



The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 39

Sunday, February 8, 2004

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy, snow still possible. Tonight, partly to mostly cloudy. High of 35, low of 16.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Lawsuit: Man sues city of Richfield and its council over denial of building permit. Page B1

CENTENNIAL



Quirky tradition: Twin Falls man loves family's long-lived phone number. Page E6

MONEY

One in the hand: Cell phone change face of business. Page C6

FAMILY LIFE

ABC's, all day: Parents, schools begin to like all-day kindergarten. Page E1

SPORTS



Single in the sun: Vijay Singh took control Saturday at Pebble Beach. Page C1

OPINION

Quality responses: Twin Falls resident survey shows what goes into effective local government, today's editorial says.

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Going white



Sara Garner pushes her son Josh (front), daughter Ali (back) and friend Toni Dangales (middle), down the Hill In Bona Vista Park, Saturday. Between seven and 10 inches of snow fell in the Twin Falls area Friday night and early Saturday morning.

Old man winter packs a punch

By Rebecca Maany
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Residents of south-central Idaho woke up Saturday morning to a reminder that spring is still six weeks away. Overnight snowfalls totaled 10 inches in Twin Falls, which is double

the normal amount for Feb. 7 and may be a record, according to the National Weather Service in Boise. Record amounts could not be verified by The Times-News' deadline.

The slick roads caused one fatal car crash in Twin Falls County. The two-vehicle accident happened around 8:30 a.m. Saturday at 1900

E. and Highway 30, said Dee Silver, supervisor at the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center. One person was reported dead at the scene, with four others transported to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department could not be reached

for additional information.

So many accidents and slide-offs occurred Saturday that Silver was unable to immediately estimate their number.

An ambulance was among the vehicles to get stuck in snow, she said.

M.V. hospital salaries trail in state

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - At the local hospital, the man who holds the top office also draws the top salary.

John Kee, Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's chief executive officer, will make a base salary of \$165,000 this year to manage a 233-bed hospital with 1,421 employees.

That's significantly less than his counterparts in Pocatello and Coeur d'Alene make. Pat Hermanson, CEO of the county-owned Portneuf Medical Center in Pocatello, will make \$220,501 to manage a 359-bed hospital with 1,334 employees, while Joe Morris, CEO of the district-owned Kootenai Medical Center, will get

\$295,000 to manage a 282-bed hospital with 1,623 employees.

For purposes of comparison, The Times-News asked for and received salary information from two other publicly owned Idaho hospitals of comparable size: the

Portneuf and Kootenai medical centers.

When it comes to the average salaries of all employees at those three Idaho hospitals, Twin Falls County-owned Magic Valley

Money Medicine

Hospital salaries

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center salary records, obtained by The Times-News for a second year, provide a unique glimpse inside south-central Idaho's biggest employer - and inside the fiercely competitive health care field.

Today

- What the hospital's leadership team made page A10
- Extra hours bring bigger paychecks page A10
- Top extra-pay earners page A10

Monday

- Therapists try to pick up the slack.
- What therapists are paid.
- Aiming to ease shortage.

Please see SALARIES, Page A10



Michelle Reed, a paramedic with Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, prepares an ambulance for service after delivering a patient to the hospital. Most of Magic Valley Regional's employees received 2 percent raises for 2003-04, while the majority of the hospital's top managers did not get raises. Paramedics, nurses and technicians continue to bring in significant extra dollars in addition to their base salaries in a combination of overtime, shift differential and on-call pay.



Dr. Jorge Lazareff of UCLA's Mattel Children's Hospital in news conference in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Saturday.

Infant dies after surgery to remove second head

The Associated Press

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic - An infant girl born with a second head bled to death Saturday after complex surgery to remove her partially formed twin, her parents and doctors said.

A medical team completed the 11-hour operation Friday night and said 8-week-old Rebeca Martinez died seven hours later. Doctors had warned after the surgery that the girl would be at great risk of infection or hemorrhaging.

"We knew this was a very risky

surgery, and now we accept what God has decided," Rebeca's father, 29-year-old Franklin Martinez, said at a news conference with his wife.

"Rebeca is no longer with us physically, but no one will forget her," Martinez said the family would bury Rebeca in a private funeral later in the day.

The girl lost a lot of blood in the operation, which apparently caused her to suffer a heart attack, said Dr. Jorge Lazareff, the lead surgeon. Friends and family donated almost 4 gallons of blood for surgeons to use during

Rebeca's operation.

"This was not a failure or an error," Lazareff said. "When we left here last night at midnight the girl was in stable condition. At some point in the middle of the night, she started to bleed."

Rebeca was born Dec. 10 with the undeveloped head of her twin, an extremely rare condition known as craniopagus parasiticus.

Fully developed twins born conjoined at the head are extremely rare, accounting for one of every 2.5 million births, but parasitic twins, where one twin stops devel-

oping in the womb, are even rarer. Rebeca was the eighth documented case in the world of craniopagus parasiticus, doctors said.

All the other infants documented to have had the condition died before birth, making Rebeca's surgery the first known operation of its kind.

Without an operation, Rebeca would have barely been able to lift her head at 3 months old. Her doctors said the pressure from the second head, attached on top of the first and facing up, would have prevented her brain from developing.

<p>7 days, 7 reasons to read</p> <p>Value of health</p> <p>Do you know the facts about mammograms?</p> <p>Monday</p>	<p>Catching up</p> <p>Local man reconnects with an old Vietnam buddy.</p> <p>Tuesday</p>	<p>Valentine flowers</p> <p>They do tell a story.</p> <p>Wednesday</p>	<p>Scrapbooks</p> <p>Photos tie families together.</p> <p>Thursday</p>	<p>Dear Abby</p> <p>Wife stops swinging, puts her feet on the ground.</p> <p>Friday</p>	<p>Temple Square</p> <p>Check out this local teacher's exhibit.</p> <p>Saturday</p>	<p>Keeping amused in T.F.</p> <p>How Twin Falls residents entertained themselves in the old days.</p> <p>Sunday</p>
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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow... Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow... Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow...

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 35, Low 16).

Yesterday's Weather

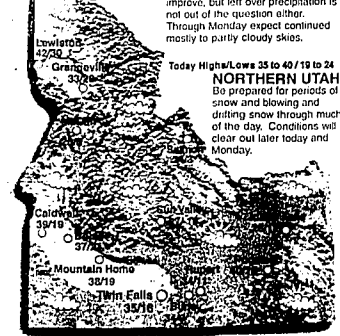
Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for Boise, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, etc.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Fair to partly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow... Tonight: Fair to partly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow... Tomorrow: Fair to partly cloudy with a dull afternoon for left over light snow...

PAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.: Left over snow showers are still in the forecast over the next couple of days as a trough of low pressure remains in place.



ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes monthly and daily data.

MOON PHASES

Table with 2 columns: Moon Phase, Time. Shows phases like Last Old, First Old, Full Moon.

MOONRISE and MOONSET

Table with 2 columns: Moonrise, Moonset. Lists times for today and tomorrow.

U.V. INDEX

Table with 2 columns: U.V. Index, Sun Protection. Shows index levels and corresponding protection advice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Boise, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, etc.

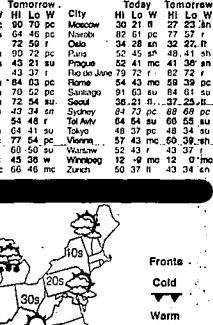
NATIONAL FORECAST

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

WORLD FORECAST

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

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



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CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Canadian cities.

IRAQ

Continued from A1. What could happen if he should refuse to come clean about disarming... The secretary suggested that Libya had an eye on what had happened in Iraq when the Libyan leader, Moammar Gadhafi, voluntarily ended his weapons ambitions in December.

IRAQ

secretary said. Rumsfeld said there was more at stake in Iraq than just banned weapons. He asserted that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have liberated 50 million oppressed people.

IRAQ

"The lessons from those experiences should be clear: pursuit of weapons of mass murder can carry with it costs. By contrast, leaders who abandon the pursuit of those weapons and the means to deliver them will find an open path to better relations with the free nations of the world," Rumsfeld said.

Clark struggles prior to Tennessee vote

Los Angeles Times. NASHVILLE, Tenn. — On Feb. 3, aides to Wesley K. Clark were quietly arranging for the retired general to fly home and drop out of the Democratic presidential race when he found reason to go on by eking out a win in the Oklahoma primary. He now faces another make-or-break contest in Tennessee.



Virginia, which also holds its primary Tuesday, though he is spending the bulk of his time and money in Tennessee. His television ads aired in the state for more than a month. Kerry and Edwards have been on the air about a week.

His campaign has suffered relentless scheduling problems, making so many last-minute changes that Clark often runs an hour or two late, and sometimes speed-speaks to audiences to try and catch up. At a Coffee County Democratic Party event recently in Manchester, Clark arrived late and sounded a bit like an auctioneer as he spouted through a stripped down version of an ever-changing stump speech.

Clark scored a narrow victory in Oklahoma — last Tuesday, but Edwards' strong second-place showing in the Iowa caucuses in January and subsequent win in South Carolina last week appeared give him more momentum. Some attempts had less a ringing sound than a thud.

Clark has campaigned tirelessly here since arriving just hours after his win in Oklahoma, while Kerry has popped in and out. And Edwards has scaled back his public schedule to raise money and appear on "Late Night with David Letterman."

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"My sort of gut, nonprofessional view is that (Clark's) message is not connecting with voters, and Edwards' is," said Vanderbilt University political scientist Bruce Oppenheimer.

Winter

Continued from A1. Wendell suffered a power outage all morning due to a problem with insulators, Silver said. Calls to Idaho Power were not returned. Idaho State Police reported many slide-offs and some accidents on the Interstate and Highway 93.

Winter

Continued from A1. Numerous high school sports events around Magic Valley on Saturday evening, but the weather conditions, including gusty winds, were not ideal.

Winter

Continued from A1. The area was given a heavy snow warning through Saturday night. Dawn Harmon, meteorologist with Pocatello-based NWS, reported 1 foot of snow seven miles east of Oakley, but no new snow in Oakley itself.

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The Times-News NEW Information Line 735-3350. Ski, Lottery and Weather Information are just a phone call away!

Snowpack levels. Watershed % of Avg. 1999-2003. Upper Snake Basin 97% 64%. Salmon Falls 117% 74%.

Saturday snowfall

Table with 2 columns: Location, Snowfall. Twin Falls: 10 inches. Jerome: 7 inches. Sublett: 5 inches.

Saturday snowfall

down Saturday afternoon. The moist Pacific storm dropped the most snow in eastern Magic Valley, said Valerie Mills, a Boise-based meteorologist at NWS. Area winds peaked at Justin Field Airport at 35 miles per hour, she said.

IDAHO LOTTERY. Saturday, Feb. 7. 51 34 35 39 48. PBE: 3. WILD CARD: Queen of clubs. Saturday, Feb. 7. 09 18 28 24. WILD CARD: Queen of clubs. Saturday, Feb. 7. 3 8 1. Friday, Feb. 6. 2 4 6. Thursday, Feb. 5. 4 8 0.

Coming attractions. The forecast calls for mostly cloudy conditions today with a high of 32 degrees. Mills said. Snow-water equivalent totals were 11, nearly half an inch.

Coming attractions. The forecast calls for mostly cloudy conditions today with a high of 32 degrees. Mills said. Snow-water equivalent totals were 11, nearly half an inch.

NATION

Kerry earns wins in Washington, Michigan

The Associated Press

Sen. John Kerry won crushing caucus victories in Michigan and Washington, on Saturday, trouncing his rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination and launching a sharp attack against President Bush.

The Democratic front-runner by far, Kerry fashioned his latest wins by outsized margins. The Massachusetts senator's share of the vote in a multi-candidate field hovered at 50 percent in Washington and Michigan.

In classic front-runner's fashion, Kerry paid rivals Howard Dean, John Edwards and Wesley Clark little mind in victory, focusing instead on the Republican in the White House.

"The weeks George Bush and the Republican smear machine have begun trotting out the same old tired lines of attack that they've used before to divide this nation and to evade the real issues before us," the Massachusetts senator told a Democratic Party dinner in Washington.

"They're the ones who are extreme. We're the ones who are mainstream. And when we sideline their attacks with the truth they will truly get desperate and have to do something they've never done before, which is actually talk about the issues and their record."

Aides said the speech was designed to reassure the party faithful he would fight far harder against GOP attacks than Michael Dukakis, the former Massachusetts governor who led the party to defeat in 1988.

Howard Dean, the fallen Democratic front-runner, had his best showing of the campaign sea-



Democratic presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., shakes hands as he reaches into a crowd of supporters during a rally in Richmond, Va., Saturday.

son. He finished second in Washington with 30 percent of the vote and was a distant runnerup in Michigan. But that was cold comfort for the former Vermont governor, whose once promising campaign unraveled further when the head of a major union withdrew his support.

Democratic officials said Gerald McEntee, head of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, delivered the news in a meeting in Burlington, Vt.

Like Dean, Edwards and Clark signaled in advance they had scant hopes for success during the day. They aimed their efforts at Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin, states still ahead on

the campaign calendar. Returns from 81 percent of Washington's precincts showed Kerry with 49 percent and Dean with 30 percent. Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio had 8 percent; Edwards had 6 percent and Clark had 3 percent.

With 92 percent of Michigan precincts in, Kerry had 51 percent, Dean 17 percent, Edwards 13 percent, Sharpton and Clark at 7 percent.

Sharpton finished a close second in Kerry caucuses in and around Detroit, qualifying for at least seven convention delegates.

He predicted similar achievements when primaries are held in states with large urban areas, adding, "We can accumulate the

delegates we need to go to the end of this campaign, to get 300 to 400 delegates."

Michigan's caucuses permitted voting via the Internet as well as by mail or in person. Ironically, it was the traditional method that produced the biggest controversy of the day. The party kept caucuses in Detroit open two hours later than planned after receiving complaints from supporters of Dean and Edwards that voting sites had been closed or moved.

Kerry's victories left him with more than twice as many delegates as his closest pursuer. His overall total swelled to 372, with Dean at 154, Edwards at 113, Clark at 82 and Sharpton at 12. It takes 2,162 to win the nomination.

President Bush says CIA director's job is still secure

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush said Saturday that CIA Director George Tenet's job is not in jeopardy despite election-year questions about the accuracy of new intelligence on Iraq.

"I strongly believe the CIA is ably led by George Tenet," Bush said in an Oval Office interview to be broadcast Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Asked whether Tenet's job was in jeopardy, Bush said: "No, not at all, not at all," according to

an excerpt of the interview provided by the network.

Bush pledged to cooperate with the commission he set up last week to examine intelligence on Iraq and the spread of weapons of mass destruction. "I will be glad to visit with them," the president said. "I will be glad to share with them their knowledge. I will be glad to make recommendations, if they ask for some."

Bush also responded to concerns the commission was not

required to complete its review until after the presidential election in November. He said the panel needs time to do its work.

"There is going to be ample time for the American people to assess whether or not I made ... good calls - whether I used good judgment, whether or not I made the right decision in removing Saddam Hussein from power," Bush said. "I look forward to that debate."

The interview, Bush's first

appearance on the news show, comes as his approval rating has dipped to 47 percent in an Associated Press-Ipsos poll taken in early February that compares with 56 percent just a month ago.

Bush also has been fending off criticism over the inability of U.S. inspectors to uncover banned weapons in Iraq that intelligence experts said existed when U.S.-led troops invaded in March.

Dean says he'd accept No. 2 spot

Los Angeles Times

MILWAUKEE - In another mark of the changing tenor of his campaign for president, Howard Dean said Friday in a radio interview that he would be willing to accept the Democratic vice presidential nomination if it would help oust President Bush.

Only a month ago, Dean stood atop polls in key primary states and pundits began to speculate about whom he might choose as a running mate.

But on a morning talk show in Milwaukee, Dean was asked if he would accept a vice presidential nomination. He replied: "I would ... do anything I could to get rid of President Bush. I'll do whatever is best for the party."

"Obviously, I'm running for president," Dean went on, "but whatever the best is what I'll do. Anything. We've just got to change presidents. We're really hurting right now."

Dean seldom has been discussed as a vice presidential prospect. His early success had many Democrats considering him for the top of the ticket, not the No. 2 position. And the current front-runner, Sen. John F. Kerry of Massachusetts, is a fellow New Englander.

During the interview with WMCS-AM "Morning Magazine," Dean reiterated a sentiment he first voiced in an e-mail to supporters overnight Wednesday: that his candidacy was no longer viable if he does not win in Wisconsin on Feb. 17.

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NATION

U.S. reassures allies on budget

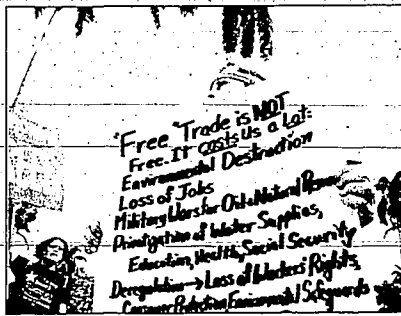
BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — The Bush administration tried Saturday to reassure America's major economic allies worried about the sinking dollar and the exploding U.S. budget and trade deficits.

In the face of stinging criticism from other rich countries, the administration defended its hands-off approach to the dollar's sharp slide in recent weeks to record lows against the euro, the common currency of 12 European nations, and to three-year lows against the Japanese yen.

Treasury Secretary John Snow and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan served as hosts for the two days of discussions at the winter meeting of finance officials from the Group of Seven wealthy nations — the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada — held amid swaying palm trees and warm breezes at a resort on Florida's Gold Coast.

A small band of demonstrators stood outside the resort Saturday chanting "Stop Corporate Greed" and holding up signs urging "Deep Six the G7."

The administration is hoping that a weaker dollar, by making American products cheaper on overseas markets, will boost American manufacturing exports and lift the fortunes of a sector of the economy that has seen 2.8 million jobs disappear over the past 3.5 years. Democratic presidential



Protesters gather near the site of the winter meeting of the Group of Seven central bankers and finance ministers Saturday in Boca Raton, Fla.

candidates have cited these lost jobs as a prime example of the failure of President Bush's economic policies.

Europeans complained, however, that their companies were being forced to bear the brunt of the dollar's plummet because Japan, China and other Asian countries were intervening massively in currency markets to stem the dollar's fall against their currencies.

The Europeans argued for language in the final communication

that would at least warn against excessive volatility in currency markets; the United States wanted to highlight the benefits of flexibility in currency exchange values to allow for adjustments based on market forces in such key areas as America's record trade deficits.

Snow used his one-on-one talks Friday with individual countries and Saturday's group discussions to deflect criticism of the administration's sweeping tax cuts, which the other countries blame in part for

record U.S. budget deficits.

Other nations insisted that the United States, now in recovery, should tighten both monetary and fiscal policy by raising interest rates and trimming the budget deficit, projected by the administration to hit \$21 billion this year, the largest ever.

Snow countered that the administration has a credible plan to cut the deficit in half in the next five years, and the stronger U.S. growth stemming from low interest rates and the tax cuts was having a beneficial effect in bolstering global growth prospects.

The G7 ministers also discussed their countries' joint efforts to choke off sources of terrorist financing and to bolster reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan, both devastated in the aftermath of U.S.-led invasions.

Afghan Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani told reporters Saturday that his country would be seeking financing and to bolster reconstruction over the next seven years at a donors' conference of wealthy nations to be held in Berlin at the end of March.

The top finance officials of both Afghanistan and Iraq made special presentations to the G7 on Saturday, detailing progress being made in jump-starting their economies despite continued serious security threats in both countries.

Spirit rover digs into rock on Mars surface

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fresh from being given a clean bill of health, the Spirit rover drilled its first dry hole in a rock on the surface of Mars, NASA scientists said Saturday.

"We made some history here. We put the first planned hole on Mars," said Stephen Gorevan, a scientist handling some of Spirit's workload. A tool equipped with small, diamond-shaped heads cut 2.7 millimeters deep into a small area of a sharply angled rock dubbed Adirondack. The circular hole, measuring about 45 millimeters wide, could give scientists clues to Mars' geologic past.

"The rock gave us a lot of resistance," Gorevan said. "We needed three hours to go this deep."

The football-sized rock is believed to be made of basalt, a volcanic material. An image of the rock shows depressions that resemble

the eye and open mouth of the "Pac-Man" video game figure. Spirit has spent more than a month on Mars as part of an \$820 million mission that includes its twin, Opportunity, which is exploring another part of the planet.

Opportunity's cameras have captured images of fine-scaled rock layering that could have formed in water. Its instruments should shed further light on the origin of the layers and whether water — a key condition for life — ever existed on the planet.

Spirit was disabled by computer problems for more than two weeks, but scientists said Friday they had repaired the problem. The rover drilled into the rock as it remained parked but was expected to begin roaming the rocky surface within the next few days.

Data and other images from the rock were expected late Saturday.

Study: Botox can help excessive sweating disorder

WASHINGTON (AP) — Doctors have found a new use for Botox, the wrinkle-smoothing botulinum toxin: It seems to curb excessive sweating.

People with a condition called hyperhidrosis produce four or five times the amount of sweat as is normal. There are various treatments, including powerful antiperspirants, drugs to prevent sweat gland stimulation, even surgery on those glands.

Botox, a weakened form of the food-poisoning toxin botulinum, already is widely used to treat wrinkles. It is being tried to treat excessive sweating because it seems to temporarily paralyze a nerve that stimulates sweat glands.

Researchers gave 322 patients underarm injections of either Botox or salt water.

They received 12 to 14 injections per armpit. Although injection site pain was the main side effect, lead investigator Dr. Dr. Anna Glaser of

St. Louis University School of Medicine said the needles are so tiny that most patients weren't bothered.

A month later, 75 percent of the Botox users reported a significant decrease in sweating, compared with a quarter of the placebo patients, said Glaser, who is to present the study at this weekend's American Academy of Dermatology meeting.

Patients could get additional rounds of injections every few months, but 43 percent got relief for a year from the first treatment, Glaser said. The median duration of response was about six months.

Allergan Inc., the maker of Botox, funded the study, which was submitted to the Food and Drug Administration in hopes of formal approval of the drug's new use, Glaser said. But dermatologists already are offering Botox to hyperhidrosis patients such off-label prescription is legal.

U.S., China disagree on scope of N. Korea's weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bush administration officials are concerned that China's rejection of U.S. contentions about the scope of North Korea's nuclear weapons program could give Pyongyang a boost at a key six-nation meeting this month.

Since 2002, the United States has contended that North Korea has been developing uranium-based nuclear weapons as a supplement to its long-standing plutonium-based nuclear capability.

While there is no dispute about the plutonium program, North Korea has persistently denied the U.S. allegations about the uranium-based project. Its stand is supported by China.

An administration official said Friday the United States has informed China that its backing for North Korea on this point is not helpful, particularly as multilateral discussions over the North Korea nuclear question are about to resume. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

The talks in Beijing, set to start

on Feb. 25, will involve the United States, North and South Korea, China, Japan and Russia.

The United States is seeking the verifiable dismantling of all of the North's nuclear weapons facilities.

Officials have said that no comprehensive agreement is possible so long as North Korea does not acknowledge all aspects of its nuclear program.

The North has said it is willing to dismantle its plutonium-based program, the only one that it acknowledges.

The Bush administration would be willing to offer economic benefits to the North as Pyongyang moves ahead with a disarmament program. Officials do not expect a breakthrough at the Beijing meetings.

The administration says intelligence information disclosed the existence of the North Korean uranium program in 2002 and that Pyongyang officials acknowledged the program during talks in October of that year.

North Korea has denied the

existence of any such program and said the meeting 16 months ago produced no such admission.

The Bush administration has frequently praised China for its leadership role in attempts to resolve the North Korea nuclear impasse. Beyond that, China has said it supports the U.S. goal of keeping the Korean peninsula without a nuclear program.

China and the United States have other differences over North Korea, but they do not appear to be as serious. China, for example, has suggested the United States

make concessions in its approach to the North.

It also has been more enthusiastic than the United States over North Korea's willingness to freeze its plutonium-based program.

In December, Secretary of State Colin Powell called that proposal "positive," but the administration has since played down its significance.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said last week, "We're not seeking or asking for a freeze. We're looking for elimination of the programs."

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RUBBING NOSES



AP photo

Trista Grove, left, braces for a kiss from Dot, a dog sledging husky, as she and friend Brenna Kunze lean about dog sled racing during a Girl Scout trip to Camp Singing Hills in Middlebury, Ind., Saturday. Over a dozen Girl Scouts spent the night in a lodge before learning about mushing from an area racer.

Vampire bat saliva may offer treatment for strokes

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Considering the lack of good treatments for strokes, it probably is no surprise that researchers will consider just about anything. But still, vampire bat saliva?

New data released Saturday suggest that idea, farfetched as it sounds, actually may work.

Doctors would like to quickly dissolve the clots in brain arteries that cause about 80 percent of all strokes, the third leading cause of death behind heart disease and cancer. But their only widely available treatment, a biogenically altered human protein called tPA, has drawbacks and is given to only about 5 percent of U.S. stroke victims.

Used improperly the drug can trigger disastrous bleeding. One of its chief limitations is that it must be given within three hours of the start of stroke symptoms. Many victims, hoping their symptoms will go away, do not get to the hospital quickly enough.

So, in search of something better, researchers have been experimenting with another natural anticoagulating substance, the saliva of *Desmodus rotundus*, the vampire bat. The hope is that the active protein, called desmoteplase, will be more precisely targeted at clots and can be

used several hours longer after symptoms begin.

In theory, desmoteplase may break up blood clots in the brain without affecting the rest of the body's clotting system and with less risk of hemorrhaging inside the head.

Certainly, it works for the bat, a one-ounce, grayish-brown creature that ranges over Central and South America and preys mostly on livestock. The protein keeps its victims' blood flowing clot-free so it can feed.

In the first of two mid-size studies on the approach, doctors in Europe, Australia and Asia randomly gave either a genetically engineered version of the saliva protein or dummy injections to 104 stroke victims. All had suffered their strokes within the previous three to nine hours.

Dr. Steven Warach, chief of stroke therapy at the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, presented the results at a meeting of the American Stroke Association in San Diego.

The researchers tested several different doses. Sixty percent of those getting the largest amount had an excellent recovery after three months, compared with 22 percent in the untreated comparison group.

Ad opposing music piracy will debut on Grammys

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The organization best known for bestowing accolades on the music industry at its Grammy Awards will begin airing ads discouraging online music piracy with the awards show's Sunday broadcast.

The Recording Academy hopes the TV and radio spots will drive viewers to a Web site that features artists discussing the impact they say online piracy has on their business.

The downloading and sharing of songs via the Internet is blamed for declines in music sales that have reduced profits for record companies and royalties for artists.

"People still do not realize why it's illegal," Recording Academy President Neil Portnow said.

The television ad, to debut during Sunday night's Grammy broadcast, depicts a teenager

downloading a song from the Internet while a crowd dances inside a nightclub.

When the teen completes transferring the song file to her computer, the music and the lights at the club suddenly turn off, leaving clubgoers confused over who pulled the plug on their fun.

The ad closes on the Web address for the organization's information site.

The radio spot asks the listener, "Wouldn't it be great if everything were free? Music's free? Or is it?"

The Recording Academy's campaign comes almost a year after the Recording Industry Association of America, the industry's trade group, announced it would take legal action against people suspected of swapping music online. The RIAA has sued hundreds of people since September.

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Officials seize computers in Jackson case

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A dozen hard drives from computers seized at Michael Jackson's Neverland ranch and elsewhere are being analyzed, according to a motion filed Friday by prosecutors in the pop star's child molestation case.

The motion asked Santa Barbara County Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville to seal the search warrants and affidavits that would explain what data were being sought from the com-

puters. Prosecutors also asked for the sealing of documents that will be filed once the search is completed.

Jackson is charged with seven counts of lewd or lascivious acts with a child under 14 and two counts of giving the child an "intoxicating agent." He pleaded innocent Jan. 16 in Melville's court in Santa Maria.

The prosecution motion said hard drives were taken from three computers seized during a Nov. 18

search of Jackson's home and property. It also indicated that hard drives were taken from an unspecified address in Los Angeles County.

Deputy District Attorney Gerald McC. Franklin said in the motion that the information set out in the search warrant affidavit is privileged because it involves an investigation of child molestation.

The document said the warrant for further inspection of the hard

drives was issued Feb. 2. Normally search warrants become public record 10 days after they are executed.

The motion is set to be argued at Jackson's next pretrial hearing, Feb. 13.

In other action Friday, the judge denied media requests for cameras to be admitted to the courtroom at the Feb. 13 hearing. Melville barred cameras from Jackson's arraignment, but he was asked by a group of news organi-

zations, including The Associated Press, to reconsider his ruling for the pretrial hearing.

Also Friday, Jackson issued a brief statement denying rumors he said recently surfaced that a "rit" has developed between himself, members of his family and the Nation of Islam, whose members have been providing him security.

"Let me state for the record, this is not true. There is no 'rit,'" Jackson said.



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P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
P188/65R-13	27.62	P225/70SR-15	37.67
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P155SR-14	42.19	P205/70SR-14	47.27
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P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10
P235/70R-16	62.25	P351/70R-16	35.10

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P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
P235/75R-16 D	81.69	P265/70R-17 C	113.29
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Political playing cards turn up in force

NEW YORK (AP) — The practitioners of pop culture rarely emerge from the Department of Defense, where the search for weapons of mass destruction outstrips the hunt for the next mood ring.

But when it came to Iraq's "Most Wanted" playing cards, the military works were way ahead of the pack.

Since the now-famous cards were handed out to troops last year, political lampoons have lined up with decks of their own. Targets include the Bush administration, the California recall election and white-collar crime scandals.

"Whether you wrap yourself in a flag or use a deck of cards to sell a war ... it leaves a lot of material for people like us to make fun of," said New York-based Zach Levy, co-creator of a deck known as "Bush Cards."

"We're taking their political marketing and making another use for it."

In many ways, the decks function as souvenirs of contemporary events, and just as quickly become relics of yesterday's news. Into that category might fall the "Total Recall" deck, which features 52 of the candidates who ran for governor in California last fall, and the Howard Dean deck, which details his political rise.

"Anything above the fold (on a newspaper's front page) for more than 10 days that is of a political and controversial nature has



The makers of 'Bush Cards' hold an enlarged copy of the ace of spades in New York Jan. 25. They are, from left, Ben Dalley, Zach Levy, and Ryan Doussing.

AP photo

obvious potential as a deck of cards," said Michael Dalton Johnson, of Vista, Calif., who makes "Total Recall" and "Axis of Weasels" decks and sells them on his Web site.

Officials at the Defense Intelligence Agency, which originally conceived of the Iraq cards, said they simply wanted a useful tool for soldiers in the field. Although they did not foresee the ensuing phenomenon, a spokesman said they are not surprised.

"The playing cards just re-awoke an interest or a hobby that was already out there. Playing

cards with enemy aircraft and enemy ships have been around for years. There's a whole hobby behind collecting these types of things," said Lt. Cmdr. James Brooks, a DIA spokesman.

Still, the Bush administration's prominent use of the "Most Wanted" cards invited parody, said Robert Thompson, a professor of popular culture at Syracuse University.

So while Ali Hassan al-Majid, or "Chemical Ali," was the king of spades in the Iraq deck, Karl Rove, Bush's senior political adviser, takes that honor in the Bush deck. On a deck billed as

the "United Nations of Weasels" weapons inspector Hans Blix ranks as the eighth spades, while documentarian Michael Moore - a frequent critic of the war in Iraq - is the king of hearts.

Thompson said the cards' success rests in their appeal to entrenched political viewpoints.

"Everybody knows somebody who hates Hillary Clinton, so if you see that deck for sale, you buy it for them," he said.

No matter their content, the concept has been a moneymaker for some.

The first "Most Wanted" deck made available to the public was

an unqualified success for U.S. Playing Cards of Cincinnati, said Vice President of Sales Scott Kling, although he would not disclose sales figures. That deck spawned many unlicensed copycats, readily available from street vendors and on the Internet.

Levy, who sells "Bush Cards" on the Internet and in bookstores nationwide, said he has sold about 70,000 decks since the end of last summer.

And Johnson said he peddled 500,000 "Total Recall" decks through his Web site alone. He charges \$6.95 a pack, a typical price for the decks.

Johnson, who describes himself as apolitical, said he concentrates on cards critical of liberal figures because the audience is larger.

"There's a certain anger and emotional content to the right-wing message," he said. "You don't get the left as excited about George Bush as the right was with Bill Clinton."

In producing the satirical "Bush Cards," Levy said he wanted to make a political statement. Near the president's old office in Texas, at least a few people are taking a look.

Sales of "Bush Cards" are brisk at the Tesoros Trading Co. near the state Capitol in Austin, Texas, with about 1,000 decks sold since November, said assistant manager Philip Moody.

"I'm really looking forward to election time to see if sales pick up even more," he said.

Van shooting becomes 21st linked to Ohio sniper

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The target area of a shooter behind a series of highway sniper attacks has expanded, authorities said as they confirmed another shooting was linked to the case.

A van windshield was pierced by a bullet earlier this week on Interstate 71.

It happened about 15 miles south of where most of the other attacks occurred, authorities said Friday.

The latest case brings the total number of shootings to 21.

Cars, school buses and homes have been shot since May on or near a stretch of Interstate 270 south of Columbus. A car passenger was killed in November.

Ballistics tests on the latest bullet determined that it is one of at least eight to come from the same gun used in the deadly attack, authorities said.

The van's driver at first thought a rock hit his windshield on Tuesday, authorities said. The driver, identified in a sheriff's report as John Caito of Bridgeville, Pa., later examined the windshield at home and realized a bullet could have caused a hole in the glass.

The damage was reported to Pennsylvania state police, who sent a bullet fragment taken from the dashboard to Columbus investigators.

Banking chairman eyes new home-loan regulator

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Banking Chairman Richard Shelby said Saturday he will move to eliminate the regulator of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae and replace it with a stronger, more independent federal watchdog for the home-loan giants.

The Alabama Republican's announcement was made in an address prepared for an American Bankers Association conference in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He said he expects his Senate panel will take up the legislation next month.

Shelby had been vague in the past about his desire to test up regulation in response to accounting problems at the government-sponsored corporations. In his remarks Shelby said the current regulator, the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, isn't capable of properly supervising them.

"The agency was, in many regards, designed to fail in its mission," Shelby said. "We cannot tolerate inadequate and ineffective regulation of entities as important to the U.S. home mortgage market as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac."

An advance copy of the lawmaker's speech was given to The

Associated Press. The Bush administration has sent to Congress its plan for enhanced regulation, which would essentially move OFHEO from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Treasury Department. Shelby said his legislation will do far more, making the regulator independent of either agency.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, both publicly traded corporations, were created by Congress to pump money into the multibillion-dollar home mortgage market by buying home loans from banks and other lenders and bundling them into securities for sale on Wall Street.

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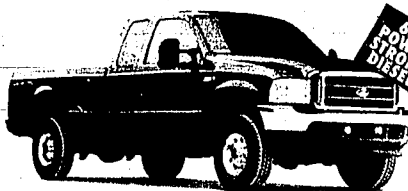


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NATION

Confusion led to plane taking off

Flight left France before background checks were complete

WASHINGTON (AP) — During the recent high-threat terror alert, a communication breakdown led French officials to allow a plane to take off for America even though U.S. authorities had asked that it be held because of security concerns.

The incident, disclosed by Homeland Security Undersecretary Asa Hutchinson in an interview with The Associated Press, has helped bring about changes in the way U.S. officials talk to foreign governments during terror threats.

In the December incident, the National Targeting Center in Virginia had worked for 90 minutes to verify the backgrounds of everyone aboard the jet but still had questions about two or three passengers when it was learned the plane had departed.

U.S. officials worked feverishly to complete their checks, aware of the possibility that a plane carrying hundreds of people could be streaking toward the United States with terrorists aboard.

Long before the jet approached U.S. air space it was determined none of the passengers posed a security risk. But the time it took to clear them was "gut-wrenching," Hutchinson said in the recent interview.

Officials would not name the airline involved nor provide other details.

It was a dramatic example of the communication problems that have occurred when the U.S. government responds to terrorist threats.

Some foreign officials have complained that U.S. officials overreact to intelligence, needlessly worrying people and disrupting flights.

A senior French official who spoke on condition of anonymity said that while the French have had a good working relationship with the FBI and CIA, the Homeland Security Department is far less experienced and sometimes appears overly cautious.

The official said the agency's reflex is to "open the umbrella" at the hint of rain.

U.S. officials "cannot block other countries from allowing planes to take off."

But they can forward information about potential threats or concerns about passengers and ask foreign governments to cancel flights or hold the planes while American authorities make further checks.

Once a plane is in the air, authorities can deny it entry into American air space. If a plane continues, fighter jets can be scrambled to tail it. In a worst-



Homeland Security Undersecretary Asa Hutchinson is interviewed by the Associated Press in Washington in this Jan. 26 file photo.

case scenario, if a plane appears headed for a repeat of a Sept. 11 attack, it can be ordered shut down.

During the 19 days that America's terror threat level was "high," Hutchinson said U.S. officials were making daily checks on six to 12 "flights of concern."

More than a dozen flights from London, Paris and Mexico City ended up being canceled due to intelligence indicating they could be terror targets. However, U.S. authorities did not always share intelligence information with the French and British about the flights.

The French official said this led to confusion because authorities there had not turned up any names that prompted concern.

In an interview this week, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge called it an "uncomfortable" period and said he was partly to blame because of the way his agency communicated its worries.

During the first two days of the

airlines about security concerns when they should have included government officials in the discussions.

A week after the threat alert was lowered to "elevated," Hutchinson went to Brussels, Belgium, to smooth things over with British and French officials and to discuss ways to streamline the exchange of information. Lines of communication have been clarified to make sure foreign officials are included in any discussions.

Information flowed more freely during the most recent spate of security concerns, when six U.S.-bound trans-Atlantic flights from Britain and France were canceled last Sunday and Monday.

"We're far further ahead in terms of when we share information and how we can arrive at collective decisions than we were a couple weeks ago," Ridge said.

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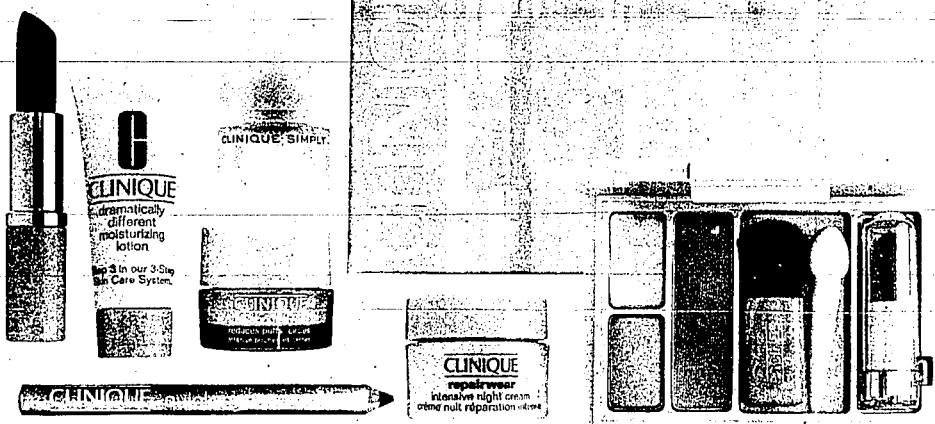
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Law group deals with judges' ethics

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The American Bar Association is working on new conduct rules for judges, such as when they should withdraw from a case.

The issue has gained prominence with the disclosure that Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia went on a hunting trip with Dick Cheney shortly after the high court agreed to hear a case involving the vice president.

A new commission discussed ethics rules over the weekend during the ABA's midyear meeting in San Antonio.

The last major changes to the ethics code were approved by the 400,000-member lawyers' group about 13 years ago.

The ABA also discussed conduct rules for judges and lawyers. States and federal courts generally adopt them, with some changes.

The commission's final plan eventually could affect thousands of judges. Members acknowledge it would have little impact on the nine Supreme Court justices, who have no written ethics rules.

"They're the United States Supreme Court is all I can say. Sort of like the big elephant. Where does he sit? He sits anywhere he wants to sit," said North Carolina Appeals Court Judge James Wynn Jr., a commission member.

New York University ethics expert Stephen Gillers said that some justices have said they follow the ABA guidelines even though they are not policy.

Congressional Democrats have said questions about a procedure for conflict-of-interest charges.

MAGIC VALLEY

Extra hours bring in bigger paychecks

Paramedics rely on overtime to make a living wage

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Paramedics have been putting in some long hours at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

So have those difficult-to-find nurses and medical technicians.

Paramedic Field Supervisor Jim Massie topped the extra-pay list at Magic Valley Regional in 2002-03, making close to \$24,000 in overtime, on-call and shift differential alone, according to hospital records obtained by *The Times-News*. By the time the hospital's fiscal year had come to an end last year, Massie's overtime pay had risen to \$38,000, more than double his base salary of \$38,875.

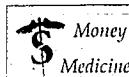
When *The Times-News* checked on extra pay a year ago, Nuclear Medicine Technician Patricia Noale topped the list. She was hoping to trim some overtime pay, but duty and shortages called. She fell into the second-place spot this year, bringing in a total of \$96,677, more than \$41,000 of it in overtime, on-call and shift differential. Last year, she made close to \$98,000, more than \$16,000 of it in extra pay.

Other extra-pay earners included nurses and technicians, staff and patient educators, pharmacists and managers. A few of the hospital's top brass were on the extra-pay list, including Chief Information Officer R'Nee Mullen, who made more than \$10,000 in addition to her base pay, grossing more than \$116,000 in 2002-03. Chief Operations Officer Kent Loose also made the list, making close to \$9,000 in extra pay, bringing his total salary last year to \$133,784.

Cutting down on overtime

Massie wasn't the only paramedic to put in the extra hours last year. Of the top 20 extra-pay earners, half were paramedics. Four of them more than doubled their overtime pay. Collectively, the 10 paramedics who topped the list made more than \$308,000 in extra pay. Their base salaries averaged between \$27,000 and \$39,000. Add the extra pay, and they brought in between \$51,000 and \$100,000.

