

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 46

Sunday, February 15, 2004

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: A chance of rain and snow. Partly cloudy tonight. High 39, low 25.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Flashover: Firefighters battle blazes under pressure during weekend training in Paul.

Page B1

CENTENNIAL

Early entertainment: New city's residents delight in simple amusements.

Page E6

MONEY



Solid and reliable: Ratings firm, state official give high marks to Magic Valley-based banking companies.

Page D1

FAMILY LIFE



Too chubby, too soon: The epidemic of childhood obesity is spreading to toddlers.

Page E1

SPORTS

SWAC sweep: The College of Southern Idaho women swept Eastern Utah this weekend to take a commanding lead in the Scenic West Athletic Conference standings.

Page C1

OPINION

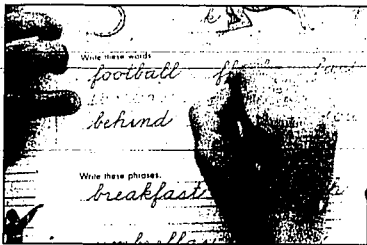
Liberals only, please: Senators don't appear interested in a balanced 9th Circuit Court, today's editorial says.

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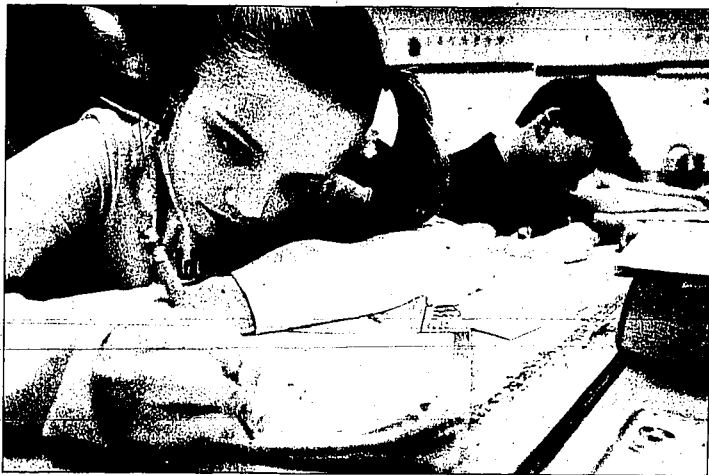
Log on to... www.magicvalley.com



Right, Britanni Applewhite, a third-grader at Kimberly Elementary School, works on her cursive handwriting skills along with classmate James Higginbotham. Above, Michael Green, a third-grader at Kimberly Elementary School, practices his cursive handwriting.

Photo by ASHLEY SMITH/The Times-News

Cursive quandary



Schools try to keep handwriting from being squeezed out

By Karin Kowalski Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Kelly Gibbons' boisterous classroom became quiet as the third-graders at Kimberly Elementary School took out workbooks and pencils Thursday morning in hope of making perfect letters.

The students finished learning the cursive alphabet earlier this year and have been practicing their letters about 30 minutes a week.

Thursday's page in their workbooks had them copying the words "cap" and "ball" in English, Spanish and French.

Alejandra Gonzales, 9, said she likes cursive because it's easier for her and "because it's fun."

Rebecca Turner, 8, prefers to print when she's given the choice. "It's not as hard as cursive," she said. She struggles to remember the forms of the letters so she will look back and forth between the samples and her writing.

Gibbons said she still believes cursive to be important for pupils to know.

"They take pride in having their cursive handwriting look nice," Gibbons said.

But the discipline of writing cursive may be slowly on the way out.

as Magic Valley schools are having to teach more in less time and computers offer quick and easy ways to produce flawless writing.

In Twin Falls, cursive writing is up for review as part of the school district's regular five-year cycle of curriculum evaluations. The district sent out parent surveys the first week in February attached to the biweekly reading newsletter. Curriculum Director LaVonne Peterson said the district hopes to get parental feedback to use at the March 18 curriculum committee meeting.

Peterson said the district has already received some responses,

but she has yet to examine them. "We're just trying to take a snapshot of what our patrons think," Peterson said.

Anecdotal feedback has been both for and against cursive, she said.

Parents' perspectives

Heather Schlund, parent of three children who go to Morningstar Elementary School, said she supports the teaching of cursive, but can understand if teachers don't have much time for it.

"They are just swamped, crammed," she said.

County officials have proven themselves incapable of managing the court system in an economical manner," Kimberly Mayor Jim Sorensen said in press release Friday, noting that the county has \$1.7 million in uncol-

lected court fines. The city is demanding that the city receive its full share of fine revenues.

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lected court fines. The city is demanding that the city receive its full share of fine revenues.

Kimberly sues T.F. County in court fine dispute

County withholds money when city refuses to pay higher assessments

By Chad Baldwin Times-News writer

KIMBERLY — Ever since Twin Falls County began asking cities to help pay for the county's court system nearly a decade ago, the city of Kimberly has mostly ignored the county's annual bills.

Even when the 5th Judicial District's administrative judge ordered the city to pay \$15,093 for court services last year, Kimberly city officials stuck by their guns and refused to pay what they for years deemed an unjust fee.

But when the county four months ago began withholding

most of the court fine revenues that were going to Kimberly — a move county officials say is simply an effort to collect the money they're owed by the city — the long-simmering controversy stepped up a notch. And on Friday, Kimberly officials responded in kind, filing a lawsuit

in District Court against the county demanding that the city receive its full share of fine revenues.

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Attackers storm Iraq police station

The Washington Post

FALLUJAH, Iraq — In a brief daylight attack, fighters with rocket-propelled grenades, machine guns and mortars stormed a police station Saturday in the eastern town of Fallujah, freeing dozens of prisoners in a battle that killed as many as 23 people and dealt another blow to U.S. efforts to resurrect Iraq's security forces.

Some policemen who survived the attack said they huddled inside as the assailants directed a barrage of fire for more than a half-hour on the police station and another fortified secur-

ity post adjacent to it in this city 35 miles west of Baghdad. Police complained they were outnumbered and out-trained by the fighters, who arrived in cars, then raced through concrete barricades and into the police station on foot. U.S. forces, nominally in charge of security, had not arrived at the scene by late afternoon.

The attack on the police station raised new questions about the ability of Iraqis to assume control of public order when the United States hands over sovereignty June 30. While security posts in Fallujah and elsewhere have regularly come under fire, Saturday's assault featured unprecedented tactics and audacity. Barricades constructed to withstand the kind of car bombings that killed at least 100 Iraqis this week served as cover for the fighters, who concealed their faces with checkered headscarves. Shouting "God is greatest," some repeatedly returned to cars to reload ammunition, witnesses said.

"There was no place without blood," said one witness, Sinaïr Hammad.

Survivors described the confusion and chaos that ensued after the fighters blew open a metal gate with a rocket-propelled

bullet. "There was no place without blood," said one witness, Sinaïr Hammad.

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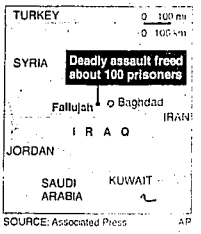
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SOURCE: Associated Press

A FALSE ACCUSATION, A FATEFUL DECISION

Devoted teacher in Virginia couldn't endure sullied reputation

By Timothy Dwyer The Washington Post

ROANOKE, Va. — The two-lane bridge that Ron Mayfield Jr. came to on the morning of his death stands about 200 feet above the flowing waters where his father took him fishing as a boy and where, years later, he spent hours with his own son, casting for catfish and perch.

He made two final calls on his cell phone, gasping out a farewell to his wife and dialing 911 without saying a word. Then he lay the phone beside the road and straddled the knee-high metal bridge railing.

At an hour when the school day was just getting started six miles away at Woodrow Wilson Middle School, Mayfield leaned sideways and simply let go, falling into the river.

The date he left tucked in the Bible, on the front seat of the car he left properly parked in the rest area by the bridge, began this way.

"I am so sorry for what I have done, but there is no way I could carry on, absolutely no way."

The apology was for taking his own life. He had no need to apologize for what drove him to his death, because Mayfield knew it was untrue.

A student at Woodrow Wilson told authorities that he'd been assaulted by Mayfield, 55, who taught English to nonnative speakers. Mayfield denied it, but his word, his reputation and his spotless record weren't enough. He had been "suspended," and police were called in to investigate.

What Mayfield didn't know as he mounted the bridge that morning was that police had cleared him of wrongdoing.

No national statistics are kept on the number of false accusations students make against their

teachers. In Virginia, the state with the highest number of such accusations, the rate is about 10 percent, according to a 2002 study by the state's Department of Education.

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7 days, 7 reasons to read	Working out sick Should the flu stop your exercise? Monday	Computer concerns Spammers may have a hold on your PC. Tuesday	Doughnut delights Which variety will you choose? Wednesday	Danger ahead Young girls shouldn't be walking home alone. Thursday	Gibson's 'Passion' "The Passion of Jesus Christ" stirs strong emotions. Friday	Reformers Unanimous Now there's a local chapter. Saturday	Too young Idaho lawmakers may be about to regulate the age at which kids can get piercings and tattoos. Sunday
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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cloudy with a chance of rain and snow. Highs near 30... Tonight: Drier weather moves in with partly cloudy skies... Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, windy and partly to mostly cloudy.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table listing weather for various locations including Boise, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cloudy with a chance of snow. Highs in the upper 30s... Tonight: Partly cloudy with thin conditions. Lows in the lower 20s...

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes monthly and yearly statistics.

Barometric Pressure

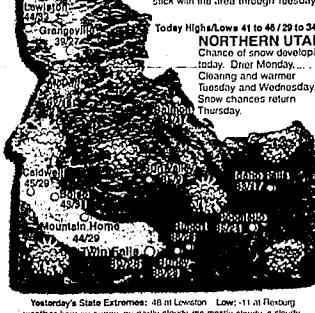
Today: 30.18 in. Yesterday: 30.18 in.

Sunrise and Sunset

Today: Sunrise: 7:33 AM, Sunset: 6:02 PM.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Snow showers developing today with light accumulations expected... BOISE During the next several days, we'll generally see more clouds than sunshine...



REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, and Chicago.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for international cities like London, Paris, and Tokyo.

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CANADIAN FORECAST. Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Canadian cities like Calgary and Toronto.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP. Map of the United States with weather icons and a legend for conditions like Cold, Frost, and Warm.

Kimberly

Continued from A1. lected court fines. "Instead of making changes to make the court self-sufficient, they have chosen to send the cities a bill to cover their shortfall..."

soners, Glascock and County Auditor Debbie Kaufman - argues that the county is violating state law by withholding fine revenues...

cent, or \$10,780, up from \$5,109 last year. Bull receives an average of \$20,323 back from the county each year as the city's portion of fines levied against defendants...

"Under this system, the county receives its share of the court fees, the judges get money for their retirement fund, the probation office gets \$35. The arresting agency gets nothing..."

Continued from A1. grenade, then fought police at close quarters inside the station's courtyard. Another assault was launched at the local headquarters of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps...

"It was the Badr Brigades. They just want to see destruction," said Mohammad Jassim, a 22-year-old police officer. "They killed Iraqi citizens. They're inhuman..."

Withholding revenues. State law calls for 90 percent of court fines to go to the arresting agencies, with 10 percent held for court expenses...

Raising the fees. While Kimberly and Twin Falls have refused to pay their court bills this year, Bull officials also are resisting the county's increased court assessment...

Double-taxation? Sorensen said residents of cities in Twin Falls County are already paying their share of court costs through county property taxes...

"The clock is ticking for an out-of-court resolution of the dispute. A recent order from 5th District Administrative Judge Barry Wood requires officials from the cities to appear in court March 12 if an agreement on the amount and formula for payment of court fees can't be negotiated by March 5..."

Other officials suggested there could be foreigners among the prisoners. "We've never seen anything like it," said Salem Fayehdi, a 51-year-old city employee who works near the scene...

Whether or not the fighting bore a sectarian stamp, the perception alone promised to aggravate tensions in a country becoming more and more divided along religious and ethnic lines. Last week, U.S. officials released a 17-page letter from Abu Musab Zarqawi, a suspected al-Qaida operative believed to be operating in Iraq...

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

IDAHO LOTTERY. Saturday, Feb. 14. Includes logos for Wild Cards, Picky, and other lottery games.

CORRECTION. Names were misspelled in home-schooling story. A story in Saturday's newspaper about home-schooling legislation had two names misspellings. The correct spellings are Barry Peters and Sen. Tom Gannon. R-Idaho. The Times-News regrets the errors.

Nightclub blaze sparks safety debate

However, not much changes nationally

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — When a Rhode Island nightclub ablaze, killing 100 people and injuring scores of others, fire marshals across the nation scurried to review their safety inspections.

At least 15 states debated tougher laws, mostly dealing with pyrotechnics, and a national fire safety association approved more stringent safety recommendations. But one year after the tragedy at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, only Rhode Island has enacted sweeping new fire safety measures dealing with everything from fire sprinklers to upgrading older buildings.

National fire safety experts say it could take years for many other states to follow suit.

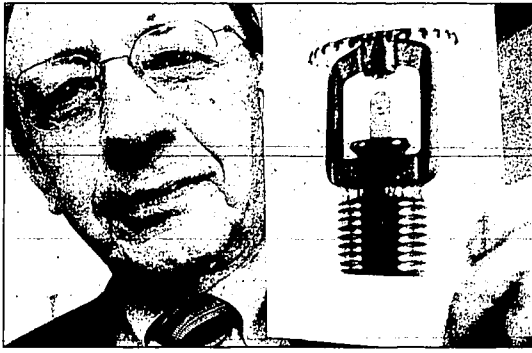
"It's not my sense that (the Rhode Island) fire is poised to make profound change," said David Lucht, director of the Center for Fire Safety Studies at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. "We don't as a society take fire safety that seriously."

Since the nation's fourth-deadliest nightclub fire, eight other states — Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, New York and North Carolina — approved tighter rules for indoor fireworks. Cities also debated changes, with Boston banning indoor pyrotechnics.

"The fire absolutely put the issue of the radio screen," said Julie Heckman, executive director of the Maryland-based American Pyrotechnics Association. "What we saw in Rhode Island was the blatant misuse of indoor pyrotechnics."

The association, which includes 250 companies, wants all states to adopt uniform standards and licensing requirements for fireworks use.

The Rhode Island blaze — sparked by a pyrotechnic show by the band Great White — has inspired for standards approved last summer by the Quincey, Mass.



David Lucht, former Ohio state fire marshal and current director of the Center for Fire Safety Studies at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts shows a photo of an automatic sprinkler head in his Worcester, Mass. office.

Changes to fire safety laws since Rhode Island's deadly nightclub fire

At least nine states and Boston approved new fire safety measures after a fire at The Station nightclub killed 100 people last February. Some of the changes are listed below:

- **Alabama:** State fire marshal now regulates indoor pyrotechnics.
- **Connecticut:** Local fire marshals have more power to evacuate buildings, and main exits must be able to handle the egress of two-thirds of the building's capacity.
- **Georgia:** Operating a pyrotechnic display without a license is now a felony. Pyrotechnic companies must notify local fire officials in writing when they will have a show using fireworks.
- **Illinois:** New restrictions imposed on indoor pyrotechnic devices.

- **Massachusetts:** The city of Boston banned indoor pyrotechnics. Gov. Mitt Romney mobilized a task force to review state fire codes. Romney has also filed a sweeping fire safety bill that endorsed many of his panel's recommendations, which include banning indoor pyrotechnics and requiring sprinklers in bars and clubs with a capacity of as few as 50 people. That legislation is pending.
- **Maine:** The legislature approved a bill requiring a person to apply for a fireworks permit 20 days before a display. The measure also doubles to \$1 million the required amount of liability insurance for a fireworks display. Gov. John Baldacci is expected to sign it into law.

- **Minnesota:** Clubs must obtain a \$150 permit from the state fire marshal before a performance involving pyrotechnics. Previously, local authorities could issue permits.
- **New York:** Club owners must get a local permit and file plans for indoor pyrotechnics.
- **North Carolina:** Local fire marshals must approve indoor pyrotechnics.
- **Rhode Island:** Pyrotechnics are banned in all but the largest public venues. Most nightclubs must have sprinklers by July 2005, and local fire marshals can order immediate repairs and write tickets for violations. Fire alarms must be municipally connected in all nightclubs with occupancies of at least 150 people.

— The Associated Press

based National Fire Protection Association. The group now recommends requiring sprinklers in every new club serving at least 50 patrons, and in every existing club serving at least 100.

Thirty-four states, including Rhode Island, voluntarily adopted the group's previous recommendations. It could be another decade before the association knows how

broadly its new standards will be adopted, said NFPA assistant Vice President Robert Solomon.

"It will be a more drawn-out process," he said. "We've seen good things come from these types of tragedies."

State Rep. Peter Ginnait, a Warwick firefighter who was among the first responders to the nightclub fire, said Rhode Island

won't consider the new NFPA standards until the state evaluates the effect of its own new regulations.

The state's new code prohibits pyrotechnics in all but its largest public venues, and most nightclubs must have sprinklers by July 2005. The code also gets rid of the "grandfathering" statutes that allowed older buildings to ignore new safety standards.

Bush discusses spread of weapons with Russia, Italy

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Saturday called the leaders of Russia and Italy to discuss how to check the spread of dangerous weapons and keep them away from terrorists.

Bush also devoted his radio address to the issue of weapons of mass destruction, telling the American people that "the possibility of secret and sudden attack" with such arms "is the greatest threat before humanity today."

Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed Bush's speech last week in which he proposed new ways to halt illicit weapons trafficking. White House spokeswoman Jeanie Mamo said. Bush warned that black-market dealings by the architect of Pakistan's nuclear weapons program had exposed holes in global enforcement efforts.

Bush wants other countries to

spend more on programs aimed at securing vulnerable nuclear arsenals in Russia and other former Soviet-bloc nations. He made no mention of any additional U.S. dollars for the effort.

The Kremlin said Bush and Putin also discussed the results of a series of high-level contacts, including the recent trip to Washington by Putin's chief of staff, Dmitry Medvedev. Last week he delivered a letter to Bush in which Putin pledged that Russia would remain a "reliable and predictable partner" for the United States.

Bush and Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi spoke about Libya, whose leader, Muammar Gadhafi, pledged in December to end development of weapons of mass destruction. Berlusconi last week became the first Western government head to visit Libya since Gadhafi's announcement.

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Same-sex couples head to San Francisco to wed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Gay and lesbian couples from across the country answered this city's Valentine's Day invitation to wed in an unprecedented spree of same-sex marriages that has challenged California law and sent conservative groups scrambling for court intervention.

About 300 people lined up Saturday morning outside City Hall to secure marriage licenses — and then take each other as spouse for life in brief vows that have given San Francisco's seat of government the feel of a Las Vegas wedding chapel.

Rodney Vonjaeger and his partner John Kussmann, both 37, drove overnight from San Diego and arrived at 3 a.m. Saturday.

"We decided if there was ever an opportunity we would do it, so the drive wasn't even a consideration," Vonjaeger said as he waited in line Saturday. They set the hotel alarm for 8 a.m., "but we were up at 7 because of the excitement."

It was the third straight day that officials issued the licenses to hundreds of gay and lesbian couples. The response has been so overwhelming that nearly 200 city officials, led by newly elected Mayor Gavin Newsom, have volunteered to pitch in, from sheriff's deputies providing security to clerks processing the licenses.

Across the country, other gay couples didn't wait for a marriage license. About three dozen same-sex couples exchanged vows at Philadelphia's LOVE Park on Saturday as part of a "mass commitment ceremony" organized by a gay-friendly church.

Led by a minister, the couples gathered in front of Robert Indiana's famed "LOVE" sculpture — a rainbow flag draped under it — and repeated their vows.

"If they're not going to let us

get married, we're going to do it anyway," said Dan Farley, shortly after exchanging silver rings with his partner, John McCann.

Despite legal challenges from advocates of traditional marriage, San Francisco's wedding march is expected to continue throughout the long holiday weekend.

By late Friday, city authorities had officiated at 665 same-sex weddings in City Hall, and issued still more licenses. City officials said they would welcome license applications on Saturday, Sunday and Monday — President's Day — to accommodate couples that have flocked here from as far away as New York.

On Friday, a judge denied a petition to block more licenses from being granted. Two separate groups of opponents were asked to return Tuesday for a hearing.

"No one made the mayor of San Francisco king; he can't play God. He cannot trash the vote of the people," Randy Thomason, director of the Campaign for California Families, said at a news conference in Los Angeles.

Aside from the lawsuits, the newly married couples may face other obstacles. After a marriage license is recorded by county officials, it is sent to the state Office of Vital Records. A ballot initiative approved by voters in 2000 said the state would only recognize marriages between a man and a woman.

San Francisco officials have insisted the licenses they have handed out are legally binding, although they are revised to be "gender-neutral."

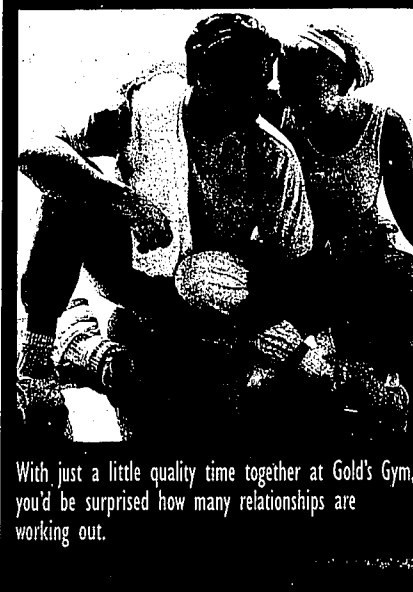
But a deputy city attorney acknowledged that the state may not accept them.

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NATION

Kerry spending pledge might limit options

WASHINGTON (AP) — As John Kerry eliminates his Democratic presidential rivals one by one, he may soon run up against his promise to spend no more than \$45 million until the party's nomination is decided.

To keep his pledge, it is in Kerry's interest to nudge challengers John Edwards and Howard Dean from the race as soon as possible. An easy victory in Wisconsin's primary Tuesday might help.

Kerry spokesman Michael Mechan said it is hard to say when the Massachusetts senator will consider himself the presumptive nominee.

"The news media generally makes that ruling," Mechan said. Kerry imposed the spending cap on himself in November, when he announced he would follow the leads of President Bush and Dean and skip public financing for the primaries.

Kerry said he would abandon the public financing program's state-by-state spending caps, which freed him to use more cash in early-winning states such as Iowa and New Hampshire.

At the same time, he accepted the challenge from campaign finance watchdogs to stick to the program's overall \$45 million limit "until the nomination is decided."

Kerry challenged Dean to do the same. Dean, the first Democrat to opt out of the post-Watergate public financing system, did not take the bait.

As the early front-runner, Dean raised a party record \$41 million last year, nearly twice as much as Kerry. The former Vermont governor had spent nearly all of it by Dec. 31.

"Our point was there's no clear cutoff date for when there's a nominee until the August convention," Dean spokesman Jay Carson said. "So it didn't make a whole lot of sense to us, still doesn't make a whole lot of sense to us, to unilaterally disarm" when Bush has millions to spend whenever he chooses to do so.

For candidate who accept public financing, the \$45 million limit applies until the convention in late summer.



Democratic presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., yells Saturday for his football to a staff member while enjoying some free time in the sun outside the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Kerry is scheduled to campaign in Nevada and Wisconsin during the day.

Since their decisions last fall to forgo government funds to help finance their campaigns, the political fortunes of Dean and Kerry have switched. Dean still has raised more overall than Kerry, but the fund-raising momentum is with Kerry after his primary victories.

Kerry has raised at least \$7 million this year, compared with at

least \$5 million for Dean and at least \$3 million for Edwards. Several hopefuls, including Wesley Clark, Dick Gephardt and Joe Lieberman, left the race this year. Bush has raised at least \$15.8 million since Jan. 1, boosting his re-election total to about \$150 million.

Democratic strategist Tony

"I would say after Tuesday (the Wisconsin primary), the cap is off."

— Tony Coelho, Democratic strategist

Coelho said Kerry's biggest fund-raising problem will come after he clinches the delegates; he needs to become the presumptive nominee.

Coelho said a big victory in Kerry would be enough to win Kerry an unofficial coronation by the media and public, and a flood of Democratic money would follow. If that happens, it would come just in time, given Kerry's self-imposed cap and the millions Bush is poised to spend, Coelho said.

The \$100 million mark in fund raising, aided by contributions from other candidates' donors, including some of Dean's record-setting Internet supporters.

"I would say after Tuesday, the cap is off," said Coelho, chairman of Democrat Al Gore's 2000 presidential campaign.

Late last year, Kerry said he would loan his campaign more than \$6 million to keep it afloat. He started 2004 with little campaign cash left. Spokesman Mechan would not say how much the candidate has spent this year.

Kerry began January having spent about \$27 million, leaving him \$18 million under his limit.

If his expenses for salaries and other overhead are comparable to December's and estimates of his advertising spending hold true, Kerry will have spent about \$9 million to \$10 million so far this year. If his expenses for salaries and other overhead are comparable to December's and estimates of his advertising spending hold true, Kerry will have spent about \$9 million to \$10 million so far this year. If his expenses for salaries and other overhead are comparable to December's and estimates of his advertising spending hold true, Kerry will have spent about \$9 million to \$10 million so far this year.

Democrats will meld old and new policy proposals

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — After months of bitter disputes over the direction of the party, top Democratic officials from front-running presidential candidate John Kerry to House and Senate leaders are coalescing around an election-year domestic agenda calling for higher taxes for wealthier Americans to finance an expansion of health care, education and other federal programs.

With Kerry in position to win the Democratic nomination and mold an election-year agenda with input from his colleagues in Congress, Democrats are essentially splitting the ideological difference between the centrist policies of President Clinton in the 1990s and the liberal impulses of many party officials and activists today.

The hybrid ideological approach is reflected in the party's support for putting the brakes on some, but not all, trade deals, starting with one being negotiated with South America; slightly modifying the new education law and increasing spending for it; retaining tax cuts for the middle class; and somehow, hold-


ing back government spending enough to reduce the federal budget deficit as fast as, if not faster than, President Bush says he would.

In a nod to the party's more conservative members, especially those in the South, Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said there is broad agreement to play down gun control and other cultural issues.

"I cannot recall a time when there was more consensus on the policy direction we should take," Daschle said. "As you go down the list, on virtually every one of these questions, Democrats believe Republicans are ceding the middle, and we are willing to take it."

Kerry said Bush's strategy of playing to his conservative base to minimize voter turnout among Republicans has brought Democrats together on most issues. "George Bush has helped unify the party," Kerry said in an interview last week.

The results: Voters this year likely will be presented with two clear, but not dramatically different, approaches to solving the nation's domestic problems, ranging from failing schools to soaring drug costs.



