining Idaho in this Libertarian beauty contest are Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, the Dakotas, New Hampshire, Maine, Delaware and Vermont. Once the group registers about 5,000 members,

they'll pick which state to target.

As a ruggedly individual state that was settled by immigrants, outcasts and dreamers, an infusion of independent Libertarians may fit right in with the Idaho experience.

But the whole project has about as much of a chance as, well, a Libertarian in the White House.

First, a political idea hatched in a Yale's dorm room doesn't exactly sound like the origin of a Western state's political revolution. Secondly, do any of these states actually want a flock of anti-government revolutionaries? And do any of them want to come here?

Idahoans balance their libertarian streak with an equally strong belief in law and order. Some members of the project are skeptical about Idaho's strong Mormon population, which frowns on legalized prostitution, drug use, and casino gambling. Most conservative Idahoans want laws to regulate those vices.

And Idahoans' pro-business political climate often turns chilly when a city's proposed business happens to be a casino, strip club, or drug paraphernalia shop. In many ways, Idahoans appreciate a government and its regulations.

But perhaps the biggest limitation to a Libertarian crusade is its own cause. The project wants independent-minded people to unify and relocate for the sake of a political party. But many Libertarians cherish their independence and individual beliefs, in spite of political parties and the group mentality. Talk about your fish out of water.

We doubt Idaho will become the Seneca Falls of the Libertarian movement. If they do come, Libertarians will probably feel more at home in Moscow, where they'll find a home among the tree-huggers and airy political theorists of that university town.

## Gephardt has high hopes for health care

The universal health coverage plan announced by Democratic presidential hopeful Dick Gephardt would provide coverage to an additional 30 million Americans at an initial cost of \$210 billion a year. That's a gold-plated annual price tag of \$7,000 per person. And it's only the beginning of the high cost of the plan.

**GRACE-MARIE TURNER**

Every employer would be required to provide health insurance. An employer mandate by any other name is an employer mandate. Companies no longer would be able to deduct the cost of health insurance premiums from their gross receipts - worth approximately 30 percent of the cost of the coverage - but would instead receive a 60 percent tax credit.

The National Federation of Independent Business and the National Association of Manufacturers have blasted the plan, saying that they object to making the voluntary system of employer-provided health insurance mandatory.

How would Gephardt pay for the expanded health coverage? He would rescind all of the tax cuts enacted in 2001 and any that will be passed this year. Further, employers who want to reduce their health premium costs can forget it. If they do, they forfeit the entire credit.

Play, or else. Companies that don't offer health insurance would have to start doing so. They would get the 60 percent refundable credit, and their workers would be responsible for 40 percent of the premium costs.

Many lower-income workers are opting out of employer coverage right now because they can't afford it. Opting out would not be an option. Gephardt would, however, provide subsidies to some workers to offset part of their share.



Americans who are not employed most likely would be enrolled in existing federal entitlement programs - Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

In a recent speech before the Service Employees International Union in New York, Gephardt said his plan "covers every American, stimulates the economy and creates jobs."

The basic organizing concept of the Gephardt plan is to assume that the government knows best how to redistribute and spend citizens' money.

It is based on a Keynesian notion that government spending creates prosperity. By increasing taxes on workers to pay for the plan, he would be cycling money from taxpayers, through government, and to employers to be spent on health coverage or, he says, wage increases for workers.

The higher tax rates would be a disincentive for Americans to work, save and invest. Instead,

workers will have an extra incentive to consume as much health care as they can to get their money's worth. And that is certain to accelerate health care inflation.

The more the government gets involved in paying for health coverage, the more strings will be attached to specify exactly what the insurance must cover. And history shows the requirements will not be reduced, with the Gephardt price tag likely going higher and higher, already estimated to be more than \$2 trillion over 10 years.

And what's the bottom line? The Gephardt plan would increase the number of Americans with health insurance to 97 percent, with 30.4 million of today's nearly 41 million uninsured getting coverage - but with 10 million still outside the system.

The Gephardt plan is a clear employer mandate, paid for with a generous bribe of taxpayer money. Gephardt calls it a win-win for health coverage and economic stimulus, but it is a lose-

lose-lose for consumer empowerment, market-driven cost efficiency, and continued innovation in health care financing.

The nation learned during the last battles over universal health coverage 10 years ago that sweeping changes in health reform are very difficult to pass.

A more targeted approach, such as providing refundable tax credits to the uninsured to purchase health coverage, would be more politically palatable.

Refundable tax credits would allow uninsured Americans to buy private health coverage through a new system of health insurance options rather than expanding public programs that already are facing severe financial strains.

Tax credits would be a first step that could provide millions more Americans with health insurance, without the huge costs and disruption of trying to do too much all at once.

Grace-Marie Turner is president of the Galen Institute, www.galen.org.

## LETTERS

### Street name changes stir up more trouble

My toots go very deep in this area. My grandparents came to Twin Falls in 1904. My grandfather, J.A. Waters, worked with Perrine in surveying the canal system, also laying out of the city. He was a masonry and landscaped the city park, the high school and most of the new town. I bet I am one of the oldest natives in this area.

Why stir things up now to change street names? Have you stopped to consider the inconvenience and expense that it would cost residents of the businesses and cost most of us have to change their addresses? I would guess that 90 percent of the addresses are on permanent. There is no way anyone could ever notify all the people and businesses, to say nothing of all the junk mail that they get mail from.

What would it do to the postal system? They would have to hire a whole staff of employees just to handle it, and what about the expense to all the residents? It would take years to get it all straightened out.

In these days of really having to watch every penny, why stir things up? The city would spend money that there is already not enough of for the things that are necessary and beneficial. For all new street signs, all the current maps of the city - both locally and the state maps - would be out of date; the whole Twin Falls-area telephone books would have to be made over.

It would also affect all the utilities, Social Security, doctors' billing and countless others. No one has any idea how many computers throughout the states, even worldwide, that has names and addresses - even school names.

As for either set of names you

have suggested, they are both confusing. As for using names of surrounding towns, we already have Shoshone, Filer and Wendell streets, Kimberly Road and Filer, which doesn't even mention Filer.

Please stop and think before you go any further with this. **JEAN DUFFEK NUTSCHI Jerome**

### Bush abuses power to wage war on Iraq

I will not support President G.W. Bush Jr. and his radical Republicans for re-election. This Vietnam vet tell you why.

G.W. swore allegiance, when taking his oath of office, to the U.S. Constitution, which clearly delineates the American people's legal path to war. Under Article 1, section 8, only Congress is given the power to declare war and commit the country to armed conflict. The president of the United States is empowered only as our commander-in-chief, under Article 2, section 2, after the Congress has formally declared.

In this "supreme law of the land," you'll note that it gives no latitude on this issue. Regardless of the justification, the president sidestepped his constitutional responsibility and attacked a sovereign state. Thus, under our own law, our action in Iraq is illegal.

What should have happened? He should have put his case before Congress, gained the appropriate declaration, then sought support or support of allies through other means. Then do the deed in league with our associates. This process would demonstrate dramatically to the world not only our resolve but also our acceptance of responsibility. This way we could have maintained the moral high

ground.

But what did "we the people" get? We received a deafening media campaign to cloud the issue. Our government played the blame game with members of the United Nations without recognizing that these nations had every democratic right under law to question our motives. And our claim that the Iraqi government might do something in a state-

ment that could be made against many other countries in this world. The fact is there's no just cause. Our government is just on a fishing expedition, which makes this whole endeavor look more like common piracy.

If this nation wants to war, that's fine with me. Go have one, but if brute force is the measure of virtue and earnestness, then why do we have laws? If our government can set aside our Constitution anytime it's inconvenient, then we have no Constitution or Bill of Rights. As it is, the world sees we are nothing but a nation bound by a system of arbitrary rules put upon us, and others, by kings and enforced by a praetorian guard.

If defrothing tyrants is our game, it's interesting that an oppressive state exists only 90 miles south of Florida - Cuba - and we've ignored this issue. **MARK SCHLUCKERT Twin Falls**

### Judge's ruling covers only half the buried waste

Well, here we go again. The state and its nuclear business friends are pretending they are "cleaning up all waste at the site," so it's time for a huge new nuclear project.

The recent court ruling has been inaccurately reported in newspapers, which they have refused

to correct. The judge did not say that all the buried plutonium must be dug up. His ruling only concerns half the plutonium from Colorado dumped over our water supply. The judge acknowledged that the definition of transuranic waste had been changed and only half of the plutonium excavated to our water supply is covered by the "wet the waste out" deal.

Most importantly, this still leaves a legacy of billions of plutonium particles buried over our water. In Kemphorne's State of the State, he implies all the plutonium will be gone and the promise to Sen. Church is not true. Unfortunately, that is not true. When speaking of the "plutonium contaminated waste," "all" now means "half the volume" of plutonium waste.

We are also opening a new eight-acre plutonium dump, which the nuclear deal has the right to expand to 200 acres.

So now comes the push to build more terrorist targets. I mean nuclear power plants, over our water supply. Notice the present business running the nuclear site are an LLC, limited liability corporation. Unfortunately, the nuclear contamination they can cause is not as limited as their liability. The BWC folks still haven't paid the citizens of Pittsburgh who finally won a lawsuit for nuclear damages. No jobs in the world are worse risking the nuclear disaster than these businesses can do to Idaho.

**DR. PETER RICKARDS Twin Falls**

*(Editor's note: Our April 2 report on the federal ruling did state that the plutonium-contaminated transuranic waste covered by the lawsuit is an area estimated between 10 to 15 acres. There are other types of radioactive waste located in the rest of the landfill. This material may not be covered by the judge's ruling.)*

## The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher  
Clark Walworth, Managing Editor  
Mike Smith, Advertising Director

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartgen, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, David Cooper and Shelley Ridenour.

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@mgcivalley.com.

### Doonesbury



### By Garry Trudeau



### Mallard Fillmore



### By Bruce Tinsley



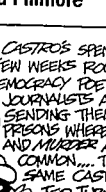
### "A Helluva Guy"



### And We Wonder Why These Folks Didn't Think Saddam Was So Bad



### Fidel Castro's Spent the Past Few Weeks Rounding Up Prof. Democracy Poets and Journalists and Sending Them to State Prisons Where Torture and Murder are Common... This is the Same Castro Whom Ted Turner Calls



# Work remains in restoring Iraqi artifacts

IRENE J. WINTER

It was not easy to get past the recriminations, as "shock and awe" turned to "shock and disgust" with the looting of the National Museum of Antiquities and the burning of the libraries in Baghdad. But it was necessary. Institutions, professional organizations and individuals mobilized to make themselves heard in the halls of power with unrehearsed but similar messages: Quick action had to be taken on multiple fronts if any stolen works were to be recovered, further looting prevented and vulnerable sites protected.

For the archaeological materials, the route to maximizing opportunities for recovery and minimizing losses seemed clear. It was crucial to declare an amnesty on the return of looted objects, to discourage either illicit export or destruction in the face of punitive measures. Borders had to be secured and staffed with competent officials, equipped with the power of surveillance and the authority to seize any objects found. And governments needing to work toward enforcing a ban on the sale of any archaeological items - pre-Islamic or Islamic - on the inter-

national market.

This last was particularly important: If, as some observers suggest, the looters were professionals working with prior directives, then there was an increased chance that the best of the stolen works would be quickly funneled into the high-end clandestine market.

It was also essential for U.S. officials to establish communications with the Iraqi Department of Antiquities, one of the most highly professional and effective in the Middle East; to help with a rapid reconstruction of the department; and to work with the Iraqis to assess the damage. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Interpol (the international police organization) and the U.S. State Department's Art Theft Program also had to mobilize quickly, to establish databases and policies concerning objects found on the market.

Some of these early goals have been met. UNESCO convened a

meeting in Paris last week; Interpol is working to identify categories of objects most subject to looting and will send a team to Iraq in the coming week.

Member countries of both organizations have been asked to freeze trade in all antiquities, art and archival materials from Iraq; it has recently been reported that a declaration on returns has been made between representatives of the Iraqi Department of Antiquities and the military official named by Secretary of State Colin Powell as responsible for cultural heritage matters, and information has begun to trickle in about what has been preserved as well as what has been lost.

So, what's next?

In this country, centralization of efforts to avoid duplication; the gathering of resources, from both the public and private sectors; continued pressure to keep cultural heritage issues prominent in postwar reconstruction plans. In Iraq: documentation of what has been lost; restoration and conservation of the museum and libraries; protection of archaeological sites; support for

renewed excavation and scholarship.

Most of all, it is important that we not slide into complacency or indifference now that the shock and anguish phase has passed. The thousands of looted and damaged works constitute a priceless record of human history. They represent "our" heritage, to the extent that civilization as we know it began in the Tigris-Euphrates Valley, and to the extent that events recorded in the Old Testament, sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims alike, are deeply rooted in Mesopotamia.

They also represent the cultural heritage of the Iraqi people - a proud heritage that goes back 10,000 years. And finally, they provide links to the great civilizations of East and South Asia, belonging thereby to World Heritage. A portion of that heritage was in our care, and has been lost; the debt we owe is therefore to the world, and the initiative must be ours.

Irene Winter is a professor of art history at Harvard University who specializes in Mesopotamian art and archaeology.

## Here's what you don't know about Buddy Gil

Since *The Times-News* has seen no interest in a local horse going to the Kentucky Derby, I thought I would point out a few points of interest.

Buddy Gil was raised and trained in Hagerman at Billingsley Creek Ranch. Won the Baldwin Stakes, San Felipe Stakes and Santa Anita Derby in the last few months. The only horse to win all three in the same year in the 60-some year history of Santa Anita.

Voted 3-year-old of the year at Santa Anita and horse of the meet.

In the San Felipe and Santa Anita Derby, he beat the favorite Atwhatimalkinout owned by Steven Spielberg.

Spielberg just finished directing the movie, "Scrubcut."

Gary Stevens, Buddy Gil's jockey, played the role of George Wally in the movie.

Where did Gary Stevens win his first race years ago? Les Bois (Boise).

Stevens and trainer Mullins have roots in Idaho that go back to 1980 while working at small tracks, all over the state and have been friends with Donnie McFadden for some 20 or more years.

Buddy Gil got a full page in Sports Illustrated, major coverage by the Los Angeles Times, interviews on TV and radio from all over the country.

And when *The Times-News* did print a couple of small pieces from the Associated Press, the second was incorrect. And then this morning (April 26), the feature story is on the favorite of the race - again a piece you got from the Associated Press. And in the body of that piece, a small interview with the owner.

Did I forget to say that Buddy Gil is the first horse from Idaho to go to the Kentucky Derby?

The only local coverage has been by Logan Tusov on his morning talk show. Thanks, Logan, for keeping the valley informed on Buddy Gil.

Sunday, April 27, there was a great story on Buddy Gil and the McFaddens. The paper covered all of the above and more. Front page and a full page inside - too bad it was not *The Times-News*. Great piece done by Tim Woodward of the Idaho Statesman.

Maybe if Buddy Gil could give milk or draw several million fees, *The Times-News* would have covered the story.

Go, Buddy Gil!  
MIKE SIMMONS  
Buhl

# There's no simple answer to failing school system

RONALD BROWNSTEIN

The modern era of school reform traces back to April 26, 1983, when Terrell Bell, President Reagan's secretary of education, released "A Nation at Risk," an exhaustive study of the state of U.S. education from a blue-ribbon commission that included university presidents, a Nobel Prize winner and educators.

Despite the big names, the report was something of a stepchild in the Reagan administration. Bell wanted Reagan to authorize the study as a presidential commission. Reagan refused, so Bell had to appoint the commission himself. One of his goals was survival: Persuading Reagan to renounce his 1980 campaign pledge to eliminate the Education Department, from which conservatives already loathed.

Bell succeeded in that and much more. Diane Ravitch, a distinguished education historian, writes in a new book published by Stanford University's Hoover Institution that the study became "the most important education reform document of the 20th century." It mobilized governors, business leaders and local officials with its stark portrait of the failures in elementary and secondary education - what the report memorably called "a rising tide of mediocrity."

The Nation at Risk study inspired not one but three distinct waves of reform, as education Professor Susan H. Fuhrman notes in another new book on the report's anniversary from Harvard University called "A Nation Reformed."

Results of those changes in turn led to the "standards" movement that tried to use the first two waves. Like the initial "excellence" reforms, the standards movement established high expectations for students, which would be measured through standardized tests; but like the restructuring movement, it aimed to give schools flexibility in trying to meet those goals. In different ways that approach inspired both the education reforms that President Clinton pursued and the plan President Bush pushed through Congress to mandate increased state testing in reading and math.

So after 20 years of reform, the questions loom: Is it getting better? Or do we feel the same?

On this, the Harvard and Hoover reports differ only slightly. Looking at scores on state, national and international tests, at least some members of the Harvard team see some slight improvement over the last two decades. The team from Hoover, a conservative think tank, sees only decline. "Whatever instrument is used America's schools are stagnating, showing little improvement since 'A Nation at Risk' was written," it concludes.

Subtle differences also divide the two teams on the third question: "Who do we blame for this continuing disappointment?"

The Hoover authors have an unequivocal answer: teacher unions, which several of them accuse of blocking any reforms with teeth.

The Harvard team doesn't have a single villain, but in their book's most impassioned essay, educational consultant Jeff Howard also blames teachers - in his eyes, not for impeding reform, but for lacking faith in the capacity of poor and low-income children to learn.

It's impossible to dismiss either of those arguments. Yet both appear too simplistic.

Teachers' unions often do resist changes in the schools, especially those most favored by conservatives: vouchers to help pay private-school tuition and the use of private companies to run failing public schools. But those initiatives haven't produced consistent gains in the places they have been implemented over teacher opposition.

And while low expectations are unquestionably a problem in inner-city schools, it's naive to think high expectations alone can overcome problems of crime, poverty, chaotic families, inadequate school funding and aging facilities. Even faith can't fashion bricks without straw.

After 20 years of reform, the simple answer is there is no simple answer to the problems of

America's schools. If anything, the search for a silver bullet - a single unifying explanation for why students continue to struggle - has now become part of the problem. America's schools may now suffer from too much reform, too many abrupt changes in direction that confuse students, teachers and parents.

Schools always need more: more accountability, more preschool programs, more teachers with top qualifications. But it may be that what they now need above all is less: less turnover at the top, less ideological polarization, and less thrashing about in search of the next great solution.

Amid all the reform ideas swirling 20 years after "A Nation at Risk," maybe the most valuable would be to give the reforms already under way more time before changing course again.

Ronald Brownstein is a national political correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

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## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Noted psychology professor will speak

TWIN FALLS - Dr. Jack Singer will be the keynote speaker today for the College of Southern Idaho's Student Success Day.

Singer will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts auditorium. Admission is free and the public is invited.

A veteran of the psychology departments of seven universities, Singer says he was once a class counselor and guidance counselor at the College of Southern Idaho. He has spent 25 years speaking around the country, motivating and training Fortune 500 companies. He has been referred to as the "Parch Adams of psychology." He appears frequently on MSNBC, Fox, and ESPN, as well as on radio talk shows. He is renowned for his strategies on eliminating stress and teaching people how to unleash the barriers to their ultimate health and wealth.

Student Success Day recognizes the many forms of success throughout the campus, in academic and technical programs. The day begins with a free barbecue at noon between the Taylor and Fine Arts buildings, where students are campaigning for CSI Student Senate positions will give their campaign speeches.

Beginning at 2 p.m. in Room 115 and 116 of the Shields Building, students from 10 departments will be honored for success day.

### Kempthorne declares drought emergencies

BOISE - Lincoln County is one of seven suffering drought emergencies, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne said Tuesday. He declared the emergencies in Bingham, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Lincoln and Power counties at the request of county commissioners. The Idaho Department of Water Resources approved the status.

All the counties are facing low precipitation levels, low water levels in their reservoirs or low snowpack levels because of dry soil from past droughts. Under the declarations, irrigators in the counties can work with Water Resources to get temporary water rights and change their existing water rights.

### M.V. fashion show tonight highlights modesty

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Fashion Show, featuring the "perfect fit" with modest styles for young women, will be held at 7 p.m. today in center court at the Magic Valley Mall. The show will focus on fashions that are more reserved and conventional.

The event is sponsored by the Young Women's organizations of the Kimberly, Twin Falls and Twin Falls West stakes of the LDS Church and the College of Southern Idaho Institute Women's Association.

Participating merchants are Affinity, Ben Marie's, Boutique, Claire's Boutique, Deb, Demarco's, J.C. Penney, Journeys, Mariposa, Maurice's, Payless Shoes, Roth Shoes, Sears, ShopKo, Tweedies Now & Gowns Forever, and Yards.

For more information, call LeAnna Blackwood at 733-5614 or Sharon Higbee at 734-2729.

### Governor lauds Jerome grad who helped Jews

BOISE - A Jerome High School graduate who provided medical help to Jews liberated from the Buchenwald concentration camp was recognized Tuesday by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne.

Dana Messenger, who lives in Boise, was honored as part of Idaho's 21st observance of the Holocaust in World War II. The Statehouse ceremony commemorated the deaths of 6 million Jews at the hands of the Nazis and the anniversary of the best-known uprising against the Germans, the battle in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Messenger's medical unit landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day. The unit then went to the Buchenwald concentration camp to offer medical help after it was liberated in 1945.

"Every year at the ceremony, the governor recognizes someone who witnessed the atrocities of Nazi Germany," said Kempthorne spokesman Mark S. Day. "Dana Messenger was there in April 1945 as an Allied liberator and was somebody who was there who saw the horrors of the Holocaust, who cared for the wounded and liberated those from Nazi captivity."

Compiled from staff reports

# Groups seek to limit spraying

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Four groups have asked the courts to intervene in a program to spray insecticides over large areas of public land in southern Idaho to control grasshoppers and Mormon crickets.

Conservationists announced Tuesday that while they don't want to halt all spraying, they believe it should be more limited and controlled to protect the public and the environment.

The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are developing an aerial spray plan with the U.S. Department of

Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. All three agencies are being sued in federal court in a lawsuit filed by the Idaho Conservation League, Advocates for the West, Xerces Society and Committee for the High Desert.