That \$308,000 was one of the things that put Magic Valley Regional's ambulance service more than \$500,000 in the red. When the hospital discovered its ambulance service was losing money, hospital leaders successfully lobbied Twin Falls County



Extra pay

When it came to extra pay for overtime, shift differential and on-call hours, technicians, nurses and paramedics were the big earners at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Here are the top extra-pay earners in 2002-03:

Name	Job Title	2002-03 Base	2002-03 Gross	Extra Pay	Pct. of Base
1 Jim C. Massie	Paramedic Field Supervisor	\$38,875	\$85,722	\$46,847	120.5%
2 Patricia A. Noale	Nuc Med Tech	\$55,182	\$96,677	\$41,495	75.2%
3 Bruce N. Foster	Imaging, Radiology	\$45,240	\$86,219	\$40,979	90.6%
4 Dan N. Cook	Imaging Specialist II	\$50,898	\$86,786	\$35,888	70.5%
5 Brian P. Wilson	Paramedic	\$28,600	\$64,377	\$35,777	125.1%
6 Michael T. Hatch	Team Leader, Cardiology	\$57,990	\$92,736	\$34,746	59.9%
7 William Guly	Paramedic	\$26,728	\$59,108	\$32,380	121.1%
8 Barbara C. Suttman	Non-Invasive Card Tech	\$52,291	\$83,507	\$31,216	59.7%
9 Jeffrey M. Webster	Paramedic	\$31,616	\$61,736	\$30,120	95.3%
10 Katherine Ewell	Paramedic	\$27,269	\$56,917	\$29,648	108.7%
11 Bret S. Turner	Paramedic	\$30,118	\$59,529	\$29,411	97.7%
12 Kent Holyoak	Paramedic	\$30,451	\$58,957	\$28,506	93.6%
13 Dennis L. Hills	Paramedic Field Supervisor	\$35,651	\$63,681	\$28,030	78.6%
14 Sharon Federico-Drake	Registered Nurse BSN	\$54,233	\$81,474	\$27,241	49.3%
15 James E. Pennington	Paramedic	\$30,451	\$55,163	\$24,712	81.2%
16 Carol A. Jarell	Registered Nurse	\$53,872	\$77,631	\$23,759	44.1%
17 Leigh A. Reed	LPN	\$32,219	\$56,499	\$23,280	72.3%
18 Michelle Reid	Paramedic	\$28,080	\$51,123	\$23,043	82.1%
19 Julie D. Schneider	Imaging Specialist II	\$52,439	\$75,508	\$23,069	43.8%
20 Sally J. Overton	Registered Nurse BSN	\$57,678	\$80,160	\$22,482	39.0%

Paramedics and extra pay

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center paramedics made thousands of dollars in overtime, shift differential and on-call pay during the 2002-03 fiscal year, according to hospital records. Here are the top extra pay earners in that department:

Name	Job Title	2002-03 Base	2002-03 Gross	Extra Pay	Pct. of Base
1 Jim C. Massie	Paramedic Field Supervisor	\$38,875	\$85,722	\$46,847	120.5%
2 Brian P. Wilson	Paramedic	\$28,600	\$64,377	\$35,777	125.1%
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10 Michelle Reid	Paramedic	\$28,080	\$51,123	\$23,043	82.1%
Totals		\$307,939	\$616,313	\$308,474	

commissioners to create an ambulance taxing district. Magic Valley Regional had been the only hospital in Idaho to fully subsidize its own ambulance service.

Gilbert Schmidt, manager of Magic Valley Regional's ambulance service, and members of the hospital's paramedic staff declined to speak to *The Times-News* through hospital spokesman Shawn Barigar.

But paramedics have been able to trim some of their overtime hours since the first of the year, when Jerome County canceled its contract with the hospital and signed a new one with the Family Medical Center in Jerome to provide ambulance services. When Magic Valley Regional closed its Jerome station at the first of the year, the hospital laid off one paramedic and three emergency medical technicians, Barigar said.

Today, the service is back at full staff in Twin Falls County, and overtime hours have come down. Last March, paramedics put in 1,027 hours of overtime during a two-week pay period. By January, that number had come down to 617 hours, Barigar said. In addition to having a full staff, field

supervisors now fill in on ambulance crews for paramedics taking sick or vacation time, which also cuts down on overtime. The hospital's goal is to keep overtime down to 500 hours in a two-week period, Barigar said.

"That target is in line with industry standards," he said.

Not your average 9 to 5

The paramedic profession has never been a 9-to-5 job. Given their 24-hour shifts, paramedics automatically make at least eight hours of overtime a week - or 16 hours of overtime in one two-week pay period. Often paramedics will find themselves on call at shift change, resulting in more overtime. And paramedics provide stand-by service at sporting events and other venues where there are risks of injuries.

Nationwide, 50-hour weeks are typical for paramedics, according to a 2003 study conducted by the Journal of Emergency Medical Services. Hospital paramedics work even harder. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 60-hour weeks are not uncommon for hospital paramedics. At Magic Valley Regional make an annual

base salary of \$25,000, and the average salary of all the hospital's paramedics is \$23,744. Nationwide, the overall average annual starting salary of paramedics is \$32,420, according to a recent JEMS salary survey.

Many paramedics jump at the chance to go in some extra hours in exchange for larger paychecks, said John Becknell, publisher of *Best-Practices-and-Emergency Services*, a national business publication for emergency medical services administrators and fire chiefs based in San Diego, Calif. "Many EMS providers, in order to make a living wage, will work long hours and overtime," Becknell said. "In many parts of the country, EMS salaries are low when compared to other allied health professions and public safety professions. EMS has often modeled itself after the fire service work schedules which are traditionally 24-hour work periods. They bank on down time between calls, but if a service is busy, you're not going to get that rest in-between."

But in most parts of the country, there's not much time for cat naps, Becknell said. "In many locations, EMS service

es are finding themselves busier and busier," Becknell said. "One reason is we have an aging population. We also have a health care system that's falling and resulting in many uninsured people who are accessing health services through emergency services."

Fatigue, burnout and patient care

There are no regulations telling

paramedics how many hours they can work.

The Department of Transportation has specific rules about how long an over-the-road truck driver can drive, but they don't apply for EMS workers," Becknell said.

Being a paramedic is a demanding, physically and emotionally demanding job. But at what point does working all these extra hours take its toll on a paramedic and compromise patient care?

Becknell said there have been no definitive studies on paramedics and fatigue.

"EMS is still a young profession, and when compared to nursing, fire service and public safety, they are just beginning to address the workforce issues that relate to paramedics, fatigue and burnout," Becknell said.

However, a recent study by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science looked at nurses and how the number of hours worked directly affected patient care.

The study, commissioned by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, showed that fatigue interfered with decision-making, slowed reaction time, impaired judgment and made nurses more prone to error. The Institute of Medicine recommended that nurses be prohibited from working more than 12 hours in a 24-hour cycle or more than 60 hours during a seven-day period.

The paramedic pool

Unlike nurses and technicians, shortages of new paramedics haven't been a problem in the Magic Valley with a local college churning out people who want to stay put, said Gordy Kolx, assistant professor and paramedic program manager at the College of

Southern Idaho.

"I know a lot of my students would like to work in this area, but there is a bit of a dilemma since they need to get some experience first," he said. "Magic has a really high standard, which is good."

Kolx said many of his graduates go to experience with busier agencies and then return to work at local hospitals. Other areas across the nation haven't been so lucky.

"There's a national shortage forecast for the next 10 years," Kolx said.

Twelve spots open up in Kolx's paramedic program each year. And as time goes by, they fill up more quickly, he said.

"Right now, we're still relatively new, so people don't know about us," Kolx said. "But we're getting more and more each year."

It's not an easy program. "Someone with a lot of drive could finish it in two years, but the

courses are challenging, with students taking classes in anatomy and physiology, medical/legal aspects, pathophysiology, cardiology, pediatrics and medical trauma, among other things.

"The average length of most paramedic programs is 1,200 hours. Our program is about 1,400 hours," Kolx said. "And unless they're competent, they don't graduate."

Students also must have 300 hours of clinical studies, in which they spend time in different departments of local hospitals, and a 240-hour internship before joining the workforce. And the curriculum has become increasingly challenging. Kolx said when the curriculum was last changed, it went from 600 to 2,400 objectives.

"I have to know four times than what they had to know in the '90s," Kolx said.

Kolx agreed that salaries could be better, but he said things are improving due to the shortages and increased awareness of the work of paramedics.

"We're starting to get away from the ambulance driver stigma, and people are starting to recognize that paramedics are health care professionals," he said.

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by email at smiller@magicvalley.com.

Salaries

Continued from A1

Regional takes the third-place spot, with employees making an average salary of \$36,483 a year. Portneuf comes in second with a \$38,418 average salary, and Kootenai gets the No. 1 spot with employees making an average salary of \$43,576, according to information from the two hospitals.

The market is one reason for the difference in salaries. Magic Valley Regional's closest real competitor is Boise, but Kootenai must compete with the big boys just 12 miles west over the Idaho-Washington state line in Spokane.

Portneuf and Kootenai also have bigger coffers. Magic Valley Regional brought in \$107.8 million in total revenue in 2002-03, and Portneuf brought in \$166.8 million. Kootenai dwarfed those two hospitals, bringing in \$278.6 million.

Salaries continue to take the biggest chunk out of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's budget. The hospital's total operating revenue in 2002-03 was almost \$109.2 million, and it spent almost \$105.2 million. The hospital spent a little more than \$43 million on salaries alone.

The Times-News obtained the a list of names, job titles and salaries of employees earning more than \$50,000 a year at Magic Valley Regional through a public records request. The Hospital Board has proposed that Twin Falls County commissioners convert the hospital to private, nonprofit governance, which would give the public access to such financial records.

Here are some highlights from this year's salary list:

Pay raises - Most of Magic Valley Regional's 1,265 employees received 2 percent raises for 2003-04, while the majority of the hospital's top managers did not get raises. Two members of the hospital's leadership team received market raises to bring them in line with salaries at other hospitals of similar size, said Human Resources Director Samantha Lopez.

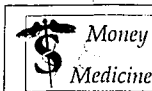
Information Officer R'Nee Mullen received a \$10,337 raise, bringing her annual base salary to \$116,355. Chief Operating Officer Kent Loose received a \$9,984 raise, bringing his base salary to \$133,992.

Employees and management - The number of employees in management positions grew to 67 this year from 62 last year. These include 16 members of the hospital's leadership team, 24 managers, 19 team leaders, 40 patient care coordinators, two paramedic field supervisors, one management coordinator and one clinical nutrition manager.

Meanwhile, the total number of employees grew to 1,421, up from almost 1,300 last year. The hospital spokesman Shawn Barigar said the growth was mainly due to more physicians' offices signing up with the hospital to manage their businesses, part of which includes the hospital leasing out its employees to work in their offices.

How do Portneuf and Kootenai compare? Out of Portneuf's 1,334 employees, 108 are in management positions. And at Kootenai, just 31 of its 1,223 employees are in management positions.

Extra pay - Paramedics, nurses and technicians continued to



Leadership team pay

Here are the salaries for members of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's leadership team, showing base and actual gross pay for the 2002-03 fiscal year which ended Sept. 30, base pay for the current fiscal year and how much their base pay increased:

Name	Job Title	2002-03 Base	2002-03 Gross	2003-04 Base	Base Increase
John L. Kee	CEO	\$165,000	\$165,427	\$165,000	\$0
Henry C. Kootenai	CEO	\$125,008	\$123,784	\$123,992	\$9,984
Mary J. Draney	Vice president, patient care svcs	\$128,752	\$131,724	\$128,752	\$0
John Groesbeck	CFO	\$125,008	\$129,034	\$125,008	\$0
R.roe M. Mullen	CIO	\$106,018	\$116,280	\$116,355	\$10,337
Hurt Vandenbosch	Director, pharmacy	\$90,834	\$91,152	\$90,834	\$0
Anne M. Erickson	Director, nursing	\$87,547	\$91,186	\$87,547	\$0
Marilyn Massey	Director, nursing	\$86,195	\$86,234	\$86,195	\$0
Sharon E. Massey	Director, auxiliary svcs	\$83,429	\$90,293	\$83,429	\$0
Sharon Fischer	Director, quality resources/risk mgmt	\$82,742	\$89,090	\$82,742	\$0
Samantha D. Lopez	Director, human resources/educ	\$81,370	\$87,138	\$81,370	\$0
William E. Southwick	Director, nursing	\$79,539	\$83,935	\$79,539	\$0
Anita M. Burdick	Director, nursing	\$78,416	\$78,901	\$78,416	\$0
Jody Ann Tremblay	Director, business development	\$77,251	\$79,070	\$77,251	\$0
Nichole M. Randall	Director, nursing	\$72,134	\$75,973	\$72,134	\$0
Matthew E. Cox	Controller	\$69,992	\$68,233	\$69,992	\$0

Here are the 10 Magic Valley Regional Medical Center employees with the top gross pay for fiscal year 2002-03 which ended Sept. 30:

Name	Job Title	2002-03 Gross
John L. Kee	CEO	\$165,427
Henry C. Kootenai	CEO	\$133,784
Mary J. Draney	Vice President, Patient Care Svcs	\$131,724
John Groesbeck	CFO	\$129,034
R.roe M. Mullen	CIO	\$116,280
Patricia A. Neale	Nuclear Med Tech	\$96,677
Michael T. Hatch	Team Leader, Cardiology	\$92,736
Marilyn Massey	Director, Nursing	\$91,234
Anne M. Erickson	Director, Nursing	\$91,186
Hurt Vandenbosch	Director, Pharmacy	\$91,152

bring in extra dollars in addition to their base salaries in combination of overtime, shift differential and on-call pay. Four paramedics more than doubled their annual base salaries with extra pay. Shortages played a big part in overtime for nurses and technicians, but not for paramedics, who are often in good supply thanks to a program at the College of Southern Idaho. A few managers and a couple members

of the leadership team brought in extra pay as well, including Mullen, who made more than \$10,000 in addition to her base salary, bringing her 2002-03 gross salary to \$116,280. Chief Financial Officer John Groesbeck brought in about \$4,000 in addition to his base salary, giving him a gross salary of \$129,034.

Shortages - Nurses and technicians continue to be in short supply. Magic Valley Regional

also faces a particular challenge finding and keeping speech and occupational therapists, so much that the hospital recently closed its outpatient pediatric therapy department, citing shortages of therapists as the reason.

By the time the hospital closed its outpatient pediatric therapy department in January, the department was down to one pediatric speech therapist, one occupational therapist,

Salaries continue to take the biggest chunk out of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's budget. The hospital's total operating revenue in 2002-03 was almost \$109.2 million and it spent almost \$105.2 million. The hospital spent a little more than \$43 million on salaries alone.

one pediatric physical therapist and one occupational therapist assistant who worked a combined 25 hours a week.

Today, therapists continue to provide therapy to children inside the hospital as well as to a few outpatient children when they're allowed. The hospital has full-time occupational therapists and five occupational therapists who work as needed, one full-time speech therapy team leader, one part-time speech therapist and five speech therapists who work as needed. The hospital also has seven full-time and three part-time physical therapists as well as eight physical therapists who work as needed.

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by email at smiller@magicvalley.com.

School support takes center stage

By Bob Fick
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Legislative budget writers begin fashioning a 2004-2005 state spending plan this week, an economy that still seems to be sputtering and pressured by local educators nearing the end of their own financial ropes.

"This year's budget isn't going to be pretty," admitted Senate Finance Chairman Dean Cameron, R-Rupert.

But Nick Hallett, the superintendent of the Minidoka County School District, suggested this may be one year too many of austere budgets.

"Ordinarily we can handle tightening the belt a year or two, but this is more than that," Hallett said. "And there are a lot of rural districts just like us."

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne put together a bare-bones spending plan after assuming a slow but



steady revival of the state's economy. He put extra money into school support, but not enough to keep up with escalating expenses and mandates on the districts from both the state and federal governments.

The Joint Finance Appropriations Committee spent the last three weeks identifying all its holes — from inadequate cash for education technology and tutoring kids so they can pass the looming mandatory graduation test to lack of state troopers and parole officers.

At the same time, most were worried that the governor's economic

outlook is too rosy, and last week's figures showing tax collections fell short for a second straight month in January only reinforced the view.

House and Senate leaders huddled for nearly two hours a week ago but came to no consensus other than caution. Much the same occurred during an hour-long closed-door Senate Republican briefing on the state's finances.

At the core of the discussion is the third rail of Idaho politics — state support for public schools. And the dilemma facing lawmakers with Kempthorne's education budget is that it cuts a key component of the financing scheme — the amount of money each district ends up with to spend the way it deems best.

The per-classroom discretionary amount this year is \$24,447, unchanged from a year ago but local property taxes make up a bigger share now than in

2002-2003.

While Kempthorne's plan provides a 2.5 percent increase in overall, local tax support for schools, once all the mandatory payments are made for salaries, transportation and special programs, there will only be \$23,019 per classroom left.

That is the cash schools use to pay utility bills, buy books, finance special programs and write paychecks to the teachers they need by that the state will not financially acknowledge. For a district with just 20 classrooms, the difference is the salary of a new teacher.

Kempthorne deferred questions about his rationale to Budget Director Brad Foltman.

"The effort was to assure that we realign the public schools to the reality, to the dollars available," Foltman said. "The issue was to meet the statutory mandate and provide as much discretion as we could."

Landswap deal could help preserve foothills

LEWISTON (AP) — An effort to preserve public land in the Boise Foothills could lead to a land swap between the state and federal government in northern Idaho.

As proposed, the deal would exchange 5,000 acres of state rangeland in the Boise Foothills, plus 4,012 acres of state forest in northern Idaho, for 5,026 timbered acres of federal land in the Panhandle.

But the proposal has another deal imbedded in it known as the Pitts Land Exchange. It would trade 2,805 acres of state land in the Elk River drainage for 2,995 acres of national forest near Mica Mountain and Deary.

The Pitts exchange had previously worried Deary residents. In public meetings held in 1998, residents expressed concern that the state would clear-cut in the Forest Service land near Mica Mountain and Schwartz Creek to earn as

much possible for the state school endowment fund.

The exchanges are still being negotiated by the state, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and the city of Boise. The idea was born out of an effort to preserve 80,000 acres of open public and private land in the Boise Foothills.

The hills are popular with recreationists in Boise, but also valuable to developers.

"The city of Boise is very much in favor of the exchange," said Perry Whittaker, real estate bureau chief at the Department of Lands.

A Boise working group set its sights on 5,000 acres of mostly treeless state rangeland in the hills. It believes the land will more likely be preserved under federal ownership. However, it could be enormously valuable if sold.

Ex-husband gets charged in shooting

ATHOL, Idaho (AP) — Less than three hours before he was to be sentenced for assaulting his ex-wife, Richard Hanes shot her friend in her driveway, authorities say.

Hanes, 30, is charged with the first-degree murder of Eddie Paul Edmiston, 40, of Hayden. Police used dogs to track Hanes down in the woods Friday.

Keenocounty Sheriff's Capt. Ben Wolfinger said Edmiston was shot to death in the driveway of Hanes' ex-wife, Carol Mae Hanes.

Neighbor Tiffany Miller said she was afraid it would be Hanes' ex-wife who met a violent end.

"The first thing I thought when I saw the police cars this morning was that she and the kids were dead," Miller said.

Carol Mae Hanes told officers that her ex-husband was running east to a service station at State Highway 54 and U.S. 95.

According to police, an employee at the gas station said a man wearing up Richard Hanes and given him a ride to the station where Hanes then allegedly tried unsuccessfully to hijack the man's car.

Hanes was prohibited by court order from having any contact with Carol Mae Hanes. But Hanes continued to drive her, including ramming his van into her car, court records said.

He was scheduled to be sentenced Friday for aggravated assault and drunken driving, stemming from the car-ramming incident on June 29, 2003. Hanes is being held without bail on the murder charge, and faces a court hearing on Monday.

Hanes' brother, Michael, wanted to testify against his brother and on behalf of Carol Mae Hanes in the assault case.

"I was going to court to help the prosecution," Michael Hanes said. "I'm angry that people are getting away with things. The system isn't working. He was going to be able to beat it, like a lot of controlling men."

He said his parents are horrified by the shooting.

"All they can envision is this guy had parents, too," he said. "He didn't kill just one person. He destroyed a lot of lives."

NICE VIEW, EH



Canada geese look out over Mill Creek from a bridge on Church Street in Salem, Ore., Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004.

Former police chief files suit over firing

PRESTON (AP) — Preston's former police chief has filed suit in federal court alleging the city council violated his due process rights when he was fired.

Scott Shaw names Mayor Neal Larson and council members Kent Palmer, Sandra Hubbard and Mike Kunz in the lawsuit, suit seeking \$300,000 for the alleged violation of due process, and another \$250,000 from Larson for allegedly violating Shaw's constitutional rights.

On Jan. 12, Preston City Council members voted after a lengthy closed-door session not to renew Shaw's contract. They have not spoken publicly about their reasons for firing Shaw, who became police chief in 1995.

In the lawsuit, Shaw alleges he was dismissed for no stated reason, was not allowed to respond to

any allegations, and that the dismissal violates a portion of the city handbook which guarantees employment upon satisfactory performance of duties.

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All Adults 55 and Under 4.00 Sen 3.00
Alone in the Desert (R) Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:15
Cats: That Ain't Daily 7:00 - 9:20
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:15
Kangaroo Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Master & Commander Daily 6:45 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:15

Odeon Theatre
All Adults 55 and Under 4.00 Sen 3.00
Master & Commander Daily 6:45 - 9:30
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House of Wax Daily 7:00 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:15
Alone in the Desert (R) Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Perfect Strangers (R) Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Hush Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:15
Mistress (R) Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Twin Cinema 12
All Adults 55 and Under 4.00 Sen 3.00
The Butterfly Effect (R) Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Cats: That Ain't Daily 7:00 - 9:15
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Idaho worries about INEEL funding

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — The state's congressional delegation is worried that by splitting the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory into two contracts, the government will provide less funding for research.

The laboratory is operating under one management contract held by Bechtel BWXT Idaho until Jan. 30, 2005. After that date, the contract will be split into two parts — nuclear waste cleanup and nuclear energy research.

The delegation warns that by dividing the two missions, the U.S. Department of Energy limits the

amount of money set aside for laboratory directed research and development.

While the money accounts for 2 percent of the federal site's budget, more than half of the technical publications, patents and national awards for technology can be attributed to research the program funded at some point, INEEL officials say.

When the new contracts go into effect next Jan. 31, a percentage of the laboratory's contract will be set aside for research funding but money will no longer be taken from the environmental clean-up contract.

Boise asks for delay in Abdullah trial

BOISE (AP) — Azad Abdullah's murder trial has been reset for September — nearly two years after his wife, Angie Abdullah, was found dead in the family's burning home.

The first-degree murder trial was originally scheduled to begin last year but has been delayed several times at the request of both sides because of the amount of evidence in the case.

Abdullah, 37, is accused of killing his 36-year-old wife on Oct. 5, 2002, and then setting the fam-

ily's home on fire. Four children who were in the home when the fire was lit escaped unharmed.

Abdullah has pleaded innocent to first-degree murder, arson and attempted murder charges. His jury trial is now scheduled to begin Sept. 7.

Defense attorneys Mitch and Kim Torkyanski asked a judge for more time to examine new toxicology evidence before the case goes to trial.

Prosecutors had first accused Azad Abdullah of suffocating his

wife with a plastic bag. But recent toxicology tests on her blood indicated Angie Abdullah had a lethal dose of the anti-depressant Prozac in her body when she died.

The lethal dose of the drug was likely put in her system by injection, Ada County Coroner Erwin Sonnenberg said.

Prosecutors have asked the court to amend the indictment against Abdullah to include the Prozac poisoning. Mitchell Torkyanski said.

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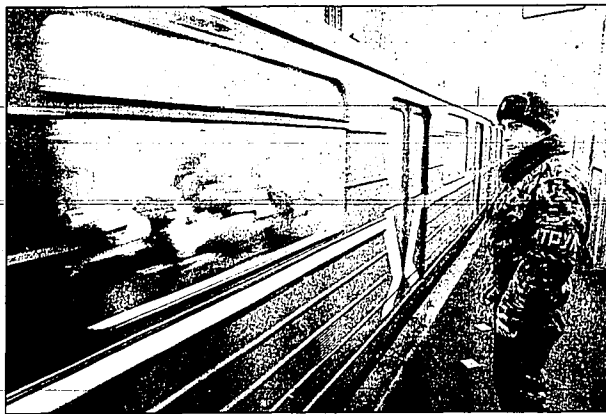
Russia seeks increased security

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian officials renewed calls Saturday for tighter security checks in Moscow after a subway bombing killed 39 people, moves that could worsen ethnic tensions as blame for the attack fell on Chechen rebels. Officials strongly suspected the Friday morning rush-hour blast was a suicide bombing, and President Vladimir Putin pointed to insurgents fighting Russian troops for Chechen independence for most of the last decade.

The bomb ripped through a packed subway car after it left the Avtozavodskaya station and headed for the city center, shattering windows throughout the train and leaving the carriage a hulk of twisted metal. Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov said the bomb appeared to have exploded about 20 inches above the floor, indicating it was in a bag or briefcase held by a rider. He said registration procedures for people traveling in the Russian capital would be "sharply, powerfully strengthened." Security immediately was tightened at Moscow's train stations and airports.

Tighter security would target most foreigners but also people from the southern Russian republic of Chechnya and others of North Caucasian appearance. Those ethnic groups are already subject to frequent document checks, scrutiny that has intensified after suicide bombings and other attacks in Russia in recent years. Dmitry Rogozin, a leading nationalist lawmaker with close connections to the Kremlin, called for a state of emergency. "The enemy is here, inside. This is an ethnic criminal community that evidently supports the terrorists coming to Moscow, owns property in Moscow and imposes its will on authorities," he was quoted as saying by Interfax.

Others worried the event's aftermath would raise already strong biases against Chechens. "Claims about the presence of a Chechen trace in the crime create a priori assumption. Blame for all of Russia's problems goes to the descendants of the Caucasus region," the head of the Kremlin-backed Chechen Security Council, Rudnik



Interior Ministry troops patrol the Avtozavodskaya subway station, the closest to the train explosion site in Moscow, Saturday. A bomb blew apart a subway car packed with rush hour commuters Friday morning, killing 39 people and wounding more than 130 in the deadliest terrorist attack in Moscow since Russia launched its second war in Chechnya in 1999.

Dudayev, was quoted as saying by the ITR-Tass news agency. No claims of responsibility have been made for the subway attack, the worst terrorist attack in Moscow in five years. Putin linked the attack to Aslan Maskhadov, who was elected Chechen president after Russian forces withdrew in 1996 at the end of a disastrous 20-month war against separatist rebels.

Maskhadov's foreign envoy, Akhmed Zakayev, denied the Chechen leader was involved. Police released a composite sketch based on a videotape from the subway station nearest to the blast, showing a woman believed to be the bomber and her accomplice standing on the platform before boarding the train.

Chechnya's chief "imam," or Muslim spiritual leader, condemned the blast. "There are no goals that can justify terrorism and the murder of peaceful civilians," Akhmad Shamayev was quoted as saying by the news agency Interfax.

Moscow's metro is world's busiest

A bomb blast struck the second car of a Moscow subway train during rush hour Friday killing at least 39 people as it pulled away from the Avtozavodskaya station.

Metro line — Began in 1932 with elegant, huge stations. **Opened** — The mostly underground system opened in May 15, 1935; deeper sections once served as hideouts in case of nuclear war. **Size** — Has 165 stations and is 167.09 miles long. **Fare** — Round trip is 14.00 rubles (about 50 cents). **Passengers** — Carries about 8.5 million people daily.

SOURCES: UrbanRail, Associated Press



Israeli airstrike kills militant leader, boy

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — An Israeli helicopter fired a missile into a car traveling in a crowded Gaza City street Saturday, killing a leader of the militant Islamic Jihad group and a 12-year-old boy on his way to school.

The attack wounded 10 Palestinians, three of them critically, in Israel's first targeted killing in six weeks, doctors said. Also Saturday, a Palestinian military court charged four suspects with planting explosives along a main road in Gaza. A prosecutor said the defendants targeted Israeli tanks, but that one of their bombs may also have ripped apart a U.S. diplomatic vehicle and killed three American security guards Oct. 15.

The Palestinian killed in Saturday's air strike was identified as Aziz Mahmoud Shami, leader of Islamic Jihad's military wing in Gaza City. The Israeli military said he was responsible for the deaths of Israeli soldiers and was planning more attacks.

Shami was driving in a white Peugeot in a busy Gaza City street when an Israeli helicopter fired a missile, ripping apart the front of the vehicle. Witnesses also heard the roar of F-16 fighter jets breaking the sound barrier over Gaza.

The attack also killed Tarek Sousi, who was on his way to school, doctors said. Onlooker Mohammed Taleb, 36, said he was a few yards from the car when it exploded, and was knocked to the ground. After a moment he ran to the flaming car. "The driver had lost his leg and he was lying half in and half out of the car bleeding heavily," Taleb said. "A small boy with his school bag was covered with blood and two other boys were screaming non-stop to him."

Three of the 10 wounded were being operated on for shrapnel wounds to the chest and legs, doctors said.

Israel's military has routinely sent helicopters and F-16 jets to kill Palestinian militants in targeted missile attacks throughout more than three years of fighting. Members of Islamic Jihad said Shami was the leader of the



A female relative of Palestinian Tarek Sousi, 12, weeps during his funeral in Gaza City Saturday. Sousi was killed in an Israeli airstrike as he walked to school Saturday.

group's military wing in Gaza City and a cousin of the overall Islamic Jihad leader, Abdullah Shami.

Abdullah Shami said his group, which has carried out dozens of suicide bombings in Israel, would have its revenge.

"The Islamic Jihad movement is a resistance movement and it will respond to this aggression with all its force," Shami said, kissing his cousin's forehead at the morgue of Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. Meanwhile, Palestinian authorities indicted four men for planting explosives on the main road in Gaza, leading from the Erez crossing to Gaza City.

U.S. officials have been pressing the Palestinians to find those responsible and have repeatedly said they are disappointed with the level of cooperation with Palestinian police. Recently U.S. officials have warned that some U.S. aid programs could be scaled back or canceled if there is no progress in the probe. A military prosecutor said those bombs were intended to target Israeli tanks entering the Strip, but one of the explosives may have ripped apart a U.S. diplomatic car in the Oct. 15 attack on the convoy.

American agrees to pay fine for gesture

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — A second American agreed to pay a hefty fine for making an obscene gesture during fingerprinting procedures for U.S. citizens in Brazil, police said Saturday.

Douglas A. Skolnick won't be allowed to leave the southeastern resort town of Foz de Iguaçu until he pays the equivalent of \$17,200 for raising his middle finger when he was fingerprinted and photographed, said federal police spokesman Marcos Koren.

The customs requirements were imposed in response to similar U.S. rules for citizens of Brazil and many other countries. The United States says its rules will help prevent terrorists from entering the country. Skolnick, who arrived in Brazil on Friday with a tour group, was taken before a judge early Saturday after a tour group was arrested and jailed for hours on the charge of showing contempt to authorities.

Skolnick, 55, of New Jersey, said he made the gesture as a joke, agreed to pay the fine and told the judge he was sorry, Koren said.

On Jan. 14, American Airlines pilot Dale Robin Hersh was arrested on the same charge after making a similar gesture when he was fingerprinted in Sao Paulo, the capital. Hersh returned home after paying a \$12,750 fine.

Police move to retake Haitian city from rebels

GENAIVES, Haiti (AP) — Under a hail of rocks, police pushed back into this city Saturday in a bid to retake it from rebels seeking to oust Haiti's embattled president.

About 150 heavily armed officers inched into the city from the main highway, aiming their rifles at the side of the road as protesters tossed stones. Sporadic gunfire rang out, but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

Rebels with the Gonaives Resistance Front took the city of 200,000 people Thursday after a five-hour gunbattle with police. At least seven people were killed and 20 wounded.

Militants said they wanted to draw the police into their stronghold in the seaside shantytown of Raboteau. They hid on side streets and crouched in doorways, many armed with rifles and pistols.

"If the battle turns against us, retreat," a militant commander called out to several other gunmen.

"Look, we're going to get them. We're going to draw them into a trap," said the commander, who refused to give his name.

The Gonaives Resistance Front once was allied with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. But the group turned against Aristide last year, accusing his government of

assassinating its leader. Discontent has grown among Haiti's 8 million people since Aristide's party swept flawed legislative elections in 2000 and international donors froze hundreds of millions of dollars in aid.

It was unclear how many gunmen from the road intended to confront the police, but they had popular support.

"We have placed our trust in the Gonaives Resistance Front. If the police counterattack, they'll meet with stiff resistance," said Jean Roland, a 23-year-old resident who wasn't among the fighters.

On Friday, thousands of protesters marched onto the main highway leading to Gonaives, chanting "Aristide must go! Too much blood has flowed!" Some rode in a looted police truck, flaunting stolen police uniforms and weapons.

Former soldiers of Haiti's disbanded army carrying heavy weapons patrolled the streets in support of the uprising in Gonaives.

At the jail, where the attackers freed more than 100 prisoners, looters dislodged metal gates and bars. Stores and schools remained shut and several telephone lines were strewn in streets covered with rubble.

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Attacks on Iraqis impede U.S. progress

By Tom Lassetter
Knight Ridder News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Adnan Abbas was headed to his aunt's funeral in south Baghdad last week when his minivan hit a roadside bomb. Abbas, a 30-year-old construction worker, sat in the back, luckily. He survived.

A friend did not. Abbas saw his head blown off. And he watched his brother-in-law crumple, dead, as shrapnel tore into his chest.

All the talk about democracy in Iraq, he said, means nothing. "Everything has gone crazy here," he said.

Lying on a soiled hospital bed, Abbas stopped the interview. Blood was seeping from his ear.

While American officials promise a future with freedom of religion, speech and assembly in Iraq, many residents, especially in Baghdad, say they are far more concerned with making it home alive. Iraqi shopkeepers, taxi drivers, lawyers and street peddlers share a similar view. Saddam Hussein may be gone, but the chaos and violence of postwar Iraq are, for the substance. And they blame American bungling.

Fences, concertina wire and large concrete barriers have gone up all around Baghdad. The loud pop of a soda can opening sometimes makes restaurant patrons jump in their seats.

Several Iraqi politicians and other officials say the continuing unrest and bloodshed are largely due to a lack of postwar plans by the United States. Americans, they say, left the national borders open to foreign fighters and allowed the chaos and looting to continue for far too long after the fall of Baghdad.

"Totally and exclusively, the Americans can be blamed for this," said Iraqi Government council member Mowafak al Rubaie. "They left the country without any security, and in the immediate period after the ninth of April, they had no idea what to do."

Abdul Amir al-Husseini, an assistant director of one of the largest hospitals in Baghdad, said that before the war he saw patients suffering mostly from heart attacks, car wrecks and other accidents of day-to-day life. "But our main job in the few months that we were in Baghdad was to treat bullet and blast injuries," he said.

Dan Senor, a top U.S. spokesman in Iraq, has said repeatedly that the violence is the work of Saddam Hussein loyalists and foreign fighters seeking to destabilize Iraq.



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Michael Encabo of the Charlie Company 2-6 Infantry 1st Armored Division and originally from Nueva Ecija, Philippines, hands the magazine of an AK-47 rifle to his colleague as an Iraqi man at center presents his license at a mobile checkpoint conducted in a Baghdad street Wednesday.

loyalists to Saddam were bitter about losing political power. Bloodshed has since spread throughout the nation, killing Shiites in the south and Kurds in the north.

In late December, a spate of suicide car bombings killed at least 12 Iraqis and wounded more than 100 in the southern town of Karbala. Last week, a suicide car bomber in the far northern city of Mosul killed nine and wounded at least 45 Iraqis. Last Sunday, at the east of Mosul, a pair of men with explosives strapped to their bodies killed more than 100 and wounded more than 240 Iraqis in the town of Irbil. The numbers alone fail to capture the shock.

Hakim Ismail was in one of the offices bombed in Irbil. At the time, he was standing behind a group of men on a stage, all of whom were shaking hands and extending greetings for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, the Feast of the Sacrifice. "I try not to go anywhere but my job and my home, but it's Eid and we had to do something," he said. "But if I'm not hurt in an explosion, maybe the man next to me will be."

For months after the war ended, unrest was concentrated in the predominantly Sunni Muslim sections of central Iraq, where many

loyalists to Saddam were bitter about losing political power. Bloodshed has since spread throughout the nation, killing Shiites in the south and Kurds in the north.

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Released Guantanamo detainee tells of lost year

NAW ZAD, Afghanistan (AP) — A 15-year-old boy released after spending 1 year at the U.S. prison for terror suspects in Cuba says he was detained after Afghan militia falsely accused him of being a Taliban sympathizer.

Mohammed Ismail Agha was reunited last week with his family in a remote southern Afghan village after a year as one of the youngest inmates in Guantanamo Bay, a high-security prison holding about 650 suspected al-Qaida and Taliban fighters detained since the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan began after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Agha was one of three Afghan boys freed. Military officials said the boys had provided viable intelligence but had no further value and were no longer a threat to the United States.

In his first interview since his release, Agha said the U.S. military "stole" 14 months of his life — but still treated him well.

His case highlights the perils facing young Afghans caught between a virulent Taliban insurgency roving their country's south and east and American forces hunting them with the aid of sometimes brutal Afghan allies. Agha was seized about a year after the Taliban was ousted by a U.S.-led coalition.

Agha said American forces interrogated him at Bagram Air Base, north of the capital, Kabul, about whether he was a Taliban supporter. Yet once he reached Cuba, there were few questions, only schooling, prayer and good food.

"At first I was unhappy with the U.S. forces. They stole 14 months of my life," said Agha, sitting in a relative's general store at the bazaar in Naw Zad, a market town some 300 miles southwest of Kabul.

He said his family feared he was dead or had traveled to neighboring Pakistan or Iran to find work. It was not until 10 months into his detention that family members received a letter from him through the international Red Cross, saying he was still alive.

"But I was not a good time in Cuba. They were very nice to me, giving me English lessons," said Agha, a smile spreading across his face between a small beard and a white turban that made him look two or three years older.

Naw Zad officials sent a mes-



Mohammed Ismail Agha, 15, who has been released from Guantanamo Bay and reunited with his family, tells of his ordeal on Saturday in Naw Zad, Afghanistan.

sender to summon Agha from Durabien village, where he lives, to talk to reporters, warning that there were Taliban in the hills where he lived. It was the first interview given by any of the three Afghan boys since their Jan. 29 release from Guantanamo.

Agha denied having anything to do with the ousted Islamic militia now mounting a vicious insurgency.

"I'm not Taliban, it's not true. I'm innocent," he said.

American officials said last week that one of the three Afghan boys told of being conscripted into an anti-American militia group. A second said he was abducted by the Taliban and forced to train and fight, while the third was studying in an extremist mosque and captured while preparing to obtain weapons.

They declined to elaborate, saying "identifying the boys could put them in danger." Human rights groups have long criticized the boys' detention, saying the separation from their families would hurt them. They and some foreign governments also complained that the boys, like hundreds of adult prisoners, have not had trials or access to lawyers.

Arab-Americans working in Iraq help link U.S. military, Iraqi people

By Hannah Allam
Knight Ridder News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The woman in camouflage fatigues has an Iraqi face. Her accent is pure Baghdad. She knows to offer sugary tea to visitors who spent their savings on the ride and money on past five checkpoints to see her.

"Shlonek, habibny?" 53-year-old Jajou greets her visitors at the Iraqi Assistance Center. How do you, my darling?

It's almost as if she hadn't left Iraq 27 years ago. Jajou, however, is an American, with a home in California and a husband and two children there who pray for her daily return.

Hundreds of other Arab-Americans also have made their way — or way back — to Iraq as translators, security, human rights, construction workers and contractors. As tensions run high nine months after the war's official end, Arab-Americans are playing increasingly crucial roles in bridging the gap between Iraq and the United States.

Along the way, many are rediscovering their cultural roots, enjoying again the food their grandmothers made, brushing up on their Arabic slang and teaching their American colleagues empathy for a people who found that their history didn't end with Saddam Hussein's overthrow. Some say they're in no hurry to get back to the United States, though their assignments often pose frustrations.

"They are so happy to hear my voice that they know I'm Iraqi," Jajou said of the people who visit her. "But they also think that because I'm American, I can solve all their problems. It grieves my heart. Some days you can't do anything but cry."

The role of Arab-Americans extends from translators such as Jajou all the way to Gen. John Abizaid, the Lebanese-American who's head of the U.S. Central Command for the war. A Syrian-American arranges interviews for the senior coalition spokesman, a Palestinian-American delivers millions of dollars from coalition headquarters to Iraqi banks each

week and an Egyptian-American records human rights complaints.

A Jordanian-American Army captain sometimes delivers briefings to L. Paul Bremer, the top U.S. envoy to Iraq, and a low-ranking Arab-American soldier in the north has become a commanding officer's personal aide simply because no one else could speak both English and Arabic.

Arab-Americans are asked each day to give cultural and religious sensitivity lessons to U.S. soldiers, while putting a familiar face on the occupation for Iraqis.

"I'm an ombudsman," said Army Sgt. Omar Masry, whose Saudi mother and Lebanese-Armenian father called him crazy for deploying to Iraq last April. "You have this fear, but you also have this empathy because you know history hasn't been kind to the Iraqis."

Some came even though they didn't support the war. Ala Faik, a 51-year-old Iraqi-American from Ann Arbor, Mich., said he wasn't in favor of the war, but holds out hope that his native country can become a pluralistic, democratic model for the Middle East.

One of his proudest moments,

he said, was producing an audio project called "Mass Graves Symphony" after 15,000 bodies were unearthed in southern Iraq.

"When the Bush administration declared that removing the old regime was its new policy, a lot of Iraqi-Americans felt we had to take advantage of that and just push forward," said Faik, a top consultant for al-Iraqiya, the fledgling Arabic-language media network that the coalition started.

"But I consulted the core of my soul before I accepted this. All those years I stayed in the States. I studied my culture and the diversity of that culture. Those years set me up for this. I'm ready for this."