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Kerry wins D.C., Nevada caucuses; now to Wisconsin

The Associated Press

Democratic presidential front-runner John Kerry scored victories east and west Saturday, swamping his rivals in Nevada and the District of Columbia caucuses to build his advantage in delegates needed for the nomination. His opponents pinned their hopes on the coming Wisconsin primary to try to slow him down.

Kerry, the only candidate to campaign in Nevada, easily outdistanced Howard Dean in second place, for a Valentine's Day win that unexpectedly drew thousands of people to the party's meetings and surprised officials who saw far less enthusiasm four years ago.

Kerry also more than doubled his nearest opponent, Al Sharpton, in the D.C. race.

The rout kept Kerry's head-of-steam going as the candidates battled for the Wisconsin primary Tuesday. The Democrats met in Milwaukee for a Saturday night party fund-raising dinner and a debate Sunday.

"These results show that our campaign is uniting Americans from different parts of our country and walks of life in a common purpose," Kerry said in a statement of thanks to voters in Washington, D.C.

And in thanking Nevadans for their "lovely Valentine," too, Kerry promised anew to take the fight to President Bush. "I promise you that when the Republican smear machine trots out the same old attacks in this election, this is one Democrat who will fight back," he

said. "I've fought for my country my entire life, and I'm not about to back down now."

The Wisconsin race might be the last stand for Dean, the one-time presumptive favorite winless in the string of 2004 contests. John Edwards, who won in his native South Carolina, spoke of his determination to press on into March.

"I'm completely committed to this race," Edwards said after speaking to hundreds of supporters in a Madison, Wis., ballroom. "I think this process is too fluid to see any kind of arbitrary deadlines" for getting out.

With almost all precincts reporting in Nevada, Kerry had about 63 percent of the vote, with Dean at 17 percent, Edwards at 10 percent and Dennis Kucinich at 7 percent.

"Across the country, the full results in the D.C. caucuses showed Kerry with 47 percent; Sharpton, 20 percent; Dean, 17 percent; Edwards, 10 percent; and Kucinich, 3 percent.

Dean prevailed in a D.C. vote last month, before his fortunes sank nationally, but the primary was held to protest the district's lack of voting representation in Congress and did not count.

Dean prevailed in a D.C. vote last month, before his fortunes sank nationally, but the primary was held to protest the district's lack of voting representation in Congress and did not count. Dean prevailed in a D.C. vote last month, before his fortunes sank nationally, but the primary was held to protest the district's lack of voting representation in Congress and did not count.

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Cursive

Continued from A1

"Putting things into kids. Something's gotta give," Schlund said.

Two of her children have already learned cursive, and she said they enjoy it.

"If they don't teach it, it's a shame," Schlund said. "Deanna Ashby, a parent of three children at L.B. Perrine Elementary School, said cursive is still important because people need to be able to sign their names.

Cursive could be taught, but not given letter grades, which is what the school does already. She said she does not like how standardized testing is crowding out time for instruction at the school.

Amy Minden-Browne, Perrine's parent-teacher organization treasurer, said pupils should be able to read cursive, but teaching it is not a major issue.

"Hardly anybody writes by hand anymore," Minden-Browne said.

"Other parents don't see as much cursive in practice.

"I was wondering if they even teach it anymore," said Ginger Llanche, the PTO president at Oregon Trail Elementary School. She has had three children go through that school and still has one in fifth grade there. She has also substitute taught there, but she has not seen cursive taught or required from pupils. She said her children are much more likely to type or print.

How to teach it

Twin Falls pupils learn a Zaner Blosser version of cursive in third grade and have it reinforced in fourth grade. Pupils are introduced to computers early and do some informal keyboarding in third and fourth grade. Assessments such as the Idaho Standards Achievement Test require some keyboarding skills, but keyboarding isn't formally taught until junior high.

Peterson said the district will continue to teach cursive; it's just a matter of deciding how much time to spend on it. As more information gets packed into the curriculum, there is less time for lingering on writing. Peterson said standardized tests don't figure into this problem.

"It's kind of sad in a way, because cursive writing used to be an art," Peterson said.

The district and state standards require that students write legibly, but they do not specify cursive or printing. In the end, Peterson said, each student takes knowledge of cursive and printing to develop an individual style.

Gayle McDonald, a third-grade teacher at Perrine-Elementary, said she would like a few changes in how cursive is taught. She said some of her pupils don't have the necessary motor skills and still

Popular cursive methods

• **Palmer method:** Popularized in the early 1900s, it uses "ball and stick" printing and an ornate cursive style.

• **Zaner Blosser:** Also has "ball and stick" printing with less ornate cursive letters than Palmer hand-writing.

• **D'Nealian:** A method developed by Don Neal Thurber in the 1960s which has slanted printed letters with tails, which makes it easier for children to learn cursive.

struggle with printing when they enter her class. She said these students could do better if cursive weren't introduced until the second semester, or if the time spent on it were reduced.

"The sun would still shine tomorrow if we didn't teach it," McDonald said.

The teachers have plenty to do in preparing pupils for standardized tests, she said. But at the same time, she's not sure if she wants a school without cursive.

"The children love it," McDonald said. "We should do something they love."

Kimberly Elementary School also uses Zaner Blosser cursive being taught in third grade, then reinforced in fourth and fifth, said Kathleen Noh, the curriculum director and testing coordinator. About three years ago the school was still teaching D'Nealian — a style with slanted letters — then it switched back to Zaner Blosser. Kimberly pupils start formal keyboarding in sixth grade.

Noh said the time crunch for teachers is nothing new; they've always had more things they've wanted to teach than they have had time in the day to do it.

Pride in perfection

The emphasis on cursive wanes as students get older. In fifth grade, pupils are still required to use cursive on most assignments.

Kimberly student Chase Watley, 10, prefers to print when he can because it is faster for him.

"Sometimes I have trouble reading my cursive," Chase said.

If he wants his writing to look nice, he will type it or write slowly in cursive.

Melody League, 13, is in eighth grade at Kimberly Middle School. She usually prints or uses a combination of printing and cursive.

"They don't really care as long as it's legible," she said.

Jana Sellers, a third-grade teacher at Valley School, said that school uses the Zaner Blosser method. Students start it in third grade, review it in fourth and are



Jacob White, a fifth-grader at Kimberly Elementary School, along with classmates Jose Gonzales, left, and Chandler Holcomb, works on Perfect Copy, a computer program that helps students with their writing skills.

expected to know it well in fifth.

The school used to use the D'Nealian method, but switched back to Zaner Blosser about three years ago. Sellers said the D'Nealian method has all the letters slanted in both printing and cursive, and that makes it easier for pupils to make the transition to writing cursive. The problem, Sellers said, was that teachers in the lower grades found the slanted letters caused a disconnect between the printed words and typewritten words, so it made it more difficult for beginning readers.

As students get older, they're allowed to choose to print or write cursive. Sellers said each student is different when it comes to which style works faster for them.

"I think it's a personal preference," Sellers said.

She said the school has had parents say that when students aren't required to use cursive, they lose it. She said it is hard to find enough time to teach handwriting and in fourth and fifth grade, it is crowded

grade, and they are expected to use it on some of their assignments by the end of third grade, said Sherna Dauidt, a third-grade teacher at Hagerman Elementary. The reasoning is that students are more likely to use cursive if they learn it earlier, Dauidt said. If the school waits too long, the students will forgo cursive and use sloppy printing if they need to write fast.

She said the school often receives comments from parents coming from out of state that their children haven't had cursive yet.

"It's not considered a big thing, but we do encourage it," Dauidt said.

For many children, the thrill of learning cursive is getting access to the secret written language of adults.

"A lot of them like learning it because the adults do it," Dauidt said.

Hagerman pupils start using keyboards before they learn cursive, but don't do formal keyboarding until junior high school.

Jefferson Elementary School in Jerome uses a cursive writing program similar to Zaner Blosser, said third-grade teacher Kathy Musgrave.

Musgrave's students start cursive in third grade, but they don't spend a lot of time on it.

"It's not critical," Musgrave said. In the age of required standards, teachers are too pressed for time to linger on perfect handwriting.

At Acquia Elementary School in Minidoka County, cursive is integrated with other subjects in the Open Court Reading series, said Norma Bailey, a third grade teacher.

Pupils in third grade spend about half an hour a week on cursive, and by January, they start doing some daily work in it. The school was using D'Nealian script, but decided to return to ball and stick methods last fall, in order to be consistent with the Open Court curriculum.

Bailey still thinks handwriting is important even as technology becomes more prevalent. She said writing words makes it easier for children to learn to read.

"Where's still a lot of things you write by hand," Bailey said.

Wendy Jenkins, a parent on Perrine's PTO, supports teaching cursive and said teachers can fit it in the school day.

"There's time to teach what you want to teach," Jenkins said.

Ex-trucker says FBI queried him on ricin

The Washington Post

A former mail-trucker in Jacksonville, Fla., who maintains a Web site that has included accusations of corruption by the government and the trucking industry, says he has been questioned by FBI agents investigating three incidents in which the toxin ricin was sent through the mail.

Daniel S. Somerson, of Jacksonville, Fla., a former trucker for Mail Contractors of America Inc. of Little Rock, said he was interviewed extensively by agents with the FBI's terrorism task force in mid-October. That was after the first letter containing a ricin vial surfaced in a mail sorting facility near the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport in South Carolina. At that time, Mail Contractors of America truck brought mail to the facility.

Since then, ricin has been found at a White House mail facility and the office of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Somerson said task force investigators also have interviewed his wife at her workplace, a Jacksonville, Fla., courier mail facility, asking whether her husband might have knowledge about ricin, a lethal toxin made from castor beans. Two agents also extensively questioned a friend of Somerson's, another trucker for the same company, Somerson said.

Among the questions asked, Somerson said, was whether the other trucker could account for his whereabouts on the dates when ricin, accompanied by letters signed "Fallon Angel," surfaced, and whether he believed Somerson could have instigated the crimes.

A law enforcement source said there is "no live suspect" in the ricin mailings and that agents are interviewing truckers in many locations, some based on tips from girlfriends and wives. The FBI has posted a \$100,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in the South Carolina case.

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NATION

Teacher

Continued from A1
teachers, but experts have said the evolving culture of the classroom has caused the number of reports of abusive teachers to increase in the past 15 years.



Ron Mayfield Jr. and his wife, Myrna, during happy times.

He said they were going to put him in jail because the child said he hit him. She said he feared his career was ruined. 'Oh, he loved teaching,' his mother said.

today," he told her "I thought about committing suicide today." Then he handed her a three-page suicide letter. "Hi, Honey," it began, "I am writing this to come clean with everybody.... I cannot have my face on television and in the newspaper over this incident, an incident where I was attempting to teach Abdul a lesson and wake him up... I am so tired and so nervous, almost paranoid that the police are going to be knocking on our door at any moment to arrest me."

When he took the education association job 17 years ago, Lawler said, he spent 30 percent of his time defending teachers accused of criminal acts. Accusations have increased so dramatically that he and another lawyer now work full time defending teachers, he said.

Myrna Mayfield sensed that something wasn't right as soon as she got into her husband's car. "I don't know how to tell you this," he said, "but they have put me on administrative leave. This kid accused me of hitting him." It was about 4 p.m. Oct. 1, and Ronald Mayfield's husband was gone. Suddenly had come untracked.

There is a culture now where students know how to get rid of a teacher, they know how to get a teacher removed from a classroom.

Greg Lawler, Colorado Education Association

Teaching had been his profession of choice, but when he graduated from college, there were few teaching jobs to be had. Instead, he followed his father and grandfather into railroad work. After 20 years with the Norfolk and Western Railroad - a career that outlasted his first marriage - Mayfield took early retirement and returned to college, determining to teach his second career. Mayfield received a master's degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in 1992, the same year his son, Robert, graduated from college. Mayfield taught English in Japan and Saudi Arabia. Myrna, a Philippines native, was working in Saudi Arabia as a midwife. Her first impression was that he was very friendly, kind and talkative. Slight of build, he still possessed the boys' department where it was easier to find pants with a 28-inch inseam and 29-inch waist. They married in Virginia, and he took a job teaching English to foreign students in the Roanoke public schools. He was clearly distraught that October afternoon. He told Myrna that the accusation was the vengeance of an angry teen-ager. In fact, Mayfield said, a week earlier he had touched the chronically ill and responsive 15-year-old boy, emphasizing that the boy needed to behave and pay attention. When the boy misbehaved again that morning, Mayfield said, he ordered him from the classroom. The boy responded by coming up to the principal that Mayfield had assaulted him the week before. The boy, the son of immigrants from India, had polo as a toddler and uses a wheelchair. "He was in a wheelchair," said Mayfield's mother, Elsie, 78, "and that's why Ronnie was so upset.

Mayfield was worried about the troubled boy, Abdul Nabhikhil, at the start of the school year by a colleague who said the boy disrupted her class the year before. Abdul's parents, Abdul and Shima Nabhikhil, had come to the United States from India about 27 months earlier. The parents, who speak no English, were interviewed with their daughter Jasmine, 20, serving as interpreter. "When the investigators came, my parents told them that in India, teachers hit students all the time and they didn't care if Mr. Mayfield hit Abdul or not," the daughter said. "They said if he hit him, he deserved it. But it didn't matter. They didn't care if he hit him or not. They wanted the matter dropped, and they said that they would make Abdul go to school and apologize to Mr. Mayfield."

Abdul denied being disruptive in class. Another sister, Mina, a high school senior, said she had Mayfield as a teacher last year and really liked him. The parents said they were upset that no one from the school had immediately notified them about their son's accusation. Had the principal called them, they said, they would have told him to drop the whole thing and get Mayfield back in the classroom. Superintendent E. Wayne Harris and Vicki Price, then-acting director of the city's social services agency, declined comment. They said the investigation was a personnel matter and was private. Mayfield didn't know Abdul's parents wanted to drop the case, his wife said. He contacted an attorney from the Virginia Education Association. As each day went by, he grew more depressed. On Saturday, Oct. 11, he picked up his wife from work and gave her some startling news. "I'm not supposed to be here

today," he told her "I thought about committing suicide today." Then he handed her a three-page suicide letter. "Hi, Honey," it began, "I am writing this to come clean with everybody.... I cannot have my face on television and in the newspaper over this incident, an incident where I was attempting to teach Abdul a lesson and wake him up... I am so tired and so nervous, almost paranoid that the police are going to be knocking on our door at any moment to arrest me." His wife wept. "I have to see your mother and talk about this," she recalls telling him. "I cannot carry this myself anymore. I can't handle it anymore." So they drove to his parents' home in Vinton. He hadn't told his parents about his suspension. They were stunned. Why, they asked, did he feel the allegation was such a big deal? He tried to explain, telling them that when the news came out, it would bring shame and pain to the family. His father, Ronald, a soft-spoken man, told him, "Ronnie, if you really think that this is going to hurt us, if you commit suicide that is going to hurt us a lot worse."

I'm going to be portrayed in the press as a monster. - Ron Mayfield Jr., in letter written to his wife. The flow of the waters where Mayfield fished as a boy and a man is controlled by a dam. The waters were slowed the morning after his death, lowering the river level to aid in the search for his body. A National Park Service ranger found it about 11 a.m., caught on rocks that normally are beneath the water. At his funeral, a student gave the family a letter. It said: "He taught us how to be courteous and polite like he was. I would like to forget what he taught us. Thanks for being a great teacher, Mr. Mayfield."

Young mayor grabs attention, as well as growing criticism

MERCER, Pa. (AP) - He's rubbed elbows with Donald Trump and President Bush. He's been in Rolling Stone, on international news shows and shadowed by an MTV crew. He's also been declared one of the most eligible young men in the country. Two years ago, at age 19, Chris Portman took office as mayor of Mercer, making him one of the nation's youngest mayors. But the celebrity that ushered in his term haven't changed much in this borough of 2,400. Portman's youth - he could be the last mayor's great-grandson - and the accompanying notoriety have been a mixed blessing. "Chris is trying to get his feet going and has had difficulties with council and some other things," said former Mayor John Johnson, 80, now one of seven council members. "I think he has a lot that he can accomplish... but some people's minds are like concrete - thoroughly mixed and firmly set."



Christopher Portman stands outside the Mercer County Courthouse after being sworn in as the new mayor of the borough in Mercer, Pa., in 2002, at the age of 19.

Portman, now 21, appears undaunted: "I didn't go into this job thinking it was a piece of cake." Critics suggest an untimely vacation earlier this year, absences, perceived impatience with borough business and his parents recently speaking up at a council meeting signal his immaturity. Some question whether he's more interested in his celebrity, which recently brought an MTV documentary crew to town, than civics. "It is kind of ridiculous, the things with the council and MTV. It's a little overwhelming," said Chelsea Beers, 16. "He just hasn't done anything. You can tell by the things he's said that he's not mature enough. He's still growing up, why should he be mayor?"

He just hasn't done anything. You can tell by the things he's said that he's not mature enough. He's still growing up, why should he be mayor? - Chelsea Beers, 16-year-old girl

Supporters point out Portman's job is largely ceremonial. He can't make policy, can't vote during council meetings unless there's a tie and most of his power lies in enforcing ordinances and overseeing the town's handful of police officers. He ran for the post unopposed. By one measure, Portman is succeeding as the biggest booster of Mercer, a 1.5-square-mile town about 55 miles north of Pittsburgh. "As ambassador of the borough, he has obviously received national and international notice, but whether that is of any value is debatable. I don't think anyone is going to move from New York City," said John Zohoranecy, 40, a first-term councilman. Portman has had his problems. While in Las Vegas in January, he missed the first meeting with the newly elected council and the deadline for a grant the borough hoped to use to replace its broken 1939 weather siren. After a last-

minute scramble, the borough turned in a grant application that should cover the cost of a new siren - up to \$15,000. Portman also squabbled with council over his insistence on riding with police officers and an MTV documentary crew that followed him around town. Both spurred council to attempt to craft policies to deal with safety on police ride-alongs and rules for filming in the borough. Portman criticized the measures as frivolous. Some council members respond that Portman hasn't accepted his limitations as mayor. "I don't think he understands the mayor's responsibility in a small borough like ours. He thinks he's a big city mayor like in Pittsburgh and that is not the case," said James Carnes, a former school teacher in his third term. "We are not a bunch of fuddy-duddies, it is not an age issue, it is an issue of not doing his job." Portman was unapologetic, saying his clashes with the council resulted from miscommunication. "I'm not saying I haven't made mistakes. Whether you are 21 or 51 you have made mistakes, but I have done nothing to put the borough at risk," Portman said. "I was elected by the people. It is the people who really need to rate and evaluate my performance."

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Officers say incident might be work-of-serial-shooter

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - A man standing on a highway overpass fired a handgun at a sport utility vehicle Saturday on Interstate 76, and investigators said it appeared to be linked to the monthslong series of highway shootings in the Columbus area.

No one was injured in the late morning shooting near Pataskalla, about 15 miles east of Columbus. The bullet struck the SUV's right front fender and lodged in the battery. It was recovered and sent for lab testing.

The shooting appeared to be related to the 23 others since May, said Franklin County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Steve Martin, a spokesman for the task force investigating the shootings. One person has been killed.

NATION

U.S. works to make painkillers harder to get

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Drug Enforcement Administration is working to make one of the nation's most widely prescribed medications more difficult for patients to obtain as part of its stepped-up offensive against the diversion and abuse of prescription painkillers.

Top DEA officials confirm that the agency is eager to change the official listing of the narcotic hydrocodone — which was prescribed more than 100 million times last year — to the highly restricted Schedule II category of the Controlled Substances Act. A painkiller and cough suppressant sold as Lortab, Vicodin and 200 generic brands, hydrocodone combined with other medications has long been available under the less stringent rules of Schedule III.

The DEA effort is part of a broad campaign to address the problem of prescription drug abuse, which the agency says is growing quickly around the nation. But the initiative has repeatedly pitted the agency against doctors, pharmacists and pain sufferers, and it is doing so again with the hydrocodone proposal.

Pain specialists and pharmacy representatives say that the new restrictions would be a burden on the millions of Americans who need the drug to treat serious pain from arthritis, AIDS, cancer and chronic injuries, and that many sufferers are likely to be prescribed other, less effective drugs as a result.

If the change is made, millions of patients, doctors and pharmacists will be affected, some substantially. Patients, for instance, would have to visit their doctors more often for hydrocodone prescriptions, because they could not be refilled; doctors could no longer phone in prescriptions; and pharmacists would have to fill out significantly more paperwork and keep the drugs in a safe. Improper prescribing would carry potentially greater penalties.

The DEA says the change is necessary because hydrocodone is being misused — with a 48 percent increase in emergency room reports of hydrocodone abuse from 1998 to 2001. The drug, a semisynthetic chemical cousin of opium, produces a morphine-like euphoria if taken without a medical purpose but generally does not produce a similar "high" in patients with severe or chronic pain. Hydrocodone was one of several prescription painkillers that radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh acknowledged last year that he was addicted to.

"Hydrocodone is one of the most abused drugs in the nation," said Christine Sannerud, deputy chief of the drug and chemical evaluation section of the DEA. "The agency thinks it would be wise to move it to Schedule II, because that would help a lot in terms of reducing abuse and trafficking."

DEA officials would not say when they might begin the process of changing the schedule, but other federal officials said they understand that the DEA wants to act soon.

Under the federal Controlled

Substances Act of 1970, the DEA places all narcotic or mind-altering drugs into one of five "schedules," and the medications are more or less available based on the potential dangers they pose and benefits they provide. Morphine-based hydrocodone, when combined with aspirin, acetaminophen or other common analgesics, has been a Schedule III drug since the act went into effect.

The DEA effort comes as the agency is already embroiled in a dispute with many pain specialists over the use — and alleged overprescribing — of another powerful painkiller, OxyContin. Scores of doctors have been arrested on felony charges of conspiracy, drug trafficking and even murder in connection with their prescribing.

Although the agency says the prosecutions are needed to shut down "pill mills" and stop unscrupulous doctors, many pain specialists say that the agency has become overzealous and that some doctors are refusing to prescribe needed painkillers because they fear DEA investigation. "Rescheduling the drug will bring more hoops and barriers to getting access to the drugs, and it

may prevent some minimal amount of abuse," said Richard Payne, president of the American Pain Society. "But my concern is that it will come at the cost of denying access to thousands of patients." Susan Winkler of the American Pharmacists Association said her organization is concerned that the "ripple effects" would be substantial and negative.

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NATION

U.S. soldiers eye lucrative jobs in Iraq - but not with military

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) - Spc. Thomas Daniels' one-year stint in Iraq as an Army engineer is almost over. But the 23-year-old is already making plans to return - without a gun and, he hopes, with a lot more money.

Daniels has applied online for construction work with Washington's military contractor in Iraq - Kellogg, Brown & Root - saying a job he says will pay more than twice his current salary of around \$1,700 a month.

"That's where I am going. It's where I need to be," said Daniels, from Wilmington, Del. "I know I can't stay in the Army. It doesn't pay enough."

Daniels is one of many soldiers at this military base being lured back to Iraq when their term of service ends - not by reenlisting, but by taking up private work with companies contracted by the Pentagon.

To an extent unprecedented in previous conflicts, the United States has outsourced much of the logistical and operational support for its occupation of Iraq to private companies in order to ease the burden on its stretched armed forces.

KBR - whose corporate parent, Halliburton, was formerly headed by Vice President Dick Cheney - is the biggest private employer in Iraq, with some 15,000 workers in the country and neighboring Kuwait. That work force is more than the 11,000 troops deployed by Britain, the largest U.S. coalition partner.

Besides higher pay, soldiers, reservists and retired officers are attracted by perks like tax-free salaries, better living conditions and regular home leaves - a major draw for soldiers as one-year deployments become the norm.

Alongside jobs in cafeterias,



A U.S. soldier smiles at a comrade, as soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, who will be sent home soon, assemble for a transfer of authority ceremony, in Baghdad, Friday. Many soldiers serving in Iraq are looking at other job possibilities in the country.

construction, engineering and communications, demand is high for armed security guards. Iraq is awash with ex-soldiers from around the world working for private security firms.

Former British, American and Nepali soldiers guard U.S. engineers, visiting VIPs and State Department workers, and escort trucks and convoys traveling the country. They are authorized to carry pistols and automatic weapons.

"It's a great opportunity ... to make your money and run," said Eric Monk, former Army Ranger from Huntsville, Ala., who works for one of the leading security firms, DynCorp.

Contractors for U.S. companies also operate missile defense batteries, pilot unmanned aerial vehicles and analyze intelligence data.

At the base in Tikrit, civilian

contractors in work boots and baseball caps cruise the well-manicured streets in Ford trucks and live and work in neat bungalows.

More menial jobs on the base are increasingly filled with workers from low-wage countries, or Iraqis. Indians and Bangladeshis serve up the chow here in Tikrit as elsewhere in Iraq.

KBR workers say soldiers regularly approach them to ask about the possibilities of joining the company.

The KBR Web site lists thousands of vacancies. KBR regional spokeswoman Melissa Norcross said more jobs were likely as the company takes over more tasks from the military.

Ex-soldiers aren't the only ones getting positions, but they're in high demand because of their experience and willingness to work in a war zone, she said.



Killing time
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Commander: Exit strategy includes Kuwait base plan

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - As the United States military draws up long-term plans to leave Iraq, top officers are looking to the U.S. intervention in Bosnia's civil war as a model for an American exit strategy here.

The United States will keep combat teams in Iraq for the next few years, pulling them gradually out of cities into the countryside, and then perhaps into Kuwait and other countries, a plan that it will leave entirely, said Maj. Gen. Charles H. Swannack, commander of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

A slower version of this pullout plan is under way in Bosnia, with peacekeeping forces dwindling from 60,000 in 1995 to about 12,000 now.

"You have the 82nd Airborne Division that can jump in here to reinforce regional forces or you have Marine offshore forces that can come in here and reinforce for a while," Swannack said in an interview with The Associated Press. "That's what we have in Bosnia."

The military's two-year disengagement plan could be unspooled by any number of events in Iraq. Civil war between its ethnic and religious groups might prolong the occupation, or it could be shortened by the election of an Iraqi government that orders the Americans out, said Anthony Cordesman, a military analyst with the Center for Strategic and

International Studies in Washington.

"The timing, if Iraq transitions peacefully to its own sovereignty, is possible," Cordesman said. "But that's a promise that any of this is going to happen."

Two rebel attacks in Fallujah this week cast doubts on the pull-out plan, which depends on Iraqi security forces being able to defeat such assaults. On Saturday - dozens of guerrillas - routed pro-U.S. Iraqi forces inside their own compounds, freeing prisoners and sparking a gunbattle that killed 23 people.

Guerrillas had attacked the same security compound on Thursday just as the top U.S. commander in the Middle East, Gen. John Abizaid, was visiting the site. Abizaid, who escaped unharmed but observed the fighting, said Iraqi forces were "not ready" to take on the rebels.