The Xerces Society is an international organization focused on the conservation of invertebrates.

"Insects play a critical role in ecosystems, especially the pollination of plants," Scott Hoffman Black, executive director of the Xerces Society, said in a news release issued Tuesday by the four conservation groups.

"When you try to control grasshoppers you need to strike a balance, not eliminate virtually all the insects in an area," he said.

The groups say the program must be narrowed to better target grasshoppers and crickets while limiting damage to other insects and birds and fish. Birds potentially affected are meadowlarks, mountain bluebirds, pheasants and sage grouse through the potential elimination of insects as their food source, the groups say.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service completed an environmental assessment describing its plan and deter-

mined that it would pose no significant environmental impact.

Grasshoppers and crickets have caused considerable damage in some parts of the region in recent years. The spraying proposal is the first large-scale effort of its kind in many years. Farmers and ranchers have complained that grasshoppers hatch in the sage steppe, then move into fields and pastures.

To address the problem of grasshoppers moving from public rangeland to private fields, APHIS chose a plan to quickly kill large numbers of bugs. APHIS plans to use four different forms of pesticide to kill

grasshoppers. Each chemical would cause a different degree of collateral damage.

These pesticides are diflubenzuron - which is sold under the label "dimilin" - malathion and carbaryl. Dimilin only kills leaf-eating insects that shed their skin, while sevin and malathion kill most insects on contact. APHIS would also spread grain soaked in carbaryl.

The plan allows for the use of malathion and carbaryl sprays in areas dominated by sagebrush when there are 20 or more grasshoppers per square yard. No treatment of any kind would be used in certain areas.

## THE SKY IS FALLING! THE SKY IS FALLING!



Five-year-old Summer Grush tries to herd her chickens out of a rainstorm which pelted Malta this week.

## District seeks applicants for schedule committee

By Robert Mayer  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Several positions are open on a committee charged with developing a new schedule for Twin Falls High School.

Most of the slots have been filled on the 16- to 20-member committee equally made of parents and school officials, but two to four positions remain open.

"We have to make sure that we have full representation," said parent Ken Edmunds who, along with parent Shavna Obenchain, is in charge of making recommendations.

Driven by increased graduation requirements, a new schedule will have to replace the current six-period day if elective opportunities are to be preserved, school officials say.

## Panel rejects raid on Fish and Game fund

The Associated Press

BOISE - Two Magic Valley lawmakers were on opposite sides Tuesday in an attempt to raid one of the Department of Fish and Game funds to keep Idaho's budget in the black.

The Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee voted overwhelmingly against taking \$1 million from the department's depreciation fund that is used to compensate landowners for damage to crops and other resources by big game.

Although Fish and Game cash, generated by sportsmen's fees or special taxes on fishing and hunt-

### Want to participate?

People interested in serving on a committee to develop a new schedule for Twin Falls High School should send letters of interest, along with brief descriptions of reasons for serving, to Linda Bard at the school district's main office, 201 Main Ave. W. The deadline is Monday.

rent six-period day if elective opportunities are to be preserved, school officials say.

Based on recent board meetings, there's no shortage of parents clamoring to have their say. But there is need for minority representation and possibly student representation as well, Edmunds said.

"We want to have as democratic a process as possible," he said.

Such a small committee is unlikely to quell the discontent among parents who have claimed that their opinions in the matter have largely been ignored. Since the issue was raised, a lack of inclusion seems to have angered more parents than the schedule change itself.

As such, the committee will have most parents on the outside looking in. But that's not to say the parents won't have representation, Edmunds said.

On the contrary, parents can contact those picked to be on the committee who best represent their particular views, he said.

School Board member Chad Hafer said he'd prefer to see the

process include as many people as possible. If that means bringing together hundreds of parents with the use of a facilitator, so be it, he said.

The more people involved, the better the concepts and the more questions asked, he said. Yes, a large group means a longer and messier process, but it will allow everyone to take part.

That might not happen on this issue, Hafer said, but he hopes to push for greater inclusion on future issues.

The committee will hold its first meeting in early May. It's anticipated that the committee will meet several times over the summer to develop a recommendation for the board by September.

## Tornado touches down north of Rupert

By Shari Chaney  
Times-News writer

RUPERT - A tornado touched down north of Rupert on Tuesday, a fairly rare occurrence in Idaho.

Vernon Preston, the National Weather Service's warning coordinator meteorologist in Pocatello, said Idaho sees about three tornadoes a year. The Magic Valley and Upper Snake River Valley are the "most prone" areas for tornadoes.

The tornado was on the ground for about one-quarter mile for about four minutes, according to a press release from the weather service. There was no damage reported.

### Tornado safety

- In a home or building, move to the basement if possible.
- If an underground shelter isn't available, move to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands.
- Be aware of flying debris.

Source: National Weather Service

Please see TORNADO, Page B3

## America at war

\*\*\*\*\*

### Serving their Country

Profiles of servicemen and women with local ties who are deployed to Iraq and the Middle East. Information supplied by their families.



Landon Hansen

- Age: 32.
- Hometown: Twin Falls.
- Local family: Father Nick Hansen and mother Susie Hansen.
- Service, date of enlistment: Army, October 1989.
- Rank, assignment: Sergeant, Special Forces, Iraq.
- Task: Sectires areas for the Marines to come in.
- Additional information: He also served in Desert Storm. He was deployed to Iraq in September 2002.



Robert Shoy

- Age: 21.
- Hometown: Rupert.
- Local family: Mother Wendy Robbins of Hansen.
- Service, date of enlistment: Navy, September 2000.
- Rank, assignment: Petty Officer 3rd Class, steel worker with the Seabees, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4, Kuwait/Iraq.
- Task: Humanitarian efforts. Will be rebuilding and cleaning up in Baghdad.
- Additional information: Deployed in February. He helped build a command center in northern Iraq in mid-March.

- Compiled by Annie Thompson

For a list of other people serving in the war from Magic Valley, go online to [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) and click on "America at War." To submit information and photos about local servicemen and women involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom, please call Times-News clerk Sharissa Barnes at 735-3259 or email [sharbarnes@timesnews.com](mailto:sharbarnes@timesnews.com). Please include your own name and contact information.

MAGIC VALLEY

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For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, Ext. 278, between 8 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 8 p.m. every day.

HEYBURN

TWIN FALLS



Neoma Christenson

Neoma Christenson, 97, died peacefully at her home in Heyburn, Idaho, on Monday, April 28, 2003. Neoma was born January 1, 1906, at Hyde Park, Utah, a daughter of Joseph E. and Henrietta Lund Christenson. She attended school in Hyde Park, Utah, and Heyburn, Idaho, with her brother and four sisters, graduating from Heyburn High School in May 1924.

She married William B. Christenson on May 26, 1926, at the Logan LDS Temple. They moved to Heyburn, in 1927, where she has resided.

She was an accomplished pianist, having served for many years as organist and pianist for the Relief Society, Choir, and Primary in the Heyburn wards, where she resided. She served in various capacities in the church, including Relief Society President, Nursery Leader, and Visiting Teacher. She also enjoyed the Daughters of Utah Pioneers meetings, and faithfully attended and served there. But above all else, she was a kind, hardworking mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, who taught and exemplified the true teachings of Jesus Christ. Her door was always open for her family, and her cooking jar was full of homemade cookies for each child who came into her home. She will be dearly missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Bill Christenson, in 1966, two children, three grandchildren, and four sisters. Afton (Casper) Lee, Dorothy (Cull) Wilcox, Josephine (Kenneth) Butler and Evelyn (Grant) Campbell.

She is survived by one brother, Lund E. (Theina) Christenson of Heyburn; nine children, Naama (Forest) Zinke of Burley, Dawn W. (Betty) Christenson of Burley, Utah; Gladys (Rolto) Harrison of Burley, Larry (Marva) Christenson of Burley, and currently serving in the Missouri National Guard; and Larcia (Guth) Shaw, and Marvin (Sue) Christenson of Heyburn; LaVaughn (Bill) Switzer, and Harold (Karen) Christenson of Burley; and Norma (Gail) Jappesen of Heyburn, 53 grandchildren, 134 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at 12:00 noon Saturday, May 3, 2003, at the Heyburn First and Second Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 530 Villa Drive, with Bishop Gene A. Price officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Friends may call at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 East 16th Street, Burley, on Friday, from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, from 11:00 until 11:45 a.m.

TWIN FALLS

John R. Thornton

1919-2003

John Ross Thornton, age 84, of Twin Falls, Idaho, passed away Friday, April 25, 2003, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho, after a short illness after years of Alzheimer's disease.

John was born on January 16, 1919, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, the son of William Thornton and Bernice (Ross) Thornton. As a young man, he met his wife, Betty M. in Okla. Washington on March 5, 1941, in Wallace, Idaho, they were married.

For more than 20 years, John worked as a regional manager for Allac Copco, which is a pneumatic machinery company in Magic Valley area. When he wasn't working, he enjoyed working in mining in and around Wallace, Idaho. He also owned his own share North of Ketchum, known as Sun Valley Lead Silver. In his leisure time, he enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Sun Valley Lodge for 53 years and the American Legion for 28 years.

John spent his last days at Alterra Woodcreek Retirement Center in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Surviving John are his wife of 62 years, Betty Thornton, three daughters, Jackie Pardin of Burley, Idaho, Sandra Shober of San Diego, CA, and Cindy Yamano of Twin Falls, ID. Also surviving is his sister, Vava Lyon of Sheraton, OR, 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

His parents, one brother and one sister, predeceased him in death. Funeral Services for John will be held Thursday, May 1, 2003, at 1 p.m. at Demaray Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho. Interment will follow in the Idaho at the Twin Falls Cemetery in Twin Falls, ID. Friends may call Wednesday, April 30, 2003, from 6-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to the Alzheimer's Association 4696 Overland Drive, Boise, Idaho 83705.



Brian L. McGregor

Brian Lee McGregor, 44, went home to his Lord, Monday, April 28, 2003, after a short, but brave, battle with cancer.

Brian was born September 21, 1958, in Twin Falls, to Donald (Sonny) McGregor and Sharon Rauter. He was raised on the family farm on the Salmon Trail in 1977. Brian graduated from Fliler High School where he played football and wrestled. Brian married Wendy on September 10, 1983. He continued to work on the family farm after their marriage. During the winters, he worked at Higley Seed or the Amalgamated Sugar Factory until 1996, when he built a home for his family. In his spare time, Brian enjoyed bowling, hunting and motorcycle riding. He also liked to spend time with his friends and family. He was loved by all who knew him and will be greatly missed.

Brian is survived by his wife, Wendy McGregor, his children, Brian and Kaitlyn, his son, Nathan McGregor, his parents, "Sonny" and Sharon McGregor, his brothers, Donald "Eugene" (Lyla) McGregor, and Jon (Neva) McGregor, several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. Funeral Services for Brian will be held Friday, May 2, 2003, at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, 910 Shoshone East, Twin Falls, ID. Dr. Andrew Scofield will officiate. Interment services will follow at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls. Friends may call Thursday, May 1, 2003, from 5-7 p.m. at the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho.

WENDELL

Fenton S. Hays

Fenton S. Hays, age 78 of Wendell passed away Monday, April 28, 2003, at home with family. Born September 16, 1924, in Magnolia, Idaho, to Kirk and Mary Hays. Fenton moved with his family to the farm west of Wendell in the spring of 1928. He graduated from Wendell High School in 1943 and went to Utah State Agricultural College in Logan, Utah. He returned to Wendell to farm with his family.

Fenton married Wanda Gill on December 12, 1948. They farmed for 18 years in the Wendell area. He worked for the Idaho Fish and Game in fisheries for twenty-three years including hatcheries at Riggin, Hagerman, American Falls, and Idaho from Hagerman State Hatchery in October 1969.

He and Wanda had a home in the West Point area where they enjoyed a huge garden, fruit trees and a big yard. Wanda's mother came to live with them in 1950 and in 1998 they moved into Wendell. He always said he had the best mother-in-law and Mary always said she had the best son-in-law. He always said his family and spending time together.

Fenton was active in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and 4-H, a Gold Seal member of the Idaho Fish and Game, a member of Lions Club and IOOF Lodge.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 11 a.m. at Demaray Funeral Home with Rev. Michael Hollomon officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Demaray Funeral Service. Private family memorial will take place on a later date at the Wendell Cemetery in Wendell.

TWIN FALLS



Olive 'Lucky' Coffman

Olive 'Lucky' Coffman, 84, returned to her Father in Heaven April 28, 2003.

She was born June 29, 1918, in Chappell, Nebraska. Lucky came to Jerome, Idaho, in 1943 and married Boyd Rydahl. Together they raised three girls; Marilyn (Ed) Sanchez of Washington, Linda (Bob) Gilmer of Jerome and Jeanne Johnson of Twin Falls. Lucky and Boyd divorced in 1966 and she moved to Twin Falls. She loved a good game of Pinchco and spent a lot of time in the bowling alley. At the Saturday night dances you could find her on the dance floor doing a polka she had made up. She loved to dance.

Lucky is survived by her children, seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held Thursday, May 1, 2003, at 11 a.m. in the Wendell Cemetery on West Main Street in Wendell, Idaho, with Pastor Mike Kestler officiating.

A visitation will be held this evening at Sardsworth Mortuary, 1342 South Lincoln, Jerome, where family and friends may call from 6-8 p.m.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center, 616 Eastland Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

TWIN FALLS



Robert F. Tidd

Robert F. "Sonny" Tidd, 68, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday morning, April 28, 2003, at Alterra Woodcreek in Twin Falls.

Robert was born on December 4, 1934, in Oregon City, Oregon, the son of Jesse and Lois "Dodie" Tidd. At the age of 3, Robert moved to Portland, Oregon. He grew up and attended schools in Portland before he entered the Civil Conservation Corps at the age of 17. Robert entered the U.S. Army where he served his country proudly for over fifty years until his retirement. Following his discharge he returned to Portland to take care of his mother until she passed away. While in Portland, Robert met the love of his life, Frieda Schermer, and were married on September 21, 1959. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Boise and finally settled into Twin Falls. While in Twin Falls he worked as an insurance salesman for over fifty years until his retirement. Following his retirement he went to work for the Twin Falls School District as a Trainee Officer for the grade schools and junior high schools until his second retirement in 1997.

His true desire was Karate. At the age of 35, he began training in Karate. He earned his black belt five years later. In 1953, Robert started his own Karate club in which took him from the basement of a church to the Robert Stuart Junior High to the College of Southern Idaho. Robert instructed over 4,000 students in the 48 years of teaching. Robert's passion for teaching and his students was his gift from God.

Robert is survived by his wife of 63 years, Frieda Tidd of Twin Falls. He was preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers.

A Celebration of Robert's life will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 2, 2003, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel with two of his closest friends, Terry Archibald and Dean Johnson officiating. Burial will follow at the Swan Lake Mausoleum at Sunset Memorial Park with Pastor Rosemary Boushon, officiating and military rites by area Veterans and Auxiliary. Friends may call on Thursday from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, Twin Falls.

She is survived by her husband of 66 years Ernest of Filer; son E. Bart Peterson of Boise; son Van G. Peterson (Ann) of Hagerman, Idaho; grandchildren Nickolas and Zack of Boise; Idaho, both Petersons, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, and Meghan Peterson, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona; brother Art Alberson (Kaitly) of Brodheadville, Pennsylvania; sisters-in-law Virginia Alberson of Twin Falls, Pat Alberson of Coos Bay, Oregon, and Marian Alberson of Blackfoot, Oregon, and many nieces and nephews.

Her parents, sister Hazel and brothers Sharon, Ernest, Bernard, Bob, Ewing, and Carl preceded her in death.

Graveside funeral services for Robert will be held Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 11 a.m. at the Oakley Cemetery in Oakley, Idaho. Interment will be held following the services.

Funeral services will be held Friday, May 2, 2003, from 5-7 p.m. at the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho.

TWIN FALLS



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(15); father, Tom (Gloria) Jordahl; mother, Lydia (Ebbv) Or; twin sister, Terri Loa (Juan); sister, Leah (Dan) Bartlett; sister, Sheri Jordan; brother, Cary Lee Jordahl also with two step-brothers and a half-sister.

He was born in Harbor City, Calif., and raised on Catalina Island, Calif. He later moved to Idaho where he met his love, Ginger. They were married in 94 and later divorced but remained best of friends.

We will all miss his awesome smile, laugh and sense of humor. An account has been set up for his children at First Federal Bank in Twin Falls.

Services will be held Friday, May 2, 2003, in Los Angeles, Calif.

BOISE

Levard Hansen

Levard Hansen passed away on Thursday, April 17, 2003, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Levard was born on August 24, 1910, to Jacob and Julia Hansen. He was raised in Idahoan, farming in Fairfield and Peabo; building construction in Ketchum, and retiring in Boise. Levard was also part owner in the Soldier Mountain Ski area in Fairfield for a number of years. Levard never fully retired, he spent countless hours in his shop making everything from covered wagons to model cars, to lawn furniture to metal sculpture. His latest hobby was bird houses, and he was "cranking" them out until his last day.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, "Toddy", and his son, David.

He is survived by son and daughter-in-law, Jake and Mary and granddaughter, Abigail all of Alexandria, Virginia; son and daughter-in-law Michael and Dorothy of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and daughter-in-law, Shirley of Yakima, Washington. Levard is also survived by his sister, Betty, brothers, Robert and Ray. He has many nieces and nephews and hundreds of friends.

Levard was a loving and caring husband, father, son, brother and friend. He deeply touched the lives of those who know him. He will always be loved and missed and never forgotten by those who knew him.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Terrace Lawn Memorial Gardens in Boise, Idaho. Services are under the direction of Cloverdale Funeral Home in lieu of flowers memorials made in Levard's name to Boise Memorial Hospice would be appreciated. Their address is 650 East State Street, Boise, ID 83616.

Dorothy Lillian Beitler

Stockton, Calif., and formerly of Shoshone, service at 2 p.m. today at the Shoshone Cemetery (Demaray's Shoshone Chapel).

Carol J. Garcia of Goodfells, memorial graveside service at 10:30 a.m. today at Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding (Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding).

Pum Flores Nino of Heyburn, vigil service with recitation of the rosary at 7 p.m. today, at Little Flower Catholic Church, 1601 Oakley Ave., Burley; funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Thursday, at Little Flower Catholic Church; burial will follow at Pleasant View Cemetery. Friends and family may call before the rosary today and before funeral Mass Thursday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home, Burley).

Viola May Burling of Burley, graveside service at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Riverside Cemetery in Heyburn; friends may call from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Emma Brydl of Filer, service at 11 a.m. Thursday at White Mortuary; burial will follow at the Filer Cemetery; friends may call from 4-8 p.m. today at White Mortuary.

Patsy Darlene Rice of Buhl, memorial service at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Buhl United Methodist Church, 908 Maple (White Mortuary, Twin Falls).

Marion K. Mortensen of Jerome, service at 2 p.m. Friday at the LDS Stake Center, 1415 E. Southern, Mesa, Ariz.; viewing from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at Bunker Mortuary, 33 N. Centennial, Mesa, Ariz. and one hour before the service at the church; graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Virden Cemetery in Virden, NM. (Fairmorth Mortuary, Jerome).

Death notices are on page B4

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# Feds look at assisted living regulations

By Daniel Pulliam  
Times-News Service

WASHINGTON — Armed with a 30-page report on how the assisted living industry should operate, a Senate panel began considering whether federal controls are needed to keep the system that is caring for America's elderly free from corruption and abuse.

Industry officials told the Senate Special Committee on Aging that federal guidelines are not necessary as states continue to improve their regulations and enforcement. But senators on the committee pushed the witnesses to provide instances in which seniors are not properly taken care of in assisted living facilities.

Aging Committee Chairman Barry Craig, R-Idaho, said states should be the ones running the show, but if there isn't evidence of improvement when the committee re-examines the issue, federal regulations may be what is needed.

With 30,000 assisted living facilities in the United States housing nearly 1 million people, the report, which Craig said he would like to get into the hands of state

regulators, should help state governments deal with this fast-growing industry.

"Rather than Congress jumping in with a mandate, this time we asked those with opposing viewpoints to examine these issues and see what agreements they could reach," Craig said. "When our committee reviews this issue again, it will look at the improvements that have taken place because of this report."

The report, commissioned by the committee in 2001 with the formation of the Assisted Living Workgroup, was written by the some 50 member organizations, and contains 110 recommendations for assisted living facilities in six different categories.

The report identifies a number of principles that the group said were important in providing quality assisted living, including quality indicators, dementia care, outcome measures, accountability, facility size, best practices and affordability.

For instance, the report recommends that facilities with patients with dementia have specialized staff and care programs. The report also recommends that

states have public meetings for regulators and consumers to consider new issues in the assisted living industry.

Most recommendations were accepted by a two-thirds majority, but 21 additional recommendations — also included in the final report — did not draw that measure of support.

Issues on which there was not a clear consensus included emergency and disaster plans, rules on smoking and activities for patients with dementia.

"This group took on a tough job, meeting for 18 months to hammer out an extensive report," Craig said. "When I asked our witnesses what was left over, they all agreed that it covers nearly every base."

A witness at the hearing, Dan B. Madden, president and chief executive officer of Leisure Care Inc. in Bellevue, Wash., and a former Idahoan, testified that control must remain at the state level and that "one-size-fits-all" regulations would be too difficult to follow.

"States are looking for guidance and they are very adaptable," Madden said. "Is there a catchall checklist? No. But are there

guidelines and tips? Yes."

The Aging Committee's top Democratic member, John Breaux, D-La., pushed the question as to whether federal guidelines were important, but the panelists were firm in stating that the report is not a set of regulations to be adopted by the states or the federal government, but a set of guidelines and recommendations.

"The question now is what do we do with the document? Does it go to the library and collect dust? Should states adopt it? Should Congress adopt it?" Breaux said. "What if the states just ignore this report?"

Stephen McConnell, vice president for public policy and advocacy with the Alzheimer's Association, testified that the report is something that must be discussed on the state level.

