

# The Times

## GOOD MORNING

### WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy and cool. High 30, low 25.

Page A2

### MAGIC VALLEY



Shiny and (almost) new: Jerome County launches its own ambulance service.

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### MONEY

Pay up: Bankruptcy courts get tougher on debtors, directing them to repay more debts.

Page B4

### COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Worth the trouble: Despite viruses, bugs and crashes, digital technology is a treasure.

Page B8

### SPORTS

Playing sweet: The Utah Jazz defeated division rival Dallas on Monday night.

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### OPINION

Peeking at prices: Counties' effort to disclose real estate sales is bad for taxpayers, today's editorial says.

Page A10

### COMING UP



Where's the beef?

A prize-winning Wendell cook is keeping the grill hot, and is ready to share her recipes. Wednesday in The Times-News

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# 'It was just an explosion'

## Avalanche survivors describe attempt to rescue couple

The Times-News and The Associated Press

FAIRFIELD - Groggy from sleep, Nick Kocan thought the loud rumble and shock wave was just another gust of wind hitting the log cabin.

Just down the hall, Jenna Rovig, formerly of Bull, awoke screaming when she heard the crash. At first she thought a longtime fear was coming true - that the rustic bunk bed where she slept with her husband, Kelby, and their 5-year-old son was collapsing.

But when Kelby tried to push back the covers to climb out of bed, he realized the noise came from something much more serious.



Robert A. Busch and Marsha Landolt, avalanche victims

Nearly 3 feet of snow covered their bedspread. The floor was nearly level with their mattress. And as he looked out the second-story window, the clear night sky revealed the truth. Avalanche.

Please see SURVIVORS, Page A2



Nicholas Kocan, left, listens at a Monday news conference in Boise as one-time Murtaugh resident Kelby Rovig describes the avalanche that swept through the mountain cabin of Robert Busch and his wife Marsha Landolt.

# County copes with media crush

## After avalanche, Camas becomes focus of attention

By Amy Ballard Times-News correspondent

FAIRFIELD - Camas County's population is so small that after midnight, calls to the sheriff's department are forwarded to the home of one of the two full-time dispatchers.

And well-meaning residents sometimes call the sheriff's office just out of curiosity, tying up the two phone lines.

"We understand why. Everybody knows everybody, and we're like one big family," said Relva McGinnis, one of the full-time dispatchers.

But in the wake of the avalanche that killed two people at Soldier Mountain early Friday, the Camas County Sheriff's Office has become a hub of national attention. The county has a population of only about 1,000, and the community is not used to dealing with the media crush.

"I can't begin to tell you how many different media sources have contacted us," McGinnis said. "It was nonstop."

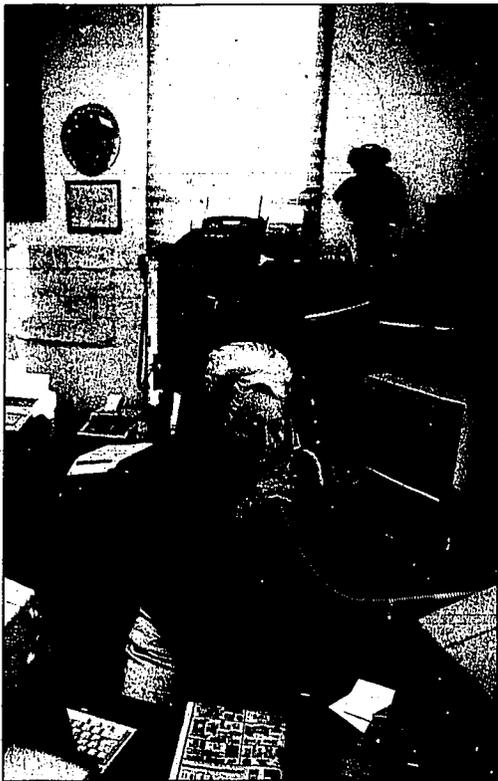
Calls have come from around the country, including ABC-TV's "Good Morning America," from the other networks and from "Inside Edition." TV stations from Boise and Salt Lake City called, as did 10 to 12 media outlets from Seattle. Seattle media were particularly interested in the avalanche because their audience was mourning Marsha Landolt, dean of graduates at the University of Washington, and her husband, Robert A. Busch.

McGinnis said she reported to work two hours early on the day of the avalanche.

"From 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday, the phones were ringing off the hook with media people wanting more information," McGinnis said.

Camas County Sheriff Dave Sanders had given the dispatchers a one-paragraph statement with the only information that was to be released until the families of the victims had been informed.

"For the most part the media have been very good," McGinnis said. "We could only release so much. You want to keep things private for the family. It's about them, not us. Sometimes people didn't understand that. "But it is news, and it is tragic. People do need to be informed so



Relva McGinnis, a dispatcher with the Camas County Sheriff's Department, answers calls Monday. McGinnis said the department's two phone lines have been busy with news organizations from around the nation calling about Friday's fatal avalanche near Fairfield.



The large volume of snow from recent storms is illustrated by the accumulation on this parked car in downtown Fairfield Monday.

they can take safety precautions. It really woke a lot of people up to what can happen with adverse weather conditions. It happened so fast."

Asked how the sheriff's department, with two full-time and three part-time dispatchers, handled the flood of phone calls, McGinnis said, "You pull together as a team and do what you have to do no matter what."

Camas County's one deputy, Rose Vaughn, was not on the scene during the rescue, so she was not able to act as a media spokeswoman, McGinnis said. So the burden fell on Sheriff Dave Sanders.

"The sheriff has lots of other things besides the media to worry about, so often he simply isn't available," McGinnis said. But whenever he could, Sanders returned calls and gave interviews. On Monday, the sheriff took a

Please see CAMAS, Page A2

# State outlines Ramos case

## Officials point to personnel, financial problems at ISDB

By Karin Kowalski Times-News writer

BOISE - Angel Ramos retaliated against those who opposed him as president over a myriad of personnel and financial problems at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, two state officials testified Monday.

Ramos, who is on administrative leave from his job as superintendent of the Godeing-based school, inappropriately assisted an employee's alcohol counseling and mishandled another's use of pornographic Web sites, and he engaged in reckless spending, hearing officer Charles McDevitt was told.

The first day of the open hearing that could determine whether Ramos keeps his job included testimony from State Board of Education Executive Director Gary Stivers and from Mary Quarles, supervisor of fiscal operations at the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, who did an audit of the school's finances in March. The hearing continues today in Boise.

Attorneys for both Ramos and the State Board of Education chose to forego opening statements Monday and start testimony regarding the complaints against him.

### Retaliation

Concerns about retaliation by Ramos figured prominently in many of Stivers' comments in e-mails, letters and memoranda he gathered in the course of investigating the school. A repeated

Please see RAMOS, Page A8

# Council elects Thompson as new mayor

By Rebecca Many Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Residents of Twin Falls, meet your new leader. Glenda Thompson was elected mayor Monday during the City Council meeting.

She received the votes of all but one of her peers. Councilman Chris Talkington abstained.

"I look forward to continued teamwork," said Thompson, who

Please see MAYOR, Page A8

# Spending in America: Consumers create mountain of debt

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - As the bills from holiday spending spree arrive, Americans are finding that the mountain of debt they've built has gotten even higher.

Consumer debt has more than doubled in the past 10 years to record levels, making it hard for

## Judges crack down on bankruptcy filers - B4

many families to cope. For Bruce and Lorraine Esbensen of Clifton Heights, Pa., trouble started when they spent lavishly on their wedding six

years ago. They soon found themselves falling behind on their bills.

"Creditors were calling, and I knew if I paid one, I couldn't pay the other," Lorraine Esbensen remembers. "It was so painful I got to the point where I didn't want to answer the phone." Credit counselors helped the

couple work out a repayment plan, but it still took more than four years to pay down their debt.

"We still basically live paycheck to paycheck," she said. "But we do have an IRA (Individual Retirement Account) going now, and we're careful with our spending so we feel better."

Consumer debt hit a record \$1.98 trillion in October 2003, according to the most recent figures from the Federal Reserve. That debt - which includes credit cards and car loans, but not mortgages - translates to some \$18,700 per U.S. household.

Please see DEBT, Page A8

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy and seasonably cool. Highs near 30.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with snow showers developing late. Lows in the middle 20s.

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with occasional snow showers. Highs in the middle 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Periods of clouds and seasonably cool. Highs in the middle to upper 20s.

Tonight: Cloudy and cold with snow showers developing after midnight. Lows in the middle 20s.

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with occasional snow showers. Highs in the middle 30.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Increasing Pacific moisture will create milder temperatures over the next few days. Skies will remain mostly cloudy and snow showers will be expected at times.

Today's High: 32-35. Snow showers and snow showers will be expected tonight and Wednesday.

BOISE

Moderating temperatures and mostly cloudy skies are expected over the next few days. Snow showers will be expected tonight and Wednesday.

NORTHERN UTAH

Clouds and occasional snow showers will continue through Wednesday. Temperatures will be chilly.

Yesterday's State Extremes: 30 at Holzer. Low: -25 at Starley.

Weather key: su-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, mc-mostly cloudy, c-cloudy, th-thunderstorms, sh-snow, r-rain, sh-snow, h-hurricane, w-wind, m-missing.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various Idaho cities and their forecasts.

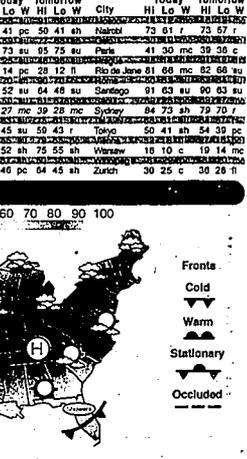
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various national cities and their forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various world cities and their forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various Canadian cities and their forecasts.

Iraq council nears agreement on dividing country into states

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - The Governing Council is close to agreeing on a federal system for Iraq and will defer until next year the explosive issue of whether to give greater autonomy to the northern Kurdish region, two council members said Monday.

Dividing Iraq into federal states along ethnic and religious lines is a sensitive matter for Iraqis as well as for others in the region who fear such separations will lead to the disintegration of the country, Turkey and Iran also worry about an increasingly autonomous Kurdistan because of their own Kurdish minorities.

Camas

Continued from A1 much-needed day off, but he took time for an interview with The Times-News. The seriousness of the incident, Sanders said, brought on a media bombardment that has been a lot for the two phone lines and small staff to handle.

Sanders said he has gained some valuable experience over the past few days. Besides cutting information from the sheriff's office staff, TV journalists and other media have sought out interviews from Camas County residents, Jessica Kandler, an eighth-grader at Camas County Elementary School, related her experience of being interrogated by a TV news crew while checking her mail at the post office in downtown Fairfield.

"There was a microphone and a camera, but I said, 'not on TV, please!'" she recalled.

On Sunday, Camas County resident Claude Ballard saw a TV news remote satellite truck that had gotten stuck near his home on the road leading to the avalanche site. The driver apparently decided against a trip to the avalanche site because of swirling snow and poor visibility. The driver attempted to turn the large vehicle around, but the truck ended up in the ditch. The northbound lane was completely obstructed, causing a four-car line of waiting motorists - "quite a traffic jam for Fairfield," Ballard said.

Although media calls were still coming in to the sheriff's office Monday, McGinnis said it is time to start healing.

"It's time for us to get back to normal," she said.

state rates, daily and Sunday \$7.00 per week, daily only \$5.00 per week. Saturday and Sunday only \$3.50 per week. Sales tax included in all above rates. A \$15.00 charge will be levied for all returned checks.

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Survivors

Continued from A1 "It was just an explosion of snow," said Kelly Rovig, who grew up near Murtaugh and now works for Hewlett-Packard in Boise.

A winter storm had dumped several feet of snow on Soldier Mountain, north of Fairfield. Heavy winds had loosened the new layer.

About 1:30 a.m. on Friday, the load became too much for the mountain to bear. A slab of snow broke free, crashing into the cabin where Kocan, the Rovigs and Marsha Landolt and Robert Busch were sleeping.

Landolt, the 55-year-old dean of graduate studies at the University of Washington, and her husband Busch, a 58-year-old aquatic health consultant in Seattle who once lived in the Magic Valley, were the only family members on the cabin's main level.

The Camas County Sheriff's Department said they were buried alive, asphyxiated by the compacted snow.

Neither Landolt - Kocan's mom - nor Busch - Jenna Rovig's dad - answered. The stairwell was blocked, and the living room was filled with nearly 14 feet of snow.

Kocan and Kelly Rovig ran to break the second-story window and leaped out into the snow. "I ran over to the front porch, which is where the bedroom was," Kocan said during a Boise press conference Monday, three days after the avalanche. "I grabbed a shovel and broke out the first window next to the door, and the first little snow that stuck out I saw my black lab's nose stick out."

Kocan grabbed the dog.

'Just keep us strong'

During the search, Jenna Rovig had been somehow calmed by the sound of her husband and stepchildren working outside. But then, with Kelly Rovig hiking to a neighbor's and Kocan struggling to get Jenna in the pickup truck, Jenna Rovig felt very alone.

"Our golden retriever usually sleeps downstairs, and every once in a while I could hear him meowing and scratching," she said. "It was coming from this chimney flue, and I really couldn't understand why because he usually sleeps in the kitchen."

As the early hours wore on, the dog's moans were less frequent. Jenna Rovig finally decided the dog, Odie, had also died. To distract her children from the situation, she asked 5-year-old Tucker to teach them his favorite songs from preschool.

And she prayed. "I remember saying out loud, 'Daddy, just help me, just keep us strong,'" she said. "And I think that helped."

Finally, Kelly Rovig returned from the neighbor's house, where they had called the search and rescue team and provided him with warm clothes. He yelled up to his wife, who had lost her glasses and, unable to see well, had begun relying more on her sense of hearing. She shared fearful news the cabin might collapse.

"Kelly, I hear creaking," Jenna Rovig could make the jump from the second-story window where there was no way to get their children safely out of the cabin in case it came crashing down. And now that the first avalanche had cut a smooth path down the mountain, the Rovigs feared another one could be coming. Kelly went back to the neighbors' house, this time returning with a ladder.

Jenna Rovig handed down little Emma first, bundled in a pillow case. Next came Tucker, who climbed down the ladder with help from his dad. Finally, Jenna Rovig left the cabin for the nearby shop, where Kocan had built a fire.

Help arrives

About that time, emergency workers arrived. They hustled Kocan and Kelly Rovig into a Snowcat - a large vehicle on tracks for traveling over deep snow - and then to a waiting ambulance for treatment of frostbite, hypothermia, cuts and sprains. Jenna Rovig and the kids followed, while the search and rescue crew began working to recover Landolt's and Busch's bodies.

Rescuers said it was the largest avalanche they'd seen in the area. The debris field around the cabin was nearly 200 yards wide

'A voice of reason'

Meanwhile, Jenna Rovig huddled with her two children under a comforter upstairs, periodically searching through the dark and snow-filled rooms for anything that could help the men's effort.

A fleece pullover. A comforter. One by one she lobbed them out the window, calling to Kocan and Kelly. Finally, she found a tiny flashlight and tossed it to her husband.

"Our voice of reason was just above us," Kelly Rovig said Monday, looking at his wife. "She told us we needed more people to help."

Kelly Rovig grabbed the light and strapped snowshoes on over his socks, starting the tenth-of-a-mile hike to a neighbor's home for help.

Kocan just kept digging at the cement-like snow, his shovel handle coated with ice and blood. "I found the bedspread on the bed and by pulling on that was able to uncover the legs and torso of my mother," Kocan said. "But I couldn't uncover any more because of the tightness of the snow."

"I realized that at point from pushing, pinching, trying to get any response and the color of her skin, I knew at that point it was over," he said.

There was still no sign of Busch, Kocan, who had chipped a bone in his ankle and cut his head at some point during the night, could hardly see through the blood coating his glasses. He called up to Jenna Rovig, telling her their nearly 90-minute effort had been fruitless, and climbed into Busch's truck, cab to swarm up.

Shadow by the scruff of the neck

and pulled her free of the snow. Then he and Kelly Rovig, both armed with shovels they'd found on the porch, began digging for Landolt and Busch.

They broke additional windows, trying to find any way to save the couple. A chain saw snatched from the nearby shop allowed them to widen the window opening, but then the chain snagged on a metal bedpost and derailed.

and 15 feet deep in places, said Kyle Davenport, who assisted the search and rescue team.

After the bodies were found, workers started looking for anything the family might need - clothes, car keys, the children's favorite toys.

Around noon, they heard something strange. "The dog, Odie, was barking from beneath the snow."

The animal had been sleeping in front of the fireplace, and the rushing snow pushed him through the glass screen and into the chimney, where he had access to fresh air. Workers rescued the frightened dog and reunited him with little Tucker.

"He has some severe burns to his paws and to his tail," Jenna Rovig said. "He doesn't like the snow much anymore, but he loves being home with Tucker."

A lost 'heaven on Earth'

The family is not sure yet what will happen to the cabin or the property near the Sawtooth National Forest. It was a place filled with 23 years of happy memories, and Jenna Rovig and her sister, Jodi Wright, had spent many winters sledding down what became the avalanche's path.

"Dad was taken from his heaven on Earth," said Wright, who wasn't at the cabin the night of the avalanche because the snow-covered roads from Boise were too dangerous to drive. "Snowshoeing, pattering in the shop and playing with the grandkids... Those are some of our favorite memories."

Busch and Landolt had planned to move to the cabin once they retired. They had spent thousands of dollars protecting the property against wildfire. Avalanche danger never crossed their mind, Wright said.

Funeral services and memorials have been scheduled for Thursday and Friday in Seattle, family members said, and for Monday in Coalinga, where Busch once worked for a commercial trout company before moving to Seattle.

The University of Washington has also planned memorials for the couple.

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Help arrives. About that time, emergency workers arrived. They hustled Kocan and Kelly Rovig into a Snowcat... Dancers start Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Shoshone. Sunda's newspaper contained incorrect information about the Desert Sun Dancers' regular dance.

# Spending mushrooms under Bush

Conservatives warily watch budget decisions

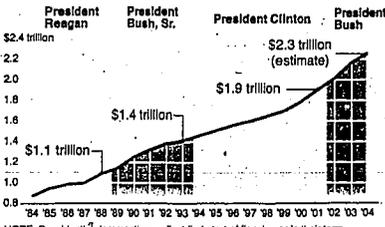
WASHINGTON (AP) — Conservatives wait warily as President Bush makes final decisions about his election-year budget, three years into an administration on whose watch spending has mushroomed by 23.7 percent, the fastest pace in a decade.

While Bush has emphasized repeatedly the need to rein in spending, overall federal expenditures have grown to an estimated \$2.31 trillion for the budget year that started Oct. 1. That is up from \$1.86 trillion in President Clinton's final year, a rate of growth not seen for any three-year period since 1989 to 1991.

Much of the increase stems from the fight against terrorism and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Also expanding relentlessly have been huge programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, which grow automatically with inflation, higher medical costs and more beneficiaries. What has vexed conservatives most is the 31.5 percent growth since Bush took office in discretionary spending. That is the one-third of the budget lawmakers

## Federal spending continues to rise

The overall amount of government spending has increased 23.7 percent since President Bush took office. Much of the boost stems from the fight against terrorism and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.



NOTE: Presidential demarcations reflect first year of fiscal year in their term.  
 SOURCES: White House Office of Management and Budget; Congressional Budget Office; U.S. Treasury Department

approve annually for defense, domestic security, school aid and everything else except Social Security and other benefits. Such spending grew by an annual average of 3.4 percent during Clinton's eight years. Further infuriating conservatives, Bush and the Republican-run Congress have enacted a \$400

billion, 10-year enlargement of Medicare; \$87 billion in expanded benefits for farmers; and \$40 billion for increased veterans' payments and the Air Force's leasing and buying of refueling tankers.

"Re-election has become the focus of Republicans in the White House and Congress. And those

in power have determined the road to staying in power is paved with government spending," said Brian Riedl, who monitors the budget for the conservative Heritage Foundation.

Mounting spending has combined with the recession and two major tax cuts to turn a four-year string of annual surpluses into deficits that last year hit \$374 billion, the worst ever in dollar terms. Administration officials and private forecasters say red ink could hit \$500 billion this year, with more to follow.

Things look bleak in the long run, too. Director Douglas Holtz-Eakin of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has said the Medicare bill could cost from \$1.7 trillion to \$2 trillion during its second 10 years, as the huge baby boom generation retires and foists added costs on taxpayers.

# President takes to road to promote ed initiative

ST. LOUIS (AP) — President Bush defended his education policy Monday against Democratic charges that his "No Child Left Behind" initiative is inflexible and American schools are being shortchanged.

The president told educators at Pierre LaSalle Elementary School, a high-performing urban grade school in north St. Louis, "I'm here to congratulate this school and hold you up for the nation to see what is possible when you raise the bar when you're not afraid to hold people to account, when you empower your teachers and your principals to achieve the objective we all want—that's to make sure no child, not one single child in America, is left behind."

Bush also visited with about 50 fourth-graders. One asked Bush if

he had wanted to be president when he was a child.

"No," Bush told the children, all nearly a decade shy of voting age. "It can be pretty hard."

Still, he called his job "a very rewarding experience" and took credit for "a world that's more peaceful, (where) more kids are learning to read."

On Thursday — the second anniversary of the signing of the No Child Left Behind Act — Bush will hold a similar event at West View Elementary School in Knoxville, Tenn. Both events are paired with re-election campaign fund-raisers.

The St. Louis stop was Bush's 14th visit to Missouri as president. In the 2000 election, he won the state's 11 electoral votes by fewer than 79,000 votes.

# Pop singer Spears completes annulment

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Britney Spears' two-day-old marriage to a childhood friend was dissolved Monday shortly after the pop superstar filed for an annulment, claiming she didn't fully understand what she was doing when she got hitched on the spur of the moment.



Jason Alexander

Clark County Family Court Judge Lisa M. Brown signed the order at 12:24 p.m., said Las Vegas attorney David Chesnoff, who was cleaning up after a weekend frolic between Spears and Jason Alexander.

"There is no marriage now," Chesnoff told The Associated Press. "Jason agreed to this completely. They've made a wise decision. I know they care about each other. They are friends."

that she was incapable of agreeing to the marriage," the annulment petition said.

The 22-year-old pop star married Alexander — who hails from Spears' hometown of Kentwood, La. — about 5:30 a.m. Saturday at a Las Vegas wedding chapel. Alexander said he and Spears

hatched the idea to get hitched early Saturday morning.

"It was just crazy, man," the 22-year-old told "Access Hollywood" in an interview at his home Monday morning. "And we were just looking at each other and said, 'Let's do something wild, crazy. Let's go get married, just for the hell of it.'"

According to the petition, "Before entering into the marriage the plaintiff and defendant did not know each other's likes and dislikes, each other's desires to have or not have children, and each other's desires as to state of residency. Upon learning of each other's desires, they are so incompatible that there was a want of understanding of each other's actions in entering into this marriage."

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MORNING BREAK/NATION

**ACROSS**

- Propels a shell
- Run into
- Former ruler of Iran
- Duff
- Drain pain
- Unpleasant
- Doctrine
- Teddy or Coving
- Way in
- Sale items
- Slight
- Funny hot spot
- Stories in installments
- Suffering saints
- Gratuity
- Bacon or Lamb
- H.S. subj.
- Office note
- Run with an easy fall
- Rapidly
- Certain U.K.

**Monday's Puzzle Solved**

S	I	M	A	P	O	S	T	I	R	T	O	P
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**DOWN**

- Fond du ... WI
- Abolishes from ending
- Wind dir.
- Widened or Turner
- Green berry
- Washed view
- Spitch output
- Merchant on hand
- Shower wrap
- Change one's residence
- Synagogue airport
- Mimic
- Entrepreneur
- States of Charity foundation
- Dignowl
- Convent
- Choir
- Church officer
- Drunkard
- MotORIZED
- 3-D's a mal
- CEO's degree
- Wanted poster information
- Beyond
- Look to the air
- Dilute
- Was uneasy
- 53 Not look about
- Saxophone official
- Record
- Small-scale
- 56 Distress letters
- Sloping
- Pouch structure
- Kwajalein or Blvd.
- Embarkment
- Not look about
- Record
- Distress letters
- Sloping
- Pouch structure

# Money should be no object for students

**DEAR ABBY:** This is in response to a letter you printed from a high school junior struggling with her mother over exploring colleges. She wanted to apply to many different schools, but due to financial constraints, her mother insisted she limit herself to state-funded schools.

If that girl has the grades, she has many options open to her. Sometimes Ivy League schools give scholarships and grants that can match or better anything offered by a state school. She should also be aware that she can take out student loans that she can repay in installments after she graduates.

**- PROUD PARENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT**  
**DEAR PROUD:** Bless you for wanting to help. I'm often touched by the number of people who read something in my column and reach out. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a single mom with an income under \$40,000. My twin daughters and son were all college-bound at the same time. Their school advisors told us to apply to prestigious private schools because they give the most financial aid to students. All three of my children did, and they all received their best offers from Ivy League and religious colleges. Please tell her to go for it!