Jajou, the translator at the Iraqi Assistance Center, said she faced a similar dilemma when deciding whether to come back to the place she last saw when buildings weren't surrounded by concertina wire and no blast walls were necessary to protect from car bombers.

"I don't regret leaving" Iraq, Jajou said, her eyes glistening with tears on one cheek. "If I had stayed, I probably would have been a victim, just like the people I help now."

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EDITORIAL

Survey shows city leaders know constituents well

Take a closer look at the recent survey of Twin Falls city residents, and you'll read some secrets of successful local government. The city mailed about 3,000 surveys to a random sample of registered voters last year and got about 1,000 back. The answers show more than just a wish list of local residents. The survey responses give city leaders some direction about what is expected of them. And judging from their comments, Twin Falls officials know their constituents well.

For many locals, traffic signal timing was rated fair/poor by 54 percent of respondents. But overall, ease of car travel in Twin Falls was rated excellent/good by 65 percent of respondents.

Our view: Taxation is a bedrock issue of Idaho politics, and city leaders have maintained fiscal restraint.

What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Those numbers may seem a contradiction, but they do make some sense. Many residents still find ways to get to their destination, but avoid main intersections that have slower traffic signals. That makes car travel easier, but it has an impact on quiet neighborhoods and streets. Help may be on the way. A new wireless traffic light system, paid for with state funding, will replace the current signal system.

Taxes - Taxation is a bedrock issue of Idaho politics, but thanks to a self-imposed cap on annual property tax increases (also a result of city surveys) city leaders have maintained fiscal restraint.

The low-spending trend is apparently alive and well. Respondents identified the canyon-rim walking trail as a priority for park improvement. But a majority (58 percent) said they don't favor a temporary tax increase. They likewise favor beautification of business and commercial areas, but they oppose local taxes as the method to do it.

Mayor Glenda Thompson commented: "The council has been very conservative when it comes to raising taxes. We look at interest that a topic generates. Then we brainstorm grants or other areas we could get money. Taxes would be the last resort."

We can't help but think that principle is tied to another response: 95 percent of survey respondents rated Twin Falls as an "excellent or good" place to live. With fiscal restraint and careful management of resources, that high rating should persist in Twin Falls.

The survey touches on many issues, but three areas probably have the biggest consideration in locals' minds. Twin Falls leaders apparently understand that they will always be that way.

Crime - Twin Falls residents want to feel safe in their homes, neighborhoods and in the city. Having such a large town that attracts outsiders may have an impact, but residents still give local law enforcement a passing grade. A majority, 84 percent of respondents, said they feel safe from serious crime in neighborhoods, and 70 percent said they feel safe from serious crime in the city overall.

Broken down further, 49 percent of respondents said they feel safe as they did five years ago. But 34 percent said they feel less safe. As the city continues its steady population growth, it will be noteworthy to see if that changes in another five years.

The biggest thing city leaders have done in the past year to boost city safety is the creation of an independent 911 response center. With quicker response times and local control of police dispatch, local satisfaction should keep rising. Traffic - City leaders know that traffic congestion is a constant point of dissatisfaction

Intel probe must rise above politics

The establishment of an "independent bipartisan commission" to review U.S. intelligence gathering on Iraq, if handled in the old Washington lay-blame model, will lead us in exactly the wrong direction. On the other hand, the right commission, with the right mission would provide a tremendous opportunity to create an intelligence capability to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

NEWT GINGRICH

First, let me describe what America does not need and that is a narrowly focused commission that examines only the question of American intelligence on pre-war Iraq. Nor does America need a backward oriented commission that only seeks to find fault.

America certainly does not need one more cycle of politicians undermining, second-guessing and demoralizing the intelligence professionals who risk their lives and their careers rendering judgment about the most serious threats to our country with inadequate information because of inadequate resources.

The weakening of the intelligence community began in the mid-1970s with the Church Committee and was compounded by the Carter administration's dismantling of our human intelligence capability - as Ambassador David Kay noted in his recent testimony it was then further diluted by the Clinton administration's starving the intelligence community of resources.

The question should not be why the intelligence agencies failed the government, but why the government continues to fail the agencies by not providing the resources necessary to protect our country in a dangerous world. We cannot expect the intelligence agencies to operate in the age of biological and chemical weapons of mass murder and nuclear



weapons of mass destruction with the resources of the last century.

The answer is not subjecting intelligence professionals to lectures by the very politicians who systematically cut their funding and thus limiting their capabilities and capacity for solid human intelligence, while entrenching more congressional oversight that will only encourage the cycle of periodic scapegoating and not lead to serious reform or improvement. Conversely, we have a tremendous opportunity for the commission appointed by the president to conduct a thorough review of the new, harder and more complex 21st-century worldwide intelligence challenges that have become obvious since Sept. 11.

A commission on 21st-century American intelligence could be aimed at strengthening the intelligence community rather than undermining it by seeking to understand and meet the global

challenges of national security over the next generation.

The commission's efforts should begin by reviewing the level of denial and deception countries now use to hide their programs. The Iranian, Libyan, North Korean and Iraqi examples are four of the cases the commission should review. Second, the new commission should focus on the scale of Pakistani scientist involvement in the illegal international arms trade, including nuclear capabilities, and the involvement of North Korea in systematic illegal international arms deals.

The commission should also recommend actions around the world and the degree to which they knew more or less than the American intelligence community.

Finally, the commission should make recommendations about the size, structure and culture of intelligence to fit it for the extraordinary

challenges of a 21st century involving mass murderer and mass destruction.

This is the right kind of commission focused on the right questions and it would be an asset to the intelligence community. This is a commission appropriate for a time when we are each day seeing new terrorist threats, new bombings around the world and new losses of American life.

It is too important not to rise above political concerns and put the country's needs first. This is a real war and we need a commission appropriate to waging war. The consequences of failing to strengthen and support vastly improved intelligence capabilities are sobering and deadly.

Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich is the author of the book "Swing Lanes and Saving Money", and a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, www.aei.org.

Economy woes will play a role in November

COLUMBIA, S.C. - When President Bush came to South Carolina on Thursday - following on the heels of the Democratic presidential candidates, just as he had done (surprisingly by coincidence) after the New Hampshire primary - the headline in The State newspaper read: "Metro area job losses among nation's worst."

The story, streamed across the top of Page 1, reported that the two counties comprising the Columbia metropolitan area had shed 10,300 jobs last year and had 17,600 fewer jobs at the end of 2003 than were here five years earlier. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the 3.3 percent job loss in 2003 in Columbia was exceeded only by those recorded in Steubenville, Ohio, Saginaw, Mich., San Jose, Calif., and Lawrence, Mass.

Richland County Council Chairman Bernie Scott was quoted as saying that she now encounters more constituents with postgraduate degrees but without jobs. "It's awful," she told the newspaper. "The American dream is getting an education and getting a job. And the more education you have, the better the job. But there are no jobs to be had."

As it happened, Bush visited Charleston, not Columbia, and he chose to talk more about the war on terrorism, port security and



DAVID S. BRODER

homeland defense than the economy. But the headline here put an exclamation point on the anxiety that greeted all the Democratic candidates who campaigned last Tuesday's primary - a reality that helped power populist Sen. John Edwards to his 15-point victory.

In this time of what is advertised as booming economic growth, a lot of people - including some who ought to be Republicans - are hurting for work.

South Carolina is one of Bush's best states; he carried it with 57 percent of the vote in 2000. It certainly is stronger than Ohio, Michigan, California and Massachusetts - where the local job losses have been worse.

But even in South Carolina, as I learned from talking with a Republican Gov. Mark Sanford, the economy is a big political and policy worry. I went by to see Sanford the day after the primary, and the first thing he said was that "the angst that Edwards picked up on is palpable and real."

Sanford said that the old economic model for South Carolina,

and its neighboring states was based on "cheap land, cheap labor and right-to-work" laws that discouraged unionization. "It worked well for 50 years when competition for business was with New England and the Upper Midwest. But that model has been tugged out the window with globalization, the Internet and the other new technology. So now if they are looking for cheap land or cheap labor, they're going to go to China or India or Nicaragua."

He pointed out that in Tuesday's primary, John Kerry ran bare on the coast, "where we have retirees coming in and tourism," but "in the real industrial quadrant, we've been hard hit. Edwards did better with that economic message. While I might disagree with his prescription, whether you're Republican or Democrat, it's real and we need to be watchful."

The governor added, "I don't think we're out of the woods yet." For two months, he said, sales tax and income tax receipts have been up for the first time in three years. "But I'm very cautious. I don't know if this is the end of the (home mortgage) refinancing boom combined with everyone spending their tax cut from last fall. If those two don't spark a true recovery - cause right now we've had a jobless recovery - I think there may be more choppy waters ahead."

Sanford is trying to build a new economic strategy, with the help of Robert Faith, the Harvard Business School grad he recruited to run the Department of Commerce, and a former Harvard guru Michael Porter. But it will be slow work, he said, and the political pieces - tax reform and restructuring of an archaic state government - face opposition in the Republican-controlled Legislature.

As difficult as things may be in Columbia or other cities, Sanford said, the real headache is what to do in the "one-mill towns" when that one employer shuts down or moves out.

Fortunately for Bush, he said, "South Carolina is a very conservative state," and one with deep historical, economic and cultural ties to the military. So many South Carolinians have friends or family members serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, "they want to support the president if only to support those kids who are over there." That gives Bush "a degree of insulation he might not have" in many other places.

Then Sanford returned to his main theme. "The economy will be a bigger issue than people realize," he said. "People will vote their pocketbooks. It's still the economy, stupid."

David Broder's e-mail address is davidbroder@washpost.com.

The Times-News

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false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

Wonderlich deserves praise for helping in case

Most of the letters I see in the Times-News relating to government officials and public bureaucrats are mostly negative and probably justifiably so. Therefore, I feel that it is important to acknowledge a government employee or public official when they do the right thing.

Just last year, I was stopped by a Twin Falls police officer and given a citation for not having proof of insurance. I explained to the officer that I did have insurance, even though I couldn't produce the proof of insurance certificate. I was told that if I could obtain proof of insurance and take it to the clerk of the court, the charge would be dismissed. I obtained the proof of insurance and presented

it to the clerk, who told me everything would be taken care of.

A few months later, I was stopped again and notified that my driver's license had been suspended for non-payment of a fine for driving without an insurance. Even though I was sure I would have to spend hundreds of dollars in legal fees to get the problem resolved, I decided I would first contact Fritz Wonderlich, the city attorney, present the facts and evidence and ask for his assistance in resolving the matter.

To my surprise, Mr. Wonderlich reviewed the evidence and responded by requesting the court to dismiss the action, which it did. Mr. Wonderlich's actions saved myself and the city hundreds of dollars in legal expenses and did the right thing.

Fritz Wonderlich is a credit to his profession and a valuable asset

to the city and the people of Twin Falls.

RAY HOULT
Twin Falls

Barbaric treatment of cat was sick, disturbing

Regarding the article in Friday, Jan. 30, paper of the cat killed at Marsh Valley High School in Falls Bannock County in such an inhumane way, I would like to know more the facts at to why the prosecutor Mark Hiedman feels it was not animal cruelty.

If being a cat and hit in the head with a broomstick and having your neck crushed by a human foot isn't animal cruelty, then what is? If the cat had been in the classroom for "a few weeks before," why wasn't it humanely trapped in a box trap and properly euthanized? Has Pocatello no humane

animal control resources? And what's up with this teacher who told the boy to "put it out of its misery" and to push his foot down harder and twice? This teacher sure taught them a good lesson for the day, being be cruel, mean and barbaric; you can stomp out living animals with your foot.

After all, when either animal or human means nothing.

You all showed the world you were bigger and meaner than the cat - whoopee! I'm sure all of the uncivilized communities are very impressed!

KAREN KRAMER
Jerome
Editor's note: Karen Kramer, owner of Kramer Kanne, has been an animal groomer for 15 years. She is a Jerome Pet Falls Board member, Jerome City Animal Shelter volunteer and was a member of the former Mayor's Animal Advisory Board.

School safety is a genuine concern for writer

Responding to Mr. Owens' letter of Jan. 26, I am a Canadian.

My family immigrated to a warmer climate in California from Canada on or about 1930, due to my father's ill health.

Mr. Owens, I am an American. My two months, he said, sales tax and income tax receipts have been up for the first time in three years. "But I'm very cautious. I don't know if this is the end of the (home mortgage) refinancing boom combined with everyone spending their tax cut from last fall. If those two don't spark a true recovery - cause right now we've had a jobless recovery - I think there may be more choppy waters ahead."

replacement of the schools in Idaho has been going on for 13 years. The school districts and Boise are unable to resolve the problem. The parents, the school districts, the representatives and Mrs. M. Howard, the head of all the school districts should have independent engineering companies review all the schools 30 years or older in Idaho.

Mr. Owens, I didn't know anyone in Idaho that were natives except the Indians. My wife is half Indian and my daughter is quarter Indian.

Mr. Owens, your reference to me changing jobs as often as you change shorts - the poor people of Kimberly. The last job I held was for 10 years; you need to change your shorts - the small isn't flowers.
GORDON JACKSON
Twin Falls

QUESTION: Which presidential candidate is most capable of defeating George W. Bush?



**ANSWER:
George W. Bush**

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Budget crunch will come in November

There's at least one thing that President Bush and his cabinet members of Congress appear to care for more about than producing a responsible federal budget.

JACK Z. SMITH

Getting re-elected. On Monday, Bush unveiled a proposed \$2.4 trillion budget for the 2005 fiscal year that falls sufficiently to rein in spending, which has increased substantially since Bush took office in 2001.

And it calls for making the tax cuts passed in 2001 and 2003 permanent and implementing additional tax cuts as well. The projected budget deficit for fiscal 2005, which begins Oct. 1, is about \$364 billion. And that's without a penny of the \$50 billion that the administration says could be needed for continued military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Even worse, White House officials project that the deficit for the current fiscal year ending Sept. 30 will zoom to a record \$521 billion — far eclipsing the previous red-ink record of \$375 billion set only the year before.

Despite his rhetoric about being a fiscal conservative, Bush has yet to veto a single spending bill.

Most members of Congress, both Republicans and Democrats, likewise have been irresponsible in supporting significantly increased federal spending while declining the courage to take the sorely needed action of rescinding a substantial portion of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts.

Talk of making the tax cuts permanent is ludicrous. More than half of the projected \$521 billion shortfall for the current fiscal year is projected to result from the cuts.

Federal tax revenues now con-

stitute a lower percentage of the national economy than at any time since the early 1950s, some analysts note.

When, pray tell, will the president and Congress come to their senses and start taking a principled stance in favor of fiscal sanity?

Given the track record, don't expect that to happen before the November elections. Campaign promises of tax cuts and pork are far more reliable vote-getters than making painful budget decisions.

As Bush took office, the Congressional Budget Office was projecting \$5.6 trillion in budget surpluses over 10 years. Those surpluses represented "the people's money," and a substantial chunk of that money should be returned to them via tax cuts, Bush argued. But the surpluses never materialized. They have been replaced by record deficits. The "people's money" is becoming "the people's debt" — and that debt is mounting each year.

A growing number of members of Congress from both major political parties are justifiably skeptical of Bush's claim that he will cut the deficit roughly in half — to \$237 billion — by 2009.

And even if he does, the national debt still will be growing at a troubling pace, particularly considering the need to address future funding crises in the Social Security and Medicare programs.

Only four years from now, the retirement of a huge throng of baby boomers — those Americans born from 1946 to 1964 — will begin with a fury.

In 2008, the oldest boomers will hit 62, the age at which people can begin drawing Social Security retirement benefits. An unprecedented drain on Social Security funds will be under way.

Meanwhile, Bush and Congress are spending excess Social Security payroll tax revenues like there's no tomorrow (a sin also committed by previous presidents

If the deficits continue unabated, the most jolting economic body blow could come to future generations — in the form of large tax increases.

and Congresses). Nevertheless, some lawmakers still don't seem to fully comprehend the threat that persistent budget deficits pose to the long-term health of the U.S. economy.

On Monday, for example, U.S. Rep. Kay Granger, R-Texas, praised the president for his "continuing commitment to fiscal discipline." Could she really say that with a straight face?

Eventually, mounting federal deficits foster higher interest rates that raise borrowing costs for businesses and consumers, inflation that erodes Americans' take-home pay and savings, and more of the federal budget being devoted merely to making debt payments — thereby leaving less money for expenditures such as highway funding, veterans' health care and national parks.

If the deficits continue unabated, the most jolting economic body blow could come to future generations — in the form of large tax increases.

As William Niskanen, a former Reagan administration official and chairman of the libertarian Cato Institute has said in lamenting the rising tide of red ink, "We are borrowing from our children."

Jack Z. Smith is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

LETTERS

Story about treatment needed more background

As a licensed clinical social worker, I am distressed that *The Times-News* wrote an article promoting rapid eye therapy as a treatment for depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and "other problems."

I visited the RET Web site and found that anyone can take the course and then go into practice as a therapist. This is very scary to me because, after a short period of training, a person can call themselves an expert in something that, in the wrong hands, could cause emotional harm. Rapid-eye movement can evoke a very strong emotional response and can propel a client into reliving a trauma. Does Jana Wilden have the expertise to handle such a response and does she have the license to practice mental health counseling?

I am also distressed that the therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, was mentioned in a misleading manner. EMDR is only taught to licensed clinicians with a master's degree or above. I am trained in EMDR and it entails much more than waving my fingers in front of someone's eyes. It is a complex therapeutic technique that I use in conjunction with other therapeutic techniques and use only with certain clients after a thorough assessment.

I am very disappointed in *The Times-News* that you would publish an article about a therapy without consulting mental health professionals. EMDR has been researched extensively and has been found to be an effective method in treatment of post-traumatic stress. RET is something that appears to be an offshoot of EMDR and is being sold as a holistic therapy that can be done by anyone. I would hope that, in the future, you will give more thought to what is a feature story.

As a footnote, I would like to advise consumers to check the qualifications of a therapist before consenting to any type of therapy by asking the following questions: What are your credentials and what is your degree? Are you licensed? How long have you been practicing? What is your experience in my particular issue? What are the risks involved

in the therapy you do? EVELYN MALLEA, LCSW Twin Falls

Senate must amend bill to end forest fees

The Senate will vote soon on S. 1107, a fee bill. Forest fees started as a "temporary" three-year "demonstration" program. Eight years later it has become quasi-permanent. Time to end it! This bill, put forth by Sen. Craig Thomas, R-Wyo., would make fees permanent for the national parks. While not opposed to an entrance fee for a national park, I have a major problem with fees on our national forests and Bureau of Land Management lands. I urge that you call Sen. Craig's office in Twin Falls (734-6780) and say forcefully that entrance fees for national parks are acceptable, but not without an amendment inserted into S.1107 that completely and permanently kills fees for the Forest Service and BLM. State clearly that you oppose fees — period — for any agency other than the national parks.

It is clearly incumbent upon Congress to adequately fund outdoor recreation infrastructure and management on our precious beyond belief public lands. On Jan. 22 Congress sent Bush a bill that would have a spending bill loaded with pork which he gleefully signed. Approximately \$165

billion down the black hole in Iraq — with \$50 billion more sure to follow. The proposed "energy bill" has \$20 billion in giveaways for big oil, utility companies, Halliburton, et al. In Congress contrast demo fees taken in approximately \$37 million a year (gross) and the BLM \$6 million. From gross you must subtract what it costs to administer it and it is at least 75 cents for every fee dollar collected. Time for Congress to cough up a few paltry billion for recreation upkeep on public lands!

Josh Ponry, a government auditor with the General Accounting Office summed it up succinctly: "If there is minimal value added on the ground, why go through the brain damage to pursue a policy that causes dissent?" The dissent boils over into civil disobedience (not paying) and that is well justified when it comes to these onerous fees. Take a hike. Forest fees must "take a hike" into permanent obscurity! Please call Sen. Craig immediately. Remember, only you can prevent forest fees, or else enjoy this jingle from the Beatles' "Taxman."

"If you get too cold I'll tax your heat."
"If you take a walk, I'll tax your feet."

SCOTT PHILLIPS
Hailey
(Editor's note: Scott Phillips is a retired forest service employee in outdoor recreation management.)

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: Heather Tiel, 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) 224-6142 e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

Sen. Larry Craig

In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Mathews, regional director 560 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: https://craig.senate.gov/email

Rep. Mike Simpson

In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director 1201 Falls Ave. E., suite 25 Twin Falls, ID 83301 734-7219; Fax 734-7244 In Washington: 1339 Longworth Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-5531 Fax: (202) 225-8216 Access Simpson's e-mail through his webpage: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

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LETTER

Dairy odor complaints are being overlooked

It has been announced in *The Times-News* twice in recent history that the Whitesides dairy has no odor problem. The first time was a quote by Steve Whitesides and the second was by the editorial staff. If the editorial staff had done its research, it would have found odor complaints about the Whitesides dairy on record with the Minidoka Planning and Zoning Committee.

Ms. Whitesides may believe that he has no odor problem, but if he and his family would move back into the neighborhood where the dairy is located, he may regret otherwise. Any large animal confinement operation will have odors, but the odors that come from this one are not the normal type found in historic agricultural operations in our area.

Whitesides has less tolerant neighbors, there would be more complaints on record. A. GUSTAF BRYNGELSON PAUL MICKELSEN MARK THAETE MATT MICKELSEN Rupert

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Lynn Larsen 1126 Eastland Drive, Suite 200 732-8300	Trevor Fisher 1445 Fisher St. Suite 110 737-0277	Tim & Lori Herchbach Burdley 264-1131	Gretchen W. Clark 2716 S. Lincoln Ste. B, Jerome 264-1131	Shelby Sobel, AAAS 251 1st Ave. N. Jerome 736-8306

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NATION

Commission boasts experience

Bush's selections for probe have had hand in intelligence

WASHINGTON (AP) — The men put in charge of the Iraq intelligence commission have wide experience with covert information — one in federal courts, the other in Congress.

Laurence Silberman is a blunt conservative who oversaw the highly secretive panel of judges responsible for ruling on government wiretaps against alleged foreign terrorists and spies.

Charles "Bobb" Hubbs, a former Democratic senator and Virginia governor, brings unique experience as the only senator to sit on all three of the Senate's security committees — Intelligence, Armed Services and Foreign Relations — during his two terms in Washington.

President Bush created the seven-member bipartisan commission Friday. He told members to examine the apparently faulty prewar intelligence that suggested Iraq had chemical and biological weapons stockpiles and an aggressive nuclear weapons program.

The commission also will look at U.S. intelligence on past or present weapons programs in North Korea, Iran, Libya and Afghanistan.

Silberman, 68, sat until recently on the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court of Review, where he served up a wholehearted endorsement of the Justice Department's legal tactics in the fight against terrorism. Civil libertarians and many Democrats say those powers are overreaching and have fought to have them rolled back.

Silberman and the other two members of the court ruled that the expanded wiretap guidelines sought by Attorney General John Ashcroft under the new USA Patriot Act law do not violate the Constitution.

The special review court ordered the lower court to issue a new ruling giving the government the powers it was seeking.

The decision "revolutionizes our ability to investigate terrorists and prosecute terrorist acts," Ashcroft said at the time.

Silberman, a former federal appeals court judge and ambassador to Yugoslavia, has been known to speak his mind. He did so memorably in a 2002 speech to the conservative Federalist Society when he criticized the Supreme Court for "ducking" affirmative action cases and following "elite public opinion."

The Republican also had something to say in the perjury and obstruction probe of President Clinton's intimate relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. Silberman said the president's aides had decided to "literally and figuratively declare war" on prosecutor Ken Starr, a former appeals court colleague of Silberman.

And in an odd intersection with Robb's career, Silberman helped write the decision that overturned the convictions of Iran-Contra figure Oliver North, a pivotal event that undercut the criminal investigation then under way.

Robb, 64, won a bruising 1994 Senate election against North, then lost his seat in the 2000 election after an uninspired campaign against a popular ex-governor.

A Marine wed in the White House to President Johnson's daughter, Lynda Bird Johnson, Robb was a bright hope for the Democrats as governor and U.S. senator in the 1980s. But an alleged dalliance with a former beauty queen and the acrimonious contest with North tarnished his prospects.

In the four years since he left the Senate, Robb has caught gov-

ernment and public policy at George Mason University near his home in suburban Virginia and spent a semester as a lecturer at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

North had something of effect on Silberman's career, too.

The first Bush administration considered Silberman for a Supreme Court post but his participation in the North ruling in the Iran-Contra affair would have made him a difficult nominee to

get confirmed.

Silberman will be working on the commission with a former colleague with whom he frequently disagreed. Patricia Wald, President Carter nominated her to the federal appeals court in Washington, D.C., in 1979.

"They've kind of picked at the two ends of the judicial spectrum," said Marc Rotenberg, who runs the Washington-based Electronic Privacy Information Center.



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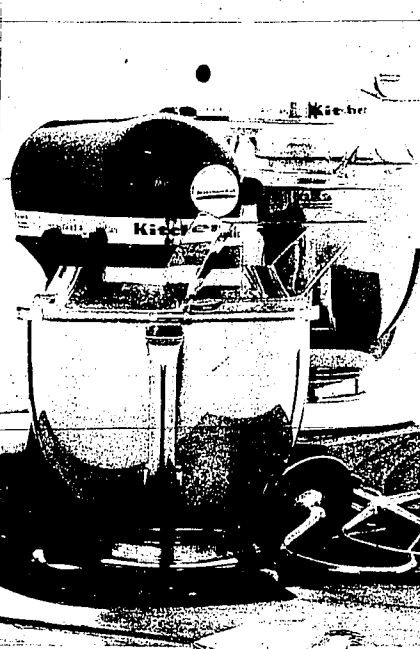
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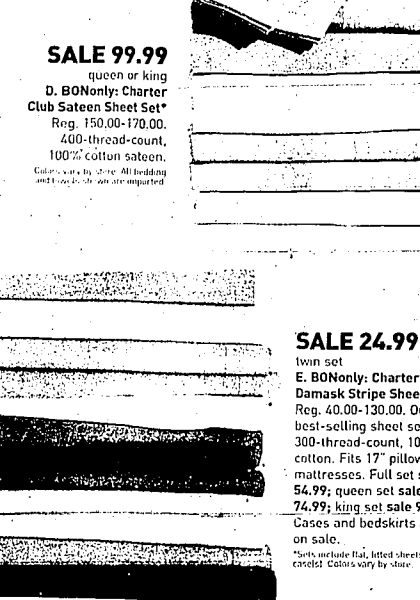


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MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

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City Editor: Chad Baldwin, 733-0931, Ext. 214

The Times-News

Sunday, February 8, 2004

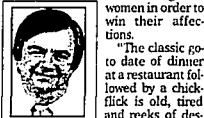
Section B



Making flames:
The U.S. Forest Service works to control wildfires.
Page B5

Guys who cook: Sexiness à la carte

Just in time for Valentine's Day, I've come in possession of a slim volume of wisdom titled, "The Chick Magnet Cookbook," by a twentysomething Southern California Surfer Dude name of Chef Fuller Fuller, who works in a chef's supply store in Los Angeles, reports that he found his social calendar deficient before he hit upon the cunning idea



DON'T ASK ME Steve Crump

of cooking for women in order to win their affections.

"The classic go-to date of dinner at a restaurant followed by a chick-flick is old, tired and reeks of desperation," Fuller writes. "Cooking for a chick will show her you're an inventive, daring suitor and that you're prepared to meet her romantic needs."

When you think about it, a man cooking for a woman is absolutely brilliant strategy because it's so counter-intuitive: It's an article of faith by most gals here in Marlboro Country that Guys Stay Out of the Kitchen, and that even when they don't, they should. But let's suppose you work with me here—that a man is marginally capable of following a recipe and of setting nothing worth the dish towel on fire.

And let's suppose he can open a bottle of wine without dropping it and that he can successfully thaw a Sara Lee cheesecake.

What then? He's golden, that's what—provided he doesn't forget to take the baked salmon out of the oven before it becomes blackened redfish.

See, the functionally competent male chef has years of natural history working on his behalf because most women have witnessed the consequences of a man's culinary fecklessness over the years, either by their fathers or in previous relationships. You don't have to be served all that many SPAM croquettes before you get the idea that the Y chromosome should be banned from the pantry.

And what's worse, most men assume they can cook one or two things well—steak, Dutch-oven stew, for example—even when they can't.

This is because, by and large, men are not great recipe-followers. It's not that they don't ask directions. It's not manly, and besides, how hard can it be?

Real hard, as it turns out, because cooking is all about subtlety—and man ain't it.

Still, the prospect of required love can transform even Stone Cold Steve Austin into Chef Emeril. I've done it, and I have 10 thumbs, can't decipher a recipe without a magnifying glass and have way too much enthusiasm for Tabasco sauce.

That said, there are one or two what you might call, um, caveats to male cookery as a seduction tactic:

1. Never, ever try to fix her favorite dish. She loves, say, beef Wellington because it's got, and yours won't be. Instead, prepare something obscure—pan-fried halibut over wasabi mashed potatoes with baby chive leaves to mind—so she won't know the difference.

2. Leave the meatloaf home. This is a woman you're trying to impress, not the gang from Monster Garage.

3. Don't assume that because you love a 14-ounce porterhouse steak, she does too.

4. Beware the Atkins snare. Your neighbor, your mother-in-law and your postman are all pumping protein and shunning carbs, so there's a better than small chance that your beloved is too. Always ask before you ladle up the ricotta, cottage fries or bread pudding.

5. Presentation is everything. And we're not talking setting the table here; YOU've got to look like a real cook, and one who suffers for his art.

A few props are needed to achieve this illusion: Two or three stockpots with steam rising, a thin veneer of sweat on your forehead, and—I can't emphasize this too much—the right apron.

The right apron is not the red one that loops around your neck and reads, "Good Bread, Good Meat, Good Gosh, Let's Eat." Wearing this will identify you as the hipster doofus that you really are.

Instead, you gotta get one of those aprons that read chef wear—you know, the white kind that tie at the waist. Before you put it on, sprinkle it liberally with garlic powder and balsamic vinaigrette, so you'll smell like you know what you're doing.

6. If you must resort to frozen, Please see CRUMP, Page B7

Dems could face same challengers

Gannon, Ridinger say they'll try again

By Julia Pence
Times-News writer

BOISE—Look for a rerun of two tight 2002 races in Magic Valley for the state Legislature this year, though the challengers are hoping for different results. Longtime environmental activist Bill Chisholm said he recently decided to challenge first-term Sen. Tom Gannon, R-Buhl, in District 25, which takes in western Twin Falls County and all of Owyhee County.

In District 25, consisting of

Campaign money - B7

Lincoln, Camas, Blaine and Gooding counties, Democrat Donna Pence has decided to once again take on incumbent Rep. Tim Ridinger, R-Shoshone.

For the two rematches to take place, the four candidates must, of course, defeat any intra-party challengers for their parties' nominations. The actual dates for filing to run for the Legislature are March 8-19. The primary election is May 25, and the general election is Nov. 2.

House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, R-Burley, said he wants the Legislature adjourned

by March 19 at the latest. One reason is that legislators are anxious to be about the business of running for office.

All other south-central Idaho legislators have said they intend to run for re-election—except for Newcomb. His response to the question is, "I'll let everyone know at the end of the session."

Newcomb has hit the ceiling in terms of the longest anyone has ever served as speaker in the Idaho House. Newcomb is in his third term as speaker. Only four other speakers in state history have served three terms, including Newcomb's comrade, U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson.

Newcomb's campaign coffers—and those of most other local



incumbents—are relatively well stocked for re-election bids. Campaign finance reports filed by Jan. 31 showed all incumbents except Rep. Doug Jones, R-Filer, Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, and Gannon already have at least \$1,000 each to campaign with this year.

Chisholm lost to Gannon in the 2002 race by 426 votes. But

the interesting twist in the victory is that he is a western Twin Falls County, where two-thirds of the voters in his district reside. Chisholm took home 3,720 votes in Twin Falls County to Gannon's 3,665. And Gannon has never forgotten it.

When the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce recently asked Gannon to carry a bill that would require a different reporting of sales taxes that would show how much each county collects, Gannon refused. He said he has strong loyalty to the voters of Owyhee County because they put him over the top. In addition, he said his district,

Please see ELECTION, Page B7

A WHITE WORLD



A parking meter on Second Avenue East in Twin Falls is covered and filled with snow Saturday morning as Dan Brizeo, owner of Brizeo Heating and Air Conditioning, uses a snow blower to clear the sidewalk in front of his store. Between seven and 10 inches of snow fell in the Twin Falls area Friday night and early Saturday morning.

Man sues Richfield over mobile home

By Troy Foster
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD—A Richfield man has sued the city, its mayor and three City Council members in a case that will hinge on whether a federal law supersedes a Richfield city ordinance.

Bruce Neil Richards claims the city, Mayor Charles Butts and Councilmen Tim Wilson, Jeff Norman and Frank Johnson, "conspired and acted arbitrarily and illegally" in denying him a permit to locate a mobile home on his property. The city's fourth councilman, Ron Holland, is not named in the lawsuit.

Richards is seeking \$75,000 in damages from the city of Richfield, and at least \$3,500 in attorney fees. In the complaint filed in 5th District Court in Lincoln County, written by attorney Mick Hodges of Twin Falls, Richard claims his constitutional rights of due process were violated. City Council members violated his rights further,

Hodges wrote in the complaint, because their denial constituted an "uncompensated taking of private property" prohibited by the 14th Amendment.

Richards' main argument is that a federal law concerning manufactured homes supersedes a Richfield ordinance requiring inspection.

Richards originally applied for a building permit in February 2000 to place his 1977 Titan manufactured home on property he owned at 215 W. Nez Perce St. He initially was granted the building permit by the Richfield Planning and Zoning Commission that September on the condition that it first be examined by a city building inspector.

The whole matter came to a head in October 2001 when Richards tried to move his mobile home to his property. He was met at the city limits by an officer and told he'd be arrested if he attempted to continue, according to statements in the lawsuit filed by Hodges.

In the complaint, Hodges cites

excerpts of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to argue his client's claim.

"It's our position that the local ordinance is preempted by the federal law and they had no reason to do what they did," Hodges said in a telephone interview last week. "Federal law controls safety on mobile homes—it occupies the field—therefore local authorities can't duplicate or exceed what the feds do."

The city of Richfield's defense is being handled by Boise attorney Kirran G. Naylor, who was assigned the case through the Idaho Counties Risk Management Program. He did not return a phone call for comment Thursday, and a staff person at the city Friday said he was gone for the day.

Richfield City Council members told *The Times-News* that they'd prefer if questions about the case were addressed to their attorney. But

Councilman Johnson did say that Richards' mobile home was inspected while it was still in Twin Falls and didn't pass the test.

"He wanted to move it in and fix it here, but we told him he had to pass the inspection first," Johnson said. He added that the mobile home "needed a lot of work."

Hodges confirmed that his client had suggested he move the home to Richfield first before making improvements. However, city officials' demand that they be allowed to inspect it first violates the controlling federal law, Hodges said.

"They demanded an inspection they didn't have a right to do," the attorney said.

In the lawsuit, Richards claims he has lost at least \$11,200 in fair rental value on his property, citing revenue he could have earned had he been able to rent the manufactured home for \$350 a month during the past 32 months.

A hearing date on the lawsuit has not yet been set.

Buhl officials tout full-day kindergarten

By Mickey Walker
Times-News correspondent

BUHL—If college begins in kindergarten, then the skills built in the Poppewille Elementary School's extended-day kindergarten program classroom will be the backdrop for future success.

"I believe that what skills are built here is something our students will need forever," said Charlene Howsden, the certified teacher of the class.

Howsden is currently teaching the second session of a new pro-

All-day kindergarten - E1

gram that began this school year. It is designed to identify and assist kindergarten students who need extra help when it comes to reading.

So far, school officials say they're happy with the program's results.

Placement in extended-day kindergarten is based on scores from the Brigance Kindergarten Screener, the Idaho Reading Indicator test or from teacher observations.

The class size is limited to 10 to 12 students for more individualized attention and each session lasts 10 weeks.

"They receive a lot of help with beginning reading skills, the things they need to be successful on-the-IRI and be more successful in their classrooms," said reading coach Catherine Turpin.

At the end of the first session, students were re-tested and all but one had made significant gains in reading skills, Turpin said.

The school initiated a trial test

of the program on a smaller scale during the past school year.

"We found that it was very successful in helping those kids who almost had the skills but needed the extra practice and it gave them a boost to show competency," Howsden said.

Those same students who went through the program last year are still maintaining proficiency on their IRI tests, school officials say.

In the classroom, Howsden works mainly with letter recognition, letter sound, rhyming and

Please see KINDERGARTEN, Page B7

Dealing the dead

New card game features late Idaho authors

Lewiston Morning Tribune

LEWISTON—Many may know Ernest Hemingway lived in Idaho, but how many know he had a cat named Boise?

How about the fact that the author of "Tarzan of the Apes" was once an Idaho city councilman or that a University of Idaho graduate is said to have influenced Steven Spielberg's script for "Star Wars"?

These are a few facts players of the new card game, "Idaho Authors," can regale one another with. Idaho Authors is based on the more than a century-old Authors card game and is played with rules similar to Old Maid. It features 11 writers who were born or maintained residences in the state, several of them in south-central Idaho.

"We only deal with the dead," explained Tom Trusky, the game's creator and director of the Idaho Center for the Book in Boise. "It saves us all sorts of trauma and literary tantrums."

Still, when the deck came out, Trusky got calls from living authors wondering why they weren't included. Along with being dead, writers must have written at least four significant works of poetry or fiction and have had ties to Idaho, according to the Idaho Center for the Book criteria.

The idea for an Idaho version of the game formed when the center, an affiliate of the Library of Congress housed at Boise State University, was creating a literary map of Idaho, said Trusky.

A literary map lists bookstores, print publishers and libraries of all genres throughout the history of the state. With the research already done, the task was deciding which authors to include. "Those selected range from strong recluses in their connection to Idaho—in other words, what constitutes an Idaho author."

"There were great battles when we were doing the literary map," Trusky said.

Among the most contested claims were over Idaho's most famous literary residents—novelist Ernest Hemingway, who had a home in Ketchum, and poet Ezra Pound, who was born in Hanley.

"Ernest Hemingway never wrote a word about Idaho, but completed one novel while he lived in Idaho," Trusky said. "He chose to die in Idaho. He had a home in Idaho."

Pound never wrote a word in Idaho, but he moved before he was 2 years old. But if you're born in a state, by God, that state claims you. We're not kidding."

Wallpaper from the home where Ezra Pound was born provides the decorative pattern on the backs of the cards.

The set also includes authors who spent significant time in the state and wrote about it. Among those is Vardis Fisher, who was born in southeastern Idaho and died near Harperman, was a finalist for the Nobel Prize and whose novel, "Mountain Man," was made into a movie starring Robert Redford.

MAGIC VALLEY

Fish & Game will host big game meetings

The state agency also will offer to settle trophy scores.

The Times-News

Jerome - Not only will hunters have a chance to weigh in on state game hunting proposals next week, they can settle the scores on their trophy hunts, too.

Hunters can bring in antlers, horns or skulls to have them scored at big game meetings hosted by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Hailey, Burley and Twin Falls, an department news release said.

"We are doing this as a service to the hunting community and for fun," says Clayton Nickson with Fish and Game. "This is just a good time to talk to hunters and see how their past hunting seasons have gone."

At the same time, hunters can give their opinions on options for expanding motorized hunting regulations, decreasing cow elk harvests and improving buck-to-deer ratios.

"We are going to have a number of department people there for the hunters to talk to," says Clayton Nickson with Fish and Game regional wildlife manager. "We need to hear what hunters have on their minds and would like to share with them some ideas we have."

Reducing the number of bucks

harvested from 130 to 45 a year in the unlimited, controlled muzzleloader hunt in Unit 45 north of Bliss is one proposal up for review. Member numbers and buck harvests have increased to the point that the hunt is affecting the quality of mature bucks, Smith said. Hunter success has increased to more than 50 percent.

Options to reduce the harvest include a controlled muzzleloader hunt with 200 permits; a controlled traditional muzzleloader hunt with 400 permits; or an unlimited controlled traditional muzzleloader hunt that rotates between Units 45, 52 and 53.

"Any or a combination of these would help us reach our goals. We just want everyone working together to do it," Smith said.

Other issues up for review include:

• Motorized vehicles: Should motorized vehicle rules in effect in Units 47, 48 and 49 be expanded to other units?

• Mule deer: Poor reproductive performance of mule deer in Unit 56 has resulted in lower deer numbers and low buck-to-deer ratios. The department has three hunting regulation proposals for the area.

• Cow elk: The department is considering reducing the number of cow elk tags in Unit 43 to help increase the elk numbers in that unit.

• Pronghorn archery: An archery pronghorn antelope hunt is pro-

Fish & Game meetings

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game will hold three open houses from 5 to 8 p.m. on the following evenings:

- Wednesday at the Blaine County Courthouse.
• Thursday at Burley City Hall.
• Friday at the KMYT Community Room in Twin Falls.

Catfished Bass & Crayfish, Pope & Young and Longhunter Society trophy measurements will be free of charge.

For more information call the Fish and Game office in Jerome at 324-4359.

posited in Units 44, 48 and 52.

• Antlerless elk: The department is proposing to move the antlerless elk season in Units 46, 47, 54 and 55 to Nov. 1 through 24.

• Bennett Hills: A proposal is under consideration to shorten the Bennett Hills A Tag general spike season by one week.

• Muzzleloaders: Because traditional muzzleloaders are less effective than modern muzzleloaders, the department is asking if hunters would prefer to keep the current 40 muzzleloader antelope permits in Unit 47 or increase the permit number to 65 like a traditional hunt.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Hot dogs. Tuesday: Hamburgers. Wednesday: Chicken nuggets. Thursday: Spaghetti. Friday: Pizza day.

BUHL SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu: Milk served daily. Choice of fruit or juice every day. Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: French toast. Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy. Thursday: Donuts. Friday: No School. Lunch Menu: Salad bar and milk served every day. Monday: Turkey and cheese sandwich. Tuesday: Taco salad. Wednesday: Corn dogs. Thursday: Sweet and sour chicken. Friday: No School.