Robert Mollica, senior program director for the National Academy for State Health Policy, told the panel to keep up its oversight and come back with another look at how the industry has made progress in two years. He said the threat of federal regulation would encourage "a lot of activity" from the states.

# Wendell School District bond issue passes easily

By Wendell School District

WENDELL — School District voters overwhelmingly approved a bond issue Tuesday that district officials had said would reduce property taxes.

Of the 409 people who went to the polls, 405 voted in favor of the measure, for 99 percent approval.

The Wendell School District was asking voters to approve a change in financing from its plant facility levy to general obligation bonds for the new middle school.

In May 2001, 71 percent of district voters approved a 20-year plant facility levy to pay for a new middle school. Refinancing the balance through bonds at an approximate interest rate of 4.25 percent will decrease the district's annual payment by \$57,000.

According to calculations provided by Zions bank, a homeowner with a \$100,000 home that has a homeowner's exemption will see an annual savings of about \$18.77.

## Western Days committee will meet Thursday

TWIN FALLS — The Western Days Committee will hold a planning meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday in the City Council chamber room at the back of City Hall.

The committee is seeking volunteers to help with the parade, a buckaroo rodeo, the runwalk, the information booth at City Park and — new this year — the hot air balloon festival.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with the festival is encouraged to attend the meeting. For more information, call Janet Goffman at 735-3254.

## T.F. fire department will test hydrants next month

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Fire Department will begin testing fire hydrants on or about May 1.

Flow testing of the hydrants is performed to ensure the hydrants work properly, that the water system capability and to provide clean, safe drinking water. About 300 fire hydrants within the city of Twin Falls will be tested using as

## Around the valley

little water as possible.

The testing procedure ensures the city's current Insurance Services Office rating of a 3, keeping fire insurance rates as low as possible for homeowners' insurance policies.

For more information, call the Twin Falls Fire Department at 735-7236.

## District gets recognized for protecting forest lands

BURLEY — The Sawtooth National Forest recently presented a Conservation Excellence Award to the Burley Highway District.

The Burley Highway District was recognized for its outstanding work during the paving and surfacing work on the Howell Canyon Road in 2002.

"The highway district went to special efforts above and beyond those that were required or expected to ensure the continued conservation of habitat from the district. It's a real plant species only found on Mount Harrison," forest supervisor Ruth Monahan said. No plants were damaged or destroyed during the work.

The award recognizes individuals or groups for their outstanding efforts to ensure the proper management and protection of national forest lands, Monahan said.

Leading the Burley Highway District crew on this project was Kent Weitzstein, who has since transferred from the district. Other crew included Deloy Paskett, Rob Carson, Scott Emery, Scott Hitt, Rick Huber, Felipe Mota, Dwight Farish, Ignacio Robalton, Darvin Smith, Scott Spetner and Marty Zimmerman.

Also involved in the project were Julie Fairchild, office manager; Hal Baker from Idaho Sand and Gravel; Steve and Patricia of Freuburger Engineering; and Bart Bowers, Burley Highway District commissioner.

— compiled from staff reports

# Rupert continues discussion of indoor pool

By Shari Chaney  
Times-News writer

RUPERT — City officials want to test the waters to see if there's enough interest to build a new swimming pool.

A public meeting is set for 7 tonight at City Hall, 624 F St., to discuss the possibility.

City Administrator Roger Bagley said pool consultant Don Carey will make a presentation and people may comment on the tentative plans to build a new indoor swimming pool. Conceptual drawings will be

available for review, too.

City officials have said the existing outdoor pool, built in 1949, won't open this summer because the main drain collapsed. While the drain could be repaired and other improvements made, city Recreation Director Ron Dietz said the work would be expensive and might damage the pool's foundation.

One of Carey's proposals calls for constructing a new indoor pool at the site of the existing outdoor pool. That could cost \$1.5 million, Dietz said. Money could come from corporate dona-

tions, grants and local donations. It could take two or three years to complete. Carey is already working to secure donations from corporations.

An indoor aquatic center would have a pool for therapy and rehabilitation including a wading or play pool, Dietz said. The pool would be shortened from its current 105 feet to 75 feet to accommodate swimming competitions.

While the pool would be located in Rupert, it would be used by all of Mini-Cassia, Dietz said. It would be the only indoor, year-

round pool in Mini-Cassia.

"It's going to be a full-blown Mini-Cassia thing," Dietz said.

The meeting is a chance to discuss the pool project and to talk about funding the pool, Bagley said.

Bagley spoke at the Rupert Kiwanis meeting on Tuesday, which is scheduled to speak at the Rotary Club today, Bagley said.

Times-News writer Shari Chaney can be reached at the newspaper, Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 638, or by e-mail at schaney@magicvalley.com.

# Murder suspect rejects plea agreement

By Caldwell District Judge

CALDWELL (AP) — A teenager has a September jury trial after he rejected a plea agreement in the beating death of a Colorado man in a city park.

The plea agreement offered Dane Connor Lawson a reduced charge, dropping his initial first-degree murder count to involuntary manslaughter.

Connor and defense attorney Van Bishop declined the prosecution's offer Monday, even though the other two suspects already pleaded guilty.

Third District Judge Renee Hoff reduced Lawson for a Sept. 16 jury trial.

Lawson, 18, is one of three young Caldwell men accused of beating to death Cary Sturgis, 43, who was in town to visit family when he failed to return home the night of Dec. 6.

His body was found the next morning in Pioneer Park, just before the city's holiday parade.

Investigators said they traced the attack to Lawson and the two other suspects, Cole Ray Spott, 16, and Eric Mark Owen, 20.

All three initially were charged with first-degree murder. Owen also was charged with robbery.

Scott and Lawson were charged with aiding and abetting robbery.

Two of the suspects pleaded guilty to their specific robbery charges.

But Owen pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter while Scott pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter.

Canyon County Prosecutor David King said Lawson was offered voluntary manslaughter and may be holding out for involuntary manslaughter, but that is not an option.

Scott's case was handled by an out-of-area prosecutor because its mother works for Canyon County.

That prosecutor, Jay Losenthal, offered Scott the involuntary manslaughter charge, which was accepted.

Caldwell police said they treated statements from people who were present at the 10-to-10 dragging about the attack at an underage drinking party.

# Senate OKs business property tax break

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Legislature on Tuesday approved a multi-million dollar property tax break for financially struggling businesses still investing in their operations.

The bill now goes to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne for his signature.

Promoted by House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, of Burley, the bill passed the Senate on a 23-9 vote after being sidetracked overnight for technical problems.

Although the mechanics of the tax incentive was flawed, advocates said it could be fixed later.

The bill was being pressured by Micron Technology Inc., which

would be a major beneficiary.

"It's pro-growth," Sen. Brad Little, R-Emmett, told his colleagues, emphasizing that the companies like Micron are major taxpayers both on payrolls and personal property.

The bill permits businesses to take a two-year property tax exemption on the value of the equipment investment rather than a credit against their state income tax liability.

The option is available only to businesses that posted losses the year prior to their investment and therefore have no income tax liability to use any credit against.

The two-year property tax exemption would cost local governments and school districts about \$7 million annually.

Sen. Steven Steiner, D-Idaho, tried to modify the bill, but after a momentary victory late Monday he was turned back.

Local governments and school districts questioned how the property tax break would show the warning it would shift some of the tax burden other property owners.

# BPA, Enron strike deal to end costly contracts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Justice Department Tuesday approved an agreement allowing the Bonneville Power Administration to terminate nearly \$500 million worth of high-priced power contracts with the bankrupt Enron Corp.

BPA officials say the deal should save Northwest ratepayers as much \$200 million and substantially lower projected rate increases expected this year.

Under the deal, BPA will pay Enron's creditors \$99 million, in exchange for terminating long-term contracts that would have required the utility to pay nearly \$500 million through 2006.

The deal was announced by Democratic Sens. Maria Cantwell of Washington and Ron Wyden of Oregon, who had pushed the Bush

administration to allow BPA to terminate the Enron contracts.

The BPA is a federal agency and any contract it enters into must be approved by the Justice Department.

"I'm pleased we were able to convince BPA to get out of these overpriced contracts with Enron," Wyden said. "BPA has now done the right thing with regard to reducing these costs and I hope they find other cost savings" for Northwest residents and business.

"Enron robbed the Northwest during the energy crisis and we are finally beginning to get out of the over-inflated deals," Cantwell said. "But our fight is not over — there are still contracts between Enron and Northwest utilities that must be terminated by the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission."

BPA administrator Steve Wright said the deal should help lower wholesale power prices by as much as 5 percent. Much of those savings will be passed to Northwest ratepayers.

Specifically, the agreement covers about \$40 million in immediate contracts with Enron and resolves legal uncertainty about an additional \$150 million in contracts BPA had unilaterally terminated with Enron, officials said.

BPA is the largest power wholesaler in the region, supplying an estimated 45 percent of the Northwest's power. Under its original contracts with Houston-based Enron, BPA contracted to power 300,000 Northwest homes between 2003 and 2006.

# Budget

Continued from B1

long way "to buy good will" with both landowners and sportsmen.

"There are issues between landowners and sportsmen are always sticky," he said.

The surcharge on hunting licenses for the fund generates about \$150,000 a year for the

fund, which has been paying out an average of \$42,000 a year for the past decade to landowners suffering damage. The balance has just exceeded \$3 million, and without a major run on claims, money over \$3 million will be diverted to the department's habitat improvement fund.

The debate over the depreciation money capped action on legislation to formalize the \$19.5 million budget cut Gov. Dirk Kempthorne proposed last August and the diversions of \$39 million in cash from various special accounts to balance the current state budget.

# Tornado

Continued from B1

While additional moisture and isolated thunderstorms were predicted for Tuesday, no severe weather is forecast for today, Preston said.

"The dynamics aren't quite set up like they were" Monday, he said.

People can be better prepared during severe weather by listening to commercial radio or television stations for severe weather warnings, Preston said. Several tornado and severe thunderstorm warnings were issued Monday with an average lead time of 14 minutes.

More weather spotters increases

es the weather service's ability to let others know about dangerous weather, Preston said. Anyone interested can become a weather spotter.

Report of the Rupert tornado, located near 700 N. 900 E., came from one of the weather service's volunteer weather spotters, he said.

Rupert's tornado was one of three spotted on Monday, all rated an F0, Preston said. Tornadoes are rated based on the damage they do. If the damage and tornado doesn't hit anything, it can't be classified as higher than an F0.

Of F0 to F5, Preston explained. Of 1,200 tornadoes each year throughout the United States, usually only one reaches an F5 rating.

Hulu has never seen a tornado rate higher than an F2, which is accompanied by 140 to 180 mph winds. A car comes off the road in 150 mph winds, Preston noted.

Other tornadoes were spotted Monday in Indian Springs and Arbon Valley.

Times-News writer Shari Chaney can be reached at the newspaper, Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 638, or by e-mail at schaney@magicvalley.com.

# Yellowstone's biggest geyser erupts for fourth time this year

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) — Steamboat geyser erupted for the fourth time in just over a year, prompting new questions about increased activity for the world's biggest geyser.

Interval between eruptions at Steamboat, a famously unpredictable and spectacular geyser, historically range from about four days to 50 years.

Interval between eruptions at Steamboat, a famously unpredictable and spectacular geyser, historically range from about four days to 50 years.

It's very, very difficult to predict, which is why it's one of the many wonders of Yellowstone," said Henry Heasler, Yellowstone's lead geologist. After a relatively quiet two

years following an eruption in May 2000, Steamboat erupted April 26, 2002; Sept. 14, 2002; March 16 and again in December.

The eruptions can spout water hundreds of feet in the air and typically last 20 to 40 minutes, followed by a period of emitting steam.

The eruption comes at a time when water temperature and flow at Norris Geyser Basin appear to be increasing, Heasler said.

The theory that seismic activity sets off Steamboat does not appear to pan out for Sunday's eruption.

GOODING COUNTY COURTS

The Times-News

Gooding - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Gooding County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

James Lee Hale Jr., 16, 227 S. Washington, Okla., reckless driving, pre-trial conference May 29, jury trial June 9.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Tom Allen Mackin, 52, P.O. Box 84, Harborage, 49, 300 Wallace St., Wendell, driving under the influence, court trial May 15.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Nick J. Spencer, 19, 212 S. Garfield, Jerome, driving without proper license, court trial May 22.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Brandon Ernest Sartain, 26, 210 Eighth Ave. N., Jerome, driving without proper license, hearing May 22.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Timothy Jean Myers, 17, 457 5th Ave. W., Wendell, failure to provide proof of insurance, status hearing May 5.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Misdemeanor sentences

Latonia Barbara Perez, 31, 6251 Ave. B, Jerome, hunting, trapping or fishing without a license, 20, fine \$50, court costs.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Dennis E. Peterson, 51, 182 Highway 227, Elgin, Oregon, reckless driving, attempted to maintain careless driving, \$300 fine, \$250 costs, 90 days suspended, 90 days suspended, 15 days in jail, 15 days pending.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Nicholas R. Gunter, 18, 2311 Ardmore St., Boise, driving without proper license, attempted to pass on interstate, 180 days suspended, \$50 fine, \$50 court costs.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Timothy Alan Hickey, 19, 624 South Ave. J, Wendell, driving under the influence, 90 days driver's license suspension, \$1000 fine, \$500 suspended, \$250 court costs, \$57 probation fee, one year suspended, 180 days in jail, 128 days pending.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Donald E. Scott, 41, 244 First Ave. W., Jerome, driving under the influence, 90 days driver's license suspension, \$1000 fine, \$500 suspended, \$250 court costs, \$57 probation fee, one year suspended, 180 days in jail, 128 days pending.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Dennis E. Peterson, 51, 182 Highway 227, Elgin, Oregon, reckless driving, attempted to maintain careless driving, \$300 fine, \$250 costs, 90 days suspended, 90 days suspended, 15 days in jail, 15 days pending.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Yvonne Peterson, 48, 914 1st St. Blvd., untold, 180 days suspended, \$50 fine, \$50 court costs.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Yvonne Peterson, 48, 914 1st St. Blvd., untold, 180 days suspended, \$50 fine, \$50 court costs.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.
Vernita R. Young, 27, 747 Third Ave. E., Spore, No. 9, Wendell, driving without proper license, 90 days driver's license suspension, \$1000 fine, \$500 suspended, \$250 court costs.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Robert William Ratto III, 29, 19781 E. 17th St., Gooding, driving without proper license, dismissal of prosecution, Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Misdemeanor acquittals

Timothy J. Cox, 40, 2211 Montana St., Gooding, hunting, domestic violence, acquittal.
Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Civil filings

NCI Portfolio Management, assignee of Wells Fargo Bank vs Eric J. Gray. Seeking \$1,274.84, plus interest, \$702 attorney fees and one-third of \$140 per hour if contested. Plaintiff alleges fraudulent fees for purchases made on her advances obtained on her NCI Portfolio Management account.
NCI Portfolio Management, an assignee of First Choice Bank, Leta L. Anderson. Seeking \$2,672.15, plus interest. Plaintiff alleges fraudulent fees for purchases made on her advances obtained on her NCI Portfolio Management account.
Mason Valley Golfers Union and Recovery vs Gary D. Mehalis and Loretta Mehalis. Seeking \$7,570.45 plus interest, \$726 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges defendants owe for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.
Child support cases
Theresa Lynn Strickland vs Jason J. Rowland. Seeking post-judgment and physical custody between the petitioner and respondent.
Devon Williams, Rowland and Destanee Dixon Rowland, with residential custody awarded to petitioner subject to reasonable custody rights granted to the respondent.
Neil Spitzer, president of the Idaho Child Support Guidelines, an award of petitioner's attorney fees and costs should the matter be contested.
State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs Roberto Villa Lagunas. Seeking \$4,955 for medical assistance granted, \$204 monthly support for Abigail Adams Lagunas, plus 40 percent of child's medical expenses, \$303 attorney fees.

Divorces

James Edward Huhnbert vs Vanni Huhnbert.

See how your favorite sports team is doing. Section D in today's Times-News.

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S.L. Tribune fires reporters over tabloid article

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The Salt Lake Tribune said Tuesday it fired two reporters who were paid \$20,000 for collaborating with the National Enquirer on an Elizabeth Smart story.

Reporters Michael Vigh and Kevin Cantera received \$10,000 each for their help on a July 2 Enquirer story headlined "Utah Coys' Secret Diary Exposes Family Sex Ring." The story has since been retracted as part of a settlement between the Smart family and the tabloid.

In a statement announcing the firings, Tribune editor James E. Shelley said Vigh and Cantera were misleading when they in-

tially told Shelley about their involvement with the tabloid. Originally the reporters said they provided the tabloid with only a "roadmap" of the investigation, but Shelley said he had since learned they provided a much larger part of the story.

The firings were announced a day after the Enquirer demanded a retraction for Shelley's Sunday column in the Tribune, which suggested Vigh and Cantera had merely given the tabloid unconfirmed rumors.

In a statement announcing the firings, Tribune editor James E. Shelley said Vigh and Cantera were misleading when they in-

with their conduct," Shelley said, adding that his trust in the reporters "was betrayed."

"The reporters told us a different story than we found out later to be true so they were terminated," said Tribune publisher Dean Singleton, who also is vice chairman and chief executive officer of the newspaper's owner, MediaNews Group Inc.

Vigh and Cantera, the lead reporters on the Smart story, didn't tell Shelley of their dealings with the Enquirer until last week, when they offered to resign. Shelley used his regular Sunday column to explain the situation to readers.

Shelley said he refused their resignations, but put them on a year of probation and forbade them from freelance work. The two were also pulled off the Smart story and told they would be fired if their version of their Enquirer dealings proved untrue.

Alan Butterfield, the Enquirer reporter who brokered the deal with Vigh and Cantera, said he talked with Vigh and Cantera several times about the July 2 story.

The two were told their names would be kept out of the story. "They knew that their information was going to be used. They were very pointed in saying this was dead on," Butterfield said.

Idaho high court: Inmates don't have right to parole attorneys

BOISE (AP) - The Idaho Supreme Court has unanimously denied inmates the right to an attorney during habeas corpus proceedings.

The court agreed with an Ada County magistrate's decision against Kenneth Quinlan, who is serving a life sentence for a 1973 murder.

Quinlan was paroled in 1985, but his parole was revoked six years later after he violated conditions of his release following a drunk driving arrest. He was re-released later that year, but in

1994 his parole was revoked again, in part because Quinlan violated an order against driving. The Idaho Commissions for Pardons and Parole refused to schedule any future parole reconsideration hearings.

People convicted of a crime can appeal the matter based on the facts of the case or the procedural way in which it was handled. The latter, called a writ of habeas corpus, is most commonly used when a prisoner believes his constitutional rights have been violated by state procedure.

Quinlan filed a writ of habeas corpus with Ada County Magistrate David Epis in 1998, claiming his parole was revoked over an unreasonable condition - that he not drive. He also argued that the Parole Commission was required to reconsider his parole at least every 30 months under a rule that was rescinded in 1987, because he was convicted in 1973.

Quinlan also asked Epis to appoint him an attorney for the matter.

But Epis denied his request for an attorney and then denied his habeas corpus appeal. The state Supreme Court said that because the habeas proceeding is considered a civil matter, there is no requirement to appoint an attorney.

"The habeas statute is clear," wrote Chief Justice Linda Copptrout. "We hold that prison inmates do not have a statutory right of mandatory counsel in habeas corpus proceedings."

The no-driving condition was reasonable and Quinlan agreed to it before he was released, the high court noted.

IDAHO LEGISLATIVE LOG

By The Associated Press

Signed by Governor

\$1180 (Finance) - Allocates \$99,200 to the Department of Administration for the Capital Commission operations in 2003-2004. Sent to Governor.
\$1454 (Revenue and Taxation) - Allows financially troubled companies to take investment tax credits as property tax exemptions. In two years. Legislative Action Complete.
\$1810 (State Affairs) - Recognizes

Idaho-born thoroughbred Bully Gil, 1985, as running on Saturdays. Kentucky Derby. Introduced in Senate.

\$1193 (Finance) - Cuts \$19.3 million from the current budget.

\$1195 (Finance) - Transfers \$149 million from various funds to balance the current budget.

\$1196 (Finance) - Allocates \$9.3 million for school facilities in the 2003-2004 biennium.

\$1197 (Finance) - Allocates \$7.9 million for education administration functions in 2003-2004.

\$1198 (Finance) - Allocates \$114.7 million for children's programs in public schools in 2003-2004. Introduced in House.

\$1455 (Revenue and Taxation) - Creates a system for collecting cigarette tax on Indian reservation sales to non-Indians.

\$1456 (Appropriations) - Allocates \$665.1 million for public school teacher expenditures in 2003-2004.

\$1457 (Appropriations) - Allocates \$7.6 for 2003-2004 operations of the state School for the Deaf and Blind.

DEATH NOTICES

Walter J. Drew

BURLEY - Walter John Drew, 85, of Council, Wash., and formerly of Burley died Saturday, April 5, 2003, at the Beverly Health Care Center.

The service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at the O'Connell Presbyterian Church. Burial will follow in the Mountain View Cemetery. Friends may call from 12-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at the Stevens Funeral Chapel in O'Connell.

Jenna V. Warthen

KIMBERLY - Jenna V. Warthen, 76, of Kimberly died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

George Edward Beardsley

JEROME - George Edward Beardsley, 62, of Jerome died Monday, April 28, 2003.

A memorial service will be held at 12 p.m. Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Niagra Springs State Park. For directions, call 324-3790.

Deloris Short

HAGERMAN - Deloris Short, 62, of Hagerman died Thursday, April 29, 2003, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by Demary's Gooding Chapel.

Donald A. Tonkin

GOODING - Donald A. Tonkin, 76, of Gooding died Monday, April 28, 2003, at the Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center.

The graveside service will be

Vera Schenk

RUPERT - Vera Schenk, 84, of Rupert died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at the Mindoka Memorial Hospital.

Arrangements will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary in Rupert.

Malcolm A. Siggins

TWIN FALLS - Malcolm A.