**- CHRIS IN YAKIMA, WASH.**  
**DEAR CHRIS:** You have already done that. I hope your letter will inspire mother and daughter and other college-bound students trying to reach for the stars. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** As a private college counselor for 25 years, I always tell students that application season is one of discovery—a time to decide what you want to get out of a college education, where you will best fit, and where you might qualify for merit scholarships.

First, apply and get accepted to the colleges of your choice. The **DEAR ABBY:** I grew up with no father. Mom was a food server with three kids to support. Even so, I was in the top 10 percent of my class. I had dreams. I wanted to attend college and escape a life of poverty.

Against all advice, I applied to five different colleges. I received full scholarships from two Ivy League schools. Room, board and tuition were covered. In four years, I was an Ivy League graduate.

I recommend the college issue of U.S. News & World Report. It not only ranks schools but also lists those that are most generous to the deserving.

The only way to ensure you won't succeed is not even to try.

**- EDUCATED IN ATLANTA**  
**DEAR EDUCATED:** Your last sentence says it all. Other good places to research scholarships include: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org), [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com) and [www.fastaid.com](http://www.fastaid.com).

I am also told that a booklet published by the American Legion, "Need a Lift?" is another terrific resource. It contains 162 pages listing scholarships, loans, grants and financial aid. (It can be purchased for \$3.95 and ordered by calling toll-free: (888) 454-4466.)

**Does scratch on chalkboard bother you? It may be genes**

Screech of a fingernail against people, a chalkboard bothers some people, not others. Depends on their genes. Or so some scientists now believe. They say they're still not sure why certain sounds are torturous to those susceptible.

**Q. Ask your Love and Wife, man. What's an "asexual Menage a Trois"?**

**A. Three in the household but not in the bed.** An Americanization of the French idiom. Further called, friendship without frenzy, or something like that.

**Q. How much does one of those department store window mannequins weigh?**

**A. 25 pounds, typically.**

Every modern musician knows all about Nashville. Except maybe that it used to be Fort Nashville.

Words change. The slang "guy" once insultingly labeled a person as grotesque as an ugly effigy of Guy Fawkes. Those who care more than you and I say that if George Washington had said "guy" as often as George W. Bush says it, the Father of Our Country would've



**DEAR ABBY**  
Abigail VanBuren

time spent filling out applications is worth it. Students who can't afford the filing fee can request a waiver.

The girl whose letter appeared in your column can get an excellent college education if she takes the time to apply. I wish her the best of luck.

**RONNIE IN HOLMDEL, N.J.**  
**DEAR RONNIE:** So do I!

**DEAR ABBY:** I grew up with no father. Mom was a food server with three kids to support. Even so, I was in the top 10 percent of my class. I had dreams. I wanted to attend college and escape a life of poverty.

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**REVISITED**  
L.M. Boyd

been castigated. No, look it up. Averages get tricky. Word is a runner can average a faster speed over 200 meters than over 100.

The "bald" in "bald eagle" is short for "plebeian" - black and white.

**Q. Isn't "ology" illegal?**  
**A. Bird egg collecting? You bet it is.** In many places. Great Britain, for instance. So popular was it there a century ago that hobbyists wiped out every bird's nest in sight. Eventually, laws and little cameras switched the grand focus from egg collecting to bird watching. But it's not unlikely your great-great-granddad could have earned a few blue ribbons for his egg collecting.



Visitors wait in line to be fingerprinted and photographed at the U.S. Customs check point Monday at San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco.

# Anti-terrorism program kicks in at U.S. airports

**CHICAGO (AP)** - Foreigners arriving at U.S. airports were photographed and had their fingerprints scanned Monday in the start of a government effort to use some of the latest surveillance technology to keep terrorists out of the country.

The program allows Customs officials to check passengers instantly against terrorist watch lists and a national criminal database.

The goal is to "make sure our borders are open to visitors but closed to terrorists," Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said. The changes came as the United States entered a third consecutive week on high alert for terrorism, including especially tight security involving foreign flights. Fourteen flights on British Airways, Aeromexico and Air France have been canceled or delayed since New Year's Eve because of security fears.

Under the new rules, travelers press their index fingers onto an inkless scanner and then have their photograph taken as they make their way through customs.

The security checks target foreigners entering the 115 U.S. airports that handle international flights, as well as 14 major seaports. The only exceptions will be visitors from 27 countries - mostly European nations - whose citizens are allowed to come to the United

States for up to 90 days without visas.

Also exempted will be most Canadians, because they usually are not required to get visas, and Mexicans who are coming into the country for a short time and not venturing far from the border.

The program, called U.S-VISIT, or U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology, is expected to check up to 24 million foreigners each year, though some will be repeat visitors.

"America has been and will always be a welcoming country, but we will also be on guard," Ridge said at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, where he greeted some of the first foreign passengers to pass through the system.

In a pilot program at Hartsfield-Jackson that preceded Monday's implementation, authorities turned up 21 people on the FBI's criminal watch list for such crimes as drug offenses, rape and visa fraud, Ridge said.

Homeland Security spokesman Bill Strassberger said that once scanners become proficient, the extra security will take 10 to 15 seconds per person.

Airport officials and passengers reported little fuss over the security checks, and many said they did not mind the extra steps if it meant safer skies. Passengers reported only minor delays, if any, in passing through customs checkpoints.

# Libra wonders what step to take next; Virgo sees obstacles

**IF JANUARY 6 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ...** you place your duties above self-gratification most of the time. Hopefully, you are sufficiently appreciated for your devotion. At times, though, you may feel taken for granted. You are unusually patient as a teacher or parent. You may hold your anger in too long, perhaps until it explodes. To deal with this, try to stay in touch with your feelings and learn to process them in a constructive way.

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19):** Home is a major focus now but may make you feel unusually heavy, restricted or depressed. It's a passionate day and your passions run to travel or visiting with friends. You can teach or explain something with special and intense charisma.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20):** Today's a day to keep a low profile - and a lid on your issues. Avoid discussing matters of importance; you won't achieve the results you seek. A passionate evening might be just the thing.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You may be feeling a fiscal pinch. Generosity is limited as a result. Upcoming career changes may alleviate things at surprising moments.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You'll do anything to camouflage your vulnerability today. Hang in with career irritations; they'll pass as the stars move into better patterns. In the meantime, don't push things.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Tender feelings go undercover today as you'd prefer to tough it out. Don't take too hard of a line in the evening. Passions may boil over to your delight!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Though you'd like to connect

## HOROSCOPE

Jeraline Saunders

warmly with friends, there may be obstacles. Let it go for now; it's not worth fighting over. Work it out to instill freedom within your home.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You're not sure what to do first. Partners may be snappish. Don't worry if it's hard to get along today. Wait for accord in a few days when stars move into more favorable patterns.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You're kicking off a long cycle of change in your dating life (for single Scorsps), your relationships with children and your creativity. You may have many surprises in these areas - never a dull moment!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** If others seem tight-fisted today, let it be. Challenging stars will "pass." You'll get nowhere pointing it out; anyway. Do something very active with children to diffuse built-up tensions.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** This is one of those relationship obstacle days. Remember your long-term plan. Frustrations at home may be an unwelcome diversion.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Demanding recognition probably won't bring you the appreciation you crave. Financial surprises are in store for some time - perhaps a windfall! Your look takes on a new age flair.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20):** Single-and-looking Pisceans find dim pickings today. The whole dating thing may seem more trouble than it's worth right now. Committed Pisces enjoy an expansion of love.

**Where's the beef?**  
Wendell cook shares her prize-winning recipes. Wednesday in The Times-News

**January is...**  
**Disney Month at AAA Travel**  
 Never just the same...ever a surprise  
 Once upon a dream you entered magic lands full of laughter, imagination, and special friends. AAA Vacation® packages put the enchantment of the Disneyland Resort during the month of January and receive Exclusive Member Savings off select Disneyland Resort vacation packages.

Come to AAA Disney Month at 1445 Fillmore St. Ste. 1100 734-6441 800-999-6441

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 1445 Fillmore Street, Ste. 1100 - Twin Falls  
[twinfalls.aaaandisland.com](http://twinfalls.aaaandisland.com)

**NEED HELP WITH**  
**CALL LISA AT 737-0087**  
 TRAINING, SETUP & SUPPORT

**Extraordinary Summer Jobs**  
 There's still time to apply to be a firefighter with South Central Idaho BLM

Complete list of our Informational Job Fair  
 Monday, May 17, 11:00am - 5:00pm  
 Tuesday, May 18, 11:00am - 5:00pm

Don't miss the job fair at the  
 South Central Idaho  
**Cyber Center**  
 1180 Bluff Lake  
 Wednesday, January 7, 3:30pm

**SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO**

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**SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO**

## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Dean supporters will meet Wednesday

**TWIN FALLS** - With the first presidential primaries and caucuses just weeks away, local supporters of Howard Dean's campaign will reach out to voters in Iowa and New Mexico at their monthly meeting this week.

Twin Falls-area Dean volunteers will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the KMYT Community Room, 1300 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Blaine County for Dean will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Hailey Cultural Center (Ezra Pound House), 314 Second Ave. S., Hailey.

Julie Fanselow, coordinator of Southern Idaho for Dean, said volunteers at Dean's nearly 1,000 local meetings will hand-write personal letters to voters in Iowa and New Mexico. Iowa has the nation's first presidential caucus on Jan. 19, and New Mexico is one of seven states with a caucus or primary on Feb. 3.

"As Idaho Democrats, we don't have much say in who is chosen as the Democratic nominee," Fanselow said. "That's why we're reaching out to voters elsewhere to share why we believe Dr. Dean's policies... make him the best candidate to take on George W. Bush."

Dean supporters also will discuss plans for Idaho's Feb. 24 Democratic presidential county caucuses. Dean supporters from counties outside Blaine and Twin Falls can either attend Wednesday's meetings or call Fanselow at 733-0802. In Blaine County, the contacts are Steve Pauley at 622-8171 and Bill Harvey at 578-0755.

### Hollister receives state water grant of \$7,500

**HOLLISTER** - The city of Hollister received a \$7,500 state grant to evaluate upgrading its drinking water system in part to meet looming federal arsenic standards, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality said Monday.

The money will be used to evaluate Hollister's existing drinking water system and to determine how to best upgrade it to meet the town's long-term needs. The city is matching the state's grant for a total study cost of \$15,000.

The city's drinking water system must be upgraded to meet new federal drinking water standards for arsenic and to meet the town's water needs. Stricter federal arsenic standards go into effect in 2006. Cities all over Idaho are working to meet the deadline.

About 240 people live in Hollister. The town grew by about 65 percent during the 1990s, according to the U.S. Census, a growth spurt attributed by residents to a new subdivision and commuters who work across the border in Jackpot, Nev.

### Tests find no diseases in elk killed near Oakley

**OAKLEY** - Tests conducted on an elk killed near Oakley in October showed the animal did not have chronic wasting disease or any form of spongiform encephalopathy.

Bruce Palmer, chronic wasting disease regional coordinator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Jerome office, said Monday the test results on that particular elk were negative.

The animal was killed and tested after it was reported to be hanging out in one of Mike Poulton's fields "acting weird." As a precaution, Fish and Game personnel had the animal tested.

Compiled from staff reports

### Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak*
Upper Snake Basin	117%	53%
Salmon Falls	135%	57%
Salmon	129%	47%
Oakley	132%	55%
Big Wood	120%	53%
Little Wood	138%	58%
Henry's Fork/Teton	136%	60%
Big Lost	126%	52%
Little Lost	104%	45%

\*As of Jan. 5

A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with a 30-year average. \*An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in April.

# Board waits on fair admission fee vote

By Sandy Miller  
Times-News writer

**FILER** - It's about blue ribbons, spiffing-around carnival rides and corn dogs with mustard.

For 4-Hers, it's the biggest event of the year, a time to recognize months of getting up before dawn to put in some hard work.

People are willing to brave sizzling temperatures and all that dust to spend a day or two at the Twin Falls County Fair. But will they be willing to spend an extra buck or two to get in?

The Twin Falls County Fair Board has watched its expenditures climb over the past few years and is considering several options for raising revenue. But charging

separately for arena events isn't one of them. Fair Board members Monday said it just wouldn't raise the money needed to offset rising utility costs and other expenditures.

"If you're going to start charging for rodeos, you're not going to have anyone there," Fair Board member Bill Lewis said.

Bottom line is that if people have to pay extra for arena events, many of them just won't go, the Fair Board determined after taking a closer look at the numbers.

The board decided Monday to table a decision on whether to increase admission prices until the Feb. 2 board meeting so members can hear more about what the public has to say.

Please see FAIR, Page A7

### What's being considered

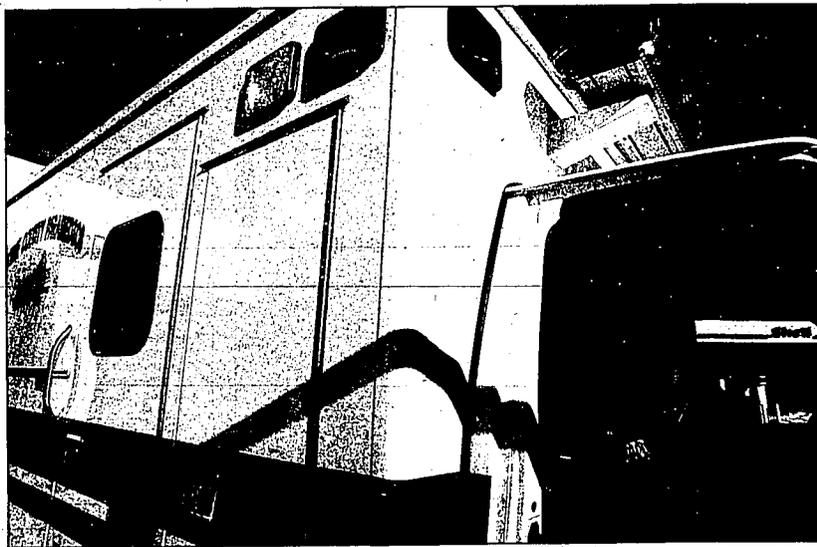
**Current gate admission to the Twin Falls County Fair is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 6 to 12. Season passes and family passes, which admit two parents and three children under 18, are \$20, and 4H passes are \$6. Last year the fair brought in \$302,656, the majority from adult admissions. The Fair Board is considering the three following options to raise revenue:**

**• Option 1:** Raise adult admission to \$8 and admit children 12 and under free. Season and family passes would increase to \$25, and 4H passes would increase to \$8. This option is expected to bring in \$361,938, increasing revenue 20 percent.

**• Option 2:** Raise fair admission \$1 across the board, bringing adult admission to \$7 and child admission to \$5. Season and family passes would be \$25, and 4H passes would be \$8. This option is expected to bring in \$359,027, increasing revenue 19 percent.

**• Option 3:** Increase adult admission to \$7 and decrease child admission to \$3. Season and family passes would be \$25, and 4H passes would be \$8. This option is expected to bring in \$344,357, increasing revenue 14 percent. Fair Board members say they want to know what the community thinks. Those who would like to comment are asked to call the Fair Office at 326-4396.

# GETTING READY TO ROLL



Frank Erwin organizes the electric wires in the console of Jerome County's new ambulance Monday. Jerome County has launched its own ambulance district and has contracted with St. Benedict's Family Medical Center to operate the service.

## Jerome County prepares to launch ambulance service

By Dixie Thomas Reals  
Times-News correspondent

**JEROME** - County commissioners, St. Benedict's Family Medical Center personnel, representatives of Saint Alphonsus Life Flight and Jerome County Ambulance Service employees gathered Monday to untie a red bow on their brand-new ambulance.

The ambulance arrived Sunday, and Commissioner Veronica Lierman and Jim

Lemieux of Pacific Emergency Vehicles Inc. of Boise signed papers Monday transferring the title of the 2003 Ford E Series vehicle, with 15,000 miles on the odometer, to the county.

"We got a really good deal. New ambulances can run as high as \$125,000. Ours is a brand-new ambulance that was a demonstrator model. We got it for \$78,000," Lierman said.

The vehicle is being stocked with supplies and lifesaving equipment and will be fully

functional and on the road Thursday at 8 a.m., said Todd Jaynes, ambulance district supervisor.

That is when St. Benedict's Family Medical Center officially assumes the responsibility for ambulance service in Jerome County from Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Jerome County has launched its own ambulance district and has contracted with St. Benedict's to operate the service.

Jaynes recently assumed the job of ambulance district supervisor. He moved from Mesquite, Nev., where he worked as a medical supervisor for the fire rescue district.

"Jerome is entering a new era with the ambulance district," he said.

Jaynes said the ambulance district hopes to offer service to all of Magic Valley, not just Jerome County.

Please see AMBULANCE, Page A7

## T.F. delays decision on permit for youth home

### Council rejects special-use permit for day care center

By Rebecca Meany  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - The City Council Monday postponed a decision on granting a special-use permit for a home for troubled youth.

A November decision by the city Planning and Zoning Commission to approve a such a permit was appealed by part-time resident Helen Kolouch.

BILLS Place, located at 285 Martin St., is intended to house eight troubled teens, ages 17 to 19, who need help transitioning into mainstream society.

"We're getting ahead of ourselves in this process," said J. Dee May, Kolouch's attorney. "It was approved without the detail necessary to protect property owners and their property values."

He also voiced concern about the background, education and ages of youths housed in the facility.

"Why did P and Z jump the gun on this without getting the information they need?" he asked.

Bill Brockman, who has spearheaded the effort to get BILLS Place up and running, told the council that hundreds of hours have been spent developing guidelines that would ensure careful selection of teens, qualified supervision and licensing by the state. "This is not a shelter home or a halfway house," he said. "These kids just need a structured environment to make the transition to successful living."

Please see COUNCIL, Page A7

## Longtime T.F. candy maker dies at age 95

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - He would show off the factory of delight in his basement: thermometers, scales, pots of chocolate, bright copper kettles, a century-old stirring machine sticky with caramel.

But candy maker John C. "Jack" Frederickson wouldn't say just how he created his confections.

"There's some things I'm bound by a promise not to tell, and some I don't tell," the downtown businessman said in a 1996 interview.

Frederickson, then age 87, wasn't ready to leave the Frederickson's Candy counter to others.

"As long as I can, I think I'll keep going," he said in 1996.

He did just that.

The candy man who served sweets to Twin Falls for 67 years died of congestive heart failure Friday at his home. Frederickson was 95. Bonnie Frederickson, his wife of 38 years, is running the business, with daughter Mary Thrall and grandchildren Angie Cameron, Nicole Cope and Nathan Sommer. But until a few weeks before being hospitalized in November, Jack Frederickson was at the candy store five or six days a week "as our mentor," his wife said.

Please see CANDYMAKER, Page A7



In 2002, candy maker Jack Frederickson and his wife, Bonnie, posed on Twin Falls' Third Street West, which the city was considering naming after them. A group of downtown business owners had proposed renaming downtown streets after figures from Twin Falls history, and Frederickson was the only living honoree on their proposed list. The city, however, opted for another street-name plan instead.

## BLM restructures, creates new Twin Falls District

By Jennifer Sandmann  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** - Federal land managers announced Monday that they will create a new district office in Twin Falls to shift management of local public rangelands from eastern Idaho to the Magic Valley.

Better customer service and less travel time for the public and employees are reasons behind the restructuring, said Cheryl Zwang, a spokeswoman for the Bureau of Land Management in Boise.

A person living in Twin Falls no longer will need to drive to Idaho Falls to visit the regional office, she said. The same holds true for other areas of the state where the BLM also will be restructured. "It's meant to try to get our employees closer to the ground," Zwang said. "In some respects, it will also help resource advisory council members, too."

Resource advisory councils are appointed citizen groups that work with the BLM on land management issues. Some members must make long road trips to attend meetings.

BLM field offices in Shoshone and Burley will continue to operate, Zwang said. The two offices,

which fall under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Falls district, will be managed under the new Twin Falls District along with the Jarbidge Field Office. Jarbidge has fallen under management of the Boise district.

In Twin Falls, the BLM plans to locate its offices in the same building as the Sawtooth National Forest headquarters.

The Sawtooth is seeking bids to lease a new office building. The agency's existing office is on Kimberly Road on the east side of town.

The building lease is up, forest spokesman Ed Waldapfel said. The existing office space isn't large enough to accommodate the agencies' plans to jointly locate BLM and forest fire dispatch services and other forest and BLM management operations in Twin Falls, he said.

The existing BLM Jarbidge Field Office is located across Kimberly Road from forest headquarters. Last year both agencies began operating out of a single fire dispatch center at a BLM office in Shoshone but said at that time they eventually planned to locate the joint dispatch service in Twin Falls.

Please see BLM, Page A7

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is [obits@magicvalley.com](mailto:obits@magicvalley.com). Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) and click on "Obituaries."

**Bernard Alfred Hoffman - Twin Falls**

Bernard Alfred Hoffman, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2004, at Bridgeview Estates.

He was born on Nov. 27, 1912, to Edward Leopold and Wilhelmina (Volske) Hoffman in Waco, Neb. Bernard helped his father on the family farm until poor prices during the Depression forced the sale of the farm. He had several jobs and, in 1938, moved with his family to Idaho to the Filer area. In 1943, he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army until 1944, when he was honorably discharged. In 1946, he rented his first farm and on June 1, 1947, he married Louise Marie Putzier. The couple ran a small dairy and farmed in the Twin Falls area for 23 years, retiring in 1971. He worked on a dairy until 1975, and then took a job as a ditch rider for the Twin Falls Canal Commission until he retired in 1987. In October of 1976, Bernard earned his GED, as he had only attended school through the 10th grade because he was needed on the farm. He was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Twin Falls and served on various boards during his life. He was



confirmed in 1927, and had a strong faith in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which sustained him through many joys and difficulties during his lifetime.

Bernard is survived by his wife, Louise, of 56 years; four children, Nancy (John) Brune, Hazelton, Nore (Sandy) Hoffman, Portland, Ore., Elaine (Sam) Wida, Stanton, Calif., and Susan (Tim) Martinez, Anaheim, Calif. He had 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



He was preceded in death by his parents; and two sisters, Pearl Douglas, and Mari Garner.

Services for Bernard will be held at 10 a.m. Friday Jan. 9, 2004, at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Filer Ave. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 8, 2004, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Rd., Twin Falls. Memorials can be designated for Immanuel Lutheran Church Building Fund or the Lutheran Hour.

**Lauren Mark Neher - Sun Lakes, Ariz.**

Lauren Mark Neher, M.D., passed away on Monday, Jan. 29, 2003. He was born July 10, 1915, in Chicago, Ill., and was raised in North Manchester, Ind. He was the youngest of five children of Levi M. Miller and Bertha Miller Neher. He married Katherine Smith in Chicago, Ill., on March 19, 1937, and practiced in the University of Chicago Medical School in 1939. In 1941, they moved to Jerome, where they raised their family of two sons and one daughter and he practiced as a family physician and surgeon for 20 years. His practice included orthopedics, general surgery and obstetrics. The favorite part of his medical practice was obstetrics, he delivered over 1,500 babies, including his daughter and four of his grandchildren.

During World War II, he served as chief medical officer at the Minidoka Japanese Relocation Camp at Hunt, and was instrumental in helping set up medical services in other relocation camps. He had high regard and respect for the Japanese interned during the Korean War, he joined the Idaho National Guard where he served for many years as the regimental surgeon. During the Vietnam War, he served two, two-month tours as a volunteer physi-



cian to Vietnamese civilians. Regarding that service, a local paper described him as, "A man among men. A modest man who is both a healer and a humanitarian, Jerome is very proud to have a man of such caliber as one of its citizens."

He was Jerome County coroner for over 20 years. He also served as president of the Jerome Rotary Club and as grand exalted ruler of the Jerome Elks Lodge. He and Katherine were athletic and particularly enjoyed golf and bowling. A highlight for them was when they were men's and women's champions at Jerome

Country Club in 1961.

Lauren retired in 1979, and they moved to Sun Lakes, Ariz. He continued bowling and they enjoyed golf, swimming, travel, and many friends and family. Katherine died in 1992. He married Dorothy Van Kolken in 1994, and they continued the same active lifestyle in Sun Lakes. They had a wonderful relationship that greatly enhanced his remaining years. One of his greatest pleasures was being with his children and grandchildren.

He had good health throughout his life until he suffered a stroke in March 2003. Although his last 10 months were difficult, his wonderful character and strong will were very much in evidence during that time. He was greatly loved and will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy; his sons, Michael Neher of Caldwell and Galen Neher of Chandler, Ariz.; daughter, Norma Taylor of Bellingham, Wash.; eight grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

His extended family included three stepsons and their children.

Contributions may be sent in his name to the Chandler Presbyterian Church - Building fund, 1500 West Germann Road, Chandler, Ariz. 85248.

**Dyveka Camila Rasmussen Sorensen - Burley**

Dyveka Camila Rasmussen Sorensen, (affectionately known as "Aunt Peley" by her nieces and nephews), 89, of Burley, formerly of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2004, at Highland Estates in Burley.

She was born Feb. 13, 1914, in Burley (Springdale), the 13th of 14 children of Niels Peter and Karen Knudsen Rasmussen. She received her education in Springdale and Burley. She married R.D. Calvin Sorensen on March 10, 1933, in Burley. They purchased a 40-acre farm west of Springdale, where they farmed until 1958. Upon the sale of their farm, they enjoyed traveling extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico. In 1960, they moved to Twin Falls, where R.D. worked for a bean company prior to retiring the second time.