CASTLEFORD SCHOOL

Breakfast menu: Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Breakfast McFluffin. Tuesday: Turnovers. Wednesday: Scrambled eggs. Thursday: Biscuits. Friday: No School. Lunch Menu: Salad bar and milk served daily. Monday: Burritos. Tuesday: Pizza. Wednesday: Hot Dogs. Thursday: Chicken burgers supreme. Friday: No school.

CLOVER TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Fish nuggets. Tuesday: Turkey gravy, noodles. Wednesday: Sweet 'n sour meatballs. Thursday: Ham sandwich. Friday: No Lunch; ski day.

FILER SCHOOL

Monday: Burritos. Tuesday: Turkey gravy. Wednesday: Corn dogs. Thursday: Italian menu. Friday: Sloppy joes.

HANSEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Breakfast Menu: Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy. Wednesday: Omelette. Thursday: Quesadilla. Friday: Cereal, long johns. Lunch Menu: Milk served daily. Monday: Burritos. Tuesday: Ham and cheese pockets. Wednesday: Pigs-in-a-blanket. Thursday: Chicken nuggets. Friday: Sub sandwich.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Choice of milk every day. Monday: Ham and corn dogs. Tuesday: Turkey roast. Wednesday: Build your own sandwich. Thursday: Lasagna. Friday: Canadian bacon pizza.

KIMBERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Burrito. Tuesday: Chicken fillet. Wednesday: Roast turkey. Thursday: Tomato soup. Friday: Chicken wrap.

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL

Milk, fruit and veggie bar served daily. Monday: Burritos. Tuesday: Corn dogs. Wednesday: Beef taquitos. Thursday: Tomato soup. Friday: Chicken wrap.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday: Beef enchiladas. Tuesday: Chicken nuggets. Wednesday: Spaghetti. Thursday: Chicken Alfredo. Friday: Pizza salad.

MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Fresh fruit and milk served daily. Monday: Enchiladas. Tuesday: Ham and potato soup. Wednesday: Spaghetti. Thursday: Cheese potatoes. Friday: No lunch; ski day.

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily. Monday: Baked ham. Tuesday: Deli turkey sandwich. Wednesday: Italian spaghetti. Thursday: Chicken tenders. Friday: Pizza.

MURTAUGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Rib-cue sandwich. Tuesday: Turkey gravy, potatoes. Wednesday: Chicken noodle soup. Thursday: Pepporoni pizza. Friday: Hamburgers.

ROBERT STUART AND O'LEARY JUNIOR HIGH

Breakfast menu: Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: Oatmeal. Wednesday: Cereal. Thursday: Scrambled eggs, ham. Friday: Cereal. Lunch menu: Monday: Fish nuggets. Tuesday: Corn dogs. Wednesday: Burrito. Thursday: Chicken nuggets. Friday: Pizza.

ST. EDWARDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Chicken nuggets. Tuesday: Deli sandwich. Wednesday: Turkey gravy. Thursday: Pizza. Friday: Chili.

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY

Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: Cereal. Wednesday: Cereal. Thursday: Egg. Friday: Cereal. Lunch menu: Monday: Double crust pepperoni pizza. Tuesday: Chicken sandwich. Wednesday: Hamburger deluxe. Thursday: Pepperoni hot pockets. Friday: Travelling taco.

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast is served daily. Lunch: The high school has a choice of milk, hamburger bar and salad bar each day, taco bar on Fridays. Main line menu varies every day. Monday: Ham and cheese melt, corn, pineapple chunks, pudding cup, salad, bar, deli sandwich. Tuesday: Chicken, tenders, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, apple quarters, french fries, orange wedges, peanut butter cookies, taco bar, deli sandwich. Thursday: Grilled chicken and bacon wrap, potato chips, pear, cucumber, cookie, deli sandwich. Friday: Pizza, salad, leivi fruit, breadsticks, potato bar, deli sandwich.

VALLEY SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served daily. Monday: Beef enchiladas. Tuesday: Chicken burger. Wednesday: Cheese pizza. Thursday: Nacho chips. Friday: Baked cheese sandwich.

BUJSS SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Surf burger. Tuesday: Spaghetti. Wednesday: Hamburger. Thursday: Baked potato w/cheese and ham. Friday: No School.

DIETRICH SCHOOLS

Salad bar, fruit and milk served daily. Monday: Hot dogs. Tuesday: Ham, scalloped potatoes. Wednesday: Burritos. Thursday: French dip sandwich. Friday: Spaghetti, garlic bread.

GLENN'S FERRY

Monday: Chicken fajita.

Tuesday: Super nachos. Wednesday: Hot dogs. Thursday: Sloppy joes on a bun. Friday: Chef salad w/ham and cheese.

GOODING SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. The lunch choice is for junior high and high school students only. Monday: Sloppy joe, salad bar, galaxy pizza. Tuesday: Ham and cheese on roll, potato bar, cheeseburger. Wednesday: Finger steaks, mashed potatoes, salad bar, rice. Thursday: Macaroni and cheese, potato bar, spicy chicken sandwich. Friday: Nachos.

HAGERMAN SCHOOLS

Choice of milk offered daily. Breakfast menu: Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: Waffle sticks. Wednesday: Cereal. Thursday: Scrambled eggs, ham. Friday: Cereal. Lunch menu: Monday: Fish nuggets. Tuesday: Corn dogs. Wednesday: Burrito. Thursday: Chicken nuggets. Friday: Hamburger.

IDAHO SCHOOL-FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Milk served daily. Breakfast menu: Monday: Fruit, sausage and toast, cereal. Tuesday: Fruit, cinnamon toast, cereal. Wednesday: Fruit, pancakes, bacon, cereal. Thursday: Banana, muffins, cereal. Friday: Fruit, scrambled eggs, polish sausage, toast, hash browns. Lunch menu: Salad bar and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Hamburger. Tuesday: Chicken fillet sandwich. Wednesday: Pepperoni or cheese pizza. Thursday: American sub sandwich, peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Friday: Chili or clam chowder.

JEROME SCHOOLS

Milk served daily. Monday: No School. Tuesday: Grilled cheese sandwich. Wednesday: Chicken/corn roll up. Thursday: Finger steaks. Friday: Hamburgers.

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Breakfast: Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Cereal. Tuesday: Scrambled eggs. Wednesday: French toast. Thursday: Cereal. Lunch: Monday: Ham and cheese sandwich. Tuesday: Chicken sandwich. Wednesday: Chili. Thursday: Pizza. Friday: Hard shell taco.

SHOSHONE SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Burrito. Tuesday: Chili. Wednesday: Chicken nuggets. Thursday: Sloppy joes on bun. Friday: No School.

WENDELL SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Chicken patty. Tuesday: Ground beef stroganoff. Wednesday: Turkey sandwich. Thursday: French toast. Friday: Fish tateras.

School lunch menus are printed as a public service. To have the lunch menu (breakfast menu) printed with the menu in Sunday's paper, send the menu to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or fax it to 734-5538, attention: Lunch Menu. Deadline is noon Wednesday for publication Sunday.

SERVICES

Mark Clayton Howard of Twin Falls, an open house for friends and family will be held from 2 until 5 p.m. today at the home of his mother and father, 651 Second Ave. N., Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel).

Ernesto F. Alejandro Jr. of Burley, vigil service at p.m. today at Payne Memorial Chapel, 221 W. Main St., Burley; friends may call from 4 p.m. until time of the vigil at Payne Mortuary.

A. Blake Froelich of Hansen, memorial service—at 11 a.m. Monday at White Mortuary.

Florence W. "Flossie" Kay of Heyburn, service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Paul LDS Stake Center, 424 W. Ellis; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at 321 E. Main St., Burley Chapel. Friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

William E. "Bill" LeFurgey of Gooding, service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Calvary Lutheran Church at 21st and California Street in Gooding; family and friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

Eddythe Mae Baughman of Twin Falls, service at 1:30 p.m. Monday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls; friends may call from 4 to 7 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Cleve Henry "Bud" Boss of Gooding, memorial service at 2 p.m. Feb. 16 at Demary's Wendell Chapel.

DEATH NOTICES

Richard O. "Dick" Garvin BURLEY - Richard O. "Dick" Garvin, 81, of Burley, died Friday, Feb. 6, 2004.

Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Eul Eile Hollingsworth BURLEY - Eul Eile Hollingsworth, 71, of Vicksburg, Miss., died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 6, 2004, at the Riverside Cemetery in Heyburn. Officiating was Bishop Michael James of the Burley 10th Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Arrangements were under the direction of Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Doris R. Ransom FILER - Doris R. Ransom, 73, of Filer, died Friday, Feb. 6, 2004, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Desota "Don" McCann JEROME - Desota "Don"

McCann, 78, of Jerome, died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004.

At his request, no formal services will be held. Arrangements are under the direction of Farnsworth Mortuary and Crematory, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome.

Ronald Lee Morris

MALTA - Ronald Lee Morris, 62, of Malta, died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004, at his home.

Arrangements will be announced by Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main, Burley.

John Terry

LOGAN, Utah - John Terry, 82, formerly of Paul, died Friday, Feb. 6, 2004, in Logan, Utah.

Arrangements will be announced by Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Golda Gertrude Grove

TWIN FALLS - Golda Gertrude Grove, 90, of Twin Falls and formerly of Oroville, Calif., died Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

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@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed online 24 hours a day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Thomas Lee McClure - Jerome

Thomas Lee McClure, 71, of Jerome, died at his residence Feb. 1, 2004.

He was born in Doniphan, Neb., on March 15, 1932, the son of Thomas and Grace Meester McClure. In 1939, the family moved to Eden, Idaho. He attended schools in Eden and Hazelton, graduating from Eden High School in 1949.

He served in the Air Force from 1951 until 1953. In 1953, he married Elizabeth Fitzgerald and then went to college in Moscow. Tom and Elizabeth had four daughters, which were raised in California. They were later divorced. Tom worked at Burbank Lockheed for many years. He moved to San Francisco in the '80s and then moved back to Idaho in 1994.



the public library. Tom was a big sports fan and enjoyed all the games.

He is survived by his four daughters, Joyce (Jim) Sankey of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sharon (Joseph) Schaefer of Montclair, Calif., Peggy McClure and Linda (Bill) Rojo, both of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.; by two brothers, Gene (Connie) McClure of Caldwell, Idaho, and Marvin (Goldie) McClure of Boise, Idaho; one sister, Marie Hisey of Jerome; six grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Tom was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2004, at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome with the Rev. Jeffrey Porter officiating.

John Bartolo Arriaga - Parma

John Bartolo Arriaga, 64, of Parma, died Jan. 9, 2004, from cancer.

He was born Feb. 28, 1939, in Gooding. He grew up attending schools in the Gooding-Hagerman area. He was a current member of the Gooding Basque Club, the NABO, National Bull Riders Association, the Native Planters Alliance of

California, and the Elks, Eagles and Moose. He retired in 2001 after 33 years with the U.S. Department of Transportation as a project engineer.

He is survived by his wife, Glennave of Parma; son, Jeff Arriaga of Woodburn, Ore.; daughter, Shelly (Brad) Johnson; eight grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; aunt, Bessie

Patterson of Gooding; brother, Elden (Shirley) Arriaga of Hagerman; and sister, Bessie (Darwin) Pugmire of Boise. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lucy Palmer Arriaga and John Arriaga; and a younger brother, Ray.

A celebration of life will be held Feb. 28, 2004, at the Elks Lodge in Ontario, Ore.

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We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the friends, relatives and organizations whose expressions of sympathy meant so much to us upon the death of our beloved son, Tate. Eric & Shellie Schaefer and Family.

WEST

Utah debates gay marriage ban

Both sides seek logical justification

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Even as he voted in favor of a bill that would ban gay marriage, Rep. Morgan Hightow, a conservative Republican who describes himself as deeply religious, questioned how the ban could be justified rationally.

"I'm fairly perplexed," he said during a committee hearing this past week. He believes "people have right to marry, but isn't sure if every marriage deserves the sanction of the state."

But if not, he mused, why not? If his questions can't be answered to his satisfaction, he added later, "I won't vote for this bill."

The question of logic is key to gay marriage supporters and opponents alike, especially since four Massachusetts high court justices on Wednesday clarified an earlier ruling affirming the right to same-sex marriage.

"For no rational reason the marriage laws of the Commonwealth discriminate against a defined class," they wrote.

But if you ask Brigham Young University law professor Richard Wilkins, adviser to the marriage bill's sponsor, Sen. Chris Butters, the rationale is absolute: Children cannot result from homosexual intercourse. And because of that, same-sex couples can't earn acceptance from the state, which must get something in return for its stamp of approval.

"My concern is people don't understand what's at stake. Marriage is not just between people who love each other," Wilkins said. "Marriage has always been about children—why can't you marry your brother? Because we don't want you to have children."

Wilkins believes that since the U.S. Supreme Court last summer struck down a Texas law banning gay sex, all state marital laws are in jeopardy. With the Massachusetts ruling, he said, "marriage has just been declared irrational."

Wilkins and others who want gay marriage bans insist children do better when they have a married father and mother. What's more, he said, "procreation requires a coupling between a man and a woman."

The argument has an obvious weakness: Procreation hasn't required coupling for quite some time. In vitro fertilization, artificial insemination and surrogate pregnancies all produce offspring. But even without modern science the logic fails, said Dani Eyer, executive director of the Utah American Civil Liberties Union.

Homophobia is the only possible reason to make such an argument, Eyer said.

"Should we deny marriage licenses to any couple that can't produce children? If you're menopausal, if you're infertile, should you be denied a marriage license?" she said. "This is exactly what we're going to argue — you're discriminating against one class of people."

Rational or not, constitutional or not, the ability to conceive and bear children is driving an effort to amend the U.S. Constitution to ban gay marriage.

In a transcript of testimony offered to Arizona lawmakers that Gilbert, Ariz.-based United Families International posted on its Web site, spokeswoman Marcia Barlow declares that "loving, com-

mitted relationships standing alone are of no interest to government, no interest unless they have the potential to produce a tangible benefit — children."

"Marriage is not an issue of love, rights or sexual preference," Barlow said. "There is no societal benefit to 'sexual unions' which are based primarily on sterile sex and the perception of love."

Introduced in May in the U.S. House of Representatives, the marriage amendment bill has lain dormant in a committee since June. But since President Bush said in last month's State of the Union address he would support such an amendment, which Vice President Cheney whose daughter is a lesbian — said he, too, would support it, activists say pro-amendment momentum has increased.

Matt Daniels is president of Alliance for Marriage, based in Merrifield, Va. He believes that

statutes and resolutions supporting gay marriage constitutional amendments on the state and national level indicate broad support for a definitive ban.

"It takes 38 states to ratify a constitutional amendment," he said. "We now have 37 states that recently have either amended their constitutions or passed statutes to protect the union of

male and female. If we get one more state to do that, we will have achieved political consensus at the state level."

The clock is ticking. There is no official time limit on constitutional amendment proposals, but Daniels said once an amendment bill is introduced, it is presumed dead if it doesn't pass within seven years.

“ Marriage has always been about children. Why can't you marry your brother? Because we don't want you to have children. ”

— Richard Wilkins, Brigham Young University professor

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TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 5:00PM
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KLAAS AUCTION BARN
208-324-5521

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11, 11:00AM
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Hydraulic Tools • Fork Lifts
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SATURDAY, FEB. 14, 9:00AM
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The family of **Phyllis Hoschouer** would like to thank all of the people involved in her care over the last few years and her final few hours. We greatly appreciate all who made her smile and gave her comfort. These include, but not limited to Dr. Elizabeth Sugden and the office staff, Dixie-Blamires, Dean & Tamara Mayes, Mayes Physical Therapy, CSI Office of Aging and Volunteers, and Simerly's store and Pharmacy. More recently, Dr. Mark Wright, Dr. Al Trease, operating room staff, Zippy Duell PCC, Karen Martin ICU, all the 3rd North staff, Sid Brooks CNA, Wendy Slane RN, Tim Jones from transport, and Pastor Bruce Stevens for spiritual comfort. We truly appreciate all of the genuine kindness and generosity that was expressed to Phyllis and her family during our time of loss.

IDAHO

Ecologist calls for broader job duties for wildland firefighters

BOISE (AP) — Tim Ingalsbee wants to broaden the job of wildland firefighters, training crews how to set forest fires as well as put them out, and using those skills year-around.

Ingalsbee is the director of the Western Fire Ecology Center for the American Lands Alliance in Eugene, Ore. He wants the government to use fire to return the forests to health rather than merely reacting by throwing money and firefighters at the flames.

"They should use fire suppression to meet some ecological targets," said Ingalsbee, a former firefighter for the Forest Service and National Park Service.

The National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, which coordinates wildland firefighting across the country, says it is doing what Ingalsbee recommends, just not as fast as he wants.

The debate comes as spring — and the start of the 2004 wildfire season — draws closer. The season starts each spring in the desert Southwest, and moves north with warmer weather.

Historically, fire consumed far more western forest each year than it does now. Ingalsbee said on average, fire burned about 30 million acres of forest each year in the early decades of the 20th century.

"There was no crisis, no national hysteria," he said.

But in the 1930s, forest managers adopted a "10 a.m. policy" which called for fires to be controlled by 10 a.m. after the first report of smoke.

Smokejumper crews, bulldozers and retardant bombers appeared after World War II to wage war on fires. Last year, only about 4 million acres burned, although the blazing cost homes and lives in Arizona and California.

Ingalsbee said that leaves millions of acres every year that historically should have burned. When the forest doesn't burn, brush, limbs and other flammable debris accumulate, setting the stage for an eventual horrendous blaze that endangers fire crews. Twenty-eight wildland firefighters died last year.

Ingalsbee said firefighting crews should become "pyrotechnicians," trained to set and manipulate blazes to clear out tens of millions of acres of forest fuel.

The seasonal firefighters could go to full-time, lighting blazes during the colder months when they will not explode into uncontrollable fires. In the summer, they would suppress some fires or manipulate them into clearing overgrown parts of the forest.

"They can get there and get ahead of the fire to apply certain management techniques," Ingalsbee said. "I've had discussions with firefighters. They would gravitate to those opportunities that allow them to be more than smoke-



Deb Bowen, with the U.S. Forest Service, demonstrates a 'drip torch,' Wednesday, in Boise. Drip torches are used to set prescribed burns. Last year, about 2.8 million acres of forest and range were torched intentionally in prescribed fires, in an effort to clear forests of potential fuel for wildfires.

eating ground-pounding grunts."

"That actually is what our National Fire Plan stresses," said Paul Broyles, a program leader in Boise. "We're keeping smokejumpers on longer and they're doing more planning and fuel-reduction work. They're working in the shoulder seasons' before and after the fire season."

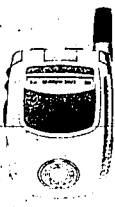
Ingalsbee also calls for clearing out timber debris and brush in a buffer around communities adjacent to forest. The strips could be one-third of a mile wide. That could mean treating about 11 million acres nationwide.

"This kind of work is potentially a huge amount of employment for communities. We could get federal grants to get this going," he said. Ingalsbee said Congress is willing to spend more than \$1 billion a year on fire suppression, but is reducing funding for fuels reduction. The new Bush budget proposal calls for spending \$760 million in fiscal 2005 on wildland fire prevention, but Congress sets the final number.

Broyles said the Healthy Forest Initiative that Congress passed last year stresses clearing fuels from around communities.

Federal managers want to accomplish what Ingalsbee suggests, Broyles said, although they face the realities of limited funding, the effects of weather on prescribed burns and public reaction to the smoke from intentionally set fires near towns.

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*Minimum Direct Connect calls use the Direct Connect minutes in your plan and incur an additional cost of either 100 minutes multiplied by the number of participants on the call, or 10 a monthly flat fee for use up to 10 participants. Unlimited Nationwide Direct Connect, or Group, Nationwide Direct Connect, or Group, is not available for the following: 1. Long Distance. 2. International. 3. Payphone. 4. Prepaid. 5. Text. 6. Other. 7. Other. 8. Other. 9. Other. 10. Other. 11. Other. 12. Other. 13. Other. 14. Other. 15. Other. 16. Other. 17. Other. 18. Other. 19. Other. 20. Other. 21. Other. 22. Other. 23. Other. 24. Other. 25. Other. 26. Other. 27. Other. 28. Other. 29. Other. 30. Other. 31. Other. 32. Other. 33. Other. 34. Other. 35. Other. 36. Other. 37. Other. 38. Other. 39. Other. 40. Other. 41. Other. 42. Other. 43. Other. 44. Other. 45. Other. 46. Other. 47. Other. 48. Other. 49. Other. 50. Other. 51. Other. 52. Other. 53. Other. 54. Other. 55. Other. 56. Other. 57. Other. 58. 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Death penalty varies by geography in Calif.

By David Kravets
Associated Press writer

SAN FRANCISCO — California now has 638 inmates awaiting death, some of them for more than one murder.

But some of the state's counties have condemned as many more inmates than others of similar size, according to an Associated Press review of Corrections Department data.

The disparities between some counties are so pronounced that legal experts say capital punishment is being unfairly applied in California.

The reasons are complex — for one, crimes happen more frequently in some places than others. But prosecutorial zeal and the attitudes of jurors also are factors.

The bottom line, according to the data, is that the death penalty sometimes depends on where the crime was committed.

Capital punishment should not depend on an accident of geography," said defense attorney Robert Sanger, who prepared a lengthy analysis of California's death penalty system in the current issue of Santa Clara Law Review.

His geographical disparities are apparent nationwide, and not just at the county level. Texas, for example, has executed 317 people since the U.S. Supreme Court allowed executions to resume in 1976, while California has put just 10 to death.

The death penalty is getting renewed scrutiny in California, where Tuesday's scheduled lethal injection of Kevin Cooper, who was sentenced for hacking four people to death, will be the state's first execution in two years.

Often, the debate focuses on questions about race, the reliability of evidence and arguments about cruel and unusual punishment — all issues raised by Cooper's defenders. And like other states, California's death row is disproportionately black. Statewide, about 39 percent of



Shulan Graham, middle, a former inmate on San Quentin State Penitentiary's death row, argues his case against the death penalty during a rally by opponents of the death penalty Tuesday in downtown San Francisco. California now has 638 inmates awaiting death, some of them for more than one murder.

Analysis

inmates awaiting execution are white, 35 percent black and 18 percent Hispanic. About 47 percent of the California's population is white; 6 percent black and 33 percent Hispanic.

The geography plays a role — if the death penalty were applied evenly, there would be one death sentence for every 54,700 people in each county.

That ratio was calculated by dividing California's 35.3 million population by 645, which is the number of death sentences handed out to the 638 men and women now awaiting execution.

San Francisco and Kern counties "each" have roughly the same number of students are similarly served in an extended kindergarten class.

In observing the class, Gemar is "pleased" with the progress that's taking place.

"We're hoping by the end of the year that we can make significant progress with the kids so by the time they go into the first grade their readiness level will

be a lot higher than it is right now," he said.

The direction the district has taken to help its struggling young students is the right course, Gemar said.

He also noted that the jury is still out, so to speak, on extended kindergarten. But Gemar is hopeful that when the test scores come in, the program will prove its worth.

issues impact them. They sort of go along with the Farm Bureau and cattle association take on things."

In District 25, Pence, 61, a retired teacher, only lost by 144 votes in the last race. In fact, she led the race until the early hours of the morning. Though she hasn't formally announced, she started back on the campaign trail shortly after the defeat.

Ridinger, 47, who is in his fifth term, has noticed.

"She started campaigning the day after the election," he joked.

Not quite, but close — it was two months, Pence said.

"I sat back for a while trying to decide what to do. After all, I hadn't ever run for office before, so I didn't quite know what you do," Pence said.

Pence said she has become acquainted with many more people in District 25 since the last election and that she's feeling comfortable in most forums these days.

Times-News writer Julie Pence can be reached at 343-5553 or by e-mail at jpence@magicvalley.com.

Two Jell-O-making tips, however: Always drain the fruit cocktail first, and if you run out of whipped cream and try to substitute Miracle Whip, she'll divorce on the spot whether you're married or not. Bon appetit.

Garth Fuller's "The Chicken Magnet Cookbook" is published by Citadel Press and sells for \$14.95.

Steve Crump is The Times-News features editor. Write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

the per capita ratio. Kern, where conservatives hold sway, has applied 23 death sentences, 10 more than the norm.

Riverside County, with 54 people on death row, had the most death verdicts beyond its statistically proportionate number, which would be 30. "Death penalty laws were implemented to use," said Grover Trask III, Riverside County's district attorney, noting his community's conservative bent.

Los Angeles is the only county with more condemned inmates, but it also has the state's highest population. It has sentenced people to death 193 times, 11 more than the ratio.

San Mateo County, now hosting Scott Peterson's double-murder trial, has issued 16 death sentences, three more than the ratio. Stanislaus County, where the trial was moved from, has 9 current death row residents, equal to the ratio.

Prosecutors aren't likely to push for a capital trial to be moved to San Francisco, where the newly elected District Attorney Kamala Harris declared last month that she "will never charge the death penalty." Her speech was partly an acknowledgment that jurors are unlikely to vote for death in the state's most liberal county.

San Diego County, where Cooper's trial was moved in 1993, is generally conservative and has a heavy military presence, but its 32 death sentences were 25 fewer than what it would have seen had the death penalty been applied evenly. That's the biggest disparity in the state.

Sanger said he believes a statewide committee of prosecutors should review capital cases to ensure uniform standards, and the governor should commute any death sentences obtained without the committee's approval.

Lance Lindsay, executive director of Death Penalty Focus in San Francisco, which lobbies against capital punishment, said the statistics support what he already believes: "Anybody with a little common sense knows that local politics on the ground drives the death penalty."

Capital punishment should not depend on an accident of geography.

— Robert Sanger, defense attorney

Judge denies new trial for man convicted in fatal beating

CALDWELL (AP) — A judge has denied a new trial for a man convicted of involuntary manslaughter in a fatal beating of a 41-year-old Columbia man.

Third District Court Judge Renae Hoff said Friday that testimony from a witness who could not be reached by the defense during the trial of Caldwell resident Dane Lawson would not lead to an acquittal in the case.

Hoff said Lawson's defense attorney, John Bujak, gave compelling arguments during the trial that Cary Sturgis had left a city park where he was later found dead of a head wound, after being beaten and robbed by Lawson and two friends.

Additional testimony from a security guard would not have allowed the jury's September conviction of Lawson, she said.

Attorneys for Lawson had asked for a new trial based on testimony from security guard Jamie Franko, who said he never observed a body during three routine patrols of Pioneer Plaza on the night of the attack.

The judge also said she was surprised that prosecutors had not tested hair found in Sturgis' hands for DNA and that a watch at the scene did not belong to Sturgis or the three men.


Bujak said he would submit information to Hoff and asked her to reconsider her decision on Feb. 26.


Lawson's family said they still believe Lawson, Cole Scott and Eric Owen did not inflict the blows that caused Sturgis to bleed to death on Dec. 7, 2002, although the trio did beat and rob him.

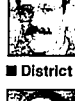
But Sturgis' family said the argument that someone else fatally beat him after he was already bloodied does not make sense.


Legislative campaign coffers


Following is information gathered from year-end campaign finance reports from Magic Valley legislators. Contributions of \$50 or less do not have to be itemized. Contributions listed here are from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2003.


District 23

 • State representative A — Frances Field, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$51,511
 2003 contributions: none
 2003 expenditures: none
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$51,511



 • State representative B — Douglas R. Jones, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$69,450
 2003 contributions: \$100,266
 2003 expenditures: \$142
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$27,771
 Contributors: Idaho Bank PAC, \$100



 • State senator Tom Gannon, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$478,009
 2003 contributions: none
 2003 expenditures: \$350
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$128,009

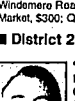
District 24

 • State representative A — Leon Smith, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$3,115,211
 2003 contributions: \$100
 2003 expenditures: \$234,774
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$2,980,437
 Contributors: Idaho Bank PAC, \$100



 • State representative B — Sharon Block, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$417,840
 2003 contributions: \$500
 2003 expenditures: \$597,450
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$420,339
 Contributors: Sharon Block, \$600



 • State senator Laird Noh, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$2,077,711
 2003 contributions: none
 2003 expenditures: none
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$2,077,711

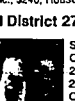
District 25

 • State representative A — Wendy Jaquet, Democrat
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$866,140
 2003 contributions: \$3,505
 2003 expenditures: \$3,009,556
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$1,361,558
 Contributors: IdahoBankPAC, State, Fund, \$200; ICULAC, \$500; Union Pacific Railroad, \$300; Idaho Power, \$500; Owest-Idaho PAC, \$300; Jo Murray Demoro, \$100; Thomas and Myrna Frankel, \$200; Philip and Sally Lochner, \$200; Wila and Jim McLaughlin, \$100; Clint Stennett, \$250.

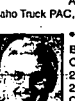

 • State representative B — Tim Ridinger, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$957,660
 2003 contributions: \$1,500
 2003 expenditures: \$424
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$2,032,666
 Contributors: Idaho Truck PAC, \$400; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$150; Corrections Corp. of America, \$250; Anheuser-Busch, \$500; Idaho Loggers PAC, \$200.



 • State senator Clint Stennett, Democrat
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$5,910,410
 2003 contributions: \$3,846,609
 2003 expenditures: \$2,826,392
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$6,929,608
 Contributors: GRK LLC, \$300; Pioneer Car and Soft Storage, \$300; Sutton and Sons Auto Center, \$300; First American Title, \$400; Scott Parker, \$225; Mark Brown, \$100; Rory Mitchell, \$100; John Flynn, \$75; Lloyd Davis, \$80; F-Stop, \$225; E. Gile Williams, \$75; Windemera Real Estate, \$300; Daily Co., \$250; Idaho Bank PAC, \$300; Owest-Idaho PAC, \$300.


District 26

 • State representative A — John A. "Bert" Stevenson, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$1,775,450
 2003 contributions: \$900
 2003 expenditures: \$1,263,340
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$1,422,111
 Contributors: Anheuser-Busch, \$250; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$350; Owest-Idaho PAC, \$300.


 • State representative B — Maxine Ball, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$5,101,300
 2003 contributions: \$650
 2003 expenditures: \$786,900
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$4,364,400
 Contributors: Idaho Bank PAC, \$250; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$150; Corrections Corp. of America, \$250.


 • State senator Dean Cameron, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$119,740
 2003 contributions: \$3,600
 2003 expenditures: \$2,608,114
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$1,111,660
 Contributors: Corrections Corp. of America, \$250; Coeur d'Alene Mines Corp., \$200; Idaho Dental PAC, \$200; Owest-Idaho PAC, \$250; Anheuser-Busch, \$250; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$200; ELL Lilly & Co., \$500; Union Pacific Railroad, \$500; Citigroup Inc., \$240; Household PAC, \$100.

District 27

 • State representative A — Scott Bedke, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$2,023,311
 2003 contributions: \$1,200
 2003 expenditures: \$1,044,004
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$2,312,227
 Contributors: Boise Cascade Corp., \$150; Amalgamated Sugar Co., \$150; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$150; Idaho Dental Action Committee, \$200; Corrections Corp. of America, \$250; Idaho Truck PAC, \$300.


 • State representative B
 Bruce Newcomb, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$5,572,773
 2003 contributions: \$3,600
 2003 expenditures: \$2,673,074
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$3,699,699
 Contributors: Poialo PAC, \$200; Household PAC, \$100; Anheuser-Busch, \$250; Citigroup PAC, \$250.


 • State senator
 Denton Darrington, Republican
 Cash balance at start of '03: \$8,944,530
 2003 contributions: \$1,450
 2003 expenditures: \$6,231,850
 Cash balance at start of '04: \$4,162,688
 Contributors: Anheuser-Busch, \$500; Corrections Corp. of America, \$250; Idaho Dental Association, \$200; Atria Corporate Services Inc., \$200; Owest-Idaho PAC, \$300.

Kindergarten

Continued from B1
 blending letters to words. "I do do do do homework home every day and I found that those students who did their homework during the last session were the most proficient," Howdens said.

Mike Gemar, the school district's special education director, said he also sees the benefits of the program.

"A lot of the children isn't that they don't have the cog-

Election

Continued from B1
 which is made up of rural voters and people from small towns in both Owyhee and western Twin Falls counties, could stand to lose with that kind of legislation.

Sales tax money is collected by the state and redistributed to the cities and counties according to population. The Twin Falls chamber wants to change that so the 36,000-population city can prove it serves more than 250,000 customers. It would be good for drawing new business into town, members say. But Gannon said if that information is available, small towns and rural counties might come up short of money.

"What I don't trust is what some of the big-city politicians will do with that kind of information in trying to change the distribution formula," he said. "They might try to change it so the places with the most sales get more money than they do now. I have to look out for the little guys, because that's who is in my district."

Last fall Gannon, 58, was diagnosed with prostate cancer and he is undergoing treatment. But he said so far it has not impeded his performance as a legislator.

Crump

Continued from B1
 processed foods and pass them off as fresh. Always drain the fruit cocktail first, and if you run out of whipped cream and try to substitute Miracle Whip, she'll divorce on the spot whether you're married or not. Bon appetit.

Garth Fuller's "The Chicken Magnet Cookbook" is published by Citadel Press and sells for \$14.95.

Steve Crump is The Times-News features editor. Write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

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HASSLE FREE PRICE
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FACTORY INVOICE** \$29157
 FACTORY REBATE - \$3300

HASSLE FREE PRICE
'25857 OR '49'312' MO.
*ONLY \$361 Due At Lease Signing • 66 Monthly Payments Of \$312



2004 DODGE
1500 QUAD CAB 4x4 SLT
 Stock #41-255. Color: White • Automatic • V8 • Power W/LM

FACTORY INVOICE** \$28903
 FACTORY REBATE - \$3300

HASSLE FREE PRICE
'25603 OR '49'312' MO.
*ONLY \$361 Due At Lease Signing • 66 Monthly Payments Of \$312



1995 GMC
2500 4x4
 RETAIL \$12000
SAVE \$2687
'6988
 OR **'119** MO.
Stock #C131 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.




1996 FORD F350
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$11648
SAVE \$2657
'8988
 OR **'159** MO.
Stock #C131 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.




1999 GMC
3500 4x4
 RETAIL \$12003
SAVE \$2015
'9988
 OR **'159** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.




1997 CHEVY
3500 GREW CAB
 RETAIL \$13487
SAVE \$2499
'10988
 OR **'179** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



1997 FORD F250
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$13298
SAVE \$2310
'10988
 OR **'179** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



1997 DODGE 2500
CLUB CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$14210
SAVE \$2222
'11988
 OR **'189** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



1999 FORD F250
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$15122
SAVE \$2242
'15988
 OR **'239** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2000 FORD F250
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$21064
SAVE \$3576
'16988
 OR **'259** MO.
Stock #C137 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.




1999 FORD F250
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$21063
SAVE \$3895
'17988
 OR **'269** MO.
Stock #C137 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2001 DODGE
2500 4x4
 RETAIL \$23400
SAVE \$3468
'19988
 OR **'289** MO.
Stock #C138 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2002 DODGE 1500
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$24070
SAVE \$3687
'20988
 OR **'309** MO.
Stock #C137 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2000 FORD F350
EXT. CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$27800
SAVE \$3877
'23988
 OR **'339** MO.
Stock #C137 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2001 DODGE 2500
QUAD CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$27758
SAVE \$3777
'23988
 OR **'339** MO.
Stock #C138 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2001 FORD F250
EXT. CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$30866
SAVE \$3898
'26988
 OR **'399** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.




2002 FORD F250
QUAD CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$30174
SAVE \$3186
'26988
 OR **'389** MO.
Stock #C136 36 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2002 FORD F350
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$32684
SAVE \$3666
'28988
 OR **'399** MO.
Stock #C138 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2003 FORD F350
CREW CAB 4x4
 RETAIL \$33780
SAVE \$3798
'31988
 OR **'439** MO.
Stock #C138 72 months at 5.9% APR, DAC. 10% down/owner trade equity.



2002 FORD F250
CREW CAB 4x4
SAVE \$6000
 Stock #D46A



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SPORTS

The Times-News

Sunday, February 8, 2004

Section C

MORNING LINE SPORTSQUOTE

I'm a 31-year-old juvenile delinquent. No one can control me.

-Shaquille O'Neal, who was suspended for one game for profanely criticizing officials.

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Who was the first Los Angeles Dodger to hit 30 home runs and steal 30 bases in a season?

...answer below

IN BRIEF

School plans Easter baseball tournament

TWIN FALLS - The Rocky Mountain School of Baseball is now accepting team registration for the Magic Valley Competitive Youth Baseball Easter Tournament April 9-10. There is a four-game guarantee for the \$200 entry fee.

The age divisions are 8-9, 10 and under, 11 and under, 12 and under, 13 and under, 14 and under and 15-16. Visit www.rmsb.com or call 1-877-272-0862 to register.

CSI volleyball team

plans Parents Night Out

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho volleyball program will host Parents Night Out, a children's all-night slumber party at the Golden Eagles gym starting at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14. Pickup is 9 a.m. the next morning.

Children in grades 1-6 are eligible with some exceptions considered. The cost is \$20 per child and \$10 for each additional child per family. The fee includes free admission to that night's CSI basketball games, pizza from Papa John's, movies and games.

The chaperones are the CSI volleyball team members. Children need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow and pajamas.

Outback Steakhouse is offering a free Bloomin' Onion to any parents who sign their children up for the event.

Call Ben Stroud at 732-6478 or Jing Houghley at 732-6492 to obtain a registration form. The form and payment are due Feb. 12.

Police departments hold benefit basketball game

RUPERT - Cassia and Minidoka County police officers will play a benefit basketball game Friday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. at the Minico High School main gym. The three-team round-robin tournament between Cassia County police, Minidoka County police, and a team comprised of area merchants will gather proceeds to go toward Rupert Police patrol officer Travis Wages' medical bills. Wages sustained injuries to his hand and face when a black powder rifle he was shooting jammed and blew up in his hand. Admission costs are \$5 per adult, \$2.50 for children ages 10 and under. Along with the tournament, raffles and a hoop shoot for prizes are planned. Raffle tickets will sell three for \$1, or \$5.50 each. Prizes will be provided by the police force and area merchants.

Organization plans roller hockey league

JEROME - The North Valley Hockey Association is now registering for the spring season roller hockey league for boys and girls ages 6-16. Games and practices held every through April 5, at the Jerome Fairgrounds. Registration is \$35 and protective gear is required. Call 644-9709 for more information.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Raul Mondesi hit 30 home runs and stole 32 bases in 1997. Then hit 33 home runs with 36 steals in 1999.

Jarrett wins Shootout

The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Winning Saturday night's Budweiser Shootout was a heady moment for Dale Jarrett.

Coming off the worst season of his career, the three-time Daytona 500 winner suddenly found himself back in the spotlight and among the favorites for the Feb. 15 race.

Jarrett, the 1999 Winston Cup champion, won the first race of NASCAR's Nextel Cup era by holding off Dale Earnhardt Jr., the driver everyone expects to be the man to beat in the 500.

"I don't even want to talk about that," Jarrett said of his 20th place finish in last season's points.

"I've got to thank my buddy Dale Jr. He was knocking the devil out of the rear bumper and that's probably what I needed to get up there."

"The last two times we won this thing (1996 and 2000), we won the Daytona 500 and I'm really looking forward to next Sunday."

Junior, who won last year's race for pole winners and former Shootout champions, came into the 20th edition of the madcap TV event as the favorite again, but did not lead any of the 70 laps on Daytona International Speedway's 2.5-mile oval.

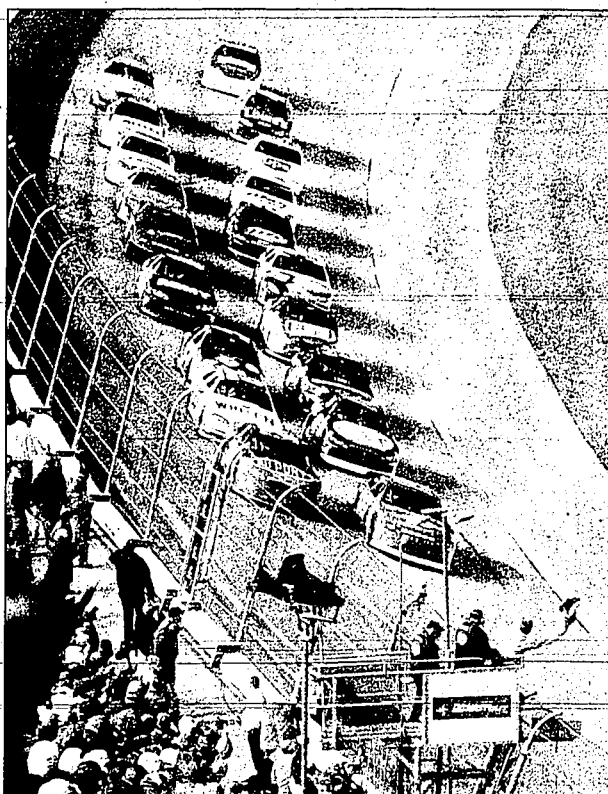
"Dale Jarrett is pretty upset about how his season went last year. You can't get more determined than that," Earnhardt said. "I pushed him as hard as I could push him. I'm glad he won if I couldn't win."

Earnhardt said his car didn't have a very good setup, but he was still a little upset that nobody in the 19-car field would work with him in the draft as the race went on.

"I was pushing people up front. But as soon as they'd get the opportunity, they'd ditch me," he said. "Never in the race did I have a real strong car behind me that was committed to me."

Jarrett, running his first race with crew chief Mike Ford, said, "This isn't sit here and say we're all the way back, but we're a long way from where we were and a real team can work with him."

Jarrett, driving a Robert Yates Racing Ford, charged from 10th place in a seven-lap sprint after Earnhardt's Chevrolet came up a crash brought out a late race red flag.



Drivers in the Budweiser Shootout take the green flag to start the race Saturday at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Earnhardt's Chevrolet came up a crash brought out a late race red flag. Jarrett, driving a Robert Yates Racing Ford, charged from 10th place in a seven-lap sprint after Earnhardt's Chevrolet came up a crash brought out a late race red flag.