BLM Wild Horse & Burro Adoption. Fri, May 2 • 1pm & Sat., May 3 • 9am. Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Filer, Idaho. 65 Wild Horses & 15 Burros. Must have an Adoption Application (may be completed at adoption site). Silent competitive bidding - \$125 minimum. Preview Thursday, May 1 7am-1pm. Friday, May 2 7am-1pm. May 3 7am-9am. For info, or to request an adoption application, call Mike Courtney, 208-736-2369 or Kathie Rhodes, 208-756-5440. Free horse training clinics by Mario Johnson May 1-3.

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER. FRONT ROW: Renee Buck PhD, RDLD, Cori Bundeled RN, BSN, Conde Stokels, Lisa Johnson RDLD, MBA, April Buus RDLD, Elyse McNaught RDLD, CDE, Sadee Lee BACK RW: Maxine Schweizer RDLD, Wendy Hawk-Rice MS RDLD, Robin Patton RDLD, Heather Shaw RDLD, Certified Weight Loss Counselor, Janet Randall RN, BSN, CDE.

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James Dulley:  
All about  
wood doors.  
Page C4

# FOOD & HOME

Food Editor: Denise Turner - 733-0931, Ext. 243

The Times-News

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

Section C

## An Idaho style of cuisine

Boise chef Jon Mortimer brings craft to Twin Falls

By Steve Crump  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - When Jon Mortimer was 14, he walked into the kitchen of a Boise restaurant and asked for a job.

"I may have told them I was 16," he said. His career search was done. "I worked with this chef there, sort of a hippie," Mortimer said. "He'd say things like, 'Isn't food cool?'"

Mortimer thinks so. At 39, he's on the short list of master Idaho chefs, and his restaurant - restaurant in downtown Boise is among the state's most celebrated upscale eateries.

"My favorite thing to cook is whatever is fresh," Mortimer said in a telephone interview from Boise. "If I get fresh trout from Clear Springs, that's what I like to cook. If I get fresh elk steaks, then that's



Sply catfish potstickers, from "The Idaho Table," by Jon Mortimer (Holdheaby Books, \$22.95)

what I like." There's a distinctly Idaho theme in Mortimer's restaurant - fresh water fish, game, lamb and potatoes, as well as special touches such as more mushrooms.

Idahoans, he believes, are too easily impressed with West Coast cooking while neglecting what's available locally. "I have always felt lucky to cook in Idaho's capital city just a few miles from the farmers' fields and the ranchers' rangeland," Mortimer wrote in

his just-released cookbook, "The Idaho Table." He honed his craft at a succession of Boise restaurants since 1990, after getting a business degree at the University of Arizona, studying at Horst Mager Culinary Academy in Portland, Ore., and working for 15 years opening restaurants for different companies.

"One of the most important things that happened (since his return) was that I made relationships with farmers, ranchers, mushroom

foragers and fisherman," he writes. "I went to the orchards to pick my own apples and trimmed the grapevines in the vineyards above the Snake River ... I learned to truly understand the tastes and aromas. I learned how to create meals that are as subtle to the palate as rain on the desert sage is to the nose."

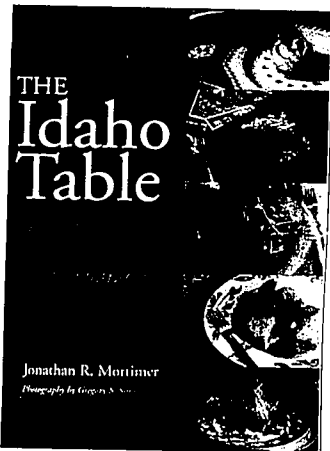
Born in Boston, the grandson of the CEO of General Foods, Mortimer's family moved to Ketchikan when he was a kid, where he developed a taste for wild Idaho foods.

Some of which he'll prepare tonight. The menu at the cooking school will include crisp polenta with roasted peppers and mozzarella, cumin roasted duck breast salad with tamarind vinaigrette, potato crusted salmon filets over ratatouille and molten chocolate cakes with orange essence.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at stevecrump@tnc.net.



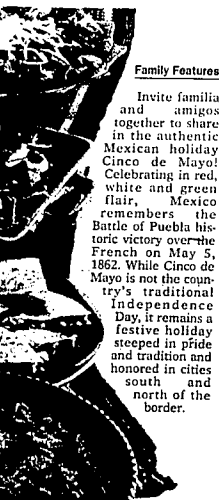
Jon Mortimer  
On the short list of master Idaho chefs



### POTATO CRUSTED STEELHEAD FILLETS OVER RATATOUILLE

- For the steelhead:  
6.7-ounce steelhead fillets  
2 tablespoons canola oil  
3 large russet potatoes, peeled and julienned  
salt and fresh ground pepper  
2 cup milk  
2 cup flour for dusting  
Add the canola oil to a skillet and preheat over medium heat. Make sure the oil is hot, but not smoking. Whisk together the eggs and the milk. Season the steelhead fillets with the salt and pepper and dust with the flour. Dip in the egg mixture and pack the top with the potato. Place the salmon potato-side down in the oil. Cook until the potatoes are golden brown without disturbing the salmon (about 3 1/2 minutes). Flip and cook for 1 more minute or until the fish is just barely cooked through.
- For the ratatouille:  
1 cup zucchini and yellow squash, chopped  
1 teaspoon chopped fresh dill  
8 chanelle mushrooms, ripped in half  
1/4 cup salmon stock  
1/4 cup dry white wine  
Salt and pepper to taste  
2 teaspoons of butter  
1 teaspoon chopped shallots  
In the saute pan, heat the butter and blanch the shallots. Add the tomatoes, mushrooms and squash/zucchini and cook for 2 minutes, stirring often. Add the stock and white wine and cook until the tomatoes and squash are soft (about 10 minutes). Season with dill, salt and pepper.
- To serve: Distribute the ratatouille with broth into 6 warm bowls. Perch the completed salmon, potato crust-side up, on top of the ratatouille and serve.
- From "The Idaho Table," by Jon Mortimer (Holdheaby Publishing, \$22.95)

## Are you ready for Cinco de Mayo?



### Family Features

Invite familia and amigos together to share in the authentic Mexican holiday Cinco de Mayo! Celebrating in red, white and green flair, Mexico remembers the Battle of Puebla historic victory over the French on May 5, 1862. While Cinco de Mayo is not the country's traditional Independence Day, it remains a festive holiday steeped in pride and tradition and honored in cities south and north of the border.

### TACO FIESTA BAKE

Add zest to any Cinco de Mayo party with this mouthwatering bake-and-take dish that adds a new twist to a favorite taco night menu.

- 1 jar (24 ounces) Old El Paso salsa
- 1 package (12 count) Old El Paso taco shells
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese (4 ounces)
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 ounces)
- 1/4 cup chopped onion, drained
- 1 can (11 ounces) white corn, drained
- 1 can (4.5 ounces) Old El Paso chopped green chiles
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon steak sauce
- 1/2 to 1 cup sour cream
- Fresh cilantro sprigs, if desired
- Chopped fresh tomatoes, if desired

Sliced ripe olives, if desired  
Chopped jalapeno chiles, if desired  
Guacamole, if desired  
Heat oven to 350 F. Spray 3-quart casserole or 9-by-13-by-2-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Spread 1 cup salsa in casserole. Break each taco shell into 4 to 6 pieces. Arrange half the broken shells over salsa. Spread 1 cup of remaining salsa over shells. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup each Monterey Jack and Cheddar cheeses. Top with onion, corn and green chiles. Stir together beans, cumin and steak sauce; spoon evenly over mixture in casserole. Top with remaining broken shells, Monterey Jack and Cheddar cheeses and salsa. Cover; bake 20 minutes. Uncover; bake about 10 minutes longer or until bubbly and cheese is melted. Top with 1/2 cup sour cream; garnish with remaining ingredients. If desired, serve with remaining 1/2 cup sour cream. Makes 5 servings.

### SALSA SALAD

- 1 can (15 ounces) kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 1/2 cups Old El Paso salsa
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1 bag (12 ounces) American-blend salad mix
- 3 medium tomatoes, chopped
- 1/2 cup shredded reduced-fat

Monterey Jack cheese (2 ounces)  
3/4 cup coarsely broken reduced-fat nacho cheese tortilla chips  
Stir together kidney beans, black beans, salsa, sour cream and chili powder in large bowl.  
Layer salad mix, bean mixture, tomatoes, cheese and tortilla chips in ungreased 4-quart serving bowl or 9-by-13-by-2-inch baking dish. Makes 6 servings.



### BLACK BEAN QUESADILLA

Packed with authentic Mexican flavor, this quesadilla features a zesty filling of melted Pepper Jack cheese - perfect for entertaining! Try a kid-friendly variation and use a mild cheese, such as Monterey Jack or Co-Jack, to please younger palates.

- 1/2 cup canned black beans, rinsed and drained
- 2 tablespoons Old El Paso salsa
- 1 tablespoon chopped green onion
- 1 tablespoon shredded cilantro
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Pepper Jack

cheese (6 ounces)  
8 Old El Paso flour tortillas (8 inches in diameter)  
4 teaspoons butter or margarine  
Mash beans slightly; stir together with salsa, green onion, cilantro and cheese. Divide mixture among 4 tortillas, spreading almost to edges. Top with remaining tortillas. Melt 1 teaspoon butter in 10-inch skillet over medium-low to medium heat. Cook 1 quesadilla in butter 2 to 3 minutes on each side or until brown. Cut into wedges. Repeat with remaining butter and quesadillas. Makes 8 servings.

### RIO BRAVO BEANS

- 2 cans (15 ounces each) pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (16 ounces) Old El Paso fat-free refried beans
- 1 can (10 ounces) Old El Paso enchilada sauce
- 1 can (4.5 ounces) Old El Paso chopped green chiles
- 3/4 cup onions, finely chopped
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar

2 large cloves garlic, finely chopped  
1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (2 ounces)  
Stir together all ingredients except cheese in 4-quart saucepan or Dutch oven. Heat to boiling over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 15 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese. Makes 9 servings.

Photo Courtesy of American Dairy Association and Old El Paso  
From top: Beans Salad, Taco Fiesta Bake, Black Bean Quesadillas and Rio Bravo Beans will hit the spot on Cinco de Mayo.

FOOD & HOME

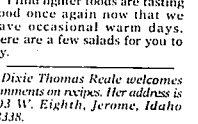
# Spring into spring with light food

May is finally here, or will be tomorrow. I have been digging around in the yard for the past several weeks when time and weather permits. I feel like there is too much to do and not enough time to do it. Yet there is still a whole month before the gardens really need to be planted. I guess I'm not so far behind after all.

With May comes Cinco de Mayo and all the Mexican feasts. I thought it might be fun to try adding a bit of Mexican flavor to some salads to get in the mood.

Find other foods are tasting good once again now. There are occasional warm days. Here are a few salads for you to try.

*Dixie Thomas Reale welcomes comments on recipes. Her address is 503 W. Eighth, Jerome, Idaho 83438.*



VALLEY COOKING  
Dixie Thomas Reale

## PEPPER, CORN AND BEAN SALAD

**Serves 8**  
 1 large bell pepper  
 2 (15 ounce) cans each black beans, garbanzo beans, pinto or kidney beans  
 1 cup frozen whole kernel corn, thawed and drained  
 2 green onions, thinly sliced  
 1 (4 ounce) can green chilies  
 Cumin dressing (recipe follows)  
 Remove seeds from pepper and chop into bowl. Rinse and drain beans well; add to pepper.

Add corn, chilies, green onion and cumin dressing. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour or up to 24 hours. Serve on lettuce-lined plate garnished with green onion.  
**Cumin Dressing:**  
 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar or cider vinegar  
 2 tablespoons lemon juice  
 1 teaspoon lemon peel  
 1 clove garlic  
 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin  
 Combine all ingredients in a small bowl and mix well.

## FRUIT SALAD WITH JALAPENO DRESSING

**Serves 6**  
 1/2 small honeydew melon  
 1 ripe large papaya, peeled, seeded and cubed  
 1 ripe strawberries, stemmed and halved  
 1 (8 ounce) can pineapple chunks  
 Scoop seeds from the melon. Remove fruit from rind with melon baller or cut melon into 3/4-inch wedges; remove rind and cut fruit into cubes. Place into large bowl. Add papaya, strawberries, pineapple and jalapeno

citrus dressing. Toss to combine. Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate up to 3 hours. Garnish with mint leaves if desired.  
**Jalapeno Citrus Dressing:**  
 1/3 cup orange juice  
 3 tablespoons lime juice  
 3 tablespoons minced fresh mint, basil or cilantro (optional)  
 2 jalapeno peppers, seeded, minced  
 1 tablespoon sugar or honey  
 Combine orange juice, lime juice, mint, jalapenos and sugar in small bowl; mix well.

# Make tulips last with these tips



GREEN THUMBPRINTS  
Cathy Walworth

It's tulip time! Buds have finally opened with glorious color. Want to cut some for bouquets? Here are some tips to enjoy tulips longer.

- Cut tulips when the buds are still closed, but the color of the flower is evident. Color on top and green on the bottom of the bud is fine. If the bud is still all green, wait. If you cut those now, they won't open.
- Watch the closed buds open up in the first few days in the vase. They will last a good week or more, if you help. Keep the tulips in a cool spot and away from all sources of heat. The television set is bad for tulip health. The heat does them in.
- Cut the tips of the stems off at a slight angle with a sharp knife or scissors just before you put them in a vase.
- It isn't your imagination - tulips keep growing once they're in the vase. They can grow up to an inch taller, and bend toward the light.
- Straighten out your yard tulips. Take them from the vase, re-trim the stem tips and fill the tulips in newspaper with the paper extending above the flower tops, but not covering the lower third of the stems. Put the wrapped bunch upright in a container holding cool water deep enough to dunk the exposed stem ends. Leave them in a cool place for an hour or two. They probably won't fit in the refrigerator all trussed up like that, so try setting them out in the

garage for a while. When you unwrap them, your tulips should be standing up straight again.

- Tulips are light eaters: Don't put plant food in their water. They take their water straight. To keep tulips looking their best, top off the vase water with fresh, cold water every day.
- Some people think that there's nothing more stunning than a huge vase of flowers all one color. If you feel a little more adventurous, create a riot of color with tulips by combining colors. Purple and lavender, light yellow with deeper yellow, flamed or multi-colored tulips with solids.

- Try combining tulips with other flowers, such as a forced branch of forsythia, pussy willow or corkscrew willow. Take a look around the yard and snip something interesting. You might surprise yourself.
- If you want daffodils and tulips in the same vase, treat the daffodils first. Trim and keep daffodils in a separate vase for the first few hours. Otherwise, the slimy stuff in the daffodil stems will clog up the tulips.
- Tulips and daffodils forced in pots can be put - pot and all - into larger, more decorative containers. The whole thing can also be submerged into a large outdoor planter for instant color at the front door. Your guests will be impressed with your gardening and decorating skill.

What's bugging your garden? Write to Cathy in care of this newspaper or e-mail her at: [cwt00@pm.com](mailto:cwt00@pm.com)

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## SPINACH SALAD WITH ORANGE CHILI-GLAZED SHRIMP

**Serves 4**  
 2 teaspoons sesame seeds  
 1/4 cup orange juice  
 1 tablespoon cider vinegar  
 1 clove garlic, minced  
 1 teaspoon grated orange peel  
 1 teaspoon olive oil  
 1/2 teaspoon honey  
 1/8 teaspoon crushed red pepper  
 1 ripe mango or papaya  
 12 cups washed and torn fresh spinach leaves  
 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese  
 Orange Chili-glazed Shrimp (recipe follows)

Heat nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add sesame seeds and cook, stirring often till golden (about 4 minutes). Pour into small bowl. Add orange juice, vinegar, garlic, orange peel, oil, honey and red pepper; stir to combine.

Set aside. Peel mango or papayas and discard seeds. Cut into cubes or slices. Discard tough stems from spinach leaves. Place leaves into large bowl and toss with dressing. Top with mango, cheese and shrimp.

**Orange Chili-glazed Shrimp:**  
 1/4 cup orange juice  
 4 cloves garlic, minced  
 1 teaspoon chili powder  
 8 ounces large raw shrimp, peeled and deveined  
 Combine orange juice, garlic and chili powder in a large nonstick skillet. Bring to a boil over high heat. Boil 3 minutes or until mixture just coats the bottom of the pan. Reduce heat to medium. Add shrimp, cook and stir 2 minutes or until shrimp are opaque and juice mixture coats them.

# After all these years, we still love bacon

By Jean Prescott  
Knight Rider News Service

BLOXI, Miss. - Back in the days before most people even knew about cholesterol, let alone its artery-clogging properties, almost every kitchen in South Mississippi kept a container for rendered bacon fat. Every bit of it that could be saved was used in all kinds of recipes, particularly those that called for sauteeing. "The trinity" of Cajun and/or Creole cooking: celery, onions and bell peppers.

Bacon, which is simply cured, smoked pork, is bad for us, we are now told, yet this country goes right ahead making it, more than 2 billion pounds a year.

## WARM GERMAN POTATO SALAD

1 to 1 1/2 pounds new potatoes  
 1/4 pound bacon  
 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped  
 1 stalk celery, chopped  
 1/2 teaspoon all-purpose flour  
 1/2 teaspoon sugar  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1/8 teaspoon pepper  
 1/2 cup water  
 1/2 cup cider vinegar  
 Fresh snipped chives, minced  
 peeled, sliced or hardboiled eggs, all optional garnishes  
 Scrub potatoes and cook in boiling salted water until tender. Drain and, while hot, skin and cut into 1/4-inch slices. You should have about 4 cups. Set

aside. Place bacon in a skillet and fry until almost crisp. Remove bacon from pan and add onion and celery, cook until tender and transparent, remove from pan. Drain off all but one tablespoon of bacon fat; add flour, sugar, salt and pepper to skillet. Stir until slightly browned. Add vinegar and water and cook until mixture is slightly thickened. Add back the bacon, onion, and celery. Pour hot dressing over potatoes, stir gently to blend. The potatoes should look glossy. Garnish with hard-boiled egg slices, sprinkle minced parsley and chives over top. Serve warm. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

## SOUTHERN GREEN BEANS

1 1/4 pounds green beans, trimmed and chopped into 1-inch pieces  
 2 slices bacon, chopped  
 1 small onion, minced  
 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar  
 2 teaspoons sugar  
 Cook green beans in 1 inch of simmering water, covered, for 6 minutes. Drain and set aside. Return skillet to stove and set burner to medium high. Add bacon and brown. When fat begins to render, add chopped onions to the pan and cook until tender with the bacon. Add cooked green beans to the pan and turn to coat in bacon drippings and onions. When the beans are hot, the bacon crisp at edges and onions translucent, add vinegar to the pan and season with sugar. Allow the vinegar to evaporate and the sugar to combine with pan drippings. 1 to 2 minutes, then serve. Serves 4.

## BARBECUED SHRIMP BLT

1 teaspoon vegetable oil, plus 3 tablespoons  
 3 ounces (about 5 large) shallots, peeled and sliced  
 1/2 cup dry white wine  
 1 tablespoon champagne vinegar  
 1/2 cup heavy cream  
 1/2 cup (4 ounces) unsalted butter, cut into small pieces  
 1/2 lemon, juiced  
 Salt  
 White pepper  
 1/2 pound (about 20 small) peeled shrimp  
 1/2 cup mayonnaise, preferably homemade  
 12 thin slices sourdough bread  
 2 cups baby lettuce or 8 nice pieces romaine or iceberg lettuce  
 1 medium tomato, cut into 12 thin slices  
 6 ounces (12 thick slices) bacon, cooked and drained  
 Black pepper  
 Preheat the barbecue or grill. In a medium saucepan, heat 1 teaspoon oil. Sweat the shallots for about 2 minutes. Do not brown. Deglaze the pan with the wine and vinegar and reduce slightly. Pour in the cream and reduce the sauce by half. Whisk in the butter and strain into a clean pan. Season with lemon

juice, salt, and pepper, to taste. Keep warm. Sprinkle the 3 tablespoons vegetable oil over the shrimp. Grill the shrimp, about 1 1/2 minutes on each side. Do not overcook. Drain and cut each shrimp in half lengthwise. For each sandwich, spread a little mayonnaise on 1 slice of bread and arrange a little lettuce (or 1 piece) on the bread. Top with 3 slices of tomato, season lightly with salt and pepper, and arrange the bacon on the tomatoes. Top with the second slice of bread, a thin layer of mayonnaise, and a little lettuce. Heat the shrimp (10 halves) in the lemon butter. Makes 4 triple-decker sandwiches.

-Wolfgang Puck, "Adventures in the Kitchen"

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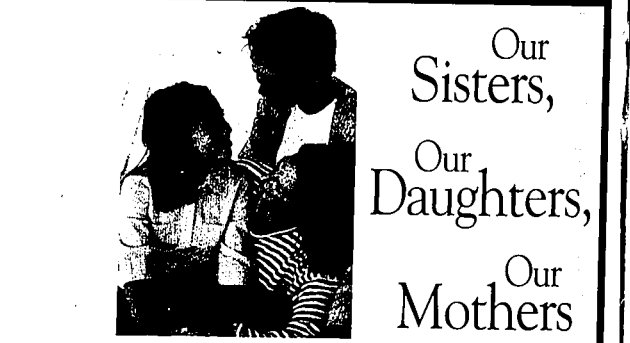
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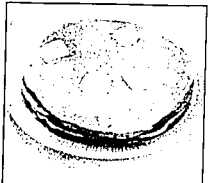
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# Make the best of summer with these fruits

**Family Features**

From the first juicy strawberry to the last luscious raspberry, celebrate the best of summer fruit with desserts that look as fantastic as they taste!