Dyveka was a beautiful woman! She was well-loved by her family and was greatly respected by her



brothers, sisters, and the nieces and nephews. She was an outstanding homemaker and enjoyed cooking and gardening but enjoyed working in her flower garden best.

She was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, having served

in the Primary, Mutual, and Relief Society. Following the death of her dear husband, R.D., in 1995, Dyveka went to the Boise Temple where she received her own endowment and was sealed to her Burley, where she has since resided at Highland Estates.

She is survived by her daughter, Doris (Dick) Carroll of Burley; four grandsons; one granddaughter; five great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; nine brothers; four sisters; and one grandson.

The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, 2004, at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 14th St., Burley, with Bishop John Cox officiating. Burial will be in Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls.

Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, Burley.

**Mildred M. Jones - Filer**

Mildred M. Jones, 103, of Filer, went home to be with her Lord on Sunday, Jan. 4, 2004, at SunBridge Care Center.

Mildred was born on May 23, 1900, near Oregon City, Ore., to Eph and Mary Kalbfleisch Jones. The family moved to Filer in 1909, and farmed west of town for many years. Mildred lived at Sunset Grande apartments until she moved to Heritage Retirement Center and then to SunBridge the last two years of her life. Mildred attended school through the eighth grade at Washington Elementary School west of town. She was a serious student of the Bible and enjoyed teaching Sunday School and also led private Bible study groups up until she was 101 years old. She had an avid love for mission work and was active in the local missionary society. She was a member of the



Filer Church of the Nazarene. For many years she was active in the Filer Senior Center until she moved to Heritage Retirement Center.

Mildred is survived and will be

well-remembered by cousins, Ruth K. Archer of Filer, Emory Kalbfleisch of Oklahoma City, Okla., Mary Gough of Huntington Beach, Calif., Bernice Poe of Nampa, and Earl Kalbfleisch of Clearwater, Fla.; numerous second, third, and fourth cousins; and many friends and neighbors.

The celebration of Mildred's life will take place at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2004, at the Filer Church of the Nazarene, with Rev. John Forster officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. The family will greet friends one hour prior to the service at the church.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to the World Evangelism Fund, c/o of the Filer Church of the Nazarene. Donations may be left with funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, 83303-1142.

**Leeroy Ehlers - Pendleton, Ore.**

Leeroy Ehlers, was born in Twin Falls, in 1925, to Edwin and Rebecca Schlichting Ehlers. He was reared and attended school in Twin Falls, and graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1943. Ehlers served in the United States Army from 1944 through 1946. He graduated from The College of Idaho in 1950. He attended law school at the University of Oregon and graduated in 1953, with a degree as a doctor of jurisprudence. He clerked for Justice James Brand. He practiced law in Hermiston, Ore., for three years and then in Pendleton, Ore., from 1956 through 1993. He retired for reasons of health. Ehlers married Betty Spencer August 14, 1949.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; three children, Jon Ehlers, Mary Sue Simmons and Sarah Zimmerman; one sister, Evelyn Duggan of Nampa; one brother, Irvin Ehlers of Twin Falls; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at Peace Lutheran Church in Pendleton, Ore., on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, at 2 p.m. Memorials are suggested for the Peace Lutheran Church Building Fund.

**Lee George McCoy - Kimberly**



Lee George McCoy, 82, of Kimberly, passed away Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at his home.

Lee was born April 17, 1921, in Silver City, Iowa. He moved with his family to the Magic Valley where he attended school. He married Dorothy Hamilton in 1940, and they were later divorced. On Dec. 2, 1958, he married Donna Spencer DePew in Elko, Nev. They farmed and ranched south of Hansen until 1976, when they moved to Kimberly. He retired from farming in 1985. Lee was a member of the BPOE, the Salmon River Cattlemen's Association where he served as president, the Hansen School Board of which he served as chairman, and was a member of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association. He loved to hunt, fish, bowl, being in the outdoors, and spending time with his family.

Lee is survived by four children, Gary (Cindy) McCoy of San Antonio, Texas, Don (Trece) DePew of Jerome, John (Linda) DePew of Yakima, Wash., and Galan (Donna) DePew of Burley; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and four brothers, Roland (Veronica) McCoy of Puyallup, Wash., Robert (Rose) McCoy of Twin Falls, Sharon (Liz) McCoy of Bellevue, Wash., and Jerry (Judith) McCoy of Salt Lake City, Utah. He is also survived by his very special friend Lucy Gray.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Donna, in 1991; and a son, Michael McCoy, in 1992.

The family would like to thank Richard Brady of Kumfort Keepers for the special friendship and care given to Lee.

Services will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2004, at White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park" with the Rev. Dale Metzger officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call at the mortuary on from 4 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the American Heart Association, 270 S. Orchard, Suite B, Boise, 83705 or to the American Lung Assoc., 1111 S. Orchard, Suite 245, Boise, 83705.

**Officials say instructor's skis were hung up in tree**

By Karen Bossick  
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY - The search for a missing ski instructor on Bald Mountain was like probing for an avalanche victim on the entire front face of the mountain, thanks to a couple of feet of fresh snow, Sun Valley Ski Patrol Director Mike Lloyd said Monday.

"That's what we were up against," he said.

Ski patrolman Troy Quensal and Sun Valley avalanche dog Kintla, a 5-year-old chocolate Labrador, found the body of Tom Wernig Sunday along the side of Upper River Run, his skis hung up in a 6- or 7-foot new growth tree that had been covered by snow and his head close to the ground. He was covered by 2 to 3 feet of snow.

Lloyd speculates Wernig might have fallen on the black diamond bump run and the snow enveloped him, much as it would have had he fallen into an actual tree well.

Likely another 6 or so inches of snow fell on him before the snow stopped that evening. The wind might have blown some across him. And another 2 to 3 inches fell in the next two and a half days before Wernig was found at 12:25 p.m. Sunday.

"It's not known at this point whether Wernig hit a tree or simply catapulted over his skis, falling face-first in the snow. Blaine County Coroner Russ Mikel had not discussed his findings with the family by late Monday afternoon.

Blaine County Sheriff Walt Fleming said Wernig's wife, Monica, notified the ski school supervisor that he was missing at 10 p.m. New Year's Day. But conditions were too dangerous that night to send out searchers on snowcats - even Sun Valley's snow cats were having trouble moving up and down the hill in the soft powder that had fallen that day.

Sun Valley provided passes for those of the 150 searchers who did not have passes. The company also fed the searchers in its restaurants.

Wernig grew up in the East, where he received a degree in education and physical education at Cortland College in New York. He moved to Sun Valley in 1989 for the skiing. There he met Monica, who had moved from the East for the same reason. They were married five years ago and have a daughter, Taylor, now 2 years old, as well as three rambunctious black labs.

Wernig has been a full-time ski instructor with Sun Valley Co. for seven years, gaining recognition as a top children's instructor on Baldy, where he taught many private lessons.

"He was an amazing father and husband," Monica said. "He loved being with us, and he loved that mountain."

A torchlight parade and memorial service commemorating Wernig's life has been set for 6 p.m. Wednesday. Viewers will be able to watch the parade from various sites around Ketchum and then gather at the River Run Lodge afterward for the service.

DEATH NOTICES

**Gertrude Speckman**  
OAKLEY - Gertrude Speckman, 89, of Oakley, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2004, at Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Payne Mortuary in Burley.

**Jack Elmer Parratt**  
TWIN FALLS - Jack Elmer Parratt, 67, of Twin Falls, died Monday, Jan. 5, 2004, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary.

**John C. 'Jack' Frederickson**  
TWIN FALLS - John C. "Jack" Frederickson, 95, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at his home. The funeral will be noon, Friday, Jan. 9, 2004, at the 6th

Ward Chapel, 667 Harrison St., Twin Falls, with Bishop Robert C. Brown conducting. A viewing will be held on from 4 to 8 p.m., with the family greeting friends from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 6, 2004, at White Mortuary.

**Jessie Pickett Glenn**  
TWIN FALLS - Jessie Pickett Glenn, 89, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary.

**Paul Eiman**  
HANSEN - Paul Eiman, 65, of Hansen, died Monday, Jan. 5, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

SERVICES

Flora Mae Depew Parkinson, of Jerome, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the Jerome First Presbyterian Church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel, Jerome).

Delbert R. Winslow, of Wendell, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at the Wendell Cemetery (Demary Funeral Chapel).

Violet Margaret Leshner, of Jerome, memorial service at 2 p.m., today, at the Free Will Baptist Church, Jerome, with Pastor Gene Kissinger officiating (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel, Jerome).

Kelly Neal Qualls, of Nampa and formerly of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Nampa Funeral Home, Yraguen Chapel, 415 12th Ave. S., Nampa.

Glady's "Leona" Poog Paladino, of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Scott C. Jax, of Boise, remembrance at 2 p.m. Saturday at Reyeca Funeral Chapel in Boise.

Esther Fairman, of Ketchum, memorial service at 10 a.m., Saturday, at the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood in Ketchum; and a memorial in Boise on Esther's birthday, May 4, 2004, at her daughter's home (Wood River Church in Hailey).

Lurline Irene (Dais) Schroeder Jones and Daniel Allen Jones, of Buhl and Earp, Calif., service at 11 a.m. Friday at St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl; interment will follow at West End Cemetery in Buhl (Farmer Funeral Chapel).

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# Weather delays start of some Mini-Cassia schools

The Times-News

**BURLEY** - Drifting snow Sunday night and early Monday resulted in an extra day of Christmas vacation for Mini-Cassia students and students in the Valley School District.

Meanwhile, a power outage prompted cancellation of classes in Castledorf.

No classes were held in Cassia County, Minidoka County, Castledorf and the Valley district Monday. Officials from all four school districts were optimistic Monday afternoon that school would resume today.

Cassia County School District Superintendent Mike Chesley made the decision to cancel school at 5:45 a.m. Monday after talking with district Transportation Supervisor Leen Robinson. Robinson spent about an hour and 15 minutes checking rural roads where school buses would have to go and then talked to law enforcement and road department officials before reporting road conditions to Chesley.

Monday's report to Chesley included information that Interstate 84 in the Raft River area was closed, as was Idaho Highway 81. The drifts on some roads in the county were between 4 and 5 feet high, Chesley said.

"Sitting here now, looking at the bright blue sky, it seems an odd decision," Chesley said shortly after noon Monday. But six hours earlier, the wind was still blowing, the temperature was 8 degrees and the roads were icy and covered with snow. I-84 was closed at 1:37 a.m. and didn't reopen until six minutes before noon Monday. Highway 81 opened at 11:26 a.m., after being closed at 8:59 a.m.

"We don't want to put children at risk," Chesley said.

The expectation Monday was that road department employees could plow enough roads to let school buses get to their pickup spots today. No snow fell in Burley Monday, nor did the wind blow during the day.

The day off falls into the district's "snow day" schedule and won't change the schedule for the

rest of the year, Chesley said.

Minidoka County School District officials also headed out early Monday morning to check road conditions. After conferring with personnel at the sheriff's office and roads departments, school in that county was also canceled.

Snow had drifted on many roads in the district, Superintendent Nick Hallett said, preventing buses from getting through.

The snow that fell in Mini-Cassia Saturday and Sunday was dry and easily blown by the wind.

The Minidoka district has just three snow days left in its schedule, Hallett said. At their next meeting school board members are scheduled to discuss options for the district in the event those days are used up.

"If it stays cold and the wind blows, conceivably" school could be canceled that many more days this winter, he said.

Valley School District officials also cited drifting snow as the reason for canceling school Monday. Valley High School

Principal Rod Malone said the superintendent made the decision to close schools after consulting with highway district officials and the bus company.

In the Castledorf School District, it was a Monday morning power outage that kept the school closed.

At shortly after 5 a.m., a downed power line cut electricity to about half of the community, and residents south of the city. Only one leg of the school's three-phase power system was working.

"We had some lights, but we didn't have any heat," Principal Andy Wiseman said. "We just didn't want little kids in dark rooms with no heat."

Buses were sent back home with the students still on board, although the original plan was to feed the students something for breakfast and then have teachers talk to their students about whether parents would be at home or if they needed to be picked up.

"But when the first bus pulled into the school yard, it went black

as all the power went off," Superintendent Kelly Murphy said. "It just wasn't safe to put students in the building."

The total loss of power occurred at 7:25 a.m. As each bus pulled in, school officials got on each bus and talked to the students. Some students were kept until administrators could contact their parents.

When power was restored at mid-morning, a high school heating system motor was burned out. Repairs were made.

The school telephone system was also knocked out and was still not operational Monday evening. It had not yet been determined if there was any damage to the district computer network.

Today's weather forecast calls for afternoon and evening snow showers in Burley and more snow on Wednesday. Today's daytime high is expected to reach just 28 degrees, with an overnight low of 22 predicted. Temperatures are expected to climb some on Wednesday, with a high of 39 predicted and an overnight low of 31 degrees.

# Attorney: County can't appeal pond designation

By Rose Marie Parsons  
Times-News correspondent

**RUPERT** - Minidoka County commissioners really have nothing to appeal and therefore no need to seek help from the Mountain States Legal Foundation regarding the pond at Exit 208 on Interstate 84, the county attorney told them Monday.

Commissioner Marvin Bingham wanted to contact the Mountain States Legal Foundation for help fighting the Clean Water Act determination and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction of the pond.

But Minidoka County Prosecuting Attorney Jason Walker told Bingham "you have nothing to appeal."

The pond and county-owned land around it were discussed again Monday as commissioners reviewed a copy of a letter from Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator L. John Linn to U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho. According to the letter, the jurisdictional question has already moved through the Corps of Engineers' administrative appeals process, reaffirming the decision that the pond and its surrounding wetlands are subject to regulations under section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

According to the letter, "The determination that a water body or wetlands is regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act is not a prohibition on any activities on those waters. This determination does require that any discharges of sewage or fill material into these waters would require a Department of Army permit."

Walker said the letter means the county can apply for a permit to fill the pond. If the permit were denied, the county could appeal that decision.

For years county officials have discussed selling or developing the land near the interstate, but no solid development plan has ever been created, nor has the land been actively marketed for sale.

# Minidoka County considers new lease terms

By Rose Marie Parsons  
Times-News correspondent

**RUPERT** - Minidoka County commissioners debated canceling or amending the county's lease with farmer Brad Rogers at their Monday meeting.

Rogers leases 39 acres from the county next to a landfill.

Last month Rogers told commissioners he hasn't been able to raise a crop on that land since composted sugar beet return dirt was spread on the field. The field produced good yields before, Rogers said.

County commissioners gave the Amalgamated Sugar Co. permission to begin a composting project at the landfill in November 1999. The lease Rogers had with the county at that time was set aside. Rogers' current four-year lease expires in December 2005.

Commissioner Marvin Bingham proposed canceling the lease and forgiving the \$90-per-

acre rent for all four years of the contract. He also suggested the county pay for a soil test and hire someone to rip the compacted soil.

Commissioner Dan Stapelman disagreed. "We can't forgive \$90 an acre and then spend \$30 an acre on soil tests and ripping," he said.

Minidoka County Prosecuting Attorney Jason Walker recommended against canceling the lease. He suggested amending the lease to forgive the rent, but maintaining other provisions of the lease.

Bingham agreed to meet with Rogers sometime before Monday and to invite Rogers to the Jan. 12 commission meeting to further discuss amending the lease.

Other commission business included:

- **Donation** - Commissioners reconsidered a motion from their Dec. 22 meeting about donating \$2,000 to the South-Central Community Action Partnership.

That motion was approved on a 2-1 vote, but Minidoka County Clerk Duane Smith said decisions to spend money from the county's general fund require unanimous approval. Stapelman changed his vote Monday to give that unanimous vote. Bingham recommended the contribution be included as a line item in next year's budget.

- **Land exchanges** - Bureau of Land Management Shoshone Field Office Manager Bill Baker said some of the 140 land exchange proposals he is considering could affect Minidoka County. In some cases, farmers are trying to eliminate small parcels and square up their property so they can run irrigation pivots, he said. Other exchanges are intended to work around physical barriers such as canals.
- **Light ordinance** - Stapelman asked Minidoka County Director of Community Development Paul Aston about the county's light ordinance in response to a citizen's complaint that a light at

Scott Dayley's dairy on 1150 West was "blinding."

Aston said the ordinance calls for directional-lighting to avoid problems on neighboring property. Personnel from the sheriff's office will check the light to see if it is a safety hazard.

- **Fire plan** - Northwest Management Inc. was the only firm to respond to the county's request for qualifications to prepare a hazard mitigation plan. The county received a \$50,000 grant to pay for the planning, according to Mid-Snake Resource Conservation and Development Council Coordinator Julie Thomas. The hazard mitigation and Federal Emergency Management Agency plans are eligibility requirements for many grants, Thomas said.
- **Planning commission** - Dick Galbraith and Arnold Patterson were reappointed to the Minidoka County Planning and Zoning Commission. Each man will serve a three-year term.

# Candy maker

**Continued from A5**

"He stopped making candy five years ago when his eyesight failed," she said.

But Jack Frederickson left generations of Magic Valley residents with sweet memories of chocolates, caramels, chocolate-dipped potato chips, "pascal" mints and amber squares of horchound - the bitter hard candy of pioneers.

R.C. Green, a Salt Lake City civil engineer and inventor, came to Twin Falls in the '30s to buy hay and decided the town had promise of prosperity, Jack Frederickson said in the 1996 interview. So Frederickson left his ice-cream job in Salt Lake City to open Green's new Twin Falls shop in 1936.

Green got out after a year, and the shop at 259 Main Ave. E. became Frederickson Ice Cream.

At his father's insistence, Frederickson started making chocolate to keep the business alive in winter.

Frederickson also operated a drive-through restaurant downtown from 1945 to '52, then left both locations for the current shop at 309 Second St. E. The ice cream business melted for good in 1986, but the candy remained.

He equipped his shop with a table and chairs to encourage conversation - whether or not visitors had buying on their minds. The table and chairs remain, Bonnie Frederickson said.

"His shop was a place where people... could shop and also have friendly conversations," she said. "It isn't only a candy store. It's a place of personal association with the people that come in. And it

always will be. His legacy will live on."

Jack Frederickson was concerned about people, knew how to get along with them and tried to help them, said fellow downtown businessman Doug Brown of Twin Falls, who knew Frederickson since the ice cream man arrived in town.

"He was an excellent man... I don't think he had an enemy anywhere. I think anybody who knew him thought the world of him," said Brown, 83, a partner in Claude Brown Furniture. "Jack was just a wonderful man. There's no two ways about it. He just had the interest of everybody at heart."

The candy maker, Brown said, never aimed for public office.

"That wasn't his likes at all. He

was just a down-to-earth man," Brown said.

Jack Frederickson, a bishop in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for 13 years in the 1940s and '50s, is survived by 11 children, 67 grandchildren, 132 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

His funeral is set for noon Friday at the church's 6th Ward Chapel, at 667 Harrison St. in Twin Falls, with Bishop Robert C. Brown conducting. A viewing will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls, with the family greeting friends from 6 to 8 p.m.

*Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia@magicvalley.com.*

# News media want access to hearings for alleged kidnappers

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** - A ruling on whether competency hearings for the homeless couple charged with kidnapping Elizabeth Smart should be held in open court likely will come Friday.

Utah Judge holds a closed-door session with defense attorneys and news media lawyers.

Attorneys for Brian David Mitchell, 50, and his wife, Wanda Barzee, 58, at a hearing Monday argued that unless the hearings to determine whether they are competent to stand trial are closed, the defendants have no chance for a fair trial.

Information they would discuss "is intricately tied to the facts of the case," Barzee's attorney Scott White said. District Judge Judith Atherton, David Biggs, who is defending Mitchell, said allowing the public at his competency hearing "would eradicate his chances for a fair trial."

But neither attorney would disclose details of the hearing, saying they were talking about, which put the media lawyers in the position of responding to an argument that hadn't been made.

# Killer commute? Share your story

**The Times-News**

The Times-News is preparing an article on the dangers of winter driving, and would like to talk with readers who have extraordinary long regular commutes - such as to the Boise area and back.

If you'd like to share your story, contact Steve Crump at 735-3223, or write to him at [scrump@magicvalley.com](mailto:scrump@magicvalley.com).

# BLM

**Continued from A5**

The agencies are looking for a 20-year lease and need a total of about 43,450 square feet of office or warehouse space in three buildings. They also will need outdoor equipment storage areas and estimate that a total of about 9.4 acres will be needed for the entire facility. They want the site within two miles of Twin Falls city limits and with direct access either to U.S. Highway 30 or U.S. Highway 93.

Bidding closed Friday.

A developer could build a facility to lease to the agencies, or an existing space could be used, Waldapfel said. The Forest Service will use bids to evaluate the cost of a potential lease, which Waldapfel said has not yet been identified.

The BLM doesn't anticipate significant staffing changes by creating a Twin Falls District, Zwang said.

The agency plans to use existing staff to handle the changes, although a new position of district manager will be created.

Other details of BLM's restructuring plan:

- The agency plans to implement the organizational changes within the coming year.
- Existing district offices will be renamed to better reflect their location and coverage areas.
- The Upper Snake River District will be renamed the Idaho Falls District; the Lower Snake River District will be renamed the Boise District; and

the Upper Columbia Salmon Clearwater District will be renamed the Coeur d'Alene District.

- The Owyhee and Bruneau field offices that merged in 2000 will be separated. The Bruneau office will be in Boise. The Owyhee field office will be in Marsing.

*Times-News writer Jennifer Sandmann can be reached at 733-0931. Ext. 237, or [jsandmann@magicvalley.com](mailto:jsandmann@magicvalley.com).*

continue to rise. Insurance alone has risen 30 percent since 2000, and the cost of providing free entertainment has risen 73 percent. That's followed by grandstand entertainment, 12 percent; premiums, 12 percent; maintenance and utilities, 10 percent; and contract services, 6 percent.

The Fair Board has managed to cut 2 percent from its salaries and benefits line item, but overall, total costs have risen 8 percent since 2000. That number is expected to increase to 11 percent this year.

Fair Board members said they hope the future will look brighter.

"We hope the economy of 2006 is better than it is today," Lewis said.

*Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at [smiller@magicvalley.com](mailto:smiller@magicvalley.com).*

# Council

**Continued from A5**

No sex offenders or violent offenders would be allowed, he said.

May said that without findings of fact clearly delineated and established in the special-use permit, there would be no legal ground to stand on should facility administrators decide to change their minds about how services are implemented.

"Our main concern is there's a need and it doesn't matter what happens after that," May told The Times-News before the meeting.

The issue is expected to come before the council again on Jan. 20.

In another matter, the council on a 4-3 vote denied a permit to Jodie Slagel to operate a day care center in her home at 850 Rosewood Drive.

Neighbor Lynn Langford appealed to the Planning and Zoning Commission's decision to grant a special-use permit for the center. Langford and some neighbors cited increased traffic as a

concern of Slagel's business, located in a cul-de-sac.

A stream of supporters of the day care center addressed the council.

Comments ranged from mild support of some neighbors to emotional appeals from parents who use Slagel's service.

Photos of happy children under Slagel's care and anecdotes about fun birthday parties failed to sway some council members.

"It's not the quality of the care, but the location," Councilman Lance Clow said.

Councilman Chris Talkington applauded Slagel getting a state license, but said that having a day care center in that neighborhood could affect property values and "does have an impact on neighbors."

Voting against the permit were Clow, Talkington, Glenda Thompson and Trip Craig. Voting in favor were Shawn Barlag, Dennis Maughan and Elaine Steele.

# Fair

**Continued from A5**

For several years, arena events have been included in the admission price. But in the late 1990s, when tickets were sold separately, people less than half the number attending them today. Three nights of rodeo now draw between 12,000 and 13,000 people, but back then, they drew just 7,600 people. The demolition derby now draws between 4,000 and 5,000 people, but in 1998 it drew just 2,800.

If people paid \$10 to go to a concert and \$5 for other events, it would only raise about \$98,625, translating into a 7 percent revenue increase. Utilities alone are up 10 percent, Fair Manager John Fitz said.

So the Fair Board decided charging separately for events was just not a viable option.

### Rising costs

Costs of producing the annual Twin Falls County Fair have risen over the last few years and are expected to continue to climb. Here's a look at the numbers since the last admission increase:

Expenditure	2000	2003	Pct. chg.	2004	2000
Salaries/benefits	\$226,157	\$222,278	-2%	\$228,946	1%
Maintenance/utilities	\$102,324	\$113,048	10%	\$116,000	13%
Contract services	\$33,537	\$44,586	30%	\$46,000	70%
Contract services	\$68,630	\$72,872	6%	\$75,000	9%
Free entertainment	\$21,552	\$37,300	73%	\$30,000	39%
Premiums	\$49,137	\$55,014	12%	\$127,000	23%
Grandstand entertainment	\$102,950	\$115,112	12%	\$127,000	23%
Total	\$574,287	\$620,282	8%	\$637,946	11%

"We have two options - cut down on our expenses and let things go to hell, or increase the price," Lewis said.