"I think a lot of Dale Jr. I look at the spotlight he's been put in, the Please see SHOOTOUT, Page C2

Golden Eagles men stay busy during off week

By Kevin Colbrant
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team may not play any actual games this weekend, but don't call it an off week for the Golden Eagles and their coaching staff.

With CSI (17-7 overall, 11-7 Scenic West Athletic Conference) in a virtual tie for first place in the league with Snow College, Dixie State College and North Idaho College, every day counts as the season winds down and a

key home series with the College of Eastern Utah (13-11, 8-10) looms this coming Friday and Saturday.

"We don't do a whole lot differently," CSI head coach Gib Arnold said Tuesday of his team's practices during the bye week.

"We'll get a lot of shots up and make sure we stay in shape. We'll run a lot this week." Individual workouts and shooting drills were held on Monday while players also hit the weight room. As early as Tuesday, Arnold started implementing the scout-

ing report for CEU. "CEU does things a little bit differently," Arnold said. "They're the only exclusively zone (defense) team in the conference, and this gives us a little bit more time to prepare for that."

The extra week also gives more of an opportunity for the banged up Eagles to recover for injuries. That's extra important since leading scorer Dante Sawyer (16.4 points) was dismissed from the team on Friday for violating team rules.

Next up
CSI hosts Eastern Utah Feb. 13-14.
Women: 6 p.m.
Men: 8 p.m.

Center Abdoulaye Ndiaye has a pulled groin, and guards Schafer Jackson and Aking Elting are nursing nagging ankle injuries.

"It has its plusses and it's minuses," Arnold said of the week. "There might be a little rust but at this late point in the season, I hope not. But I think it

will help us to get a little more healthy. It lets the guys get a little more time in the training room, and we're really emphasizing that."

The week also gives the Eagles' coaching staff an opportunity to go on recruiting trips for which they would not otherwise have time.

Assistant coach Barrett Peery left Tuesday for Utah and also planned to travel into Colorado to recruit. Arnold is visiting a tournament on the east coast this weekend to scout players.

Singh takes control at Pebble Beach

The Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. - The sun-splashed scenery at Pebble Beach was never more spectacular.

Vijay Singh made sure the rug was worth watching, too.

Singh recovered from a ruffed start by unleashing five birdies in a six-hole stretch Saturday for a 4-under 68 that gave him a share of the lead with Arron Oberholser in the Pebble-Beach National Pro-Am.

"I always enjoy the scenery here, the golf course is great and you cannot ask for a better place to play golf and win a golf tournament," Singh said. "I would love to do it if I could tomorrow."

No one would expect anything less.

Singh already has 11 consecutive top-10 finishes, three off the modern-day record set by Jack Nicklaus in 1977, and not even the bumpy greens on the Monterey Peninsula seem capable of stopping him.

He will be in the final group Sunday with Oberholser, who had a 67 at Spyglass Hill to join Singh at 13-under 203.

Oberholser, who grew up 90 minutes away in San Mateo, was even more impressive on a far more difficult track, playing bogey-free to get into serious contention for the first time on the PGA Tour.



Vijay Singh follows his shot from the fairway on the 18th hole of the Pebble Beach golf course Saturday during the third round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro Am in Pebble Beach, Calif.

Phillip Price of Wales had a 69 at Pebble Beach and was at 204.

Phil Mickelson, who played the first three rounds with Singh, had a three-shot lead over the big Fijian at the turn but lost seven shots to him on the back nine. Mickelson wound up with a 71 and was four shots behind.

During his streak of top 10s, which - dates to the NEC Invitational in August, Singh has been known to run off several birdies in a row to take the lead or

get into contention. This was no different.

"It's maybe because I'm hitting good shots, making the right puts at the right time," Singh said. "I can't explain it. It's a good feeling when it's going in, let me tell you that much."

On a gorgeous day with waves crashing against the cliffs and seals basking on the rocks below, Singh turned to a winter analogy to describe his hot play.

Please see GOLF, Page C2

Pro Bowl packed with notable newcomers

The Associated Press

HONOLULU - When Anquan Boldin discovered he has been chosen for the same number of Pro Bowls as Steve McNair, the Arizona receiver almost demanded a recount.

"Steve McNair has never made (the Pro Bowl)," asked Boldin, the only rookie selected for Sunday's game. "That's crazy. That's not right. He's the MVP, the best. How could three better quarterbacks get elected every year? It's way overdue."

A huge wave of seasoned talents and emerging young stars finally washed up in Hawaii this season, and McNair is right on the crest.

The Tennessee quarterback is one of 41 first-timers - nearly half of the 86 players in uniform - participating in the 54th annual Pro Bowl. The newcomers include four quarterbacks, three star running backs, two veteran kickers and a wealth of defensive talent.

McNair, the league's co-MVP along with AFC teammate Peyton Manning, has had a cracked bone spur in his left ankle for nearly two months. The injury hobbled him during the playoffs and might still require surgery, according to

Pro Bowl
TV: 5:30 p.m., ESPN

McNair - but it couldn't stop him from finally making it to Honolulu.

McNair joined prolific Kansas City quarterback Trent Green on the AFC roster, which doesn't include Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady of New England. In fact, the Patriots have just three players on the squad - the lowest from a champion since 1987.

"I think it's just the natural evolution of the game," Green said. "There are a lot of new stars out there. Some of these guys in their first Pro Bowls are going to be out here every year. Some of the older ones, like me, are just glad to get this experience once."

Thanks to injury drops last Brett Favre and Drew McShay, the NFC also has two Pro Bowl rookie quarterbacks: Seattle's Matt Hasselbeck and St. Louis' Marc Bulger. Hasselbeck, Favre's former backup, has tried to cram as much fun as possible into the week of practices and meetings.

Baltimore running back Jamal Lewis, the NFL rushing champion

Please see BOWL, Page C2

SPORTS

Bruins fall to I.F. on late free throw

The Times-News

IDAHO FALLS — Idaho Falls guard Jordan Taylor missed four of his six free-throw attempts in the final 90 seconds but swished his final shot to lift the Tigers to a 64-63 Region Four-Five-Six victory over the Twin Falls Bruins at Idaho Falls High School.

Taylor, a 5-foot-10 senior, hit one of two free throws with 128 remaining to give Idaho Falls a 63-57 lead, but Twin Falls wing Mitch Smith cut the lead in half with a 3-point 'a few moments' later. Taylor went to the line again missing both foul shots.

Bruins guard Todd Cook hit another 3-pointer to tie the game at 63, then he fouled Taylor Taylor missed the front end. After Taylor raced down the floor with one main objective — keep the ball out of the hands of Mitch and Mike Smith, Twin Falls' twin wings who combined for 12 points in the game.

The win puts the Tigers and Bruins (10-6 overall) in a three-way tie with Skyline for second place in the region standings, each team sporting a 5-4 conference record. Twin Falls travels to Jerome Wednesday and at home Friday against Potocelli in the conference finale.

Local sports

Wendell 60, Filer 41
FILER — Wendell continued its undefeated season, pulling away from a scrappy Filer squad in the fourth quarter of a 60-41 road win Saturday night.

"We battled them for three quarters," said Filer coach Jim Annala. "We were right there and then they came out and hit some threes. Wendell hasn't been pushed like we pushed them today."

Cody Howerton scored 13 while Kael Pope led all scorers with 18. Zac Davis chipped in 12. Filer was paced by Kyle Robinette with 13 points.

Filer (5-11) plays at Gooding Thursday.

Wendell 60, Filer 41
Wendell 60, Filer 41
Wendell 60, Filer 41
Wendell 60, Filer 41

College baseball

Yavapai (Ariz.) College 3, CSI 1

CSI, 3, Arizona Western 3, tie, 8 innings
IENDERSON, Nev. — The College of Southern Idaho baseball team bounced back from a 3-1 morning loss to Arizona's Yavapai College to the Arizona Westerns on a Saturday night game, 3-3 in eight innings.

The game ended due to 3rd Annual Coyote Slugfest Tournament time limits. The Eagles (2-21) took on Pima (Ariz.) College at 10:30 morning to conclude their stay at the Slugfest.

Late Friday Bowling

Ulrich wins Top 5 singles girls tourney

JEROME — Alyssa Ulrich rolled a 560 game series, to take first place at the Top Five girls singles tournament at the Jerome Bowl Friday.

Sheila Peterson of Gooding took second with a 549 followed by Minnie's Kellie Warr in third with a 538.

The schools which competed were Twin Falls, Kimberly, Jerome, Wendell, Gooding, Declo, Kimberly, Burley and Minico. Forty-three girls competed the top 15 received medals.

The boys will hold their Top Six

College basketball

Magie Bowl in Twin Falls. The state tournament is Feb. 18 at the Snake River Bowl in Boise.

Under a man who had no head coaching experience. With four not-so-big-name free agents.

Late Thursday SCIC girls tournament

Brd 40, Filer 37

HAILEY — Krystal Avelar led the Bruh Lady Indians past Filer, 40-37, in a loser-out second-round game of the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference girls basketball tournament Thursday night.

Filer was led by junior forward Lindsay Heimkes' 16-point effort, while fellow junior Jennica Mechem finished with 12. While it was a disappointing end to the Lady Wildcats' season, they will return five players next year, including both Mechem and Heimkes, their leading scorers.

Brd will play Gooding in a loser-out game Monday at 5:30 p.m. at Wood River High School.

including at least 15 amateurs. We entered the day tied for 53rd place, eight strokes off the lead.

We said her goal is to shoot below par Sunday, finish in the top 10 and be the low amateur.

Last year, she shot a 5-over 77 in the final round and tied for 43rd. In 2002, she failed to make the cut after rounds of 74 and 80 in her first tournament against men.

The Hawaii Pearl Open is the second tournament of the year for Wie. Less than a month ago, she became the youngest player on the PGA Tour at the Sun Open, where she shot 68 in the second round and missed the cut by one shot.

Rebuilt Bucks are an unexpected contender

MILWAUKEE (AP) — In the face of last-pace season prognostications, general manager Larry Harris boldly forecast that his Milwaukee Bucks would be in prime position for a playoff run this season.

Under a man who had no head coaching experience. With four not-so-big-name free agents.

Without the likes of Sam Cassell, Ray Allen, Gary Payton or Glenn Robinson.

And following the biggest front office shake-up and personnel overhaul in franchise history.

Yet, not only are the Bucks in the playoff hunt a week before the all-Star break, they're jockeying for home-court advantage in the first round.

Harris is resisting the temptation to gloat. He admits there was a little bit of wishful thinking in his optimistic playoff prediction.

"We're simply on a faster track than I thought we were going to be," Harris said. "But I'll take it."

Harris, promoted after team owner Herb Kohl decided not to pursue the franchise from Jordan Jordan sounded downright delusional back in October when he told anybody willing to listen that the Bucks' goal was the postseason, nothing less.

This, even though the "Big Three" of Robinson, Allen and Cassell were long gone — part of the star-studded rosters that underperformed in the last two seasons — along with Ervin Johnson, Anthony Mason and Jason Caffey.

Shootout

Continued from C1

things that have been asked of him and I just think he's a neat kid," Jarrett said. "If he'd of hung me out to dry, I wouldn't have thought any different."

"He said that what we could have got there a lap or two sooner so he could have worked on me and he had a very fast car. I would have had my hands full holding him off."

The sprint race at the end was set up by a 13-minute, 40-second red flag practice brought out when Jeremy Mayfield and Dave Blaney, running 1:2 at the time, crashed coming off turn two.

Mayfield, who had taken only two laps on his last pit stop, slid into Blaney and both cars slammed the concrete wall.

Mayfield's car did considerable damage to a metal gate in the wall and that prompted NASCAR to stop the race while repairs were made in the pits.

Terry Labonte drove from fourth to first when the green flag waved for the start of lap 64, but Kevin Harvick charged past him on the next lap and appeared strong enough to hold the top spot until Jarrett and Earnhardt made their charge.

Jarrett moved to the rear bumper of Harvick's Chevrolet on

first two weeks of training camp before he even bothered to install an offense.

He told his players nobody was inheriting 40 minutes a night, so they'd better show him a thing or two.

Fans have embraced the team that places fundamentals and teamwork over feuding and egos. The Bucks already have more sellouts than they did all of last year, and the Bradley Center is abuzz for the first time since the Bucks went to the Eastern Conference Finals three years ago.

"I can't compare the rejoicing because I wasn't around last year, but people in the city. This is basketball is refreshing to see," Porter said. "But for me, that's the way I played all my life."

It's the way Michael Redd is playing, and it's landed him in the All-Star game.

The fourth-year pro and first-time starter was a sixth man the last two years who was relegated to playing the perimeter with so many plays designed for the established stars. Now, he's shown he's equally adept at taking the ball to the basket.

"He's had some nights where it's like, 'Wow! Is he ever going to miss?'" Smith said. "Every night is a handful for our opponents. He makes the defender work because he can put the ball on the floor, he can shoot the jumper, he can pass."

"He has a well-rounded game and every night he's getting better."

And he's taking the Bucks along for the ride. Desmond Mason and Tim Thomas also are growing into bigger roles. And Smith and Brian Grant are making a much improved frontcourt over Johnson and Mason.

Free agent Damon Jones has been splitting the point guard duties with rookie J.J. Ford, the 6-foot-7 center. This is Jones' eighth team in six years but it's the first time he's been allowed to run an offense for 25 minutes.

"I have to give Terry Porter all the credit in the world because he's established a good system," Cleveland coach Paul Silas said. "Everybody's believing in it. They're exploiting defenses. But the main thing is that they are playing together. They're believing in one another and they're believing in Terry."

lap 69 and moved to the front on the last lap around the oval. Harvick finished third, followed by Mark Martin, Jeff Gordon, Rusty Wallace, Tony Stewart, Terry Labonte and Jimmie Johnson.

Boris Said, a road racing specialist who made it into the Shootout by winning the pole in Sonoma, Calif., held on to finish 10th in his first drive at Daytona.

Ryan Newman, leading when the red flag came out, slipped back into the pack on the restart and crashed hard with Jamie McMurray on the backstretch as the leaders raced for the checkered flags.

There were 15 lead changes among nine drivers as the race that saw considerable two- and three-wide racing.

"There were a lot of risky moves made out there," Martin said. Jarrett said the new front end on the Ford and the engine building alliance between Yates and Jack Roush are already paying dividends, making the Taurus, more competitive.

"We had some good power and the cars were stable enough you could do some running and passing," Jarrett said. "That's hard to believe in 190 miles an hour, but it was fun out there."

Wie makes cut in men's Hawaii Pearl Open

AIEA, Hawaii (AP) — There's only one regret Michelle Wie has about making the cut in the Hawaii Pearl Open. She's missing her school's annual carnival.

Wie advanced to the final round of the men's 54-hole event, shooting a 3-under 68 Saturday to finish two rounds at 2-under 142. She was tied for 35th along with five others.

"It's a real bummer," she said about missing the carnival. "But I'm glad I made it to tomorrow."

The 14-year-old sensation had six birdies and two bogys in her round. She got off to an exciting start, birdieing five of her first eight holes, but cooled off on the back side.

"I was pretty hot the first nine," she said. "I made three birdies in a row."

The 6-foot ninth-grader from Honolulu was nine strokes behind second-round leader and two-time tournament champion Kiyoshi Murota (65), a 48-year-old player from the Japanese tour who was in at 11-under 133.

"She's taller than me, that's not fair," said Murota, who finished 10th last year on the Japanese tour money list.

Wie is the only female in the field of 192, and the youngest overall for the third straight year at the event, one of the premier men's golf tournaments in the state.

The field includes 92 men from Japan, including 70 of the top pros.

Wie, who struggled with her short game Friday, putted just 13 times on the front nine. All of her birdie putts were within 12 feet.

She bogeyed the par-4 ninth hole for the second straight day when her approach shot sailed over the green.

"That bogey kind of stopped my momentum a little bit, but I still played good," she said.

We made the turn at 32. After birdieing the 526-yard No. 12, she bogeyed the next hole and parred the rest of the way.

The top 80 players plus ties qualified for Sunday's play, including at least 15 amateurs. We entered the day tied for 53rd place, eight strokes off the lead.

We said her goal is to shoot below par Sunday, finish in the top 10 and be the low amateur.

Last year, she shot a 5-over 77 in the final round and tied for 43rd. In 2002, she failed to make the cut after rounds of 74 and 80 in her first tournament against men.

The Hawaii Pearl Open is the second tournament of the year for Wie. Less than a month ago, she became the youngest player on the PGA Tour at the Sun Open, where she shot 68 in the second round and missed the cut by one shot.

Jazz coach Jerry Sloan finally gets his 900th win

PHOENIX (AP) — Carlos Arroyo sank a 3-pointer with 35.2 seconds to play and the Utah Jazz beat the Phoenix Suns 96-92 on Saturday night to snap a four-game losing streak and finally give coach Jerry Sloan his 900th victory.

Amare Stoudemire tied a Suns' record with 10 blocked shots, six in the first quarter. Jason Kidd had 20 points and lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

Sloan, in his 16th season with the Jazz, is the eighth NBA coach to achieve 900 victories.

He trails only Larry Wilkens, Larry Brown and Don Nelson in victories among active coaches, and his 62.3 winning percentage is the best of all four.

Andre Kirilenko had 21 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists for the Jazz. His 3-point shot 2:32 to play put Utah up 83-88. Kirilenko sank one of two free throws with 1:37 left to make it 90-88, then former Jazz guard Howard Easley tied it at 90 on a driving layup with 1:27 to go.

The Suns blocked the ball loose underneath, but it bounced to Arroyo, whose 3-pointer with 3 seconds left on the shot clock put Utah up for good.

Joe Johnson, who scored eight of his 13 in the fourth quarter, missed two free throws with 30.8 seconds remaining, then Arroyo made one of two with 15.9 seconds and Jaron Collins sank two to seal it with 13.3 seconds to play.

Mavericks 101, Pistons 108

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 40 points, made 11 of his final 6-40, and Dallas rallied to beat Detroit, 101-108.

Steve Nash added 23 points, 11 assists and hit six straight free throws in the final 18.5 seconds to help the Mavericks win for the 12th time in their last 14 games.

Chauncey Billups scored 17 points, and Richard Hamilton had 16 for the Pistons, who lost their third straight.

Bucks 107, Hornets 97

MILWAUKEE — Michael Redd

Knicks 76, Heat 64

MIAMI — Stephan Marbury scored all 16 of his points in the first half, and the New York Knicks extended their winning streak to four games with a 76-64 victory over the Miami Heat on Saturday.

Miami's point total was its lowest of the season, and the Heat scored just 10 points in the fourth quarter.

Kurt Thomas had 14 second-half points, and Shandon Anderson added 12 for the Knicks. Lamar Odom had 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Heat.

Celtics 110, 76ers 80

PHILADELPHIA — Paul Pierce scored 35 points, helping Boston snap a six-game losing streak and give interim coach John Carroll his first victory.

Ricky Davis had 20 points and Walter McCarty added 16. For Boston, which hadn't won since

Rockets 86, Hawks 77

ATLANTA — Cuttino Mobley scored 13 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter and Houston overcame a 14-point deficit. Steve Francis had 24 points, and Jim Jackson added 18 to help Houston extend its winning streak to three games. Shareef Abdur-Rahim led the Hawks with 20 points.

Wizards 106, Cavaliers 88

CLEVELAND — Gilbert Arenas scored 26 points, Jerry Stackhouse had 19 and suddenly healthy Washington snapped an 11-game road losing streak.

Stackhouse added 11 assists and Kwame Brown had 20 points and 10 rebounds to help the Wizards win away from home for the first time since Dec. 6 in Milwaukee.

Arenas scored 15 points in the third and did a nice job shutting down Cavs rookie LeBron James, who lit up the Wizards for a season-high 38 points a week ago while James scored out, James scored 14 points, but went 3-for-10 after scoring eight points in first quarter.

Golf

Continued from C1

Mickelson simply couldn't keep up. He was flawless on the front nine, giving himself a birdie put on the first eight holes and converting three of them in what appeared to be the methodical way around Pebble Beach. When his 15-foot putt on the treacherous eighth hole dropped for birdie, he was three shots clear of Singh.

Mickelson dropped a shot on No. 10 when his approach found the bunker and he never got anything going after that.

Levi, Pooley share lead at Royal Caribbean Classic

KEY BISCAYNE — Wayne Levi and Dan Pooley are prepared for a wild scramble in the final round of the Royal Caribbean Classic.

Levi shot a 4-under 68 and Pooley had a 3-under 69 Saturday to move into a tie for the lead after two rounds of the first full-field event of the season on the Champions Tour.

Levi, Pooley share lead at Royal Caribbean Classic

KEY BISCAYNE — Wayne Levi and Dan Pooley are prepared for a wild scramble in the final round of the Royal Caribbean Classic.

Levi, 2 under after the first round, made four birdies on the back nine to move to 4 under. Pooley carded his second straight 69 to get to 13.

Levi, Pooley share lead at Royal Caribbean Classic

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Bowl

Continued from C1

with 2,066 yards also is a first-time Pro Bowler this season. Seattle's Shawn Alexander and Denver's Clinton Portis also got their first first downs.

Among the other notable veterans getting their first trip: Atlanta linebacker Keith Brooking, St. Louis defensive end Leonard Little, Buffalo linebacker Tikee Smith, Buffalo lineman Flozell Adams and Indianapolis kicker Mike Vanderjagt.

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASKETBALL

NBA

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Area Football

Los Angeles at Arizona, NBC, 1 p.m.
Auto Racing
NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Area ski report

Big Sky - Sat 8:30 a.m. 21 degrees low powder machine ground 20-27 low 32 of 52 inch, 7 of 8, 100% snow. NewView 10:30p, WebTV 10:30p
Ski Area - Sat 8:30 a.m. 21 degrees low powder machine ground 20-27 low 32 of 52 inch, 7 of 8, 100% snow. NewView 10:30p, WebTV 10:30p

Area ski report

Big Sky - Sat 8:30 a.m. 21 degrees low powder machine ground 20-27 low 32 of 52 inch, 7 of 8, 100% snow. NewView 10:30p, WebTV 10:30p
Ski Area - Sat 8:30 a.m. 21 degrees low powder machine ground 20-27 low 32 of 52 inch, 7 of 8, 100% snow. NewView 10:30p, WebTV 10:30p

USTA plans local spring mixed league tennis

TWIN FALLS - The United States Tennis Association is forming a spring mixed league tennis program for the combined ratings of 5.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 players. For the first time, a combined 5.5 level for 6.0 and 7.0 players is now available for league play. For more information, call Lita Naillon at 735-9543.

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Twins win doubles

CLYBURNVILLE, Conn. - US Davis Cup captain Patrick McEnroe's job was easy Saturday: sit on the sideline and cheer like a spectator.

Twins win doubles

CLYBURNVILLE, Conn. - US Davis Cup captain Patrick McEnroe's job was easy Saturday: sit on the sideline and cheer like a spectator.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Northwest Division
Denver 95 100 0
Los Angeles 95 100 0
Minnesota 95 100 0
Portland 95 100 0
Seattle 95 100 0
Utah 95 100 0
Phoenix 95 100 0
Sacramento 95 100 0
San Antonio 95 100 0
San Diego 95 100 0

Auto Racing

NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Football

Pro Bowl, ESPN, 5:30 p.m.
Champions Tour, Royal Caribbean Classic, final round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.

Golf

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, final round, CBS, 1 p.m.
All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Basketball

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

Auto Racing

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All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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WESTERN CONFERENCE

Northwest Division
Denver 95 100 0
Los Angeles 95 100 0
Minnesota 95 100 0
Portland 95 100 0
Seattle 95 100 0
Utah 95 100 0
Phoenix 95 100 0
Sacramento 95 100 0
San Antonio 95 100 0
San Diego 95 100 0

Auto Racing

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FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

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Golf

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All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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Saturday's Games

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

Auto Racing

NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Football

Pro Bowl, ESPN, 5:30 p.m.
Champions Tour, Royal Caribbean Classic, final round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.

Golf

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All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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Sunday's Games

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

Auto Racing

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All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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Fridays Late NBA Boxes

Warriors 95, Nuggets 87
DENVER 95, PHOENIX 87
CLEVELAND 95, MEMPHIS 87
MIAMI 95, ORLANDO 87
PHILADELPHIA 95, PITTSBURGH 87
WASHINGTON 95, WIZARDS 87

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HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
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Montreal 95 100 0
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New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Wizards 106, Cavaliers 88

WASHINGTON 106, CLEVELAND 88
CLEVELAND 88, WASHINGTON 106

Auto Racing

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Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Spurs 102, Kings 94

SAN ANTONIO 102, SACRAMENTO 94
SACRAMENTO 94, SAN ANTONIO 102

Auto Racing

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Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, final round, CBS, 1 p.m.
All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Bucks 107, Hornets 97

MILWAUKEE 107, CHARLOTTE 97
CHARLOTTE 97, MILWAUKEE 107

Auto Racing

NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Football

Pro Bowl, ESPN, 5:30 p.m.
Champions Tour, Royal Caribbean Classic, final round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.

Golf

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, final round, CBS, 1 p.m.
All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

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DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

NBA Boxes

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

Auto Racing

NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Football

Pro Bowl, ESPN, 5:30 p.m.
Champions Tour, Royal Caribbean Classic, final round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.

Golf

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, final round, CBS, 1 p.m.
All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

College Basketball Scores

At 7:00 PM EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
New Jersey 95 100 0
Boston 95 100 0
Cleveland 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Indiana 95 100 0
Miami 95 100 0
Orlando 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0
Wizards 95 100 0

Auto Racing

NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish Rally, SPEED, 7:30 p.m.

Football

Pro Bowl, ESPN, 5:30 p.m.
Champions Tour, Royal Caribbean Classic, final round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.

Golf

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, final round, CBS, 1 p.m.
All-Star Game, ABC, 1 p.m.
Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Austria, best singles match C or D, ESPN2, 4 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
Boston 95 100 0
Buffalo 95 100 0
Detroit 95 100 0
Florida 95 100 0
Montreal 95 100 0
New Jersey 95 100 0
New York Islanders 95 100 0
New York Rangers 95 100 0
Philadelphia 95 100 0
Pittsburgh 95 100 0
Washington 95 100 0

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Daytona provides a chance for an easy week

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Want to enjoy a nice, relaxing week at Daytona International Speedway?

Meritex 111, Pistons 108

DETROIT 111, MERITEX 108
MERITEX 108, DETROIT 111

Auto Racing

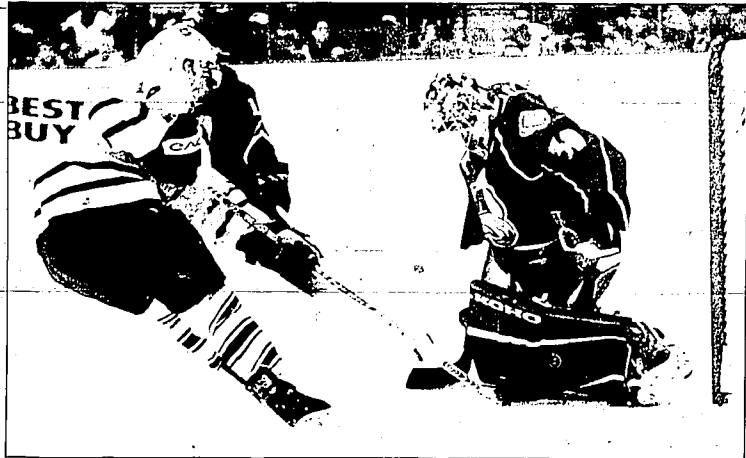
NASCAR, Nextel Cup, pole qualifying for Daytona 500, NBC, 4:30 a.m.
NASCAR, Dash Series, SPEED, 1:30 p.m.
FIA World Rally, Swedish

SPORTS

OUT played OUT shined

UNDER uncertainty

Looming labor dispute lingers over NHL All-Star game



Eastern Conference forward Matt Stajan of the Toronto Maple Leafs, left, tries to get the puck past Western Conference goalie Philippe Sauve of the Colorado Avalanche during the third period of the NHL YoungStars Game in St. Paul, Minn., Saturday. Sauve was the MVP.

Western Conference YoungStars skate past East, 7-3

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Anaheim's Jeffrey Lupul scored three goals and Colorado's Philippe Sauve stopped 18 of 21 shots for the Western Conference in a 7-3 victory over the Eastern Conference in the YoungStars game Saturday night.

Lupul, the Mighty Ducks' first-round draft pick in 2002 who is ninth among NHL rookies with eight goals, scored twice in the third period.

But Sauve, the Avalanche's backup to David Aebischer, was selected as most valuable player for his performance in a game where defense — just as in the All-Star game — is nonexistent. The YoungStars play four-on-four, with 10-minute running periods.

Lupul had no problem conceding to a goaltender.

"I don't envy those guys one bit," Lupul said. "Point blank, breakaways or two-on-zero, you name it, they saw it tonight. They deserve a lot of credit just for standing in there."

Sauve, a rookie who is 7-4-2 this season, was pleased — yet realistic — about what he did.

"They're not many All-Star games with that few goals scored," Sauve said. "But I admit I was beaten a few times, and there were a lot of lucky saves."

Andrew Raycroft, Boston's rookie who's in the top 10 in the NHL in victories, save percentage and goals-against average, stopped only 16 of 23 shots.

Pierre Marc Bouchard, Minnesota's first-round draft pick in 2002 (eighth overall) and a second-year center for the hometown Wild, received the loudest roar. Raycroft lost control of the puck in the corner in the third, and Bouchard stole it for an easy goal on an empty net and a 6-2 West lead.

"I got a little bit of a gift," Bouchard said.

Raffi Torres (Edmonton), Nikolai Zherdev (Columbus) and Christian Ehrhoff (San Jose) added goals for the

West, which led 2-1 after the first period and 4-2 after two.

Eric Staal (Carolina), Ryan Malone (Pittsburgh) and Matt Stajan (Toronto) scored for the East. Malone played in college at nearby St. Cloud State.

Staal nearly tied it with his shot that hit the post in the second period, but the West took a 4-2 lead on a short wrist shot by Lupul set up by San Jose's Jonathan Cheechoo — who had three assists.

Montreal's Michael Ryder, who leads all NHL rookies with 40 points, had an assist for the East. Not quite the impression he was hoping for.

"Probably, some of the guys will give me a hard time about some of the mistakes I made," Ryder said.

Runner up for biggest cheer was East defenseman Paul Martin, a rookie with New Jersey who played at the University of Minnesota and grew up just outside the Twin Cities in Elk River. Martin had an assist.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Jeremy Roenick is realistic: Labor agreement or not, this is probably his last trip to the All-Star game. So he, like everyone involved with the midseason classic, hopes the NHL shows off its best side.

"The league's in a situation that we need positive things to happen," said the 34-year-old Roenick, the Philadelphia Flyers forward and one of the NHL's most outspoken players.

The 54th All-Star game is Sunday at the sparkling Xcel Energy Center, the 3.5-year-old home of the Minnesota Wild.

When the 55th edition of the popular exhibition game will be held is anyone's guess.

With an optimistic outlook, the NHL announced Thursday that next year's All-Star game will be hosted by another recent expansion team, the Atlanta Thrashers.

This weekend, though, both sides are trying to put on a good face and put the future ugliness off as long as possible.

"Right now everybody is really focused on finishing the season off strong and worrying about the playoffs," said Florida goalie Roberto Luongo, a first-time All-Star. "Once that is over then I think we'll move on to other things."

Easier said than done.

"I think there's going to be a whole bunch of questions, it's kind of a focal point," said Philadelphia coach Ron Hextelcock, an Eastern Conference assistant. "I just hope there's very little talk of it."

"This is a time for the players. Let them enjoy it rather than get

NHL All-Star Game
TV: 1 p.m., ABC

into the politics of the game. So this could be it for Roenick, whose retirement is approaching. That time could arrive sooner if the NHL shuts down. Same goes for Mark Messier, who will play his 15th All-Star game at 43, and 39-year-old defenseman Scott Stevens.

Stevens was elected to start but won't be able to play because of post-concussion symptoms.

Mario Lemieux isn't looking either. Another hip injury cut his season short after just 10 games.

Where he will be in a year will certainly be intriguing because, in addition to being a 38-year-old player who is already in the Hockey Hall of Fame, he doubles as the Pittsburgh Penguins owner.

So the game is left to Luongo, Western Conference goaltender counterpart Dwayne Roloson, and the several other All-Star rookies who just want to play.

Roenick is playing for a Stanley Cup contender in Philadelphia, but is making sure to savor this his ninth All-Star experience. He is bringing his children to the game so he can share it with them.

"The All-Star game should be at a high pace," he said. "We have some good players going, and I'm sure Minnesota is going to roll out the red carpet and be sure to treat it with the respect it deserves."

If owners and players do the same, a year from now they can celebrate again in Atlanta.

Bringing them to their KNEES

Modano feels honored as he glides to All-Star game

DALLAS (AP) — Mike Modano was out with an injury and not deserving when he was named a starter for the NHL All-Star game.

And the struggling Dallas Stars certainly didn't warrant having three All-Star starters. They were in the bottom half of the Western Conference standings already with as many losses as the previous season.

Nearly a month later, the Stars are on a seven-game unbeaten streak. And a healthy Modano is feeling a lot better about joining teammates Bill Guerin and Marty Turco for the All-Star game Sunday in Minnesota.

"Those two certainly deserved to go. I think mine was kind of questionable," said Modano, the Stars' all-time scoring leader who started his career in Minnesota before the team moved in 1993. "But certainly when you're voted in, you kind of have a little bit of an obligation to go. I really hadn't been playing well enough to go."

When he was named an All-Star starter for the second straight year, Modano was on the injured list with a groin injury. He had just eight goals and 17 assists in 40 games, with a minus-19 rating that was the worst in his career.

Since returning 10 games ago, Modano has a goal and five assists. Those still aren't the kind of numbers he's used to, but he has a plus-three rating with no minus games in the span.

"I'm doing some good things. The chances are there, it's just a matter of they start going in for you," said Modano, who has endured streaks of 11 and nine games without a goal.

"For a month or so, he's played very well," coach Dave Tippett said. "Since he came back from injury, he's played very well."

So have the Stars, moving from ninth to



Dallas Stars center Mike Modano (9) slides on his knees as he hits the puck past Columbus Blue Jackets right wing Joe Mouton (19) during the third period in Dallas, Wednesday. Dallas won 1-0.

fourth in the conference standings.

On Jan. 8, when half the Western Conference All-Star starting lineup was named from Dallas, the Stars were 17-17-8. Dallas is 10-3-1 since, including 6-0-1 the last games before the break.

"At the time, we weren't so hot, but we turned things around and maybe it looks better on us going now," Guerin said. "We've really created an identity for ourselves. We know what to expect from everybody and what to expect from ourselves every night."

Guerin, also an All-Star starter with Modano last year, leads the Stars in goals (22) and points (38). He's added just four goals and two assists since the All-Star announcement but has a plus-five rating.

Turco has played in 29 straight games, the last 16 starts. Three of his five shutouts, including 1-0 Wednesday over Columbus for his NHL-best 26th win, have come since being

named an All-Star.

While his goals-against average of 2.06 is well above his modern NHL record of 1.72 set last season, Turco is on pace to break the record of 4:51 minutes played by a goalie. He has played 1,016 straight minutes in net and already has 3,202 minutes, just one less than last season when he missed 18 games with an ankle injury.

Tippett welcomes the weeklong break for most of his players, even though the team is in the hunt here. A good mental and physical break gives you that bit of freshness you need for a strong stretch run."

TO WITHSTAND:

“ We're ready to battle if there has to be a battle, and that's something we've talked about among ourselves. We've taken a strong stance ... ”

Nicklas Lidstrom
Red Wings defenseman

NHL players vow to outlast owners

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — On what usually is a weekend of celebration, the NHL began digging in Saturday for what might be a long, cold, hockey-less winter that could bring seismic changes to a sport already threatened by low TV ratings and declining attendance.

As the NHL's Board of Governors discussed plans for a possible lockout later this year, the players who would sacrifice millions of dollars apiece during a labor impasse warned they won't cave in even if the negotiations last a year or more.

The conciliatory tone invoked by some players during last year's All-Star weekend has vanished, replaced by a more militant stance. The way some NHL All-Stars are talking, they're as likely to agree to a salary cap as the owners are to sell \$5 luxury seats.

"We're ready to battle if there has to be a battle, and that's something we've talked about among ourselves," Red Wings defenseman Nicklas Lidstrom said. "We've taken a strong stance since we started to talk about the upcoming collective bargaining talks."

Some players remain hopeful the 2004-05 season can be saved, but others are preparing for what may be the longest shutdown in NHL history. The Players Association is warning its membership to prepare to miss two full seasons, and some players are making preliminary plans to play in the revived World Hockey Association or in Europe.

Flyers star Jeremy Roenick cautions that a lockout will be far rougher for the owners than the players, even though the owners have saved up \$300 million to fund a lengthy shutdown.

"I think it (a shutdown) is scarier for the sport and for the owners than it is for the players," Roenick said. "The players can play in Europe, they can play in different leagues. The owners? They can lose their franchises. They have to

deal with deal with the buildings that sit empty.

"Is Buffalo going to stick around? Is Carolina going to stick around? Is Ottawa going to stick around, Calgary, Edmonton? These teams are not going to be able to withstand one or two years (with no games)."

There have been no meaningful negotiations to date, even though the two sides remain so divided that lengthy talks seemingly are a necessity before a middle ground can be reached.

Some owners say they won't settle until they get a hard salary cap to reduce the salaries that now cost them an estimated 76 percent of their revenues, by far, the most of any of the four major pro team sports. The owners' financial crunch could get even worse next season, when their U.S. TV revenues — already only a small percentage of what NFL, NBA and major league baseball owners get — could drop by half.

No matter, the players say they'll never accept an NFL-style cap that would eliminate guaranteed contracts and result in frequent player movement.

Roenick argues there are viable alternatives to a salary cap. One example: restricting the salaries of early round draft picks until they've proven they deserve their multimillion dollar contracts.

"We've already offered to give back 5 percent of our salaries right now," Roenick said. "That's a big step in itself, to have taxation on contracts or revenue sharing. There are a lot of ways to do it besides a cap."

For now, the owners seem determined as the players to get what they want. General manager Craig Patrick said the money-losing Penguins, whose attendance is down nearly 18 percent, can hold out as long as necessary to get a more favorable economic system.

Cardinal stun Arizona with 3-point buzzer-beater

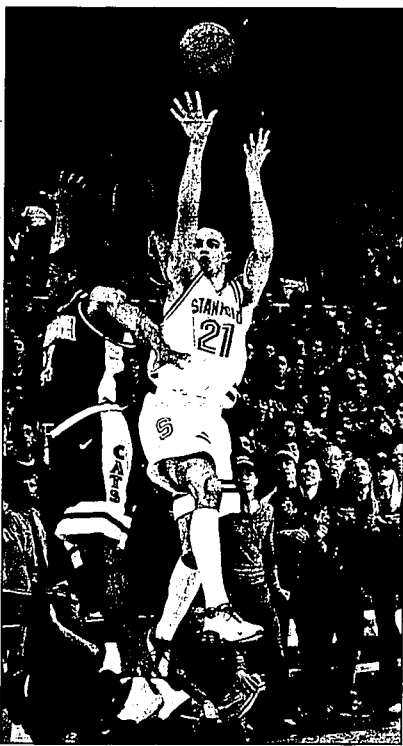
STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Third-stringer Nick Robinson hit a running 3-pointer from about 35 feet at the buzzer, and second-ranked Stanford held off No. 12 Arizona 80-77 Saturday to stay undefeated.

The Cardinal (20-0, 11-0 Pac-10) tied a school record with their 20th straight victory, coming from four points behind in the final minute after Arizona went on a 19-6 run to take the lead.

Robinson, who had only five points before his winning shot, started at forward only because of leg injuries to leading rebounder Justin Davis and his backup, Matt Haryasz.

Salim Stoudamire had 24 points for the Wildcats (14-6, 6-5) including a long 3-pointer that gave Arizona a 77-73 lead with 58 seconds left. The Wildcats had won four straight at Maples Pavilion.

Chris Hernandez had 20 points and Josh Childress 18 for Stanford.



Stanford forward Nick Robinson makes the winning three-point shot in the final second of Stanford's 80-77 win over Arizona, Saturday in Stanford, Calif.

No. 3 Saint Joseph's 89, La Salle 63

PHILADELPHIA — Delonte West had 22 points and Jameer Nelson 20 from to help Saint Joseph's extending its school-record winning streak to 20 games.

The Hawks (20-0, 9-0 Atlantic 10), and No. 2 Stanford are the only unbeaten teams in Division I. Steven Smith had 24 points for La Salle (8-13, 3-5).

No. 5 Connecticut 88, West Virginia 58

STORRS, Conn. — Emeka Okafor had 23 points, 10 rebounds and six blocks for Connecticut, which shot 68 percent in the second half.

Ben Gordon also had a big game for the Huskies (19-3, 7-1 Big East) with 24 points and seven assists. Charlie Villanueva added 16 points, all in the first half.

Kevin Pittsnogle led West Virginia (12-8, 4-5) with 17 points.

No. 6 Louisville 73, UAB 55

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Luke Hancock had 15 points and 18 rebounds, helping Louisville snap a two-game losing streak.

Larry O'Bannon added 15 points for the Cardinals (17-3, 7-2 Conference USA).

Gabe Kennedy had 16 points and 15 rebounds to lead UAB (13-6, 6-2), which had won seven of eight games.

No. 7 Mississippi St. 80, Mississippi 56

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Lawrence Roberts scored 24 points and made 14 of 18 free throws to lead Mississippi State to its sixth straight victory.

The Tigers (19-1, 8-1 Southeastern) also have won six in a row against Mississippi (11-9, 3-6).

Antonio Harper had 16 points for Ole Miss, which lost its third straight game.

No. 9 Kentucky 65, No. 25 South Carolina 64

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Erik Daniels had 17 points and nine rebounds, and Kentucky used a late defensive stand to hold off South Carolina.

Kerbell Brown's 8-foot baseline jumper missed and Kentucky's Cliff Hawkins grabbed the loose ball as time expired. The Wildcats (16-3, 6-2 Southeastern) moved past the Gamecocks (19-4, 6-3) into first place in the SEC East.