The Bosnia model itself has not moved according to plan. In the 1995 Dayton peace agreement, the Clinton administration envisioned U.S. soldiers staying there for about a year. They've been there for nearly nine since progress toward a political solution to ethnic rivalries has been slow.

"If Bosnia is the model, God help us," Richard K. Betts, director of Columbia University's Institute of War and Peace Studies in New York.

Engineers seal up Saddam's hideout

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) - U.S. Army engineers have sealed the underground bunker where former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was captured, to prevent it from becoming a tourist attraction, a military spokesman said Saturday.

Soldiers lowered a 300-pound slab of concrete over the hole Feb. 4, said Master Sgt. Robert Cargie, a spokesman for the 4th Infantry Division.

Saddam was captured on Dec. 13 in the bunker in the small farming village of Adwan, a short drive from his hometown of Tikrit.

Cargie said the hole was sealed to "limit human traffic" to the area. Since his capture, a steady stream of U.S. soldiers, journalists and visiting foreign officials have traveled to Adwan to have their picture taken next to - or inside - the bunker.

Cargie said that the cover could be removed if access to the hole was needed in the future.

"It was put in place to allow time for future decisions to be made," he said without elaborating.



Saddam Hussein

Saddam, who had evaded U.S. forces for nearly eight months, escaped to the bunker when he heard U.S. patrols pass by. It is next to a small cement-floored bedroom, an outdoor kitchen and a humble bathroom, which all remain in place, Cargie said.

U.S. officials had hoped his capture would help break Iraqi resistance to the occupation, but attacks have continued unabated, especially in the "Sunni Triangle" region of the Iraq to the north and west of the capital, Baghdad.

Saddam is being held by U.S. forces at an undisclosed location. U.S. officials have said they plan to hand Saddam to trial for alleged crimes against Iraqi people, but the location of any trial and its format have yet to be decided.



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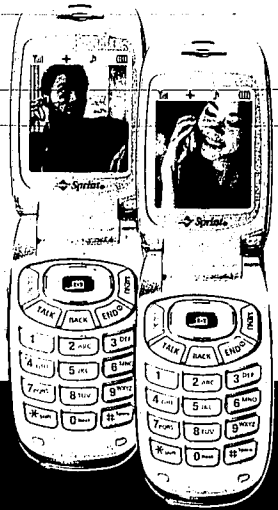
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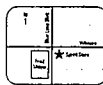
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Most D.C. homicide victims had been arrested

WASHINGTON — Nearly three of every four adult homicide victims in Washington D.C. last year had an arrest history, according to an analysis of court records that casts new light on why the city has one of the highest homicide rates in the country.

The more than 150 slayings are evidence of the cycles of violence plaguing a city hard hit in the past two decades by drug wars and gang rivalries, law enforcement, and criminal justice specialists said, and a blunt statement about the risks of becoming caught up in a lifestyle on the edges of the law.

Although the 248 killings last year were a sharp drop from the homicide tolls of the late 1980s and early 1990s, there is a resilient "criminal subculture" in the city, Police Chief Charles Ramsey said in an interview. Ramsey said this group has grown so entrenched and well armed that it poses a risk to Washington's attempts to renew its image and create a new future for the city's rougher neighborhoods.

Nation in brief

follow sniper John Allen Muhammad has talked about \$900,000, according to figures released by the state courts.

Both men were appointed experienced criminal defense lawyers in November 2002 for their trials on charges of killing 10 people in the Washington region in October 2002. Both were convicted of capital murder; Malvo received a life

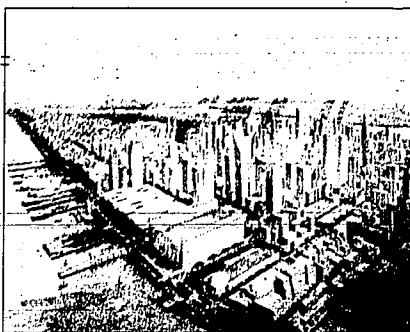
sentence from a Chesapeake jury, while Muhammad was sentenced to death by a Virginia Beach jury. Formal sentencing for both is set for March 10.

Prince William County police said their costs for prosecuting Muhammad were roughly \$500,000. Fairfax County police said their costs for the Malvo trial were \$295,751. Both the prosecution and defense incurred greater costs for housing and transporting officers and witnesses because the

trials were moved from Northern Virginia to the Hampton Roads area to find unbiased juries.

Appeals for both defendants, particularly Muhammad's, will drive the costs higher. Prosecutors in both counties are considering whether to swap the two defendants. Muhammad would be tried in Fairfax, where he faces capital murder charges, and Malvo would be tried in Prince William on similar charges.

— compiled from wire reports



This artist's rendering, released in New York Wednesday, depicts an aerial view of the proposed new development on Manhattan's West Side. The site, west of Madison Square Garden, includes proposed new office towers, a vast convention center and a waterfront stadium for the New York Jets football team.

Manhattan development plan stirs dreams, fears

NEW YORK (AP) — It's been called the final frontier — a big chunk of Manhattan's West Side consisting mainly of warehouses, auto body shops and old railroad yards.

Now there's new momentum for a long-discussed scheme to transform the neighborhood with new office towers overlooking the Hudson River, a vast convention center and a waterfront stadium for the New York Jets — and possibly the 2012 Olympics.

Just this past week, officials announced preliminary details for \$2.77 billion worth of infrastructure improvements, including a subway extension, and for an expansion of the area's 18-year-old Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

But the West Side will not be won over easily.

Local activists oppose the plan, saying such extensive development will destroy a neighborhood also known for its shops, taverns and human-scale housing. And some development experts question whether the demand for office space will ever meet the city's ambitious predictions.

"If the city goes forward with these plans, there will be lawsuits filed," said Assemblyman Richard Gottfried, whose district includes the proposed redevelopment zone. He said his constituents are "overwhelmingly opposed to a stadium as well as to the city's development plan."

The far-West Side extends from roughly Eighth Avenue westward to the Hudson River and from 28th Street to 42nd Street.

The Jets have been promoting a stadium in the area with a retractable dome for the past

year. No financing plan has been announced for the \$1.5 billion project, but public speculation has suggested the city and state could kick in about \$600 million.

Jets President L. Jay Cross said moving to Manhattan from New Jersey's Meadowlands makes sense because 70 percent of fans would use public transportation. "Every year that we play (at the Meadowlands) we force 30,000 cars onto the road, and that's not necessarily a good thing," Cross said.

The stadium also is a key component in the city's bid to host the summer Olympics in 2012. The city will have to show some progress toward building a stadium by the time the International Olympic Committee announces a choice in July 2005.

Business leaders spelled out plans Thursday to add thousands of square feet of convention space to the glass-walled Javits Center. The plan would cost an estimated \$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion just for the first of two phases, said Charles Gargano, chairman of the Empire State Development Corp.

New York officials have long complained that the Javits Center lacks the space to attract the biggest conventions. At 814,000 square feet, it ranks 14th among the nation's convention centers. The biggest is Chicago's McCormick Place, with more than 2 million square feet.

Daniel Doctoroff, the city's deputy mayor for economic development, cited a report prepared by real estate giant Cushman & Wakefield that estimated the metropolitan region will need 110 million square feet of new office space between 2005 and 2025.

Scientists prepare rover for soil analysis

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Scientists fixed a glitch that froze the robotic arm on the Mars rover Opportunity and then prepared the robot explorer to dig a narrow trench in the martian soil, NASA said Saturday.

Scientists hoped the patch of soil, dubbed "Hemathite Slope," would prove to be rich in the iron-bearing mineral, which typically forms in water.

Opportunity's explorations had been delayed on Friday because the rover failed to properly stow its robotic arm. Engineers sent instructions to the rover that fixed the problem, mission manager Jim Erickson said Saturday.

The glitch occurred because scientists had instructed Opportunity to perform what could have been an unsafe movement with the robotic arm. Faced with the conflict between that instruction and its safety instructions, the rover stopped with its

robotic arm still extended until scientists revised the commands.

"The rover is sometimes smarter than we are," said Erickson. "The trick is to catch these on the ground and resequence them correctly before we send them up."

With that problem solved, scientists wanted Opportunity to dig four inches or so into the soil, using one of its front wheels as an excavator.

They hoped the move would expose minerals that could reveal whether Mars ever was wet enough to support life.

Opportunity's twin rover, Spirit, was on the other side of the planet inspecting two rocks nicknamed "Stone Council" and "Mimi," and the surrounding soil before resuming its trip toward a crater about 1,100 feet away.

"Spirit is still moving on, but it's stopping to smell the roses along the way," Erickson said.

Snipers' defenses cost taxpayers nearly \$2 million

Lee Boyd Malvo's defense cost Virginia taxpayers slightly more than \$1 million, and the defense of



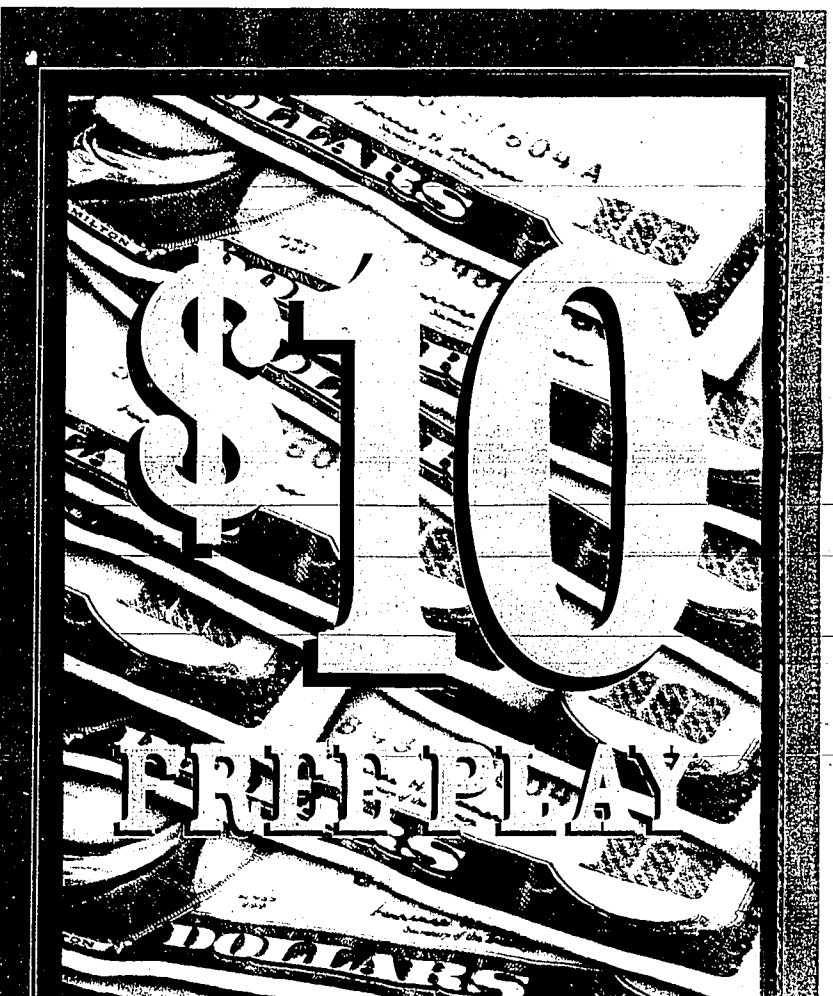
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WORLD

Mourners hail former Chechen president as 'holy warrior'

DOHA, Qatar (AP) - After a ceremony that hailed him as a "holy warrior," former Chechen President Dzhemal Dzhardarbiyev was buried Saturday in a royal cemetery in Qatar, where he had lived a private life for the past three years.

Unknown assailants assassinated Dzhardarbiyev on Friday, blowing up his car as he and his wife made their way toward a mosque where they had per-

formed noon prayers. The attack was unprecedented in Qatar, a tiny Gulf state known for political stability and tight security.

Delivering the funeral oration, Sheik Ali Quradaghi said Dzhardarbiyev was role model and "a holy warrior for the sake of God, and part of the struggling Chechen people."

"The Chechens will not be intimidated by this cowardly act. We must stand alongside them

with all our capabilities," Quradaghi said.

Quradaghi did not blame Russia for the assassination, but he said the Russians had "displaced our Chechen brothers."

"Just like the Soviet Union was defeated, so will Russia be," he added.

Dzhardarbiyev was buried in al-Rayan cemetery, which is normally reserved for members of the ruling Al Thani family.

Among the 700 mourners, who were mostly Qataris, was a state minister and a cousin of Qatar's leader, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, and Abassi Madani, one of Algeria's top two Islamic leaders.

The assassination was "an ugly crime," Madani said. "It's the act of a coward. The cowardly Russian position will only add to its shame. Victory is close, God willing."

Snow chills Middle East

JERUSALEM (AP) - Snow blanketed much of the Middle East on Saturday, freezing Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, breaking power lines in Lebanon and putting the chill on Syrian demonstrators.

The shivers came just three days after the region had the tremors of a moderate earthquake rattled Israel, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza on Wednesday. It was also felt in Syria, Egypt and Lebanon.

Saturday's flurries, although not unheard of, sparked near hysteria among Israelis used to mainly mild winters and blistering summers.

"Roads may be slippery. This is due to them being icy," Israel Radio warned.

Israel's Channel One TV quoted a strange bit of Health Ministry advice suggesting viewers use the bathroom before leaving home in freezing temperatures.

Candidates withdraw from Iran elections

TEHRAN, Iran - More than 500 liberal-leaning candidates have withdrawn from legislative elections next week, the Interior Ministry said Saturday, apparently to protest the disqualification of thousands of reformist contenders by Iran's hard-line clerics.

The candidates, who are not affiliated with any party, join a boycott by reformist parties of the February elections in which nearly all of the 5,600 remaining candidates vying for spots on the 290-seat parliament are hard-liners certain to win amid expected low-voter turnout.

"So far, 550 candidates have withdrawn from the elections," the Islamic nation's ministry said in a statement posted on its Web site, without giving a reason for the withdrawals.

The election furor began when the clerics of the Guardian Council last month banned more than 3,600 candidates, nearly all of them supporters of efforts to expand Western-style democracy and loosen strict interpretations of Islamic codes in areas such as social activities and the media.

The mass disqualification of reformists has triggered Iran's biggest political crisis in years, as 130 members of parliament have resigned in protest. The country's main reformist party decided to boycott the elections, saying the results were a foregone conclusion.

Two earthquakes rattle northern Pakistan, kill 12

PESHAWAR, Pakistan - Two strong earthquakes rattled a remote region of northern Pakistan on Saturday, toppling walls and setting off landslides that killed at least 12 people, officials said. At least 150 homes were damaged and 30 other people injured.

Officials said that they feared there might be more casualties, and that some may be buried in the rubble. Snow and cold weather complicated rescue and relief efforts of the deaths occurred when a pickup truck carrying 10 people was struck by a boisterous second quake, causing the vehicle to plunge into a river in Batgram district, said district police chief Raja Nasir Khan. All 10 people were killed.

The tremors, with magnitudes of 5.7 and 5.5, struck about 90 minutes apart and were also felt in the capital, Islamabad. They were centered in the Hindu Kush mountains, about 200 kilometers (125 miles) northwest of the city of Peshawar. The first struck at 3:30 p.m. (10:30 GMT) and the second just before 5 p.m. (1:00 GMT).

Khan said a 10-year-old boy in the village of Shimali was struck and killed by a falling wall. He said landslides had blocked the main road in Batgram, hindering rescue efforts.

"We fear there might be more casualties," he said.

The mountainous region is blanketed in snow, and officials were worried about how survivors would cope as the temperature plunged over night.

- compiled from wire reports

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- compiled from wire reports

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Saudi shoppers try to make sense of doll ban

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Blue-eyed Baby Annabell is too real for Saudis.

The life-size doll babbles, gurgles and giggles like a baby. She sucks on a pacifier, and after a meal she burps, yawns and falls asleep. When awakened by a loud noise, she begins to cry.

But the human characteristics that make Annabell a top seller in Saudi Arabia are part of the reason she will soon be banished. In December, the Interior Ministry announced a ban on importing dolls and stuffed animals, and gave merchants three months to get rid of them. The ban includes toys that are representations of holy persons or nudes, are shaped like dolls or animals, or carry "motifs of non-Muslim nations such as the cross, Star of David, Buddha or anything similar."

Strict interpretations of Islamic law ban representations of living beings and any exposure of the female figure. The \$25-riyal (\$87) Baby Annabell, made in China for Western markets, violates those standards.

Barbie dolls have already been outlawed for more than a decade. Religious police, called muttawa, often take their anti-Barbie campaign to the shops, confiscating dolls and imposing fines on those who sell them for \$50 or more on the black market.

But a baby doll? It's all politics, some Saudis say — a balancing act by a government anxious to defend its Islamic credentials while waging war on Muslim militants in the kingdom.

Shoppers and merchants alike are dumbfounded by the latest order. "This is outrageous," said Amal, 28, who is shopping with her 8-year-old daughter, Hessa. "Like any other girl, I grew up playing with dolls and I just can't understand the reason behind such a move."

Khalid, 19, was looking for a gift for his 7-year-old sister. "How much damage can these lifeless items do to the people, compared to the damage the terrorists have done in my country? Not much. In fact, none at all," he said.

Amal and Khalid asked not to be further identified lest they attract unwanted attention from conservative authorities. After the sale of stuffed animals notwithstanding, there have



Murad Ahmed sits in front of dolls at his toy shop in the city of Jiddah in Saudi Arabia, Feb. 7. In December, the Interior Ministry announced a ban on the importation of dolls and stuffed animals, giving merchants three months to dispose of their stock.



Khalid Raahid looks at a doll to buy for his daughter at a toy shop in the city of Jiddah in Saudi Arabia.

been steps toward moderation and reform. The government recently ordered mosque preachers to tone down their rhetoric, amended religious textbooks and promised the kingdom's first local elections.

It cracked down on militants after suicide bombings last year killed 52 people in the capital, Riyadh. Besides arresting hun-

dreds of suspected militants and their supporters, Saudi authorities launched a war of words on extremist thought, enlisting prominent clerics to emphasize the peaceful nature of true Islam.

Late last year, three jailed radical Muslim clerics were shown on state-run TV recanting calls to violence.

Abdulghani Abdullah, a 34-year-old Saudi businessman who watched the broadcast, said if it had come earlier "it would have probably saved us all this destruction. But better late than never."

The Saudi royal family, keeper of Islam's holiest sites, derives its legitimacy from its embrace of Wahhabism, a particularly austere brand of Islam.

That has meant ceding control over social regulations to Wahhabi clerics, and giving a free rein to the religious police. Last May, Jamal Khashoggi lost his job as editor of the al-Watan daily over articles suggesting Islamic fanaticism, long tolerated by the ruling family, led to terrorism. In March 2002, Mohammed Mokhtar al-Fal, chief editor of the newspaper Al-Madina, was fired on Interior Ministry orders

after publishing a poem attacking the kingdom's Islamic judges. One analyst suggested the Saudi leadership broaden its source of legitimacy by empowering moderates.

"In order to save the country and establish peace and tranquility with the rest of the world, we have to come up with mechanisms to deal with extremism and find a short-term and long-term solution to this phenomenon," said Ahmed Turkistani, a communications professor at Al-Imam Mohammed bin Saud Islamic University.

"We have to move with time, and it is important to see whether some of the early Islamic teachings fit in with today's modern Saudi society," Turkistani said while attending a forum on religious extremism in Mecca, Islam's holiest city.

Meanwhile, those dolls and other banned toys are flying off the shelves. "Mom! Can I take Baby Annabell home?" asked little Hessa, cradling the burping doll in her arms.

"Sure you can, my darling," her mother replied, drawing smiles from Hessa and the shopkeeper.

Pact gives U.S. sailors right to search ships

DAKAR, Senegal (AP) — U.S. Navy sailors may board thousands of commercial ships in international waters to search for weapons of mass destruction under a landmark pact between the United States and Liberia—the world's No. 2 shipping registry.

Last week's accord — expected to become a model as Washington seeks other two-country deals authorizing searches on the high seas — comes amid fears that terror networks would use ships for attacks, taking advantage of comparatively lax security on the waters after crackdowns in the skies.

Liberia, an American-founded West African nation emerging from nearly 15 years of civil war, has held a U.S.-based shipping registry since 1949 and now hosts more than 2,000 foreign vessels.

It ranks second only to Panama in total shipping tonnage in U.S. ports, under so-called flags of convenience that offer cheap fees and easy rules. One-third of America's imported oil arrives in

the United States on Liberian-flagged tankers.

With the pact, American forces may board and search any Liberian-registered foreign ship they suspect of carrying weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, or related material, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said in Washington.

"It's based on the need to stop the proliferation in weapons of mass destruction and means to deliver them," Boucher said Friday.

Wednesday's pact was the first of its kind, Boucher said. He confirmed Washington was seeking similar deals with other nations, but declined to identify them.

With commercial ships transporting 80 percent of the world's traded goods, security experts worry that vessels, ports and other links in the maritime economic chain might make tempting targets. A terrorist attack could sink a ship, cripple a port, panic markets and disrupt trade.

Rebels take another town, block road in Haiti

GONAIVES, Haiti (AP) — Haitian rebels forced police out of another northern town and blocked a main road leading to the Dominican Republic, witnesses said Saturday as aid workers warned food was running out in northern cities and towns.

In Washington, members of the Organization of American States called on all parties to endorse a peaceful and democratic outcome to the 5-day-old rebellion aimed at ousting President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. About 50 people have died in the uprising.

Emergency supplies of flour, cooking oil, and other staples are projected to run out in four days in northern areas cut off by road-blocks guarded by rebels. The insurgents have seized Gonaives, Haiti's fourth-largest city, and burned down police stations in a dozen other towns.

Overnight, rebels attacked police in Saint Suzanne, a small town 20 miles southwest of the northern port of Cap-Haitien, according to witnesses reached by telephone.

They said police fled and rebels set the police station ablaze, but no one was killed. Nearby rebels blocked the road outside Trou-du-Nord that leads to the Dominican border at Ouanaminthe. Merchants turned back Saturday said the barricade of boulders and burned-out cars has cut supplies of food and fuel that come from Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti.

Haiti has only 5,000 police officers and those manning outlying towns often are outnumbered and outgunned by insurgents.

"The population that is cut off completely from other parts of the country is finding itself in a very risky, very dangerous situation," Prime Minister Yvon Neptune told reporters in Port-au-Prince, the capital.

Leaders of the political opposition planned a rally in Port-au-Prince on Sunday, two days after Aristide's militants crushed a planned demonstration by stoning opponents and blocking the protest route.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said Friday that Aristide's assurances he would work for a peaceful settlement are not enough. Aristide "must reach out to the opposition, to make sure that thugs are not allowed to break up peaceful demonstrations," Powell said.

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12:45, 2:45

EDITORIAL

Dems block diversity on liberal 9th Circuit

William G. Myers III, Idaho's judicial nominee for the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, went to Washington this month with a resume that included years defending mining, grazing and the Bush administration's Department of Interior.

He might as well have gone with a sign on his back saying, "Kick me."

Myers is the Boise lawyer who was picked to serve on the notoriously liberal 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Senate Democrats on the Judiciary Committee wasted no time blasting Myers' legal work.

Thanks to some additional fire from rabid environmentalists.

Myers' history includes stints with the Public Lands Council, an organization that lobbies for ranching on public lands and a director of federal lands for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. In addition to those causes, Myers' work for mining on public lands in California was particularly galling to Democrats.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., slammed his writings as "hardly reflective of the moderation and temperament we look for from judicial nominees." Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vermont, added that he was worried Myers would be "an anti-environmental activist on the bench."

We must rhetorically ask, on what planet are these senators living?

Moderation? Anti-environmental-activist-judges? This is the 9th Circuit Court, the real West Wing of the Clinton-Carter administrations. The only moderation in this court is when the judges drop their *Mother Jones* subscriptions from one year to six months.

Then, Sen. John Kerry, the front-runner in the Democratic presidential race, added to the attacks with a letter that lambasted Myers, and demanded that Bush withdraw the nomination. Kerry isn't even on the

Judiciary Committee.

It appears Myers may join the cadre of Bush judicial nominees stalled by Democratic filibusters, just as Idaho GOP Sen. Mike Crapo predicted last year.

These Democratic rants, however, are full of sound and fury, signifying nothing. Throwing a conservative judge into the 9th Circuit Court is like throwing a snowball into a volcano. One right-leaning judge is hardly going to change the court's liberal tilt.

Besides, painting Myers as a right-wing hack doesn't hold up. In addition to support from Sens. Crapo and Larry Craig, he has the endorsement of former Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus, who also served as interior secretary for President Carter.

"While Mr. Myers has been an effective advocate in the past for specific public policy positions which I may have personally disagreed," Andrus wrote, "he also possesses the ability to act fairly on matters of law that will come before him on the court."

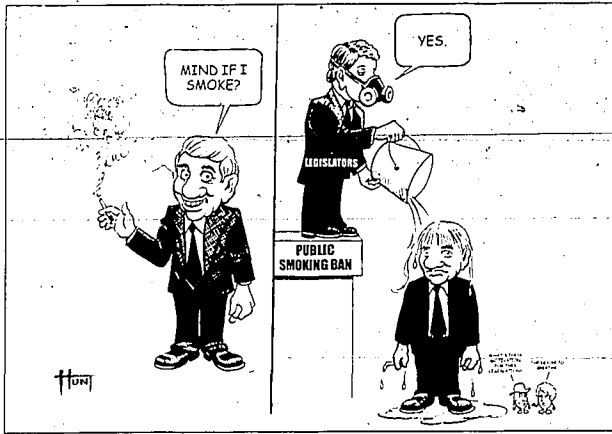
The real sham in this whole debate is how Democrats continue to stonewall judicial confirmations from a president whose party controls the Senate. The delays aren't just with prominent nominees at circuit court levels, either.

Former Idaho Attorney General Al Lance is an example. Lance is waiting for the Senate to confirm his 2002 nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims. In the least time though, he needs a job. Last month, he opened a private practice in Boise. What a shining testimonial to federal bureaucracy.

Apparently, the Democratic Party wants us to believe it's the party of diversity - but just not diversity in the federal courts.

The filibusters may work like a charm now, but the Dems are wearing out the fiber of political civility in Washington. As a result, the judicial confirmation process will steadily confirm

Our view: Senate protests over an Idaho judicial nominee to the 9th Circuit Court are much ado about nothing. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



This fever isn't worth catching

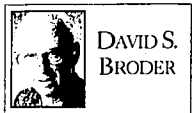
MILWAUKEE - You may be curious as I have been, how the Congress of the United States has been occupying its time this winter, while President Bush was defending his National Guard attendance record and the Democrats were deciding which candidate to send out to match wits with him - or at least with Tim Russert.

Unable to hang out on Capitol Hill, as is my wont, I did the next best thing. When I was back in Washington for a couple days between the South Carolina and Wisconsin primaries, I grabbed a handful of Congressional Records and read up on what I'd been missing.