Fitz told The Times-News in September that it costs between \$525,000 and \$540,000 to put on the six-day event. Money comes from gate admissions and percentages of carnival and food booth revenue, and "60,000 to \$70,000 in sponsorships doesn't hurt," Fitz said.

But costs of putting on the fair

# Ambulance

**Continued from A5**

The ambulance service will be staffed by two-person crews (one paramedic and one emergency medical technician) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There will be five full-timers and 12 to 15 part-timers and on-call employees.

"We are putting together a quick response unit for the Eden area," Lewis said.

(Magic Valley Regional Medical Center) will be covering that area for awhile.

All mutual aid agreements - deals that allow neighboring jurisdictions to respond to emergencies - currently in place will remain, Jaynes said. And there will be no change in the level of

service.

"Hopefully the level of service will get better," he said, "since St. Benedict's is just down the street... and we will be working with them in the emergency room and in developing our level of service."

Many of the staff members have shown a personal commitment to the area and were willing to go on call sooner than originally planned because of the local connection, Jaynes said.

The ambulance service operates under Saint Alphonsus Life Flight's license. The staff is employed by St. Benedict's, and the county contracts with St. Benedict's for the ambulance service.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Hydrologist calls for water conservation

By Dixie Thomas Reale Times-News correspondent

JEROME — Local water users need to learn to conserve, replenish and share water, North Snake Ground Water District hydrologist Jeff Martin told Jerome County commissioners Monday. Martin presented an overview of some of the problems faced by water users in the district, which generally covers the area from Hogerton to Dietrich and from Bliss to Hailu.

Water in Magic Valley disappears into the ground and percolates back into the aquifer. So from the beginning of the irrigation system in the early 1900s, water was poured into the aquifer by irrigation until around 1950. Then wells were drilled and sprinkling systems began to take the place of surface irrigation. The spring flow has gradually diminished since, Martin said.

There is no quick fix for the problem, but a mitigation plan proposed by groundwater districts suggests that in the years when there is plenty of surface water, irrigators use the surface water for irrigation, he said. In the years when there is limited surface water, groundwater would be used. Ponds would be dug near wells to hold water for use in surface irrigation. People could dig other ponds for flood control to hold excess and runoff water and allow it to soak into the ground to replenish the aquifer. And diked canal water could be collected in ponds and allowed to soak back into the ground before it runs over the canyon rim.

Commissioner Veronica Lierman said groundwater users and surface water users need to join forces because groundwater users are "recovering the water that we already put into the aquifer."

"This is serious," she said. "Everyone in the county is a water user in one way or another."

Commissioner Alvin Chojnacky said it takes a few years after each period of drought to recover the water level in the aquifer. "We do not want to shut wells off and ruin the county," he said. "We need to do what we can and build good will among the participants — get the folks talking and cooperating."

Martin said spring users also need to conserve the costs of recharging the aquifer.

Some spring water users want to see curtailment of groundwater use upstream because they say they're receiving only about two-thirds of the water for which they have rights.

But Martin said that won't work because some of the upstream users have old water rights dating from the late 1800s, and many others have rights dating from the 1920s and 1930, while some of the spring users also have old water rights.

The groundwater district is aggressive in enforcing the "first in time is first in line" practice, but it is not always easy, Martin said. Much of the aquaculture industry that uses spring water was developed in the 1960s and 1970. And 1967 was the peak year for filing water rights claims in Magic Valley, Martin said. If all wells drilled since 1967 were shut off, only about 125,000 acre feet would be regained per year in the Magic Valley, Martin said. If all wells drilled since 1967 were shut off, only about 125,000 acre feet would be regained per year in the Magic Valley, Martin said. If all wells drilled since 1967 were shut off, only about 125,000 acre feet would be regained per year in the Magic Valley, Martin said.

Jerome looks at raises for department heads

By Dixie Thomas Reale Times-News correspondent

JEROME — Three of the city's department heads are up for raises. A resolution amending the compensation rates for the police chief, fire chief and public works director will be considered at the city's City Council meeting. The resolution will bring the department head wages up to match the local market range, City Administrator Travis Rothweiler said.

There is no police chief at present, but when a new chief is hired he will earn \$51,800 to \$56,350 annually, depending on experience. That is an increase of about \$8,000 over the previous salary. The fire chief's salary is \$48,161 annually and will go to \$51,500, an increase of \$3,339.

The public works director's salary is \$48,161 annually and will go to \$51,500, an increase of \$3,339. According to the proposed resolution, "The salary survey showed that the city of Jerome undercompensated the positions when compared to like positions in surrounding communities."

Information Specialist Kathy Markus, meanwhile, is up for a 3 to 3.5 percent merit pay increase. The agenda proposal states that over the past year Markus has enabled the city to become more efficient and effective in the area of technology. The city has a comprehensive GIS/GPS model, mobile data terminals, in-police cars, up-to-date servers, computer hardware and software. If the pay raise is approved, Markus will go from her current salary of \$48,720 to either \$50,181 at a 3 percent or \$50,425 annually at 3.5 percent, Rothweiler said.

Blizzard leads to bundle of babies

DENVER (AP) — Cabin fever is and well as the West. Hospital officials say the monster blizzard that kept people indoors across Colorado last year led to a spike in the number of December babies.

"We had more babies born in December — exactly nine months after the blizzard — than in any other month last year," said Len Gregory, spokesman for St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo. Added Lynne Snyder, head of newborn services for Avista

Meeting tonight

The Jerome City Council meets tonight at 7 in council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A. The public is welcome.

In a related matter, Jerome Police Commander Dean Larsen has worked as the interim chief of police for the last six months. The council will consider compensating him an additional \$157,600 per month for his services as a subordinate chief or \$945,600 for the six months from August through January. The council will also consider updating job titles. The police department title "captain" will be replaced with "assistant chief commander," and the position of ward to be maintained as part of the city administrator. The title of "economic development specialist" will be changed to "economic development director."

In other business, the council will vote on an ordinance that would increase the number of units required to create a mobile or manufactured home park from two to six. Mobile home parks must still meet all other requirements including lighting, fencing, curbs, gutters, sidewalk and parking. This ordinance only applies to the placement of single-wide units, those that are not multisectioned and are less than 1,000 square feet.

The council will also vote on an ordinance that would change the zoning of three and a half lots directly east of the old Washington School campus from residential to neighborhood services. Both property owners agree with the zoning change. The properties are used in nonresidential ways.

Blizzard leads to bundle of babies

Advertiser Hospital in suburban Loveland "were overflowing for a while." Snyder said it is not unusual for a surge in births 40 weeks after major events like the Denver Broncos' first Super Bowl victory.

The snowstorm started March 17 and shut down Colorado cities big and small for several days. There was 9 feet of snow fell in the mountains and half that total paralyzed the heavily populated Front Range along the eastern slopes of the Rockies.

Court upholds conviction in trooper slaying

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Supreme Court on Monday upheld the conviction and life sentence of Scott Yager in the 1998 shooting death of the only Idaho female law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty.

The five-member court unanimously rejected claims that statements made by the Rathrum man during his arrest and items seized during a search of his room should not have been used against him during his trial for shooting Idaho State Police Trooper Linda Huff.

The court also rejected Yager's assertions that two jurors should have been disqualified and that the trial should have been moved from Coeur d'Alene, where Huff was shot as she walked to her patrol car in the northern district headquarters parking lot.

In turning back Yager's claims, Justice Roger Burdick repeatedly cited the "overwhelming evidence" that Yager shot Huff. Huff, 33, had been a trooper for two years when Yager, now 39, opened fire on her just before midnight on June 17, 1998. She was shot 11 times, but Huff managed to call for help on her portable radio and fire back, wounding Yager twice, before her handgun was damaged by a bullet from her assailant. Although no clear motive for the shooting was determined, prosecutors said Yager had told several people he intended to kill a police officer for several days before he shot Huff. The final bullet was fired into her temple from point-blank range. Although no one actually saw Yager shoot Huff, he was in the parking lot immediately afterward holding the gun that was used to shoot her, the high court noted. Forensic evidence clearly tied him to the gun and the gun to Huff's wounds, the justices said.

that is not being used. The court also announced that USDA officials would visit Mexico to discuss that country's ban on American beef products following the diagnosis last month of the first U.S. case of mad cow disease.

Mad cow disease, the Agriculture Department's chief veterinarian, said Monday that the month-old calves would be slaughtered this week at an undisclosed facility that is not being used. The court also announced that USDA officials would visit Mexico to discuss that country's ban on American beef products following the diagnosis last month of the first U.S. case of mad cow disease. Mexico is one of more than 30 countries to halt U.S. beef imports. The herd that is to be quarantined is one of three under quarantine in Washington because of ties to the diseased Holstein. The other herds contain cows that probably are from the same Alberta farm as the 6.5-year-old Holstein, but DNA tests to confirm the cow's origins are not complete. Officials decided to kill all month-old calves in Sunnyside, Wash., herd because they cannot determine which one was born to the infected cow. While officials have said contaminated feed is the most likely source of infection, they cannot rule out transmission of the disease from mother to calf. The meat from the calves will not enter the food supply, nor will it be rendered for use in any animal feed or other products, DeHaven said.

USDA plans to kill 450 calves in herd linked to disease

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. agriculture officials have decided to kill 450 calves in a Washington state herd that includes an offspring of the cow diagnosed with mad cow disease. Ron DeHaven, the Agriculture Department's chief veterinarian, said Monday that the month-old calves would be slaughtered this week at an undisclosed facility

viewing staff members. She found the donation of surplus cars from the school to the ISDB Foundation and their subsequent sale as inappropriate because the school never documented the transfer of property. The use of purchase cards was also suspect, Quarles said. The cards were meant to be used for travel expenses, but in practice they were being used for Ramos to buy things for the school on impulse and without purchase orders. Quarles found in her interviews that Ramos liked to go shopping on weekends and would come in on Mondays with things that employees did not ask for and did not need. From his hiring in fall 2001 to March 2003, Ramos spent about \$42,000 with purchase cards, but it was the manner of use and not the amount that was unusual, she said. She also found expenditures on Optischool, student ski trips and a field trip to a restaurant to be suspect, as well as money spent on the superintendent's on-campus house. About \$45,000 was spent to make improvements to the house, including adding a deck, making a complaint with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and installing new wood flooring, carpet and blinds, Stivers said. Optischool was known as "Area 51" because it was located in a locked room to which only Ramos and the Optischool employees had access, Stivers said. The final progress on the project can't be evaluated because the hard drives from the Optischool computers are missing. There were several complaints that the Optischool project

was attempting to perform functions that other programs already available could do or could be modified to do. Stivers said he made the decision to stop the project because, although it might have been able to save about \$5,000 in software license fees, it cost more than \$100,000 in personnel expenses for four employees. There was also an allegation that one of the Optischool employees was working on Ramos's recently published book.

Ramos

Continued from A1

there in his testimony was that many people told him that those who openly disagreed with how Ramos ran things were excluded from the decision-making process. He also singled out people to complain about what they did, Stivers said. "Angel said things that pitted the staff against the administrators," Stivers said.

An e-mail from Ramos to Stivers in late April 2003 announced the resignation of Middle and High School Principal Joe Karen Ramos. Ramos proposed restructuring the administration so there would only be one principal for the school, thus eliminating Linda Rutledge's position as elementary principal. Stivers said Ramos wanted to move her out of that position because of performance problems. He informed her of the position being changed and she found another position and left before Stiver could undo it, leaving a strong appearance of retaliation, Stivers said.

Stivers said there were several instances where Joe Karen Ramos proposed restructuring the administration so there would only be one principal for the school, thus eliminating Linda Rutledge's position as elementary principal. Stivers said Ramos wanted to move her out of that position because of performance problems. He informed her of the position being changed and she found another position and left before Stiver could undo it, leaving a strong appearance of retaliation, Stivers said.

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Mayor

Continued from A1

just finished her first term as councilwoman. "We've had an amazing group who worked well together. I'm looking forward to what's continuing, even though we have new council members."

New members Shawn Barigar and Dennis Maughan were sworn in along with Craig and Thompson. All four won election in November. Outgoing Mayor Lance Clow, who was elected to that seat in January 2000, also took his position as councilman.

"I felt very good about the past two years," he said. "We stayed on track. We accomplished some things that had been dangling out there for a long time." He cited the senior citizens center, the animal shelter, the purchase of Auger Falls and the implementation of a city staff performance evaluation system as notable accomplishments of the council during his tenure as mayor.

Debt

Continued from A1

At the same time, the states that save the nation's savings rate dropped to just 2 percent of after-tax income in the first half of the year. That means many people lack the means to deal with financial emergencies, much less their eventual retirement.

Experts worry about the impact not only on individual families but on society as a whole. "The Depression generation is passing on and losing their values," said Howard Dvorkin, president of the nonprofit Consolidated Credit Counseling Services in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "Now we've got an entire generation that doesn't know anything about thrift and careful spending. It's tearing the fabric that made this country great."

Just how did American consumers get so deeply in debt? Robert D. Manning, a sociology professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology who wrote "Credit Card Nation — The Consequences of America's Addiction to Credit," says the problem dates back to the 1980s, when financial institutions began issuing credit cards and making loans to people who wouldn't have qualified in the past.

"At the same time, people had this sense of entitlement based on the idea that this generation was expected to outperform the earlier generation," Manning said. "It was OK to buy yourself a better standard of living than your parents, and the banks would help you do it."

The nation's credit card debt currently stands at \$735 billion, or nearly \$7,000 per household. And since about 40 percent of card users pay their balances in full each month, the household card debt of those who carry balances is closer to \$12,000. Americans have become champion shoppers, says Ieel Greenberg, chief executive officer of the nonprofit Novadent credit counseling service in Freehold, N.J. "Through the go-go '90s, the irrational exuberance wasn't just in the stock markets," Greenberg said. "It was throughout society. We became phenomenal consumers — and deplorable savers."

Shopping is what Kristeen Mahler, a secretary from East Meadow, N.Y., turned to for solace after the Sept. 11, 2001 terror

attacks. Mahler's office was just 100 yards from the World Trade Center. "I stopped to try to forget it," she said. She bought clothes for herself, gifts for friends — and kept the mounting bills a secret even from her husband. Mahler said she finally started talking about the attack and found support from family and friends in dealing with her anxiety. She also sought credit counseling and is one year into a four-year plan to pay off her debts.

Debt

Continued from A1

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Advertisement for movies and video rentals including titles like 'The Orpheum', 'Twin Cinema', and 'The Oxygene'.

# Despite end of holiday season, terror alert level remains high

WASHINGTON (AP) - The holiday travel season ended without incident but the nation must stay on a high terrorism alert because U.S. authorities continue receiving credible information about possible attacks, federal officials said Monday.

Homeland Security officials closely monitored international flights, professional and college football games and other potential targets over the

Christmas and New Year holidays. Despite the absence of attacks, the danger remains strong enough to retain the orange alert instituted Dec. 21.

Orange is the second-highest of five color-coded threat levels.

"The threat information is evaluated on daily basis," said Rachel Sumbarger, a Homeland Security spokeswoman. "At this time, the information we have warrants that we remain at a height-

ened state of alert."

Since the Sept. 11 attacks the U.S. government has bolstered its human intelligence network, including tripling the number of Arab-speaking analysts and operatives.

A U.S. intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the analysts corroborate information from different sources and compare it to past al-Qaida tactics to assess whether there's

"disinformation" campaign to throw off U.S. officials.

Information about possible al-Qaida attacks on U.S. interests continues to surface and U.S. officials have deemed it credible enough to justify the high alert. Though U.S. officials have not disclosed any specific threats, they have passed on information that led to cancellations or delays of certain international flights to Washington and Los Angeles.

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Western Family <b>COFFEE</b> 88 - 89 Oz. <b>\$3.99</b> Case of 8: \$23.94	Western Family <b>Tomato or Chicken Noodle SOUP</b> 10.5 Oz. Can <b>2/\$1</b> Case of 24: \$12.00	Western Family <b>CREAM SOUPS</b> Celery - Broccoli - Chicken - Mushroom 10.5 Oz. Can <b>69¢</b> Case of 24: \$16.56	Western Family <b>Water Pack TUNA</b> 6 Oz. Can <b>2/\$1</b> Case of 48: \$24.00	Western Family <b>APPLE JUICE or CIDER</b> 64 Oz. <b>99¢</b> Case of 8: \$7.82	Western Family <b>TOMATO or VEG. JUICE</b> 48 Oz. Can <b>99¢</b> Case of 12: \$11.88
Western Family <b>Stems &amp; Pieces MUSHROOMS</b> 4 Oz. Can <b>2/88¢</b> Case of 24: \$10.56	Western Family <b>TOMATOES</b> Whole - Stewed - Crushed - Diced 14.5 Oz. <b>2/\$1</b> Case of 24: \$12.00	Western Family <b>BEANS</b> Kidney - Garbanzo - Chili - Red - Blackeye - Pinto - Black 15 Oz. Can <b>2/\$1</b> Case of 24: \$12.00	Western Family <b>FLOUR</b> 25 Lb. Bag <b>\$3.99</b>	Western Family <b>SUGAR</b> 25 Lb. Bag <b>\$7.99</b>	Western Family <b>KETCHUP</b> 24 Oz. <b>79¢</b> Case of 18: \$12.84
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<b>Extra Lean Beef Country-Style SPARERIBS</b> <b>\$2.29</b> Lb.	<b>Beef T-BONE or NEW YORK STEAK</b> <b>\$5.99</b> Lb.	<b>Boneless Pork SHOULDER STEAK</b> <b>\$1.29</b> Lb.
<b>Pork Country-Style SPARERIBS</b> <b>\$1.29</b> Lb.	<b>Pork CUBE STEAK</b> <b>\$2.49</b> Lb.	<b>Boneless Skinless CHICKEN BREAST</b> <b>\$8.79</b> 6 Lb. Bag

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**PRICES EFFECTIVE TUESDAY THRU MONDAY**

## EDITORIAL

### Counties make an end run around tax changes

The Idaho Legislature is gearing up for another tricky session when it opens Monday in Boise.

As usual, state lawmakers will have their hands full. And this year's goal is to finish early, especially after last year's marathon session stretched into four months.

There's one fat pitch that lawmakers should have no trouble knocking out of the Capitol. They should reject any bill proposing that real estate sales prices be disclosed to Idaho counties.

For years, the state has required county assessors to appraise property at fair-market value. Now the Idaho Association of Counties says it wants the art of guesstimation to stop.

Counties say if they can get the actual sales prices for homes, farms and businesses, they'll get more accurate assessments.

Maybe. But the real purpose behind the legislation is to change in property tax laws made by last year's Legislature. The new law shifts the burden of proof in property tax appeals.

Under these changes, a company or homeowner showing an assessment has to appeal a "preponderance of evidence" that the county was wrong.

That's basically a level playing field. The old standard had given counties a huge advantage by requiring appellants to

show "clear and convincing" evidence - a much harder task.

The new laws came just in time for Amalgamated Sugar's property tax appeal against Twin Falls, Minidoka and Canyon counties. The state Board of Tax Appeals ruled in Amalgamated's favor last year, due in part to the new laws, and said the counties

overassessed the company's properties with an unproven valuation method.

If legislators approve the counties' effort to have property sales prices disclosed, higher property taxes won't be the only drawback.

One negative will be an instant chilling effect on property sales in Idaho - especially in smaller communities. Such a law would encourage businesses to look in other states for expansion sites - and to take prospective Idaho jobs with them.

Another result would be a growing mistrust of government. Homeowners and home buyers would question why local government suddenly has a right to know their sale prices. It's a significant privacy issue.

The counties' resistance to face determined opposition from the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, the Idaho Board of Realtors and the Idaho Farm Bureau. That's tough opposition.

More importantly, the bill is bad for taxpayers in Idaho. Legislators should hammer it

**Our view:** Legislators need to kill any attempt to disclose real estate sale prices to Idaho counties. We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

## Put sky marshals on all flights

The justification for such continuing aviation-security improvements is simple: Al-Qaeda and its cohorts will try again.

In the form of numerous canceled, disrupted or unusually detained international flights and a new U.S. directive to place armed sky marshals aboard certain foreign planes, Americans are witnessing the latest responses to a familiar phenomenon.

From the beginning of the modern wave of terrorism, perpetrators have displayed a fondness for shaping fanatical schemes that target aviation, although the hijackings and airport attacks of earlier years paled in comparison to the recent terrorist penchant for using aircraft as weapons.

JOHN C. BERSIA

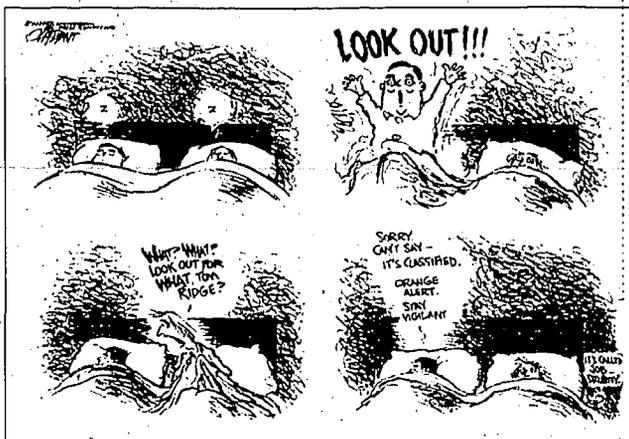
Today's terrorists draw perverse pleasure from the profound psychological impacts that aircraft slamming into iconic structures or critical facilities have on targeted audiences. Each success feeds the myth of terrorist omnipotence while promoting a perception of vulnerability on the part of decent people.

In light of that ongoing threat, I am perplexed and a bit dismayed that I still overhear people in airports asking, "When do you think this extra security will end?"

I must fight the temptation to say, "Not in your lifetime, and you should be happy about it." Many Americans too quickly forget that aviation security was pitifully lax until recently.

It required an act of 9-11's proportions to begin shaking complacency from the system - a task that remains unfinished, despite beefed-up passenger screening, reinforced cockpit doors and other improvements.

Still, air travelers now fly under safer conditions than they have in years. I find particularly



encouraging the Department of Homeland Security's decision that armed sky marshals will ride on certain international flights that originate from, have destinations in or travel across the United States. Appropriately, the requirement applies not only to passenger planes but to cargo aircraft.

If the choice were mine, however, I would permanently post armed sky marshals on all flights, domestic and international. That sweeping move would create a comprehensive barrier against terrorists and eliminate the possibility of a lucky miscreant's boarding an undefended plane.

Now, I fully expect critics to chatter about the expense or question the availability of properly trained personnel. Let them cluck.

The answer to the money question comes easily. The safety of passengers and aircraft, as well

as the air-traveling public's peace of mind, are well worth the relative pittance that armed sky marshals would add to the cost of flying.

As to staffing here at home, it's worth recalling that an ample, national supply of skilled law-enforcement professionals already exists; they would require little additional training, and many would likely jump at the opportunity to protect and serve in a different capacity.

Many other countries have similar law-enforcement capabilities. In those that lack resources or training facilities, though, it would make sense for the United States to provide assistance.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, to his credit, has signaled an interest in offering such aid.

The justification for such ongoing aviation-security improvements is simple: Al-Qaeda and

its cohorts will try again. They have demonstrated flexibility and creativity in attacking successfully on land, at sea and in the air.

But, again, they share their terrorist brethren predecessors' preference for targeting aviation. Indeed, thinking as the perpetrators might, the idea of overcoming aviation defenses erected since 9-11 probably would appeal to them.

That terrorists failed to mar the holidays should produce not a gleeful commitment to perpetual vigilance and stronger aviation defenses.

John C. Bersia, who won a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing for the Orlando Sentinel in 2000, is also the special assistant to the president for global perspectives and a professor at the University of Central Florida.

## Black vote could keep moving to the right

Believing it has cornered the market on black voters, the Democratic Party may want to dismiss the GOP's announced goal of winning 25 percent of the African American vote in 2004. Democratic leaders may be correct in saying the feat can't be achieved in time for next year's presidential election. But the current political dynamics in black America do not bode well for that.

Consider these facts: There has been a measurable rightward shift in the black electorate. In 2002 the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a liberal think tank, asked black respondents in its national survey to identify themselves as either Democrats, independents or Republicans.

Although 63 percent claimed to be Democrats, the number was down from 74 percent in 2000. The decrease occurred in nearly every age group, including among respondents 65 and older (where the drop was from 82 percent to 75 percent). There was a significant increase in those calling themselves independents, especially ages 26 to 35. Respondents identifying themselves as Republicans also increased: Between ages 26 and 35, the number tripled, going

JONETTA ROSE BARRAS

from 5 percent in 2000 to 15 percent in 2002.

None of this is coincidental. More African Americans now have college degrees, ushering them into the middle class, shifting their values and priorities while prompting them to abandon the "blacks-as-victims" theology.

Many low-income blacks have gained an appreciation for the opportunities provided by the free enterprise system and are rejecting the notion of government as prime savior. Meanwhile, there has been an emergence of a new generation of African Americans that exists in a multiracial, crossover world.

There is one more reason for the changes in affiliations: Some African Americans have accused the Democratic Party of practicing "plantation politics" - that although blacks repeatedly are depended on to keep the party in elected office, they're often overlooked for key leadership posts.