Mike Boynton and Carlos Powell had 12 points apiece for South Carolina.

No. 15 Georgia Tech 77, Tennessee 62

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Marvin Lewis scored 24 points and B.J. Elder added 20 for Georgia Tech, which led virtually all the way.

The Yellow Jackets (17-5) avenged a last-second loss to the Volunteers in Atlanta last season.

C. J. Watson led Tennessee with 17 points, and Brandon Crump had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

No. 17 North Carolina 79, No. 16 Wake Forest 73

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Melvin Scott had 20 points and Sean May 18 to go with 10 rebounds for North Carolina, which bounced back from an overtime loss Thursday night against top-ranked Duke.

It was the first victory for the Tar Heels (14-6, 4-5 Atlantic Coast) in six tries against Wake Forest (13-6, 4-5), which lost for the sixth time in eight games.

Jamaal Levy and Justin Gray had 19 points each for the Demon Deacons.

No. 23 Providence 74, No. 18 Syracuse 61

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Donnie McGrath hit four 3-pointers in the second half, when 23 Providence pulled away from Syracuse.

McGrath, who finished with 16 points, and Sheku Kabba each hit two 3-pointers during a decisive 22-7 second-half run for Providence (15-6, 3 Big East). Marcus Douthett added 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Friars.

No. 24 Utah St. 63, UC Santa Barbara 54

LOGAN, Utah. — Nate Harris scored 11 points and had 10 rebounds, and Utah State extended its winning streak to 16 games.

Former College of Southern Idaho standout Cardell Butler finished with 19 points to lead the Aggies (19-1, 11-0 Big West), who have not lost since a 56-45 defeat at Utah on Dec. 3.

Cameron Goetschke and Casey Cook led UCSB (12-8, 6-5) with 10 points each.

Boise State 80, Rice 69

BOISE — Forwards Jermaine Blackburn and Aaron Haynes each scored 22 points, and Blackburn hit Boise State's first seven points of the second half Saturday as the Broncos beat Rice 80-69.

Ahead 44-43 a minute into the second half, Blackburn and center Jason Ellis scored all of Boise State's points for the next four minutes as the Broncos broke the game open, leading 57-45 with

15:51 remaining. Rice (15-7, 7-4 Western Athletic Conference) made a brief run, pulling to within five 68-63 with 4:54 left. But a 3-pointer by Boise State (17-7, 6-5) freshman Coby Karl and two free throws by Booker Nabors following an intentional Rice foul put the game away for Boise State.

Junior guard Jason McKrieth led Rice with 25 points, and junior forward Michael Harris added 14.

BYU 64, UNLV 61

PROVO, Utah. Two free throws by Mike Hall in the final seconds of the game handed Brigham Young a 64-61 victory over UNLV Friday.

Hall blocked a 3-point attempt by Demetrius Hunter and was fouled during his scramble to retrieve the ball. The free throws sealed the Cougars' (13-7, 3-4 MVC) win, snapping their three-game losing streak, and evened their all-time series with the Runnin' Rebels (127-134) at 88-88.

With 41 seconds left in the game, UNLV's leading scorer Odatybe Blankson hit two free throws to give the Rebels a 61-60 lead, their first lead since the nine-minute mark, when they led 12-11.

But Mark Bigelow countered with two free throws ten seconds later to give the Cougars the lead for good.

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No. 10 Cincinnati 54, Houston 51

HOUSTON — Jason Maxcill scored 14 points, including a dunk and two free throws in the final 125, and Cincinnati ended a two-game losing streak.

Held to their lowest point total of the season, the Bearcats barely held off the pesky Cougars, who led by a point before Maxcill came through.

Reserve Robert Whaley led Cincinnati (16-3, 7-2 Conference USA) with a season-high 17 points. Andre Owens led Houston (8-12, 2-7) with 18 points.

No. 13 Oklahoma St. 88, Iowa St. 67

AMES, Iowa — Ivan McFarlin and John Lucas scored 21 points each for Oklahoma State, which ended Iowa State's 13-game home winning streak.

Tony Allen added 18 points for the Cowboys (17-2, 7-1 Big 12), who have seven straight games by an average margin of 10.4 points.

Jake Sullivan led the Cyclones (13-6, 4-4) with 21 points, and Curtis Stinson added 19.

Northwestern 69,

No. 14 Wisconsin 51

EVANSTON, Ill. — Vedran Vukusic scored 18 points, and Northwestern knocked Wisconsin out of the Big Ten lead.

Northwestern (9-11, 4-5)

shocked the Badgers with a 34-11 run over the final 13:30 of the opening half.

Wisconsin (15-4, 6-2) dropped out of first, replaced by Michigan State, which beat Ohio State on Saturday. Devin Harris scored 16 points for the Badgers.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Crapo slates meetings to discuss agriculture

TWIN FALLS — Saving foreign trade of agriculture commodities is entering a critical phase, Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, announced a series of farm trade meetings aimed at bringing farmers, ranchers, commodity groups and other interested parties together, to discuss current and upcoming trade agreements, and ways to break down existing trade barriers and expand new market opportunities for Idaho agriculture.

One of the meetings is set for Twin Falls next month. "We as a nation are in the process of negotiating or renewing several potential trade agreements, and there are government actions like the BSE investigations that have potential to remake the face of foreign trade involving agriculture both here in Idaho and across the nation," Crapo said. "Members of Congress need on-the-ground input to keep abreast of the potential effects these trade talks and other actions will have on a major component of our state's economy."

Crapo is slated to hold a series of trade issues as a member of the Senate Banking Committee's subcommittee on foreign trade.

Crapo will host an Agriculture Trade Forum from 2 to 4 p.m. March 6 in Room 276 of the Taylor Building at the College of Southern Idaho.

Board discusses area's work-force challenges

TWIN FALLS — The South Central Idaho Workforce Board will meet at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday at Magic Valley Job Service, 771 N. College Road.

The agenda includes reports on the Youth Council by Alex Castaneda and the One-Stop Career Center by Pam Peterson. Roy Prescott will lead discussion on what the board should be focusing on, what work-force challenges face this region and what the board's role is in assisting creation of high-skill, high-wage jobs in this region.

The meeting is open to the public.

FTC hotline helps victims of Web cramming scam

TWIN FALLS — The Federal Trade Commission launched a consumer hotline to assist alleged victims of a Web cramming scam operated by Miami-based Epixtar Corporation and several of its subsidiaries, including one formerly known as SBA Online Inc.

The hotline number is 202-326-2998 and will advise consumers how to obtain a refund.

The hotline was established as a result of a lawsuit filed by the FTC against Epixtar and its subsidiaries, accusing them of violating federal law by deceptively marketing a free trial of Internet services, and then billing customers' telephone accounts without their consent. The FTC investigation was prompted in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration's objections to unauthorized use of its trademark and company name by the SBA+ from small-business owners.

Cramming refers to billing businesses for services that were never authorized and have little value. The bogus charges usually appear on businesses' telephone bills. The SBA had warned small businesses across the country in March 2003 about a company calling itself "SBA Online" after receiving complaints from people saying that representatives of the company were contacting their businesses to interest them in purchasing commercial services or in paying to become members of "SBA." The SBA does not charge the public for materials, nor for membership in its programs.

The FTC and the defendants in November agreed to an injunction that prohibits the companies from continuing the practice, requires the defendants to notify customers that they are being billed for Web services and to permit customers to cancel any unauthorized service.

Compiled from staff reports

Clear Communication

About these stories

These articles are reprinted from the February edition of Southern Idaho Business, a business-to-business publication of The Times-News, Southern Idaho. Business is distributed monthly to business owners and managers throughout the Magic Valley.

Inside

Ag technology makes irrigation run smoothly C8



Julie Mills, owner of Magic Cell in Twin Falls, holds a Motorola ISB cell phone that features a two-way digital radio system. Mills says the walkie-talkie feature is popular with construction workers, farmers and commercial truck drivers.

Cell phones add convenience, change the face of business

By Courtney Price
Times-News correspondent

TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS

JEROME — Many businesses that used radios to communicate in the past have found that cell phones are changing the way they do business.

In fact, businesses that had no way to communicate in the past are finding that faster communications can make a big difference in the way a business is run.

The Jerome Public Works Department has used strictly radios in the past, but Director Robert Culver reports that key people communicate with cell phones quite frequently now.

"I can get a hold of managers, irrigators, and other key personnel. I'm in constant contact with City Hall," Culver said. The department still uses radios also, but cell phones

have added convenience to the Department.

Julie Mills, owner of Magic Cell in Twin Falls, said that one popular feature among businesses is the walkie-talkie feature by Nextel. This allows people to be in instant contact and as long as both have a Nextel phone, the walkie-talkie feature is unlimited in conjunction with a calling plan. Plans vary in price, but Mills estimates that a 400-minute plan is \$45, depending on the month.

She said that many farmers, builders and other businesses with employees out in the field are finding this to be a very useful feature. In addition to the monthly

fees, a person also has to purchase the initial cell phone, which can range in cost from \$50 to \$299, Mills said.

In comparison, Milo Ross, superintendent of CircleA Trucking reports that a radio costs around \$600-700 per truck. But once that is paid, there are no additional costs.

CircleA uses strictly radios for business use, but Ross said that many employees carry cell phones for personal use. It is a great way to stay in touch with family and friends while on the road for long periods of time.

"They sometimes use them in emergencies too," he said. "Since we do our trucking locally, rates are just as easy as cell phones."

He added that with a radio, the issue of abusing cell phone minutes for personal use does not even come up. Avoiding

this problem is another reason Circle A has stayed with radios so far.

"I'm not against cell phones, radios just work better for our business right now," Ross said.

That if anything, the company is interested in using satellite technology to communicate. Each truck would be equipped with a laptop computer and e-mails would be sent back and forth for instructions and information that needs to be traded. He said that many large trucking businesses are moving toward this option.

Interestingly enough, Mills has noticed that many of the business owners coming in to Magic Cell are interested in doing away with their landlines. She offers plans where a person can get free incoming, calls no matter where they are.

Another interesting feature is that calls can be forwarded from a business phone number to the cell phone, allowing all calls to be answered no matter where the owner may be. This can be especially useful in a business that needs to be on-call 24 hours a day to serve their customers well.

Trans IV Buses uses strictly radios for communications and have so far resisted change. Director Lynn Baird said that the cost is about the same as keeping the existing radios, which work well for the buses so far. He says that he rarely uses his cellular phone.

"I worry about the noise in buses, I'm not sure if a cell would do well in that environment," Baird said, "but that doesn't mean that we won't look at them in the future."

BEING USER FRIENDLY IS A KEY Software upgrades support firms

By Courtney Price
Times-News correspondent

TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS

TWIN FALLS — Business software is one of those products that has changed over the years but continues to complete the same task.

But there have been advances in software to link businesses to the Internet that have proven to be important to businesses large and small all over the Magic Valley.

"There hasn't been much change in accounting and payroll software," said Jim Stephenson of Stephenson Computer in Twin Falls. Adding and subtracting will always be the same "but they have made the basic software more user friendly over the years."

Dave Loevert at Office Max in Twin Falls said that good business software will cost about \$100 per program. Microsoft Office is about \$150-160 alone, but a bundle that includes that and Word, Outlook, Power Point and Excel is about \$340-\$350. If

you add Access, which is a database, the bundle of programs will cost about \$500.

Some small companies are offering similar bundles of programs for as low as \$30, but Loevert points out that it is unclear how much time and effort they have put into those programs and how much technical support they can offer.

Stephenson reported that the biggest change he has seen in recent years is businesses adding software that will allow them to complete web-related transactions. Many businesses, from the "mom and pop" stores to the large companies, are slowly becoming part of the World Wide Web.

"A small business might take a small piece of their business, throw it out there and see what happens. Then if it fails, it won't make or break them,"

Stephenson said. He has observed that putting a business on the Internet can vary in cost drastically depending on what you want to do. If you want to keep cost low and use an online hosting service already in existence, start-up can be as low as \$100 with monthly upkeep costs varying widely depending on the sophistication of the service.

"If you want a more involved, high end service that can cost several hundred-thousand dollars real quick," he said.

Then a business has to start adding in the cost of a server, software, a network administrator or Web master and other maintenance costs.

Gary Fay, owner of Technology Resources, also has noticed a move among business people to get at least part of their business online. Accounting programs are the top sellers to businesses at the same time. Fay reports that second place is a suite of software including record keeping, letters

Area business owners get caught up in Web

By Lorraine Cavener
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — The personal touch in customer service is still the key to local business success, but communicating by e-mail and the Internet has enhanced

business owners and officers say.

Diana Rolig, owner of 4 Ways Travel Service in Twin Falls, encourages her customers to search the Internet for travel package deals. Those deals — whether they are on the 4 Ways Web page or a competitor's — often bring people to 4 Ways with questions.

"If people think the best deals are on the Internet, that's not always true," she said. But Rolig, who works with many of the same Internet vacation vendors as her competitors, is often able to beat or meet the Internet deal.

"What kind of service do they (the customers) want?" she said. "It boils down to: Who do you want to work with?"

Yet the Internet can't be ignored.

"A lot of people are so savvy on the Internet," she said. "That segment of people you need to be in touch with."

In the travel industry it is imperative to have a Web site, Rolig said.

"I have not given up my other means of marketing. You have to have a variety," she said. "A Web site has to be a part of the mix."

The travel agency pays \$25 per month for space on a server and the domain name. Internet communication has become important enough to her, she said, that one of Rolig's goals for 2004 is to develop an e-mail list.

"It's a matter of having the time to collect e-mail addresses," she said. "You also have to have the time to see Web, Page C8."

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES

H. Rusty Arrington
TWIN FALLS - Blue Lakes Chiropractic PA added H. Rusty Arrington to its clinical staff. Arrington attended Idaho State University and Western States-Chiropractic College in Portland, Ore., where he received a bachelor's degree in human biology and graduated December 2003 with a doctorate in chiropractic medicine. He specializes in chiropractic injury rehabilitation, sports medicine and family wellness care. He lives in Twin Falls with his wife, Jamie, formerly of Burley, and their two children. Arrington can be reached at Blue Lakes Chiropractic, 153 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., or at 734-9531.

Cathy Volt
BURLEY - Cathy Volt is the new administrator at Burley Care Center. Volt comes to Burley from the Ogden, Utah, area with experience in health care management. She graduated from Westminster College in Salt Lake City with a master's degree in business administration emphasizing health-care administration. She also holds registered health information administrator credentials. The Burley Care Center, at 1729 Miller Ave., features a skilled nursing and adult uplift skilled needs behavioral unit. Volt can be reached at 678-9474.

Gerry Turner
TWIN FALLS - Realtor Gerry Turner is now associated with RE/MAX - American Dream Realty at 222 Shoshone St. E. Turner holds the Accredited Buyer Representation designation from the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council Inc. of the National Association of Realtors. The designation is meant to demonstrate to clients that the agent is continually educated through representation and has demonstrated ethical and professional service to real estate buyers. Turner earned an associate's degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., and a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology from the University of Idaho.

Doug Stokes
TWIN FALLS - Stokes State Farm welcomed agent Doug Stokes to its team. Stokes has seven years of experience working in the insurance and financial services industry. State Farm offers an array of insurance and financial services products. Stokes will work as a marketing sales specialist and will specialize in life and health insurance. He can be reached at 734-8327.

Matt Stokes
TWIN FALLS - Agent Matt Stokes qualified for State Farm's

Matt Stokes
 2 0 0 3
 Ambassador and Pacesetter programs for providing financial service to clients. Both awards center on life and health insurance sales, as well as helping clients with other financial service needs. Stokes and the rest of the Stokes State Farm team can be reached at 734-8327. Their office is at 1689 Kimberly Road, Suite 1, in Twin Falls.

Lucy Mendoza
Teresa Morales

Casino employees
JACKPOI, Nev. - Cactus Petes Resort Casino announced six winners of recent employee awards. December Employees of the Month were:
 • Support - Lucy Mendoza joined Cactus Petes in April 2003. As a hotel guest representative, she assists guests with hotel, Gala Showroom and Plateau Steaks & Seafood reservations.
 • Gaming - Teresa Morales, a table-games dealer, joined Cactus Petes in January 2001.
 • Food and beverage - Antonio Torro, a cook at the Hoshino Hotel and Casino's Frontier Kitchen, joined Cactus Petes in June 2002.
 Fourth-quarter Executive of the Quarter awards went to:
 • Support - Bud McDevitt, a security supervisor, joined Cactus Petes in July 1997.
 • Gaming - David Trammel, a slot shift supervisor, joined Cactus Petes in July 2003.
 • Food and beverage - Gordon Douglas joined Cactus Petes in October 2001. As banquet supervisor, he assists guests with banquet and convention needs.

Association leaders
TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Builders Association held its 2004 installation of officers and board members at the Tribes store in January. Tink and Dyan Petterson of Tribes were hosts. Jeff Wade, 2004 president of the Idaho Building Contractors Association, swore the local association's officers and directors into office.
 New associate directors:
 • Dan Brizeo of Brizeo Heating & Air Conditioning.
 • Jeff Harris of Washington Federal Savings.

Antonio Torro
Bud McDevitt
David Trammel

Tink Petterson
Dyan Petterson

Dan Brizeo
Jeff Harris

Scott Marlin
Gary Bond

Toni Carden
Scott Standley

Janet Roe
Earl Williamson

James Ray
Gary Wolverton

• Scott Martin of Magic Valley Bank.
 • Shae Mayner of Top It Roofing.
 Magic Valley Builders Association's 2004 officers:
 • Gary Bond of Gary Bond Construction - president.
 • Toni Carden of Zamberzi Group, doing business as Estrato Homes - builder vice president.
 • Scott Standley of Obenchain Insurance Inc. - associate vice president.
 • Janet Roe of Cooper Norman - secretary/treasurer.
 • Earl Williamson of Pace Setter Homes LLC - immediate past president.
 James Ray and Gary Wolverton were appointed as 2003-04 builder directors for the Magic Valley Builders Association.

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MILESTONES

Pair team up to open real estate office in T.F.

TWIN FALLS - Judy McCurdy and J. Dec May teamed up and opened Red Door Realty LLC, a full-service real estate office at 516 Second St. E. (across from City Park).
 McCurdy and her husband, Terry, have lived in Twin Falls for the past 15 years. Red Door Realty can be reached at 734-4477.

Storage area features both open, covered facilities

KIMBERLY - Kirk and Bev Claiborn announced the start-up of Claiborn Storage Inc. at 3697 N. 3600 E. in Kimberly (one mile east of town on U.S. Highway 30).
 The new facility features both open and covered facilities and is fenced, locked and security lighted. It will be accessible seven days a week. Spaces are available for motor homes, travel trailers, campers, boats, snowmobiles, etc. During the spring, summer and fall seasons, general cleaning, washing, electricity, battery charging and fresh water services will be available, and annual pre-paid discounts will be offered at registration. The storage facilities and services are owned and operated by RVers for RVers. Kirk Claiborn said. The Claiborns can be reached at 423-5876.

Pressbox announces it's a drug-free workplace

TWIN FALLS - The Pressbox

Sports Bar of Twin Falls joined other local businesses in the Magic Valley Drug Free Workplace Project.

The project is an ongoing valley-wide effort to publicly recognize companies that have drug-free workplace meeting criteria established by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employer's Guide to Dealing with Substance Abuse.
 To be eligible, a business must have a clear, comprehensive drug policy and provide training for supervisors; educate employees about the program and provide employee assistance; and use a policy that includes pre-employment, post-accident and reasonable-cause testing.
 For information, call Lisa Buddecke at 733-1300.

Reinke adds Freedom Irrigation Inc. to network

TWIN FALLS - Reinke, a Nebraska-based manufacturer of mechanized irrigation systems, added Freedom Irrigation Inc. to its network of more than 160 dealers across the United States and Canada.
 Freedom Irrigation is wholly owned by F r e e d o m Electric Inc., which has been in business since 1995 as an electrical contractor for agriculture and industrial needs, especially for dairy businesses. The company will now offer the complete line of Reinke irrigation systems.
 "We really wanted to diversify and expand our services," said Dan Hasbargen, part owner and president of Freedom Irrigation. "It was a good fit for us because

we already service a great deal of customers who use Reinke systems, now we can provide the complete irrigation package to our customers."

Hasbargen, along with Mick Little, part owner and treasurer, attended a new dealer orientation at Reinke's Deshler, Neb., headquarters to get familiar with the company and its policies. The dealership toured the 8-acre Reinke plant and facilities and met with company leaders to discuss expectations of dealers and company protocol.

Freedom Irrigation is at 252 Duane St. and can be reached at 735-0038.

Other part owners include Phillip Ellis, Cody Baxter and Phillip Williams, all vice presidents of the company.

Medical Discoveries Inc. restructuring reduces debt

TWIN FALLS - Medical Discoveries Inc. said that, as a result of restructuring efforts, the company has written off \$610,828 in liabilities from its balance sheet.

MDI said it received the necessary approvals from its board of directors, its legal counsel, Steel Rives, and its auditors, Balukoff, Lindstrom & Co.

"This is an important step in the restructuring of MDI's business, as these liabilities represented a significant portion of our total debt overhang," said President and Chief Executive Officer Judy M. Robinet of Twin Falls.

"As we stated in our 'Goals For 2004' press release on Jan. 14, we will continue to meet our milestones and keep our shareholders informed of the progress we are making toward completing our preclinical development, filing our IND (investigational new-drug application) and initiating a phase I clinical trial in HIV," her statement said.
 Formed in 1991, Medical Discoveries is a publicly traded development-stage biopharmaceutical research company engaged in research, development and validation of its patented anti-infective technology.

TELL US YOUR BUSINESS

Your business is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it:

- Promotions and staff changes.
- Awards and achievements.
- New certifications.
- Charitable business activities.
- Seminars and workshops.
- Other business news.

Please e-mail items to Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins at virginia@magvalley.com

Or contact her at: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. 733-0931, Ext. 242 Fax: 677-4538 or 734-9538

Miracle drug?

A low-dose aspirin a day could help keep the doctor away.

Monday in Health & Fashion

4 Ways Travel Service, Inc. Carlson Wagonlit Travel

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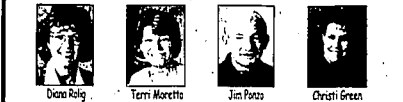
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QUESTION: What season is best for a household move?
 ANSWER: The great preponderance of household moves take place during the summer. However, there are a lot of good reasons to consider an off-season move. Complaints and damage claims against movers increase drastically in the summer, when they're swamped with jobs and work harder and longer. Winter is not as much of a disruption to children as generally assumed. The child can make friends faster and not have the whole summer to dread the first day of school. Many excellent home-buying opportunities are lot during off-season months due to this "summer only" syndrome.



SUMMER is most popular for household moves, but there are many off-season advantages.

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SOLD! "SID" did it AGAIN!

Software

Continued from C6
 and other office related programs. The third largest group of software sold is Internet related. Bay also has noticed a shift in operating systems. Software that speeds up access to programs is popular among local businesses. The faster data can be obtained the better.
 DataNow T in Twin Falls writes software for businesses from Florida to Alaska, said Phil Jones, one of the three owners of the company. Jones has seen software "use flux and change through the years from mainframe to PC. The skill level needed to run software has increasingly lowered, making it accessible to all kinds of people. Jones said that his company writes business information software that performs 25 different applications including payroll, accounting, data compilation and other tasks.

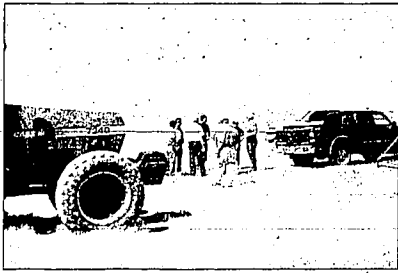
MONEY

Straw project could reap dollars

RUPERT - How feasible would it be to take straw the farmers in southeastern Idaho normally burn and turn it into ethanol?

A growers consortium has been given a nearly \$500,000 USDA Rural Development grant to find the answer to that question.

The money will be used to conduct experiments and studies to determine the most economical and efficient way to harvest, store and transport straw for an ethanol plant, said Duane Grant of 4-D Farm in Rupert. Grant is heading up the 80-member participating group of Mini-Cassia, American Falls and Idaho Falls area growers.



Duane Grant, center facing camera, explains the straw harvesting and handling process to representatives of two industrial biofueling companies - Iogen Corp. and Cargill Dow.



trade agreements," said Carolyn Cheney, chairwoman of the U.S. Sugar Industry Group in Arlington, Va., which represents sugar producers.

Australia already sells 87,000 metric tons a year of tariff-free sugar into the United States and is the fourth largest foreign supplier to the United States, said Jack Ramsey, director of economics and policy analysis for the American Sugar Alliance, also in Arlington.

A bioethanol demonstration plant in Canada, which is owned in conjunction with one of the largest oil producing companies in the world, is already producing an ethanol from straw and other plant-fiber products. The Canadian company, Iogen Corporation, owns and operates the world's first and only demonstration-scale bioethanol facility.

In 1997, Iogen signed a partnership agreement with Petro-Canada, one of Canada's largest oil companies, to build a demonstration scale facility using its novel technology. The \$30-million facility was funded by Petro-Canada, Technology Partnerships Canada and a loan agency of the Government of Canada - and Iogen, the Iogen Web site states.

Ambassador: Australia won't get more sugar access

WASHINGTON - a statement from U.S. Trade Ambassador Robert Zoellick that Australia won't get more access to the U.S. sugar market under a proposed Australia Free Trade Agreement is positive news, sugar industry officials said.

"To take it as a good sign, and if there is justice, this will be a template for all the other free

But an Idaho producer is taking a wait-and-see approach to Zoellick's statement. Lonnie Thorne said it's interesting, but wonders if it's the last word.

"Until the deal is done, I wouldn't bet on it," said Thorne, a board member for the Idaho Sugarbeet Growers Association.

"Because in every one of these deals, it seems like we're the last

negotiating chip."

Bean Commission makes progress in Mexico

The Idaho Bean Commission is working on setting up small demonstration plots of Idaho soybeans in several states in Mexico, a commissioner said.

Brent Zeyer said he and Commission Chairman Doug Carlquist met with Mexican public and private farm officials Jan. 26 in Mexico City about the test-plot proposal.

"Hopefully it will be a selling point to let them see what certified seed can do for their quality," Zeyer said.

Idaho is known for the quality of its seed beans, and commissioners believe Mexico is potentially a viable market.

"The purpose of going there was to work with the cooperatives and government of Mexico to see the possibility of moving Idaho seed beans into Mexico," he said.

He said the Mexican representative at the meeting seemed confused about the idea of the demonstration plots.

"We're pretty excited about

the program that went on and feel like it's a step forward," Zeyer said.

Grain insects look poised to strike fields again

BURLEY - Two new pests are poised to take a bite out of southern and eastern Idaho grain fields again this year.

The Hanchen barley mealybug did tremendous economic damage to dryland barley fields in eastern Idaho in 2003, while the brown wheat mite afflicted fields in the Magic Valley.

Given the relatively mild winter Idaho has been experiencing, many expect both pests to show up in fields again this summer.

Although the pests are very different, the two insects have some similarities. Weather conditions have probably allowed both insects to expand their range into Idaho, Steve Safshury told grain growers during the University of Idaho, cereal school in Burley on Jan. 27.

"Drought and open winters are allowing common pest problems to explode in population," the Twin Falls County Extension educator said, "and are allowing new pests to move in."

Researcher warns of aphid potential

POCATELLO Idaho seed potato growers were warned recently that pesky aphids can help spread viruses to seed potatoes in a matter of seconds.

Speaking to a packed crowd at the 36th Annual Idaho Seed Potato Growers Seminar, Tom M. Mowry, Ph.D., gave the growers tips on managing the juice-sucking insects and protecting their seed.

A research entomologist and associate professor at the University of Idaho's Parma R&E Center, Mowry said virus-infected plants are more attractive to aphids than healthy plants.

Technology helps with irrigation management

By Cindy Snyder
Times-News correspondent

TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS

OKALEY - At Cranney Farms, checking a center pivot irrigation system is as easy as clicking a mouse.

That's because Cranney Farms of Oakley converted about half their 75 pivot systems to a telemetry system that allows them to run the pivots from their office computer or a laptop.

"I've always been a tech junkie," admitted Ryan Cranney, one of the farm's three irrigation managers. Each manager is responsible for about one-third of the family farm's pivots.

For Cranney that meant checking pivots from the back of his pickup truck nearly all the way to Mairnough, a job that used to take several hours every morning. But with the telemetry system, he was able to start the day by turning on a computer and calling up the pivots he was responsible for. Each pivot on the system is represented by a circle, and the pivots are shown in the same configuration as the actual fields are laid out. Blue circles meant the pivots were on and operating as programmed, red circles indicated trouble spots.

On the days when the pivots were all operating as programmed, Cranney could start the day by handling other farm duties first and a pivot was red, he could drive to that location first to fix the problem.

Being able to check the status of a pivot from a computer screen is a benefit but it doesn't replace a human.

"You still need to be there and make the rounds to check for moisture and check for problems," Cranney said.

and his uncle, Bill and Doug. A transmitter is located on the panel of each pivot. The radio signal is relayed to either the office computer or one of two laptops by a repeater. Irrigators call up the software on the computer and can click on a specific pivot. Once a pivot icon is clicked, a replica of the actual pivot panel comes up on the screen which makes the software fairly user friendly.

The software also gives the Cranneys the option to program the pivot to start and stop at a specific time or change the amount of water being applied when the pivot reaches a certain point in the field.

When the pivot reaches a certain point in the field.

"We quickly came to depend on it," Cranney said.

The system cost about \$1,500 to install on each new pivot and cost to \$4,000 to upgrade the panels on existing pivots to use the telemetry system.

The farm spent about \$100,000 for the system this year. They are planning to install 13 new pivots in 2004 that will also be equipped with the telemetry.

Cranney said it's been well worth the investment. Rather than actually replacing employees, the telemetry system has allowed the Cranneys to better allocate their time and do a better job of managing crops, particularly during planting and potato harvest when labor is tight.

"Another valuable feature is the built-in record keeping capabilities that automatically compile and stores information about pivot including how many hours the system runs, water and chemical use and pumping cost.

The Cranneys are believed to have the largest operating telemetry system in Idaho. But Gary Loveland, sales manager for Farm Irrigation Systems in Twin Falls, said farms with as few as 10 to 12 pivots could benefit from the system.

Older workers seem to hit their prime in the morning

The Associated Press

Many older workers seem to be morning people, finding the early part of the day their most productive time, according to the employment consulting firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas Inc., which studied the work

force of people 55 and older.

Studies show that we often require less sleep as we age, and many people adopt an "early to bed, early to rise" schedule as they get older.

So Challenger Gray suggests early risers might want shifts starting at 6:30 a.m. because at

that hour, there are fewer calls, meetings and distractions, allowing workers to focus on their tasks.

The Chicago-based firm notes that early work hours could have an impact on the wider economy - West Coast companies serving East Coast clients sooner, higher

worker productivity, and more free leisure hours in the evenings.

Since January 2001, the biggest job growth has been among those 55 and older, with 3.2 million new workers from that group, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Web

Continued from C6

time to monitor and respond to e-mail.

E-mail will be a part of her customer relation management campaign, which is one of the biggest business trends, Rolig said.

But developing an ongoing relationship is more of a personal thing, she added. "That's something Internet can't do."

For Smith Stevens Pierce, owner of Stevens Pierce and Associates, CPAs in Twin Falls, that personal touch of talking to clients on the phone and in person is important. But she has come to rely on e-mail for a large part of her personal communication with clients.

"I use e-mail all the time. Probably send out 75 e-mails every week," she said. "If they want you to answer a quick question they do it via e-mail. It's just awesome."

Business with local clients is typically conducted by phone or in person.

But people from other locations have found information about her by clicking on the "firm" page.

"If you click on the Web page you can see who you are talking to," she said.

Clients also are able to find helpful information, such as mortgage loan calculations on the site, which has eliminated many two-minute phone calls, Stevens Pierce said.

The original cost to set up the Web site was about \$900, and it costs about \$30 a month to maintain, she said.

The Internet has probably been more of a valuable resource to Stevens Pierce than to many of her clients, she said. She uses resources available to CPAs, such as a tax library.

CPAs could spend as much as \$20,000 a year on the Internet, she said. Now she subscribes to software where she can get everything in the tax library for \$1,000 per year.

Resources on the Internet also have been valuable.

"It has saved tons of time," she

said. And the time she saves by using the Internet frees her to spend more time communicating with her customers.

D.J. Evans Bank is another company spending more time communicating online with its customers. Susan Anderson, electronic banking officer for D.J. Evans, said the bank has almost 3,000 online banking customers and a growing Web presence.

Within the last month, the credit card department merged with online banking, which means that customers have access to wire transfers and automated clearing house credits and debits online.

"Our Web presence is growing," Anderson said. "Online banking generates more business for us."

The bank started online banking accounts about four years ago, she said.

"We've had to build it up," she said. "We've had more and more people." The online department has four full-time employees and

one part-time, she said. Answering e-mails with a variety of questions from customers is one of their tasks.

Anderson maintains the Web site for the bank so it does not have to pay a monthly fee.

"That's all we deal with - processing online transactions and customer service," Anderson said.

Online business is growing but the non-online staff is not diminishing and will always be available as well, she said. But online banking saves the bank staff a lot of paperwork.

"It frees them to help the bank grow in other ways," Anderson said. It allows the staff to help customers with other products such as loans. "It's nice for the customers. They don't have a stand in line."

Times-News correspondent Lorraine Cagener can be reached at (208) 438-8446 or alcagener@pnt.org.

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Leaving Las Vegas

Every month they come to Vegas, not to gamble but to commit suicide

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS - Lawrence Orbe didn't come to the Las Vegas Strip looking to win big. He didn't come for the strippers or over-the-top shows.

He came to die.

Orbe, 64, checked into the exclusive Four Seasons Hotel on March 11 after driving his silver Jaguar from his condominium in Montecito, Calif.

Five days later, a maid found the businessman in his room, slumped in a chair with a gunshot wound to the head and a suicide note in his leather briefcase.

"Las Vegas was one of his very favorite places," said his former wife, Loni Chiarella. "They always treated him like a king. He loved Las Vegas."

Every year desperate men and women make the pilgrimage to the gambling capital to kill themselves. More than once a month, a visitor commits suicide here, according to Clark County coroner records dating to October 1998.

By comparison, Atlantic City, N.J., had about one-third as many nonresidents take their lives during that period. In the same six years, no one committed suicide at Disney World.

"They pick Las Vegas and kill themselves," former Clark County Coroner Ron Flud said. "It's a fact."

But saying exactly why is not so straightforward.

Experts and family members have their thoughts - from the city's culture of anonymity to despair, in some cases, over gambling losses. But each case is different.

"As one suicide note said, 'Here there are no answers.'"

Orbe married Chiarella in Las Vegas three years ago and found the city luxurious.

"They always showered him with the attention he felt he deserved," she said.

The two had separated and planned to divorce. Chiarella said Orbe was also dependent over recent financial setbacks. But what he was thinking will always be unclear.

Lawrence remained a mystery to those close to him," she said.

Four months after Orbe's suicide, Gloreah Hendricks, 30, jumped from the ninth floor of the Aladdin hotel-casino parking garage on July 19, 2003.

Her family thought Hendricks was on vacation in Las Vegas, which she considered beautiful, said her mother, Rosemary Pitts of Montgomery, Ala.

"In her car, police found a note that said: 'One stop and away I go.'"

Matthew Naylor didn't leave a note before killing himself on June 21, 2002, at the Plaza hotel-casino.

The 31-year-old lost hope, said his father, Lewis Naylor, an engineer in Baltimore: "He just had a lot of challenges in life and gave up. He couldn't see how it was all going to come together to make a life worth living."

Strickland, a 29-year-old Hollywood actor, whose wrists were seared from previous suicide attempts, poured strip clubs and partied before he put a bed sheet around his neck at the Oasis Motel on March 22, 1999.

"Strickland was depressed. He 'had fallen off the wagon,'" his friend and fellow actor Ardy Dick, told investigators. Strickland, who was in Alcoholics Anonymous, was worried his girlfriend would leave him after his relapse.

"But why Las Vegas?"

"I've asked myself that 100 times," said Judi Kogiwada of Middleboro, Mass., whose 39-year-old husband, Terrence, hanged himself at a downtown casino on



Las Vegas Coroner Michael Murphy looks over autopsy X-rays Jan. 24 of two recent self-inflicted gunshot deaths of visitors to Las Vegas. According to coroner's records going back to October 1998, a visitor commits suicide in the nation's gambling capital about once a month.



Lawrence Orbe, 64, shown in this photo provided by his family, checked into the exclusive Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas on March 11 after driving his silver Jaguar from his condominium in Montecito, Calif. Five days later, a maid found the businessman in his room, slumped in a chair with a gunshot wound to the head and a suicide note in his leather briefcase.

March 5, 2003.

Relatives suggest their dead loved ones might have been attracted to a place where you can get lost, and be found only when it's too late.

Experts say some might have been looking for one last sign not to pull the trigger or tie the noose: A jackpot, blackjack or smile. Anything.

"You're in a place that nobody cares. It's not famous for being warm and fuzzy. It's a place you can be anonymous and die," said



Matthew Naylor, 31, seen in a photograph provided by his family, bought a one-way bus ticket to downtown Las Vegas from his hometown of Ithaca, N.Y. On the morning of June 21, 2002, Naylor jumped approximately 18 floors to his death at the Plaza hotel-casino.

David P. Phillips, a sociologist at the University of California at San Diego, who co-authored a 1997 study that found Las Vegas had the highest level of suicide in the nation for residents and visitors.

Still, he said, "I wouldn't bet big money on any particular explanation" behind the deaths.

Victims included a banker, musician, immigration officer, pharmacist, exotic dancer, taxi cab driver, dice jockey, car salesman and professional gambler. Most came from California, same as the tourists.

Others hailed from Texas, Wisconsin, New York, Utah, Kansas, Maine and Oklahoma - 26 states and two foreign countries in all.

Almost all had medical, financial or domestic problems. In some cases, victims appeared to suffer from gambling addiction or killed themselves only after Las Vegas took their money.

Elton Beamish, 24, drove to Las Vegas from Ann Arbor, Mich., where he was a student at the University of Michigan. He checked into a motel Jan. 12, 2000. Four days later he was dead. His checkbook told the story.

Beamish lost his financial-aid money and became depressed. He bought a 12-gauge shotgun from Kmart, put it in his mouth and pulled the trigger.

Suicide destinations exist around the world, the most famous of which is the Golden Gate Bridge, where more than 1,000 people have jumped to their deaths since the bridge was constructed in 1937. It averages about 20 suicides a year.

Other places resonate with the suicidal, such as Mount Mihara in Japan and the Empire State Building in New York.

Las Vegas is different. It has no association with death, even though in 2001 Nevada ranked third behind New Mexico and Montana in suicide rates, according to the American Association of Suicidology. For many years it was No. 1.

From 1991 to 2002, 4,994 people killed themselves in Nevada. Of those, about 11 percent, or 547, were from out of state. Most suicides take place in southern Nevada's populous Clark County, home to the Strip and its decadence and debauchery.

"Vegas is a canvas for American neurosis," UNLV history professor Hal Rothman said. "It's a place where we paint our hopes, dreams, fears and apprehensions. ... It's the city of excess. What

could be more of an excess than killing yourself?"

"The average person who comes here still sees it as Sin City, where the rules of their lives have been suspended, where their actions have no consequences."

There are consequences to suicide, of course.

The body of William L. Mauldin III was discovered Aug. 2, 1999, in a swath of rocky dirt next to New York-New York hotel-casino's 10-story parking garage.

In the 32-year-old dice jockey's pocket was a note for his mother: "Tell her I'm sorry. I'll love her with all my heart. I have been depressed for almost a year now. Don't blame anyone but me."

Finding the body would have devastated family members, and that may partly explain why William chose Las Vegas, brother Rob Mauldin said. "He was probably trying to protect love ones from the horror."

Nothing protects families from the long-term hurt that follows the death notification, and yet county Coroner Michael Murphy said the news doesn't always come as a shock.

"Some even expect the call," he said.

More than 90 people, both tourists and locals, have committed suicide inside a casino or on hotel properties in Clark County since 1998. Visitors have jumped from casinos and parking garages, including three from the Stratospire hotel-casino, the tallest building west of the Mississippi.

Casino companies could do more, but they "don't want to be connected to us," says Dorothy Bryant, director of the Suicide Prevention Center in Las Vegas. Hotels could place the center's hot line number in rooms, or other places for guests, she says.

Alan Feldman, MGM Mirage senior vice president for public affairs, said saving people who are suicidal once they arrive in Las Vegas probably is impossible.

"If a person's closest friends and family ... can't prevent it," Feldman said, "How is the bellman at the hotel all of a sudden going to have this miraculous cure? I don't know if there is very much we can do."

It was not a hot line but coincidence that saved one 51-year-old Texas man's life. Seven and a half years ago, he bought a one-way ticket to Las Vegas to end his life.

"I came here knowing I was going to do it," he said at his Las Vegas apartment, speaking on condition that he not be identified. "I felt very comfortable with it. All of sudden nothing bothered me."

He checked into the Westward Ho hotel-casino on the Strip and wandered the city drinking and gambling for about two weeks before finally deciding to die July 19, 1996.

He cut some nylon rope from the room's curtains, looped it around a pipe and tied a noose. A maid caught him while he was in the room. Police arrived and there was a stand-off. He told officers he had a bomb so they wouldn't rush him.

Thinking of his mother, he later changed his mind and surrendered.

The Vietnam veteran, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, according to his doctor, was institutionalized, given treatment and eventually released.

Suicide is never far away - he's tried it twice since.

Las Vegas will be his final stop, though it's hard for him to say precisely why. "I always felt something lurid here was. This was my destiny. I can't get away from it. I can't get out from under it. It's going to end here. I can tell you that."

Park ranger takes a new look at Valley Forge winter

Knight Rider News Service

PHILADELPHIA - It was winter, 1777. Food was sometimes in short supply and there wasn't enough clothing to go around when George Washington led his army into Valley Forge.

Several thousand troops died of diseases.