As you may know, the lawmakers didn't exactly race back from their Christmas vacations. The session started only on Jan. 20, the date of the Bush State of the Union address. By the very next day, the House held its first substantive vote of the year. In a single dramatic session, it passed momentous resolutions honoring the contributions of Catholic schools, saluting school mentors and supporting efforts to recruit more of them, recognizing and commending the achievements of NASA and others involved in the Mars Rover mission and agreeing with the sentiment of the Senate regarding the untimely death of former Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois.

Not only did it pass all these in a single day but it did so after notably civil debate and with but one dissenting vote, from Rep. Maurice Hinchey of New York, on the Catholic school question.

I think this augurs extremely well for a productive and harmonious session - a sharp contrast to the sometimes bitter debates



DAVID S. BRODER

over Medicare and other issues that marred last year's record.

This session also promises to be a model of efficiency. Two days later, when the House next convened, an able member from Wisconsin, Rep. Thomas E. "Tim" Patti, the acting speaker, banged his gavel at 10 a.m., called on the chaplain for a prayer, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and adjourned the body at 10:05, giving these hard-working members a well-deserved four-day break.

When they returned on the 27th, there was more evidence of civility and productivity. With only one dissent, this one from Texas Rep. Ron Paul, the House passed a bill extending the life of the breast cancer stamp from 2005 to 2006. This required explaining to members the concept of the "senior postal stamp," which in this case, invites customers to pay 45 cents for a standard 37-cent first-class stamp, with the extra 8 cents going to the National Institutes of Health and (I'm not kidding) the Department of Defense breast cancer research program.

For good measure, the lawmakers also passed (unanimously) the Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act, but you will have to contact your congressman for an explanation of its significance.

I do not want you to think the Senate was sitting idle, simply observing this burst of activity on the other side of the Capitol. Far from it, The Senate discussed

many important issues and agreed that most of them need further reflection.

Senators understand that the Constitution does not intend them to be hasty. Thus, one reads that Minority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said, "I look forward to having further discussions with the majority leader (Bill Frist of Tennessee) with regard to taking the next legislative step with regard to the Omnibus bill. ... I do think it is important, as we said yesterday, for the Senate to focus its attention on some of the issues we cited yesterday as real policy concerns. There were procedural concerns about how we got here, but the policy concerns are the ones that can be addressed and can be fixed. I certainly want to assure my colleagues we will look for other vehicles and other ways to address each of these issues over the course of the next several weeks and months. I will have more to say about that later in the day."

John Kerry lived for 19 years in an environment where such redundant ramblings pass for speech; and imitating that style damn near crippled his bid for the Democratic nomination. He recovered just in the nick of time.

The Senate, inspired by Daschle and others, focused so well on "the Omnibus" that it actually passed that gargantuan appropriations bill - only four months after the government's fiscal year began. Another happy portent of great decisions still to come. Selfishly, though, I have to say that reading what Congress has been doing made me regret being stuck out on the campaign trail. I hate to miss all the excitement back there.

Kerry overplays the macho card

Every presidential campaign needs a theme song. Right now, the supporters of John F. Kerry are singing a golden oldie: "My Boyfriend's Back." Addressed, of course, to George W. Bush.

You're gonna be sorry you ever were born. Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back.

ZEV CHAFETS

Cause he's kinda big and he's awful strong. This is a long way from "all you need is love." But the 1960s are finally over, and the Dems are ready to rumble. Yo, Dubya! You're a big man now but he'll cut you down to size. Wahoo. Wait and see!

Keep us happy with the role of muscleman. Lately, he hardly utter a sentence without the word "fight" in it. He's going to "stand toe to toe" with Bush, and show him what combat is like "for real." Look out, Howard Stern, Jump back, Bill and Hillary. A man named Jim is now on the party premises.

Kerry's pitch has been thrillingly attractive to the kind of Democrats who hate George W. Bush.

It's not simply that Kerry was a naval officer, Jimmy Carter, after all, was an Annapolis graduate who spent more time in uniform than Kerry did. Nor is it merely service in Vietnam. Al Gore was there, too. It's not even Kerry's Purple Hearts. Wes Clark was also wounded in Vietnam, and nobody thinks he can cut Bush down to size.

No, Kerry's special appeal, put it plainly, is that he is a killer. Thirty-five years ago, under fire, he turned his boat around, he turned his back, he fled, he ran, he hid, he got behind that gun and shot them dead. Bush, for all his Texas swagger, can't match that. Hell, he doesn't have a single notch on his belt.

The Killer Qualification is a whole other thing in Kerry's presidential politics. Kerry's role model, John Kennedy, won glory for saving his crew, not sinking the enemy. George H.W. Bush's most famous military exploit was baiting out of his plane. He commanded a vast army, but in his long career he never personally fired a shot in anger. Harry Truman was an artillery officer in World War I, but hardly a hero. You would go all the way back to Teddy Roosevelt to find a President celebrated for personally charging the enemy.

There's no doubt that Kerry's military record can be an electoral plus, especially when it's stacked up against GWB's National Guarding. But many Democrats seem to believe it is more than that. They imagine that battlefield courage automatically translates into political backbone. This is an illusion that Kerry's "My Boyfriend's Back" rhetoric is calculated to encourage.

He should cut it out. Kerry has had a distinguished career in public life, including nearly 20 years in the Senate. He is a thoughtful, intelligent man and a strong campaigner. There are good reasons to take his candidacy seriously. Having bagged some Viet Cong is not one of them.

Kerry himself knows this. Like all combat veterans, he is aware that there is no genuine correlation between youthful military ferocity and mature political virtue. The young Winston Churchill was a warrior. So was the young Idi Amin. Most guys with medals - including the guys Kerry served with - fall somewhere in between.

It's easy to understand Kerry's willingness to play the homicide card. It has worked on a besotted Democratic base in the primaries. But it won't win a general election. Most Americans don't see George W. Bush as a bully, and besides, pushing 60, Kerry's way too old to run as a teen-ager's avenging boyfriend. If he wants to make it to the White House, he'll need a campaign song - and a campaign - that allows him to act his age.

Zev Chafets is a columnist for the New York Daily News

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher
Clark Walworth, Managing editor
Mike Smit, Advertising director

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

LETTER

Tattoo regulations should include health guidelines

As many of you may know, a group of us have been working for some time on regulation of the tattoo industry. Many people have questioned why I would want to do this. When I was 19 years old, I went in and got a tattoo. It did not even cross my mind to question if it was sterile or what the cleaning procedures were. I did not ask if they were using new needles or ink. This is an issue. There are facilities that do not use a new needle each time to save time and money. There are tattoo shops in Idaho that continue to spread Hepatitis C without regard for the safety of their customers or hers.

If you do not think that this affects you, then you are wrong! You may not be getting a tattoo any time soon, but that does not mean your children, grandchildren or other individuals won't. This also will deeply affect you as a taxpayer as well - think for a moment that this epidemic continues for years to come. The majority of these individuals getting tattoos do not have health insurance; so when they

get a disease such as Hepatitis C, it is going to be the responsibility of the state and the taxpayers to provide for them for the rest of their lives.

It is not and has never been my intention to shut down the tattoo industry but yet to make it a safer for people who choose to make that decision to get one. I speak to individuals all the time who, like me, assume that it is regulated. We have a responsibility for the future health and safety of this state to take care of this problem. In fact, if you know anyone who has received a tattoo in this state, then please urge him or her to get checked for Hepatitis C. Most people do not find out that they have it until years down the road.

I am not opposed to the legislation that Sen. Darrington is proposing for age requirements; in fact, that is in the legislation that we proposed with the help of a group of concerned tattoo artists, which was led by Chris Krahn in Boise. We need to tackle the full issue though; age requirements are the least of our problems.

RYAN HORSLEY
Twin Falls

LETTERS

Leaders weren't duped into recognizing injustice.

Sometimes I wish The Times-News would just accidentally lose a letter in the shredder! The Feb. 9 letter to the editor titled "Day of Remembrance distorts facts on Japanese" is one of those.

If The Times-News wrote the headline, I'm very disappointed since the paper still cannot differentiate between "Japanese" and "Japanese-Americans." Two-thirds of those in the "internment camps" were Americans. I know, because I was one of them.

With regard to the 2003 Day of Remembrance, our former senator and twice-elected governor was hardly "duped." Not only did Gov. Kempthorne read and sign the proclamation, but the mayors and city councils of Jerome, Twin Falls and Pocatello also read, passed and signed similar Day of Remembrance proclamations.

The proclamation makes no mention of number of medals. It only states the 42nd Regiment, and 100th Battalion "... highly distinguished themselves in combat which is well known by members in the U.S. Army, Military Intelligence Service-Combat, in the Philippines while his brothers, sisters, father and mother were held in a "camp" for three years.

The video, "Days of Waiting," addresses the 1948 compensation referred to. Artist Estelle Ishigo, who was Caucasian, narrates the story. She said they got all of \$300 from the government for all

that she and her husband lost in the "relocation." Most "internment" hardly got anything since few had receipts to prove value. If you could only bring to "camp" what you could carry, would you stuff your suitcase with receipts of items you were leaving behind? The video is available at the Twin Falls Library, as is the book, "Personal Justice Denied."

The proclamation states: "Feb. 19, 2003, to be a Day of Remembrance in Idaho, to commemorate the anniversary of the internment and as a time to reflect on the need for tolerance, especially in times of national emergency and war." In other words, the mistakes of 62 years ago should not be repeated.

The \$20,000 compensation referred to came too late for my father and mother, who suffered the most. They passed away some 20 years prior to the 1990 payment which was 45 years after World War II ended. President Ford rescinded the Executive Order 9066, Idaho Sen. Craig, who was in the House then, voted for redress. President Reagan signed the 1988 Civil Liberties bill authorizing redress. President Bush, the current president's father, signed the letter of apology. Were they all "duped"?

MAYA HATA LEMMON
Twin Falls

Editor's note: Maya Hata Lemmon is a board member of the Sawtooth Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. She is a former three-year "internee" at a camp in Gila, Ariz.

Inhumane treatment of cats was appalling

I have read both of the letters that were sent to the paper. I was not able to read the article on Jan. 30, but I was very upset about what I did read.

What kind of teacher would tell anyone, especially young, impressionable children to kill a cat in that manner or even suggest such a thing?

In my opinion, that teacher should lose their teaching credential for the rest of their life and the children should be expelled from school for the rest of the year and made to do community service of at least 1,000 hours.

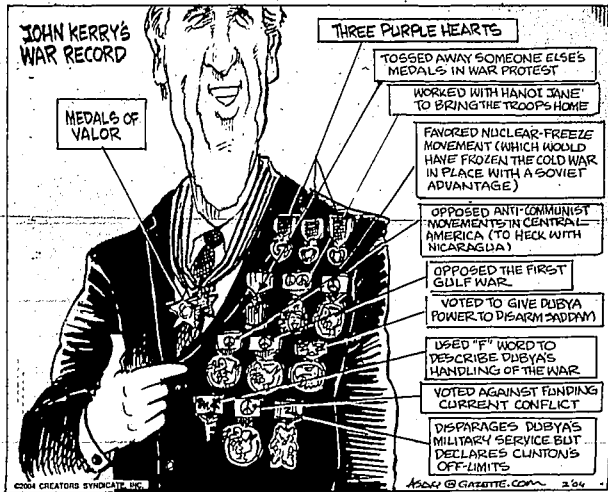
I agree with the person who wrote the letter that said, "What happens when a child is irritating?"

That is why we have a shelter, at least if they are put down, it is done humanely. Can you imagine the horror that poor animal went through before they "stepped on his neck"?

As for the prosecutor, Mark Hiedman, feeling it was not animal cruelty, he should be given permission for this cruelty to anyone who feels that "dogs and cats are just animals."

To say I am appalled is putting it mildly. I hope the buyers and the teacher are very pleased with themselves - I am sure they are the only ones.

B.J. (BEVERLY) MORGAN
Barley



Pol Pot by any other name

Just about the time that the White House announced plans for an investigation into faulty Iraq intelligence, my Cambodian friend Phead took me to visit one of the monuments to the victims of his nation's genocide. On the way to see the collection of human bones and skulls gathered from the killing fields of the Khmer Rouge, I asked Phead what he thought about the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

FRIDA GHITIS

Phead, like other survivors of this country's almost incomprehensible tragedy, has plenty of reason to abhor war—and to resent and distrust the United States. After all, Washington's Vietnam adventure provided the ferment for the Cambodian civil war that in the 1970s propelled to power the demented regime of Pol Pot.

The United States had carpet-bombed Cambodia in an effort to root out Vietnamese fighters and their supply lines. By some accounts, the bombings killed more than 200,000 villagers. To this day, the scattering of unexploded American ordnance—along with millions of land mines left by an assortment of armies—continues to take limbs and lives.

In this atmosphere of chaos Pol Pot came to power, and in less than four years the Paris-educated leader and his followers pursued a Maoist utopia that pushed this country into a nightmare of terror, hunger and death. Other countries contributed to decades of bloodshed in Cambodia, but the main culprit was the demented Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge followers.

Before it was overthrown by Vietnamese forces, the Khmer Rouge sent as many as one-quarter of all Cambodians to their deaths.

After living through the horrors and losing five family members, Phead had no hesitation in assessing the Iraq campaign. He

In an atmosphere of chaos Pol Pot came to power, and in less than four years the Paris-educated leader and his followers pursued a Maoist utopia that pushed this country into a nightmare of terror, hunger and death. Other countries contributed to decades of bloodshed in Cambodia, but the main culprit was the demented Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge followers.

did not mention weapons of mass destruction, oil or corporate profits. He didn't even mention democracy. He summed it up in one sentence: "Saddam Hussein is like Pol Pot." The United States, he said, was right to attack.

The Cambodian people understand better than most the suffering that war entails and what it means to live under a ruthless dictatorship. The war in Iraq is nowhere near the top of their concerns. But every one of the Cambodians I asked who knew about Iraq gave me a response nearly identical to Phead's: A man like Pol Pot must be removed from power.

But the world allowed Pol Pot to remain in power for years. He was never captured and died a free man in 1998. Even after he was overthrown, the United States and its powerful nations refused to accept the new government installed by the communist Vietnamese, insisting that the Khmer Rouge represented Cambodia at the United Nations.

That was the twisted logic of Cold War politics.

Vietnam intervened only after repeated cross-border provocations from Pol Pot's forces. Unlike Iraq, Cambodia had little to offer a potential foreign "liberator." The only reason to stop the killing would have been, well, to stop the killing.

Stopping the killing in Iraq has now become the argument of choice for defenders of that war. Politicians and historians will continue to debate the true reasons behind Washington's decision to target Saddam's regime. Standing in Cambodia's killing fields, what seems inexcusable is doing nothing to stop genocide.

The U.S. track record on stopping mass murders remains unimpressive. The United States—and the rest of the world—has looked the other way while hundreds of thousands were killed, most recently in places like Rwanda and Sudan.

The experience of Cambodia—and Iraq—points to the need for a clear policy spelling out what is to be done when a twisted dictator sets out to destroy his own people.

At the humble memorial for Pol Pot's victims, saffron-robed Buddhist monks ask foreign visitors for donations, with a small sign gently reminding outsiders that "the world stood by" while the slaughter went on.

If stopping mass murder was the reason for going to war in Iraq, it should be reason enough for overthrowing other genocidal regimes. It would have been more than reason enough in Cambodia.

Frida Ghitis writes about world affairs. She is the author of "The End of Revolution: A Changing World in Age of Live Television."

LETTERS

Union issues deserve workers' attention

Right-to-work was designed to help fill the pockets of the business owner. The employer is not required to give a reason for terminating an employee. The employer does not have to pay anything more than minimum wage.

With this in mind, think of everyone on welfare. The money that assists them is coming from the pockets of those who make a decent wage. The union protects the rights of employees. It provides a sense of just and right in our working society.

The Amalgamated Sugar union needs a good president such as Brent Rambough to protect the employees. My husband is my father-in-law and my cousin all work at the sugar factory. I know that they give 110 percent to their jobs. Factory work is hard and, at times, it can also be very dangerous.

The union is very important to our little corner of the world. When someone does not feel that they have to give 110 percent to their job duties, the union does not protect their job. It is important to understand in order to be part of the right-to-work and union debate, you must need to understand both sides of the issues before you go slamming someone else.

YVONNE RAY
Twin Falls

overtime, pensions, the minimum wage, as well as health and safety in the work place. Among other things, we would not have weekends without unions.

2. Unions are the result of bad management.

3. There are checks and balances. Henry Ford (who was definitely not liberal in any sense of the word), as quoted by my father, said there are three major components to the American economy: government, business and labor. Each has a role to play. If any of them fail in the struggle for a share of the pie, the economy and democracy are threatened.

I will be making decisions about expanding or relocating manufacturing and production. Whether a state is a "right-to-work" state is not even a consideration. I know skilled workers cost more anywhere in the world.

For me, it comes down to Wal-Mart. Will an investment in manufacturing facilities in Idaho or anywhere in the United States allow me to hit the price points required by Wal-Mart? Will such an investment allow me to make the price points required by Costco, ShopCo, Target, Penney's or Sears?

The answer is "no." The only way I can bring in my products

within the price guidelines of any mass-market retailer is by investing in facilities in China. If you want this to change, it is not the government or business who is going to bring about this change. It's not individual workers. WES GATES
Jerome

If religion goes, common laws will be next

When are the Christians of the world going to make a stand about the Ten Commandments? They have taken prayer out of schools, the word "God" can't hardly even be spoken out loud and what's funny is most of the commandments are laws, so our laws are the next thing to go.

I, for one, wish I owned a business. First, to get through the door, you would have to say a prayer. Second, the Ten Commandments would be in the lobby for all to see and read; and third, to find out where to go, you would have to say, "God created the heaven and earth, and if this offends you, then take your business elsewhere.

Or better yet, go to the airport and find a flight to a country where there is no prayer, commandments or the word "God." I'm sure you will fit in.

KENT PUTZIER
Filer

Unions can't be simplified in common debate

Between Brent Rambough's letter supporting unions and Grover Wilson's letter attacking unions, I think they pretty much covered all the bases. Both parties seem to be over-simplifying a complex issue.

As an Idaho businessman and manufacturer who deals with this issue regularly, I keep three basic principles in mind.

I learned these from my father who was an executive in some very large multinational corporations. As the contract administrator, he was usually representing the corporate side of the table involved in union negotiations.

1. Keep in mind that unions are responsible for the eight-hour day, the 40-hour week,

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Dr. Mulgrew and his wife Christine have two daughters. The Mulgrews enjoy the out of doors and with their children are avid "extreme" skiers.

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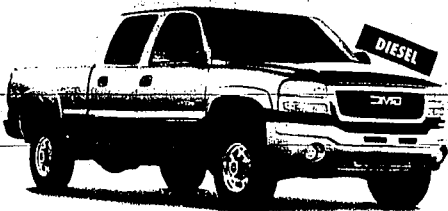
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Roughing It: Living out in Alaska's wilderness proves challenging, satisfying.

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MAGIC VALLEY

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City Editor: Chad Baldwin, 733-0931, Ext. 234

The Times-News

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Section B

Wrangling the moguls of Rockchuck Corner

Let's chat this morning about the dereliction of Twin Falls. It happens every decade or so, whenever enough snow falls here in Rockchuck Corner to leave ridges of ice everywhere on the streets. Navigating them approximates John Travolta's experience on the mechanical bull in "Urban Cowboy."

This is because the city of Twin Falls doesn't have the snow-removal equipment to handle the Mother of All Blizzards. That stuff is expensive, and usually not needed since we rarely do winter here. So when Sincerely Weather does

come along, our town becomes the Blown Shocks Capital of the West. There will be enough realignment business this spring to keep local mechanics on Golden Time until Labor Day, but all those middle-of-the-road moguls can have some unintended benefits too.

I drive a venerable Subaru that, coming into the winter, needed realignment because it badly veered to the right. Yet after a week of bucking icy ruts, my problem is solved: The car doesn't have any discernible alignment remaining at all.

Which, of course, will last just as long as it takes for all that ice to melt into potholes.

Back during an infamously parsimonious stretch of the 1980s, a skinflint Idaho legislator was asked why the lawmakers didn't at least appropriate enough money to fill the holes in the state's roads.

"Why?" he replied. "They'll just come back."

Just so.

Speaking of travel disasters, I think it may be time for the Idaho Transportation Department and the federal government to shut down Interstate 84 between Burley and the Utah border and start over. The last time I traveled that stretch of freeway, in early January, the road between Strevell and Malta was covered with black ice and the wind was blowing from the west at about 40 mph, so that if you didn't manage to slide off the road on your own, the wind would start a skid for you.

Since the winter's first big blizzard on New Year's Eve, I've been monitoring the ITD Web site, where highway conditions are listed by road segment. One day the report for I-84 looked like this:

- Boise-Mountain Home Surface: Dry Weather: Clear
- Mountain Home-Glenns Ferry Surface: Dry Weather: Clear
- Glenns Ferry-Twin Falls Surface: Dry Weather: Clear
- Twin Falls-Salt Lake Interchange Surface: Dry Weather: Clear
- Salt Lake Interchange-Utah Line CLOSED

I struck up a conversation at a local stop in a small town in Snowville, which sits along the

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak**
Upper Snake Basin	95%	65%
Salmon Falls	115%	82%
Salmon	82%	64%
Oakley	116%	85%
Big Wood	85%	61%
Little Wood	92%	64%
Henrys Fork/Teton	107%	78%
Big Lost	92%	61%
Little Lost	84%	55%

**As of Feb. 14

For comparison of basin snowpack, on the day with a 30-year average. **Influenced by basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.

Board says selection made sense

School officials: Superintendent was easy to find

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It didn't take much for the Twin Falls School District to find a new superintendent.

He was there the whole time. The School Board decided to give Interim Superintendent Willey Dobbs a three-year contract

Monday night after having administrators and individual board members evaluate his performance. Dobbs was the district's operations director before he assumed the position of interim superintendent in August, when Terrill Donicht left.

The position opening was never advertised or opened up to outside candidates because the district only received two months' notice that Donicht was leaving, said Linda Baird, the district's human relations director.

Clad Hafer, one of the five board members, said he felt the district could not find a better candidate than Dobbs, and it would have had to raise the \$90,000



Willey Dobbs

salary to attract an outside candidate. "I didn't feel there was anybody of his caliber," Hafer said. "I believe the bar had been raised substantially with Dr. Donicht."

Board member Brian Matsuoka said his concerns when Dobbs came on were whether he could administer the district as a whole and how well he worked on the budget.

"That's a primary concern — secondary only to students," Matsuoka said. He found Dobbs performed well in both areas.

The board discussed Dobbs' performance at its mid-month meeting Jan. 28 in executive session, before coming out to propose approving his contract.

was positive. "He's built up quite a rapport with the community," Matsuoka said.

Michael Friend, executive director of the Idaho Association of School Administrators, said each district can decide how to go about searching for a superintendent.

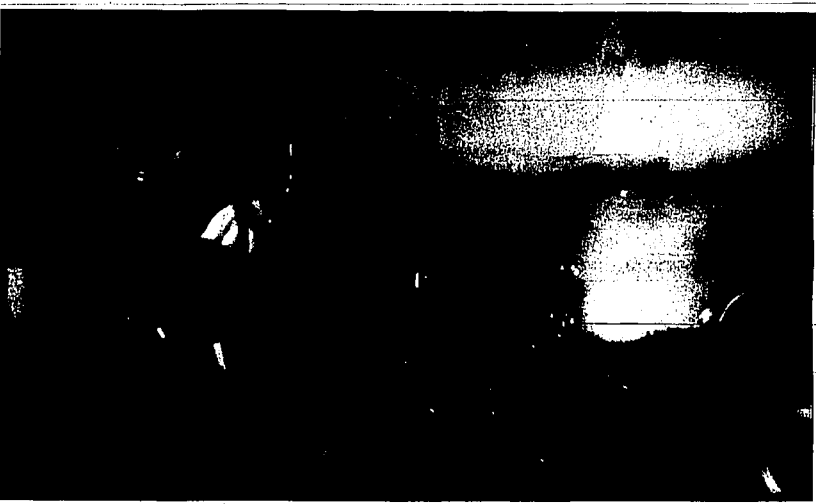
He said it is normal for districts to choose an interim superintendent on a "let's see" basis, then hire that person if he performs well.

"That's not uncommon," Friend said, especially in the cases of positions opening late in the year. Superintendent openings are usually closed in November. In January, the pool of applicants is pretty shallow.



Between classes, firefighters clear remnants from the trailer and re-line it with wood for the next group of firefighters.

Pressure under Fire



Photos by GARY METZ/The Times-News

Firefighters wait for a blaze inside a steel drum to create enough heat to light the walls and ceiling on fire during a "flashover survival training" class at the Southern Idaho Fire Academy's annual training in Paul Saturday.

Firefighters learn skills during training session

By Megan Hinds
Times-News writer

PAUL — The first group of firefighters gathered around the steel trailer in 20-degree weather, dressed in bulky yellow fire gear. The men double checked their oxygen masks and secured the air tanks worn on their backs, preparing to enter the structure that would soon become a blazing inferno, with temperatures reaching upwards of 1,200 degrees.

"If you've got anything loose on your suit, like Velcro straps or anything else like that, take 'em off now," Dan Daniels, assistant fire chief for the Jerome Fire Department, told the firefighters. "We'll be going in there in just a minute."

After the firefighters entered the trailer and took seats on benches lining the walls, Jerome Fire Chief Jim Auclair said a propane torch to ignite wood inside a steel drum. Within 30 seconds, flames leaped from the top of the barrel. The room was silent, except for the crackle of the burning wood and the sound of the men breathing through their oxygen tanks. Black smoke began to fill the trailer.

After about two minutes, the fire had spread to the trailer's walls and ceiling, which were covered with highly flammable particle board. Auclair shut the door to the trailer from the outside, and the men were left to learn to manage the growing blaze with two fire hoses and Daniels' guidance.

The live fire training was part of the Southern Idaho Fire Academy's annual fire training school, held Friday through Sunday in Paul. More than 350 firefighters representing fire departments from Idaho, Utah and Nevada attended the training, said Freddie Morton, member of the fire academy's board of directors and firefighter for the Rock Creek Volunteer Fire Department. Sessions were held throughout the weekend, training firefighters techniques ranging from ladder basics to extricating victims from wrecked cars.

Inside the trailer, the firefighters experienced numerous "flashovers," where everything flammable combusts at once after fresh air enters the room. Firefighters need to learn to identify the entire area with a combination of spraying water around the fire as well as directly on it.

The flashover training is especially helpful for firefighters new to the force with little experience of intense fires, Auclair

said, and the training can be overwhelming for a rookie. "Once you start putting your gear on, you can tell how experienced they are," Auclair said. "It takes the new guys a little while to get used to it, but it's better to learn here than out on a real call."