**LOW FAT RASPBERRY MOUSSE**

Makes 12 servings  
 2 (10-ounce) packages frozen red raspberries in syrup, thawed, divided  
 2 1/2 teaspoons cornstarch  
 1 (14-ounce) can Eagle Brand Low Fat Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
 1 teaspoon lemon juice from concentrate  
 Red food coloring, optional  
 1 (8-ounce) container frozen light whipped topping, thawed  
 1. In saucepan, combine one package undrained raspberries and cornstarch; cook and stir until thickened and clear. Chill while making mousse mixture.  
 2. In blender, combine remaining package drained raspberries, sweetened condensed milk and lemon juice; blend until smooth. Place in bowl; stir in small amount of food coloring if desired. Fold in whipped topping.  
 3. Spoon half mousse mixture into dessert dishes; top with equal portions of raspberry sauce then remaining mousse mixture. Chill at least 1 hour. Refrigerate leftovers.  
 Variation: Replace frozen raspberries with strawberries or blueberries.



These frosty orange pops will be the highlight of any kid's day.

**STRAWBERRY TUNNEL CREAM CAKE**

1 (10-inch) prepared round angel food cake  
 2 (3-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened  
 1 (14-ounce) can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
 1/3 cup lemon juice from concentrate  
 1 teaspoon almond extract  
 2 to 4 drops red food coloring, optional  
 1 cup chopped fresh strawberries  
 1 (12-ounce) container frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed (5 1/4 cups)  
 Additional fresh strawberries, optional  
 1. Place cake onto serving plate. Cut 1-inch slice crosswise from top of cake; set aside. With sharp knife, cut around cake 1 inch from center hole and 1 inch from outer edge, leaving 1-inch-thick cake walls and 1-inch-thick base on bottom.  
 2. Remove cake from center, leaving 1-inch-thick base on bottom of cake. Reserve cake pieces. In large mixing bowl, beat cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in sweetened condensed milk until smooth. Stir in lemon juice, almond extract and food coloring if desired.  
 3. Stir in reserved torn cake pieces and chopped strawberries. Fold in 1 cup whipped topping.  
 4. Fill cavity of cake with strawberry mixture; replace top slice of cake.  
 5. Chill 3 hours or until set. Frost with remaining whipped topping; garnish with strawberries if desired. Store in refrigerator.



**ORANGE DREAM POPS**

Low Fat Raspberry Mousse is both delicious and good for you.

3 cups orange juice or refrigerated orange juice blend  
 1 (14-ounce) can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
 1/4 cup lemon juice from concentrate  
 10 (5-ounce) paper cups (see tip below)  
 10 wooden sticks  
 1. In large bowl, stir together orange juice, sweetened condensed milk and lemon juice. Pour into paper cups.  
 2. Cover each cup with foil. Make small hole with knife.

Insert wooden stick or plastic spoon into each cup through hole. Freeze overnight or until firm. To serve, remove foil, tear off paper.  
**Tips:**  
 • For flat-bottomed pops, use small paper cups.  
 • To make cone shapes, use paper cups with pointed bottoms (set each cup in a foam cup or juice glass to hold it upright while freezing).  
 • For special decorative shapes, purchase an assortment of whimsical pop molds.



Blueberry & Peach Shortcake is party perfect.



Lime-Filled Pastry With Mixed Berries is unique and perfect for part-time.



Strawberry Tunnel Cream Cake is a grand dessert.

**BLUEBERRY AND PEACH SHORTCAKE**

Makes 6 to 8 servings  
 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened  
 1 (14-ounce) can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
 1/3 cup plus 1 tablespoon lemon juice from concentrate, divided  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 1 (6.5-ounce) prepared sponge cake layer  
 2 tablespoons sugar  
 2 teaspoons cornstarch  
 1/4 cup water  
 1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries

Sliced peaches  
 1. In large mixer bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in sweetened condensed milk until smooth. Add blueberries; cook until bubbly. Chill 1 hour.  
 2. Before serving, top cake with peach slices and blueberry sauce. Refrigerate leftovers.

**LIME-FILLED PASTRY WITH MIXED BERRIES**

Makes 8 to 10 servings  
 1 sheet frozen puff pastry (one half 17 1/4-ounce packages)  
 1 egg white, slightly beaten  
 Coarse sugar or granulated sugar  
 1 (14-ounce) can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
 1/3 cup lime juice from concentrate  
 1/3 cup sour cream  
 3 cups fresh raspberries, blueberries, and/or quartered strawberries  
 1. Let folded pastry thaw at room temperature 20 minutes. Preheat oven to 375 F. On a light floured surface, unfold pastry; roll out 18x10-inch rectangle. Cut 1/4-inch-wide strip from each long side of rectangle; cut 1/4-inch-wide strip from each short end of rectangle. Set aside 4 strips.  
 2. Place pastry rectangle on ungreased baking sheet. Brush with egg white. Lay pastry strips on top of pastry to make, allowing outer edges of strips to fit. Brush strips with egg white and sprinkle with sugar. Prick bottom of rectangle several times with fork.  
 3. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until light brown. Cool.  
 4. In medium-sized bowl, combine sweetened condensed milk, lime juice and sour cream. Spoon into cooled pastry rectangle. Cover and chill up to 4 hours. Top with berries before serving. Store leftovers, covered, in refrigerator.

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(AP Photo)

FOOD & HOME



Wood doors often need a lot of maintenance, but you can get the same look with a fiberglass or carbon door.

## Love wood doors? Try fiberglass

**DEAR JIM:** I love the appearance of a stained real wood door, but I hate the maintenance. My old door front door is warped and weathered. What options do I have to get the same real wood look without maintenance?

—CARI W.

**DEAR CARI:** Your best choices are stainable fiberglass or carbon doors. These doors have deep natural-looking graining that is difficult to distinguish from real wood. I have stained (dark oak) double carbon doors on the front of my house and a single fiberglass door on the back.

Another option is a stainable insulated steel door. Stainable steel doors have many efficiency, durability and security advantages, but they don't quite match the authentic wood look of fiberglass or carbon doors which you probably desire. Many fiberglass and carbon doors have a 25-year warranty and some even longer.

All stainable fiberglass and carbon doors have a foam core which gives them an insulation value about six times that of solid wood. They also don't shrink and grow with changes in the seasons (humidity levels) as wood does, so they maintain their airtight seals and just-finished appearance longer.

Carbon doors are very similar to fiberglass except that carbon fibers are used in the plastic resin instead of glass fibers. The carbon fibers used are supposed to have a lower coefficient of expansion with temperature changes than the glass fibers do. This minimizes occasional bowing when the sun shines directly on the door.

The prices of both carbon and fiberglass doors are similar and in the range of a medium-quality steel door. The final cost can vary significantly if you select some fancy decorative glass. Some are sold only through pro-



**SENSIBLE HOME**  
James Dullea

essional installers and others can be purchased at home center stores. The manufacturers offer complete staining kits for the do-it-yourselfer.

Adding decorative glass can certainly enhance the appearance of a door without sacrificing security or efficiency. The typical options are leaded, frosted, beveled, and etched. I have a combination of etched and beveled oval glass panels in my front door and just clear lowe glass in the back.

Almost all the decorative glass panels are sandwiched between clear indoor and outdoor panes. This creates two insulating air gaps and greater insulation. It is also difficult to break through. For added security, order extra-secure glass that includes a lifetime no-break warranty.

Some features to look for are an adjustable threshold seal and foam-filled weatherstripping. A large, reinforced lock block (hidden inside the door) enhances security as does a multipoint locking system. An extra hinged sidelite is an advantage for more light and when you move large furniture in and out.

Write for (instantly) download [www.dullea.com](http://www.dullea.com) Update Bulletin No. 955 - buyer's guide of nine stainable carbon and fiberglass door manufacturers listing styles, insulation, decor-

The prices of both carbon and fiberglass doors are similar and in the range of a medium-quality steel door. The final cost can vary significantly if you select some fancy decorative glass.

Decorative glass options, design/efficiency features, and finishing instructions. Please include \$3 and a business-size SASE. Write to James Dullea, Newspaper Name, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

## Celebrate sweet signs of spring

By Karen Herzog  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

April showers aren't only about May flowers. This time of year, showers also bring best wishes for brides and mothers-to-be. Here are some recipes to consider.

### STRAWBERRIES BRANDI

Here's a recipe adapted from John Schumacher's latest cookbook, "Today's Country Cooking."

- 38 medium-size ripe strawberries, washed, stems removed (divided)
- 1/2 tablespoon honey
- 1/2 tablespoon powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon orange-flavored liqueur or .5 tablespoon frozen orange juice concentrate
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 1 cup (about) granulated sugar

Fresh mint leaves for garnish. Combine 6 strawberries, the honey, powdered sugar and orange-flavored liqueur or orange juice concentrate in blender; puree until smooth. In large bowl, beat cream at medium speed until stiff.

Fold in strawberry puree. Roll remaining 32 strawberries in granulated sugar.

Place 8 strawberries per serving into glass dessert dishes; cover with generous dollop of whipped cream-strawberry puree mixture. Garnish with mint leaves.

Refrigerate any leftover whipped cream. Makes 4 servings.

**NOTE:** If desired, or if berries are larger, berries may be cut in half. Coat outsiders only with sugar.

### COCONUT DREAM BARS

Here's a classic recipe renamed and adapted from [www.homeschoolzone.com](http://www.homeschoolzone.com). The original recipe, Luscious Lemon Bars, used lemon-flavored pie filling and did not include coconut.

- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 1/4 cups sugar (divided)
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, melted
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, room temperature
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 container (8 ounces) non-dairy whipped topping, thawed (divided)
- 1 package (4.6 ounces) coconut, vanilla or other pudding mix (not instant or sugar-free)
- 3 cups water (divided)
- 3 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup shredded sweetened coconut

In small bowl, mix crumbs, 1/4 cup sugar and butter. Press mixture firmly onto bottom of 9x9-inch pan. Refrigerate pan until ready to fill. Beat cream cheese, 1/4 cup of the remaining sugar and milk until smooth. Gently stir in half the whipped topping. Spread evenly over prepared crust. Stir pudding mix, remaining 3/4 cup sugar, 1/2 cup water and egg yolks in medium saucepan. Stir in remaining 1/2 cups water and coconut. Stirring constantly, cook over medium heat until mixture comes to full boil. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring twice. Let cool. Pour over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate 4 hours or until set. Before serving, spread remaining whipped topping over pudding. Makes 16 to 20 servings.

### STRAWBERRY-RHUBARB CRISP

Rhubarb and strawberries are the ying and yang of spring and early summer desserts. The strawberries in this crisp soften the rhubarb's sour edge, and nuts and oats in the topping give it crunch. The recipe is from Williams-Sonoma's "Savoring America."

1 1/2 pounds strawberries, halved or quartered

3/4 pound rhubarb, cut into 3/4-inch pieces

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 1/4 cups granulated sugar

1/2 cup flour (divided)

1 1/2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest

2 pinches salt

1/2 cup old-fashioned rolled oats

1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

6 tablespoons lightly chilled unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

2 1/3 cups chopped walnuts or pecans

Sweetened whipping cream (optional)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Butter shallow 2-quart baking dish. In bowl, toss together strawberries, rhubarb and vanilla. Sprinkle granulated sugar, 1/2 cup flour, lemon zest and 1 pinch salt over fruits and toss gently to coat. Spread evenly in prepared dish. In bowl, combine

oats, brown sugar, remaining 1/4 cup flour, cinnamon and remaining pinch of salt. Add butter and, using pastry blender, cut in until butter is in small pieces and mixture begins to hold together. Add nuts and mix just until combined. Scatter topping over rhubarb. Bake crisp in preheated oven until filling is bubbling and topping is browned, about 45 minutes. Remove from oven and spoon crisp onto individual plates. Top with whipped cream, if desired. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

### Pop artists?

Magic Valley Symphony ends season with a pops concert. Friday in The Times-News

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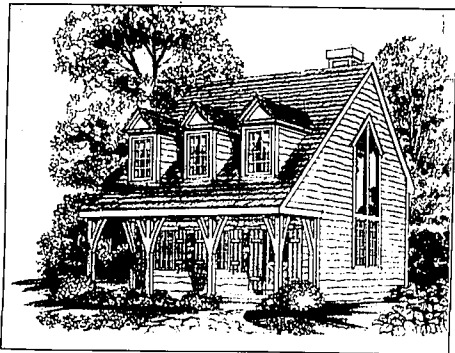
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FOOD & HOME

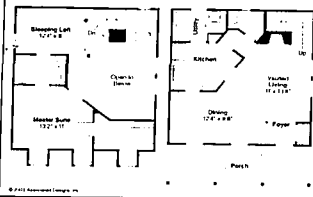
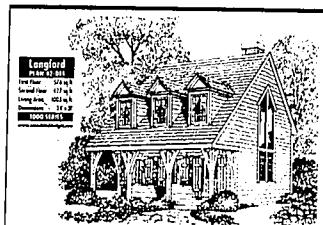
# Langford could provide picturesque vacation cottage

The Langford is a small, picturesque home that could be built as a vacation cottage, or a year-round residence for a small family. It offers about 1,000 square feet of living space. Old-fashioned shutters flank the front windows as well as the door, and square posts branch into decorative threes that support the porch roof. Overhead, a trio of matching gabled dormers face the street.



on the dining table. A powder room and utility room are at the rear. The utility room has exterior access, and can double as a mud room. The master, suite and

The vaulted living room is open to the second floor and a fireplace nestles into the stairway alcove at its rear. Light washes into the living room through stacked windows on the side of the house, plus multiple panes in the front door.



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 Langford 42-014 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 or visit [www.associateddesigns.com](http://www.associateddesigns.com).

## Lighten up your hashbrown casserole

By Elaine Magee  
Knight Rider News Service

This is really delicious. I used the lower fat cream of celery soup and switched to reduced fat sharp cheddar cheese. I also used my fat-free fat free sour cream (Naturally Yours brand).

### HASHBROWN CASSEROLE

**HASHBROWN CASSEROLE**  
Makes 12 servings  
1 can (10.75 ounces) Healthy Request Cream of Celery soup, condensed  
2 8-ounce cups reduced fat grated sharp cheddar cheese  
1 1/2 cups fat free sour cream (dip) can also be used  
1 cup finely chopped onion  
30-ounce (or 2-pound) bag frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, unthawed  
1 ounce regular or reduced fat potato chips, crushed into coarse crumbs  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 1 1/2-by-9-inch baking dish with canola cooking spray.

Combine first 4 ingredients in extra large bowl and stir to blend well. Stir in hashbrowns. Blend ingredients together well. Spread into prepared baking dish, cover with foil and bake about 1 hour. Sprinkle top of casserole evenly with potato chip crumbs and bake uncovered until golden brown and bubbly, about 5-10 minutes.

*Per serving: 186 calories, 8 g protein, 24.5 g carbohydrate, 16 g fat (3.1 g saturated fat, 4 g monounsaturated fat, 7 g polyunsaturated fat), 16 mg cholesterol, 2 g fiber, 392 mg sodium. Calories from fat: 29 percent.*

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# Poached eggs: They're quick, simple and delicious

By Donna Deane  
Los Angeles Times

Here's one of my secrets: Poached eggs are a wonderfully simple meal. And here's another: Of the many ways to fix eggs, poaching is one of the quickest. Poaching can be intimidating. But if you follow a few basics, you'll find it not difficult at all. Start with the freshest possible eggs for a thicker white that will hold its shape during poaching and not scatter in the water. Also, unlike when you bake, poached eggs should come right from the refrigerator. The whites of warm eggs have a thinner consistency and do not hold up as well as cold eggs. Add a tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice to the poaching water to help the eggs set up quickly and retain their round shape in the water.

You can buy special egg-poaching pans, but I much prefer a nonstick skillet. The eggs will lightly cling to the bottom without sticking - which is what you want - rather than bobbing around in the water or sticking like gum to the pan's surface. If you use a skillet without a nonstick coating, spray the bottom with nonstick spray before filling it with water.

The water should come to within an inch from the top of the skillet; the eggs must be completely immersed. The simmer is important - if the water is not simmering hard enough, the white of the egg will spread out before it sets. If the water is boiling, it will cause the egg to toughen and break up during cooking. The water should be bubbling gently around the edges of the pan.



Photos by LUTHERS & CO. Inc./Los Angeles Times

Eggs with a light tarragon cream sauce are tasty and easy.

Then, break an egg into a small custard cup or bowl, tilt the bowl just over the surface of the water and slip in the egg. Cracking the egg directly into the pan can cause the egg to lose its shape in the water, or break the pan. Be sure not to overcrowd the pan: Poach no more than three or four eggs at a time, and spoon warm water over the tops as they cook. If your eggs do get raggedy edges, remember you can always trim them when you're done. (Or, if you're patient enough, cook just one egg at a time: Whirl the water to create a little funnel, then slip

## POACHED EGGS WITH TARRAGON CREAM

- Nonstick cooking spray, optional
- 1 teaspoon minced shallot
- 2 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons butter, divided
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons minced fresh tarragon
- 4 eggs
- 1/4 cup shredded Gruyere cheese
- 2 tablespoons fresh bread crumbs

Spray the bottom of a large skillet with nonstick spray, or use a nonstick skillet. Fill the skillet 3/4 full with water; bring to a boil. Meanwhile, cook the shallot in 2 tablespoons of butter in a saucepan over medium-low heat until softened. Stir in the flour until blended and slightly cooked,

1 minute. Stir in the milk and cream. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly, then boil and stir 1 minute. Stir in the salt. Remove from the heat; strain the sauce through a fine mesh strainer and stir in the tarragon. Cover; set aside. Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Reduce the boiling water to a simmer. To poach the eggs, work with 2 at a time. Crack the first egg into a small bowl, then carefully pour into the water; repeat with the second egg. Cook until the whites are barely set, about 1 1/2 minutes, then remove them gently using a slotted spatula to a small buttered ramekin. Repeat with the remaining 2 eggs. Divide the tarragon sauce between the ramekins, spooning over the eggs; then sprinkle with the cheese and bread crumbs. Bake until hot and bubbly, 5 to 10 minutes.

the egg into the vortex.) The rest goes quickly - just three to four minutes for a perfectly poached egg. Check for doneness by gently lifting the egg from the water with a slotted spatula. The white should be set but not hard or rubbery, while the yolk should be soft and not hard-cooked. If you have any doubts, cut into the white with a knife. It should look cooked and be set in the center. Otherwise, slip it back into the water for a little more poaching. Use a slotted spatula to remove the eggs, holding them over the pan to let any excess water drain off. A spatula works better than a spoon, I think, at keeping the egg whole.



A sprinkle of herbs adds a light flavor to poached eggs. Small baby plum tomatoes dress up the plate.

## SPRING HERBED POACHED EGGS

- Nonstick cooking spray, optional
  - 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
  - 2 teaspoons Sherry vinegar
  - 1 teaspoon lemon juice
  - 1 teaspoon minced shallot
  - 3 tablespoons olive oil
  - 2 tablespoons canola oil
  - Salt, pepper
  - 4 cups watercress leaves
  - 8 eggs
  - 1 tablespoon minced fresh dill
  - 1 tablespoon snipped chives
  - 1 tablespoon minced chervil
  - 8 baby small plum tomatoes
- Spray the bottom of a large skillet with nonstick spray, or use a nonstick skillet. Fill the skillet 3/4 full with water and bring to a boil. Meanwhile, whisk together the Dijon mustard, Sherry vinegar and lemon juice until blended. Stir in the olive and canola oils until the dressing thickens and is emulsified. Stir in salt and pepper to taste. Set aside. Toss the watercress leaves with the dressing and divide among 4 plates. Reduce the boiling water to a simmer. To poach the eggs, work with 2 at a time. Crack the first egg into a small bowl, then carefully pour into the water; repeat with the second egg. Cook until the whites of the eggs are set and cooked through, about 3 to 4 minutes, then remove them from the water with a slotted spatula. Repeat with the remaining eggs. Place 2 eggs atop each plate of watercress. Sprinkle the eggs with salt and pepper to taste, then the dill, chives and chervil. Garnish with the tomatoes. Serves 4.

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## Everyone Can Have A Beautiful Lawn

by Doris A. Black

As a busy, working mom, I haven't paid much attention to my lawn over the years except to notice when it needs cutting. Then it's a chore I don't relish. I usually cut it short, so I won't have to cut it again for a while. I don't have the greenest lawn on my block and there are a few weeds and bare spots, but it will come back.

Maybe not, as I've recently learned. Like other plants, lawn grasses need air, water and food on a regular basis to survive. Regular lawn maintenance is a must and should include aeration, watering and fertilizing, not just mowing.

The lawn gets a lot of abuse from children playing, pets romping and even you walking over the same space to and from the car every day. Over time the soil beneath the grass becomes compacted, unable to breathe. There are two ways to aerate the soil. One method, though not the best, is the old-fashioned way of doing it by hand. If it just a small area of grass, you can use a garden fork to puncture and aerate the ground. A more effective method is to rent or buy a core aerator from a garden store or rental center. This device actually removes a plug of soil every few inches, allowing water and air to reach deep into the soil. Aerating in the spring and fall will help new seed get established and allow fertilizers to penetrate the soil.

Grasses need water to grow. It is true that

Some grasses go dormant in hot weather, but they don't look very nice. Always water in the morning. This gives the grass time to dry, preventing fungus and disease. Water deeply. Watering to the depth of an inch will encourage deep rooting systems, fostering a healthier lawn.

Most homeowners make the mistake of mowing too low. Three inches should be the minimum height. A good rule of thumb to follow is to never cut more than one-third the height of the grass at one time. For a healthier lawn, set the mower at a higher level for a first cut, then mow again a few days later at a lower level. It may seem like more work, but in the long run repairing or replacing a damaged lawn would be even more costly and time consuming.

Every lawn needs regular feeding to maintain its beauty and health. During the growing season, use a fertilizer high in nitrogen, the first number in the series. In the fall you'll want a fertilizer with low nitrogen and higher phosphorus and potassium like 3-10-10. To have your lawn looking its best, fertilize it two to four times per year. If you have any questions, consult a lawn care specialist.

With a little extra effort, anyone can have a beautiful healthy lawn.

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**MORNING LINE**  
**SPORTSQUOTE**

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I've seen one stadium and another. That's when you remember life is passing. Time stops for no one, not even old Candlestick. It's looking old, real old.