But once the 10,000 soldiers who arrived at Valley Forge on Dec. 19 built log cabins, life was fairly comfortable - perhaps more so than modern Americans have been given to understand - inside the sturdy wood-and-clay structures.

That is the conclusion park ranger Marc Brier reached after he and several volunteers spent from Jan. 27 to Feb. 1 in a replica of a Revolutionary soldiers' cabin monitoring the temperature to see what it was like after several days of heating.

By Sunday afternoon, with the thermometer reading 31 degrees outside, the temperature in the cabin had reached 64 degrees by

the wall near the fireplace, about 70 degrees right in front of the fire, and about 47 degrees at the far end, by the door.

The week's observations, during weather that was colder than most of the 1777 winter, "backs up what we suspected," Brier said. "The cabins worked ... They (the soldiers) had a decent house to live in - a home for the winter, a good place to come back to" after spending the day outside.

Of course, "home" was a cramped, dark, 14-by-16-foot space with 12 men squeezed into it.

Brier is seeking to add to what he said was already considerable evidence, countering the popular notion - one he said was started by local amateur historians in the 1850s - that Washington's army was a bedraggled crew clinging to survival that winter of 1777, on the verge of freezing and starving.

Yes, Brier says, the soldiers suffered hardships - privation was their constant companion - but the men who arrived at Valley

Forge did not "just stay in their huts and wait until spring."

"We have this image of the soldiers, a few guys huddled around a campfire in the snow, instead of a professional army that was able to come in here, build 2,000 log cabins, and dig miles of trenches," Brier said. "They even built a bridge across the Schuylkill in January."

"If they were hurting so bad, how did they do these things?" Brier said he was not seeking to diminish the sacrifices made by the men of the Continental Army.

Rather, he said, he wants to give the soldiers more credit than history has accorded them.

"In his view, the soldiers 'were organized. They knew what they were doing. They used the technology of the day. And they made themselves comfortable enough to take care of the rest of their duties.'"

He has read some of the men's diaries, and says they back him up. "In most of these diaries, the

people that lived in the cabins say they were tolerably comfortable," Brier said.

One officer, for instance, wrote that one wall of the cabin he shared with other men was lined with books from the library in Philadelphia. The other wall was lined with cheese his mother had sent.

The officer concluded that "with this, we declared it quite an elegant mansion."

But were the soldiers warm? Brier set out to prove that they were, as scientifically as he could.

Brier, a ranger at Valley Forge for 18 years, came up with the plan of doing a warmth test with a friend, Troy Shirley, a former ranger.

Rangers had lit fires in the cabins for a day in the past, but never for a week. The theory was that it would be much warmer after a week of constant fire, conditions such as those Washington's soldiers would have experienced.

On the Tuesday night after the project began, it snowed. The next day Brier was barely able to reach the cabin on snow-covered park roads.

But the crew of rangers and volunteers kept the fire going. By the following afternoon, Brier was pleased. The secret, he said, was in the construction of the cabin. The fire was built about two feet into the room, behind a semicircle of hearthstones, with the chimney back in the wall. That way, the smoke went up the chimney, but the heat from the coals radiated out into the room.

Temperature sensors lined the walls. Brier said one log registered 23 degrees before the fire was started. Two days later, it was 44, by Sunday it was 50 degrees. Brier dug the heel of his boot into the cabin's dirt floor, and nodded, pleased. The ground had begun to thaw.

Eventually the dirt had turned to mud, then dried out, but had not frozen again.

The crew recorded the temperatures in various banks lining the walls, four stacks of three banks each. At 8 a.m. Thursday, the top bunk closest to the fire registered a relatively cozy 45.6 degrees. Probably a sergeant slept here, Brier theorized.

The bunk furthest from the fire and closest to the door - was a decidedly chilly 30-degree home for a rank-and-file soldier.

But Brier also said he wanted to emphasize that the soldiers were much more accustomed to the swings and extremes of outdoor temperatures than most people are today, so it would be difficult to judge the comfort levels of 1777 patriots by 2004 standards.

Even so, many of the visitors who heard Brier's account of Valley Forge but life remained impressed by the harsh conditions the soldiers must have endured.

"I still think it was very tough," said Devon, Pa., resident Jeff Ogren. "Finding food and firewood, standing guard in the cold - it was brutal."

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JEROME \$29,500 Approx. +/- 2.5 acres. Full of storage. Includes 2 shares of NorthEast Canal Co. water. For more details visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or 737-3940 MLS#1010917 PC#4511

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KIMBERLY 1.6 acres lot w/stop & canyon view. Call 208-420-2293.

TWIN FALLS
\$49,000 2 acres. Great building site located south of Roso Hill subdivision. For more details visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or 737-3940 MLS#1010917 PC#5021

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Mini-Cassia REAL ESTATE

What Can We Help You With Today?
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Over 1700 square feet in this 3 bedroom, 3 bath Heyburn home that was newly constructed in 2003. Call Mike for all the amenities this brick home has. #102623 \$249,000

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Great 2 bedroom Rupert home with vinyl siding and windows. Well insulated and easy to heat. Call Sheryl Kayke. #102672 \$58,900

GREAT PRICE on this 2 bedroom Heyburn home with two utility buildings. Would make a good rental or starter home. Call Angelica. #102539 \$33,500

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TWIN FALLS Beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, luxurious, 2200 sq. ft. home, fireplace, family room, near golf course. \$119,500 or \$110,000 down. \$75 mo. OAC. Call Ken 734-4321.

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• 2.19 Acres - Beautiful 2-story, 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath country home. Big shop with 12' door, garden area. South of Twin. MUST SEE! \$269,000.
• 3.94 Acres - impressive 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2847 sq. ft., 1 level, many amenities. Big shop, TV garage, new barn, horse barn. SW of Twin Falls. **ROBERT JONES REALTY** 733-0404

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Great price
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Call Willis or Jill Stone 734-0062

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Call Donna 420-5504 or Shery 420-2365

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

121 CORONADO, TWIN FALLS
\$106,900 • 1-3 P.M.

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Possibly owner carry with good down. Nice older farm home on approximately 1 1/2 acres. Lots of room on main floor with 2 bedrooms & 2 more upstairs. New vinyl windows. \$95,000 #108957
Call Carlyann 731-4268 - 734-7608

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LOST AND FOUND

FOUND
Dog, small, white, in Wendell area. Call 539-1926 or 539-7756.

FOUND Radio controlled electric model airplane. Please call for more information @ 733-6666.

FOUND Rottweiler X, male, adult. South of Hanson. Very friendly. 523-4852.

FOUND Smaller gray striped cat, white feet, green eyes. Near Caldwell. 734-9382.

FOUND Tabby cat, male, beige, small, 1 mile N. of Flair. Gold eyes. Please call for more information @ 208-328-5037.



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615 W Lane S
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Paul, Idaho

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1. Rottweiler, male
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5. Lab puppies
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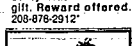
FOR ADOPTION

1. Terrier mix- large male "Benji" dog.
2. Chocolate Lab mix- male, 1 yr old.
3. Black Lab mix- male, 1 1/2 years old.
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5. Black Lab- purebred male, 12 years.
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LOST Bluebell, Black Hills Gold, large 3/4" links, rose gold leaf design. Lost between WalMart and The Times News office in Burley. Was a Christmas gift. Reward offered. 208-678-2912



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3. Shepherd X brown male cross pup
4. Boston Terrier Cross adult
5. Pitmeranian/Collie Cross puppy
6. Shepherd X male adult 103 E. 4100 N.
7. Yellow Lab female adult, Midway Filer ID.
8. Hound Lab X red, male, adult, Greenwood St.

ADOPTION:

1. Husky Border Collie X neutered male 1 yr old
2. Healer Border Collie X, male, pup
3. Border Collie, female adult
4. Akita X, female, pup
5. Adult Rottweiler, male, great dog.
6. Lab X, female pup.
7. Rottweiler/Shepherd X, female, pups.

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LOST 2 DOGS!

Golden Retriever 10 months old & Black Scottie 1 yr. old. Near 300 S. of Jerome. REWARD offered! 324-3431.

LOST Call phone in a case. Reward offered. Please call 208-734-3755.

LOST Chihuahua female, on Jan. 31, no collar. She got out of the house and we haven't seen her since. Please call with any information 208-212-2031.



LOST English Bulldog, male, red brindle dog, lost with discoloration of the right eye caused by surgery. Lost on Hanson Ave. in Burley \$500 reward offered. 208-878-3003

LOST Lab yellow, male, 9 yr. old, bad right front leg, red collar with tags. \$100 REWARD for safe return. 731-2176 or 886-2176.

LOST Red Merle Australian Shepherd, male, brown & white speckled, dark brown ear, 8 months old. Hazelton/Greenwood area. Call 208-829-4115.

LOST SESTOY, saw with vacuum, commercial type near Clear Creek Rd in Buhl. Reward! 733-3147.

LOST small 20 lb white female dog near Minica High School has short wavy hair on body, long hair on face. Answers to Marshy. Reward 436-3657.

LOST Terrier Spaniel X, medium size, black, with purple collar. Rupert Area. Name Mayra, may be trying to get home. Reward Please call 208-734-2467.

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SWAY TO THE WIND, & no drugs. Would like to meet a lady between 60-70 for dating but can go anywhere. Possible U.T.R. Call 208-326-5888.

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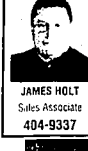
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Cajun on film property, 6 acres
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1844 sq. ft., 2 car garage
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"Sycamore" - Open floor plan
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• \$97,500 • Twin Falls • NLS#109299
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
Low maintenance industrial building
with office and restroom
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• 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
Newly remodeled, 2.42 acres
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TKO Construction "The Golden Rose"
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• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
Great family home: Close to schools
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Well maintained home close to schools
Dorothy 737-3903 Ken Roy 737-3909

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• 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths
1991 sq. ft. Master suite, family room
Nora Kent 731-6332

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• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
Beautiful new home in NE area of Twin
Damm Damm 737-3916 or 420-1810

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New floor plan 2622 split, tiled master bath
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POWELL
• \$145,000 • Twin Falls • NLS#108523
• 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths
New floor plan 2622 split, tiled master bath
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• \$157,900 • Twin Falls • NLS#108847
• 5 bedrooms, 3 baths
3264 sq. ft., 5 family rooms, large master
Nora Kent 737-3962/3731-6332

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POWELL
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• 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths
Cute home, shop, extra acre!
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• 6 bedrooms, 4 baths
Acreage with view, 4800+ sq. ft. Workshop
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POWELL
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The pet-passionate tap into mini-boom of pet care jobs

By Harry Wessel

Computer programmers aren't known as sharp dressers, but Lorena Patti has positively gone to the dogs.

Her polo shirt advertises a dog training school. Her ball cap says "Woof" on the front. Get too close to her fanny pack and you'll catch a whiff of its contents: freeze-dried liver and chicken kibbles.

Patti's day job is working in front of a computer for a Central Florida theme park, but her real passion is dogs. For the past six months, the 31-year-old Orlando resident has pursued that passion by studying to become a certified dog trainer.

"I'd love to do this full time," says Patti, a native of Venezuela who figures her fluency in Spanish will help her tap into the Hispanic dog-owner market. She already has a waiting list for her first obedience class once she gets her certification later this year.

But Patti is taking a cautious approach. She expects to keep her day job, at least for a while, as she pursues dog training part time.

Patti's ambitions are fueled by a nationwide boomlet in jobs related to pets. The number of non-farm animal caretakers, a category that includes those who "feed,

water, groom, bathe, exercise or otherwise care for pets and other non-farm animals," has increased by about 40 percent since 1999, from 120,000 to 170,000, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The increase has been even more dramatic within certain subcategories of animal caretakers. For



example, doggie day-care centers, increasingly popular in urban areas around the country, were virtually unheard of before the 1990s.

Such facilities need workers as "group leaders" or "alpha dogs" to oversee pets while they socialize, says Jim Krack, executive director of the American Boarding Kennels Association in Colorado Springs. "It's a very labor-intensive service. These jobs didn't exist 10 years ago."

Pet-sitting isn't quite as new. It has been around at least 30 years, Krack says, but it wasn't until about 15 years

ago that it evolved into a true profession.

Pet Sitters International, founded in 1994 in King, N.C., had 1,000 members in its first year and is now up to 5,800. The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters, founded in the early 1990s in Mount Laurel, N.J., has 1,600 members, nearly doubling in size in the past four years.

According to Pet Sitters International's "2003 State of the Pet-sitting Industry Survey," 91 percent of pet sitters are female, 89 percent have completed at least some college, 61 percent are married, and 54 percent are between the ages of 41 and 60.

Sheila Smith with Pet Sitters International says one reason for the uptick in pet sitters is that layoffs have pushed more people into starting their own businesses. Pet-sitting can be done full or part time out of one's home and "requires little start-up costs or training," she said.

But the real boom in pet-related jobs has been among pet groomers and dog-obedience trainers. The Kennel Association's Krack credits the advent of the pet superstores like Petsmart and Petco. They "have brought the concept of pet services to a larger audience, making more people out there aware of things like grooming and training," he said.



Petsmart and Petco, with more than 1,200 stores between them nationwide, are expecting to hire more than 2,000 groomers this year and an even greater number next year.

Each company also uses hundreds of dog-obedience trainers, although they go about it differently. Petsmart trains and certifies its own employees to conduct classes, while Petco contracts with a Los Angeles company, Animal Behavior and Training Associates, to train and supply its dog-obedience trainers.

Steven Appelbaum, ABTA's founder and president, has supplied dog trainers to Petco since 1994. In 1999, with demand for trainers outstripping supply, Appelbaum established a school, Animal Behavior College, to train and certify new dog-obedience instructors.

Most of the school's graduates become part- or full-time trainers at Petco, while others go into business for themselves.

The school, which combines home correspondence and hands-on training, graduated 15 students in 2000, 75 in 2001, 250 in 2002, and expects to graduate 500 this year. If all goes as planned, Lorena Patti will be one of those 500.

Harry Wessel, The Orlando Sentinel

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Super Job SUNDAY

You can get a job if you really want one

By Amy Lindgren

We keep hearing that this is a tight job market, with some people out of work for as long as two years.

I agree that things don't look great. But that's as far as I'm going. You can call me a Pollyanna but I will stand firm on the message I have been giving for the last eight years in this column: There are jobs out there and you can get one.

Even if you accept this rule, there's a chance you won't like its corollary: If you don't have a job, it's your fault.

Ouch. Keep reading and you may agree with at least part of my thinking.

But, first the caveats: Workers with physical and mental disabilities and illnesses, people with criminal records and people with extraordinary caregiver responsibilities are exempted from the "get-tough" tone of this column. For a variety of reasons, job search is exponentially more difficult for these people, and they usually need more than personal resolve to get back in the market.

If you do not belong to these groups but you are unemployed, grit your teeth and read on. I'll use my own experiences to explain how I came to this point of view.

Before I opened my job search company in 1985, I worked at more than 50 jobs and started and closed two solo businesses. Most of the jobs were part time, and I needed two or three at a time to make an income. Some ended well, but I was also fired from some and laid off from others.

Sometimes, readers who don't know this background write to say that I don't understand how difficult it is to make ends meet or to look for work. They're wrong on that point, but they are right when they say I don't know what it's like to be unemployed.

I have never been unemployed. Through a combination of poor advice and my own ignorance I didn't know about unemployment payments when I was struggling to make ends meet. Without that option, I was forced to find a new job immediately each time I lost a job. This was during the early 1980s, when, I have since learned, the national unemployment rate hit 10 percent.

How did I do it? By not being choosy. By streamlining my expenses so I could afford to not be choosy. By partnering with others to share housing and food costs and by buying used clothes and cars. I couldn't get a credit card, though I tried many times. Today I'm glad about that, as I would probably still be paying for pizzas I ate two decades ago.

I had two huge advantages that you may not have: I had no dependents. And I had good health. With these assets, I could work on the third shift, I could do physical labor and I could bike between jobs when my car was down.

The point isn't that I was tougher than people who are currently out of work. Rather, I was more focused. It didn't occur to me that there was any alternative but to keep pushing ahead, so my energy wasn't divided.

That might be counted as a third advantage.

So, what are your advantages? Perhaps you have patience and a good voice - there's a telemarketing job waiting for you. Maybe you have a good throwing arm and a reliable car - how about a paper route? If you're meticulous and physically fit, you can clean houses.

Am I kidding? Absolutely not. These jobs may not be your ideal, but they are almost always available, in cities all over the country. You don't have to take one of them, but remember: If you do not belong to one of the groups mentioned earlier, and you are unemployed, it's by choice.

And guess what? There's nothing wrong with that choice - if you can afford it.

But if you can't afford it, you have to get a job. Start by getting what you can, as soon as you can. If it doesn't pay enough, cut back expenses or pick up something else.

If you absolutely can't get a job, stop trying and earn money some other way. Mow lawns, take neighbors on errands, make crafts. Just don't give up. The only wrong answer is to ignore the problem. It will not go away, and neither will your bills.

If you've gotten this far, thank you. It's not easy to be taken to task when you're already struggling. Next week I'll go over some strategies to help you move forward from here.

(Amy Lindgren, of the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, is the owner of a career-consulting firm in St. Paul, Minn. alindgren@pioneerpress.com)

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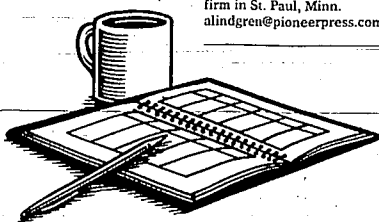
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Dog walking deserves its due in the interview

By Carol Kleiman

Q. I became a dog walker to make money while looking for permanent work. Should I put it on my resume?

A. If you've picked up any skills dog walking that pertain to a job you want, mention it. But it's OK to leave it out too. However, I absolutely would mention it in the job interview because it shows you kept busy while job hunting, and at the same time did a very important service for several humans and their pets.

Q. After 10 years of hard labor, I'm quitting working for my father-in-law. Is it OK to give such a close relative as a reference?

A. Yes. He was your boss, and you earned it. But make sure it's a glowing one.

Q. I'm a new manager and was given a private office. I've furnished it to suit my own tastes. But my colleagues, who are not managers, say that I'm "making my own little kingdom." Am I doing something wrong here?

A. You are not. And don't let the jealous remarks of some of your co-workers bother you. After all, you were promoted, and they weren't. You got the private office, and they didn't.

Q. I have a degree in computer science, and my last job was three years ago, before my last child was born. I want to go back to work but need to update my skills. I'm 40, have three kids and going back to school full time is not an option. How can I update myself, and how do I explain the gap in my resume?

A. You don't need to go to school full time. You just need a refresher course in some aspect of information technology you're qualified to work in. And you can do it online from your home. About the time gap: Taking time out to raise children is

legitimate, and you shouldn't apologize for it.

Q. I need closure. I started at an entry-level job for my company in 1991, and in 2003, when I worked myself up to the position of supervisor, I was let go. I always worked hard, got excellent reviews and won several awards. I was devastated when this all came down. I'm eligible to be rehired, according to my exit package, but even though I keep applying, they won't take me back. They're probably laughing at me, but this really hurts.

A. I'm sorry this happened to you, but you have to forget about it and put it behind you. Someone at the company doesn't want you to work there, so that phase of your life is over. Get on with your life, despite this awful blow. And remember: surviving this shock and doing well in your next job are the best revenge. You will have the last laugh.

Q. I'm in a job search and can't get past the voice mail and human gatekeepers. I have a strong resume with excellent skills that I tailor for each position I apply for, but I don't get a response. I know I have excellent references, but I must be doing something wrong but don't know what. Why don't I get a response? Even a "no" would do.

A. We are in a very tight job market and there are very few good jobs available. So human resource departments, which never used to be friendly in the first place, are deluged with job applicants. Many are overwhelmed; others simply don't care about job seekers they don't plan to hire. So don't take it personally. You are doing everything right.

(Carol Kleiman, of the Chicago Tribune, is the author of "Winning the Job Game: The New Rules for Finding and Keeping the Job You Want" (Wiley). Send e-mail to ckleiman@tribune.com.)

Critical Care Nurse Internship for Registered Nurses

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After successful completion of the program, a min. commitment of 2 years of continued full-time employment at St. Luke's is expected. You will receive full RTR wages & benefits throughout the program! The course is anticipated to start in April 2004. Early application is essential, due to the limited number of spaces available & comprehensive interview process. Applications must be received prior to February 23, 2004.

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Sunday, Feb. 8, 2004

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff: How many points does a takeout double show? Would it be a good call over one heart with the following hand: ♠ K-J-5, ♥ Q-4, ♦ K-Q-7-2, ♣ Q-J-3-2? Does the fact that the heart points may almost be wasted toward the bidding potential of the hand?

Sunny Delight, Albany, Ga.

ANSWER: You can double one heart with good shape but less than an opening hand, such as 4-1-4-4 hand and 11 HCP. Discount lesser honors in an opponent's suit like the heart queen, and devalue hands consisting mainly of queens and jacks. Also, you have only three cards in the unbid major. The hand you give is worth a double, but only just, because of all the deductions.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Holding ♠ Q-6-5-4, ♥ J-9-2, ♦ K-7-6, ♣ Q-5-3, would you raise an opening of one heart to two, or would you respond one spade — or even one no-trump?

Litoff, Elkhart, Ind.

ANSWER: A good motto is "When in doubt, support partner." Here, if you are playing a forcing one-no-trump response, this hand is on the cusp for a simple, constructive raise, or the less constructive sequence via one no-trump. I'd opt for the raise, though. Bidding spades on a bid four-card suit may get you to a 4-3 spade fit, which I suspect you might regret.

Dear Mr. Wolff: If North is playing four spades and West has four of the top spades: Is West credited with 100 points for honors?

Sitting on Defense, Albertville, Ala.

ANSWER: Yes, honors can be credited to either side. I remember this happening to me just once. My partner bid his suit three times, I supported with the

doubleton nine, and one defender had six solid in that suit, missing the queen — fortunately, since! Down 900 with the new scoring minus 800 in tricks and minus 100 in honors! is quite painful.

Dear Mr. Wolff: With a hand such as ♠ A-Q-10-5-4, ♥ 10-3, ♦ K-Q-6, ♣ K-J-3, would you overcall a one-club opening with one spade? Or would you prefer doubling, or even bidding one no-trump, to get the strength of the hand across?

Power Mover, Dover, Del.

ANSWER: I hate to conceal five-card majors on this auction — particularly good ones — by bidding one no-trump. This is a very good one-spade overcall, but more than that. Doubling and then bidding a new suit usually requires at least 17 HCP. However, make the diamond king into the ace, and I could live with doubling initially.

Dear Mr. Wolff: If North opens with a strong two-bid and South bids two no-trump, is the partnership required to go to game?

Old-fashioned, Edmonton, Alberta

ANSWER: No, the negative two-no-trump response could be made on a Yarborough. (Remember that the strong two-bid must be kept open for one-round, even if responder has nothing.) If opener now makes a minimum rebid of his own suit, that is non-forcing. Even if opener makes a bid in a new suit and responder reverts back to opener's first suit at the three-level, that too can be passed.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at <http://www.litoff.com>. Copyright 2004 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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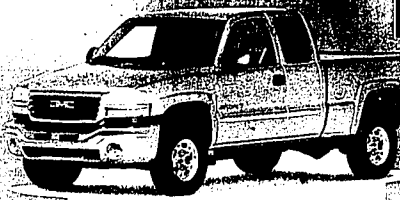
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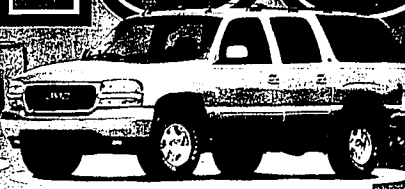
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Cupid, draw back your bow ...

Cupid's stalking us again. It's less than a week until Valentine's Day. I can tell, because the valentine stuff has been in the stores for more than a month now, sitting right next to the half-price Christmas napkins.

What will it be this year - candy, flowers, a mouse?

Time out. A mouse? Yes, that's right - Romaneco, a 6-inch-tall mouse wearing a tuxedo and holding a red rose croons "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" in a sexy mouse voice a few octaves higher than Elvis. He even made a TV guest appearance on "Live with Regis and Kelly" last month.

And if Romaneco is not quite right for you, there also Sorry Mouse, a pathetic rodent on his knees who begs for forgiveness when you squeeze his belly. Or Love Mouse, holding a heart-shaped pillow that reads "I Love You" and singing "Only You" by the Platters.

If you can't stand to go through another Valentine's Day without a mouse, you can find out more at www.spicemice.com.

But there are other gift options. One article I read suggested surprising your husband with a second honeymoon to Hawaii. I figure if I skip the mortgage and car payments for a year or two, I can just about afford that one.

Another suggestion was buying your wife several new long beaded gowns for big evenings out. But that wouldn't work for me. Whatever would I do with all my old long beaded gowns?

Maybe I would be better off taking the advice I received in a news release last week.

It says Americans spend more than \$1 billion a year on valentine gifts - \$94.50 per household, an average of \$125 per man and \$38 per woman. According to the news release, couples would be better off reading a book on personal financial planning together in front of the fireplace. Or, as Jim Trippon contends in "How Millionaires Stay Rich Forever" people stay in love when they get educated and start acting intelligently about money together.

Could be. But flowers and candy still work for me.

A Ladies' Home Journal story reported that our love affair with chocolate began more than 2,600 years ago, when Aztec ruler Montezuma drank 50 cups of chocolate daily because he believed it would give him more sex appeal. It's worth a try, I guess.

In modern times, manufacturers sell more than 36 billion heart-shaped boxes of chocolate a year. And for those who want to put their messages where their candy is, the New England Confectionery Company sells 8 billion Sweetheart Conversation Hearts between each Jan. 1 and Valentine's Day. Every year, the manufacturer also introduces new sayings.

This year's list includes "New You," "Charm Me," "Start Now" and "Ever After."

We must be getting more serious about our romances. On last year's list were "Let It Be," "You Rock," "Let's Do Lunch" and "I-800 Cupid."

I once read that the company does custom printing, too, as long as you are willing to buy a full production (3,600 pounds or 1.7 million pieces). The New York Times once placed an order for a series of hearts with phrases such as "Op Ed," "E! to Print" and "Page One." And Mercedes Benz was expected to order "Drive Me."

I don't think I'm going to special order any candy this year. At least no candy hearts.

Not until they make some big enough to put real messages on them.

I'm holding out for "It's your turn to clean the house."

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

All ABC's, all the time



Kindergartners Kodjo Sabala, center, and Yvott Alaniz, left, work on a math problem with the help of para-professional Dana Cummings Wednesday at Hansen School. Teacher Joel Pfeiffer's class is an all-day kindergarten.

Parents, schools learn to like full-time kindergarten

Los Angeles Times

When Maria Covarrubias talks about the benefits of full-day kindergarten, she speaks from experience. Three of her children attended half-day programs at Daniel Webster Elementary School in Pasadena, Calif. Now, her youngest, Matthew is enrolled in a pilot full-day kindergarten class there.

Gone are the hurried lunch hours used for shuttling children from school to an afternoon baby-sitter. Matthew spends 6 1/2 hours in class each day, and his mother, an administrative assistant at a CPA firm in Monrovia, Calif., marvels at not being a midday chauffeur and not spending \$100 a week on child care.

"I really enjoy it," she said. But more important, she has watched her son blossom academically, an unexpected result of the longer program, she said. "He goes a little further than I think the girls did," Covarrubias said. "He has

Please see SCHOOLS, Page E3

By Steve Crump
 Times-News writer

And in Idaho ...

About 45 percent of Idaho kindergartners go to school all day - including those in Hagerman, Hansen and Cassia County - and the only factor limiting that number is money, say educators.

"The costs are greater, and many districts just don't have the resources - or the space - right now," said Marybeth Flachbart, Reading First coordinator for the Idaho Department of Education. "But there's no question that percentage has been increasing."

The push toward preparedness is the big reason, she says. In a state where nearly half of kindergartners can't read on grade level - based on the Idaho Reading Indicator test - three more hours a day or so of instruction can be a critical improvement.

The standard 3 1/2-hour kindergarten day doesn't leave time to cover any subject very extensively, least of all reading, which is the key skill identified in the federal government's No Child Left Behind initiative, which mandates strict grade-level performance standards within the next 10 years.

Nationwide, No Child Left Behind - combined with public demands for better student performance - has made kindergarten more like first and second grade and less like preschool.

But according to the Education Commission of the States, a non-profit organization that advocates greater education funding, Idaho is among 19 states that provide disincentives to school districts to offer full-day kindergarten because it makes available no extra

state money for full-day kindergarten - and it funds kindergarten less than first grade.

All public school kindergartens in Idaho are provided with one teacher for every 16-40 students, while first-grade programs get one teacher for every 20 students.

Idaho's superintendent of public instruction, Marilyn Howard, plans to propose to the Legislature a comprehensive, taxpayer-funded preschool plan within the next three years. But even if the Legislature buys that idea, it will be years before it's in place.

"That places all the more importance on kindergarten to teach at least basic literacy skills by the time children reach the first grade.

"Full-day kindergarten means that children get much more time with a teacher," Flachbart said. "That can mean all the difference in the world."

In deep debt? Fight back and win

Knight Ridder News Service

COLUMBUS, Ga. - The college student is given a credit card to use at school. His dad tells him it has a \$1,500 limit. Soon after the son leaves home, he telephones his parents with an important question: "Was that \$1,500 per purchase?"

It's a true tale. Lisa Scrivner, who loves telling it, says that consumer credit counseling services at the Family Center in Columbus, a United Way agency.

"We help about 4,000 families per year who have gotten deep into debt and are seeking a way out."

"She says the counselors especially see a lot of families after Christmas. "Some people, unfortunately, are still paying for the previous Christmas."

Currently, the nation's credit card debt is more than \$700 billion, about \$8,940 per household, Scrivner says the average family her counselors deal with have reached figures in the

Please see DEBT, Page E3

Helpful hints

Red flags: Are you in trouble?

- You only make minimum payments.
- You're unsure how much you owe.
- You skip some bills to pay others.
- You have insufficient cash saved for an emergency.
- Creditors call about overdue bills.
- You argue with your spouse or others about money.
- You're near the limit on credit cards.
- You borrow from one card to pay another.
- You've been denied credit.

—Source: Consumer Credit Counseling Service at the Family Center

Do it now: Take control of your money

Quick steps to recovery:

- Balance your checkbook when you get a paycheck.
- Keep your bills in a special file.
- Create a monthly budget. First, determine your monthly income and recurring expenses such as the mortgage, then identify upcoming expenses such as vacation.
- Prioritize your expenses, starting with needs and then considering wants. Set spending limits.

- Develop a diversified savings plan and make regular payments in an interest-bearing account.
- Contact creditors if you're having trouble.
- Participate in a work-related retirement program such as a 401(k).

—Source: Consumer Credit Counseling Service at the Family Center

Find extra bucks:

- Save 50 cents a day in loose change.
- Eat out two fewer times a month.
- Eliminate some premium cable channels.
- Cut soda consumption by one liter a week.
- Buy grocery-store brands.
- Pay credit card bill on time to avoid late fees.
- Borrow books from library rather than always buying.
- Borrow videos and CDs from the public library.
- Maintain checking account minimum to avoid fees.

—Source: Georgia Saves at the Georgia Extension Service

Remind her why she fell in love with you

It's too early to worry about Valentine's Day. Except, the last 10 years you've always waited until it was too late. Like 6:30 p.m., Feb. 14. And those flowers you've picked-up from the grocery store on the way home-from-work-are-not-the-height of romance.

You owe her. So this year, fellas, you're starting early. We're going to tell you how.

1 Ask her best friend for advice. Never mind that her best friend thinks you're an inconsiderate slob. Just call her up and level with her. What would your honey like most? Dinner? Dancing? A little get-away? (Valentine's Day is on a Saturday this year.) Trust us, the friend will have to help. And the friend even has time to be sneaky and sully your honey without giving away the plan.

2 Make some preparations. Once you know your plan, call for reservations early. This is a big night for restaurants and bed and breakfasts. Clear out some time for yourself to get ready. Find a sitter - and a backup sitter. Romance seems

spontaneous because all the advance work has been done.

3 Don't catch her completely off-guard-Surprise is good; shock is not good. Let her know you have something in store for Valentine's. You don't want to be all ready and have her say, "Oh, I thought we'd just stay home and watch TV." She might need to send an outfit to the cleaners or get her hair done, for instance.

4 When the big day comes, have fun. Don't peek around her to catch the score in the college hoops game on the TV in the bar. Don't scratch at your nice clothes. Remember when you were dating? Well, this is a date. This is not the time to worry about the size of the check or to argue about the best route to take.

Make her laugh. Remind her why she puts up with you. Romance is not a woman's thing. It's a couple's thing. Start early this year. Rediscover your charm, you handsome devil. —Source: Charlotte Observer

FAMILY LIFE

Don't jump to conclusions about leap year; here's why it exists

By Nadia Lerner
The Stamford Advocate

Feb. 29, which comes but once every four years, is back.

According to astronomy professor John Salzer of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., it's just a matter of catch-up. Every year, it takes the earth roughly 365 plus one-quarter days to orbit around the sun, explains Salzer, who's based at the university's Van Vleck Observatory. That yearly six hours multiplied by four years

equals 24 hours, or the equivalent of a full day - which would be missing if we didn't add leap day.

Not a catastrophe. But after eight years, we would be missing two days; 12 years, three days, etc. Says Salzer: "Over time, it would accumulate in such a way that the seasons would be occurring at different times."

Leap year was incorporated into the Roman or Julian calendar by Julius Caesar in 46 B.C., based on the counsel of Greek astronomer Sosigenes. That calen-

dar incorporated the rule that every year divisible by four was to be a leap year. With the later advent of Catholicism as the official religion of the Holy Roman Empire, the Catholic church continued using the Julian calendar, adapting it to a schedule of religious holidays and celebrations. However, the calendar did not take into account the complete motion of the Earth around the sun, says astronomer Mark Meridith, who teaches at the Talbot Mountain Science Center in Avon, Conn.

As the years passed, the calendar became increasingly out of sync with the seasons. By the year 1500, the vernal equinox - when hours of day and night are equal, based on the sun crossing the equator - was occurring March 12 rather than March 21. This disrupted the religious calendar, which required a specific number of Sunday Masses to occur between Christmas and Easter.

During the reign of Pope Gregory XIII (1572-1585), leading astronomers - including astronomer/mathematician

Christopher Clavius, suggested that 10 days be dropped from the calendar to correct it with the actual length of the solar year. The pope proclaimed that the day after Oct. 4, 1582, should be called Oct. 15. Hence, the introduction of the Gregorian Calendar, which was eventually adopted and continues in use by most countries worldwide.

However, because the additional day every four years would create too much of a correction over the years, the Gregorian calendar invoked another rule: Every leap

year must be divisible by four with the exception of years ending in 00 that are not divisible by 400. Thus, while 1700, 1800 and 1900 were not leap years, 1600 and 2000 were.

As to which day of a non-leap year is most appropriate for leap day babies to celebrate, Meridith says probably March 1.

"Technically, you could argue that February 28 is not officially your birthday yet," he says. "If anyone turning 21 goes out drinking February 28, they'll be told no."

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Center

530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. The cost is \$5 for non-seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Two room open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center will be open Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Pork chops, potatoes and gravy, veggies, red cabbage salad, biscuit, carrot cake
Tuesday: Hawaiian chicken, potatoes, peas w/onions, pear salad, rolls, fruit, cookie
Wednesday: Baked potato bar
Thursday: Chicken cordon bleu, scalloped potatoes, mixed veggies, tossed salad, roll, cobble
Friday: Valentine Dinner, turkey w/dressing, potatoes and gravy, red jello and fruit, veggies, roll, shortcake

Activities:
Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Exercise class, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Blood Pressure Ticket Tuesday
Tap dance demo, noon
Line dance, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting
Foot clinic
Elks card club
Jackpot trip
Exercise class
Thursday: Center pinochle
Speaker
Lap top computer lesson, 1 p.m.
Friday: Lunch bingo
Blood pressure
Saturday: Valentine Dinner
Saturday: Super Bingo, 1-4 p.m.

West End

Senior Citizens Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl
Menus:
Today: Pork roast dinner
Monday: Chicken and rice, veggie, salad, bread, fruit, dessert
Tuesday: Liver and onions, potatoes, carrots, salad, bread, dessert
Wednesday: Cook's Choice
Thursday: BBQ chicken, baked potato, broccoli, salad, roll, birthday cake

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.
Last Resort Band
Monday: Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crafts, 1-4 p.m.
Tax assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Blood pressure check, 11:45 a.m.
Birthday dinner, noon
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St.
Dinners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals are available each mealtime.

Menus:
Monday: Chicken casserole
Thursday: Tomato juice, sliced ham

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

Menus:
Monday: Ghonlash - pickled beets, fruit, cherry turnovers
Tuesday: Swedish meatballs, over noodles, mixed veggies, jello, fruit, carrot cake
Wednesday: Potato bar, cream pudding
Thursday: Chicken fried steak, potatoes and gravy, carrots, peas, green salad, fruit cocktail, cake
Friday: Barbecue ribslets, au gratin potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, valentine cookies, BJ & Friends

Activities:
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: MV Hearing Aid, 10:30 a.m.

Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early bird, 6:45 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
BJ & Friends, 11:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Ageless

Senior Citizens, Inc.

310 Main St. N., Kimberly
Menus:
Monday: Chicken strips, potatoes, corn, tossed salad, peaches, coffee and milk
Wednesday: Spaghetti, green beans, cole slaw, garlic bread, applesauce, cookie, coffee and milk
Friday: Salad bar, apricots, coffee and milk

Activities:
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Crafts, 1 p.m.
Friday: Bingo, 11:55 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County

Senior Citizens

308 Senior Ave.
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menu:
Monday: Sloppy Joe, potato wedges, green peas, salad, muffin
Tuesday: Smoked sausage, potatoes and gravy, sauerkraut, plums, bread, apple crisp
Wednesday: Pizza, green salad, relish, custard
Thursday: Roast beef, potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, roll, strawberry shortcake

Activities:
Sunday: Mexican Train, Dominoes, 2 p.m.
Monday: Pool, 9 a.m.
Pinochle, 12:30 p.m.
Potluck in Glenns Ferry, 5 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9 a.m.
Boo, 1 p.m.
Pinochle, Gooding, 1:30 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Massages, 10:40 a.m.
Computer lessons, 12:45 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Blood pressure, 11 a.m.
Ombudsman, Philip Quiggley, 11:55 a.m.
Tops, 4 p.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge, 1 p.m.
Hand/foot, 2 p.m.
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.
Bingo, 6 p.m.

Hagerman Senior Center

140 E. Lake
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Lunch is served at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non-seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

Menus:
Monday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy
Wednesday: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy
Friday: Trout, scalloped potatoes

Silver and Gold

Senior Center

Eden
Suggested donations for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Mondays are cookie and bread bake days and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days.

Menus:
Tuesday: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, peas, salad, cookie
Thursday: Stew, cauliflower, salad, apple wedges biscuits, fruit, dessert

Activities:
Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jim and Kathy Grant Pancake Breakfast, 7:30-11 a.m.

Golden Years Senior

Citizen, Inc.

218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone
Menus:
Tuesday: Orange juice, sauerkraut, wiener, California mixed veggies, fried potatoes, green salad, sugar cookies, peaches, milk, coffee
Thursday: Orange juice, BLT's, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, carrot sticks, fries, banana cream pie, milk, coffee
Friday: Orange juice, turkey roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrot sticks, firewy mixed veggies, applesauce, carrot cake, dinner rolls, milk, coffee

Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Jackpot, 9 a.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Scrapbooking, 10 a.m.

Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early-bird bingo, 6:30 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Richfield Senior Center

Menus:
Monday: Orange juice, sausage gravy, biscuits, California mixed veggies, mashed potatoes, ginger bread, milk, coffee
Thursday: Orange juice, chili, hot dogs, tossed salad, French fries, custard pie, milk, coffee

Blaine County

Senior Center

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey
Menus:
Tuesday: Porky pigne hamburger, mixed squash and veggies, biscuits, jellied carrots, pineapple salad, prune cake, sauce
Wednesday: Chicken risotto w/rice, rolls, corn ambrosia, blueberry pie
Friday: Chicken cordon bleu, creamed new potatoes, green peas, rolls, George Washington salad, strawberry cake

Activities:
Monday: "Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m.
Twin Falls shop, 8 a.m.
Tuesday: Massage, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: "Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m.
Tax Assistance, 10 a.m.
New Bonko game, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Carey lunch
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Friday: Valentine's party day
"Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m.

Three Island Senior Center

492 E. Cleveland Ave.,
Glenns Ferry
Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, beverages with meals. Rides are available by phoning the center at 366-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for non-seniors under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Menus:
Tuesday: Barbecue meatballs, rice, tossed salad, corn roll, chocolate pudding
Thursday: Chicken strips, hash-brown patty, carrot, raisin, pineapple salad, spinach, roll
Saturday: Roast beef, potatoes and gravy, Scandinavian mix, red jello, cabbage, valentine cake, ice cream

Activities:
Monday: Tax-aide, 1-5 p.m.
Tuesday: Crafts, 5-8 p.m.
Wednesday: Birthday party, 2 p.m.
Thursday: Bs meet, 1 p.m.
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.
Saturday: Tax-aide, 10-4 p.m.

Camas County

Senior Center

127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on meal days. The cost of the meal for non-seniors is \$3.50; children under 10 are \$2.00. The suggested donation for those 60 years of age and older is \$2.50.