This growing dissatisfaction, coupled with demographic and philosophical changes, has translated into black support for

selected Republican candidates. In the California recall election, Arnold Schwarzenegger won 17 percent of the African American vote. Michael Bloomberg won 22 percent of the black vote in his successful New York mayoral bid.

Further, the individuals whom African Americans elect from their own communities are less likely to fit the model of "plantation" civil rights leader or to hew to the party's far left wing. Rather, the new leaders, exemplified by D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams and Rep. Arthur Davis, D-Ala., are centrists, advancing what some might call a cross-dressing agenda that includes conservative staples of education choice and family values. Interestingly, these individuals are not just the darlings of the younger generation; they also have attracted older African American voters.

The flexibility of the new generation of black leaders and the growing population of black independent voters has meant the development of unprecedented alliances with Republicans and conservatives. Davis, hoping to address the issue of affordable housing in his district, co-sponsored legislation with none other than Florida's Rep. Katherine Harris - the former secretary of state

whom many Democrats blame for their 2000 presidential defeat. Rep. Harold Ford Jr., D-Tenn., wasn't shy about joining forces with Rep. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., when advocating changes in the Social Security.

In short term, the Democratic Party probably can ignore the Republicans' planned 2004 bid, especially given the animus of black voters toward President Bush. But Republicans understand foundation-building. Back in 1994, in a spectacular drubbing of Democrats in the House, conservatives laid the political trifacts of a Republican-controlled House, Senate and White House.

If Democrats want to avoid an erosion of their African American base, they can start by opening the door for more and younger blacks to assume leadership posts, and by abandoning the outdated left-wing politics they seem intent on playing. Most important, they can stop novel-gazing, and do what Republicans are doing: Pay attention to the evolving African American electorate.

Jonetta Barras is author of "The Last of the Black Emperors: The Hollow Comeback of Marion Barry in the Age of New Black Leaders."

## The Times-News

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### Getting in touch

Want to make your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how:

**Sen. Mike Crapo**  
In Twin Falls, call or write: Linda Norris, senior regional director  
202 Falls Ave., Suite 2  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
734-2515; Fax: 733-0414  
In Washington: 239 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-8142  
e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at [www.senate.gov/crapo](http://www.senate.gov/crapo)

**Sen. Larry Craig**  
In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Matthews, regional director  
580 Filer Ave., Suite A  
Twin Falls, ID 83301

734-6780, Fax 734-3905  
In Washington: 520 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-2752  
e-mail: [http://craig.senate.gov/email](mailto:http://craig.senate.gov/email)

**Rep. Mike Simpson**  
In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director  
1201 Falls Ave., suite 25  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
734-7219; Fax 734-7244  
1339 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C. 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-5531  
Fax: (202) 225-8218  
Access Simpson's e-mail through his Website: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

### Drivers can do more to drive down gas prices

I have read with great interest about all the people complaining about the gas prices being so high in Idaho from The

Times-News letters. There are several solutions to this problem.

If everyone would stay home for a week, gas prices might go down. That means no trips to the store, no movies, no shopping at the mall - just staying home,

Another solution is to ride a bike to and from work. I know a few people who ride their bikes to work. They claim it helps out the cardiovascular system. It also gets some fresh air in their lungs.

Another idea is to walk. It takes more gas to go short distances. If you live by a school, a grocery store, restaurant, etc., it's a lot cheaper to walk. It also once again saves gas.

Finally, ride the bus. It's only \$3 or \$4. We have a great bus system in Twin Falls. Let the bus burn gas. I had the opportunity of riding Trans IV to work for a while. I saw country I hadn't seen before.

Think about it. There are other ways to get around than by car; but no one wants to give up their conveniences. I can't wait for a response.  
DOUGLAS WRIGHT  
Twin Falls

### Doonesbury

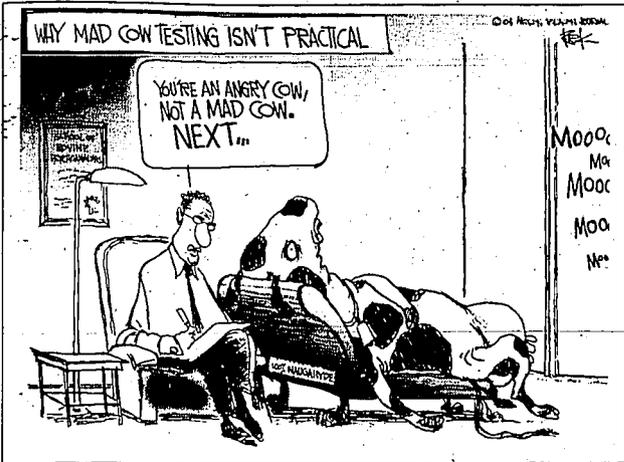


By Garry Trudeau

### Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



# Mad cow is no beef – all bun

STEVEN MILLOY

The "mad cow" disease diagnosed in a U.S. cow has set off a new round of predictable, but groundless, panic. Foreign governments promptly banned imports of U.S. beef. Investors dumped the stocks of beef-related companies. And, of course, what health scare would be complete without hyperventilating calls for even more government oversight of an already highly regulated industry?

There's no question that bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE – or mad cow disease – is a neurological disease in cattle. But the notion that people can contract a human form of mad cow by eating beef from infected cattle is more bun than burger.

The first epidemic of mad cow broke out among cattle in Britain in 1986. Eight years later, human cases of a supposedly novel brain ailment, called new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, or variant CJD, began appearing in Britain. Although laboratory testing seemed to indicate that BSE and variant CJD were similar, no one could determine with certainty whether and how the BSE epidemic was related to the "human mad cow" cases.

There were no geographic areas in Britain with a significantly higher incidence of variant CJD cases, and there were no cases of variant CJD among apparently high-risk groups such as farmers, slaughterhouse workers and butchers. When researchers considered the possibility that variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease was caused by consumption of beef from BSE-infected cattle, no correlations could be established between variant CJD and any specific meat or dairy product. No one could even establish whether any of the variant CJD victims ever consumed beef from diseased cattle.

Some researchers nevertheless became fixated on the idea that consumption of infected beef was the culprit behind variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob, especially after it was discovered that 1980s slaughterhouse and meat preparation practices inadvertently might have allowed tissue from diseased cattle to be mixed into packaged meat products.

That mere hypothetical possibility spawned mad cow mania. But the infected-beef hypothesis

doesn't explain why variant CJD tends to occur in young people; most cases have occurred among 15- to 25-year-olds. And it doesn't offer the slightest clue as to why only about 130 variant CJD cases have occurred in a British population of 60 million people who are exposed to millions of pounds of beef products.

Some people have suggested that a kind of "epidemiological Russian roulette" is at work, where consumption of infected beef results in rare and randomly distributed cases of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. But the Russian roulette explanation is not a scientific one and should not be the basis of public alarm or public policy. Despite that, the infected beef theory has mutated into a conspiracy in the medical and public health community that few authorities have been brave enough to challenge.

One public health expert in Britain, George A. Venter, did publish an article in the British Medical Journal in October 2001 titled "New variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease: The epidemic that never was." Venter maintains that the infected beef theory is simply wrong. He challenges the biological plausibility of BSE causing variant CJD because there is no direct evidence that the supposed called a prion – is infectious. Nor is there direct evidence that BSE prions survive cooking, digestion and the human immune system.

After discussing the numerous deficiencies in the BSE-Creutzfeldt-Jakob hypothesis, Venter observed: "The evidence that has been amassed is directed, toward confirming the (BSE-CJD) hypothesis rather than testing it. Salient, contrary information has either been played down or ignored."

No doubt much of this rush to judgment was spurred by the 1997 Nobel Prize awarded to the developer of the theory that prions are infectious, Dr. Stanley Prusiner of the University of California, San Francisco. Although his work associates prions with mad cow and Creutzfeldt-Jakob among other diseases, the actual mechanism of

infection remains unknown. So prestigious prizes aside, there is of now no demonstrable causal link between mad cows and human health problems. BSE-infected cattle should be isolated and destroyed to ensure there is no further spread of mad cow disease among the animals. There is no dispute about this common-sense animal health measure. But variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob is a rare, isolated and apparently random disease of unknown origin. Those conditions don't justify the current panic about the safety of the beef supply.

Steven Milloy is an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute and the author of "Junk Science: Junk Defense Against Health Scares and Scams."

# LETTERS

## Questionable food supply taints dairy industry

The greed of the dairy industry is apparent. The Times (news magazine) dated Dec. 22, 2003, Page 52, is titled "Got Hormones?" and is about the state of Maine dairies using no artificial hormones (85 percent of them) and advertising the fact that "we are in the business of marketing milk, not Monsanto's drugs."

In 1993, the Food and Drug Administration studied the recombinant bovine somatotropin (RBST) and reported tests showed no significant difference between milk from treated or untreated cows. Now several groups (Consumers Union and Center for Food Safety, among others) say the tests did in fact reveal differences and that the FDA incorrectly interpreted the data.

The FDA is doing a terrific job protecting our food supply? Afraid to eat hamburger and get mad cow disease (with a long incubation period) or drink local milk in this area. Can't afford organic. I just don't trust the FDA or the federal government anymore.

The Times article is really very interesting. Thought provoking. PAUL WILLIAMS Jerome

increases of people moving into Twin Falls County. This increase has brought many less desirables, which happens in any growth. I would not be surprised if the population of Twin Falls County doubles or more within the next five years.

Should the county population double in size, then the jail will be less able to house in-county criminals, the present 5500,000 or so the county now pays other counties to house the inmates.

The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department is required by law to have a jail, and is mandated not to have the jail overcrowded, thus the requirement to pay for inmate housing outside of Twin Falls County.

The cities of Twin Falls, Filer, Kimberly, Hansen and Buhl do not have full-time jail facilities as far as I know.

KIP DREWREY Twin Falls (Editor's note: Kip Drewrey is the Coordinator for the Sheriff's Alternative Sentencing Work Program in the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department.)

## Bring in the new to make 2004 better

Well, we are starting a new year, and I hope to see some improvements over last year.

I would hope that someone could explain the difference of weapons of mass destruction, and masses of destructive weapons to George W. Also, that

winning a war is not seeing how fast you can drive through a country and bypass all those masses of weapons and munitions. Winning is rendering your opponent unable to fight unconsciously.

I would like to see our governor schedule regular visits to our stinking dairies. His announced visits have caused them to clean up and prepare for his arrival. If he really wants to smell the sickening odors, he should come unannounced. We took three trips this past year to Washington and drove by several large confined animal feeding operations between the Tri-Cities and Yakima. We did not notice any offensive odors. We did notice that they did not allow their waste to accumulate.

Someone should prosecute those Fish and Game officials who murdered the pet deer and dumped his body in the landfill. The wanton waste of a big game animal is a violation of state law, and those involved should be held accountable.

I recently read that George W. was displeased with puppets Rumsfeld and Powell. They have been flipping when he pulls the flop string. George, remember who selected them. Perhaps Harry Truman's example of "the buck stops here" instead of the opposite should be practiced.

The New Year's motto should be, "Out with the old and in with some new." Let's hope for a better new year.

DAVID H. LANCASTER Twin Falls

Know the score? Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

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### MORNING LINE

#### SPORTSQUOTE

66  
 When the California kids start throwing to their own quarterback, it's time for the Midwesterners to go home.

99

*Mitch Albom of the Detroit Free Press, on when he knew Southern Cal's Rose based victory over Michigan was in the bag.*

#### TRIVIA

**QUESTION:**  
 From 1954-58, Vince Lombardi served as an assistant coach with the New York Giants under Jim Lee Howell. Lombardi was in charge of the offense. Who was the assistant coach in charge of the defense?

...answer below

#### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- High school girls basketball**  
 Minico at Twin Falls, 6 p.m.  
 Burley at Jerome, 6 p.m.  
 Shoshone at Camas County, 6 p.m.
- Hansen at Murtaugh, 6 p.m.  
 Hagerman at Oakley, 6 p.m.  
 Castelford at Raft River, 6 p.m.  
 Filer at Gooding, 6 p.m.  
 Ketchum Comm. at Dietrich, 6 p.m.
- Lighthouse Christian at M.V. Christian, 6 p.m.  
 Bliss at Carey, 6 p.m.  
 Declo at Wood River, 7:30 p.m.
- High school boys basketball**  
 Hagerman at Wendell, 4:15 p.m.  
 Shoshone at Camas County, 4:30 p.m.
- Bliss at Carey, 4:30 p.m.  
 Rimrock at Glens Ferry, 6 p.m.  
 Rockland at Richfield, 6 p.m.  
 Kimberly at Valley, 6 p.m.  
 Community School at Dietrich, 6 p.m.
- Lighthouse Christian at T.F. Christian, 6 p.m.  
 Minico at Twin Falls, 6 p.m.
- High school wrestling**  
 Minico at Skyline, 6 p.m.  
 Filer/Valley at Declo, 6 p.m.

#### IN BRIEF

**Seats still available for CSI games**  
 TWIN FALLS - Plenty of good reserved chair-back seats are still available for the remainder of basketball home games at the CSI Gymnasium.  
 Both squads will play Salt Lake Community College Friday and Saturday, North Idaho College Jan. 23 and 24, Eastern Utah Feb. 13 and 14, and Snow College Feb. 27 and 28.  
 For more information, contact Christi Kaye Ure at 732-6486.

**Magic Mountain offers cross country lessons**  
 HANSEN - The Magic Mountain Ski Resort will sponsor free rentals and lessons for beginning cross country skiers from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.  
 For more information, call Jack at 837-4505.

**Buhl Volleyball Club will hold registration**  
 BUHL - The Buhl Volleyball Club will hold its registration for the 2004 season from 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at Buhl High School.  
 All girls in grades 5-12 are eligible to participate. The cost to register is \$20.  
 A \$15 T-shirt is also mandatory in order to play.  
 The league will begin in February and run through March.  
 For more information, call Bill Fields at 543-8294.

Compiled from staff reports

**TRIVIA ANSWER:**  
 Tom Landry.

# Marbury joins Knicks in blockbuster deal



Stephon Marbury

**By Chris Sheridan**  
*Associated Press writer*

NEW YORK - Stephon Marbury is returning to his hometown as part of a blockbuster trade between the New York Knicks and Phoenix Suns on Monday.

The Knicks acquired Marbury, Penny Hardaway and Cezary Trybanski from Phoenix for Antonio McDyess, Howard Easley, Charlie Ward, Maciej Lampe, the rights to

Milos Vujanic, two first-round draft picks and cash, Suns owner Jerry Colangelo confirmed.

The trade is the fourth of Marbury's career. The Brooklyn native was drafted by Milwaukee and immediately dealt to Minnesota, where he subsequently forced a trade to New Jersey. The Nets sent him to Phoenix for Jason Kidd, and he's now headed to the Knicks in the first major move made by new team president Isiah Thomas.

"I think we got the best deal,"

Knicks center Dikembe Mutombo said. "He's among the best point guards in the league, he's an All-Star player."

The trade represents a major shake-up for both teams. In exchange for its best player, Phoenix will go under the salary cap next summer and will have at least \$8 million to offer to a free agent class that includes Kobe Bryant. Colangelo said the Suns will save \$20 million to \$25 million in salary and luxury tax costs through the 2004-05

season. That will allow the Suns to rebuild a team that was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs last season after missing the postseason the year before.

"This is a big picture kind of move, and a bold move," Colangelo said. "We didn't have flexibility under the cap, and we were hamstringing by some contracts. This allows us to be a player in free agency if we choose to. This is not a talent-for-talent deal."

Please see MARBURY, Page B2

# Jazz prove too much for Mavs

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Raja Bell wasn't allowed to shoot much last season as a Dallas Maverick. Watching him play with the Utah Jazz, they now know what they were missing.

Bell, who averaged just 3.1 points with Dallas before coming to Utah as a free agent, tied a career-high with 25 points. Andrei Kirilenko - added - 21 points and 12 rebounds to help the Jazz beat the Mavericks 108-94 Monday night.

"It was a little bit more special because it was my old team," Bell said.

After running off 11 straight points for the Jazz, Bell tried to get the attention of Dallas owner Mark Cuban, who sat behind the Mavericks' bench.

But Cuban didn't respond and put his head in his hands.

"Yeah, he was out there tonight but he wasn't giving me any eye contact. I wanted to give him a little bit to tease him," Bell said.

Utah played the game without coach Jerry Sloan and leading scorer Matt Harpring. Sloan missed the game to be with his wife, Bobby, who has been ill, and Harpring sat out his third straight game while resting his strained right knee.

"Sometimes the most dangerous animal is a wounded one. That was a case in point tonight," Bell said.

Utah lost its two previous games without Harpring and managed just 63 points, the team's second-lowest point total ever, in its last game against Houston.

"It was a great way to jump back after a couple of disappointing losses. Everybody simply hustled and worked hard," said longtime assistant coach Phil Johnson, who directed the Jazz.

DeShawn Stevenson added 17 points and a career-best 11 rebounds for the Jazz. Dirk Nowitzki scored 24 points and Antoine Walker had 11 for Dallas, which has dropped six of seven on the road. The Mavericks were outscored 52-33.

"We were terrible and they were terrific. We didn't have a player that I thought played worth a darn," Dallas coach Don Nelson said.

Dallas led 61-60 in the third quarter before missing eight straight shots as the Jazz scored 12 consecutive points to take control.



Utah Jazz forward Jarron Collins (31) gets to the loose ball before Dallas Mavericks forward Antawn Jamison during the second quarter Monday in Salt Lake City.

# Pete Rose admits he bet on baseball

Former Reds manager hopes for end to ban

**By Ronald Blum**  
*Associated Press writer*

NEW YORK - Now the wait begins.

Pete Rose hopes baseball will end his lifetime ban after his first public acknowledgment he bet on games while managing the Cincinnati Reds.

The admission in "My Prison Without Bars," his autobiography due out Thursday, will be part of the evidence in Rose's case for reinstatement, commissioner Bud Selig's chief deputy, Bob DuPuy, said Monday.

"The application remains pending, and the commissioner will take all of this into account," DuPuy said.

Whether or when baseball makes a decision is anyone's guess. Selig has refused to rule for more than six years on Rose's bid for reinstatement, which is necessary for the career hits leader to reach the Hall of Fame.



Cincinnati Reds' manager Pete Rose rubs his eyes while watching a game on March 24, 1989, in Plant City, Fla.

Rose agreed to the lifetime ban in August 1989, and he applied for reinstatement in 1997.

For 14 years, Rose denied publicly he bet on baseball. He fesses up in the book, saying he regrets gambling on the game he loves and then lying about it.

Rose says he started betting regularly on baseball in 1967, the year after he stopped playing, according to excerpts from the book released to Sports Illustrated for this week's issue, which hits newsstands Wednesday. He says he only ever bet on the Reds to win.

Please see ROSE, Page B2

# UConn men hold on to top ranking; women drop off

**By Jim O'Connell**  
*Associated Press writer*

NEW YORK - At least the UConn men's team is still No. 1.

On the day Connecticut's women dropped out of the top spot after their first loss of the season, the men held the No. 1 spot in The Associated Press poll for a fourth straight week.

The Huskies were a runaway choice Monday, with Duke staying at No. 2.

Connecticut's run atop the Top 25 follows a month that saw the No. 1 ranking change four times, from UConn to Kansas to Florida and back to UConn.

The Huskies were No. 1 in the preseason poll and for the first two polls of the regular season.

Providence was the only newcomer, replacing Missouri, which became the second team this season to get as high as No. 3 and then fall out of the rankings.

Connecticut (11-1), which beat Massachusetts and Rice last week, received 50 first-place votes and 1,752 points from the national

media panel.

Duke (10-1), a winner against Davidson and Clemson, was No. 1 on five ballots and had 1,673 points.

Arizona, Stanford, Wake Forest, Oklahoma and Kentucky all moved up one spot to take places No. 3 to No. 7. Georgia Tech (12-1), which lost to Georgia's 63-60 in double overtime Saturday, fell from third to No. 8, the week's biggest drop.

Arizona (9-1), Stanford (11-0) and Wake Forest (9-0) each received five first-place votes, while Oklahoma (10-4) had two.

Saint Joseph's moved one place to ninth, the Hawks' highest ranking since they were No. 5 in the final poll of the 1965-66 season. Louisville rounded out the Top 10.

Cincinnati was No. 11, followed by North Carolina, Kansas, Florida, Pittsburgh, Gonzaga, Syracuse, Texas, Illinois and Vanderbilt.

The last five ranked teams were Wisconsin, Mississippi State, Marquette, Purdue and Providence.

Please see GOLDBERG, Page B2

# Where are the great teams of yesteryear?

**By Dave Goldberg**  
*Associated Press writer*

Bill Parcells knows playoff teams and championship teams.

He also knows that, by his standards, the Dallas Cowboys were not really a playoff-caliber team, something Carolina proved by beating them 29-10 in the first round.

"There's a lot to do, and I know what it is now," Parcells said. "This season has taught me a lot more than I could've expected to be taught. I'm not under illusions. Trust me, I'm probably under fewer illusions than the majority of people in Texas."

Texans aren't the only ones.

### DAVE GOLDBERG

The first weekend of the postseason demonstrated once again that there's parity in the NFL these days - but there are not great teams. A decade and more ago, before the salary cap took effect, developing outfits like the Cowboys didn't qualify - they made it to 10-6 this season only because other teams were worse.

And it's not only Dallas.

At least half the teams in the postseason - maybe more - are seriously flawed.

How did the Cowboys turn it around after three 5-11 seasons?

1. They had fewer injuries to key players than a lot of other teams.
2. They had more luck, including a win over Philadelphia because Andy Reid foolishly opened the game with an onside kick that backfired.
3. They made a few big plays when they had to, such as Quincy Carter's 26-yard pass to Antonio Bryant in Week 2 that set up Billy Cundiff's 52-yard last-second field goal against the Giants.
4. And most of all, they had Parcells, who willed them to victories in three or four games they should have lost, like the ones against the Eagles and Giants.

Some of the other wild-card losers also were very incomplete.

Despite eight Pro Bowlers and multiple award winners (Lewis, Lewis and Suggs - the players,

SPORTS

Wendell dominates Buhl, 82-47

BUHL - Wendell used a pressure defense in the first quarter and the inside play of Kael Poer to put away Buhl in a non-conference boys matchup.

Pope finished with 27 points, 10 of which came in the first quarter, to lead a trio of Trojans in double figures.

"We played well at times, but they come after from so many different ways," said Buhl coach Roy Burman.

Local sports

Local sports: Wendell 82, Buhl 47. Boys basketball: Wendell 82, Buhl 47.

Wendell 82, Buhl 47. Boys basketball: Wendell 82, Buhl 47. Girls basketball: Magic Valley Christian 32, Jackpot, Nev. 25.

Girls Basketball

Girls Basketball: Magic Valley Christian 32, Jackpot, Nev. 25.

MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN 32, JACKPOT, NEV. 25. TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Christian girls basketball team celebrated its senior night with a win.

Eckersley and Molitor hope for call from Hall

By Mike Fitzpatrick Associated Press writer

NEW YORK - Dennis Eckersley could set the standard for Hall of Fame closers.

Eckersley hopes to become only the third reliever elected by the Baseball Writers Association of America when voting results are announced Tuesday.

He and 3,000-hit man Paul Molitor, both on the ballot for the first time, have impressive Cooperstown credentials - but the waiting is driving Eckersley mad.

"It's killing me it's what it's doing," he said Monday. "It's murdering me. Tell me already, so I can deal with it if I don't. I feel like a little kid, where you're dangling something in front of me. I can't even sleep. I'm like a yo-yo."

How he fares in his first chance at election could have a ripple effect for other relievers.

Bruce Forster, Leo Smith and Goose Gossage were all on the ballot again this year. Several active closers, led by San Diego's Trevor Hoffman, will warrant Hall of Fame consideration after they retire.

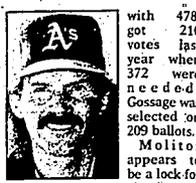
Part of the problem is there's no magic number for saves as there is for home runs (500), hits (3,000) or wins (300). Eckersley is third on the career saves list with 390, but saves didn't become an official statistic until 1969.

Hoyt Wilhelm and Rollie Fingers are the only relief pitchers who have been elected to the Hall by the BBWAA. Wilhelm got the call in 1985, Fingers in '92.

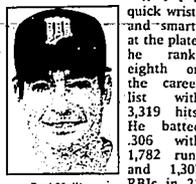
Since then, a handful of dominant closers have come up for election and been passed over. If Eckersley doesn't even get in, where does that leave them?

Sutter, who seems to be gaining support, appeared on 53.6 percent of the ballots last year. It takes 75 percent to be elected. The ballots are cast by BBWAA members who have been a part of the organization for at least 10 years.

Smith, the career saves leader



Dennis Eckersley



Paul Molitor

Milwaukee (1978-92), Toronto (1993-95) and Minnesota (1996-98).

"The fact I spent so much of my playing time as a DH might work against me," Molitor recently told Baseball Digest. "But a lot of that was due to my being on the disabled list in nine different seasons."

A seven-time All-Star, Molitor also was the MVP of the 1993 World Series for the Blue Jays. He hit .418 in his two World Series appearances, and will begin his first season as batting coach for the Seattle Mariners this year.