Outside, a second group of firefighters waited their turn at training. Rex Caudle, a firefighter from McCall, adjusted the buckles on his jacket, watching the thick black smoke billowing from vents on the roof of the trailer. "With about a year of service under his belt, Caudle said he had never been through flashover training, but wasn't nervous about attacking the blaze in the trailer."

"It's just something you do. You can't get worked up about it. This is what we live for right here." — Rex Caudle, McCall firefighter

what we live for right here." The fire training schools like the one held in Paul benefit rural volunteer firefighters — like those in Magic Valley — whose fire departments have limited money to spend on training, said Jim Schroeder, program manager of the emergency services training division of the Idaho Department of Vocational Education, which co-sponsored

the training.

The state of Idaho does not mandate a minimum amount of training for volunteer firefighters, Schroeder said, and the closest professional fire training academy campus is located in Provo, Utah. Idaho volunteer firefighters attend classes and sessions like those held by the Southern Idaho Fire Academy to hone their skills. About 5,000 volunteer firefighters in Idaho attend similar training each year, and the goal is to make the training "affordable and accessible," Schroeder said.

"Volunteers all have 8-to-5 jobs and families just like everyone else," Schroeder said. "They make a significant effort in their lives to do this, and they need to be able to get the best training possible."

After about 15 minutes of battling the flames inside the trailer, the firefighters emerged covered in soot and extinguished the flames from the outside through the trailer's open back hatch. Watching the firefighters work, Daniels took off his heavy jacket. Steam rose from his shoulders.

"I think I got my shoulder a little too hot," he said, grimacing as he touched it. "But we got in some good training today."

Times-News business writer Megan Hinds can be reached at 735-3238 or mhinds@magicvalley.com.

Heyburn's new mayor welcomes businesses

By Shelley Riderow
Times-News writer

HEYBURN — New Heyburn Mayor George Anderson says he may have been the city's mayor for only a short time now, but he brings 60 years of Heyburn residency with him to office.

Anderson took the job in early January after being elected mayor in November. He bested a five-person field in the race. Former Mayor Cleo Cheney didn't seek re-election.

Anderson is optimistic about everything in Heyburn. "My love for this city — it's just hard to express," he said.

He believes there is a good chance for the economy to turn around, in spite of the fact that the J.R. Simplot Co. potato processing plant in Heyburn was closed for good in November.

"Anderson would like to talk with Simplot officials to make sure the company knows it's welcome to return to Heyburn, any time, and resume production."

Heyburn has advantages not all cities have, which can be marketed to businesses, the mayor said. The two key factors are the interstate highway and the Snake River.

He expects the town's population — which now stands at 3,000 — to grow in the coming months. "I don't see how we can not go up," he said.

Anderson has conducted an inventory of Heyburn businesses and counts 28. He plans personal visits to all those businesses this spring to make sure he knows owners, managers and employees and to find out if the city can help the businesses. "Retention is important," he said.

Anderson is forward to working with Bob Shepard, the new Mini-Cassia economic development director. "It's a good guy with good ideas," Anderson said. "Everybody is welcome in Heyburn — that's my simple message."

As for the city itself, Anderson says the infrastructure "is in excellent shape" and the city employees are all "good employees."

One of the great things about being mayor is that Heyburn has a great crew, all the departments. I take my hat off to Mayor Cheney for all the good people on

— Please see MAYOR, Page B4

WANTED In the Magic Valley

Name: John Angelo Sawtelle.
Age: 31
Description: 5-foot-9, 150 pounds, brown hair, hazel eyes.
Wanted on: Parole violation.
The Jerome County Sheriff's Department asks anyone with information about Sawtelle's whereabouts to call the department at 324-8845 or 324-7583, or the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center at 324-1911.



MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Prosecutors pile on the charges

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Prosecutors have filed additional charges against a man accused in the shooting death of his ex-wife's boyfriend.

Richard Hanes, 30, has been held without bail in the Kootenai County Jail since his Feb. 6 arrest in Athol on a charge of first-degree murder for the shooting death of Eddie Edmondson, 30, of Hayden.

Prosecutors added 10 charges

Friday, including attempted murder, aggravated assault, aggravated battery, burglary and kidnapping.

Prosecutors said the new charges more closely reflect what happened in the early morning hours of the shooting, which occurred in the driveway of Hanes' ex-wife, Carol Mae Hanes.

Prosecution and defense attorneys expect that Hanes' preliminary

hearing, scheduled for Wednesday, will be delayed because of the magnitude of the charges.

Court officials would have until March 3 to reschedule.

Also pending is a decision on whether to seek the death penalty. Kootenai County Prosecutor Bill Douglas said Friday he would not make that decision until after the preliminary hearing.

Smoke alarm alerts couple to house fire

EDEN — A working smoke detector may have saved the lives of an Eden couple Saturday morning.

Two rooms were damaged in the home of Jim and Cori Alexander, located at 319 N. Idaho, in a fire reported at 3:59 a.m., said Don Utz of the First Segregation Rural Fire District. The fire started in the bathroom wall of the Alexander's home.

Faulty wiring caused the fire, Utz said, as a 100-watt light bulb installed in a socket meant for 60-watt bulbs overloaded the circuit.

Jim Alexander, who has epilepsy, was taken to St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome for possible smoke inhalation, Utz said. He was checked and released.

The Alexander's smoke alarm woke the couple from their sleep, Utz said.

"Without that smoke alarm, they would have both died from smoke inhalation," he said.

A damage estimate was not available.

Buhl seeks bids for airport reconstruction project

BUIHL — Bids for a Buhl Municipal Airport runway reconstruction project will be opened 11 a.m., Feb. 26 at Buhl City Hall, 203 North Broadway.

Airport Commission Chairman Bob Squire and a representative of Armstrong Consultants, a

Magic Valley in brief

Colorado-based consulting firm, will be at the airport at 10 a.m. this Wednesday to meet with contractors interested in looking at the project. The airport is located west of Buhl at 1276 E. 4100 N.

The existing surface on the 60-by-3,900-foot runway will be chipped up. Fresh blacktop and rubber base material will be added to form the new asphalt surface.

Armstrong Consultants estimate the cost at \$400,000. Federal Aviation Administration funds will pay for 90 percent of the project, while 5 percent will come from state aviation funds and 5 percent from local airport funds.

FHA and state aviation funds are generated through sales of aviation-related products.

Buhl fire department gets no bidders for 1.5-acre lot

BUIHL — No bids were submitted on property put up for sale by the Buhl Rural Fire District. Although bid specifications were picked up by about a dozen individuals, no bids were submitted on the 1.5 acres, located on River Road across the road from Banbury Hot Springs.

Airport Commission Chairman Bob Squire and a representative of Armstrong Consultants, a

next step.

"Nobody really knew where to go when no bids were received," Buhl Fire Chief Mark Grimes said. "It doesn't hurt us to keep it, but selling it would put it back on the tax rolls. It's currently tax exempt because of its use."

Disposal of the property, the district was required to obtain three independent appraisals of the property. The average of those three appraisals, \$10,500, was the minimum acceptable bid.

"It's not our land, it's the public's land, and we can't donate it or give it away," Fire Commissioner Ben Ekert said.

The 1.5 acres had been given to the district by Ted Johnson as a possible site for a substitution. The substitution, however, was built on property located on Highway 30 above Banbury Grade, donated to the district by Doug Stewart.

The fire rating and insurance rates are based on the distance from the station to the property. Residents within an eight-mile radius of a station should benefit from lower insurance rates.

"By building it on top of the grade, we were able to provide quicker responses and lower insurance ratings for a larger number of people in the district," Ekert said.

— compiled from staff reports

OBITUARIES

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

Joseph Vao Palmer - Las Vegas

Joseph Vao Palmer, 74, of Las Vegas, died Wednesday evening, Feb. 11, 2004, at a hospital in Las Vegas.

He was born July 13, 1929, in Rupert, Idaho, to William Alford and Virgie M. Talbot Palmer. He attended schools in Rupert, graduating from Rupert High School in 1947. Joseph married Darlene Bassett Dec. 12, 1947, in Elko, Nev. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Logan LDS Temple.

He worked as a carpenter/cabinet maker and enjoyed working with wood. Joseph enjoyed traveling and fishing and loved being with his family and friends.

He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he served in various church capacities.



Laramie, Wyo., and Paula (Ken) Tracy of Rupert, Idaho; 13 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; one brother, Ray (Ella) Palmer; and two sisters, Zelda Penner and Laurel York, all of Utah. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, three sisters and one grandson.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at the Paradise LDS Chapel, corner of Bringham and Yellowstone in Chubbuck, with Bishop Roger D. Holyoak conducting.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Cornelison-Henderson Funeral Home, 431 N. 15th Ave. in Pocatello, and also from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday prior to the service at the church. Burial will be in the Mountain View Cemetery in Pocatello.

He is survived by his wife, Darlene of Las Vegas, one son, Paul (Merlene) Palmer of Hillsboro, Ore.; three daughters, Sylvia (Douglas) Parker of Pocatello, Carolyn Johnson of

Linda L. Bronson - Burley

Linda Bronson, of Burley, passed away peacefully after a long battle with multiple sclerosis at the age of 58, on Feb. 13, 2004. She was the beloved wife of James H. Bronson; the daughter of Kenneth and Dorothy Dubecker of Heyburn; the mother of Terry Olson of Twin Falls, Dianna Gray of Sumner, Wash., one Jamie Bronson of Hesperia, Calif., and the sister of Kathleen Chambers of Anchorage, Alaska.

Linda was working as a licensed practical nurse when she was diagnosed with MS in her late 40s.

She was a volunteer at the MS Society and was a voice fighting

for equal opportunities for persons with physical disabilities. She was a strong-willed person and overcame many challenges in her life. Linda enjoyed woodworking, building furniture, drawing, photography, writing, fishing, camping and the outdoors.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. The family suggests that memorials be directed to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1674 Hill Road, Suite 18, Boise, ID 83702.

Linda will be missed by her family and friends.

Arrangements are in the care of Zastussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.



Lois M. Lennan - Jerome

Lois Marjorie Landis Lennan, 73, of Jerome, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2004, at her home with loving husband at her side. She died peacefully after a year-long battle with cancer.

Lois was born in Winford, S.D., on Dec. 18, 1930, the third child of Benjamin and Thelma Landis. She spent her childhood years in northern Minnesota until the family moved to Portland, Ore., where Lois graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1948.

She married Richard G. Lennan on Feb. 18, 1949, and together they had one son, Steven Richard, born in 1952.

The family moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, in September of 1959, where she was a dental assistant for many years and a housewife. In 1969, she and her husband designed and built a home on the canyon rim in Jerome, County, where they lived for 30 years.

During the 1960s, Lois served as president of the Idaho State JCettes and also as the president of the Women's Auxiliary of



her husband in the mountains of Idaho.

Preceding Lois in death are her sister, Laura Landis, and her parents, all of Portland, Ore.

Lois is survived by her beloved husband, Richard; her son, Steven; her grandchildren, Susan and Sean; her brothers, Alan and Benjamin Landis of Portland, Ore.; sister-in-law, Diane, and husband, Dewey Cavin, of Jerome, and their daughters, Nikki Grace, Toni Seely, Julie Bown and Kelly Cavin, all of Salt Lake City, Utah; and many extended family members and close friends.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 16, 2004, at the Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1708 Heyburn Ave. E., in Twin Falls with the Rev. Daniel A. Riecke officiating. Services are under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

The family suggests memorials to be given to the Our Savior Lutheran Church Building Fund, Our Savior Lutheran Church in Twin Falls.

Roger J. Pollard - Twin Falls

Roger J. Pollard, 72, Twin Falls resident, passed away suddenly Thursday evening, Feb. 12, 2004, at home.

He was born Sept. 28, 1931, in Berlin, N.H., the son of Reginald and Ruth Mabel James Pollard. As a young child, Roger's family moved to Marion, Mass., and he graduated from Wareham High School in 1950. Roger was an all-around athlete in eastern Massachusetts and tennis for the Boston Red Sox in Fenway Park. Roger served four years in the U.S. Navy and later graduated from Colorado State in entomology. Roger worked 40 years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Arizona and Idaho and specialized in large pest-control projects against high profile insects such as the Mediterranean Fruit Fly in California and grasshopper infestations in 11 western states.

Roger married Bertha Mary Ann Strout on April 25, 1959, in Fort Collins, Colo. They had two children, Christopher James Pollard and Vanessa Ann



loving and full of good humor and cheer. Roger will be dearly missed and was loved deeply.

Roger is survived by his wife, Susan of Twin Falls; his children, Chris (Rondi) Pollard of Colorado Springs, Colo., Vanessa (Caren) Chivers of Summit, N.J., stepchildren, Steve Blake of Meridian, Idaho, Melissa Blake of Denver, Colo., and Adam Blake of Beaverton, Ore.; sister, Joan J. (Reid) Smith-Vaniz of Darien, Conn., and Richard J. (Mary) Ball of Kendall Park, N.C.; four grandsons; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Allan J. Pollard; and his first wife.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the College of Southern Idaho Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of Roger J. Pollard, P.O. Box 1280, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1280.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 15, 2004, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Turning point comes in Wyoming wolf standoff

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — An early morning meeting in a dimly lit hearing room may one day be viewed as a pivotal point in the struggle to remove wolves from the Endangered Species List.

The tension was palpable as a dozen lawmakers gathered in Room 1699 of the Herschler Building, the sprawling four-winged office complex that sits next to the State Capitol.

Also hustling to Wednesday's meeting through the snow-laden road was a mustachioed federal official and his aide.

It was not crowded. Few had heard about the hearing, and fewer still harbored much hope it would yield a breakthrough in a months-long federal-state stalemate over how wolves — reintroduced in Yellowstone National Park in 1995 and expanding rapidly — would be managed once control is relinquished to the states of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

While members of the House Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee took turns expressing frustration over the federal government's heavy-handed ways, the target of their irritation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Steve Williams, became less a symbol of Washington arrogance and more the picture of a guy just trying to do his job in a cumbersome bureaucracy.

"The process in D.C. is very, very difficult — much more so than at the state level," the former Kansas wildlife director said. "That is the environment in which we work. I know it drives you all crazy. It drives me crazy."

As the 75-minute meeting wore on, it became apparent a negotiating session had ensued and that compromise might be in the air.

Rep. Mike Baker, the Thermopiles farmer and commit-

tee chairman who had crafted much of the state's wolf-management plan in last year's session, seized the opportunity.

He looked Williams in the eye and asked him to repeat the federal government's latest offer to make certain there was no misunderstanding.

A compromise was forged: Wyoming's plan would no longer allow wolves to be shot on sight in areas away from Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and adjacent wilderness areas — the chief sticking point. Regulated hunting would have to be in force statewide (except in the parks, where the wolves will remain protected).

The federal government would back away from its stance that 15 wolf packs be maintained in the state, that 10 breeding pairs would be sufficient. Williams also said the state could make its own determination of the definition of a pack.

The next day, Baker and Sen. Bruce Burns of Sheridan produced mirror bills in the House and Senate altering the state's plan but without Williams' concessions.

There had not been enough time to draft the compromise language, so the measures were presented with the caveat that amendments would follow.

Burns' measure failed, but Baker's sailed through House introduction by a 51-8 margin.

While the legislation has a long way to go — at least two committee hearings and three readings in each chamber, plus governor approval — the logjam over wolf management in the Yellowstone region may be loosening, and ranchers and hunters might be a step closer to stemming wolf predations on their

livestock and big game.

Threats of a lawsuit by Gov. Dave Freudenthal didn't hold the same edge Friday, the day after the House vote.

"There is a way to arrive at a delisting on terms that work for the state, you know, I'm not dying to sue 'em," he said. "I'm delighted that there's a vehicle that's alive in the Legislature to allow this discussion to continue. We've got a couple weeks. Let's try to use them."

Baker took flack from constituents back in wolf country because early reports didn't make clear that his bill "yielding" to the federal government's stance was just a starting point.

"The feds significantly changed their offer to us," he said. "Now there are people who have taken the stance that they (feds) have not significantly moved. I think they have moved."

The lower requirement for maintenance of breeding pairs in exchange for licensing wolf hunters is worth the trade-off, he said.

Burns agreed.

"I think there's not enough difference between last year's plan and the current agreement we have with Fish and Wildlife to be worth a lawsuit," he said.

Even if the Legislature approves a new plan, removal of wolves from the Endangered Species List likely would not occur until next year at the earliest. But a lawsuit, or waiting until the 2005 session, would certainly delay delisting even more.

Burns said the Fish and Wildlife Service gained a sense of urgency in visiting state lawmakers and the governor the past week.

"They were knocked back on their heels to find out that our entire session was only 20 days long that we had to get something through in the four-week period if we weren't going to get anything done at all," he said.

SERVICES

Virginia Susan "Gina" Weiss Bossard of Twin Falls, service at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Immanuel Lutheran Church, friends may call from 9:30 a.m. until time of service at the church (White Mortuary).

Eliza Cordellia Nye Shaw of Burley, service at 11 a.m. Monday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Burley West Stake Center, 2420 Parke Ave., Burley; burial at 2:30 p.m. Monday at Valley Vu Cemetery in Malta; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St., Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. before the funeral at the church.

Elizabeth Erickson, service at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Gooding Memorial Cemetery (Valley Mortuary, Driggs).

Bobby G. Whitlock of Twin Falls, service at 1 p.m. Monday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls; friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Gilbert "Gill" Humberger of Twin Falls, service and celebration of life at 2 p.m. Monday at the Twin Falls Reformed Church; viewing from 1 to 2 p.m. before the service at the church.

Walter Erickson, service at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Gooding Memorial Cemetery (Valley Mortuary, Driggs).

Frank E. Ephrem of Caldwell, prayer service at 9 a.m. Wednesday at Demary's, Shoshone Chapel; graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Shoshone Memorial Cemetery; viewing from noon to 8:30 p.m. today and Monday at Alden-Wagoner Funeral Chapel in Boise and from 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Demary's Shoshone Chapel.

John H. Boss (Bud) of Wendell, memorial service at 2 p.m. Monday at Demary's Wendell Chapel.

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SCHOOL LUNCHES

AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chicken drumsticks
Wednesday: Dinosaur nuggets
Thursday: Hoagie sandwich
Friday: Pizza day

BUHL SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu
Milk served daily. Choice of fruit or juice every day.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy
Thursday: Breakfast bar
Friday: Yogurt
Lunch Menu
Salad bar and milk served every day.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich
Wednesday: Chicken nuggets
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Ham and cheese

BURLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday: No school
Tuesday: Hoagie or hot combo
Wednesday: Hamburger, cheeseburger
Thursday: Chili or BBQ
Friday: Pigeon-blanket

CASTLEFORD SCHOOL

Breakfast menu
Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Turnovers
Friday: Waffle six
Lunch Menu
Salad bar and milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: Chicken nuggets
Thursday: Nacho Grande
Friday: Pupcorn chicken

CLOVER TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chili lunch
Wednesday: Hot dog
Thursday: Taco nachos
Friday: Scrambled eggs

FILER SCHOOL

Monday: No school
Tuesday: Rib-bee
Wednesday: Pizza
Thursday: Pigeon-blanket
Friday: Turkey deli sandwich

HANSEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Breakfast Menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy
Wednesday: Scrambled eggs
Thursday: Hot dog
Friday: No school
Lunch Menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: No school

Tuesday: Finest steaks
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff
Thursday: Chili dogs
Friday: No school

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Choice of milk every day.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Meat and cheese
Wednesday: Baked potato bar
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Chicken strips

KIMBERLY ELEMANTARY SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Waffle
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Chili

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Ham and cheese pocket
Wednesday: Fettuccine
Thursday: Turkey sub
Friday: Chili dogs

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ELEMANTARY SCHOOL

Monday: No school
Tuesday: Toppings
Wednesday: Turkey wrap
Thursday: Taco
Friday: Pizza

MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Fresh fruit and milk served daily.
Monday: Donutnuts
Tuesday: Ham and potato soup
Wednesday: Spaghetti
Thursday: Cheesy potatoes
Friday: Ski Day, no lunch

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chicken sandwich
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Pupcorn chicken
Friday: Deli sandwich

MURTAUGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Hamburger gravy and potatoes
Wednesday: Chicken burgers
Thursday: Lasagna
Friday: Nachos

ROBERT STUART AND O'LEARY JUNIOR HIGH

Breakfast menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Waffles
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: No school

Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Ham and cheese sandwich
Friday: Pizza

ST. EDWARDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: Corn dogs
Thursday: Ham and cheese burrito
Friday: Cheeseburgers

TWIN FALLS ELEMANTARY

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Waffle
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Chili

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast is served daily.
Lunch: The high school has a choice of main line, hamburger bar, and salad bar each day, taco bar. Main line menu varies every day.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: No school
Thursday: Pigeon-blanket
Friday: Burrito

VALLEY SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chicken chunks
Wednesday: Chicken Alfredo
Thursday: Hot dog
Friday: Vegetable bake

BLISS SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Sloppy Joe
Wednesday: Roast turkey
Thursday: Chicken nuggets
Friday: Burrito

DIETRICH SCHOOLS

Salad bar, fruit and milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: No school
Wednesday: Turkey noodles
Thursday: Nachos
Friday: Cheese bake

GLENNS FERRY

Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chicken noodle soup
Wednesday: Burrito
Thursday: Chicken nuggets
Friday: Potato soup

GOODING SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. The third choice is for junior high and high school students only.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Taco burger
Wednesday: Fry chicken sandwich
Thursday: French bread pizza
Friday: Soup and sandwich

HAGERMAN SCHOOLS

Choice of milk offered daily.
Breakfast menu
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Cereal
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Biscuit
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Hot dog
Wednesday: Turkey gravy
Thursday: Taco
Friday: Chili

IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Milk served daily.
Breakfast menu
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Pancakes
Wednesday: Bonuts
Thursday: Cinnamon toast and yogurt
Friday: Grilled cheese
Lunch menu
Salad bar and choice of milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Beef chulupis
Wednesday: Chicken burger
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Ham

JEROME SCHOOLS

Milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Mac and cheese bites
Wednesday: Tuna salad sandwich
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Turkey and noodles

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Breakfast
Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Pancakes
Friday: Pup tarts
Lunch
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Hot dog
Wednesday: Bean burrito
Thursday: Baked potato
Friday: Hoagie sandwich

SHOSHONE SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Chicken party
Wednesday: Soft taco
Thursday: Cheese bake
Friday: Hot dog

WENDELL SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily.
Monday: No school
Tuesday: Hamburger
Wednesday: Baked potatoes
Thursday: Sloppy Joe
Friday: Roast turkey and gravy

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

School lunch menus are printed as a public service. To have the lunch menu (breakfast menu) delivered, please call the Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403, or fax it to 734-5538, attention: Lunch Menu. Deadline is noon Wednesday for publication Sunday.

Jackpot residents discuss road safety

By Sam Feltman
Times-News correspondent

JACKPOT, Nev. — The most recent meeting of the Jackpot Advisory Board looked like a gathering of the "Who's Who" of Elko County.

Nevada Assemblyman John Carpenter, Elko County Commissioner Mike Nannini, County Manager Rob Stokes, District 11 Nevada award recipient Albert Huber, Judge Phyllis Black, and Nevada Department of Transportation engineers Kevin Lee and Mike Murphy were all present Friday.

The Jackpot Advisory Board and several citizens have been asking the Nevada Department of Transportation to address several road safety issues. The main one being a speed reduction from 70 miles per hour to 55 mph south of town to beyond the rest stop.

The Advisory Board even sought the assistance of Assemblyman Carpenter. Mike Murphy, assistant district engineer for the transportation department, addressed the full house, saying, "The reality is there is not enough development in the area."

Murphy said lowering the speed limit "would cause more of a safety problem than we are trying to solve."
He said the department did studies a couple of years ago and a change is not warranted by the traffic flow.

Advisory Board member

Norma Prindle, however, disagreed.

"Things have changed," she told Murphy. "That is what we are trying to say, Mike."
When the last study was performed the only turn traffic in the area was for the Y-3 Ranch and the rest stop. Now there's a subdivision, a working ranch and an outdoor classroom. The road through the concerned section curves through a narrow canyon.

"If there is any way to put a curve advisory sign up we'll do it," Murphy said. "We'll try to think out of the box to improve things."

The transportation department has to follow federal mandates, Murphy noted.
Carpenter said he looked over the site earlier in the day and he agrees.

"It is a very dangerous stretch of road," he said. "I'll try to work with the state and county to get something done."
Carpenter went on to suggest that deputies could control traffic when the outdoor classroom is in session.

A crosswalk warning sign and blinking lights at the intersection of Casino Way and Highway 93 also were discussed. Murphy said, again, that this would create more of a safety hazard than it would eliminate.

Advisory Board Chairman Gene Frank said better lighting at that intersection would help.

"The lights are your lights," Murphy said, suggesting the town could increase lighting without interference from the transportation department.

Other business discussed by the Jackpot Advisory Board included:

• Street lights — Jackpot Public Works Supervisor Ed Ellis asked for \$1,877 to move the street lights that were on Gurley Drive to other parts of town.

New light poles were installed on Gurley Drive when the road was improved last summer. Ellis said there are six lights that can be attached to existing poles. He said he would like to see two in the Golf Course Terrace subdivision, one in the Winner's Circle subdivision and the other three along the ball fields on Lady Luck Drive.

Ellis also reported the new transfer station should be completed, except for landscaping, by the end of March.

• Memorial garden — Advisory Board member Norma Prindle is trying to get a memorial garden and cemetery in Jackpot.

Several years ago a cemetery location was identified, but Prindle said by the time the town can afford to develop that spot shell be long gone.

The memorial garden originally planned to go between the airport building and the school. Prindle said that area is too small and would be subject to vandalism by school children.

Prindle said she would like the new site to be where the Kiddy Park is now.

The Kiddy Park is scheduled to be moved. The area below it is in its airport flight path and is restricted in its use. Prindle said a good use for that property would be the cemetery.

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Contact your legislators

Here's how to contact your lawmakers while the 2004 legislative session is under way. On weekdays, your best options are:

- By mail: (Name of Legislator, Idaho State Legislature)
- By phone: (Name of Legislator, Idaho State Legislature)

State Capitol Building
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0038 (House), or -0081 (Senate)

http://www2.state.id.us/legisl/comment.html

If you call the first two phone numbers above, legislative staffers will deliver written messages to individual lawmakers.

Some legislators also have individual phone numbers you can call, and they're listed below — along with information about how to reach them at home (some legislators go home on weekends).