Menus:
Tuesday: Lemon baked cod, seasoned rice pilaf, creamy coleslaw, wheat rolls, peaches, cookies
Wednesday: Chicken a la king on noodles, green beans, roll, salad, fruit, tapioca pudding
Friday: Turkey, roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed-veggies, roll, salad, fruit, birthday cake

Activities:
Monday: Art class, 9 a.m.
Weight loss group, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 1:30 p.m.
Friday: Pool, 10:30 a.m.-noon
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Birthday party, noon

Minidoka County Senior

Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert
Meals are served at noon and home-delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Assorted salad, beef stroganoff, mixed-veggies, rolls, ice cream
Tuesday: Macaroni salad, chicken nuggets, fries, roll, green beans, pudding
Wednesday: Tossed salad, baked ribs, baked beans, cornbread, ice cream
Thursday: Fruit salad, tomato soup, grilled cheese, chesseecake
Friday: Valentine dinner
Saturday: Spaghetti dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Activities:
Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
SIBBA assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Saturday: Spaghetti dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Golden Heritage

Senior Center

2421 Overland Ave., Burley
Menus:
Monday: Sausage gravy, biscuits, mix veggies, peaches, ice cream
Tuesday: Whatever's in the freezer, corn bread, fruit cup, assorted dessert
Wednesday: B-day dinner, turkey and all the trimmings
Thursday: Meat loaf, cheddar potatoes, carrots, cole slaw, brownie
Friday: Parmesan chicken, parried potatoes, green beans, mixed fruit, herb roll, pie

Activities:
Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Dominoes, 10 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
AARP, 1 p.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.
Saturday: Valentine's breakfast, 7-1 a.m.



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You're being a grandparent, but lately you've been feeling restless. You want to do something more worthwhile with your grandchildren. Why not take a more active role in their education?

- Show a genuine interest in their education.
- Find out from your children what you can do to help your grandchildren with school.
- Take an active role in their schooling. Plan a visit during a special school activity.
- Learn with your grandchildren.
- Praise them for their accomplishments and their efforts.

- Support them in their future goals and plans.

Too many kids today fail to see the fun and value of an education. With some time and effort, you can help your grandchildren view school differently. You can help them see what a golden opportunity education can be!



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Sunday Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

EXTENDED STATES By Roger Coburn, Summerville, Georgia

ACROSS

1 Attachment to a bill

6 Church call

10 Kook

15 Mouth of a creek

19 and kicking

20 Shepard or Greenspan

21 "Tales" poet

22 Small musical group

23 State of Mississippi

25 Dissuade

26 Giltine blonde

27 "The Good Apprentice" writer Murdoch

28 State bossman?

31 Lives up

35 Plains tree

38 Grooms like a cat

42 Crib call

43 Touches down

49 Briny deep

50 Balances

42 Shadings

43 Developments

44 "The center"

46 Sure thing, for short

47 "Play like per" square centimeter

50 Numskull

51 Both a lamb

52 Victim

53 Blues singer

54 Jimmy

54 Pecky insects

55 Where in Spain

56 Granny

57 Clay lick

60 Reproductive cell

61 Thief

62 Prefs for lazards

65 Video display

66 Desired goal

67 Social practice

68 Islands off Ireland

69 Love Italian-style

70 Chair designer

71 Last word

72 In a mass

73 Goody mascot

74 Tailoring

78 Walker in water

79 Swings of the bat

80 "The instrument"

81 Opened, as a new

83 Nesson and O'Flaherty

84 Santa Maria sister ship

85 Sibani signal

86 Heifer in

87 Texas trooper

88 Dorman

89 "The bell under the collar"

93 Backpack group

94 Santa Fe rank rider?

97 First name

98 In a system

99 Caddy George

100 Lucas creature

101 Computer images

102 "The heart"

106 Slight

107 Conehead?

108 Look about

109 John Hershey's

110 bell worn

111 Winter vehicle

112 Short-lived

113 Ford model

114 Hit with a bomb log

115 Quality of taste

116 "DOWN"

117 "Go France"

118 "Fourth of MMXVI"

119 Zsa Zsa's sister

120 Telephones again

121 Mrs. Eisenhower

122 "poor Yorick"

123 "The Screens"

124 "The eagles"

125 "The morning"

126 White Sox bay

127 Not fooled by

128 "The twist 12 and 20"

129 Postfall section

130 "Lacking originality"

131 "The rank rider?"

132 Warning device

133 "The flies with"

134 Com with

135 "Comic Johnson"

136 Steiner

137 "The twist"

138 Approximately

139 Belet palm

32 Less than once

33 Grenobles's river

34 State puzzle?

35 State taken for

36 "The man"

38 Lumox

39 Amoying fish

40 Varieties

41 Morganian

42 State direction?

43 State of the union?

44 Doctine

45 Cauden's decline

47 Smile derisively

48 "The Screens"

50 Opening bars

51 Carmic Carvey

52 Away from

53 The wind

54 Surge

55 Surgical beam

56 Taper and AT

57 Postal sticker

58 "The doctine"

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Girl searches for way to stop best friend from smoking pot



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Bette," is one of the nicest, smartest teens you'll ever meet. I enjoy her company, we get along great, and we have a lot in common. She's also my role model, since I'm two years younger than she is. (I skipped a couple of grades.)

Recently, Bette has been smoking weed and encouraging me to try it. I am very against smoking. I'm afraid Bette might be doing the wrong thing. She says it's OK because she does it only a little bit.

How can I persuade her to stop? Should I even try? Will I be ruining a good friendship?

NEEDS HELP IN GEORGIA
DEAR NEEDS HELP: You appear to be more mature than your older friend. Not only is pot smoking generally unhealthy, it impairs your judgment.

Marijuana can affect memory and the choices smokers make while under the influence. It is also illegal, with all that implies. It is important that you understand that people change as they mature - or fail to mature. If Bette continues on this path, she may eventually begin spending more time with other kids who smoke pot. It could affect her grades and her participation in sports and other interests. You may have less and less in common. So start developing friendships with other students whose interests and goals are similar to yours and continue moving for-

ward on your own wholesome path.

By all means, try to persuade Bette to stop, as her friend, it is the right thing to do. But she is ultimately responsible for her own behavior - or misbehavior - and you have to protect your own future.

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter from a 13-year-old girl whose father is deployed in the Middle East. She was worried about her mother's depression. You wisely suggested that the daughter seek assistance from a trusted adult who knows her mother and can encourage her to talk to a doctor. I would like to offer some additional suggestions:

The mother's primary-care provider through her health-care manager is a good starting point for assistance. She can also find out if there is a family advocacy program available at their military base. These programs offer

support groups for spouses and children.

This child and her mother are probably eligible for TRICARE, the Defense Department's health-care program for military personnel, their families and retirees. TRICARE offers a health services and support contractor to manage the family's health benefits. It offers in-person or telephone counseling and online assistance. The mother can visit www.tricare.osd.mil and request counseling services using one of the toll-free numbers.

Americans must offer their part to support those who are sacrificing so much in defense of our freedoms.

JUDY BLACK, VICE PRESIDENT, TRIWEST HEALTH CARE ALLIANCE, PHOENIX

DEAR JUDY: Amen to that! And thank you for offering this valuable information to the spouses of our military personnel.

DEAR ABBY: I am 21 years old and have been this all my life. But for the past year, I have been getting up during the night and eating. Sometimes the next morning I don't even know what I ate the night before.

I have also noticed that I am gaining weight. Please help.

NOCTURNAL EATER

DEAR NOCTURNAL: Discuss this with your doctor. If you're doing this while not fully awake, it may be a symptom of a sleep disorder.

Schools

Continued from E1

the clearest handwriting. You just have to see it, I think because they write a lot more, that helps him. I think that's what it is."

Kindergarten - that bastion of A-B-Cs, 123s and the three-hour school day - is going full time, spurred by demographic, academic and sometimes economic factors, states and local school districts are embracing full-day kindergarten at a rapid rate.

In 1969, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, most American kindergartners attended short-ply, half-day programs. Only 11 percent were in programs considered full day - defined as more than four hours but usually closer to six. By 2000, the percentage enrolled in full-day programs had grown to 60 percent.

The Pasadena school board voted last October for all 24 of its elementary schools to provide full-day kindergarten next fall - though some pilot programs have already begun. Thirty-three other California districts are trying out full-day programs. And a \$3.8-billion bond that will go before Los Angeles voters in March includes \$100 million to build the facilities necessary for Los Angeles Unified schools to offer full-day kindergarten as soon as possible.

Current day all 3,013 of Los Angeles Unified's kindergarten classes are half-day. And that, said Los Angeles school board member David Tokolsky, "has got to be up there in terms of being one of the most lame public policies out there."

Tokolsky, whose oldest daughter is enrolled in a half-day program at Eagle Rock Elementary School, said that full-day kindergarten appeals to both ends of the economic spectrum: families who have day programs and can't afford to pay for private school but might be encouraged to enroll, and stay, in public schools; and working parents, who would be better able to take

full-time jobs if their children were in school all day long.

Nationwide, school districts are realizing that offering full-day kindergarten may be their best bet to attract the children of working parents, to fast-track children with limited English skills toward English literacy and to keep students competitive. And they hope that offering the full-day program eventually will bring more enrollment revenues from their states.

The Maryland Legislature voted in 2002 to make all of its kindergartners full-day by 2007. New Mexico has almost completed a five-year plan for all districts statewide to offer it.

"Where it's been implemented, we're getting such favorable results," said Karen Ehlers, New Mexico's full-day kindergarten coordinator. "As kids move into first grade, teachers are astonished at how much the kindergartners can do in comparison to what they could do when they were half-day kindergartners."

Full-day kindergarten gives students, especially those considered at-risk, more time in a structured setting and a better introduction to English literacy, said Ellen Junn, a dean in the College of Human Development and Community Service at California State University at Fullerton and president of the California Association for the Education of Young Children.

Recent studies in Maryland and elsewhere have shown that children who attend full-day kindergarten are better prepared for first grade than their half-day counterparts and demonstrate a greater mastery of math, reading and general learning skills.

Cassandra Johnson has noticed similar gains among the 20 students in the all-day kindergarten class she teaches at Webster Elementary, as part of Pasadena's pilot program to extend the day.

Johnson, who is in her ninth year as a teacher at the school, posted a neatly written chart

inside her classroom, dividing the school-day into half- and quarter-hour segments. The schedule, which runs from 7:50 a.m. to 2:20 p.m., includes the basics - reading, math and a nap - as well as storytelling, art and physical education.

"We're getting to cover so much more," Johnson said. "Having all-day kindergartners, I can get my core things done before lunchtime. After lunch, I can focus on English language development, instead of trying to fit into math. I can focus on art, science, the things we do in science, the things we do in science. It's a big thing. I know (half-day) kindergartners teachers miss it."

Johnson said she's noticed differences in her students. They are, she says, always a bit exhausted or a bit hyper by day's end - despite the requisite half-hour afternoon nap.

But the students also seem to be picking up concepts more quickly, and the kindergartners who began the school year with what she characterized as "spotty" limited English skills - an understanding and speaking English better than she expected.

So far, say education experts, the major obstacles to moving to full-day kindergarten have been cost and space. But many districts in California that are making the move to full-day kindergarten say that they have been able to work around those concerns, because many already pay kindergarten teachers to be at school all day and because recent districts in California that are making the move to full-day kindergarten have freed up extra classrooms.

For Covarrubias and her family, the switch to full-day kindergarten has had a major effect. On a recent school day, she arrived at Matthew's classroom to pick him up early. She had planned it as a treat, she said. Matthew's response made a mother's heart sing.

"He said, 'Mom, I want to stay at school.'"

Cancer: Recharge your batteries

IF FEBRUARY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you are a searcher of things, but you never allow the quest to carry you away on flights of fancy. Although you are open to new ideas, you are also extremely practical and wait to see how those individuals around you benefit concretely from changes to the status quo before changing your own direction.

Once you are convinced that innovation will bring some good, you are tenacious in following through to see the benefits.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): This is a good day to start new projects that require endurance and long-term attention. Associates may be a bit touchy and easily annoyed to see you best manners for the next day or so and avoid arguments.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): You feel like getting the bull by the horns and taking things done today but may be distracted by petty squabbles or too much chatter. Your energies may simply rub people the wrong way, so work hard behind the scenes. Concentrate on home and social life, where you shine.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Today is a good day to start new projects, and you glow with confidence. Too much chatter about inessential can cause discord, however, so remain sensitive to the moods and needs of others.

CANCER (June 21-July 22):

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

This is a good day to set new goals and recharge your personal batteries. You sense that a change is in the air and that the future will be brighter. Take practical steps to ensure that your life runs smoothly; don't brood over the past.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are fearless and confident today, ready to take charge of anything and everything in your path. Remain sensitive to others, and be careful not to tread on someone else's territory as friction is the likely result.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): This is a good time to start a new task or set goals for the future as there is a sense of determination in the air today. You are reminded of your blessings and good fortune. This week, but you may get bogged down in too many petty details.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It is much easier to concentrate on the things in your life that are going well than to be distracted by the things that aren't. Apply yourself fully to the areas you feel confident about, and have fun with the people you are most comfortable with.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is a good week to start something

new, but you must be careful of avoid stepping on the toes of others as you may feel threatened by your intensity of purpose. Avoid sharp words on the home front, and be considerate of others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There is positive energy in the air today, so you believe you can take on anything and anyone. You are ready to take a gamble, but it is wise to listen to the advice of trusted or more experienced friends - before - jumping into action.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are at peace with the world and appreciative of your personal horn of plenty, even though some worries lurk in the background. Start projects that require determination to ensure that your plate remains full.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are brimming with confidence and are ready to take on new challenges. This is a great week to focus on business and get caught up at work. New friends and love interests may pop suddenly into the picture but are not guaranteed to last.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You feel a surge of confidence today and are focused on close relationships. Do your best to stay on an even keel, and don't jump to conclusions about intimate encounters. All that glitters is not gold, and sometimes the tried and true may be the best.

Debt

Continued from E1

range of \$15,000-\$25,000, with some as high as \$80,000.

"Even people with high incomes can mismanage money," Scrivner says. "You still have to live within your means. A big problem is that we Americans want a lot and we want it right now."

Financial problems are a catalyst for other difficulties that can lead couples to seek family counseling.

"It plays a big role," says Julie Rose, a psychologist at the Family Center. "Financial problems are the No. 1 reason for divorce. The stress in a marriage coming from debt can also lead to physical and emotional abuse. One day a man who normally wouldn't hurt his wife loses control and his her. Of the men in our domestic abuse

group, 75 percent have said money played a part."

Gerry Edmonds, a clinical psychologist at the Pastoral Institute, agrees that finances play a big role in marital problems. "They usually don't surface for a few years," he says.

Holiday debt, he adds, shouldn't be a problem. "That problem can be avoided. You know that Christmas is coming and have a year to get ready. People tend to forget that the best gifts they've received are often something the person has made. That works the other way too. You can make an inexpensive gift. It will still be something that is loved."

But it is not just people foolishly spending their money that causes problems. "A major illness in the family can be a financial strain, losing a high paying job or

getting reduced hours - it can happen to anyone - and getting a divorce are major reasons for running up debt.

Something that has really escalated in the last five years is elderly people whose children have come back home, bringing their families. Many of those elderly must keep working past the time for retirement or, if they have a fixed income, start living off of the credit cards. It's sad."

JoAnne Cavis of the Georgia Extension Service is involved with the Georgia Saves program, which now has 104 savers and is seeking more. She says that last year there were 35,000 bankruptcies in Georgia, a jump of 10 percent over the previous year. "Most didn't have to happen," she says. "People just left their spending get out of control. And they're

falling to plan for the future."

And bankruptcy can affect a credit rating for 10 years.

Many people make a big mistake when they first get into credit trouble. They ignore the creditor and that's the worst thing they can do," says Scrivner. "You need to talk to whom you owe and tell them how much you can pay or tell them you're going to miss a payment. Try to work with them."

You may be able to negotiate a lower interest rate. Once it goes to a collection agency or there's a lawsuit, then you're in real trouble."

"People shouldn't wait to get help."

"Many don't get the aid they need," Scrivner says, "because they are embarrassed. They shouldn't be."

Free counseling is available at the Family Center, with counselors analyzing personal financial data and advising on efficient money management. A debt management plan can be set up in which a voluntary repayment plan is set up between clients and their creditors - and it usually involves lower interest payments. A single monthly payment is made to satisfy all creditors.

"We have a ritual where we cut up all the credit cards, allowing maybe one for emergencies. That's the hard part for some people," Scrivner says.

And one good credit card is better than many, she adds.

"Stores give you incentives like 15 percent off if you use their card today, but if you don't pay the balance off at the end of the

month, with the interest, you're paying more for that item than you ever thought you were saving."

In its literature, Georgia Saves gives an example of just how much it can take to pay off debt. For example, if a person has a \$3,000 credit card balance at 19.8 percent interest and pays the required minimum balance of 2 percent - or \$15 - then it will take 30 years to pay off the loan and the person will have paid more than \$10,000 in interest.

"People think they can get away by just paying minimum payments," says Cavis, "but they're paying in the



Castleford presents musical treat

CASTLEFORD - The theme for the Castleford all-school music program on Tuesday is "Sweethearts and Valentines."

The public is invited to attend free of charge. It will start at 1:45 p.m. in the Cothran Memorial Gymnasium.

Kindergarten through fifth-grade students and the senior high choir will perform vocal selections. Instrumentals will be performed by the sixth-grade and junior-high bands.

A highlight of the program will be a second-grade musical enti-

led, "The Princess and the Frog." The program will be performed under the direction of Carolyn Kohntopp.

Root beer floats will be sold as a fund-raiser for 51. Proceeds will be used for the benefit of the music students.

Hailey Public Library puts science under the microscope with series

HAILEY - The Hailey Public Library kicks off a year of programs addressing the theme "Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future" by hosting a discussion series on science and science fiction.

Participation is free and open to everyone. Copies of the books are available for checkout. The events all start at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 7 Crow St. W.



"Frankenstein" will be screened as part of the Hailey Public Library's series on science.

The "Science: Ruin or Rescue?" series addresses the conflicts between hope and doubt when it comes to scientists, and the first event is a showing of the grand-daddy of scientist movies, "Frankenstein."

Based on Mary Shelley's groundbreaking novel, it has been called the first science fiction novel ever written. The original 1931 version will be screened Thursday. A short discussion will follow.

"Mendel's Dwarf" by Simon Mawer is the first book to be discussed in the series on Feb. 19. Like his relative and the father of genetics, Gregor Mendel, Dr. Benedict Lambert is a brilliant scientist famous for his discoveries about his own genetic condition, dwarfism. Lambert loves a married woman who is in a childless relationship. When that couple resorts to in vitro fertilization, Lambert substitutes his own

sperm. Does he select an embryo with genes for normal stature or one that will be a dwarf like himself?

And Gavando was a surgical resident and medical writer for "New Yorker" when he penned his debut, "Complications: a Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science," which will be discussed March 4.

"The book's title comes not just from the unexpected turns that can result in medicine but also from my concern with the larger uncertainties and dilemmas that underlie what we do," the introduction reads. "We have taken (medicine) to be both more perfect than it is and less extraordinary than it can be."

The "absent-minded professor" stereotype, personified by Albert Einstein will be the focus in a March 18 discussion of "Einstein's Dreams," by Alan Lightman, professor of creative writing and physics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Night after night, the young patent clerk dreams of worlds where time is discontinuous, runs backward, gets stuck or boomerangs.

The final book in the series is "Ship Fever" by Andrea Barrett on April 1. This National Book Award winning collection of short fiction is set against the history of biological and botanical exploration.

The finale will be a screening of the Australian comedy/drama, "The Dish," Parkes, a tiny town in the outback, has one hope for glory: a football field, second on a dish that will track the Apollo 11 moon mission.

For more information on any of these programs, call 788-2036 or visit www.haileypubliclibrary.org.

STORK REPORT

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Gavino Antonio Santiago Gonzales Jr., son of April Marie and Gavino Santiago Gonzales, was born Monday, Feb. 2, 2004.

Kyra Leigh Waters, daughter of Robin Maire Maxa and Jay Allen Waters of Twin Falls, was born Monday, Feb. 2, 2004.

Kimberly Martha Stokes, daughter of Wendy Lynn and Floyd J. Stokes of Jerome, was born Monday, Jan. 26, 2004.

Cassia Regional Medical Center

Malia Manning, daughter of Holly and Doug Manning of Paul, was born Wednesday, Jan. 14,

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to:

Jami Whited
The Community Page
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, ID 83303
Or fax to: 734-5558
Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper.
More information? Call 735-3278

Schlyer and Bryan Bailey of Hailey, was born Friday, Jan. 23, 2004.

Robert Joseph Boyd Jr., son of Candice Marie Larson and Robert Joseph Boyd of Fairfield, was born Thursday, Jan. 22, 2004.

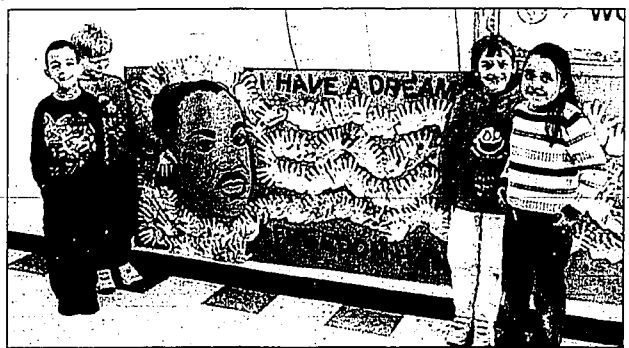
University of Utah Hospital

Andrew Jane Glodowski, daughter of Kellie Rae McMillan and Robert Todd Glodowski of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, Sept. 25, 2003.

Home Births

Michael Daniel Lloyd, son of Heidi and Paul Lloyd of Jerome, was born Sunday, Jan. 11, 2004.

HAVING A DREAM



Popplewell Elementary School in Buhl celebrated Martin Luther King's birthday. All the children colored paper hands to represent themselves and placed them on a special banner in the library. The hands were 'joined' to show commitment to equality everywhere, reported Priscilla Sisson, Multi-Media Center supervisor. The children also talked about King during their library class time and had several books on his life read to them.

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE



Sarah Schenk accepts her Meritorious Trophy from Bob Renz, Awana commander at Paul First Baptist Church. The trophy is awarded for completion of Awana requirements through the junior high school materials, which includes memorizing more than 700 Bible verses. Awana is a non-denominational ministry that assists churches in reaching children and teenagers with the Gospel.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MVRMC Foundation awards scholarships to students

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Regional Medical Center Foundation has awarded 15 scholarships, totaling \$14,540 for spring semester college students majoring in health care.

Nursing students awarded scholarships were Shelley Allen, Junece' Krister, Brooke Frazier, Barcie - Croffler - and Michele McClain, all of Twin Falls, Christian Hovey of Jerome, Steve Little of Buhl, and Dawn Edgar of Kimberly. These students will begin nursing careers at Magic Valley Regional when they finish the associate degree program. The scholarships are funded by general donations and Magic Valley Regional and coordinated by the foundation.

Scholarships were awarded to students pursuing master's degrees: Tina Parr of Wendell and Mandy - Bahbit - and -Roanne Mancari, both of Twin Falls.

The foundation awarded non-nursing scholarships from the foundation's Employee Endowment to Scott Dayley, Turner Dixon, Molly McGee and Marla VanAssel. The support is for schooling in lab/physiometry, medical coding, radiology technology and pre-nursing.

For more information about

AARP announces driver safety courses schedule

BUIH, - The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will continue its driver safety courses.

The schedule includes:

- From 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce at Seventh Street and Highway 30, Heyburn. Call Rollo at 878-4705.
- From 9 a.m. until noon and 1-2 p.m. Feb. 18 and 8 a.m. until noon Feb. 19 at the Gooding Senior Center. Call Jean or Ray at 536-2021.
- From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 19 at the Blaine County Senior Center, 721 Third Ave. S. in Hailey. Call Brenda at 788-3468.

The classes are geared to anyone age 50 and older. Students don't have to be members of AARP and no driving is involved. The fee is \$10. Preregistration is required. Students must attend both sessions to receive certificate

of completion. Idaho law requires insurance companies to give a discount to people age 65 and older who complete the course.

B.J. Duplicate Bridge Club announces results

RUPERT - Results for the B.J. Duplicate Bridge Club for Feb. 3 were north/south first, Vera Mai and Bill Goodman, second, Pat Stephenson and Mildred Wolf; third, Billie Park and Xana Brice; and fourth, Ella Anest and Lola Moorman. East/west winners include first, Nancy Gibson and Trudy Carver; second, Peggie Payne and Donna Kuman; third, Lila Buman and Marion Snow; and fourth, Leo Moore and Dee Keicher.

Play continues at 1 p.m. each Tuesday at the Rupert Elks. The public is invited.

Mini-Cassia AARP will hear from Burley Fire official

BURLEY - The Mini-Cassia Association of Retired Persons will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Golden Heritage Senior Center, 2421 Overland Ave., Burley.

David Graham of the Burley Fire Department will be the featured speaker. A native of Lubbock, Texas, Graham also has been a fireman in Dolores, Colo.

where he was captain and public relations chairman. Graham is pastor of Praise Chapel in Rupert where he also sings and plays the guitar. He also is involved in public service.

All interested persons are invited.

4-H leaders are needed in Minidoka County

RUPERT - Minidoka County is looking for volunteers to become 4-H leaders.

Volunteers must complete an application form and pass the required background check before the training can be offered. Applications are due back into the Extension Office by Friday. A new leader training is tentatively scheduled for the evening of March 10.

For more information, call 436-7184.

CSI offers sign language course in Gooding

GOODING - The College of Southern Idaho North Side Center is offering the course, "Sign Language 1," which introduces the non-signer, non-professional to "survival communication" with signs.

It combines the vocabulary and features of American Sign Language with English word

order. This common form of social communication between deaf and hearing adults is known as Pidgin Signed English.

The one-credit course will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 17 to March 11 at the North Side Center. The fee is \$82.50 plus the textbook.

For registration information, call the North Side Center at 934-8678 or stop by the office at 202 14th Ave. E. in Gooding.

Hansen library puts new books on shelves

HANSEN - The Hansen Community Library, 120 Maple W, has new books on their shelves.

Adults: "Ice Hunt" by James Rollins, "Golden Buddha" by Clive Cussler, "Thursdays at Eight" by Debbie Macomber, "Capital Crimes" by Stuart Woods, "By Sorrows' River" by Larry McMurry, "Balance of Power" by Richard North Patterson, "The Icewind Dale Trilogy" by R.A. Salvatore, "Shepherds Abiding" by Jan Karon, "Hello, Darkness" by Sandra Brown, "Force 12" by James Thayer, "Deception Point" by Dan Brown, "Safe Harbour" by Danielle Steel, "Wolves of the Call" by Stephen King, "The

Ultimate Weight Loss Solution" by Dr. Phil and "Popped" by Carol Higgins Clark.

Young Adults: "Loamhedge" by Brian Jacques; "Keeper of the Night" by Kimberly Willis Holt; "Meg's Prairie Diary" by Kate McMullan; "Aremis Fowl," "Artemis Fowl: The Article Incident" and "Artemis Fowl: The Eternity Code" by Eoin Colfer; "Star Wars Galaxy of Fear, Vol. 1: G" and "Escape from Memory" by Margaret Peterson Haddix; "The Thief Lord" by Cornelia Funke; "The Pack" by Elisa Carbone; and "Hansen Huskies 2003" Yearbook.

Juvenile: "Frogs Jump" by Steven Kellog, "Moongame" by Frank Asc, "Henry's Happy Birthday" by Holly Keller, "My Teacher Sleeps in School" by Leatie Weiss and "Adventures in the Wild Wood" by Janet Palazzo-Craig, among others.

For more information, call 423-4122.

Wishing Star volunteers meet for dinner, business

TWIN FALLS - Wishing Star Foundation volunteers will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Teriyaki Chicken Express for dinner and a meeting will follow at 7 p.m.

There will be discussion about upcoming fund-raisers.

WEDDINGS

Voters knead the politics of chocolate chip cookie dough

ENGAGEMENTS

MCCLAIN-WRIGHT



Kalen and Dennis Wright

BUHL—Kalen Lee McClain and Dennis Martin Wright were married June 21, 2003, at the Buhl United Methodist Church.

The bride is the daughter of David and Pamela McClain of Buhl.

The bridegroom is the son of Lonnie and Justine Wright of Buhl.

The Rev. Margie Mai officiated the ceremony. Lois Lehrman was the organist.

The jazz trio of Zack O'Connor, Trevor Jones and Keaton Wilson performed at the wedding and reception.

Aimee Ascendrup, friend of the bride, served as the bride's maid of honor.

Bridesmaids included Kerri Eggleston and Allia Elms, sisters of the bride, and Kiri Wright, friend of the bride.

Alexandra McClain, sister of the bride, was the junior bridesmaid.

Shaun Cramer, friend of the groom, served as best man.

Groomsmen included Brandon Gruner, Matt Paulson and Theron Thomas, friends of the groom.

Ushers were friends Hawkins and Nick Higgins, friends of the groom.

Brody McClain, cousin of the bride, was the junior groomsman.

Special guests included grandparents of the bride, Clyde and Sharon McClain of Buhl and William and Paula Teague of Buhl.

The newlyweds reside in Buhl.

JACKSON-ALEXANDER

ACEQUIA—Lacey Jackson and Gregg Alexander were married Feb. 6 in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple.

The bride is the daughter of Douglas and Connie Jackson of Rupert.

The bridegroom is the son of Bruce and Debbie Alexander of Sandy, Utah.

The bride is a graduate of Minico High School and Francois D Hair Academy of Utah.

The groom is a graduate of Hillcrest High School in Sandy, Utah, and is currently attending the University of Utah. He served in the California San Diego Spanish-speaking LDS Mission.

The newlyweds reside in Salt Lake City, Utah.

WALLIN-OWENS

TWIN FALLS—Stephanie Suzanne Wallin and Joseph Rudy Owens were married Jan. 9 at the First Assembly of God Church in Twin Falls.

The bride is the daughter of David and Suzanne Hawkins of Twin Falls.

The bridegroom is the son of Steven and Maria Owens of Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Rev. Dan Duncan and Pastor Mario Owens officiated the ceremony. Stacie Wallin, sister of the bride, was the soloist. Caleb Collins was the pianist.

Stacie Wallin, sister of the bride, served as the bride's maid of honor.

Bridesmaids included Mandie Hawkins, sister of the bride; Monica Owens, sister of the groom; and Jamie Cunningham, Heather Crane and Sara Hannigan, friends of the bride.

Jessica Murrell, cousin of the bride; Sara Cunningham, friend of the bride; and Malary Owens, niece of the groom, were the flower girls.

Steven Owens, twin brother of the groom, served as best man.

Groomsmen included Luke Hawkins and Jack Wallin, brothers of the bride; and Powner Jensen, Nick Canaday, Henry Rico and Ben Graves, friends of the groom.

Ushers were Olin-Marc Gardner, cousin of the bride, and Brian Crise, friend of the groom.

James Murrell and Daniel Gardner, cousins of the bride; Alex Johnston, nephew of the bride; and Landon Owens, nephew of the groom, were the ringbearers.

Special guests included Lee and Brenda Akins of Jerome, grandparents of the bride, and Martha Wallin, grandmother of the bride.

A reception was held Jan. 9 at the First Assembly of God Church. Renee Mitty, Allia Wilkins and Danielle Nelson, friends of the bride, served at the reception.

Kendra Florence, friend of the bride, attended the guest book. Katie Cunningham, Rachel

JORDAN-JORDAN

TWIN FALLS—Beth A. Jordan and Chris L. Jordan were married Feb. 3 in Twin Falls.

The newlyweds reside in Twin Falls.

Bridal Registry
Shawna Dutton & Eric Adams
February 13th

RECOLLECTIONS
1214 Oakley Ave., Burley • 878-2554

By Louise Kleman
Chicago Tribune

You knew that Howard Dean's campaign had hit a rough patch when his wife started talking about "cookies." Yes—as Judith Steinberg Dean confided in the Jan. 20 issue of People magazine, she has baked chocolate chip cookies for her husband's staff.

It just happened once, she claimed. The cookies weren't even very good, she swore. Nonetheless, the cookie money had arrived. Then came the network television interview moment and the New Hampshire campaign podium moment and then, the attempt to refashion the female Dr. Dean seemed well under way.

At first, the fact that Howard Dean's wife continued to practice medicine and attend PTA meetings in Vermont while her husband campaigned for president was considered admirable, even groundbreaking. It was part of the quirky Dean mystique, just like the Grateful Dead albums, the J.C. Penney suit, that crazy idea about using the Internet to raise money.

"The West Wing" had come to life, without all the let's-talk-really-fast-while-we-walk-down-a-hallway scenes.

That a Dean presidency seemed as much a far-fetched liberal porn fantasy as the Bartley White House made the prospect of First Doctor Judy Dean charming rather than unconventional. When she naively proposed she would continue to practice medicine if her husband were elected, as though she could open a doc-in-a-box off the Rose Garden, people shook their heads and chuckled. Those darned lady doctors.

Then Dean became the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination and as the love causes approached, the perception of Judy Dean suddenly shifted from medicine woman to witch doctor. Reporters — and, if the reporters are to be believed, some voters — began asking why she hadn't visited the Hawkeye State. What kind of wife would rather make house calls than

shake hands? Was something wrong with them, their marriage, his fitness for the presidency?

Finally, New York Times writer Maureen Dowd, in a column that suggested the Deans' relationship was — more — "transcendently wacky" than the Clintons, pronounced: "Physician, heal thy spouse."

Seventy-two hours later, Judith Steinberg Dean was in Iowa.

Who knows whether her last-minute arrival helped or hurt her husband or made no difference at all; he finished third. But, as the churn over Judy Dean illustrates, the wackiest relationship here is not the one between a candidate and his spouse, but that between the American public and its prospective first ladies.

The public asks more of the candidates' wives than the candidates. They must be smart but not intellectual. Involved but not too involved. Adoring but not simpering. They should champion a social cause but not one that anyone could actually have an opinion about. Reading is fine. Health-care reform is not.

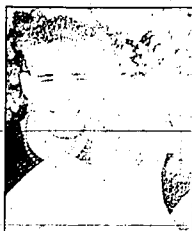
They should look attractive but not sexy. They should not admit they look attractive because they use Botox. They should seem at ease in every situation. They should not seem at ease because they are addicted to prescription drugs.

No one ran into more trouble with the political wife standard than Hillary Rodham Clinton. Hillary, of course, had a cookie moment-of-her-own during the 1992 campaign, when she answered a question about possible conflicts of interest in her work by saying, "I suppose I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had tea," thereby dooming herself to a take-off with Barbara Bush in the pages of Family Circle.

Before James Polk became president in 1845, his wife, Sarah, announced that if they reached the White House, she would "neither keep house, nor make butter."

There's a political wife who didn't just refuse to make cookies. She wouldn't even make an ingredient.

WALLIN-JENSEN



Power Jensen and Stacie Wallin

TWIN FALLS—David and Suzanne Hawkins of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Stacie Leigh Wallin, to Powner Kissee Jensen, son of Landon and Denise Jensen of Las Vegas, Nev.

Wallin is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and will graduate in May from the College of Southern Idaho with an associate of arts degree in elementary education. She is employed at Magic Valley Gymnastics in Twin Falls.

Jensen is a graduate of Shoshone High School. He is employed at Best Buy and Magic Valley Gymnastics in Twin Falls.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, Feb. 21, at the First



Erica Hankins and Victor Cruz

HANKINS-CRUZ

TWIN FALLS—Michael and Gina Hankins of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Erica Dawn Hankins, to Victor Carlos Ronaldo Cruz, son of Connie and Robert McDonald of Jerome and Victor B. Cruz of Tucson, Ariz.

Hankins is a graduate of Twin Falls High School. She is employed at Blockbuster Video in Twin Falls.

Cruz attended Twin Falls High School. He is employed at Spears Manufacturing in Jerome.

The wedding is planned for Friday, Aug. 20.



Shawna Dutton and Eric Adams

DUTTON-ADAMS

RUPERT—Donna and David Dutton of Rupert announce the engagement of their daughter, Shawna M. Dutton, to Eric S. Adams, son of Kay and Dusty Adams of Paul.

Dutton is a 2003 graduate of Christian Liberty Academy of Arlington Heights, Ill.

Adams is a 2003 graduate of Minico High School in Rupert. He is employed by Columbia Electric of Clarkston, Wash.

The wedding is planned for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at the Rupert First Christian Church. A reception to honor the couple will be held immediately following the ceremony at the church.

WEDDING

AIKEN-PICKERING

MOUNT VERNON, Wash.—Jill Aiken and Danny Pickering were married May 3, 2003, at the Immaculate Conception Church in Mount Vernon, Wash.

The bride is the daughter of Jerry and Jaynane Aiken of Twin Falls.

The bridegroom is the son of Tony and Bronwyn Pickering of Mount Vernon, Wash.

Deacon George Peterson officiated the ceremony.

Bridesmaids included Whitney Lewis, Christy Long, Melanie Fox, Katie Faber and Sarah Jane Pickering.

Laura Pickering was the flower girl.

Groomsmen included Travis Houlihan, Kelly Keegan, Alex Jobe, Adam Faber and Paul Pickering.

Lane Traynor was the ringbearer.

A reception was held following the ceremony at St. Joseph's Center.



Danny and Jill Pickering

Alisha Stowell attended the guest book.

The bride is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and Washington State University in Pullman, Wash.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash.

The newlyweds reside in Mount Vernon.



Stephanie and Joseph Owens

Mitchell and Rebecca Mitchell, friends of the bride, were the gift attendants.

The bride is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and attended Evangel University in Springfield, Mo. She is employed at Magic Valley Appraisals in Twin Falls.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Palmer High School in Colorado Springs, Colo., and attended Evange University in Springfield, Mo. He is employed at Dell in Twin Falls.

The newlyweds reside in Twin Falls.

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Little Red Hen
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Sunday 11-6



Centennial

Centennial Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins - 735-3242

Page E-6 Sunday, February 8, 2004 The Times-News

Old number rings bell for T.F. man

Phone number, address get passed down through three generations

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Last spring a Boise model railroad enthusiast called Bill Goertzen's phone number, looking for a "Pete" who used to live in the house.

Turns out "Pete" was Goertzen's own grandfather, now deceased.

So the call resulted in a visit from the Boise man and a long talk about Goertzen's grandfather, the grandfather's shared love of model railroads and his helpfulness.

Goertzen, 52, might never have hooked up with the Boise man and heard those memories but for an unusual fact. He's the third-generation Goertzen to live in that Twin Falls house, at 637 Second Ave. N., with the same phone number, 733-7082.

Yep, Goertzen has proof in his basement of the longevity of his phone number.

"I've got phone books from the '50s," he said.

Pete Goertzen, a World War I disabled veteran, bought the house on Second in the early 1940s. He headed the local historical society for years, and he collected historical artifacts such as stone cracker-guns and matchbook covers from local businesses advertising phone numbers like "Kimberly 6."

"If it was old, he kept it," Bill Goertzen said.

When Twin Falls converted to seven-digit telephone numbers in 1957 or 1959 - dates Bill Goertzen gleaned from the phone books in the basement - the house was assigned a Redwood, or "73" prefix. After a few years, telephone numbers switched to straight numbers and "Redwood 3 7082" became simply the "733-7082" of today.

When Pete Goertzen died in the mid 1970s, his son Bob Goertzen moved into the house on Second. And kept the phone number.

Bob Goertzen had served in World War II and been a prisoner of war. Son Bill Goertzen, disabled in a March 1970 helicopter crash in Vietnam, was already retired and living separately when his dad took up quarters on Second.

But Bill Goertzen, because he was ailing, in 1995 asked Bill Goertzen and his wife to move in. The couple lived with Bill Goertzen's dad and cared for him until his death in 1997, then remained in the house on Second.

"Dad wanted to make sure I kept the phone number. That seemed to mean something," Bill Goertzen said. He isn't sure why. One possibility: "An awful lot of history went by."

His dad was a quiet person and never expounded the importance

'My family, we fight to the end. We won't give up this phone number.' - Bill Goertzen



Bill Goertzen is the third generation of his family to live at 637 Second Ave. N. in Twin Falls and have the same phone number. The latter is a matter of some pride for Goertzen.

he placed on the telephone number. But Bill Goertzen has an inkling.

"It was a stable phone number. If you forgot everybody else's phone number, this one was always going to be the same," he said.

Bill Goertzen hopes the phone number and the family's occupa-

cy of 637 Second Ave. N. won't end with his generation of the family. His son lives in Mississippi, but his three daughters live in Magic Valley, and he's all aware that Bill Goertzen cares about the future of that house and that phone number.

It's hard, however, to hang onto

a number these days with so many telemarketers calling.

"It's horrendous," Bill Goertzen said. But he won't seek refuge in a new unlisted number.

"My family, we fight to the end. We won't give up this phone number," he said.

Not even if a business wanted to

spell something with those digits and offered big money.

"There's just some things that can't be bought."

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

Newspaper seeks family traditions for personal take on M.V. history

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Perhaps you fish the same Magic Valley creek that Grandpa loved so dearly.

Or own the same local business that Mom started from scratch.

Or promote the same cause that burned in Dad's heart.

If you do, The Times-News wants to hear from you.

The story of the Goertzen family's three-generation phone number is meant to get readers thinking about other family traditions that are rooted in Magic Valley.

We want to write about more of those traditions, and we're soliciting nominations for future feature stories. It's a way to share local history that's personal and fascinating.

The series is inspired by Twin Falls' centennial celebration. But it's not limited to Twin Falls. Tell us about things you do that a parent, grandparent or great-grandparent also did - anywhere in Magic Valley.

Nominations might be based on:

- Professions or business ownership.
- Club membership.
- Specific volunteer efforts.
- Special recipes.
- Recreation habits, such as camping at a particular local spot.
- Residence as an adult in the same house the forebear lived in.

Or surprise us with a nomination we haven't thought of, whether weighty or lightweight. Just stick to these criteria: The ancestors in question should have lived - and done the activities here in Magic Valley. And nominees should be current residents.

We'll print a listing of all nominations. And we'll profile selected ones in feature stories with photos, as part of our centennial coverage.

Start thinking now. To consider your nomination, we need to hear from you by March 31.

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

You and your kin

Want to nominate a family profession, recipe, free-time activity or other tradition for The Times-News' special series?

Do it in writing, and include this information:

- Your name and where you live.
- The activity you're nominating for a family-tradition feature story.
- Which of your ancestors did it, and where they did it in Magic Valley.
- Why you're doing the same thing.
- Why you think we should write about you.

By March 31, send nominations by mail to Virginia S. Hutchins, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403. Or send them by e-mail to virginia@magicvalley.com.

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