Only 38 people have been elected by the Baseball Writers' Association of America in their first year of eligibility. There are 256 members of the Hall of Fame. Induction ceremonies will be held July 25 in Cooperstown, the small village in upstate New York.

Jim Rice, Andre Dawson and Ryno Sandberg lead the other returning candidates who hope this is their year.

Slugging switch-hitter Eddie Murray and All-Star catcher Gary Carter were inducted last year.

AP Sports Writers Jamie McCauley and Arnie Stapleton contributed to this story.

Carroll wants Trojans humble - and hungry

By Ken Peters Associated Press writer

LOS ANGELES - Coach Pete Carroll promised the USC Trojans will remain humble in their reign as The Associated Press' national champion - humble and hungry.

"How do you top this? How about doing it again a couple times?" a jubilant Carroll said Monday morning after his team presented The AP's championship trophy.

"It's so great to be standing in front of you representing what USC represents has always been about: winning championships, national championships," Carroll said during a brief ceremony in front of Heritage Hall on campus.

Several hundred students and fans interrupted the coach's remarks by chanting, "Pete! Pete! Pete!" Some players gleefully chimed in, including quarterback Matt Leinart and defensive end Kenechi Udezue.

"This is awesome, being national champs," said Leinart, the redshirt sophomore quarterback who was MVP of the Trojans' 28-14 Rose Bowl victory over Michigan.

USC received 48 of the 65 first-place votes in The AP poll to win its first national title in football in 25 years.

The title was split, same as when the Trojans won the championship in the coaches' poll in 1978 while the media voters crowned Alabama. There was controversy at that time, too, because USC beat Alabama 24-14 early in the season.

This time, USC (12-1) topped USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll champion LSU, which beat Oklahoma 21-14 in the BCS title game Sunday night in the Sugar Bowl.

The coaches were obligated to vote LSU (13-1), even though USC held the top spot in their poll going into the bowls. Three of the 63 coaches broke the agreement by voting the Trojans No. 1.

Rockets lengthen Warriors' slide

HOUSTON (AP) - Maurice Taylor scored a season-high 25 points, as Houston handed Golden State its sixth straight loss, 83-65 Monday night.

The Warriors lost for the eighth time in 10 games, despite holding Rockets leading scorer Steve Francis without a point until he made a layup with 1:35 to play. Francis finished with a season-low two points.

Mike Dunleavy led Golden State with 13 points and Nick Van Exel, Jason Richardson and Troy Murphy each added 10 points.

Bucks 88, Warriors 76

PHILADELPHIA - Desmond Mason - returned - Allen Iverson's spin to Philadelphia's lineup, scoring a season-high 24 points for Milwaukee.

Toni Kukoc added 14 points for the Bucks, who have won three straight and are a season-high two games over 500. The Bucks have won seven of 10, including two straight on the road. Mason scored 17 points in the second quarter when the Bucks built a 17-point lead, then added a 3-pointer early in the fourth for a 75-60 lead.

Iverson scored 18 points with seven turnovers in 37 minutes.

Pistons 78, Celtics 68

BOSTON - Tayshaun Prince scored seven of his 13 points during a key 11-0 run in the fourth quarter and Detroit held Boston to a season-low point total.

The win was the sixth straight for the Pistons, who have held their opponents under 100 points in all 35 of their games this season. They have done it 37 consecutive times dating back to last season.

Pacers 87, Heat 65

MIAMI - Jermaine O'Neal had his eighth consecutive double-double with 22 points and 11 rebounds and Indiana earned its fifth win in a row by beating Miami.

Ron Artest also scored 22 points for the Pacers, who defeated the Heat for the seventh straight time, including four games in Miami.

Leafs pummel lowly Penguins

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Joe Nieuwendyk scored a goal and set up another, and the Toronto Maple Leafs avoided a meltdown against the NHL's lowest-points team with a 5-0 victory Monday night over the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Nieuwendyk, Tie Domi and Alexei Ponikarovsky had multiple points to support Trevor Kidd's first shutout in more than two years, helping the Maple Leafs halt a four-game winless streak.

Kidd turned aside 25 shots in only his fourth game this season and second victory. Ed Belfour sat out with a leg injury sustained Sunday in practice.

Flames 5, Rangers 0

NEW YORK - Jamie McLennan made 36 saves for his second shutout in four starts to lead Calgary to its fifth straight road victory.

Andrew Ference scored two goals and set up another, and Jarome Iginla had a goal and two assists for Calgary, which snapped a three-game winless streak. The Flames are 9-5-0 on the road.

Iginla, Ference and Matthew Lombardi scored in the first period. Denis Gauthier made it 4-0 in the second, which began with Mike Dunham replacing Jussi Markkanen in the net for New York.

Devils 3, Oilers 2, OT

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - Patrik Elias set up the tying goal late in the third period and scored on a deflection 41 seconds into overtime to give slumping New Jersey a victory.

Turner Stevenson and Sergei Brylin also scored and Martin

Blues 1, Wild 1, OT

ST. LOUIS - Minnesota goaltender Dwayne Roloson gave up a goal in the opening minute, then shut out the St. Louis Blues the rest of the way en route to the tie.

Mark Rycroft scored at the 29-second mark of the first period for the Blues and Andrei Zyuzin tied it midway through the second period. The rest was all goal tenders as Roloson and Chris Osgood of St. Louis made 23 saves apiece.

Marbury

Continued from B1

The contracts of McDyess and Ward expire at the end of this season, and Ward has a buyout clause that can be exercised before Jan. 10. Easley is under contract for three more seasons. Vujacic, the starting point guard on the Yugoslavian team that won the 2002 World Championship, is playing in Europe.

Marbury, one of the league's best point guards, is averaging a team-high 20.8 points for the Suns, who are in last place in the Pacific Division.

Hardaway, a former All-Star, has been a reserve in Phoenix and will have the same role in New York.

Rose

Continued from B1

Rose's immediate predecessor, Fay Vincent, read the excerpts and was outraged, concluding that Rose did not deserve reinstatement.

"There's no sense of regret, no sense of shame, no sense of the damage he did to baseball," Vincent said. "I guess I'm really disgruntled. I think the whole thing is a sorrid, miserable story. It's sort of like turning over a stone - you see a lot of maggots, and it's not very pretty."

He will earn \$14 million next season and \$16 million in 2005-06.

McDyess, who played for the Suns in 1997-98, returned to action last month after missing more than a year because of knee surgery. McDyess took over a spot in the Knicks' starting lineup from Kurt Thomas, then lost it - thereby becoming expendable.

"We've got a scoring point guard coming in, and a two-guard who's been getting it done for a number of years. So it's going to be a different look for us out there, but it definitely should be an improvement," Kurt Thomas said.

Easley, who recently lost his starting job to Frank Williams, did

not play in the Knicks' 95-85 loss to New Jersey on Sunday night.

Ward has been with the Knicks for 10 seasons, the second longest current tenure of any player who spent his career with one NBA team.

Isiah Thomas has already turned over about half the Knicks' roster in the two weeks since he replaced team president Scott Layden.

"I knew right after we got a new sheriff in town that we were in for a shakeup. One of the reasons he was brought here was to shake up the team and get us to the playoffs," Mutombo said.

Marbury will be reunited with

the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and contributions to the team(s) in which the player played.

Rose admitted placing bets with Ron Gledits and through Thomas Gioia and Peter Janszen; they were the primary witnesses in the 1989 investigation by baseball lawyer John Dowd that led to the agreement in which Rose accepted lifetime ban.

Dowd concluded Rose bet on baseball from 1985-87 and detailed 412 baseball wagers between April 8-Aug. 5, 1987, including 52 on Cincinnati to win.

Goldberg

Continued from B1

not the law firm), Baltimore went through half the season with a rookie at quarterback and the other half with nothing more than a decent backup.

And the wide receivers aren't exactly stars; tight end Todd Heap is by far the best receiver. So Tennessee simply stacked the front, daring the Ravens to throw, and Baltimore ran Jamal Lewis just 14 times for 35 yards.

Sorry, no way that's going to work - even against a Titans team led by a sore Steve McNair, who was playing at about 50 percent.

Denver demonstrated classic 21st century inconsistency. It was outstanding in Indianapolis two weeks ago, awful on Sunday.

And who's to say that the weekend's winners are very good?

Green Bay struggled at home against a Seattle team that was 2-6 on the road. Carolina, like Dallas, is still building, although it has the elements needed to win: running and the NFL's best front four.

Parcells isn't the only guy in Dallas who understands how much work the Cowboys need to do to become a serious contender.

"He's going to win eventually," said safety Darren Woodson, the last remaining starter from the Cowboys' three Super Bowl championships of the 1990s.

"He just doesn't have his guys yet." The difference between now and Woodson's early years is that these days a team doesn't need a roster filled with stars to make the playoffs.

M. Gas advertisement featuring a gas pump illustration and text: "Picks of the Week Football Contest", "WATCH FOR THIS WEEK'S ENTRY FORM IN WEDNESDAY'S TIMES-NEWS", "Win Weekly Prize \$100 Mr. Gas Bucks", "Grand Prize Drawing for Huge Super Bowl Party", "Sponsored by Mr. Gas", "All Weekly Winners will be Automatically Entered into the Grand Prize Drawing. See your local Mr. Gas Store for rules and regulations. No Photo Copies allowed. You can also pick up an official entry at any Mr. Gas location.", "ENTER AT ALL MR. GAS LOCATIONS", listing various Mr. Gas locations across Idaho.

# Goebele's season has hardly been an easy skate

By Nancy Armour  
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — Physically, Tim Goebele is in the best shape of his career. He's never felt better mentally, and he has a free skate program he absolutely loves.

Yet he heads to this week's U.S. Figure Skating Championships somewhat of a wild card, having spent most of the season off the ice because of equipment problems.

"It's really frustrating to not be

skating my best and have it be out of my control," the Olympic bronze medalist said, the exasperation evident in his voice.

"It's been very, very frustrating. It's been a really hard year."

But problems are an occupational hazard for skaters. They're too loose. They're too stiff. They're not stiff enough. The laces break. And the lip goes on.

But Goebele's problems went beyond the usual annoyances. His skates caused so much pain he

couldn't practice his trademark quadruple jumps with any consistency. He had trouble doing footwork and spins, too.

Take away those elements, and there's not much left.

"Although he's able to do some jumps, and numerous difficult jumps, he can't repeat them because of the pain factor," coach Frank Carroll said this season. "He can't endure numerous repetitions of these jumps and basically be able to walk."

Goebele tried out several different

boots in hopes of finding something suitable, but that caused its own problem. Every time he tested new skates, he'd need a few days to break them in — precious time away from training in the middle of a season.

"It's just held me back from doing normal training off and on," he said.

He pulled out of Skate America in October because he hadn't had enough time to train. He competed in two Grand Prix events, winning the Cup of China and finish-

ing second at NHK Trophy, but his skates still didn't feel quite right.

So when he finished fourth at the International Figure Skating Challenge in early December, he'd had enough. He withdrew from the Grand Prix final, saying he needed to find a pair of skates that worked, and he needed to do it in time for the national championships.

"I think I finally have some stuff figured out," Goebele said. "The situation is better."

But far from ideal.

Because of his limited training time, the "Quag King" will likely do only one quadruple jump in his free skate. And instead of setting his sights on a second national title, his main concern is just getting a spot on the team for the world championships.

"I don't have very high expectations, to be real honest," he said. "I just want to come away feeling like I skated well. I just haven't had enough time to really feel like I can go and really shine."

## SCORES AND STATS

### BASEBALL

**Baseball America Top 25**

Outfielder — CC Sabers, 100.0  
Pitcher — CC Sabers, 100.0  
Infielder — CC Sabers, 100.0  
Outfielder — CC Sabers, 100.0  
Pitcher — CC Sabers, 100.0  
Infielder — CC Sabers, 100.0

### WHAT'S ON T.V.

- Auto Racing — NASCAR Test Series, Nextel Cup testing, at Daytona, Fla. (same-day tapel), SPEED, 4 p.m.
- Hockey — 4x4 Raging, Racer Rally, from Ourzatte, Morocco to Tan Tan, Morocco (same-day tapel), SPEED, 4:30 p.m.
- Basketball — Indiana at Wisconsin, ESPN, 5 p.m.

### Area ski report

**Biggest Skis** — Men 6000 90 33  
Women 5000 80 28  
7000 80 28  
8000 80 28  
9000 80 28  
10000 80 28

**Biggest Skis** — Men 6000 90 33  
Women 5000 80 28  
7000 80 28  
8000 80 28  
9000 80 28  
10000 80 28

### SPORTS IN BRIEF

**Rocky Mountain baseball camp will be Jan. 17-19**

LOGAN, Utah — The Rocky Mountain School of Baseball will hold its 11th annual Winter Ball Camp in Mesquite, Nev. on Jan. 17-19.

The camp will be conducted for ages 8-18. The staff will consist of college coaches, professional players and pro scouts.

For more information or to register, log on to [www.rmsb.com](http://www.rmsb.com), or call toll free at 877-272-0862.

### Former relief pitcher

**Tug McGraw dies at 59**

PHILADELPHIA — Tug McGraw, the zany relief pitcher who coined the phrase "You Gotta Believe" with the New York Mets and later closed out the Philadelphia Phillies' only World Series championship, died Monday. He was 59.

McGraw died of brain cancer, which he had been battling since March, team spokesman Larry Shenk said.

### Arkansas cornerback will skip senior season

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Arkansas cornerback Ahmad Carroll will skip his senior season and make himself eligible for the NFL draft, the fourth Razorback junior to do so in the past month.

The speedy Carroll had 43 tackles and a team-high three interceptions this season for the Razorbacks (9-4). He also had six tackles for loss, seven pass deflections and five quarterback hurries.

In his three-year career at Arkansas, Carroll started 31 games and made 145 tackles, 29 pass deflections and four interceptions.

### BASKETBALL

**NBA**

ATLANTA 111  
BOSTON 107  
CHICAGO 104  
CLEVELAND 103  
DENVER 102  
DETROIT 101  
HOUSTON 100  
INDIANAPOLIS 99  
LAKERS 98  
MEMPHIS 97  
MIAMI 96  
MINNESOTA 95  
NEW YORK 94  
ORLANDO 93  
PHOENIX 92  
PORTLAND 91  
SAN ANTONIO 90  
SEATTLE 89  
TORONTO 88  
UTAH 87  
WASHINGTON 86  
WISCONSIN 85

### FOOTBALL

**Playoff schedule**

ATLANTA 111  
BOSTON 107  
CHICAGO 104  
CLEVELAND 103  
DENVER 102  
DETROIT 101  
HOUSTON 100  
INDIANAPOLIS 99  
LAKERS 98  
MEMPHIS 97  
MIAMI 96  
MINNESOTA 95  
NEW YORK 94  
ORLANDO 93  
PHOENIX 92  
PORTLAND 91  
SAN ANTONIO 90  
SEATTLE 89  
TORONTO 88  
UTAH 87  
WASHINGTON 86  
WISCONSIN 85

### Final college polls

**AP Top 25**

1. USC  
2. Michigan  
3. Texas  
4. Ohio State  
5. Wisconsin  
6. Penn State  
7. Florida  
8. Oregon  
9. Michigan State  
10. Iowa

### TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**

DETROIT REDS — Signed free agent pitcher Tim Lincecum to a one-year contract.

ST. LOUIS BRUINS — Signed free agent pitcher Tim Lincecum to a one-year contract.

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### Yankees agrees to four-year contract with Lincecum

NEW YORK — Javier Vazquez and the New York Yankees agreed Monday to a \$45-million, four-year contract.

The 27-year-old right-hander, acquired from Montreal on Dec. 4, would have been eligible for free agency after next season, and the Yankees wanted a multi-year agreement.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman and Vazquez's agent, Scott Boras, announced the deal on Monday.

### Lynch, Magloire and Harrington fined \$10,000

NEW YORK — New Orleans' Magloire and Indiana's Harrington were each fined \$10,000 by the NBA on Monday for their roles in a fight Saturday night.

Magloire was fined \$10,000 for playing with Harrington fouled Lynch near the Pacers' bench. Lynch fouled Harrington in the bench. No punches were thrown.

Harrington was pleased to avoid a suspension.

### NBA boxes

**DETROIT 111**  
ATLANTA 107  
BOSTON 104  
CHICAGO 103  
CLEVELAND 102  
DENVER 101  
HOUSTON 100  
INDIANAPOLIS 99  
LAKERS 98  
MEMPHIS 97  
MIAMI 96  
MINNESOTA 95  
NEW YORK 94  
ORLANDO 93  
PHOENIX 92  
PORTLAND 91  
SAN ANTONIO 90  
SEATTLE 89  
TORONTO 88  
UTAH 87  
WASHINGTON 86  
WISCONSIN 85

### College basketball polls

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2. Michigan  
3. Texas  
4. Ohio State  
5. Wisconsin  
6. Penn State  
7. Florida  
8. Oregon  
9. Michigan State  
10. Iowa

### USA Today/ESPN Top 25

**AP Top 25**

1. USC  
2. Michigan  
3. Texas  
4. Ohio State  
5. Wisconsin  
6. Penn State  
7. Florida  
8. Oregon  
9. Michigan State  
10. Iowa

### Red Wings 6, Predators 0

**ATLANTA REDS**

1. Tim Lincecum  
2. Tim Lincecum  
3. Tim Lincecum  
4. Tim Lincecum  
5. Tim Lincecum  
6. Tim Lincecum  
7. Tim Lincecum  
8. Tim Lincecum  
9. Tim Lincecum  
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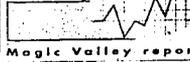
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Harrington was pleased to avoid a suspension.

## Notes on the economy



Magic Valley report

### Help wanted

Local employers in December released more newspaper ads looking for workers than they did a year earlier.

Last month, employers in The Times-News classified advertising section bought 1,294 employment ads. That's 8 percent more than the 1,197 placed in December 2002. It also tops the 910 ad total of December 2001.

The Idaho Department of Labor will release its December jobless rate forecasts on Friday.

Overall, however, the past year showed a decline in job openings.

Full-year 2003's employment ads totaled 3 percent fewer than the ads placed in 2002, when the total was up 19 percent from 2001. The annual tally grew 8 percent in 2000 and 15 percent in 2001.

## BRIEFLY IN MONEY

### Kmart reports sales drop for end of 2003

DETROIT - Kmart Holding Corp. said its net income should exceed \$250 million in November and December even though its same-store sales dropped 13.5 percent.

The retail chain, which emerged from bankruptcy in May, said Monday that strong inventory management and the reduction of unprofitable promotions were behind the improved performance in the first two months of its fiscal fourth quarter.

It said income before interest and income taxes for November and December is expected to top \$350 million, excluding gains on real estate transactions of about \$75 million.

After taxes and interest, earnings should exceed \$250 million, including about \$50 million in gains on real estate deals.

Kmart - which has a Twin Falls store - has said it net \$23 million, or 26 cents per share, in the quarter ended Oct. 29.

Its predecessor company, Kmart Corp., lost \$383 million, or 76 cents a share, in the same quarter last year.

Kmart said its same-store sales for November and December were about \$5.1 billion, compared with \$6.9 billion in the same period of fiscal 2002.

The company has about 1,500 stores in 49 states and employs 170,000 people nationwide.

### Walgreen Co. profits climb 10 percent in Q1

CHICAGO - Walgreen Co. posted a 10 percent increase in first-quarter profits, helped by another strong advance in prescription sales for the largest U.S. drugstore chain.

Net earnings for the three months ended Nov. 30 were \$254.9 million, or 25 cents per share, compared with \$231.6 million, or 22 cents per share, for the same period a year earlier.

The per-share earnings matched the expectations of Wall Street analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call.

Revenues climbed 17 percent to \$8.72 billion from \$7.48 billion and were up 12 percent at stores open for more than a year.

Prescriptions jumped 18 percent and accounted for 64 percent of all Walgreen sales in the quarter.

Walgreen, which has a Twin Falls store, opened 85 new stores in the quarter and said it is on track to open about 450 stores in fiscal 2004, keeping it on pace to operate 7,000 stores by 2010.

The fast-expanding company had 4,291 drugstores in 44 states and Puerto Rico as of Nov. 30.

Compiled from wire reports

# Courts get tougher on debtors

The Associated Press

DENVER - As the number of personal bankruptcies grow in Idaho and elsewhere, courts are requiring debtors who once might have been relieved of the burden to repay more of their debts.

Court-appointed trustees who oversee cases are studying bankruptcy petitions for signs that debtors can pay off more of their obligations, said Jane Limprecht, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Trustee Program, a branch of the Justice Department.

The increased scrutiny began in 2001, coinciding with a big jump in bankruptcy filings nationally and in Idaho.

A total of 9,400 individuals and companies in Idaho sought bankruptcy protection last year. That was a 7.3 percent increase from 2002 and the rate - the number of bankruptcies for the size of the population - was one of the highest in the nation, according to the American Bankruptcy Institute.

When court trustees determine that someone who filed for Chapter 7 protection - which

erases credit card and other debt - can afford to pay more of their bills, the individual frequently gets a Chapter 13 filing instead. They then are required to repay all or most of their debts over three to five years.

In the six-month period that ended in March 2003, bankruptcy court trustees nationally took 13,125 actions aimed at helping creditors reclaim more money, Limprecht said.

In the same period, 1,250 cases were resolved either through a conversion to Chapter-13 or dismissal.

The conversions and dismissals prevented more than \$86 million in unsecured debt from being erased, she said.

But Chapter 13 plans can backfire, said Samuel Gerdano, executive director of the American Bankruptcy Institute.

Creditors sometimes get to approve payment plans, and two-thirds of those who file Chapter 13 are unable to complete payment plans designed by overly optimistic trustees, he said.

"Any interruption in the debtor's income can thwart the plan," Gerdano said.

# Easterners discover Oregon yogurt



Workers at Springfield Creamery, Steven Pancake, right, and Tom George, center, monitor the packaging of quart-sized yogurt in Eugene, Ore., Nov. 20.

## Nancy's Yogurt finds customer base throughout the U.S.

The Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. - Six days a week, hundreds of cases of Nancy's Yogurt emerge from refrigerated trucks onto the sidewalks of New York City, then are whisked into dairy cases at tiny Greenwich Village natural food shops and swank Upper West Side supermarkets.

Many of these stores order daily from the Nancy's line, says Wright Polak, a New York City-based natural foods broker who has worked with the Springfield Creamery, makers of the Nancy's line, for three years.

"They do an amazing amount of volume," Polak says.

It hasn't always been thus. When the creamery began shipping to the East Coast a few years ago, distribution was on-again-off-again, Polak says.

Store buyers grew faithful only after getting many customer requests.

"Once there's a devoted customer base, the retailers will continue stocking it, come hell or high water," Polak says.

Several years ago, the creamery set itself a goal of becoming

a nationwide retailer. That's no easy task in the cutthroat food wholesaling business.

But this past September, the creamery passed an important milestone, offering its products for sale in all 50 states.

Distribution is through regional warehouses of United Natural Foods International, the leading U.S. distributor of natural and organic foods. UNFI supplies more than 14,000 stores, including large natural foods chains, independent natural products retailers and conventional supermarkets.

Reaching a deal with UNFI was key, says Sue Kesey, co-owner of the creamery with her husband, Chuck. Via UNFI, the creamery can maintain a strong presence in big natural food chains such as Whole Foods and Wild Oats.

"You need a presence in the whole country to be able to promote products - all these stores," she says. "We had to be in their radar as more than a regional player."

But like the cultured products the creamery makes, the expansion is taking a long time.

"We've made a commitment to do this," Kesey says, "but it's a slow build. That's what we do best."

This is a great time for the business to enlarge its distribution, says Jerry Dryer, an independent dairy industry analyst and newsletter publisher based in Chicago.

"I see a lot of momentum going in the food business for 'small is better,'" Dryer says, adding that the East Coast has few companies that resemble Springfield Creamery.

"The customer is looking for small, innovative manufacturers."

Yogurt sales have surged in the last 20 years. In 1982, U.S. consumers bought 600 million pounds of yogurt, says James Miller, a dairy analyst for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

By 2002, that had risen to 2.1 billion pounds.

The purity of the Springfield Creamery line sets it apart from many rivals, Dryer says.

"People are opting for a higher quality product," he says, noting that Nancy's has no cornstarch, pectin or fillers and uses

only real fruit.

He also says that products containing probiotics and prebiotics (the live cultures found in Nancy's products and some others) are big sellers.

According to the U.S. Agriculture Department, organic dairy was the fastest-growing segment of the organic food industry in the 1990s, with sales up more than 500 percent between 1994 and 1999.

"Organic is a godsend to dairy farmers," Sue Kesey notes. "It has enabled them to feel like they are getting paid for what they are doing."

Springfield Creamery, which has about 50 employees, makes conventional and organic yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream, cream cheese and kefir.

About 20 Oregon farms supply milk to the creamery.

The Nancy's line, has been available in natural foods stores on the West Coast for more than 30 years and in Fred Meyer stores for 20 years. It can also be found in Safeway stores in Oregon and Northern California and in some independent chains.