93  
-Dusty Baker, after returning to San Francisco and saving Candlestick Park for the first time this season

**TODAY'S SCHEDULE**  
**High school baseball**  
Minico at Burley, 3:30 p.m.  
Twin Falls JV at Buhl, 4:30 p.m.  
Century at Jerome, 4:30 p.m.  
**High school softball**  
Idaho Falls at Twin Falls, 3:30 p.m.  
Buhl at Wendell, 4:30 p.m.  
**High school golf**  
Boys Falls Classic at Idaho Falls, Sage Lakes GC, 10 a.m.  
**High school tennis**  
Twin Falls at Century, 3:30 p.m.  
Gooding at Wood River, 3:30 p.m.

**IN BRIEF**  
**Two Bruins sign with colleges**  
TWIN FALLS - Twin Falls seniors Danielle Maloney and Steve Turner have signed either letters of intent or scholarships to play college athletics next fall. Maloney signed with two-year Sheridan College in Wyoming for basketball while Turner signed a scholarship for baseball to attend Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande, Ore.

**NBA names Kings' Jackson top sixth man**  
SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Sacramento Kings guard Bobby Jackson won the NBA's Sixth Man of the Year award Tuesday. Jackson, the Kings' offensive spark plug, is just the second point guard to win the award, joining Orlando's Darrell Armstrong in 1999. Jackson got 362 points in the voting. Milwaukee shooting guard Michael Redd finished second with 257, and Utah forward Andre Kirilenko was third with 127. Seven players received first-place votes, including Williamson and Golden State's 5-foot-5 Earl Boykins. Jackson was the Kings' fourth-leading scorer, averaging a career-best 15.2 points for the two-time Pacific Division champions. He also recorded career bests in shooting percentage (46.4), free throw percentage (84.6) and 3-point percentage (37.9).

**Best ball tourney comes to Gooding**  
GOODING - Spots are available for The Farmers National Bank-PKII Restaurant Two-Person Best Ball golf tournament May 3-4 at Gooding Country Club. Registration ends Thursday. Men's, couples and ladies flights will be contested. Forty-two teams have signed up with space available for 10 additional teams. To enter, call the course golf shop at 934-9977.

**Candleridge women's group meets Thursday**  
TWIN FALLS - A team captain's meeting for the Candleridge women's association will be held on Thursday at 6 p.m. at the golf course. League play, scheduling, fees and other business will be discussed. For more information, call Coleen Florke at 733-0908.

Compiled from staff reports

## Twin Falls baseball rallies past Minico, 10-7

### Warburton homers for Minico in defeat

By Kevin Hall  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The black-and-blue welt swelled rapidly over the left eye of Minico shortstop Cory Warburton.

Just another lump taken after playing Twin Falls.

Warburton helped stake his Spartan teammates to a 4-0 lead with a three-run homer in the first inning, but the lead didn't

hold as Twin Falls rallied for a 10-7 victory in Region Four-Five-Six baseball Tuesday at Bruin Field.

Nick Carr had 10 strikeouts in relief and Brett Miller, Mike Littleton, Luke Hawkins and Drew Bernhardt all connected twice for hits to rally the Bruins, who improved to 18-3 overall and 7-1 in the conference.

"This was a huge win for us," said Hawkins, who had an RBI

single as part of a six-run sixth. In typical Twin Falls fashion, the Bruins took advantage of Minico's miscues to put runners aboard, advance them, then score.

That started in the bottom of the second after Hawkins singled, advanced on a walk and a single by Bernhardt before coming around on a wild pitch. Another wild pitch plated A.J. Stone and Miller drove in another for the one-run game.

Carr came in for starter Steve Turner in the second and imme-

**Region Four-Five-Six baseball standings**

Through April 29

| Team        | Conference record |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Twin Falls  | 7-1               |
| Idaho Falls | 4-2               |
| Minico      | 4-2               |
| Highland    | 3-4               |
| Pocatello   | 2-5               |
| Skyline     | 1-7               |

mid-70 mph fastballs. But they couldn't get a nibble on the upper 80-mph delivery from Carr, who was coming off a 13-strikeout performance on Saturday.

The hard-throwing sophomore fanned two Spartans each in the second, third and fourth innings, racking up a quick six strikeouts while not letting a ball escape the infield.

"We got up early and then Carr came in and did a great job of

Please see BRUINS, Page D2

## HAGERMAN'S HERO



Kentucky born but raised in Hagerman, Buddy Gil puts in his final major work with jockey Gary Stevens aboard Monday at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. Buddy Gil, a product of Billingsley Creek Ranch owned by Donnie and Judy McFadden, is Idaho's first-ever entry to the Kentucky Derby, which runs Saturday.

## Blue-collar Buddy Gil wanders out to Kentucky Derby

By Beth Harris  
Associated Press writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Buddy Gil was bred in the Bluegrass State, but he's not really at his old Kentucky home this week.

The only Kentucky Derby entry with three consecutive victories besides Peace Rules was raised in Hagerman, It's where Buddy Gil wandered through streams and fields and was unfazed when wild game jumped out of the tall grasses he shared.

Cowowner Donnie McFadden, who bred the colt, raised Buddy Gil in a grass paddock with a nearby shed that kept him out of winter weather. McFadden believes in an outdoor life for his horses since those who make it to the races will spend the rest of their lives in stalls.

"There aren't any horses from Hagerman, Idaho, that have ever made it to this level," he said. "This is the most exciting thing that's ever happened to me, my family, anybody in the industry in Idaho. There are so many fans in Idaho that are rooting for this blue-collar horse."

Buddy Gil is the first graded stakes winner for McFadden and his wife, Judy. The colt's credentials include consecutive victories in the Santa Anita Derby, San Felipe Stakes and Baldwin Stakes.

"We're confident this horse belongs here," said co-owner Scott Gunther, whose first Derby experience came last year when Easy Grades finished 13th. "This is one of those horses that came out of nowhere. He's got a lot of fight in him."

**129th Kentucky Derby**

When: Saturday  
On TV: 3 p.m. (NBC)

Gunther, of Newport Beach, Calif., likes to joke that the city limit signs in Hagerman are back-to-back. The town near Twin Falls has about 800 residents.

Buddy Gil and McFadden aren't the only ones in the group with Idaho ties. Jockey Gary Stevens is from Caldwell and he rode Forever Rise, McFadden's first thoroughbred mare, to victory at Idaho's Lee

Bois Park in 1981.

Trainer Jeff Mullins gave Stevens, then an unknown rider, a leg up on Forever Rise. It wasn't until Mullins' mother recently showed him a winner's circle photo from the race that he remembered Stevens shared the victory.

"Back then, I was just a punk kid trying to make a few dollars and Gary was just a jockey in Idaho," said Mullins, sporting a belt buckle the size of an appetizer plate that commemorates his training title at Arizona's Turf Parades in 1999-2000.

"I showed Gary that picture and he goes, 'Man, look at us,'" Mullins said, laughing. "He said he had hair tucked up into his helmet then."

Please see BUDDY, Page D2

## Derby Jinx hits favorite right in foot

### Bruise could alter odds

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Looks as if the Derby Jinx might have struck early this year. Looks as if Bob Baffert will need all the luck he can get.

Favorite Empire Maker has a bruised foot, a minor injury that could change the outlook for Saturday's race. Trainer Bobby Frankel said his star colt will still run, but the odds could change dramatically when entries are taken today.

Until the bruise on Empire Maker's right front foot was disclosed Tuesday, Churchill Downs oddsmaker Mike Battaglia was set to install Empire Maker as the strong 5-5 favorite.

"Now I'll go by what Bobby says," Battaglia said. "If he says it's nothing to worry about, he'll stay there. If he says he'll run but there are some concerns, then I'll raise the line."

"And if he says he's out, I'll have to change everything," Battaglia said. "Battaglia may be changing a few things now that Katwin is out with a strained ligament in his right front leg following a work-out. The colt won four of 11 starts and was third in the Santa Anita Derby on April 5, his last race."

That leaves Baffert, who won his third Derby with War Emblem last year, with one Derby starter - long shot Indian Express.

"At least I've got the Panamanian youth," he said, referring to Indian Express winner of his first two starts in Panama.

Battaglia's top Derby prospect is long gone. His 2-year-old champion Vindication was knocked off the trail in February with an injury.

The Derby Jinx appeared in Frankel's barn four days before a race that has been making to favorites since 1951. J. Edgar Sull, he was upset.

"You can never be 100 percent sure in this business, but I'd say I'm '98 percent sure he'll be all right," said Frankel, who also trains Derby contender Peace Rules. "But it's the Derby, you know, so what are you going to do?"

Please see JINX, Page D2

## Kobe, Shaq lead Lakers rout

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS - The Los Angeles Lakers snipped back to life, with everyone from Kobe Bryant to Derek Fisher to Robert Horry to Shaquille O'Neal showing championship form.

Bryant had 16 of his 32 points in the third quarter. O'Neal added 27 points, Fisher had 24 and Horry 12 Tuesday night to put the Minnesota Timberwolves on the brink of elimination with a 120-90 victory.

The Lakers led the series 3-2. Game 6 is Thursday in Los Angeles, with Game 7 - if it's necessary - back in Minnesota on Saturday.

If the Lakers play this way again, it won't be necessary. Stretching a 10-point halftime lead to 21 by the end of the third quarter and to 30 late in the fourth, the three-time defending champions rediscovered their shooting touch and their offensive flow.



Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal fouls Minnesota's Kevin Garnett Tuesday in Minneapolis. O'Neal had 27 points in a 120-90 Los Angeles victory.

Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal fouls Minnesota's Kevin Garnett Tuesday in Minneapolis. O'Neal had 27 points in a 120-90 Los Angeles victory.

## Mariners stomp Yankees; Matsui, Suzuki do little

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Roger Clemens failed to get his 298th win, and Ichiro Suzuki and Hideki Matsui did not do very much either in their first matchup in the major leagues.

Clemens allowed three homers for the first time since August, and the two Japanese stars failed to drive in any runs as the Seattle Mariners beat the New York Yankees 6-0 Tuesday night.

Bret Boone, Ben Davis and Edgar Martinez homered for Seattle, which has won 12 of its last 13 regular-season games at Yankee Stadium. New York (20-6) lost consecutive games for the first time this season and was shut out for the first time since a 8-0 loss against Oakland last Aug. 10.

Suzuki, who in 2001 became the first Japanese non-pitcher to earn a regular job in the major leagues, was 1-for-5 with a bunt single and scored in the seventh inning. Matsui, who joined the Yankees this season, was 1-for-4

**More MLB**

Please see Page D3.

with a ninth-inning single.

Gil Meche (3-1) took a three-hitter into the eighth and wound up allowing six hits, in 7-2-3 innings, extending his scoreless streak to 16 1/3 innings. Arthur Rhodes and Shigetoshi Hasegawa finished with one-hit relief.

Clemens (4-1), pitching on the 17th anniversary of his 20-strikeout game against Seattle for Boston, lost for the first time in six starts this season. He had a terrific split-fingered pitch and struck out eight, but Seattle sat on his fastball, and he gave up four runs and eight hits in six innings.

Clemens dropped to 22-14 in regular-season decisions against Seattle and his ERA this season rose from 2.12 to 2.70. His previous three-homer start was Aug. 29 at Toronto.





SCORES AND STATS

BASEBALL

AL BOWL

RED SOX VS. TIGERS

Box score for Red Sox vs. Tigers game, including batting and pitching stats.

NL BOWL

BRaves vs. Astros

Box score for Braves vs. Astros game, including batting and pitching stats.

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

No. 4 Salt Lake CC at No. 1 CCS

Playoff schedule for No. 4 Salt Lake CC at No. 1 CCS, including dates and times.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Horse racing

Kenworthy Derby, post-position draw, ESPN, 3 p.m.

Baseball

MLB, Mariners at Yankees or Royals at Red Sox, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Hockey

NHL Playoffs, Devils at Lightning, Game 4, ESPN, 5 p.m.

Basketball

NBA Playoffs, Hornets at 76ers, Game 5, TNT, 4 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA Playoffs

MLB, Mariners at Yankees or Royals at Red Sox, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Hockey

NHL Playoffs, Stars at Mighty Ducks, Game 4, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Basketball

NBA Playoffs, Hornets at 76ers, Game 5, TNT, 4 p.m.

Baseball

MLB, Yankees at Red Sox, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Hockey

NHL Playoffs, Stars at Mighty Ducks, Game 4, ESPN, 8 p.m.

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NBA Playoffs, Hornets at 76ers, Game 5, TNT, 4 p.m.

Baseball

MLB, Yankees at Red Sox, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Hockey

NHL Playoffs, Stars at Mighty Ducks, Game 4, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Basketball

NBA Playoffs, Hornets at 76ers, Game 5, TNT, 4 p.m.

Major League Baseball

All Times MDT

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Central Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

West Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

Central Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

West Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tuesday's Games

Boston 7, Kansas City 2; Anaheim 10, Cleveland 1; Seattle 6, N.Y. Yankees 0; Oakland 3, Chicago White Sox 2.

Today's Games

Texas (Dreske 1-1) at Toronto; St. Louis 3, S.F. Giants 2; Kansas City (May 0-1) at Boston; Seattle 3, S.F. Giants 2; Baltimore (Lopez 2-0) at Detroit; Chicago 1-2, S.F. Giants 0; Tampa Bay (Molina 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees 0; Anaheim (Wasth 1-3) at Cleveland; Boston 2, S.F. Giants 0; Tampa Bay (Molina 2-0) at Minnesota; Oakland (Mauer 3-1) at Chicago White Sox; Philadelphia 3, N.Y. Yankees 0.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Monday's Game

Philadelphia 3, Los Angeles 0.

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta 3, Houston 1; St. Louis 12, N.Y. Yankees 3; Florida 2, Arizona 1; Philadelphia at Los Angeles late.

Today's Games

Atlanta (Hampton 6-1) at Houston; St. Louis 3, S.F. Giants 2; Montreal (Lemieux 1-1) at Milwaukee; Tampa Bay 2-0, S.F. Giants 0; N.Y. Mets (Lopez 1-0) at St. Louis; W.A. Pizarro 2-0, S.F. Giants 0; Florida (Pavano 2-3) at Arizona; Boston 2-0, S.F. Giants 0; Pittsburgh (Benson 2-0) at San Diego; O. Perez 1-2, S.F. Giants 0; Philadelphia (Pudis 3-2) at Los Angeles; C.J. Perez 0-1, S.F. Giants 0; Chicago Cubs (Clemens 2-0) at San Francisco; Schatz 2-0, S.F. Giants 0.

ANGELS 10, INDIANS 1

Box score for Angels vs. Indians game.

CLEVELAND

Box score for Cleveland game.

EXPOS 3, BREWERS 2

Box score for Expos vs. Brewers game.

MILWAUKEE

Box score for Milwaukee game.

INDIANA vs. BOSTON

Box score for Indiana vs. Boston game.

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WCHL Playoffs

San Diego vs. Fresno

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

San Francisco

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

Los Angeles

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

San Diego

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

ORIGINES 11, TIGERS 3

Box score for Orioles vs. Tigers game.

DETROIT

Box score for Detroit game.

DETROIT

Box score for Detroit game.

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Box score for Detroit game.

PGA TOUR

PGA TOUR

Table with columns: Player, Score, Par, etc.

NHRA Point Standings

Table with columns: Driver, Points, etc.

LPGA TOUR

LPGA TOUR

Table with columns: Player, Score, Par, etc.

ATP TOUR

ATP TOUR

Table with columns: Player, Points, etc.

ATP CAM Open Comunidad Valenciana

Table with columns: Player, Points, etc.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Dallas vs. Anaheim

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

ATLANTA

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

MINNESOTA

Table with columns: Team, W, L, GB, L10, Str, Home, Away, Infr.

WTA TOUR

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Table with columns: Player, Points, etc.

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Box score for Philadelphia game.

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Maddux, Braves stay hot with 3-1 win over Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Greg Maddux pitched seven shut innings to win his third straight decision and Gary Sheffield hit a two-run single as the Atlanta Braves beat the Houston Astros 3-1 Tuesday night.

The Braves have won 12 of 14 following a 4-8 start, and Maddux (3-3) also has recovered nicely.

The right-hander lost his first start for the first time in his career, at which point he had an 11.05 ERA. But he held Houston to just one run and five hits, outpitching Roy Oswalt (2-3).

John Smoltz worked the ninth for his 10th save in as many tries.

The Royals, who at 17-6 are out to the best start in franchise history, have lost two straight to match their longest losing streak of the season.

Angels 10, Indians 1

CLEVELAND — Ramon Ortiz pitched a seven-inning and Garrett Anderson drove in three runs as Anaheim handed Cleveland its seventh straight loss.

The Indians (7-19) are off their worst start since 1969 and have their first seven-game losing streak since June 27-July 3, 1991.

Cardinals 13, Mets 3

ST. LOUIS — Matt Morris pitched six solid innings and Scott Rolen and Edgar Renteria each drove in four runs as St. Louis beat New York.

Morris (2-2) gave up two runs and five hits. Eduardo Perez homered for the Cardinals.

Twins 5, Devil Rays 3

MINNEAPOLIS — Curren Koskie homered and drove in three runs, and Kenny Rogers pitched seven strong innings to lead Minnesota.

Torii Hunter also homered for the Twins, who had scored just 20 runs in their last eight games, seven of them losses.

Rangers 16, Juan Jays 11

TORONTO — Juan Gonzalez and Carl Everett each homered twice to lead Texas over Toronto.

Alex Rodriguez and Todd Greene also hit homers for the Rangers, who have won a franchise-record nine straight against the Blue Jays.

Athletics 3, White Sox 2

CHICAGO — Chris Singleton led a pair of hitters against his old team, and Barry Zito outpitched Bartolo Colon as Oakland beat Chicago.

Zito (4-2) gave up two runs — only one earned — and four hits in seven innings, walking three and striking out three.

Colon (2-2) allowed three runs and six hits in eight innings, striking out five and walking two. It was his second straight loss.

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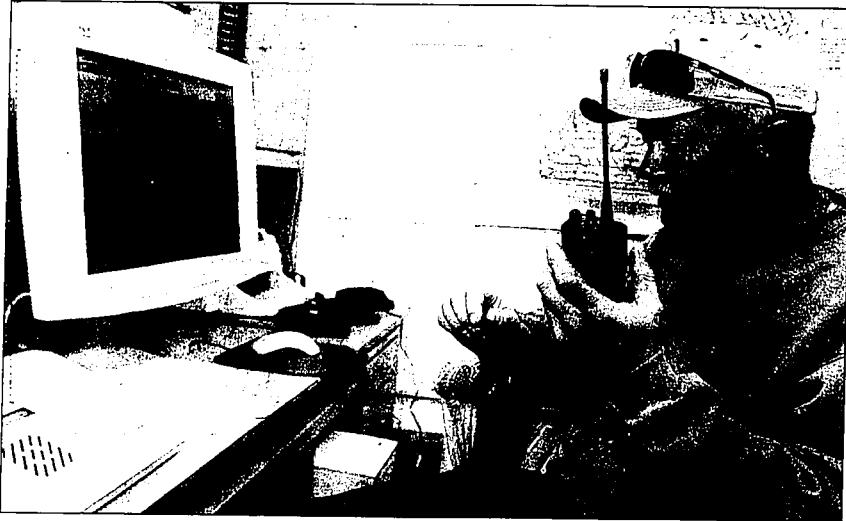
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## A watering wonder



Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course superintendent Kevin Packard uses the new Osmac radio control system to turn on sprinklers on the driving range from the grounds shack. The new sprinkler system was installed throughout the course this winter.

## T.F. Muni's new sprinkler system is state-of-the-art

By Kevin Hall  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Kevin Packard is a newbie computer geek. And that is a good thing.

Packard, in his insulated coveralls and work boots is used to a 4 a.m. wake up and on the job at the crack of dawn as superintendent of the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course.

First order of business usually involves a garden hose, shovel or sometimes, a golf club. But his new tools — a laptop, PC and hand-held radio unit — are making going to work just a little easier.

Packard and his crew are still learning the intricacies of a state-of-the-art sprinkler system — complete with weather station, satellite navigation and computer-enhanced mapping system.

But by the summer, or at least the end of it, Packard should have a whiz at watering.

Engineered by a company better known for its lawn mowers, the new Osmac radio control golf course management system by Toro has brought Muni's sprinkler system out of the Dark Ages and into the present.

"It's a whole new way of delivering water to the golf course," Packard said. "It's something else."

The technology has made delivering canal water to over 600 sprinklers spanning 5,234 yards as easy as a keystroke or a phone call.

Packard need only punch in a keycode on his terminal, then relay it by radio over a satellite network installed around the grounds. In less than 10 seconds, voila! Water is dousing a green or fairway.

"It's going to make a better golf course," he said.

Course manager Mike Hamblin said it already has, although the amount of rain this season has somewhat negated its use.

"The course is in unbelievable condition," Hamblin said. "As much as it's been raining we don't have to water it."

The new system was installed over the winter and comes with a price tag of \$156,000. A payment of \$36,000 will be made this year, and the rest will be paid off over the next four years, with the funds coming out of the golf course's budget, said Hamblin.

Workers installed new sensors in every one of the 600-plus sprinkler heads and pulled some 85 miles of wire with the new system.

Hamblin said it's money well-spent.

"We got a new sprinkler system and it's going to last a while.

"We always had a problem with overlapping. We'd have wet spots and dry spots. The coverage is going to be a little better and we're not using as much water."

"— Mike Hamblin, course manager

It's something we had to do." "One is the outdated, dysfunctional hydraulic-based system that wasted as much water as it used."

"We're able to control it a lot better," Packard said. Hamblin said with the old system, you'd never quite know if water was hitting the right spots.

"We always had a problem with overlapping," Hamblin said. "We'd have wet spots and dry spots. The coverage is going to be a little better and we're not using

as much water." The system comes with an on-site weather station, which takes conditions such as existing wind, rain and sunshine then computes it to a percentage of the moisture that is taken out of the grass.

Packard then adjusts the figure to keep his course nice and green.

In the past, Packard would have to gauge how much water the course would need, without really being able to know beyond his years of experience.

The old system would be flooded until a plunger was forced open to the sprinkler head, wasting countless thousands of gallons of water over the year in both overflow and misuse.