District 25 (western Twin Falls and Owyhee counties)

Rep. Frances Field, R-Grand View
Home phone: 834-2488

Rep. Doug Jones, R-Filer
Home phone: 326-4181
FAX: 326-3764
Email: djones@house.state.id.us

Sen. Tom Gannon, R-Buhl
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1342
Home phone: 543-2330
E-mail: tigan-nan@mgiclink.com

District 24 (eastern Twin Falls County)

Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls
Home phone: 733-6842
FAX: 733-6688

Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls
Home phone: 734-6360
FAX: 736-7187

Sen. Laird Noh, R-Kimberly
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1333
Home phone: 733-3617
FAX: 734-6515

District 25 (Blaine, Carnas, Gooding and Lincoln counties)

Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Blainham
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1130
Home phone: 726-3100
FAX: 726-0674
Email: wjaquet@sunvalley.net

Rep. Tim Riding, R-Shoshone
Home phone: 886-2958

Sen. Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1351
Home phone: 726-8106
FAX: 788-4444

District 26 (Jerome County and Minidoka counties)

Rep. Bert Steveron, R-Rupert
Home phone: 532-4524
FAX: 532-4720
Email: bert@safeidlink.net

Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome
Home phone: 324-4296
Email: mbell@magidlink.com

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert
Statehouse phone: (208) 334-4733
Home phone: 436-4424
FAX: 436-3776

District 27 (Cassia, Power, Owyhee and part of Blingham counties)

Rep. Scott Beckie, R-Oakley
Home phone: 862-2619
FAX: 862-3688
Email: beckie@pmt.org

Rep. Bruce Newsom, R-Burley
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1111
Home phone: 678-3758 or 543-6725

Sen. Denton Darrington, R-DeLoe
Statehouse phone: (208) 332-1317
Home phone: 654-2712

Girl dies in collision with train

PARMA (AP) — A 13-year-old girl was killed and her younger sister was injured when her trailer they were riding on was struck by a train Saturday afternoon.

Audrey Black of Kuna and her 8-year-old sister were on the trailer that was being pulled by a tractor across the tracks just west of Parma when it was struck by the train, which was estimated to be traveling at 70 mph, according to

the Canyon County Sheriff's Department.

The girls were visiting their grandparents and the family was moving horses across the tracks when the accident happened around 2 p.m.

The 79-year-old man who was driving the tractor did not heed railroad signals and apparently didn't hear the train, the sheriff's department said.

The family of Gayle Ann Boyd

would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, flowers, food, and love during our recent loss.

The kindness and sympathy of relatives, neighbors and friends in our recent sorrow will always remain with us as a precious memory. Our sincere thanks and gratitude for all those comforting acts.

Jill (John) Hollon
Andy (Loray) Boyd
Ted & Dorothy Cheney
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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Guitarist takes fretless playing to a new frontier

BOISE (AP) - Ned Evert's guitar sounds a bit schizophrenic. Often it emits microtonal melodies reminiscent of India. Then the sounds will morph into a bluesy riff, before plunging into the kind of pop-rock something-for-everyone sound that draws kids too old for college into bars on a work night.

Other times the guitar might as well be a lightning storm, or underwater sonar equipment, or a piece of vibrating sheet metal. The range of sounds - and Evert's range of style - are possible because of the instrument's neck. It is made of smooth glass, with no frets marking the notes and deadening the strings.

"Fretless guitar is a chimera," said Evert, 36, "and playing it is kind of like a calling. When I was younger I worried about that - was it too classical, too blues? But it seems that the more I play, the more I always had plenty of material to draw from. It became less fragmented and more of a case of allowing those voices to speak."

Evert, who began playing guitar when he was 15, got his first gig before he got his driver's license. He later walked away from a classical guitar scholarship at Boise State University, choosing instead to hone his skills on the road.

"Playing became my livelihood. It's my creative release, and a lot of my drive comes from having to do or die, surviving off it," he said.

By the mid-1980s, Evert was ready for a new challenge and intrigued by the work of other guitarists who had gone fretless, such as Adrian Belew.

Evert sat down one night with a pair of pliers and began wrenching the frets out of his guitar.

"It was really meatball surgery, but the guitar was surprisingly functional," Evert said. "When it's played well, it's an amazing experience for the musician. On a bad day, it's a slap in the face."

Removing the frets - the small, metal bars that run along the neck of a guitar and mark the notes - makes playing more difficult because it essentially leaves the musician blind.

But going fretless also increases the number of notes available to a guitar player, allowing them to shift the pitch up or down microtonally.



Musical Ned Evert plays music on one of his fretless guitars at his studio in Boise. Evert, who began playing the guitar at the age of 15, removed the frets, the small metal bars that run along the neck of a guitar, and created a more unique sound.

"If you look at the way two notes sound when they are played together as a blending of color, a fretless guitar gives you more tools for blending," he said.

Fretless may never overtake fretted guitars in popularity, Evert said, but the instrument is finding a place in Western music.

"The trance-like quality of Indian music comes from the number of tones they have available. You put that in the Western framework of harmony, and I would say the American audience is ready for the approach," he said. "There's still a place in rock'n'roll for saxophone or even mandolin. These things go in and out of fashion."

"I wanted something that his fingers kept wearing through the wooden neck board, forcing expensive replacements. He got fed up and in 1997 asked a glass-making friend to help him create a substitute - the first glass-necked fretless guitar."

"I wanted something that was more durable, and metal was too expensive. Wood was too expensive. I finally hit on glass," he said.

That drive has served him well. Evert, dubbed the Glass Guitarist

by others in the music industry, has opened for such guitar greats as Joe Satriani. Evert regularly tours in the United States and Europe, and last year won first place in the North American Rock Guitar Competition. Evert has also designed a line of fretless guitars for Fernandez Guitars.

"When I switched to fretless guitar there just wasn't anything to play on it, so I was driven to actually discover what it is capable of. It's dysfunctional in a way, but you just don't rest until you make it happen," he said.

On the latest of four albums, Evert plays alongside Frank Vigorous, a fretless guitar player from France. All but three songs on the experimental and self-titled CD "Evert/Vigorous" were improvised in the studio.

"We were creating as we play, but with song structures thrown in," Evert said. "It was a very interesting environment: an American, a French guy and a Portuguese engineer, so there was not a lot of opportunity to attack anything verbally."

Evert made up the lyrics at the same time, sometimes using the words to drive the rhythm and melody, other times seeming to

rely on stream-of-consciousness prose in response to the guitar. Reviews have been mixed.

"It's very risky. I've read reviews of this record which are not very favorable about the unvarnished quality," he said.

"But some songs on the album, such as 'Frosty Roostertail,' are given a sense of immediacy by the improvisation, while maintaining solid vocals and a consistent melodic line. And the CD's pre-written songs, including 'Dac Hanna's Blues' and 'Burning Man,' are reminiscent of the pop-rock sound that made Evert's earlier album 'Circus Liquor' his most popular.

Evert said the reviews, good and bad, have not influenced his choices. Instead, he keeps pushing his music, into uncharted territory.

As his popularity grows, so does his peace with the instrument.

"For me, the more I actually accomplish the more I feel comfortable with letting it go, which is a good thing because I could bag it tomorrow and still be OK as a human being," he said. "At the same time, the more I do the more I revel in it as well."

Utah father looks for court to make fair parenting decisions

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - As Utah legislators draw on the celebrated Parker Jensen case, rush to give parental rights supremacy over long-standing child-welfare laws, one important figure in the debate is urging caution: Parker's father.

Daren Jensen, who successfully fought the state's efforts to gain custody and force chemotherapy on his 12-year-old boy for a diagnosed cancer last summer, paid his first visit to the Legislature on Wednesday and Thursday.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Jensen made clear he had reservations about some of the dozens of proposals in the works that would tip the balance in favor of parental rights over the power of the Division of Child and Family Services.

Jensen wasn't yet taking a stand. "It's not my job to come up here and change the way things are," he also wasn't discussing any particular bills, but he said, "Those people that truly are abusing their children, we can't swing the pendulum too far the other way."

The Utah Senate voted 23-6 on Thursday to approve a bill that goes to the heart of the Jensen case, yet invokes some of the doubts that nag Jensen.

Senate Bill 90 gives "competent" parents near-absolute power over medical decisions for their children, including the power to grant or withhold lifesaving medical treatment. All parents would be considered competent unless proven incompetent beyond a reasonable doubt, which would all but eliminate medical neglect as a cause of action in juvenile courts.

Another bill would second-guess the child-welfare agency by requiring it to prove serious danger to a child's safety or health before the child is taken from a family. That could prevent caseworkers from taking action in an emergency.

Other measures promise to restructure the agency and juvenile court in parents' favor.

Richard Anderson, director of the Division of Child and Family Services, said lawmakers are looking for trouble trying to write into law prescriptions for judgment calls his caseworkers have to make daily.

"There's so many bills up there going in various directions," Anderson said. "I see no strategy, no plan, nothing that fits together."

Jensen, no fan of the child-welfare agency, agrees on that point. On a visit of the House floor, Jensen said his now 13-year-old son was "doing great" and attending school, where he's writing up reports about some legislators' bills for a contemporary affairs component of his education.

Parker trumped cancer tests in December and "miraculously has never been sick for two years," his father said.

Daren Jensen said he was pursuing legal action in software management and keeping his house instead of trying to sell it but still having trouble paying the bills. Jensen lost a job that required travel last summer when he was "hauling Parker around the nation to doctors" for alternative medical opinions.

When he wasn't fencing with child-welfare authorities and juvenile court, Jensen and his family were in a summer-long exile with Idaho relatives. The parents finally settled with a guilty plea to custodial interference in return for custody of the boy and control over his medical future.

But Jensen is concerned that some measures invoking his son's name might tolerate child abuse.

"They have to maintain the protective system for everybody. It's not easy," Jensen said. "You may have people up here ranting and raving. That's not how to make laws."

Jensen said his own encounter with medical authorities was a kind infrequent and uncommon, over the family's disagreement with doctor-endorsed chemotherapy sought by state guardians and originally upheld by a juvenile court judge for Parker's uncertain cancer.

Jensen doesn't dispute that a tiny tumor removed last spring from the soft palate of Parker's mouth tested positive for Ewing's sarcoma, an especially aggressive cancer. But once that was removed, Jensen said Parker has shown no sign of any lingering cancer.

Documents show Leavitt's a multi-millionaire

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Former Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt's personal net worth of \$7 million and \$31 million - such of it came from the insurance business his father started, according to federal records obtained by the Salt Lake Tribune.

Leavitt's 14-page financial disclosure report to the U.S. Office of Government Ethics required by his new job as head of the Environmental Protection Agency is the first glimpse Utahans have had into the portfolio of the former governor. He earned \$166,262 last year as the state's chief executive, compared to the \$157,000 he'll receive this year as EPA boss. Leavitt never had to publicly reveal details of his personal finances during the 11 years he served in the Capitol, but state law only required elected officials to report political campaign contributions and expenditures.

Leavitt's disclosure report, which was recently placed in the agency's public file, following his November confirmation, indicates he is wealthier than perhaps many Utahns perceived during his tenure in the governor's office. "I'm sure it may come as some surprise to the rank and file citizen, but I'm also sure the business elite and political elite of the state had a general idea," said Kelly Patterson, chair of Brigham Young University's political science department. "He has always had the image of a successful business person."

Leavitt was seldom described in news coverage during his years as governor as "a millionaire." Instead, he was most generally known as president of a Cedar City insurance firm and a Republican political operative before he became Utah's second youngest governor ever, elected in

1992 at age 41. Leavitt turned 53 Wednesday.

Much of Leavitt's personal capital is in two family trusts. Leavitt Group Enterprises holds the insurance company - his most valuable asset.

His father Dixie Leavitt started the family's insurance business in 1952, and it's now valued between \$5 million and \$25 million and claims more than 100 affiliates nationwide.

Leavitt's share of the Leavitt Group's earnings last year were more than \$1 million, but he returned all but \$14,125 in dividends to the company for operations.

Leavitt also has ownership in two other companies, an investment and land firm called Smith Leavitt Co. and a company owning commercial and residential real estate in Nevada and Utah called Leavitt Land and Investment.

Teton housing project riles conservationists

MOOSE, Wyo. (AP) - Conservationists say they are disappointed by a decision to house as many as 20 Grand Teton National Park employees at a historic home. The McCollister residence at the foot of Shadow Mountain is on prime wildlife habitat where poronghorn give birth, bison graze and sage grouse breed, said Cameron, executive director of the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance.

"Not only do we feel that putting development there is inappropriate, but that there are other loca-

tions where housing could be incorporated," he said.

Joel Berger, of the Wildlife Conservation Society, said his park policy to cluster development to protect wildlife, rather than disperse it.

"If the park can't speak out on behalf of wildlife for the millions who visit, who can?" he asked. Berger and others suggested the Park Service move the McCollister buildings to Kelly, where the agency holds land. The groups pointed out that Kelly is a disturbed site - where humans have displaced wildlife.

But park spokeswoman Joan Anzelmo said Kelly residents have been in objecting to park housing proposals in the past.

Park officials also say their plan is the best way to preserve the historic site while addressing a housing crunch that makes it difficult to attract qualified employees to Grand Teton.

A recent study shows the park is short 119 housing units. "The primary goal of using the McCollister residential complex is to preserve it," Anzelmo said.

Crump

Continued from B1 Interstate near the Utah-Idaho border with a lurch-and-driver-a-couple-of-years ago. He told me that he always turned around and took another route whenever blowing snow cut visibility to 100 to less than a truck-length. "It's just too hard to see the wrecked cars in your path," he explained.

Mattel, which manufactures both, made the announcement last week. It was Barbie's call, evidently. She wants to see other dolls, I guess, but shoot: These two have been together four decades.

The unspoken suggestion, of course, was that Ken is a 60-ounce weaseling. Mattel insists that Barbie and Ken will always be friends, but I don't know about that; G.I. Joe is still very much on the market.

But let's not pretend there weren't problems. A coworker in his mid-40s told me that when he was a kid, it used to take his G.I. Joe doll over to his cousin's, who owned a Barbie and a Ken. They'd try to dress G.I. Joe up in Ken's clothes, which turned out to be far too small.

Still, it's not as though life is over at 43 for a boy toy. Miss Piggy turns 29 this year, and she's available in both stuffed and wind-up versions.

Steve Crump is the Times-News features editor. Write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

University takes the mystery out of maps

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Geographic Information Systems was a mystery to Jim Myers.

For the never graduates the geologist found himself working with, it was familiar technology. They showed Myers ways he could use GIS programs to map almost everything he needed for his job in mineral exploration - helping him identify known mineral deposits and find patterns to identify where others might exist.

Myers decided to take the mystery out of GIS, a technology that's been around for years but is quickly advancing, by enrolling in the GIS certificate program that the University of Idaho is launching in Coeur d'Alene.

Myers can take layers of information and look at them at the same time," said Idaho professor DeYoung. The college has offered GIS classes in Coeur d'Alene since 2002, but just recently decided to offer a full certificate program, said Wanda Quinn, the university's Coeur d'Alene program development specialist. Quinn said she was asking peo-

ple in the community what programs they would like to see the school offer through its extension office.

Dave Williamson, mapping manager for the Kootenai County Assessor's Office, asked why GIS wasn't being offered there. The county, along with a handful of towns in the county, has been using GIS technology for some time.

Williamson said GIS allows the county to layer roads and parcel maps on top of aerial photos of the county. He can zoom in and pan around, click on a particular land parcel and get information on the owner, property address, legal description and more.

"The county uses GIS for its 911 dispatch system, helping provide directions for emergency workers. Donna Phillips was a self-taught GIS user until she enrolled in the university's GIS classes."

Now the city of Hayden's engineering technician assistant has learned the latest in technology. "The last day I took, I came back and used it at work the very next day," Phillips said.

The know-how helped her whiz through tasks that used to take hours. She helped the city's newly formed Community Forestry Commission inventory the city's trees and plot the locations and specific information about each tree on the city maps.

Hayden also uses GIS for its zoning, water and parcel maps. Though GIS is widely used by public agencies, it's also increasingly used in the private sector.

Joe Marshall, a drafting and design instructor at North Idaho College, enrolled in the GIS program so he can incorporate GIS into his own curriculum.

"There are so many people using GIS for so many things," Marshall said. "If my students have an introduction to GIS, they'll be better prospects for potential employers."

Marshall said a lot of civil engineering firms are interested in hiring workers skilled in GIS. The technology is being used by businesses for keeping track of customers and developing marketing strategy.

Mayor

Continued from B1 the staff."

Plans for more development in Riverside Park, which include an amphitheater, have Anderson excited. He emphasizes that once built the amphitheater should be used by groups from all around Mini-Cassia.

The amphitheater is expected to cost about \$44,000. The city of Heyburn and the Heyburn Economic Development Committee have already contributed \$14,000 toward the project. City officials are seeking an \$8,000 federal grant. The balance of funds are expected to come from private donations. Cinder blocks with engraved plaques are already on sale. That promotional effort is spearheaded by Ralph Butters.

Plans call for having the amphitheater built by summer, Anderson said.

Anderson wants to do his part to encourage cooperation among all the government entities in Mini-Cassia.



Heyburn Mayor George Anderson stands in front of a city map in his office at Heyburn City Hall. Anderson's been on the job for about six weeks.

Elected officials should get together regularly to share ideas, plans and projects, he said. In fact, he plans to pitch to his fellow mayors that they form a group of mayors and one county commissioner from each county to meet monthly and do that kind of work.

"We all need to work on that," Anderson said.

Shelley Ridemour is editor of The Times-News Mini-Cassia Bureau. She can be reached at 208-677-4014, Ext. 642, or by email at sridemour@magicvalley.com.

Utah State ties its prominence to space exploration

LOGAN, Utah (AP) — If the United States establishes a permanent site on the moon to be used as a launching pad to Mars, future astronauts will have researchers at Utah State University to thank for some of their equipment.

And for their vegetables. "What started more than 40 years ago with a faculty member's involvement in the V2 rocket project has turned the school with 20,000 undergraduate students into one of the nation's biggest players in the aerospace industry."

Now, Utah State's Space Dynamics Laboratory brings in more than \$60 million each year in grants and research funding, and has positioned itself among the nation's top colleges in scoring space projects.

It is one of only a handful of schools designated as University Affiliated Research Centers, which allows the lab to secure government contracts with much less bureaucracy than other centers.

The Space Dynamics Laboratory exists in 173,000 square feet of laboratories, conference rooms and offices just off the Utah State campus. There, about 350 employees, including 80 students, work on projects commissioned by the aerospace and defense clients, including the federal government.

"If (further exploration) is to happen, they will need instrumentation," said lab director Michael D. Pavich. "We build them — that's our specialty."

While lab officials are still not sure what role they will play in future space exploration, researchers already have their hands full with projects for the military — including next-generation satellites for the U.S., Russia that work in tandem — and the International Space Station.

NASA and the Department of Defense look to the school to test instruments and to make sure they are able to withstand the stress and temperature rigors of space and air travel.

Besides instruments, most of the lab's current work with the space program involves building sensors — primarily infrared, but also ultraviolet, hyperspectral and gamma.

The lab has developed thousands of sensors and supporting devices for more than 400 space and aircraft projects.

Those include a project developed in conjunction with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory that will use infrared sensors to provide a more comprehensive survey of space than was previously possible. It will be used by scientists trying to determine the origins of planets and galaxies.

The state is also at the forefront of space agricultural research.

"They have such good expertise," said NASA scientist Charles Barnes. "Their strength is their ability to do extremely well in a competitive forum."

The lab's lab is helping astronauts take peas, radishes, tomatoes and mizuna — a bitter-tasting Japanese lettuce — into space.

The lab's students, developed by the lab, uses foot-high growth chambers and a computer which, together, are no larger than a footstool.

In these chambers, astronauts — using loose, pebbly soil that resembles unfertilized kitty litter — grow plants in the zero gravity atmosphere of space.

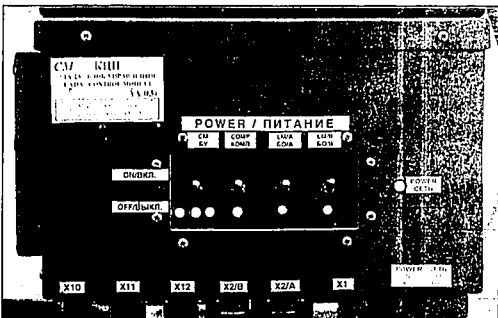
The benefits, besides food and research, are also recreational and humanizing for astronauts living in a cold, foreign atmosphere.

"You might be able to take care of nutritional needs out of a tube, but there's a psychological value to this," said Harry Ames, SDL deputy director.

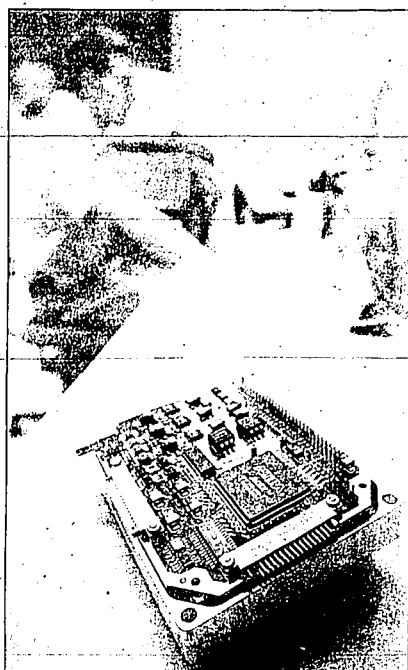
The lab is also heading the United States' end of a project



Director Michael Pavich stands in the Space Dynamics Laboratory in a corner of Utah State's campus Tuesday in Logan, Utah.



Developed by students, the Lada Project sports both English and Russian labels at the Space Dynamics Laboratory at Utah State.



Student Hazen Sedgwick works on a sensor unit at the Space Dynamics Laboratory. Scheduled for an August launch, a sounding rocket will be sent into the ionosphere with the sensor and computer hardware, foreground, built from scratch by students.

between the U.S. Department of Defense and the Russian Ministry of Defense.

Together, the two are building satellites that will operate in sync to take photographs of the Earth. The pictures will be used to beef up surveillance and early warning systems for both military uses and natural disasters.

School officials say it's unique because it's the only project shared by the U.S. and Russian defense departments.

In a neighboring building, the lab uses a roughly 12-foot-long, high-tech chamber to test satellites and instruments under conditions similar to space.

Having such highly specialized equipment comes in handy when the lab has to devise new equipment for the fly for NASA, like fixing a problem on the International Space Station. The station picks up static electricity more quickly than it can be emitted,

creating a potentially dangerous environment for astronauts working outside of it.

Professor Charles Swenson's group was charged with creating monitoring devices, which would become a permanent part of the space station, as quickly and cheaply as possible, and that would function where additional pieces were not designed to work or be installed.

"It was a lot of pressure," Swenson said of the 10-month project, done about 14 months ahead of normal. "They basically came to us and said, 'We don't even have an idea of how it would work.'"

The lab's sensing devices and software have enabled photography advancements aboard F-18 fighters, allowing the military to download aerial images in step frames and real time.

Previously, personnel had to take the photographs, develop

them and paste everything together to compose a comprehensive picture. But the new technology helps the military more efficiently scout targets, determine what's been hit and perform reconnaissance.

Retired generals and other former military personnel hold high-level positions at the high-security lab — partly because of their expertise in the defense and aerospace industries.

Even without renewed interest in space encouraged by President Bush's call last month for a return to the moon and travel to Mars sometime afterward, Pavich says the lab's defense and aerospace research to further raise Utah State's national profile.

"We're getting to the size now where we're going in several directions," he said. "As long as we keep the focus on answering problems that are important ... I think we'll continue to be successful."

TACK and SADDLE AUCTION

Monday March 1st 7 PM

Doors Open at 6:15 PM

Three bar Saddlers of San Antonio, Texas, has commissioned me to liquidate over \$250,000 worth of Tack and Saddles at PUBLIC AUCTION.

Due to VAST quantities of this merchandise, it has been divided to be disposed of in as many public auctions as necessary. Each auction will have over 100 saddles, Western Ranch Ropers, Pleasure, Silvered Show, Youth, Pony, Australian, English and Pack Horse saddles. PLUS!!! Silvered Show Bridles, Halters, Lead Ropes, Grooming Items, Braided Collars, Saddle Pads and Blankets, Horse Driving Harness, Lariets, Whips, Canvas Waterproof Winter Blankets, Bits, Spurs PLUS 100s of more items!

ALL BRAND NEW, ALL BRAND NAMES

Auctioneer's Note!!! This merchandise has been ordered to be sold to the highest bidder regardless of the cost or losses. If you are in the market for a new saddle or some tack, wait to restock your store or just want to save some money, then plan to attend this spectacular one-night auction.

Red Lion Hotel - Canyon Springs

1357 Blue Lakes Blvd North, Twin Falls, Idaho

Auctioneer: Vernell, 406-234-4720 or WWW.BEASADHES.COM Terms: CASH, ATM and Credit Cards. Checks with proper ID.

Angela Michele (Berger) announced the winner for the Angel Matthew Eldredge, born on Jan. 25, 2004, 10:58 am at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Angela is the daughter of Michael Eldredge (Twin Falls, ID) and resident of the City of Jerome. Born weighed 1 lb., 1.4 oz. 11 1/2" in length. River & Anita thank their family, friends & co-workers for all their love and support. Everything has been greatly appreciated. River & Anita send their love to all.

Angela is the daughter of Michael Eldredge (Twin Falls, ID) and resident of the City of Jerome. Born weighed 1 lb., 1.4 oz. 11 1/2" in length. River & Anita thank their family, friends & co-workers for all their love and support. Everything has been greatly appreciated. River & Anita send their love to all.