# Rebates: The discount that makes people see red

Night Rider News Service

Myrna Barron followed the directions to a T on a mail-in rebate for a L'Oreal hair-coloring kit. She even made photocopies of the UPC code, receipt and all the documents she mailed.

Then she waited. And waited. Eight to 10 weeks later, the Huntington Beach, Calif., resident was still waiting, so she mailed copies of everything again, along with a letter asking what happened to her rebate.

"This time she got a response. 'Rebate submission refused due to no originals.'"

Barron no longer buys L'Oreal products.

It could have been worse. Because of rebates, Ed Meadows lost his whole company.

CenDyne Inc. of Santa Ana, Calif., which Meadows co-founded in 1999, offered rebates galore. That helped make it one of the nation's top sellers of optical drives, with \$50 million in revenue last year. But shelling out at

least \$5 million worth of rebates in a year caused financial problems for CenDyne. In August, its largest investor sued, partly because, it said, the company offered too many rebates.

The investor won the lawsuit, seized control of the company and shut it down.

Meadows is now tied up in court, and the CenDyne customers who sent in rebate forms are out of luck, though some retailers, such as Staples, honored the rebates on CenDyne products purchased at its stores.

"I don't think (rebates) are good for everybody," Meadows says. "They create a tremendous burden on the company selling it. And there's the customer on the other side of the line."

Every consumer seems to have a rebate horror story, and it's no mystery why. Only about 40 percent of buyers actually get the rebates they qualify for, according

to the Aberdeen Group, a Boston-based market research firm.

Aberdeen estimates that 40 percent of rebate forms never get mailed in. In addition, 20 percent more of the forms are disqualified, such as those that arrive without all the required documents.

Michael Parham of Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif., was in that category. He missed out on a

\$30 rebate on a Sony DVD drive because, which required that the fine print, which he didn't read the serial number - on top of the usual receipt, rebate form and UPC code.

"The bottom line is, they want to frustrate you so you just forget about your rebate."

Because only two of five consumers get the rebates they're entitled to, you might think most people hate rebates, but you'd be wrong.

Mail-in rebate offers are on the rise, especially for computer products.

The Begen Corp., a research firm that monitors newspaper advertising, reports that 51 percent of PC products advertised this year included a rebate, up from 44 percent last year. And they're no longer just piddling dollops of cash from makers of toothpaste or car wax. For example, Lake Forest, Calif.'s Western Digital Corp. recently offered a \$100 rebate on a \$250 hard drive.

Please see REBATES, Page B5

# COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

BOISE - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

**Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000**

Ramiro Paz, also known as Ramiro Salinas, Maria Virginia Paz, also known as M. Virginia Paz and Virginia Paz, 693 E. 200 N. Raup, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 03-42724.

Sheila Rush, 1940 Elizabeth Blvd., No. 5, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 03-42725.

Christopher R. Bratt, also known as Chris Bratt, 836 19th Ave. E., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 03-42726.

**Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000**

Julie A. Peterman, 1643 Schodde Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 03-42727.

Charles D. Steele, also known as Chuck Steele and doing business as Steele's Tree Service, 737 E. 2725 S., Hagerman, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40001.

Stephen Leslie Morris, 2901 Alma, Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40002.

Rustin Dee Bowen, also known as Rusty Bowen, and Camille Estes Bowen, also known as Camille Blasius, 228 Sixth Ave. E., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40003.

**Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000**

Kees Jan De Jong, also known as Case Jan De Jong and doing business as De Jong Dairy and Carla May De Jong, 1349 Park Meadows Drive, Twin Falls, individual, business, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 03-42719.

**Chapter 12, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000**

Smith Furs, also known as Smith Fur Farms, Second St. N. 170 W., Malta, partnership, business, Chapter 12, 1-15 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 03-42721.

**Chapter 12, business, \$1 million to \$10 million**

Scott W. Beck and Pulge Darrington Beck, 846 E. 200 N., Burley, individual, business, Chapter 12, 16-49 creditors, assets \$1 million to \$10 million, liabilities \$1 million to \$10 million. Case no. 03-42723.

**Chapter 13, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000**

Johnnie Gilbert Bell and Carolyn Ann Bell, 3003 S. 1600 E., Wendell, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 03-42619.

# Talk about lawyer's fees in advance

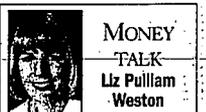
Question: In 1995, I spent \$600 on a living will and trust. Recently I wrote the attorney and asked him to update the trust, since I had sold one house and bought another. Well, he billed me \$395 for basically an address change. I sent \$100 and told him that his charge was too much. He then sent back all of my paperwork and told me to find someone else. Liz, what should I do?

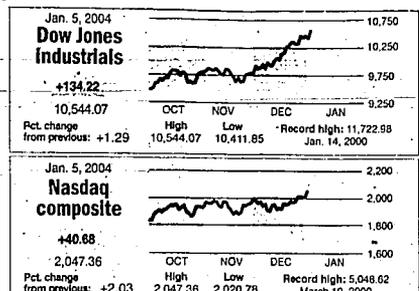
Answer: Apologize and pay the bill.

It's not uncommon to be shocked by a legal bill, or to question whether it was justified. Your pre-emptive response, however, was rude.

You didn't ask the attorney in advance how much his services would cost - your first mistake. (Most professionals will raise their rates during an eight-year period.) The \$600 you paid originally was a bargain, by the way. Many lawyers charge \$2,500 and up for a living trust package.)

If you had talked to him, you would have seen MONEY TALK, Page B6





# Stocks rise sharply on remarks from Fed

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Wall Street began its first full week of 2004 with a solid advance Monday, rising on encouraging interest rate news, a strong semiconductor sales report and an upbeat forecast from software firm Siebel Systems.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 2 percent to its highest point in two years and the Dow Jones industrial average picked up more than 130 points.

Positive high-tech news and a Federal Reserve governor's suggestion that interest rates might remain low sent stocks soaring as many traders got back to work after the holidays. But analysts noted that Wall Street was also following its tendency to rise during the first weeks of the year, and that the market's momentum has carried over from 2003.

"The big picture is still the bull market," said Alfred E. Goldman, chief market strategist with A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc. in St. Louis.

The Nasdaq closed up 40.68 at 2,047.36, after a gain of 1.7 percent last week. It was the Nasdaq's highest close since Jan. 8, 2002, when it closed at 2,055.74.

The Dow closed up 134.22, or 1.3 percent, at 10,544.07, after a 0.3 percent rise last week. The index of 30 actively traded industrial stocks closed higher on March 19, 2002, at 10,635.25.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed up 13.74, or 1.2 percent, at 1,122.22, following a weekly rise of 1.1 percent. It was the S&P's highest close since April 19, 2002, when it ended the day at 1,125.17.

The sharp rise in the tech-dominated Nasdaq index reflected the growing sentiment that consumers and corporations alike are poised to upgrade their computer systems after several years of tight spending.

# Labor Dept. offers employers ways to avoid overtime pay

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Labor Department is giving employers tips on how to avoid paying overtime to some of the 1.3 million low-income workers who would be eligible under new rules expected to be finalized early this year.

The department's advice comes even as it touts the \$895 million in increased wages that

says those workers would be guaranteed from the reforms, which Labor Secretary Elaine Chao called low-override.

The options for employers: cut workers' hourly wages and add the overtime to equal the original salary, or raise salaries to the new \$22,100 annual threshold, making them ineligible.

The department says it is merely listing well-known choices available to employers, even if they are not the best.

"We're not saying anybody should do any of this," said Labor Department spokesman Ed Frank.

A final rule, revising the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act, is expected to be issued in March.

The act defines the types of jobs that qualify workers for time-and-a-half pay for work more than 40 hours a week.

Overtime pay for the 1.3 million low-income workers has been a selling point for the Bush administration in trying to ease concerns in Congress about millions of higher-paid workers becoming ineligible.

# Rebates

**Continued from B4**  
 at Fry's Electronics.

Such offers have enticed consumers like Paul Houle of Costa Mesa, Calif., to make rebating a hobby. He's collected \$2,245 on 114 rebates in the past 18 months. Even as a pseudo-professional rebater, Houle says, it hasn't been easy.

"Sometimes the rebate forms ... are missing, or the form they give you is wrong or has already expired," he said.

"You've got to have the right forms and documents, no matter what the sales clerk says, Houle said.

"They'll say, 'Oh, don't worry, they'll still honor it,' Yeah, sure."

It's a love-hate relationship. Consumers like the discounts that rebates offer. Retailers and manufacturers like the sales they bring. Many like the extra work. And retailers have been blamed when a manufacturer's rebate goes sour.

For manufacturers, rebates can be a headache they're unable to avoid.

Some retailers won't put a manufacturer's product in an ad or on the shelves unless rebates are part of the offer.

"It's all part of the negotiation process with the retailer," said Bradley Morse, vice president of marketing at D-Link Systems

Inc. in Irvine, Calif.

Manufacturers also use rebates to lower prices temporarily, to increase market share and to gain demographic information on customers. If a

retailer offers rebates, a company often will follow suit, even if that cuts into the bottom line.

ers, retailers and rebate fulfillment centers, at [www.techbargains.com/rebates.cfm](http://www.techbargains.com/rebates.cfm) (toward the bottom).

**The Rip-Off Report**, at [www.ripoffreport.com](http://www.ripoffreport.com), lets you search for complaints made about a specific merchant. It also offers merchants a way to rebut charges. Its editor, Ed Magdesian, who favors federal standards for rebates, said he has received some 35,000 complaints regarding mail-in rebates in less than two years.

His Phoenix-based site lets consumers post their own contact numbers and addresses for several manufacturers.

# NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Name	Div	Last	Chg	High	Low	Volume	Open	Close
AAEQ	0.65	47.00	+0.25	47.25	46.75	100	47.00	47.25
AAIC	0.50	45.00	+0.25	45.25	44.75	100	45.00	45.25
AAJL	0.35	42.00	+0.15	42.15	41.85	100	42.00	42.15
AAK	0.25	40.00	+0.10	40.10	39.85	100	40.00	40.10
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
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AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
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AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
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AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00	36.05
AAKX	0.15	38.00	+0.05	38.05	37.85	100	38.00	38.05
AAKZ	0.10	36.00	+0.05	36.05	35.85	100	36.00</	

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including Mon Commodity, High, Low, Close, and Change. Includes sub-sections for Soybean Meal and Soybean Oil.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table of metals and currency prices, including Gold, Silver, and various international currencies like the Euro and Japanese Yen.

BEANS

Table of bean prices, including Soybean Meal and Soybean Oil, with columns for price and change.

CHEESE

Table of cheese prices, listing various types of cheese and their current market prices.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices, detailing different grades and varieties of potatoes and their prices.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices, including wheat, corn, and soybeans, with price and change data.

SUGAR

Table of sugar prices, listing different grades of sugar and their market values.

POULTRY

Table of poultry prices, including live and frozen chicken and turkey prices.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices, including cattle, hogs, and sheep, with price and change information.

WHEAT

Table of wheat prices, detailing different grades of wheat and their prices.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table of fossil fuel prices, including oil, natural gas, and coal.

WHEAT

Table of wheat prices, detailing different grades of wheat and their prices.

WHEAT

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MONEY TALK

Continued from B4. Also would have discovered there was a bit more involved than "basically an address change." Transferring real estate into and out of a living trust requires a bit of paperwork...

AGGRESSIVE CPAs

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SOMETHING MISSING?

We are unable to customize our stock, mutual fund, or commodity that's not in our report, just call us and we'll try to include it. Please call Ramona Jones at 733-0931, Ext. 262, with your suggestions.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table of mutual fund prices, listing various funds, their prices, and changes. Includes columns for fund name, price, and change.

# COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

## Janitor fills school halls with music

By Lorraine Cavener  
Times-News correspondent

**RUPERT** - If you walk down the hall at Minico High School after the students have gone home and you hear somebody belting out a tune, it is most likely the Singing Janitor.

But the halls of Minico are not the only place where you can hear Thom Stimpson sing.

Stimpson has turned out four CDs and has performed at more than 80 events in two years, such as the Rupert Fourth of July celebration, Festival of Trees in Burley and Rupert Caring and Sharing festival.

He doesn't keep a dime of the profit from the CDs or concerts. The Christmas Council and Rupert Christmas lighting committees are two recipients that have benefited from his CD sales.

"It's a way to get back on track with my life," Stimpson said. "Up until a few years ago I was a greedy person - always wanting money."

His singing ability is a God-given talent, he said. "I'm turning my life around and getting to know God more," he said. "I'm trying to do well with what he has given me."

Stimpson has dabbled with song for most of his life. He started at age 4, harmonizing to a song on the radio. But for years he only sang around his family or at church. Two years ago - 20 years after graduating from Minico High School - he asked Tim Perigo, Minico's athletic director, if he could sing at a high school game. He also had just started working as the outdoor supervisor for the custodial staff at the school.

After his first night on his new job as the custodian, he sang the "National Anthem" at a basketball game. At half-time he sang "God Bless the USA."

"The crowd went nuts. It was a great feeling," Stimpson said. "I felt the emotion from the crowd. The neat thing about it is to see the looks in their eyes."



Thom Stimpson, also known as the Singing Janitor, regularly gives proceeds from his entertaining to charity.

"He brought down the house that night," Perigo said of another of Stimpson's performances. "People were coming up to me and saying 'Where did you get this guy?' It was unbelievable."

Perigo is impressed with Stimpson's giving attitude. "I think the thing that's neat about Thom is that it's not about him," he said. "He's a very giving person. He's been blessed with some gifts."

Perigo also is impressed with Stimpson's job at the school. "He takes a lot of pride in the facilities," Perigo said. "He wants to make sure it's the best. The coaches and the community are fortunate to have someone with so much pride in Minico High School."

Stimpson also started working as the PA announcer at sports events. "The kids love him," Perigo said. "He has a great rapport with

students and staff," Laura Clark, a secretary, said. "He goes out of his way to help everybody."

Stimpson sings at school assemblies and other school events. He also has sang the "National Anthem" at Boise State University and Weber State University and at many other charity events.

"I like doing it. It's using your talent to touch somebody," he said.

He likes how his name has caught on. "Mention the Singing Janitor - people have heard of him," Stimpson said.

Sometimes his son, Mhason, 4, gets up on the stage and sings with him.

"He loves being on the stage. He's quite a ham when he gets up there," Stimpson said. "He sings all the time in the car. I hope to rub off on him a bit."

### Good clean fun

**THOM** Stimpson, A Singing Janitor, benefit concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at Minico High School auditorium. The cost is a donation. Money from the concert will be given to Darren Woodward, a former Minico student, for medical expenses. Stimpson's CD can be purchased at The Bookstore on the Rupert Square. Hours: the Hardware in Paul, So Heavenly Bookstore in Burley, Welch Music in Burley and the Christian Bookstore in Twin Falls. Proceeds go to several local charity organizations. For more information, call Stimpson at 436-0407.

Times-News correspondent Lorraine Cavener can be reached at 208-438-8446 or lcavener@pmt.org.



Castleford FFA members receiving Greenhand degrees include, from left, front: Jessica Elsner, Anna Lopez and Megan Durham; back: Anthony Machado, David Wiseman, Daniel Hill and Jason Bergama. Nathan Pryor is not pictured.



Castleford recipients of FFA Chapter Degrees are, from left, front: Melissa McCoy, Lauren Kline and Jessica Bobango; second row: Angie Gonterman, Echo Frey, Lisa Eastman and Kalen Snelson; back: Michael Brubaker, Lance Bliks and Drew Taylor. Pete Welch is not pictured.

## Castleford FFA awards Greenhand, chapter degrees

**CASTLEFORD** - Castleford FFA members were honored in degree ceremonies, with eight earning Greenhand degrees and 11 chapter degrees.

Chapter officers performed the degree ceremonies in the Cothern Memorial Gymnasium before the Castleford High School student body, under the direction of chapter adviser Roger Wells.

New Greenhands include Jason Bergama, Megan Durham, Jessica Elmsner, Daniel Hill, Anna Lopez, Anthony Machado, Nathan Pryor and David Wiseman.

Recipients must have earned the chapter Discovery Degree and be at least a freshman involved in the Supervised Agricultural Experience program, in which they start, own or

hold a professional position in an existing agriculture enterprise.

Chapter degrees were awarded to Lance Bliks, Jessica Bobango, Michael Brubaker, Lisa Eastman, Echo Frey, Angie Gonterman, Lauren Kline, Michael McCoy, Kalen Snelson, Drew Taylor and Pete Welch.

Recipients must have completed at least 180 hours of agricultural education at or above the ninth-grade level, participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official FFA functions, earned and productively invested at least \$150 or worked at least 45 hours over scheduled class time, led a group discussion, demonstrated first procedures of parliamentary law and have a satisfactory scholastic record.

## We want your news

Please send your news and photos to:

Community Editor  
Pat Marcantonio  
The Times-News  
P.O. Box 548  
Twin Falls, Idaho  
83303  
733-0931 Ext. 288  
737-4042, Ext. 600

Your Mail-Cassia contact:  
Tara Logan  
The Times-News  
1263 Overland Ave.  
Burley, Idaho 83318

**Deadlines**  
For the Sunday page: noon Wednesday  
For the Thursday page: noon Monday  
For the Tuesday page: noon Friday  
For the Saturday page: noon Tuesday  
For the Wednesday page: noon Friday

Fax: 677-4543 or 734-5538  
Email: patm@magvalley.com

## BE COOL AND ARTISTIC

Buhl Middle School sixth-grade art and social studies classes combined to get a message across about the "Be Cool" program, which teaches students to react in a positive way when bullying or teasing becomes a problem for them. The art class, under the direction of Lynn Pappalardo, depicted ways to "be cool." Left is Toni Wuensch with her first-place poster; second is Justin Novacek; third is Jack Hamilton; and honorable mentions went to Jessaka Severa and Jacob Juker. The students learn how to stop the action or how to not get hurt by it, students need to feel safe and secure when they come to school," said Pat-Kyle, school counselor.



MARY LOU POTTS/The Times-News

**St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center**  
William Dayton Neal, son of William and Julie Neal of Bellevue, was born on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003.  
Francesca Jolie Rippe, daughter of Todd Rippe and Lisa Rippe of Ketchum, was born on Monday, Dec. 8, 2003.  
Jaiden McKall Gray, son of Jerrod and Amy Gray of

Shoshone, was born on Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003.  
**Magic Valley Regional Medical Center**  
Aspen Noel Burned, daughter born to Sabrina and Scott Raymond Barnard of Paul, was born Monday, Dec. 29, 2003. Dayna Marie Hanners, daughter of Allison and Kevin Robert Hanners of Twin Falls,

was born Friday, Dec. 26, 2003.  
Conor Brandon Ward, son of Kristen Elizabeth and Sidney Ray Ward of Richfield, was born on Monday, Dec. 29, 2003.  
Abigail Jayne Baker, daughter of Angela Marie and Johnathan David Baker, of Kimberly, was born Thursday, Dec. 30, 2003.  
Megan Anne Maschek, daughter of Emily Brooke and Steven Lee Maschek, of Twin Falls, was

born Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2003.  
Dylan Trent Ray, son of Susan Jean and Randy Eugene Ray of Gooding, was born Monday, Dec. 29, 2003.  
Bridger Dean Foltz, son of Kellie Michelle Brennan, of Twin Falls, was born Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003.  
Enedinda Isabel Muro Gutierrez, daughter of Liana Isabel Muro, of Buhl, was born Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2003.

**Benedicts Family - Medical Center**  
Skyler Gerben VanderZee, son of Gerben and Cynthia VanderZee, was born on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2003.  
Constance Marie Clements, daughter of Eric and Megan Clements, was born on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2003.  
Skyler Jake Gonzales, son of Tommy and Judy Gonzales, was born on Monday, Dec. 22, 2003.

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to:  
The Community Page  
P.O. Box 548  
Twin Falls, ID 83303  
Or fax to: 734-5538.  
Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper.  
More information? Call 735-3278

## STORK REPORT

**Buhl High sells tickets for show and dinner**  
BUHL - Tickets are on sale for the annual dinner theater production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, abridged" with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. and the curtain going up at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 16-17 at the Eighth Street Center, 200 N. Eighth in Buhl.  
Tickets are \$25 per couple, \$15 per single or \$12 for senior citizens.  
This is the Buhl High School drama department's annual fundraiser. The dinner features with a selection of two different entrees. The play is performed by three actors who portray characters from all of Shakespeare's plays. The cast for Jan. 16 is Lara Welch, Jessica Adams and William Slemph. The cast for 17 is Krystel Avelar, Asiel Arroyo and Andrew Hutchinson.  
For reservations, calling David Blaskiewicz at Buhl Middle School, 543-8252.

**Valley High class of 1979 holds planning meeting**  
HAZELTON - A planning meeting for Valley High School's class of 1979 reunion will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at Steve's, 290 S. 600 W., Heyburn.  
Anyone who would like to help with the planning is invited. For more information, call Sheri Mills Schwartz at 235-1922, Angie Holland Homer at 436-5747 or Doug Grant at 829-4282.  
**Aviation ground school starts at CSI**  
TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho will offer the enrichment class, "Private Pilot Aviation Ground School" at 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, Jan. 21 to March 24 in Shields room 106 on the CSI Campus.  
The cost is \$90 plus \$65 to the instructor for materials.  
The class prepares students to pass the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Exam that is a requirement and a first step towards

obtaining the FAA private-pilot certificate. Students will acquire knowledge appropriate to the private pilot level and earn the instructor's endorsement required for taking the FAA exam. Practice test questions will be covered, and consist of actual questions current by on the FAA exam.  
Instructor Nick Pleisich is a commercial pilot; FAA-certified advanced ground, airplane, instrument airplane and multi-engine airplane flight instructor, and managing flight instructor at Pang Inc. Flight Training in Twin Falls.  
For more information or to register, call 732-6290 or 732-6288.  
**Red Cross offers first aid and CPR classes in T.F.**  
TWIN FALLS - American Red Cross first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes will be offered Jan. 8, Jan. 10, Jan. 12-13, and Jan. 24.  
To enroll in any of these classes or for more information about costs, locations and times, call 733-6464.

**Army recruiters are available at flea market this weekend**  
FILER - An indoor flea market will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds.  
There will be a variety of items for sale.  
The U.S. Army will have a recruiting station set up.  
Admission is 50 cents and preschoolers are free. New vendors always welcome. For more information call 532-4439 or 312-4900.  
**Hagerman Historical Society hears from Jon Marvel**  
HAGERMAN - The Hagerman Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m., Jan. 13 at the National Park Service meeting room, 221 N. State St., Hagerman.  
The guest speaker will be Jon Marvel, an Ketchum architect, discussing land and water management.  
For more information, call Ann Bowler at 837-6231.

**American Mothers hold discussion on raising kids**  
TWIN FALLS - The American Mothers Magic Valley Chapter will meet at noon Wednesday in the Great Room at BridgeView Estates, 1828 Bridgeview Blvd. in Twin Falls.  
The program will be a panel discussion on "Raising Children in the 21st Century." All mothers are welcome.  
For more information, call Carol Conover at 734-1588.  
**AARP offers driver safety courses this month**  
TWIN FALLS - Sharpen your driving skills with an AARP driver safety course from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday and Friday at the Twin Falls Office on Aging, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jan. 12-13 at the Heyburn Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce.  
The class is open to anyone age 50 or older, and AARP membership is not required.  
Pre-registration is required and

class fee is \$10. Students must attend both sessions to receive certificate of completion. Idaho law requires insurance companies to give a discount to those 65 and older, with some companies granting the discounts at the age of 50.  
To register or for more information, call Charles Siegel at 733-9680.  
**Magic Valley Square Dancers elects new officers**  
JEROME - The Magic Valley Square Dancers will hold dances at 8 p.m., tonight and every Tuesday at the American Legion Hall in Jerome.  
Dancers with last names beginning with H-O are asked to bring finger food for tonight's dance and help with set up and clean up.  
All square dancers are invited.  
The club recently elected new officers. They are Gary White, president; Betty Rice, vice president; Vicki Harney, secretary; Warren Jack, treasurer; and Vera Young and Pat Hadley, representatives.

# COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY

## TECH TREASURES

Despite some inconveniences, we benefit greatly from digital technology

By Phillip Ridder News Knight Ridder News Service

Viruses, crashes, hugs, support that doesn't technology can be a pain.

But it can also be a pleasure. Tech lets us do some things that were difficult or even impossible before. The words "free," "instant," and "worldwide" come up a lot.

As an end to 2003 and a start for 2004, here's my list of some of the best things even mere humans can get from digital technology.

1. Instant free worldwide communication. Some of my family members teach school in Saudi Arabia. Just a few years ago, calling to the states was hideously expensive. Improved phone systems have made the calls sort of affordable. Even better, email has made communications just about free. And Instant Messaging makes them free and immediate. That was a godsend when the bombs hit international compounds in the Saudi capital a few months back. Jammed phone lines and high charges weren't a problem: a few quick IMs and

emails and we knew everyone there was safe. And soon we knew we'll be adding regular video to those messages.