Now, virtually every drop of water sent through the system is accounted for.

"It's such an efficient use of water. We can see how much is being used and that helps with managing it," Packard said.

And the course is receiving its fair share of compliments, said Hamblin.

"Everybody that has played out here say the course is by far in the best condition of any in the valley," Hamblin said. "Usually Boise is way ahead of us. But our course is better than any course in Boise right now."

He used a 9-iron for the ace, which was witnessed by Hank Gandiaga, Jack Pierce, and Rocky Hoover.

Rogers hits hole in one on Clear Lake's 15th hole.

BURL — Dexter Rogers made his first-ever hole in one with an 8-iron on the 135-yard 15th.

Witnesses were Tom Fischer, Jerry Alexander and Cal Parrott.

Cutler cards hole in one at Burley with 7-wood.

BURLEY — Judy Cutler hit a hole in one on No. 17 at the

## The right exercises can help your game

Now that spring is finally here and we have ventured out on the courses for our first attempts at swinging the golf club, I'm sure we have all found some muscles that we didn't know we had.

A sports therapist told me some time ago that 65 percent of the people who play golf will eventually injure themselves by not preparing properly through stretches and exercising. I have found that as we age the exercise regimen becomes more and more important.

The major problem that affects most golfers is chronic lower back pain.

Some simple exercises can strengthen the lower abdominals and minimize lower back problems. The first are called "crunches," these are simply abbreviated sit-ups. Lay on your back with your legs at a 90 degree angle with your feet flat on the floor. With your hands behind your head, raise your body and touch your left knee with your right elbow, then repeat with the left elbow to the right knee.

Start-out with as many repetitions as you are comfortable with, slowly increasing the number of reps as your workouts progress. This can also be done by holding each rep to a count of 10. The "reverse crunches" are



PRO TIPS  
John Peterson

executed by lying on your stomach with the hands interlaced behind the head and raising the body in a series of repetitions of described in the above routine.

For upper body strength the exercises are equally simple and just as effective.

For the forearms and biceps a light weight of no more than 6 or 8 pounds is used. Holding the weight in one hand and hanging down to the side, lift the weight up to the height of the shoulder. Again, start with a small number of reps and build up as your exercise program continues.

A very easy way to strengthen the hands and wrists is to attach an old iron to a broom handle, slowly wind the cord on the handle and then slowly unwind it. This will easily let you know how good your muscle tone is.

There are a lot of ideas as to what is more beneficial for the legs, but the fact of the matter is — nothing beats plain old walking!

It just boils down to taking a half hour a day to set aside for yourself and your body. You should feel the difference in about four weeks and you will be amazed at the difference it will make in your stamina and as a result, your golf game.

John Peterson is the PGA professional at Jerome Country Club. John's column will appear regularly in Fairways and Greens.

## Aces

### Quintero chalks up two-for-one at Clear Lake

BURL — Arnulfo E. Quintero hit the double bonus hole in one and double eagle, aching the 318-yard par-4 No. 14 at Clear Lake Country Club.

Quintero used a driver for his first-ever hole in one.

Witnesses were Eron Quintero, Gary Cederberg, Chris Tarter, Gary Kennison, Ken Hutchison, Steve Hopkins and Ken Ambrose.

### Michael records fifth career hole in one

BURL — Chuck Michael made his fifth career hole in one on the 136-yard, par-3 24th at Clear Lake Country Club in Burl.

He used a 9-iron for the ace, which was witnessed by Hank Gandiaga, Jack Pierce, and Rocky Hoover.

### Rogers hits hole in one on Clear Lake's 15th hole

BURL — Dexter Rogers made his first-ever hole in one with an 8-iron on the 135-yard 15th.

Witnesses were Tom Fischer, Jerry Alexander and Cal Parrott.

### Cutler cards hole in one at Burley with 7-wood

BURLEY — Judy Cutler hit a hole in one on No. 17 at the

### Burley Golf Course, using a 7-wood, Clair Cutler witnessed the shot.

### Price makes hole in one on Burley's 150-yard No. 7

BURLEY — Jerry Price hit a hole in one with an 8-iron on the 150-yard No. 7 at Burley Golf Course.

Witnesses were Ted Sanford, Don Price and Jack Attrup.

### Shark sinks ace at Clear Lake with pitching Wedge

BURL — Keith Shark used a pitching wedge for a hole in one on the 136-yard No. 12 at Clear Lake Country Club in Burl in February.

His second career ace was witnessed by Linda Fennen and Ray and Diann Guiles.

### Burley boy gets first-ever ace in Phoenix area

BURLEY — Thirteen-year-old Kasey Kerbs, of Burley, got his first-ever hole in one at Coyote Lakes Golf Club in the Phoenix area Jan. 3, aching the 135-yard 16th hole with a 6-iron.

Witnesses were his parents, Brent and Lori, and his older brother, Kally.

Editor's note: These holes in one were recorded in January and February. March aces will be published in the next Fairways and Greens page on May 6.

## Manufacturers work harder to stock lefties' bags

Left-handed golfers have less trouble than before in getting the equipment they need

By Doug Ferguson  
Associated Press writer

The letter is almost as famous as the green jacket Mike Weir won at the Masters.

Weir was 13, just starting to shift his focus from hockey to golf, when he wrote Jack Nicklaus for advice. The young Canadian lefty wanted to know whether he would be better off swinging from the right side.

"I just told him what I would tell my youngster," Nicklaus recalled last week. "If you're a natural on one side or the other, I don't recommend changing. It was just a short letter with my advice, but I don't think I've ever sent one to a future Masters champion."

It might be the last one Nicklaus needs to send. While the number of left-handed golfers remains low — industry leaders estimate it anywhere from 4 percent to 7 percent in the United States — equipment for lefties is becoming available more quickly.

Only two years ago, it was common to see Weir, Steve Flesch, Greg Chalmers and other lefties snooping through each others' bags to see what they were playing. Hot new products made it to

the right-handers first. Lefties had to wait as long as two months.

For amateurs, it was even worse.

"When I was starting out in junior golf, the equipment issue was a bit of a tough thing," Weir said. "That was the factor there. Now it's not an issue. Fathers changing their sons to right-handed I think is no longer an issue. I think you'll see more lefties out there."

Manufacturers are doing their part, although it's hard to fault them for not making more left-handed equipment when it represents only about 5 percent of its sales.

"When you're working on a tool or a part (to build a club), it's still a fixed cost," said Titleist chief Wally Uihlein, who plays golf left-handed. "If your market is only 2 percent, you have to make a strategic decision."

Callaway Golf said 5 percent of its drivers, fairway metals, irons and putters, and 4 percent of its wedges, are made for lefties. Spokesman Larry Dorman said the company had \$9.5 million in sales last year.

"It's not a big business, but we're not losing money on it," Dorman said.

That's a big change from 20 years ago, when left-handed versions of a club would not become available until the second year of production — if at all.

That's what led Walter Tripovich to start a national mailing house in Vermont that caters exclusively to left-handed players.

"I got frustrated traveling and not finding any left-handed equipment," Tripovich said. "I opened up a place to take care of it. There's more available than there used to be, but manufacturers are still two to six months behind."

Dick Spange has a similar operation in Florida that he started two years ago.

"Although there is more equipment available today than ever before, from a left-handed standpoint, it's still not the equivalent of what right-handers get," Spange said. "The obvious reason is supply and demand."

Left-handed equipment accounts for about 10 percent of sales at Edwin Watts, one of the largest golf retail stores in the country. Computer-assisted design technology has helped speed the production of left-handed equipment, although there is still a waiting period from when right-handed equipment hits the market.

"It is used to frustrate us, and I know it. Frustrated left-handed golfers," said John Watts, direc-

tor of sales at company headquarters in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. "It doesn't seem to be that long any more. Manufacturers have responded."

One problem that remains is the selection of left-handed clubs — again, a result of the small market share.

Uihlein said Titleist might not make its 983 series of drivers in every loft for the left-handed player.

Watts said that theory also applies to putters and wedges. He said the forged wedge by Roger Cleveland is available in seven lofts for right-handed players.

"For left-handers, it's available in three different lofts," he said. "From a manufacturing standpoint, it's hard to blame them when you look at the small percent of sales. When you take into consideration how few 48-degree wedges are sold, then flip that to a left-handed club, the percentage really shrinks."

Tripovich and Spange, the left-handed club salesmen, don't expect to see an increase in left-handed golfers, although they say improved availability will keep newcomers to the game from switching to the right side.

Weir became the first lefty to win a green jacket, beating Phil Mickelson as the first to win a major, and joined Bob Charles (1963 British Open) as the only left-handers to win a major championship.

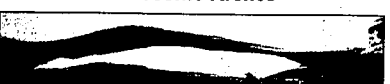
## Fairways and greens

To place a listing in the club calendar or to report a hole in one.

- Call 735-3239 or 1-800-658-3883.
- Ext. 239.
- E-mail: khal@magisvalley.com



## Awesome Arches



In Thursday's Outdoors section.

COMICS

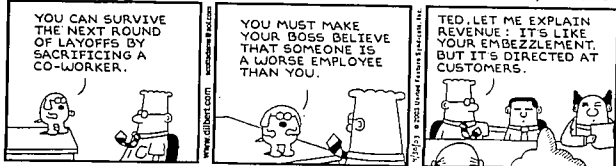
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



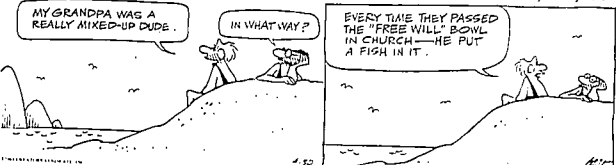
Dilbert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Garfield

By Jim Davis



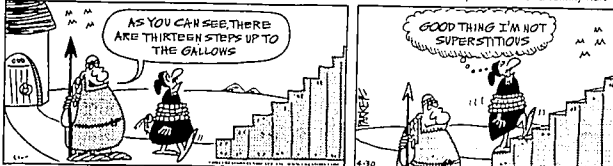
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



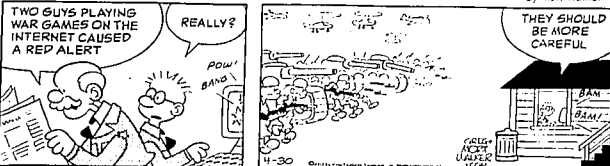
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



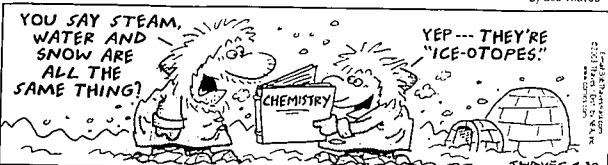
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane

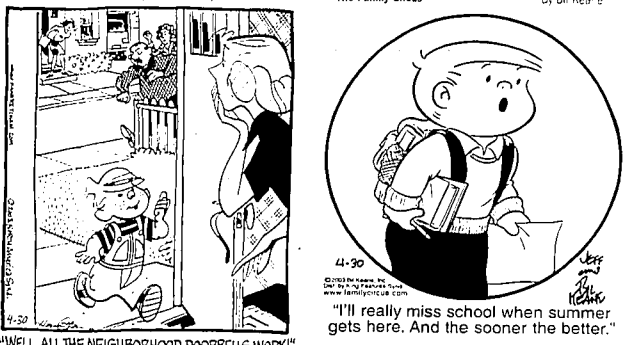


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

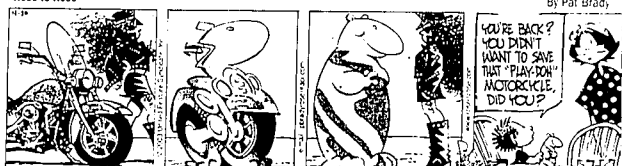
The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brad



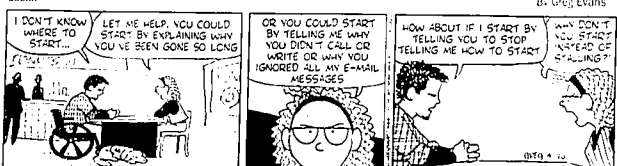
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans

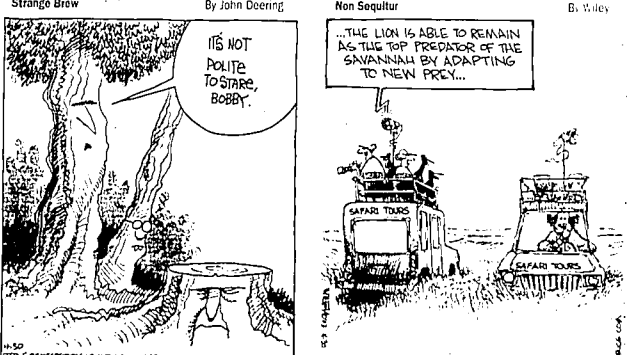


Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By V. Veit





## BRIEFLY IN MONEY

### Smith's Dairy ceases home delivery service

**BUIHL** - Don't expect the milk man anymore. Until this week, Magic Valley was one of the last areas where folks could get milk delivered to their doorsteps.

But Smith's Dairy has ceased its longstanding home-delivery service, the Buhl business said in a letter to customers.

"Because of economics we have made the decision to stop our home delivery routes," owners Ed and Deryllyn Neel wrote in the letter.

"It was not a decision that we took lightly. It was simply a business decision that we had to make," they wrote.

The storefront on Buhl's Broadway Avenue South remains open for ice cream sales. Deryllyn Neel declined further comment.

### Dell likely will remain tight with stock options

**AUSTIN, Texas** - Dell Computer Corp. stock options were hard to come by last year, and they are likely to be even scarcer this year.

The personal computer maker granted one-third fewer options last year than it did the year before. In the year that ended Jan. 31, Dell granted 84 million options, compared with 126 million the preceding year, according to its annual report filed this week with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Earlier this month, Chief Financial Officer Jim Schneider said Dell plans to grant about half as many options this year as it did in the past year.

Dell stopped granting as many options, its employees stopped parting with the ones they already have.

With Dell's stock price hovering in the mid-\$20s, industry executives exercised a record low 22 million options last year.

The number of shares of restricted stock Dell handed out also plummeted, from 21 million to 300,000. Restricted shares are generally given to employees - generally top executives - that can be sold only after a certain time period. Options give employees the right to purchase stock in the future at the share's price on the day granted.

Dell's retreat from generous stock-option and restricted-stock grants may just be a reflection of the current wage-heavy, tech employment market. It doesn't have to pay as much to keep or retain employees.

Dell is also counting help preparing for a stock buyback industry. Dell if the accounting industry decides stock options must be treated as a compensation expense. If Dell - a Twin Falls call-center employer - had been forced to pay for stock options in 2003, its profit would have dropped by more than a third, or \$723 million, to \$1.4 billion.

### Rupert businesses offer Mother's Day drawing

**RUPERT** - The Organization of Rupert Businesses is offering a Mother's Day promotion.

Customers may register at participating merchants by choosing a four-digit combination for a chance to win a diamond and gold tennis bracelet valued at \$799. The prize will be awarded at 2 p.m. May 10 at the Rupert Square gazebo.

For a list of participating merchants, see advertisements in the Times-News on Friday, Sunday, May 7 and May 9.

### Burley-area businesses donate to park effort

**BURLEY** - This week several Burley-area businesses are donating a portion of sales to support the building of Storybook Park.

The playground, being paid for with donations and grants, will be in the city park formerly called West Park. Upcoming events:

• Now through May 7 - Jensen Jewelers has a "Mother's Day Gemstone Charity Promotion." Children under 12 can purchase gemstones for \$1 to give to their mothers. Proceeds go to Storybook Park.

• Today - A Child's World will donate 5 percent of sales to Storybook Park and another 5 percent to the Mini-Cassia Child Abuse Prevention Team.

# Revenue slips at Jackpot casinos

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - A casino company blamed bad weather and the southern Idaho economy for lower revenues at its Jackpot casinos just south of the Idaho border.

Las Vegas-based Ameristar Casinos Inc. owns and operates six properties in Missouri, Iowa, Mississippi and Nevada. The Nevada casinos are major Magic Valley employers.

Ameristar has another local tie through its chief executive officer, Craig H. Neilsen. The former Twin Falls resident also is the developer of property on the Snake River Canyon's south rim

| Ameristar in Jackpot          |          | Three Months ended March 31 |  |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|--|
|                               | 2002     | 2003                        |  |
| Net revenue                   | \$13,895 | \$13,631                    |  |
| Operating income              | \$2,566  | \$1,656                     |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | \$984    | \$1,032                     |  |
| EBITDA                        | \$3,550  | \$2,688                     |  |
| Operating income margin       | 18.5%    | 12.1%                       |  |
| EBITDA margin                 | 25.5%    | 19.7%                       |  |

*EBITDA is earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA margin is EBITDA as a percentage of net revenues.*

in Twin Falls. Ameristar on Tuesday afternoon announced these company-wide financial results for the first quarter, which ended March 31:

• Record net revenues of \$18.5 million, a 15.8 percent increase from first quarter 2002.

• Growth was driven primarily by increased revenues at the new

St. Charles, Mo., facility, which opened Aug. 6, 2002.

• Operating income of just \$3.0 million, a decline of 1.1 percent.

Ameristar said operating income was hurt by a \$2.1 million increase in health insurance expense, and by a \$4.9 million increase in depreciation expense largely as a result of the St. Charles facility opening and slot equipment purchased at all of the company's properties since second quarter 2002.

• Record EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) of \$3.0 million, up 9.9 percent.

• Net income of \$11.7 million. Please see CASINOS, Page E2

## Two retailers sign on for north T.F. development

### Best Buy, Sportsman's Warehouse ink deals

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - A developer with prime north-Twin Falls real estate on Tuesday announced lease deals with an electronics megaretailer and a large-format sporting goods chain.

Best Buy Co. Inc. and Sportsman's Warehouse Inc. will join a growing congregation of stores lined up on the Snake River Canyon's south rim, developer Neilson & Co. said.

The company's 40-acre Canyon Park straddles Blue Lakes Boulevard North along the canyon rim. Since it lined up its first tenant in December 2000, Canyon Park has attracted 10 tenants. It has become home to retail outlets which share a shopping center and to four restaurants and a bank, all in free-standing structures.

Best Buy will lease an existing 24,000-square-foot retail space at the west end of the retail complex that houses T.J. Maxx, Michaels, Famous Footwear and Old Navy, said Tina Laper, who handles Canyon Park leasing inquiries from Neilson & Co's Twin Falls office. The west space is set to be completed as just a shell so far, Neilson & Co. will do tenant improvements shortly.

Sportsman's Warehouse will occupy a new, free-standing structure of more than 45,000 square feet to be built on bare ground east of T.J. Maxx Laper said.

She said the developer owns all the buildings and property in Canyon Park, including the other three parcels and buildings owned by HOP, Golden Corral and Zions Bank.

Both of the newcomers are headed for Canyon Park East, the northern end of the project that's east of Blue Lakes.

And both earlier this year announced intentions to open.

Please see DEVELOPMENT, Page E1

# DRAGGING DEBT ALONG

## Boomers carry heavy debt load, and many look to leave it behind before retirement

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** - A new car would be so nice - it's \$29,000 and the interest rate is practically zero. Or a swimming pool - that would be fun, and the bank is offering a home equity line to help finance it.

And a weekend in Jamaica costs only \$700 for two, hotel included. Just put it on a credit card.

Many boomers have enjoyed an unparalleled standard of living, but financial planners say their boomer clients almost uniformly vow to retire their debts before they retire themselves, recognizing it as an obstacle to an enjoyable, active lifestyle when they finish working.

"As they get older I do see a very focused effort on wanting to be debt-free," said Adam Van Dyke, a certified financial planner in Irvine, Calif., whose 275 clients are mostly boomers between 40 and 60.

"They realize they're behind on their net-asset accumulation goal. And they take a look at their credit card debt or car loans and see that getting in the way," he said.

Boomer Jeff Cartwright said he refuses to battle debt when he's old and borrows only reluctantly. Cartwright, 45, and his wife sent their three children to private school and are paying down more than \$40,000 for tuition, plus \$120,000 left on their home mortgage.

Both debts will be gone before either retires, said Cartwright, a consultant in Franklin, Tenn.

"I want to give my kids some advantages, some things I never had, and then I want them to get the (heck) out of my house," he said. "When you retire, your income is essentially fixed. And you want that income to be able to go to things you want to do, not paying off some debt."



Jeff Cartwright, a 45-year-old management consultant, stands outside his Franklin, Tenn., home April 22. Behind him is his 1996 Nissan Altima, which he bought used, and his home which he just refinanced with a 10-year mortgage to eliminate his debt as quickly as possible.

Debt has lost many of the moralistic qualities Americans have historically ascribed it. Boomers' Depression-era parents found debt a rare and necessary evil, employed only to buy a house or perhaps a car. Not so their children, who are deeply enmeshed in an era of paying with plastic for lunch at Burger King.

Easy terms and an expansion of credit to virtually all income levels have left Americans awash in revolving debt - credit card and other monthly balances now top \$1.7 trillion. And boomers have racked up a sizable chunk of that amount, spurred by an optimism financial planners have found surprising, especially given the huge losses in jobs and stock values the past few years.

But as they age, many boomers grow fearful about the size of their debt and the prospect that it will muddy their retirements, planners say.

Among those enrolled in credit-counseling programs, average revolving debt has surged to \$16,000 - more than double the \$7,000 average carried in the mid 1990s, according to AmeriCorp, a payment services provider to 300,000 people enrolled with consumer counseling agencies.

Boomers have about \$1,200 more debt, on average, than the general population, said Mike Crosson, president of the Columbia, Md.-based firm.

"On an unsecured basis, the debt-to-income ratio of a baby boomer went from about 44 percent in 1998 to above 50 percent today," he said.

But people tend to retire their debt as they age - less than 4 percent of those paying through a credit-counseling firm are 65 or older, AmeriCorp said.

Scott Kay, an Atlanta financial planner, said his clients, mostly boomers in their 50s, are looking to eliminate debt as quickly as possible, even when retirement planning isn't their prime consideration.