AUCTION CALENDAR

through March 1

MONDAY, FEB. 16, 6:00PM
Lorne King Estate, Twin Falls
Antiques • Glassware • Furniture
Consignments Taken Daily • Grand Opening
734-1635 • 731-4567
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionsidoaho.com

TUESDAY, FEB. 17, 10:30AM
Krantz Farms, Caldwell
Tractors • Trucks, Pickups • Plowing, Harvesting, Ground Working Equip.
Ag Weekly Ad: 2-7
WESTERN AUCTION CO.
www.westernauktionco.com

TUESDAY, FEB. 17, 5:00PM
Household • Tools • Antiques
Outrageous Odds!!! or Jorams
KLAUGS AUCTION BARN
208-324-5521

MONDAY, FEB. 23, 6:00PM
Grand Opening Continues, Twin Falls
Antique Beutle Collection • Primitives
Antique Furniture • Consignments Taken Daily
734-1635 • 731-4567
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionsidoaho.com

MONDAY, MAR. 1, 6:00PM
Cowboy & Western Auction, Twin Falls
Antiques • Collectibles • Tack • Chops
Primitives • Consignments Taken Daily
734-1635 • 731-4567
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionsidoaho.com

MONDAY, MAR. 1, 7:00PM
Saddles & Tack Auction, Twin Falls
120 New Saddles • 100s of Tack Items
Ag Weekly Ad: 2-14, 21, 28
Times-News Ad: 2-14, 15, 20-29
VERN SEAL AUCTIONEER
www.3bsaddles.com

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E-mail: jhollon@gmagicvalley.com

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EVENING COMPUTER CLASSES

Classes starting on February 24th

COURSE NO.	TITLE	DAYS	DATES	TIME	INSTRUCTOR	ROOM
INFT 100-C03	Intro to Computers	Tue	2/24 - 3/30	6:30 - 9:30	TBA	Canyon 124C
INFT 130-C04	Intro to Windows	Thu	2/26 - 4/1	6:30 - 9:30	Mark Jenkins	Shields 101
INFT 135-C01	Intro to Presentation Software	Wed	2/25 - 3/31	6:30 - 9:30	I. Bagdasarova	Canyon 124C
INFT 191-C01	Home and Small Office Networking	Tue	2/24 - 3/30	6:00 - 9:00	TBA	Canyon 101
INFT 102-C03	PC Prep 123	Tue-Thu	2/3 - 3/4	6:00 - 10:00	Jeff Pierson	Canyon 107
COMP P125-C01	Intro to Frontpage 2000	Tue	2/24 - 3/30	6:30 - 9:30	T. Gutierrez	Evg A23
COMP P199-C05	Using a Digital Camera	Wed	2/25 - 3/31	6:30 - 9:30	Edi Szanto	Aspen 144
COMP P199-C06	Muse With MS Access	Thu	2/26 - 4/1	6:30 - 9:30	I. Bagdasarova	Canyon 124C
COMP P199-C07	Personal Digital Assistants	Thu	2/26 - 4/1	6:30 - 9:30	L. Kreider	Evg A23
COMP P199-C14	Using Dreamweaver	Tue	2/24 - 3/30	6:30 - 9:30	S. Christensen	Aspen 144

Classes Starting on March 1st

INFT	141-C01	Intro to Word Processing	Mon-Wed	3/01 - 4/07	4:00 - 5:20	C. Custer	Canyon 124C
INFT	SC09-C01	Using Image Editing(Photoshop)	Sat	3/6 - 3/13	9:00 - 5:00	Edi Szanto	Aspen 144
INFT	169-C01	Cisco Networking 2 (3)	Tue-Thu	3/16 - 5/13	6:00 - 10:00	1. Torngsson	Canyon 124C
INFT	277-C01	Network Security	Mon-Wed	3/15 - 5/7	6:00 - 10:00	R. Bow	Canyon 123
COMP	P199-C08	Using Internet & Email	Mon	3/8 - 4/12	6:30 - 9:30	Edi Szanto	Canyon 124C

For information or to enroll, contact CSI Evening Computer Coordinator Olenka Paredes at 732-6441 or at oparedes@csi.edu. All classes earn one college credit unless otherwise noted. Each credit is \$82.50 plus textbook. COMP classes require an additional \$25 lab fee. Classes are subject to possible cancellation.

MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE ANNOUNCES THE COMMUNITY AUCTIONS ARE COMING!

Thanks, Magic Valley Farmers & Ranchers, For Your Continued Support

We have many farm sales coming up, but there are still a few dates open. Are you planning an upcoming auction sale? Let us include you in our auction schedule.

WEST END COMMUNITY AUCTION • THURSDAY, MARCH 12
WENDEL COMMUNITY AUCTION • MONDAY, MARCH 22
MINIDOKA COMMUNITY AUCTION • SATURDAY, MARCH 27

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WEST

SURVIVING THE COLDEST OF THE COLD



Ed Heckst sits outside his tent at a camp on an old mining site near downtown Juneau, Alaska. Heckst arrived in Alaska a year ago from Arlington, Wash., settling in Juneau where he got a short-lived job processing fish for \$8.50 an hour. He stayed at the Glory Hole, a local shelter, for a week, but hated the cramped quarters. Unable to afford even the cheapest rent, he set up the hand-me-down tent among spruce and alder trees at an abandoned mining site.

Alaska's hardcore homeless brave winter outdoors

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Ron Feldhouse draws the line at 45 degrees below zero. Then it's time to sleep indoors.

Otherwise, the 47-year-old man sets up camp in the woods outside Fairbanks, where winter temperatures can lower around minus-20 or colder for weeks at a stretch.

Dealing with extreme elements is the norm for Feldhouse and other "hardcore" homeless Alaskans who live outdoors in weather so cold it can be easily fatal for the unprepared.

"It's a learned art," Feldhouse said. "After a while, you just start getting used to it."

Many of Alaska's indigent — a population that's difficult to measure — cope by drifting from couch to couch or sleeping in motels, cars, boats and homeless shelters in the state's larger cities. But a small number say they prefer dealing with the bitter cold to following rules at shelters, which offer limited stays, forbid the use of alcohol and drugs and impose strict curfews.

Ed Heckst arrived in Alaska a year ago from Arlington, Wash., settling in Juneau where he got a short-lived job processing fish for \$8.50 an hour. He stayed at the Glory Hole, a local shelter, for a week, but hated the cramped quarters.

Unable to afford even the cheapest rent, he set up a hand-me-down tent among spruce and alder trees at an abandoned mining site just outside downtown Juneau. In the summer, he has a perfect view of the cruise ships that frequent the Southeast Alaska town.

"I can't handle the snoring and the smelly feet of a shelter," said Heckst, 36. "But I'm very independent and I can survive anywhere."

Practiced campers say it's not that hard to stay warm in a state on the far northern latitudes — it just takes a little ingenuity.

They dig caves out of snow mounds, pack snow high around outer tent walls for insulation and line inner edges with clothing. Some burrow in trash bins or curl up in doorways.

On cold nights, Heckst burns a can of gel fuel inside his tent for 10 minutes to get it "nice and warm." He puts on layers of shirts, pants, a couple pairs of socks and a hat before diving into his mummy-style sleeping bag, which is sandwiched between a plastic foam mat and a pile of blankets.

Feldhouse, who's been without a permanent home in Alaska and North Dakota for 25 years, is a regular at several Fairbanks coffee shops. When temperatures plummet, he can be found inside long past midnight, nursing a cup of coffee before heading to his camp on his bicycle.

"People ask me, 'Don't you get cold?' No, not really, only when I get out of my sleeping bag," he said. "I just don't like being tied down. Living like this lightens the load. I don't have to answer to anybody, don't have bills to pay."

In Anchorage, a city of 274,000, agencies that work with the homeless estimate between 8,000 and 10,000 people find themselves without a permanent roof at least temporarily over any given year.

Many of Alaska's indigent — a population that's difficult to measure — cope by drifting from couch to couch or sleeping in motels, cars, boats and homeless shelters in the state's larger cities. But a small number say they prefer dealing with the bitter cold to following rules at shelters, which offer limited stays, forbid the use of alcohol and drugs and impose strict curfews.

Only a fraction end up at one of the 35 makeshift camps currently well-hidden around the city and its suburbs. The number of camps fluctuates as authorities make periodic sweeps.

Many campers are Alaska Natives, said Norma Carter, social services director of Bean's Cafe, a day shelter and soup kitchen.

The elderly man, who grew up in a Western Alaska village, told Carter he misses his old life.

"I think it's a cultural thing in some cases, where people are accustomed to taking a boat up the river and sleeping on the bank, under the stars," she said. "For others, it's just not having money, not wanting to be found. There are different reasons why people camp."

It's a choice for Ellamae Clark, who has camped in Anchorage for nine years. She shares a site with her boyfriend and six other men. They sleep four to a tent, which goes a long way to staying warm. Clark said they all drink heavily, so watching each other is crucial to avoid freezing to death.

Clark, 43, said she rarely feels the cold, having grown up in the village of Selawik above the Arctic Circle.

"I even sleep in shorts," she said. "For me, it's an easy life. Having a camp is harder in the summer because you have to watch out for teenagers who want to vandalize it. In the summer, it gets too hot."

Chronic homelessness is almost unheard of in rural villages, where few people are strangers. That applies even to the southwestern hub of Bethel — a largely Yupik Eskimo town of 5,900 people that serves as the regional center for 56 villages in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta.

"Yupik society is pretty generous," said Bob Herron, Bethel's city manager. "If your second cousin is in need, society out here will take care of them. You can pretty much get help."

Or move on. Most of Alaska's homeless wind up in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and other urban areas, where shelters, public transportation, job opportunities and low-income medical care are available.

Leaving the state, however, is not an option for those who can't scrape together the price of a one-way airplane ticket to a warmer

'Sidekick' keeps judge informed on proceedings

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — When defendants go on trial, they see the judge running the courtroom and handing down sentences and rulings.

What they don't see is the hours of study and the mechanics behind the judge's decisions. And they don't see Carl.

Instead of entering a private practice or trying to find himself while bumming around Europe after graduating from law school, Carl Withroe applied to become 7th District Court Judge Brent Moss' law clerk, thinking he would be close to good skiing and that he'd get great experience.

"I didn't realize the level of responsibility I would have, a brand-new law school graduate making recommendations to the judge," he said.

Instead of the bench, Carl began sitting on a tilted chair at a desk supported by hefty law textbooks. And his is the life of a bookworm. For the past 13 months, he has dug through state and federal laws to make recommendations Moss may or may not agree with.

"The law clerk is sort of the sidekick for the judge," Withroe said. "The judge asks a question or gives me a case, and it's my job to make sure the law is right."

A law clerk is an entry-level position for law school graduates, but not an easy one to get. Each judge in Idaho and many lawyers have clerks. Moss said although clerks don't have the power to resolve cases, they're necessary.

"A judge without a law clerk couldn't maintain any semblance of keeping current," he said.

For much of the day, Withroe stays behind the four walls of his office with books open, doing things he said most people would find "utterly boring," but which excite him.

"I've always liked trying to put things together, gather facts and doing research," he said. "It's just a fun challenge."

Thus, Withroe spends most of his day out of sight. But he isn't bored or unhappy.

"I couldn't have landed a better job just out of law school and that's because of who I work for," he said. "I have friends working as law clerks in other states who compare their bosses to characters — Jabba the Hut or other tyrants."

Withroe, by comparison, is confident in Moss' decisions and ability to be balanced, despite the suggestion by some that local courts are too lenient.

"He is as fair as they come," Withroe said. "I believe he treats every litigant and attorney how they would want to be treated. The trick is to figure out what's right, not who's right."

Moss said this respect is mutual. "He does very good work," Moss said. "He can do (computer research) a lot quicker than I can. I still use the books."

In return, Withroe gets unfettered access to the judge, the only person with whom he works closely, and a view most people don't see.

"I get the sort of perspective that an attorney doesn't get," Withroe said. "I can walk 10 steps and ask anything I want."

But for Withroe, sticking to his office is part of the job. He keeps the judge informed, which means he can't be biased or influenced by outside sources, only by the law and the facts about the case.

place. But many wouldn't want to live anywhere else, said Jotta Whittaker, director of the Juneau shelter.

"It's certainly easier to be homeless somewhere else where it's not as cold, where you can sleep under a bridge and it's not life-threatening," Whittaker said. "But this is their home, their community."



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Speaker 8:30 a.m.

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The Times-News

TWIN FALLS COUNTY COURTS

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls County included the following:

Felony sentencing

Wesley Toppinna Konyak, 26, 565 N. Washington, Twin Falls, possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine; pleaded guilty, four years penitentiary, two years determinate, two years indeterminate, suspended, three years probation, \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer including intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; submit to alcohol/drug testing; comply with recommendations of alcohol/substance abuse evaluation; 90 days discretionary jail time; 100 hours community service; \$713.35 restitution; \$40 per month probation fee; District Judge John C. Hohlbort.

Anthony S. Martinez, 18, 314 Fourth St. W. Twin Falls; aiding and abetting burglary; found guilty, five years penitentiary, three years determinate, two years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$1,200 restitution; District Judge John C. Hohlbort.

Matthew A. Farnworth, 20, P.O. Box 316, Kimberly; burglary; pleaded guilty, eight years penitentiary, four years determinate, four years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Twin Falls Community Work Center; \$1,000 fine with \$500 suspended; \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; \$421.75 restitution; sentence to run concurrent with other case; District Judge G. Richard Bevan.

Matthew A. Farnworth, 20, P.O. Box 316, Kimberly; malicious injury to property; pleaded guilty, five years penitentiary, two years determinate, three years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Twin Falls Community Work Center; \$1,000 fine with \$1,000 suspended; \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; \$421.75 restitution; sentence to run concurrent with other case; District Judge G. Richard Bevan.

Darrell D. Strickland, 23, 215 Clear Lakes, Bull; lewd conduct with a minor under 16; pleaded guilty, six years penitentiary, three years determinate, three years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$1,000 fine with \$1,000 suspended; \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; \$421.75 restitution; sentence to run concurrent with other case; District Judge G. Richard Bevan.

Jason Frank Marwill, 30, no street address available; Twin Falls; grand theft; pleaded guilty, seven years penitentiary, three years determinate, four years indeterminate; suspended; five years probation; \$1,000 fine with \$500 suspended; \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; 60 days in jail; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; must maintain employment or be enrolled in school; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; submit to alcohol/drug testing; 30 days discretionary jail time; \$40 per month probation fee; 50 hours community service; abide by terms of alcohol/substance abuse evaluation; \$1,995 restitution; District Judge G. Richard Bevan.

Adam C. Peterson, 38, 6720 W. 4100 S., Meridian; Utah possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine; pleaded guilty, five years penitentiary, two years determinate, three years indeterminate; suspended; four years probation; \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; \$88.50 court costs; \$500 public defender fee; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; must maintain employment or be enrolled in school; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; submit to alcohol/drug testing; 45 days discretionary jail time; \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; abide by terms of alcohol/substance abuse evaluation; \$1,995 restitution; District Judge G. Richard Bevan.

Felony dismissals

Rosee Clea Weir, 83, 1567 E. 3900 N., Bull; intimidating a witness, dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations; District Judge John C. Hohlbort.

Juvenile arraignments

Derek T. Rider, 15, 709 Louisa St., Kimberly; delivery of a legend drug, Amberly; pleaded guilty; 180 days detention with 180 suspended; 24 months probation; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer including alcohol and drug education/treatment; \$20 court costs; Magistrate Judge John Varin.

Civil filings

Any Moulson vs. Robert Moulson and Wendell and Reed. Seeking judgment against the defendants for \$20,228.39 plus interest; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as deemed just by court. Plaintiff claims that defendant veas the executor of the estate James Moulson. Plaintiff alleges that defendant would have a fidu-



ciary obligation to plaintiff, spouse and heir of James Moulson estate which included proceeds from Jerome County. Plaintiff alleges that defendant, Robert Moulson, executed a personal representative's deed over to Alan Heck, who was an employee of Wendell and Reed prior to the sale of said premises, thereby permitting that Alan Heck could sell the premises. Plaintiff further allege that Alan Heck did not take the property and retained the funds for his own benefit without forwarding them to the plaintiff as agreed. Plaintiff demands jury trial.

David Cavenders vs. Dennis Butler. Seeking judgment against the defendant for general and special damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as the court deems just. Plaintiff alleges that he was injured when his vehicle struck a cow and that plaintiff was negligent in not securing the cow on his property and in allowing his cow to access the road. Plaintiff demands jury trial.

Robyn Larrese vs. Eric P. Hoffman M.D. and William F. May M.D. Seeking judgment against the defendants for general and special damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as the court deems just. Plaintiff states that she was injured by defendant's after receiving injuries in a vehicle accident. Plaintiff alleges that defendant failed to diagnose and treat her for a severe rotator cuff injury causing plaintiff to suffer a "locked" shoulder, injury to her nervous system, muscular and skeletal injury and pain, mood anguish and distress, and physical impairment and judgment.

Luella Thompson vs. Auto Oil Chance L.C. and Jiffy Lube. Seeking special damages for past and future medical expenses and past and future economic loss, general damages for pain, suffering, disfigurement, and loss of enjoyment of life; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as the court deems just. Plaintiff states that she took her car to defendant's business for an oil change. Plaintiff alleges that after exiting her car, she was tripped by a bar that she could not see and fell to the floor sustaining permanent bodily injuries. Plaintiff alleges the defendants were negligent in failing to warn plaintiff of the obstacle and failing to design and operate the area safely. Plaintiff demands jury trial.

Child support cases

Martha Elizabeth Robinson vs. Sean Godin. Seeking that the court exercise jurisdiction over minor children, and child support and physical custody of children to plaintiff; visitation allowed to defendant only with supervised setting and supervision provided by a responsible adult other than defendant; for costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Curtis Alan Benschke. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$273 monthly support plus 61 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,462 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Filiberto Rivera, also known as Filiberto Rivera Lopez. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$268 monthly support plus 60 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$3,234 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Willie Isaac Conners. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$125 monthly support plus 45 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,842 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Ramon Perez. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$409 monthly support plus 78 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,436 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Miguel A. Lopez. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$247 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$798 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. DeWayne L. Gailley. Seeking establishment of paternity; 57 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,113 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Ouyintun John Urriazaga. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$126 monthly support plus 49 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,372 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laine Pina, also known as Laura Pina Fuentes. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$125 monthly support plus 45 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical

insurance; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Patrick Michael Austin. Seeking establishment of paternity; 56 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Joshua Orion Iboel. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$176 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$330 attorney's

fees and costs.

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Karl J. Rucker. Seeking establishment of paternity; 100 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.


State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Regina Marie Iller vs. Wayne Allen Iller.
Crystal Gail Houser vs. Bradley R. Houser.
Maria Vazquez vs. Jose Vazquez.
Timothy Allen Cummings vs. Tonya Cummings.
Joyce A. Brown vs. Lewis H. Brown.
Sherrie Ann Sanders vs. Cecil Scott Sanders.
Michael Patrick Yundt vs. Heather Irene Yundt.
Alisa Lin Works vs. Christopher Lee Works.
Robert Kelly Parker vs. Dicie Ann Parker.

Divorces filed
Alice Diane Shelton vs. Ronald Lee Shelton.
Jed Ramsey vs. Keia Laree Ramsey.
Barbara Susan Edwards vs. Gerald Kenneth Edwards.

Trisha Dawn Baker vs. Dale Carlton Baker Jr.
Melody Lynn Higley vs. Ellis Bruce Higley.
Ilda Lora vs. Moises Lara.
Todd L. Birmingham vs. James Birmingham.
Holly A. Thacker vs. Mitchell John Thacker.
Caroline Kay Heffelfinger vs. Ryan J. Bean.
Cindy Renae Thompson vs. Rodney Eugene Thompson.
Robin Kathy vs. Jack V. King.
Robert Wilson vs. Lisa Wilson.
Sheri M. Hall vs. Jim A. Hall.

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IDAHO/WEST

Kerry backers press for an Idaho victory

By Bob Fick
Associated Press writer



John Kerry
Has a home in Ketchum

BOISE - Politics takes over from policy for many Idaho politicians this week. On Feb. 10, when Republicans make the rounds of the election-year Lincoln Day banquets and Democrats tune up for their quadrennial presidential nominating caucuses.

But this year the focus is reversed. Republicans, used to being the center of attention, are drawing little because of barely a hint of competition for any legislative seats and none for U.S. Sen. Michael Chabro or Congressman Butch Otter, and Michael Simpson.

The Democrats, however, are in the midst of what is still a competitive race for their party's presidential nomination.

The chances of turning Idaho's four electoral votes over to their nominee in November are all but nonexistent. Idaho has not voted for a Democrat since 1964. But party leaders believe any of the three chief contenders - John Kerry of Massachusetts, John Edwards of North Carolina and Howard Dean of Vermont - would be a boon to Democrats on the general election ball.

Former four-term Gov. Cecil Andrus sees any of the three as big improvements over Al Gore, whose environmental positions were a problem for Idaho Democrats in 2000, or Bill Clinton, whose personal conduct was a drag for the state party in 1996.

"Frankly, the Democrats nationally are in very good position with any of these people as our candidates," Andrus said. "So it's going to be very easy for me and other people to join together behind whoever wins."

Front-runner Kerry, the Massachusetts senator who has a home in Ketchum, has seven people working fulltime in Idaho to maximize his chance of adding his almost-home state to the dozen he has already won of the 14 that have voted.

Democrats allocate 18 of the state's 23 delegates to the national convention on Feb. 24. Of the other party leaders who are delegates, Kerry already has the support of National Committeeman Edgar Malapac, a state senator from Pocatello and a member of Kerry's steering committee. The others remain uncommitted for now.

State Democratic Chairman Carolyn Boyce said the momentum Kerry has built with coast-to-coast victories - so far - is being felt in Idaho, especially with Dean supporters.

"At one time, I thought it was going to be really close between Dean and Kerry, but now I sense some Dean people are changing," Boyce said.

Andrus seems to be among them. He endorsed the former Vermont governor last year during one of Dean's three trips to the state.

"But I think the bandwagon is rolling with Kerry, and I can support him as well," said Andrus, who says that if he would attend the Ada County Caucus or who he would line up with if he does.

"I support Dean," he said. "But

Property owners will pay more after glitch

BOISE (AP) - Property owners will pay more in taxes after the Ada County Assessor's Office made a clerical error that overvalued Sturmer & Klein Inc.'s property by \$138 million.

To correct the mistake on the telemarketing company's property, Assessor Bob McQuade and the county commissioners will increase taxes for every other property owner in the county.

The increase also will ensure cities, school districts and other tax-dependent government agencies do not lose their share of the nearly \$2.5 million difference from the mistake.

"We hope they will be understanding," said County Commissioner Fred Tilman. "We're all terribly frustrated that these kinds of things happen, but they do happen."

The largest increases will be for property owners within the Boise School District and Boise city boundaries. However, every

“
We hope they will be understanding.”

— Fred Tilman,
Ada County commissioner

one will see at least some increase - ranging from \$2.62 to \$17.80 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

That means the county's largest taxpayer, Micron Technology, owes another \$174,000. Someone like Boise Mayor Dave Bieter, whose home is assessed at \$111,000 after the homeowner's exemption, will owe another \$19.75.

The additional taxes will be included in bills delivered this summer. "An error on this scale has

never happened before in this office, and to ensure it never happens again, my office is making several changes to procedures," McQuade said.

Among those is a new policy requiring McQuade be notified of any increase in assessed value greater than \$250,000, so he can make needed corrections and notify affected taxing districts and county commissioners.

McQuade said no one has been fired as a result of the mistake, but he has not ruled out that possibility.

McQuade said the county discovered the error in October, but only this week was notified by school district officials of a new state law that allows the county to make up what would have been a \$2.5 million loss.

The law requires county commissioners to hold a public hearing to allow residents to vent about the error.

No hearing date has been set.

Thieves steal construction equipment

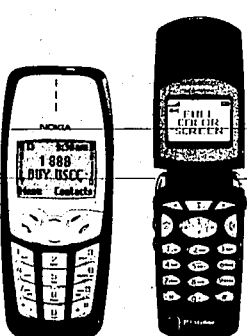
NAMPA (AP) - More than \$100,000 worth of construction equipment has been stolen from a storage lot, police said. Construction workers told Nampa investigators that they chained and locked the gate to a storage yard Wednesday evening, but when they returned the next morning, they found that the chain had been cut.

Several pieces of construction equipment were missing, including a 1996 Ford dump truck pulling a 2001 John Deere backhoe on a trailer and a 1997 Ford pickup pulling a 2003 case skidder on a trailer.

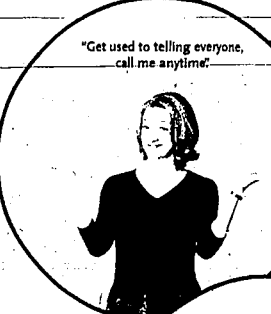
Detectives believe at least two people made the heist. Assistant Police Chief Tim Vincent said though investigators have no suspects, the stolen items would be difficult for the thieves to hide.

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Burley** Chubbuck** Chubbuck** Gooding Halley Idaho Falls Idaho Falls	415 Riverside Dr., 678-4228 AMT Cellular, Wall Mart, 4240 Yellowstone Ave., 238-2513 Cellular Center, Pine Bluff Mall, 238-8344 Western Cellular, 307 Main St., 934-4851 AMT Cellular, 201 W. 2nd, 288-1994 AMT Cellular, 1775 E. 37th St., 542-2501 Lata Wireless, 2633 S. 25th E., 524-5522	Montpelier Pocatello Pocatello Princeton	847-1521 AMT Cellular, 850 N. 5th St., 279-0548 Gateway Communications, 1501 E. Pioneer Blvd., 237-2273 Vision Communications, Variety Square, 320 S. 8th Ave., 238-2255 Hudson Cellular, 49 N. State, 251-3599	Salt Lake City Soda Springs Twin Falls** Twin Falls** Twin Falls**	R&L Communications, 101 E. Hooper Ave., 547-4444 AMT Cellular, Lynchwood Shopping Center, 540 Blue Lake Blvd. N., 732-5556 AMT Cellular, 1485 Pine Lake Rd. E., Ste 208 (Maple Valley Mall), 736-6540 Vision Communications, 1485 Pine Lake Rd. E., (Maple Valley Mall), 732-2255

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Micron plans for future by expanding in China

BOISE (AP) - Micron Technology Inc. is expanding its operations in China - looking to tap further into a market serving one-quarter of the world's population.

The company, Idaho's largest private-sector employer, is in the process of opening its fourth office there.

Within five years, Micron may build a large manufacturing plant in China, said Mike Sadler, vice president of worldwide sales.

Five years from now, the Asia-Pacific region including China, Japan, Singapore and Taiwan will likely represent more than half of Micron's sales, with the fastest growth coming from China. That market now accounts for one-third of its sales.

"The untapped market in China is just huge and it's very, very attractive to us," Sadler said.

In the past two years, Micron has made some significant moves into China, opening three new offices there.

It opened its first light assembly operation in Xiamen, China, five years ago in a site adjacent to a factory for Dell Computer - Micron's largest customer. Fewer

than 20 workers staff that operation, Sadler said.

Then, about two years ago, Micron opened a sales, marketing and design center in Shanghai, hiring about 30 employees. Eventually, the center will be developed into a much larger operation and turned into Micron's China headquarters, Sadler said.

More recently, Micron has established a sales office in Shenzhen and is in the process of opening one in Beijing.

Sadler said the expansion into China will not replace any operations in the United States or shift labor overseas.

Industry analysts say dynamic random access memory chip manufacturers cannot ignore the huge Chinese market.

"I think all the DRAM manufacturers are going after China," said Hans Aagesman with Soundview Technology.

Samsung Inc. has the inside track to China for the DRAM chips, Sadler said, simply because of its South Korean company has a widely known brand name.

Micron has three manufacturing facilities in the United States, but also has plants in Italy, Singapore and Japan.

SPORTS

The Times-News

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Section C

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

It's not often you get cheered at Madison Square Garden. They showed a lot of class and I wanted to respond.