2. Cheap personal phones. A phone used to be a place thing. Now it's a person thing. And that means I can call to say I'm late without having to stop at some dark, godforsaken place to use a possibly broken pay phone. It means my daughter can have a little more freedom to wander because I know she can immediately call me or 911 if she's in trouble. It means I don't have to wait by the phone for an important call - because the phone waits for me. And these phones aren't just for the rich and famous. Cheap, prepaid phones sit right there at my corner 7/11 store, alongside chips, magazines, and beer.

3. Instant free photos. Digital cameras aren't cheap. They still cost several times as much as comparable film cameras - say \$500 instead of \$200 for a flexible, powerful model. But that \$500 camera now gives you pictures of about the same quality as the film camera, instead of the "well, they aren't very good, but

they are immediate, and you can mess with them in the computer" pictures of 1990's digital cameras. And you'll have a hard time going back to a film camera after you've really played with a digital because their pictures are free and instant. I can take my camera out right now on a walk, shoot 10, 50, 100 shots if I like, not worrying about the cost of film so I just shoot and shoot, then bring it home, move the pictures into the computer, and see them on screen immediately. Next I can email them to family members without paying for film or processing, my entire family can see the grandkids or the sunset the same hour it happens. Because I use rechargeable batteries, rarely print photos, and send copies using the Internet, I can take and share thousands of digital pictures a month at basically no cost.

4. Free photo portability and protection. This is a tech extra that many people don't yet take advantage of, but with even an average-sized hard drive you can keep thousands of personal photos with you all of the time. Your

entire photo albums can be on that laptop, ready to show to anyone, anywhere. And with just a few recordable CDs or DVDs, you can make copies of all of those thousands to put away for safe-keeping or to give to relatives. Try safe-copying all of your traditional negatives and prints that easily, or having them all on hand to show without loading down a coffee table with stacks of thick albums.

5. Worldwide free market. You can now buy and sell things to people all over the world, people you never would have had contact with any other way. The perfect example: my dad wanted to buy my mom a book about a special kind of embroidery, something from our family heritage. There weren't any books on this subject in local stores or libraries, or even in the well-known online bookstores. But Alibris.com, a used-book market online, showed that there was one, single copy for sale in the entire world, by someone in Australia. The distance didn't matter. Soon that book was headed for the United States, at a total cost of about \$30 plus maybe an hour on the Internet.

## Personal server offers painless way to backup

By Frank Bajak Associated Press writer

NEW YORK - The computer server, workhorse of the Internet and corporate world, just got personal. And remarkably user-friendly.

That's a very good thing indeed, because the chore we all loathe and too often neglect is backing up our exploding data store, which is worth so much more to us than our various computers.

Intimidating to the non-geek, the server is normally thought of as a machine that's entrusted to network managers. Nothing we can fathom without stacks of manuals and hours to burn.

The Mirra Personal Server from Mirra Inc. changes that. It offers mere mortals easy and automatic backups they can handle alone.

Anyone with a few networked computers at home or in a home office should take a serious look at the Mirra. Just hook it up to your network, select what you want to back up, and walk away.

You can also share your data over the Internet with whomever you wish. All they need is an e-mail address and a Web browser.

Leave a file at home? No problem. Fetch it from any Net-connected computer with Mirra's remote access feature. Want to share photos - or bulky databases for that matter - with your siblings? Simply set up a share.

This Linux operating system-based machine, at \$499 for a 120-gigabyte model (and \$399 for 80GB), is designed to be idiot-proof. I've tried earlier such inventions and they were frustratingly complex.

The Mirra's interface is uncluttered. And it works in the background, keeping all the folders you've marked for backup current even as you change their contents. (Mirra stores the eight most recent versions of each file.)

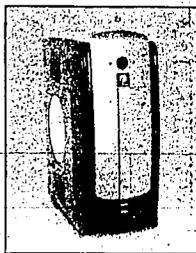
The initial version I tested wasn't fast - the company admits it takes about 30 minutes to transfer a gigabyte of data, and I needed eight minutes to restore a 220MB file to a new location. But the Mirra didn't fail me in a month of testing.

And Mirra Inc. promises that version 1.1, due out Jan. 8, will be faster and even easier to use.

The basic requirements:

- A home network with a persistent high-speed Internet connection.
- Windows 2000 or Windows XP operating system.
- A network router or hub with an available Ethernet port.

After plugging in the Mirra, you install its software on the computer you want to back up. That can include any laptops you take on



The Mirra Personal Server, shown in an undated promotional photo, offers easy and automatic backups and lets the user share mirrored data via the Internet.

### Product review

The Mirra. This feature I loved, as Mirra worked fine over a Wi-Fi wireless connection.

Other things I liked about Mirra:

- When accessing it remotely you have the option of using SSL encryption. It's slower, but offers security. Or you can go unencrypted for faster download.
- Because it runs on Linux, Mirra is - not - susceptible to Windows viruses.
- It works just fine with firewalls.

- Things I wished Mirra had:
  - A cancel button. The process for canceling a backup in progress is cumbersome and can be slow.
  - The ability to back up files larger than the current 2.1-gigabyte limit. (This is a Linux restriction, Mirra says.)

- Online sharing worked fine, if somewhat sluggishly, but you can't see thumbnails of photos shared by the Mirra as you can on your home network. The company says version 1.1 will provide thumbnails of images in JPEG format and improve its Web performance.

Mirra sells the servers on its Web site and at 10 Best Buy stores and says they will be available from at BestBuy.com in mid-January.

OK, here's where I come clean: I was way too erratic in my backup regime before Mirra.

Of course I could have tried installing a redundant array of mirrored hard drives in my home PC. But that's a costly and cumbersome adventure for non-corporate users.

Granted, the Mirra is not cheap. But I know no better solution for hassle-free backups in the home.

## Listening to books is made easier

By James Coates Chicago Tribune

Q. I like to listen to books on CD while walking or using the treadmill. However, the skipping is quite annoying. A friend suggested an MP3 player, and after doing a lot of research on the various players I am still at a loss as to how much memory is needed to download an entire book (or transfer from CD to an MP3 player via my PC). The specifications for each model refer only to music tracks and not the spoken word. I downloaded the instruction manuals for the Rio Call 128 megabyte and 256 mb players and still have no idea what to buy.

-Kathy Tuite, Chicago

A. It's this simple, Ms. T.: a megabyte per minute for storing audio files. So a 128 mb music

player holds a minimum of 2 hours worth of tunes, and a 256 mb player can handle 4 hours. If you can stay on a treadmill long enough to run even the 128 mb device dry of music, you'll be fitter and trimmer than before. Companies like Audible (www.audible.com) that sell books recorded into computer files offer voice files that are far more compressed than music files can be squeezed.

According to operators of the Audible.com Web service, spoken-word books can be squashed to the extent that a 128 mb player could play up to a whopping 40 hours using Audible's most powerful and lowest-quality sound files. It will play more than 16 hours of better-quality files from Audible.

The idea with recorded books is that you keep them on a hard drive or a CD at the same 1-minute-per-megabyte as other MP3s, and then use special compression software to temporarily move them to portable devices.

I should add that most of the folks I know who use computer devices to listen to music and books favor the larger devices pioneered by Apple's iPod, which start at \$300 and hold a whopping 10 gigabytes of data, good for more than 40 times the data a 256 mb device can hold.

I'd suggest that you check out Audible.com for file-size details as well as a listing of compatible MP3 sound players.

Let me add that although the megabyte-per-minute estimate is a realistic minimum for music files, it also is true that most files today are compressed tighter, and so you'll get more, sometimes a lot more, storage on any device.

## SEPARATING GOOD FROM THE BAD



Humberto Hernandez uses a screwdriver to open up a broken computer. D. 19 in Tucson, Ariz., while separating working and broken parts in the computers. Desert Waste Not Warehouse finds ways to keep computers and their hazardous materials out of landfills and provides job training for workers and free computers for children of low-income families.

## Computer tool for parents dispenses play time to children

By Craig Crossman Knight Ridder News Service

Electronic devices help to make our lives better. As adults, we hope we've learned how to manage the time we spend on these devices. But to many children, the computer is seen primarily as a form of entertainment rather than a productivity tool. Some devices such as the Xbox and PlayStation are clearly for entertainment only. DVD players and the TV, while mostly used for pleasure do have some redeeming values when it comes to public access broadcasts and educational videos. As parents, it can be tough trying to set limitations on all of these gizmos. Keeping track of which child can use what device and for how long can become an unmanageable task. Fortunately, there's an electronic system that can help you get a handle on a lot of it.

The EyeTimer (www.eyetimer.com) is an electronic system that lets parents set limits on the time their children

spend on electronic entertainment. Consisting of a transmitter, receiver units and software, the EyeTimer lets parents set up weekly "Time Budgets" as a guideline for kids to manage their own time. With the EyeTimer system in place, the parent's job is to set how much time a child has to spend on a device within a given period. The children can decide for themselves on how they wish to spend that time.

Initially, you install the EyeTimer software on your windows-based computer. If you're concerned about is regulating the usage of the computer, you don't need anything else. The software lets you set individual computer usage Time Budgets for each child. The software locks and unlocks the computer based upon the Time Budgets set by the parents. When you are ready to expand the system, attach an EyeTimer transmitter to the computer. Each device you wish to control requires a receiver unit into which you plug the device and then plug

into the wall socket. The EyeTimer will send a radio signal to the appropriate receiver that switches the power to that device on and off.

So let's say for example that you want little Johnny to watch TV for one hour a day or five hours per week. When he wants to watch TV, Johnny signs on to EyeTimer. If he is within his allotted time, the EyeTimer will send a signal to the TV receiver and Johnny can watch his favorite show. When the time is up, off goes the TV. This scenario applies to the Xbox, DVD player and just about any other electronic device special AC power.

A special "Study Mode" feature lets children access word processing and other school related applications on your PC without locking their entertainment Time Budgets. A special log file keeps track of which applications were being used and at what time, just in case little Johnny decided to play a few games of Diablo instead of finishing that homework report.

## Drugs, debt, degrees make up most annoying e-mails

By Frank Barnako Knight Ridder News Service

Drugs, debt and degrees were among the most annoying e-mail subjects reported to the spam police at America Online last year. The online service's subscribers used their Report Spam buttons most often on subject lines that included the words "Viagra," "Xanax," "online phar-

macy," "get out of debt" and "online degree."

AOL, a Time Warner subsidiary, said it blocked a total of almost 500 billion spam e-mails during the year - or, on average, 15.00 per member. Also on the subject line of most-reported junk e-mail: "As seen on Oprah."

Meanwhile, the New York Times topped up the most popular news articles, magazine pieces

and opinion articles e-mailed from its Web site, <http://www.nytimes.com/>. The winners included a copy of a memo from a New York City attorney asking a paralegal to research good sushi restaurants in the area, and her report; a story about the Pentagon's plans for a futures market on possible terrorist incidents, and a report on how people may be taking too many vitamins.

## Report indicates 50 percent drop in music downloads

Knight Ridder News Service

ORLANDO, Fla. - The record industry's legal war against music pirates could hardly be more effective-if the swashbuckling movie ship's captain Russell Crowe were at the helm, a new study shows.

Since early fall, the number of online Americans engaged in swapping digital music files has declined by 50 percent, says a study released by the Pew Internet & American Life Project.

A nationwide telephone survey of 1,358 Web users suggests the number of music downloaders plummeted from 35 million to 18 million between late May and mid-December.

The "dramatic plunge" in swapping and sharing of songs was prompted both by a spate of lawsuits and also by the growth of new, legal online music stores, said Mary Madden, co-author of the new Pew report.

"We are assuming the lawsuits by the Recording Industry Association of America have impacted the numbers of downloaders," she said.

"We also realize there are probably more people who are still downloading than admit to it. Even so, there has been a huge decline."

A recent federal court ruling is expected by legal experts to make it tougher for the RIAA to find and prosecute illegal file sharers, raising the possibility of a reversal in the recent data showing a decline among downloaders.

"There will be a number of people confused by all this, who won't want to deal with the potential legal hassle," Madden said.

"There are definitely others who've been scared away, but there will be younger Web users continuing to download files. They're the hardest to stop because it's so ingrained in their behavior."

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COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



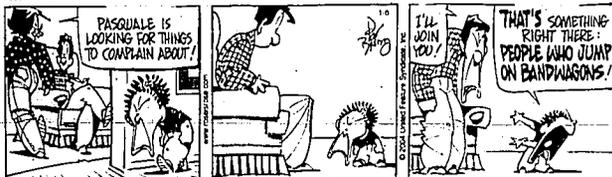
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



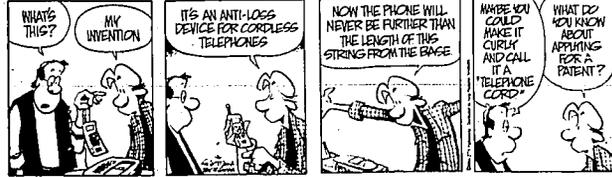
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



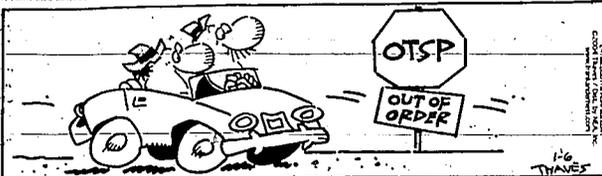
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



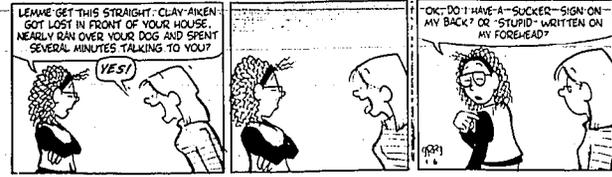
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Luan

By Greg Evans



The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



LEAGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS...

LEAGALS

Game headquarters, 600 South Walnut, PO Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707. DATED this 31st day of December, 2003...

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS

Please check your ad on the first day. If you find an error we will correct it.

CARD OF THANKS

The thoughts, prayers, and kind acts of relatives, friends, our community, as well as people unknown to us were greatly appreciated in our 30-day tragic event.

SPECIAL NOTICES

It is against Twin Falls City Ordinance to top trees that are in the City's right-of-way.

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND Australian corgi, white, blue eyes, nursing mother, found New Year's day, on Locust S. of Kimberly Rd Dab 734-4887.

FOUND Cat, long-haired, calico, in West Heyburn area, call 208-479-4551.

FOUND German Shepherd, female, found Sunday, call 733-7884 from 8-5pm.

FOUND Lab black, 3514 N 3200 E Twin Falls, call 208-734-1855.

FOUND dog near Smith's and Rito-Ad in Burley on Saturday December 27. Call to identify, 208-438-8224.

FOUND black leg female, broken leg possibly broken hip, needs 24/7 care, call 208-738-6794.

LOST Laborator Retriever-AWARD, West of Buhl on 12/08/03, call 208-438-8224.

LOST black, 1 young, 1 young black with collar & tags, call 208-438-8224.

LOST black, by canyon near mall lot, female, colored, black collar, 3-4 months old, call 208-438-8224.

LOST cat, white, short-haired male, cream colored ears/tail, blue eyes, call 208-438-8224.

LOST black, 1 young, 1 young black with collar & tags, call 208-438-8224.

LOST Golden Retriever, 12 weeks old, large black training collar, Northeast section of Jerome on 12/31, call 208-438-8224.

LOST Lab, big red with red collar, lost between Twin Falls and Kimberly, call 733-8226.

LOST Lab, yellow, 1 year old, red collar, named 'Duke', call 208-438-8224.

LOST Pit Bull/Ranger, red nose, male, brown with brown tiger stripes, clipped ears, long tail, Respond to the name 'Toto', \$200 Reward, call 208-420-0000.

LOST saw horse, steel, missing bolt, call 208-438-8224.

GOLDEN AGE II family home care opening, 3300 N. Liberal road, accepts Medicaid, 738-7555.

LOOKING FOR live-in help for senior, Housekeeper, some cooking, 543-4277.

CHILD CARE SERVICES

BABYSITTING in my home 24 hr. \$85 weekly per child, in Jerome, call 208-738-4640.

BELLY BANDS AND KEELHUGS DAYCARE Mail & media included, ICCP and CPR training, 24 hours, Meals & snacks included, All ages, 208-738-4193.

EMPLOYMENT

ASKING QUESTIONS - Conduct public opinion poll over the telephone. ABSOLUTELY NO SALES!!!

CLERICAL Office assistant, basic office experience, 5000 salary, send resume to: PO Box T, Kimberly, Idaho 83441.

CLERICAL Secretarial/Receptionist position avail. Personable with front office skills, responsible for office flow and client relations; requires strong organizational skills; bookkeeping and/or accounting experience a plus. Send resume to Office Position, P.O. Box AN, Twin Falls, Idaho 83403.

CLERICAL Class A CDL needed. Training and help. Call 543-8044.

DRIVERS Full-time driving instructor. Call 735-5208.

DRIVERS B&T Truck Driving School New career, see places available over the telephone. Changes come in CDL drivers. 737-9272 or 737-4849.

DRIVERS Flatbeds, w/ at least 1 yr. OTR exp. Operate in 11 west states. Exp. pay & benefits. Home regularly. 800-453-2227.

DRIVERS Terminals to terminal Drop & hook only. 800-465-5152.

DRIVERS Class A CDL needed. Training and help. Call 543-8044.

DRIVERS Full-time driving instructor. Call 735-5208.

DRIVERS 18 Western states & Alberta Home weekly, rider program, health insurance, fuel and job bonuses. Call 888-865-7600.

DRIVERS Needed late or solo. Weekly California runs. Home Office. Call 208-543-5384 for application leave message.

DRIVERS Considering the purchase of a Pet Check out classified. Call 733-0331.

CLERICAL Trucking Company in Jerome has a Dispatch Assistant position opening. Computer and telephone skills required. Resumes to: Box 93379, c/o The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83303.

CONSTRUCTION Rooter/welder preferred, must have own truck, Call 420-6529.

DISPATCHER Needed for local feed co. Must be able to manage & schedule drivers & work well w/peeps. Computer exp. & organizational skills req. Fast pace & exc. career opportunity for the right person. Exp. pay & benefits. Resume to: JD Haskell Box 639 Wendell Id., 83355.

DRIVERS Full-time driving instructor. Call 735-5208.

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MECHANIC FT. diesel mechanic for local trucking company. Must have own tools. Benefits. Wage DOE. Resumes to: Box 93379, c/o The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.

NEW YEAR Are you looking for a new position? We may have the perfect opportunity for you: Customer Service, Sales Training, Managerial Training. We offer promotions from within, a growing company, and excellent benefits to earn while you learn. Call Monday for Interview 734-2863.

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MEDIA MARKETING SUPPORT The Times-News / Ag Weekly accepting applications for a full-time Media marketing and professional position. This position will be responsible for updating visual projection elements and in putting news releases for AG Weekly as well as managing multiple mailing lists and databases. This is a great entry-level position for someone interested in media distribution and marketing. Ideal candidates will possess a working knowledge of basic mailing rules and regulations and have good keyboarding skills. They will be computer literate, have good attention to detail and work well independently. If interested, please send resume to: Janet Groe Workplace@timesnews.com

MEDICAL Idaho Home Health & Hospice wants you to be part of our expanding team! We are now accepting applications for part-time CNA's and RN's in our central Idaho. Please apply in person at the Magy Valley Mall location.

SALES Robyn Todd now hiring PT Sales Associate position. Apply at the Magy Valley Mall location.

SALES WE'RE LOOKING FOR 'SOMEONE SPECIAL'... To be a part of our exciting team we are accepting applications for a friendly and creative sales associate. We offer a competitive salary, excellent benefits, and a great work environment. Apply in person at 147 Main Ave., Twin Falls, ID.

WAREHOUSE Order completion specialist. FT with benefits. Mon-Fri, 8:30am-12:30pm, \$9.50/hr. High school graduate. Drug screen and apt. test. LH 50 lbs. continuously and 100 lbs. occasionally. Applications available at: 1801 Highland Ave. TP

WELDER Experienced welder, 3+ yrs of MIG welding & college course completed. Must be dependable, hard working & a team player. (5) 8 hour shifts, some weekend work. Benefits avail., good wage & working environment. Apply at: Charnack Trailers 452 South Park, Twin Falls. No phone calls please.

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION The Times-News is accepting applications for a part-time District Manager Assistant. This position will answer phones, deliver missed papers, and deliver routes on Saturday and Sunday mornings as needed. Ideal candidates should be dependable, have a pleasant demeanor, and have a reliable transportation. Interested candidates should fill out application at The Times-News.

RECEPTIONIST Full-time receptionist position available at busy chiropractic office. We are looking for a friendly, confident individual with strong interpersonal working with people. Salary commensurate with experience. Bring resume to 1738 Addison Ave. E.

RECEPTIONIST Busy law firm in Twin Falls seeks candidate for full-time receptionist/clerical position. Requires excellent people-orientation skills, the ability to multi-task and handle several phone lines. Computer literacy a plus. Excellent benefits. Send resume to: The Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301.

RESTAURANT Armand's Food Service has opening for Food Production Supervisor. Applicants must have 2+ years of experience in food production, ordering, & inventory. Should have min. of 2 yrs. supervisory exp. apply in person at the CSI (Taylor building) 2nd floor ask for Tom EOE.

RESTAURANT Noting all positions. Days & nights. Apply in person at: Armand's Food Service, 147 Main St. Blue Laces Pizza Hut.

SALES Idaho's Largest Mattress & Bedding Retailer seeking enthusiastic candidate with previous sales experience, for our Twin Falls store. Full-time position. Guaranteed draw, 40% dental, health insurance, paid vacation, Bi-lingual a plus. Please send resume to: Everson Mattress Factory 222 S. 2nd St. Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 or fax 208-733-0892 or inquiry call 208-283-7111 ask for Bob Hancock.

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BUHL COUNTRY 1.2 acres with a 3 bdrm, 2 bath home. Call: 208-734-5538

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PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Big profits usually mean big risk. Before you do business with a company, do your homework. Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

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TWIN FALLS 1233 Alder Drive 2100 sq. ft. lovely 4 bdrm, tile roof home on 1/4 acre. \$124,900. Title & Realty 208-734-4667.

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JEROME great neighborhood, 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2300 sq. ft., \$99,900. (replace, work rm, 1471 Riser Dr. 208-549-8806.

THINKING OF BUILDING? Call The Rasmussen Team at Gem State Realty. We are the exclusive representatives of TKO Homes, "The Affordable Builders" complete home and lot packages starting at \$124,900. Title & Realty Rasmussen, President at The Rasmussen Team at 737-3000 or call phone 410-2807.

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Call Jeni at 208-733-0931 ext. 302.

MAGIC VALLEY REALTORS ONLINE

113 CHILD CARE SERVICES

BABYSITTING in my home 24 hr. \$85 weekly per child, in Jerome, call 208-738-4640.

BELLY BANDS AND KEELHUGS DAYCARE Mail & media included, ICCP and CPR training, 24 hours, Meals & snacks included, All ages, 208-738-4193.

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CLERICAL Secretarial/Receptionist position avail. Personable with front office skills, responsible for office flow and client relations; requires strong organizational skills; bookkeeping and/or accounting experience a plus. Send resume to Office Position, P.O. Box AN, Twin Falls, Idaho 83403.

DRIVERS Full-time driving instructor. Call 735-5208.

DRIVERS 18 Western states & Alberta Home weekly, rider program, health insurance, fuel and job bonuses. Call 888-865-7600.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom home, fenced yard, beautiful granite, 4800 sq. ft. Van Buron. 208-735-8531

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514 INCOME PROPERTY... TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom nice yard. \$475 + deposit. 512 5th Ave E. 734-6029

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED... ALL MAGIC VALLEY AREA I will buy/lease your home. Any price. Any condition.

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES... ARIZONA Bullhead City across the river from Laughlin. Do you want to be a landlord?

522 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BUHL Close to School, 2 bdrm, 1 bath home. W/D hookup. No appls. Nice lot.

RUPERT 4 bdrm, horse corral/hay field, \$650,000. Call 208-331-2773

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom nice yard. \$475 + deposit. 512 5th Ave E. 734-6029

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, w/d, 2800 sq. ft., older home, remodeled w/ new cabinets, hardwood floors, fenced yard w/d.

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED... ALL MAGIC VALLEY AREA I will buy/lease your home. Any price. Any condition.

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES... ARIZONA Bullhead City across the river from Laughlin. Do you want to be a landlord?

522 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BUHL Close to School, 2 bdrm, 1 bath home. W/D hookup. No appls. Nice lot.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, horse corral/hay field, \$650,000. Call 208-331-2773

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom duplex, W/D hookup, \$400. Call 208-294-7111

FAWN BROOK PARTMENTS... 2 BDRM / 2 BATH \$499 3 BDRM / 2 BATH \$499

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff
One man's observation is another man's closed book or flight of fancy.
Willard Van Orman Quine

WEST EAST
3 J 10 9 6 5
2 Q 8 4
2 2 10
4 A K 8 6 3
4 A Q 6

South:
4 Q 4
4 9 4
A K 8 6 3
A Q 6
South West North East
2 Pass 3 Pass
Opening lead: Spade three

BID WITH THE ACES
South holds:
4 Q 4
4 9 4
A K 8 6 3
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514 INCOME PROPERTY... TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom nice yard. \$475 + deposit. 512 5th Ave E. 734-6029

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