"It's not even so much to make the cash flow work better, but it's the security. It gives them a bigger margin for (financial) safety," Kay said. "When someone is 36 or 40, they have 25 years to work, so if they need it, (Debt) is just not that big an issue."

Beyond the financial ability to pay, some boomers say a lack of debt offers peace of mind - a treasured attribute of old age.

Angela Mercier, a paralegal student in Marietta, Ga., said she and her boomer husband strive to pay their credit card balances off in full each month, although she noted that some of their friends enjoy more affluent lifestyles.

"But I don't see how they can sleep at night," Mercier said of her friends with sizable installment debt.

## Coors reports lower net income on higher sales

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - Colorado-based Adolph Coors Co. on Tuesday announced lower-than-expected net income and per-share earnings for the first quarter on higher consolidated net sales, citing interest and pension costs, bad Colorado weather and other factors.

Coors' brewing business has elevator and research operations in Magic Valley and buys barley from local growers.

For the quarter, which ended March 31, net sales increased 11.0 percent from the year-ago first quarter, Coors said. Sales volume rose 6.3 percent. The main driver was an additional five weeks of results this year from the Coors Brewers Limited business, which was bought Feb. 2, 2002.

Coors posted quarterly net income of just \$800,000, or 2 cents per share - down from year-ago net income of \$27.2 million.

"Although consumer demand

for our brands was encouraging on both sides of the Atlantic during the first quarter of 2003, our financial results for the quarter reflect challenges in several key areas of our business," Chairman Peter H. Coors said in a statement. "Our main challenges were widely anticipated, including higher interest and pension expense, a seasonal loss for the first five weeks of the year in our U.K. business, and reduced profits related to lower Americas shipments to wholesalers in the first quarter."

A major snowstorm in Colorado late in the quarter made the effect of lower shipments greater than anticipated.

W. Leo Kiehl III, president and chief executive, said: "The first quarter of this year was even tougher than we thought it would be. However, despite a challenging start to the year, we believe that the first quarter is not indicative of our potential for this year. U.S. sales to retail trees in the first quarter offer encouragement that our new U.S. sales and marketing initia-

tives are gaining traction, and our Coors Light business in Canada continues to perform well."

Other challenges, he said, are likely to diminish as the year progresses. The company expects global pension expense to be up \$6 million to \$7 million again in the second quarter - but up only about \$3 million per quarter in the second half of 2003.

Financial results from another company with Magic Valley operations:

**Countrywide Financial Corp.** California-based financial services provider Countrywide Financial Corp. on Tuesday said first-quarter net earnings reached \$326 million, up 95 percent over the year-ago \$168 million.

The quarter ended March 31. Earnings per diluted share of \$2.44 shot up 85 percent over the year-ago \$1.32, marking the eighth consecutive quarter of record earnings per share, said Countrywide Financial, whose

subsidiary Countrywide Home Loans Inc. has a retail office in Twin Falls.

The mortgage banking business reached a milestone of its own: pre-tax earnings of \$354 million - 85 percent over last year's \$192 million.

Countrywide, like others in the industry, capitalized on favorable interest rates.

Loan fundings increased 133 percent over last year to \$102 billion. March's pipeline of applications closed at a record \$59 billion - \$10 billion higher than at the end of December - "signaling robust near-term production performance," the company said.

The servicing portfolio, meanwhile, climbed to \$502 billion. Countrywide's directors declared a bigger cash dividend of 13 cents per common share for the first quarter, payable June 2 to shareholders of record May 14.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or at virginia@magvalley.com.

## COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

**BOISE** - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

**Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000**

Tina Lloyd Bradley, 267 Division St. Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-31.

Dora Elena Torres, also known as Dora Elena Torres and Dora Elena Torres, 400 Second St., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-32.

Marcia Kay Gorringer, also known as Marcia Kay Dyer, 1445 Conant Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-40.

Nicholas Martin Rodriguez, 1770 Grandview Lane, Bowle, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-41.

Russell Eugene Stockton and Michelle Kaye Stockton, also known as Michelle Kaye Stockton, 1300 W. Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-42.

Shane A. Ruffing, done business as Ruffing AutoBooks and Pam and Handy Motors, 4000 N. 10th St., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 100-199 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-43.

Roberta Rose Garcia, 430 Fourth Ave. W., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-44.

Jill N. W. Jerome, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case No. 03-07-45.

**Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000**

Patricia M. Ferras, also known as Patricia Ferras, 2409 N. Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case No. 03-07-43.

Please see BANKRUPTCIES, Page E3

MONEY

Stocks gain on upbeat earnings, economic news

Confidence in economy seems to be growing

NEW YORK (AP) — A succession of better-than-expected earnings reports sent stocks climbing for a second day Tuesday as investors grew more convinced that the work is over for the economy and Wall Street. A surge in consumer confidence fed the buying momentum, and allowed the market to overcome several waves of profit-taking.

Upbeat profit reports again flowed in from big companies this time, Northrop Grumman, DuPont and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

"We basically are on a bit more solid footing than we have been in quite a while," said Stewart Goldman, chief market strategist at Weeden & Co. in Greenwich, Conn.

And the uptick in consumer sentiment is "the good reason for people to be enthusiastic," said Brian Bruce, director of asset investments at PanAgora Global Management in Boston.

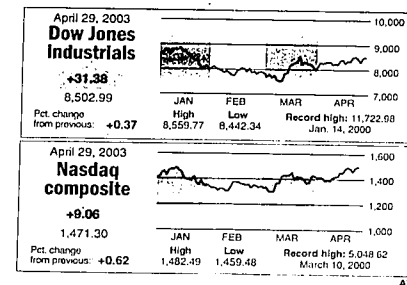
The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 31.38, or 0.4 percent, at 8,502.99, having climbed 165.26 on Monday.

The broader market also advanced. The Nasdaq composite index rose 9.06, or 0.6 percent, to 1,471.30. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 10.0, or 0.3 percent, to close at 917.84.

Investors seemed torn between caution, which manifested itself in profit-taking, and a desire to be part of the market's latest advance.

"After the rally we have had, people have become a lot more selective about their purchases. The cliché is, 'The easy money has been made at this point,'" said Brian Pears, head equity trader at Victory Capital Management in Cleveland.

Tuesday's economic news was unconvincing. The Conference Board reported that consumer confidence rose sharply in April as war worries evaporated due to the swift outcome in Iraq. The industry group said its Consumer Confidence Index rose to 81.0 from a revised 61.4 in March, much better than the reading of



70 that analysts predicted. Investors pay close attention to the mood of consumers, whose spending accounts for two-thirds of the economy.

There was also good news about U.S. workers' wages and benefits, which the Labor Department said rose by 1.3 percent in the first quarter. It was the biggest increase in nearly 13 years and almost double the 0.7 percent gain seen in the fourth quarter of 2002.

The market sees an increase in workers' pay as a potential boost for the economy. Over the past few weeks, companies have reported surprisingly strong profits and economic readings have turned more positive, prompting investors to buy stocks with renewed confidence. Since mid-April, when most companies began reporting results in earnest, the Dow has risen about 2 percent. Meanwhile, the Nasdaq has gained about 3.2 percent since the S&P has increased nearly 3 percent.

"Investors were bracing for a slowdown in the economy... If anything, earnings are coming in a bit better than expected and that is alleviating some uneasiness," Goldman said. Among the gainers, Northrop

Grumman climbed \$2.76 to \$89.29 after posting first-quarter earnings that were 35 cents a share higher than Wall Street expected and boosting its 2003

DuPont rose 64 cents to \$42.37 on quarterly profits that surpassed analysts' expectations by 7 cents a share. Bristol-Myers Squibb advanced 85 cents to \$25.21 after reporting earnings that were a penny a share higher than analysts anticipated.

But Alliance Capital fell 85 cents to \$31.50 on first-quarter earnings that missed analysts' expectations by 5 cents a share. The Russell 2000 index, the barometer of smaller company stocks, rose 0.58, or 0.2 percent, to 395.78.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners about 7 to 6 on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated volume came to 1.97 billion shares, up from 1.62 billion on Monday.

Overseas, France's CAC-40 and Britain's FTSE 100 each declined 0.3 percent, while Germany's DAX index lost 1.5 percent. Japanese financial markets were closed Tuesday for a national holiday and were expected to reopen Wednesday.

Furniture maker lays off 60

POST FALLS (AP) — Furniture manufacturer Flexco, Kootenai County's largest manufacturing employer, has laid off 60 hourly workers because of falling orders.

The layoffs leaves the office furniture-making company with about 440 employees, 360 of whom are hourly.

"Our incoming orders started coming in slow, starting the first of the year. It finally got to the point we didn't see things changing anytime soon," said Stewart Long, general manager of Flexco, formerly named Harpers.

The employees laid off were from the production work force and were earning average hourly wages of about \$12.25. Long said the laid-off workers would be given preference when the company begins rehiring, but they would lose seniority.

The company is a subsidiary of Kimball International of Fort Wayne, Ind. Kimball reported a net loss of \$4.6 million for the quarter that ended Dec. 31.

Casinos

Continued from E1

managed to achieve record net revenues and EBITDA despite adverse weather conditions, a sluggish economy, construction disruption at Ameristar Kansas City and the war in Iraq. "We're proud of the significant improvement in operating performance at Ameristar St. Charles and are pleased that our strategic revenue enhancement and cost reduction initiatives are

proving to be successful. We are confident that these strategic initiatives will result in continued improvement in operating results at all of our properties in the future."

Here's a rundown on how Ameristar's Jackpot properties — Cactus Petes Resort Casino and The Horseshoe Hotel & Casino — performed during the quarter.

Net revenues in Jackpot slipped to \$13.6 million, down 2.2 percent from \$13.9 million of first quarter 2002. Ameristar's statement blamed worse weather conditions and "the sluggish economy in southern Illinois."

The Jackpot properties saw operating income fall 34.6 percent and EBITDA drop 25.0 percent from a year earlier. Ameristar largely attributes the decreases to a 60.0 percent increase in health insurance expense.

Also Tuesday, Ameristar issued its pre-

dictions for companywide second-quarter earnings: consolidated operating income of \$30 million to \$32 million, EBITDA of \$46 million to \$48 million (given anticipated depreciation expense of \$16 million) and diluted earnings per share of 31-35 cents.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or by virginia@timesnews.com.

New York Stock Exchange

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MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists various futures contracts like Soybean, Corn, Wheat, etc.

CHICAGO (API) - Futures trading on the Chicago Board of Trade

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists Chicago Board of Trade futures like Soybean, Corn, Wheat, etc.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists livestock futures like Cattle, Hogs, etc.

NEW YORK (API) - Spot nonferrous metal prices

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists spot prices for various metals like Copper, Aluminum, etc.

Development

Continued from E1. We're just excited to have a chance to go to Twin Falls. It's a place we've wanted to go for quite some time," Utgaard said.

Fossil Fuels

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists fossil fuel futures like Oil, Natural Gas, etc.

BEANS

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists bean futures like Soybean, etc.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists grain futures like Corn, Wheat, etc.

SOYBEAN

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists soybean futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists potato futures.

METALS & CURRENCY

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists metals and currency prices.

Bankruptcies

Continued from E1. Am J Perkins, 61 Orchard Ave., Eden individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, D-9 creditors, assets \$200,000, liabilities \$200,000, Case No. 03-04731.

Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Continued from E1. Robert A. Grinnell, also known as Bob Grinnell, 2114 N. 2nd St., Boise, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, D-9 creditors, assets \$100,000, liabilities \$500,000, Case No. 03-04732.

NEW YORK (API) - Sugar futures trading on the New York Board of Trade

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists sugar futures.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists sugar futures.

NEW YORK (API) - Money Market

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists money market rates.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Continued from E1. Jeffrey Robert Mason and Heather Marie Mason, 225 S. Howard Drive, Boise, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, D-9 creditors, assets \$100,000, liabilities \$500,000, Case No. 03-04733.

Chapter 13, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Continued from E1. James H. Finch, also known as Jim Finch and Judith Ann Finch, also known as Judith Finch, 8120 E. 1st Ave., Boise, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, D-9 creditors, assets \$50,000, liabilities \$100,000, Case No. 03-04734.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds with columns for Name, Share Class, and other details.

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**EDUCATION**  
**Shoshone School District**  
 is accepting applications for a fourth grade teacher for the 2003-04 school year. Salary and benefits will be in accordance with the 2003-04 negotiated salary schedule. Closing date May 15, 2003. Contact Sharon Kuroki, Shoshone School District #12, P.O. Box 20, Shoshone, ID 83452 or phone (208)986-2332.

**EDUCATION**  
**Murghough School District**  
 #418 is seeking an Elementary Teacher. Please call for an application or send resume to Michelle Gappis, P.O. Box 117, Murghough ID 83334 (208)432-2233.

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 Exp. swather operators. Call 208-224-7148.

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 Wanted exp. farm machinery operators. 224-7148.

**FARMER**  
 Larry Oregon ranch needs qualified farmer, who appreciates very good mechanical help, needs ability to drive equipment & feeding cattle. Must have good work ethic, maintenance & good wages. Responding to Good Work Employment Group, 1000 Westons Road, Call 541-493-2708.

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**ASSISTANT**  
 Apply in person at Inclusion South, Inc. 450 Falls Ave. #101 Twin Falls, ID. No phone calls please.

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**LABORERS**  
 Immediate openings. Twin Falls area for night and day duty positions in food processing & manufacturing. Shifts available for operators, sanitation, processing, packaging, and maintenance. For applications and interview call 735-5003 or apply directly at 600 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

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**INSTRUCTORS**  
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**MANAGER**  
 Hotel General Manager. Twin Falls limited service hotel. 10 months, bonus program. Previous GM of Asst. Mgr. or DOS with managerial background required. E-mail resume to: hollingsworth@prodigy.net or fax: 732-521-4447.

**MANAGER**  
 Assistant Manager. Onas Step 4 Co. Governmental. We are looking for outstanding personnel to join our customer service team. Work for a modern growing company with good pay & benefits. 45-40K, paid vacation, health/insur. & more. plus travel benefits. 136 Metron St. Twin Falls, Idaho 83301. E-mail: 735-222-2222.

**MANAGER**  
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**MANAGER**  
 Immediate Amusement is seeking a qualified manager to supervise operations at a regional location in the Twin Falls Area. Customer service, inventory control, and maintenance are a plus. Must have minimum 10 years of amusement industry experience. Respond to: 160 Eastland Dr. P.O. Box T, Twin Falls, ID 83303. Attn: Manager.

**MANAGER**  
 Territory Manager. Experienced in Wholesale equipment to call on farm equipment & outdoor power equipment dealers in Idaho & Utah. Person should have a minimum of 5 yrs exp. Salary, commission, expense paid, plus travel benefits. Email: Kim@sallicom.com. Call 317-745-6232.

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Company will provide all training. Bilingual in Spanish/English/Spanish preferred.

Apply in person: Continental Loans 1711 Overland Suite B, Burley, ID or fax resume to: Paul 208-228-2747.

**MARKETING DIRECTOR**  
 Apple Valley, Inc. is seeking a Marketing Director for the southern Idaho Associated Vendors. Qualifications include: minimum 10 years of marketing, and proven track record of successful, competitive salary. DOE. Send resume with salary requirement to P.O. Box 1698, Boise, ID 83701 or fax same to 208-939-7784.

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**OFFICE MANAGER**  
 Ag Weekly/Farm Times has an immediate opening for an Office Manager. The ideal candidate will have ag-business and office experience. If you would like to work for the Intermountain West's largest agricultural newspaper, send your resume to: The Times-News, Attn: Janet Griffin, P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548.

**REMEMBER**  
 That birthday day you placed some time ago in The Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your pictures. Stop by the customer Service Dept today!

**MILL OPERATOR**  
 Western Stocking has an immediate opening for a Mill Operator at our Burley feed store and mill. Individual will perform a variety of duties including operating bagging equipment, fork lift, load/unload product, maintenance and clean up. Prior experience is preferred. Must have ability to read and comprehend simple instructions. Has to be able to apply to move 1000 pounds and climb ladders. Must be willing to work varied shifts and overtime Saturdays and overtime in person to 1001 W Main St. Burley, ID. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Pre-employment drug screen required.

**NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION**  
 The Times-News is accepting applications for a full-time District Manager in our Twin Falls Office. The successful candidate must have a minimum of 8-10 years work experience, be dependable, have excellent verbal and written communication skills, and enjoy working with youth. An outgoing personality is a plus. This entry level management position includes responsibilities in managing youth and adult centers, sales, promotions, and providing excellent customer service. If you are interested, come in and fill out an application by 4/30/03. The Times-News Attn: Dan Walock P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303. A DRUG FREE WORKPLACE.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
 Pen Riding job opening looking for a **ConAgria Cattle Feeding Company** in Malta, Full benefits, 401k plan, Insurance. Please call 208-645-2221, 208-645-2221, ConAgria Cattle Feeding Co. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. A drug screen is required prior to employment.

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE**  
**Seminia Vegetable Seeds** is accepting applications for AR within the pea and bean-breeding program. Responsibilities include management of field trials, greenhouses, seed increase and farming personnel. Additional supervisory/management responsibilities dependent on qualifications and experience. BS in an ag related field or equivalent experience required. 5 years experience desirable. This is a FT position with benefits. Seminia is an EOE with a drug and tobacco free work environment. Apply or send resume to: Seminia, 2110 Highway 26, Filer Idaho 83328 (5 mi. W of Twin Falls) or Hwy 301 Fax 539-666-3198. E-mail: jobplacement@seminia.com

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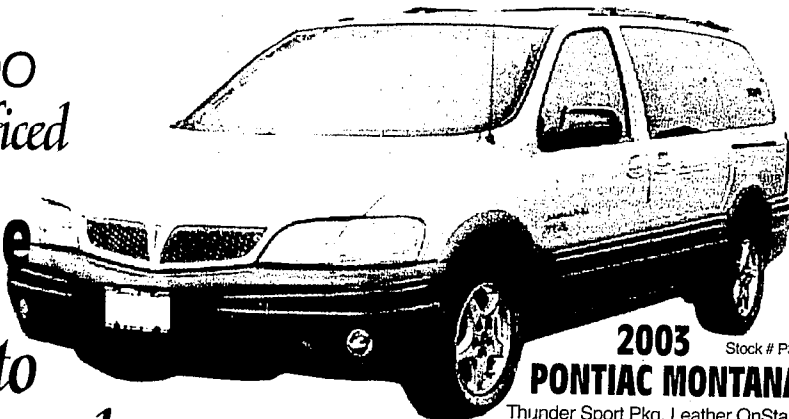


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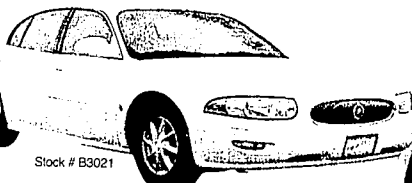
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LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3005**

**\$7988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$139 MO.**  
Stock #837H. 66 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.

**2002 DODGE INTREPID**



Stock #3765, #3775, #4275, #4285 & #5275

- Power Windows • Power Locks
- Air Conditioning • Tilt Steering • Cruise Control • Alloy Wheels • Low Miles

**SPECIALY PRICED AT ... 5 TO CHOOSE FROM**

NOW **\$11788** OR **\$0 DOWN \$184 MO.**

72 months at 3.99% APR. OAC.

**2000 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB 4x4**



Recently Returned Off State of Idaho Lease.

Stock #E778, #E786, #E795, #E911 & #E945

**SPECIALY PRICED AT ... 5 TO CHOOSE FROM**

NOW **\$14988** OR **\$0 DOWN \$249 MO.**

72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1999 FORD WINDSTAR**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning • Cruise
- Power Windows • Power Locks • Cassette • Rear Air

RETAIL PRICE **\$11072**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3084**

**\$7988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$139 MO.**  
Stock #2938. 66 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**2001 TOYOTA COROLLA**

- Automatic Transmission
- Air Conditioning • AM/FM CD

RETAIL PRICE **\$12675**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$2687**

**\$9988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$169 MO.**  
Stock #4613. 66 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1999 FORD RANGER 4x4**

- 5-Speed Transmission • Air Conditioning
- AM/FM CD • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$13099**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3111**

**\$9988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$169 MO.**  
Stock #8700. 66 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**2002 FORD TAURUS**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • Cassette • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$14233**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3745**

**\$10488** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$169 MO.**  
Stock #8937. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**2000 GMC 1500**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- AM/FM CD • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$14933**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3945**

**\$10988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$179 MO.**  
Stock #4744. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**2002 CHEVY MALIBU**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • CD • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$15742**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3754**

**\$11988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$189 MO.**  
Stock #5475. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1997 CHEVY 2500 4x4**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • Cassette • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$15685**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3897**

**\$11988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$189 MO.**  
Stock #8564. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1998 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4x4**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • Cassette • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$18828**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3841**

**\$12988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$209 MO.**  
Stock #6628. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1998 HONDA CRV 4x4**

- 5-Speed Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • CD • Cruise

RETAIL PRICE **\$17888**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$3850**

**\$13988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$229 MO.**  
Stock #8449. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.



**1999 FORD F250 4x4**

- Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Locks • CD • Cruise

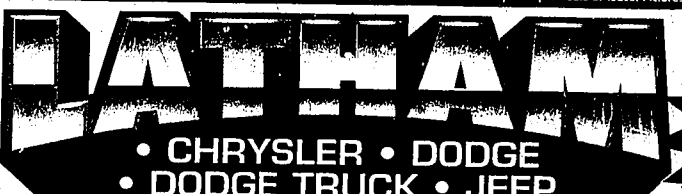
RETAIL PRICE **\$19080**  
LATHAM DISCOUNT **\$4102**

**\$14988** OR  
**\$0 DOWN \$239 MO.**  
Stock #8799. 72 months at 5.50% APR. OAC.

- Tax, Title (\$8.00) and Dealer DOC Fee (\$131.00) Are Not Included In Sale Prices or Payments. O.A.C. Units subject to prior sale or lease. Pictures for illustration only.



Good thru Tuesday May 6, 2003



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