— Flyers center Jeremy Roenick, after scoring to finish who game him an occasion as he left the ice after being hit in the face by Boris Mironov's shot. He suffered a broken jaw and is out 2-3 weeks.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

College baseball

CSI vs. Moraine Valley CC (Ill.) in Henderson, Nev. 10:30 a.m.
 CSI vs. Prairie Baseball Academy in Henderson, Nev., 2:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Gooding plans state fund-raiser

GOODING — The Gooding High School girls basketball team is holding a potato barn/hill feed fund-raiser from 5-7 p.m. Monday in the high school multi-use room to raise money for their first-ever trip to the state tournament. The cost is \$5 a person or \$20 a family.

Youth spring soccer registration begins

RUPERT — All Mini-Cassia youth-ages-5-16 are welcome to register for the Tri-City co-ed youth spring soccer program sponsored by the Rupert Recreation Department. Registration runs from Feb. 16 to March 12. Drop by the Rupert city office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays with a \$15 registration fee payment to sign up. For further information, please call 434-2400.

Minico wrestling holds registration Tuesday

RUPERT — The Minico freestyle wrestling program will hold registration at 5:30 Tuesday in the high school wrestling room. Wrestlers ages 5 and up can compete. They must bring a copy of their birth certificate. The cost is \$30.

T.F. priors boys and girls mini basketball camps

TWIN FALLS — "Mini March Madness" basketball camp will be held Monday nights in gym at the Twin Falls High School gym for boys and girls grades 1-3. Boys play from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. while girls go from 7-8 p.m. on March 1, 8 and 15. The camp's cost is \$20 with all proceeds going to the Twin Falls High girls basketball program. The event will be run by Bruins head coach Joe D. Shepard, his coaching staff and players. Registration forms are available at Donnelly Sports in Twin Falls. Parents can also register kids at the door from 5-5:30 p.m. March 1.

T.F. Rapids look to fill boys soccer roster

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Rapids competitive soccer teams are looking to add players to the 13-and-under and 11-and-under boys soccer teams for the upcoming season. For 13-year-olds, their birthday must be prior to August 1990 and for the 11 and under, before August 1992. For more information, call coach Sasha Pavlovic at 733-9411 or Mark Goodman at 733-3699.

Compiled from staff reports

A clean sweet sweep for CSI

Eagles women clinch share of SWAC title

By Kevin Colbert
 Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's still a little early to break out the confetti and party hats, but the College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team still has reason to celebrate.

The Golden Eagles survived a scare from the College of Eastern Utah and showed the heart of a champion down the stretch in a 70-63 win Friday night to clinch at least a share of the scenic West Athletic Conference title.

CSI (22-4 overall, 18-2 conference) still needs one more win or a loss by Salt Lake Community College to guarantee it will be the host for nationals in mid-March.

The Eagles trailed for much of the second half after struggling against CEU's full-court pressure.



CSI's Denisa Svarova (54) and Jordan Eckman (22) wrestle with College of Eastern Utah's Cassie Warburton (5) for the ball during the College of Southern Idaho's 70-63 win Saturday.

CSI turned the ball over 28 times in the game, 13 of those in the second half. But the Eagles took better care of the ball in a 14-6 run to close the game after CEU led 57-56.

"You want to push the ball against the pressure, but you want to create chances to score," CSI head coach Randy Rogers said. "I thought in the second half we did

a better job of being patient when we needed to be patient and pushing it when it was time to push it."

CSI's Sidney Orudorff finished with a game-high 18 points, and teammate Lenka Zimova added 16 after being held to five in the first half.

"The big difference is Lenka hit shots in the second half that she didn't

make in the first half," Rogers said. "She made some key buckets."

Chelsey Warburton paced CEU (21-6, 16-6) with 15 points.

CEU took a 35-31 lead at the break thanks to a 19-7 run to close the half. Eastern Utah did it with defense, using pressure to turn Golden Eagle turnovers directly

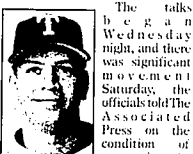
Please see CSI, Page C2

BRONX BOUND?

Yankees closes in on a deal for Alex Rodriguez

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Now it's the New York Yankees who are trying to trade for Alex Rodriguez. The American League champions and the Texas Rangers were closing in Saturday on a deal that would bring A-Rod to the Bronx for second baseman Alfonso Soriano and a player to be named, a pair of high-ranking baseball officials said.



Alex Rodriguez

The talks began Wednesday night, and there was significant movement Saturday, the officials told The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity. As part of the trade, Texas would pay a major portion of the \$179 million in salary that Rodriguez is owed over the final seven years of his contract.

One of the officials said the deal under discussion would have the Yankees paying Rodriguez an average of about \$16 million annually, which translates to Texas assuming \$67 million.

Rodriguez has a no-trade clause but has said he would be amenable to a deal to the Yankees, one of the officials said. Several baseball officials familiar with the discussions said the talks had gained momentum and that the parties involved were confident an agreement would be reached in the next few days.

Rodriguez, the AL MVP, would be moved from shortstop to third base by New York, seeking to fill the hole created when Aaron Boone hurt a knee last month in a pickup basketball game, an injury that will require surgery. Derek Jeter, the Yankees captain, would remain at shortstop.

Texas general manager John Hart confirmed negotiations were ongoing.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman declined to give details about the talks.

"Without going into the specifics, I can acknowledge trade discussions are taking place with the Texas Rangers," he said. "In fairness to all parties involved, I cannot comment further at this time."

The deal would require approval of the commissioner's office because of the money involved changing teams, and of the players' association, because of the deferred money in Rodriguez's contract would be restructured.

Please see A-ROD, Page C4

Wolves claim 58-48 comeback over M.V. Christian

By Eric Larsen
 Times-News writer

MURTAUGH — Down 13 points with four minutes left in the third quarter of Saturday's Magic Valley Conference Tournament opener against the Magic Valley Christian Conquerors, something clicked for the Castleford Wolves.

Magic Valley Conference Tournament

Saturday's games
 First round
 Castleford 58,
 Magic Valley Christian 48
 Hagerman 58, Oakley 34
 Hansen 65, Murtaugh 44

Monday's games
 Oakley vs. Murtaugh, 4:30 p.m., loser out
 Hansen vs. Hagerman, 6 p.m. semifinal
 Batt River vs. Castleford, 7:30 p.m. semifinal

In a 12-minute span, the fifth-seeded Wolves reeled off 35 points to pass the Conquerors and take a 58-48 win.

"We told our guys you can't defend your state championship unless you're here," Castleford coach Tyler Gaston said. "Our guys came out of the half fired up and ready to play."

Please see TOURNAMENT, Page C2



Castleford's Wes Rodgers takes one on the chin on his way to the hoop in the Wolves' 58-48 Magic Valley Conference Tournament win over the Magic Valley Christian Conquerors. Rodgers finished with 16 points, including hitting 8-of-10 fourth-quarter free throws Saturday.

A TIME TO CELEBRATE: Jim Kelly's 'hero' turns 7

By John Wawrow
 Associated Press writer

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Hunter Kelly got a birthday kiss from mom and dad in a room filled with balloons.

But the celebration lasted only so long. The challenging business of day-to-day living must be confronted: doses of medicine and vitamins, lung treatments and physical therapy.

Hunter, the son of Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly and wife Jill, turned 7 Saturday — a milestone for a boy doctors said would die from Krabbe disease by the time he was 14 months.

"It's another celebration for another year that my son has beaten the odds, pulled through," Jim Kelly said. "I don't know how he does it. He's without a doubt my hero."

The Valentine's Day baby who shares a birthday with his father has provided hope for families whose



Jim Kelly, former Buffalo Bills quarterback, and his wife, Jill, pose for a portrait with their son, Hunter, in Orchard Park, N.Y., Tuesday. Doctors said Hunter, who suffers from Krabbe disease, would not live past 14 months. The Valentine's baby will celebrate his 7-year-old birthday on Saturday, the same birthday as his father.

children are seriously ill.

"He'll never be able to do what daddy did," said Kelly, who led the Buffalo Bills to an unprecedented four straight AFC titles in the early 1990s. "But he's going to do greater things. He's going to make a difference in kids' lives. He already has."

The Kellys established Hunter's Hope's foundation that has raised nearly \$6 million to promote treatment, education and research into Krabbe. An agreement is near on building a lab dedicated to Krabbe and related diseases.

Krabbe affects one in 5 million newborns. The inherited degenerative disorder hinders development of the fatty sheath that protects the brain's nerve fibers.

First diagnosed almost 100 years ago, the disease has no cure. It induces seizures, stiffens limbs and slows motor and mental development. Most born with Krabbe don't live past their second birthday.

Please see KELLY, Page C4

Kobe or Shaq,



who takes over All-Star game?

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — More often than not in recent years, the NBA All-Star Game has ended up revolving in some way around Kobe Bryant or Shaquille O'Neal.

In Atlanta last February, Bryant's foul shots forced overtime and prevented a storbook ending for Michael Jordan.

In Philadelphia two years ago, Bryant was booed unmercifully in his hometown.

In 1996, fans in San Antonio booed Jordan's MVP selection as a

tribute to O'Neal. In 1998, Bryant waved off a pick from Karl Malone

at Madison Square Garden, prompting a trade on generational respect from the Mailman.

The two superstars will play on their home turf in Sunday night's game, and chances are one of them will seize the spotlight again.

"If I'm feeling it, I'm going to try

Please see NBA, Page C4

NBA All-Star Game

Tv: TNT, 6:30 p.m.

are one of them will seize the spotlight again.

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASKETBALL

NBA Eastern Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB, Home, Road, Conf, and Last 10.

NBA Western Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB, Home, Road, Conf, and Last 10.

CSI late boxes

Table listing CSI men's and women's basketball scores for various colleges.

College Basketball Scores

Table listing college basketball scores for various teams.

College Basketball Scores

Table listing college basketball scores for various teams.

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Table listing college basketball scores for various teams.

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Table listing college basketball scores for various teams.

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Table listing college basketball scores for various teams.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

- Auto Racing: NASCAR, Nextel Cup, Daytona 500, NBC, 11:30 a.m.
Bowling: PBA, Oler Bowling, ESPN, 10:30 a.m.
Basketball: Regional men's coverage, ABC, 11:30 a.m.
Hockey: European PGA Tour, ANZ Championship, final round, TGC, 7 a.m.

High School

- Friday Boys basketball: American Falls vs. ...
Girls basketball: ...
Hockey: ...

Friday Boys basketball

Table listing Friday boys basketball games and scores.

Friday Girls basketball

Table listing Friday girls basketball games and scores.

Friday Hockey

Table listing Friday hockey games and scores.

Friday NHL

Table listing Friday NHL games and scores.

Friday NHL

Table listing Friday NHL games and scores.

Friday NHL

Table listing Friday NHL games and scores.

Area ski report

Report on ski conditions in the area, mentioning snow depth, temperatures, and trail status.

Area ski report

Additional details on ski conditions and local events.

Area ski report

Further information on ski resorts and weather forecasts.

Area ski report

Summary of ski conditions and recommendations.

Area ski report

Final thoughts on the ski season and local news.

Area ski report

Additional news items related to the ski area.

Area ski report

Local sports news and community events.

Area ski report

Local sports news and community events.

Jerome kids wrestling - camp will take place

Article about a wrestling camp for kids in Jerome, mentioning Coach Jim Reid.

Jerome kids wrestling - camp will take place

Continuation of the article about the wrestling camp.

Jerome kids wrestling - camp will take place

Continuation of the article about the wrestling camp.

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Continuation of the article about the wrestling camp.

Richmond coach Jim Reid leaves to join Syracuse

Article about Coach Jim Reid leaving Richmond for Syracuse.

Richmond coach Jim Reid leaves to join Syracuse

Continuation of the article about Coach Jim Reid.

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Richmond coach Jim Reid leaves to join Syracuse

Continuation of the article about Coach Jim Reid.

Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Article about a basketball game between Cassia and Minidoka County police.

Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

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Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

Cassia, Minidoka County police play basketball

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

Former Tour de France winner is found dead

Article about the death of a former Tour de France winner.

Former Tour de France winner is found dead

Continuation of the article about the death.

Former Tour de France winner is found dead

Continuation of the article about the death.

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Continuation of the article about the death.

Former Tour de France winner is found dead

Continuation of the article about the death.

Report: Al-Qaeda planned attack during World Cup

Article about a report that Al-Qaeda planned an attack during the World Cup.

Report: Al-Qaeda planned attack during World Cup

Continuation of the article about the Al-Qaeda report.

Report: Al-Qaeda planned attack during World Cup

Continuation of the article about the Al-Qaeda report.

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Report: Al-Qaeda planned attack during World Cup

Continuation of the article about the Al-Qaeda report.

USTA plans local spring mixed-league tennis

Article about the USTA planning a local spring mixed-league tennis program.

USTA plans local spring mixed-league tennis

Continuation of the article about the tennis program.

USTA plans local spring mixed-league tennis

Continuation of the article about the tennis program.

USTA plans local spring mixed-league tennis

Continuation of the article about the tennis program.

USTA plans local spring mixed-league tennis

Continuation of the article about the tennis program.

Fitness center schedules health, wellness classes

Article about a fitness center scheduling health and wellness classes.

Fitness center schedules health, wellness classes

Continuation of the article about the fitness classes.

Fitness center schedules health, wellness classes

Continuation of the article about the fitness classes.

Fitness center schedules health, wellness classes

Continuation of the article about the fitness classes.

Fitness center schedules health, wellness classes

Continuation of the article about the fitness classes.

Maler leads an Austrian sweep in the downhill

Article about Maler leading an Austrian sweep in a downhill race.

Maler leads an Austrian sweep in the downhill

Continuation of the article about the downhill race.

Maler leads an Austrian sweep in the downhill

Continuation of the article about the downhill race.

Pierce will face Clijsters in Gaz de France final

Article about Pierce facing Clijsters in the Gaz de France final.

Pierce will face Clijsters in Gaz de France final

Continuation of the article about the tennis match.

Pierce will face Clijsters in Gaz de France final

Continuation of the article about the tennis match.

NIC will sponsor high school basketball game

Article about NIC sponsoring a high school basketball game.

NIC will sponsor high school basketball game

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

NIC will sponsor high school basketball game

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

NIC will sponsor high school basketball game

Continuation of the article about the basketball game.

SPORTS

Saint Joseph's improves to 22-0

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jameer Nelson scored 20 points and Delonte West added 14 points and nine assists to help No. 3 Saint Joseph's remain undefeated with a 73-50 victory over Rhode Island on Saturday.

Lyrone Barley had four 3-pointers and scored 14 points for the Hawks (22-0, 11-0 Atlantic 10) who tied their school record winning streak.

Brian Woods had 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Rams (14-11, 3-8), who have tailed off since their 14-2 start. Dawan Robinson, who was averaging a team-high 17.3 points, finished with only six points on 2-for-13 shooting.

Saint Joe's turned the game around in the opening minutes of the second half, getting two 3-pointers from Pat Carroll during a 1:52 run that made it 49-34.

Virginia 82,

No. 15 Georgia Tech 80

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Todd Billet made a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 2:4 seconds left — his only field goal of the game — to give Virginia the win.

The victory snapped a five-game losing streak for Virginia (13-9, 7-5 Atlantic Coast Conference).

B.J. Elder had 22 points for the Yellow Jackers (18-6, 5-5), who had one last chance to win, but Will Rynn's off-balance 3-pointer was well off as time ran out.

No. 16 Arizona 107, UCLA 83

TUCSON, Ariz. — Salim Stoudamire scored a career-high 34 points and Andre Igoduala set an Arizona record with his third triple-double.

Chris Rodgers added 16 points — one shy of his career best — and four steals as the Wildcats (16-8, 5 Pac-10) matched their season high in points and beat UCLA for the seventh straight time at McKale Center.

Dijon Thompson had 20 points for the Bruins (10-11, 6-7), who shot 66 percent (33-for-50) but committed 28 turnovers that resulted in 50 points for Arizona.

Igoduala was just 2-for-11 from the field — 0-for-6 in the second half — but was 9-of-10 from the free throw line to finish with 14 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists. He became the first Arizona player to lead in three triple-doubles — all this season. Loren Woods had two.

LSU 73, No. 22 Florida 70

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Darrel Mitchell scored 18 points, including the tying basket and go-ahead free throws in the final 2 minutes, to lead LSU to its sixth straight win.

The Tigers (17-4, 7-3 Southeastern Conference) trailed by eight points with 4:02 remaining, but closed the game on a 15-4 run.

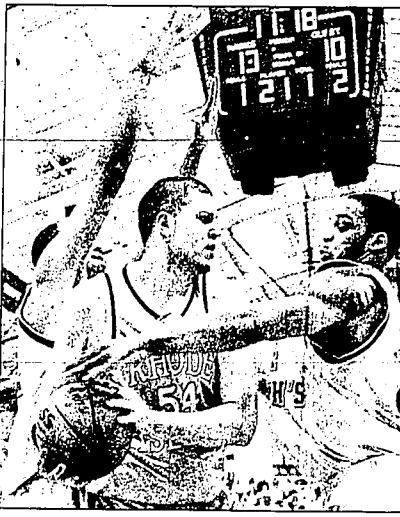
Jaime Lloreda had 19 points and nine rebounds for LSU, ending his streak of double-doubles at five.

Anthony Robinson hit a 3-pointer with 5:4 seconds to go to bring Florida (14-7, 5-5) within 72-70. After Lloreda made one free throw a second later, Christian Drejer's 30-foot heave at the buzzer fell short. Matt Walsh had 24 points for Florida, which lost for the third time in four games.

No. 23 S. Illinois 59, SW Missouri St. 58

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — Darren Brooks scored 19 points for Southern Illinois, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with just over 2 minutes left and he grabbed a key offensive rebound of his own miss with 24 seconds left to seal its 12th straight win.

Stetson Hairston had two clutch free throws and added 15 points for the Salukis (20-2, 14-0 Missouri Valley Conference), who reached the 20-win mark for the third straight season and extended their winning streak over the



Saint Joseph's Jameer Nelson, right, strips the ball from Rhode Island's Chris Holm (54) during the first half Saturday in Philadelphia. Behind Holm is St. Joe's John Bryant.

Bears (15-10, 7-7) to six games.

Blyke Ahearn and Nathan Blake each had 12 points for the Bears.

No. 24 Providence 61, Boston College 52

BOSTON — Ryan Gomes had 20 points and 11 rebounds and Rob Sanders hit a 3-pointer to key an 11-0 run late in the second half for Providence.

Gomes, the No. 2 scorer and rebounder in the Big East, topped 20 points for the 12th time this season for the Friars (17-5, 8-3), who have won three straight and nine of their last 11.

Craig Smith had 13 points and eight rebounds for the Eagles (16-8, 5-6), who shot 39 percent in their lowest-scoring game of the season.

BYU 67, Wyoming 53

LARAMIE, Wyo. — Mark Bigelow scored 21 points — as Brigham Young outscored Wyoming 11-3 in the last 2:46 of the game for a 67-53 win Saturday.

Mike Hall added 13 points and Rafael Arango 12 points and nine rebounds for BYU (15-7 overall, 5-4 Mountain West Conference).

Joe Ries paced Wyoming (9-13, 2-7) with 16 points and 11 rebounds. He was the only player to score in double figures for the Cougars, who shot a measly 37 percent from the floor (22-of-59) to BYU's 51 percent (24-47).

Bracing for the worse



Members of a Greek police anti-terrorism team detail a 'criminal' as part of a readiness exercise at the Amigdaleza Police Academy, northwest of Athens, in March 13 photo. Six months before the Summer Olympics in Athens, American athletes are growing increasingly worried about their safety in Greece despite the most expensive security plan ever devised for the Games.

More than half of Americans believe that attack at Olympics is likely

NEW YORK (AP) — While U.S. athletes are being warned to prepare for a hostile reception at the Athens Olympics, Americans staying home are worried it might be worse than some booring and name calling.

More than half of those surveyed in an Associated Press poll say they believe a terrorist attack is likely at the Summer Games, and four out of 10 say American athletes are most likely to be the target of any such attack.

The number of people believing a terrorist attack was likely — 52 percent — was much higher than the 31 percent who believed an attack was likely at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City two years ago. Those games were held just a few months after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Athens organizers are spending \$750 million to protect the Olympics — three times what was spent in Sydney four years ago — and U.S. Olympic officials say they are confident that all security measures possible will be taken to protect the 560 American athletes expected to compete in Greece.

"We don't know of any specific security threats against the U.S. team or the games," said Jim Scherr, chief executive of the U.S. Olympic Committee. "However, it's obvious the world has changed and there are security concerns. And at the end of the day we know there's no such thing as a 100 percent safe environment."

A number of U.S. athletes — including members of the U.S. basketball Dream Team — told the Associated Press they worry about their safety during the games, which are six months away.

Others, though, say they are confident security measures in place will keep them from harm. With world tensions high and following deadly November attacks in neighboring Turkey, Americans surveyed in the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos Public Affairs are clearly concerned.

Seven percent said they believed an attack was very likely, while 45 percent said it was somewhat likely. Two in 10 said an attack was not likely at all.

Asked if American athletes were more likely than other athletes to be the targets of an attack, 39 percent said they were while 55 percent said they faced the same risk as other athletes.

The AP-Ipsos poll of 1,000 adults was taken Feb. 24, before the Moscow subway bombing that killed 41. The poll has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Greece will provide more than 50,000 security personnel for the games and has recently reached out to several countries — including the United States — for help in securing the Olympics against terrorism.

U.S. Olympic officials are also concerned over the reception American athletes will get in a country where there is a strong undercurrent of anti-American sentiment.

American athletes have been told not to wear uniforms or anything identifying them as Americans outside the heavily guarded Olympic village, and the U.S. team is bringing over a number of sports psychologists to help athletes deal with what will likely be a hostile environment.

Georgia 74, No. 8 Kentucky 68

ATHENS, Ga. — Levi Stokes had 12 points — all on 3-pointers — as Georgia completed a season sweep of the Wildcats.

Jonas Hayes had 19 points and Rashad Wright and Damien Wilkins each added 14 for the Bulldogs (12-10, 4-7 Southeastern Conference), who beat the Wildcats 65-57 earlier this season for their second sweep of Kentucky in three years.

Kelenna Azubuike had a career-high 21 points for the Wildcats (12-10, 7-3) in their 22nd straight 20-turnovers. Kentucky missed leading scorer Gerald Ford, who sat out his third straight game with a sprained right index finger.

No. 10 Oklahoma St. 91, Baylor 58

STILLWATER, Okla. — Tony Allen and Ivan McFarlin each scored 14 points for the Cowboys and John Lucas had 13 in his first game against the school he transferred from last summer.

The Cowboys (19-2, 9-1) won their ninth straight and took sole possession of first place in the Big 12.

Terrance Thomas had 16 points for Baylor (7-16, 2-8) in its worst loss of the season.

Oklahoma State opened the game with a 17-2 run and extended that into a 43-14 halftime lead.

Iowa St. 73, No. 11 Texas 77

AMES, Iowa — Jake Sullivan scored 24 points and Damien Staple got the winning basket on a dunk with 1:09 left to lift Iowa State.

The Cyclones (14-7, 5-5 Big 12) have been blown out in their three previous games, but showed resolve this time after trailing 61-47 with less than 14 minutes to play, outscoring Texas 31-16 the rest of the way.

Brandon Meunon had a career-high 29 points for Texas (17-4, 8-2), which saw Brian Buddicker, an 81 percent free throw shooter, missed two with 5:3 seconds left and then came up short on two putbacks.

Golden Bears retire Kidd's No. 5 jersey

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Cal picked the perfect way to fire up its basketball fans Saturday: bring Jason Kidd into the building.

The Golden Bears retired Kidd's No. 5 jersey before the game, and unbranded Stanford. His uniform joins Kevin Johnson's No. 11 and Alfred Grigsby's No. 4 hanging from the rafters in Haas Pavilion.

"I'm very honored," said Kidd, who played for the Bears from

1992-94 and led them to back-to-back NCAA tournament appearances. "When coach (Ben) Braun approached me about retiring my jersey, I didn't think I did enough to get it retired, but he did."

Fans chanted "We Love Jason!" before he was introduced.

The New Jersey Nets' guard flew to Northern California on Saturday afternoon from Los Angeles, where he will play for

the Eastern Conference in his sixth NBA All-Star game Sunday.

Kidd was joined by his family and three of his former Cal teammates, including Grigsby.

During his first year in Berkeley, Kidd earned national freshman of the year honors and led the country with a school-record 110 steals. The following season, he passed for 272 assists to break his own school record and again led the nation. He had 18 assists in a loss to Stanford

that still haunts him.

Kidd declared himself eligible for the NBA draft following his sophomore season and was picked second overall by the Dallas Mavericks.

"Everything I did here was for a purpose and everything turned out good," said Kidd, who grew up in nearby Oakland playing against Gary Payton.

Kidd is credited by many for putting the Cal basketball program on the map.

Kelly

Continued from C1

The disease also can develop in juveniles and adults. Records are scarce but experts say Hunter is one of the longest to live among those who developed Krabbe as infants.

He's made it this far, for the most part, because of the round-the-clock care and constant nursing his family is able to provide.

Jill, her mother Jacque Waggoner and a nurse divide time monitoring Hunter overnight. The Kellys also provide their son with physical therapy and massage.

Hunter can move his arms, lift his head and communicate through facial expressions. One blink means yes, a squint means he's concentrating, raised eyebrows mean he's happy.

"He can understand stories read to him. He recently showed a capacity for bowling, able to hold a ball and aim it toward the toys pin at home."

"These were all things we were told would never happen. Just forget it," Jill Kelly said. "He's going to go into a coma. He's going to blind. He's going to go deaf. He's not going to understand anything."

"Every day for Hunter is amazing to us because it's far beyond anything we could've ever imagined."

Hunter can breathe on his own and is fed through a tube connected to his small intestine. He battles bouts of pneumonia that require hospital visits, raising the specter that the next trip will be his last.

"It's a scary time every time we go there. It's horrible," Jill said. "But he continues to show us the God's in control beyond anything we can understand."

Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg is director of the pediatric stem cell transplant program at Duke University Medical Center and an expert in Krabbe. She discovered that when Krabbe is diagnosed early enough a stem cell transplant can stop — in some cases begin to counteract — the effects of the disease.

It was too dangerous to perform on Hunter because he was diagnosed at 4 months, too late for the procedure.

Kurtzberg credits Hunter's home care as the key to his survival. She lauds Hunter's Hope for

boosting research and awareness, particularly a push for mandatory prenatal screening.

"I do think the research they've sponsored and continue to sponsor will result in more progress more quickly," she said.

Jim Kelly recalls the day he publicly revealed Hunter's condition. It was June 1997 at the state capitol in Albany during a ceremony to commemorate Jim Kelly Day.

"As tough as I am, my son will be tougher," he said then.

"He's definitely proved me right, about 10-fold," Kelly says now. "He's my little soldier... He's not so many big smiles on my face, there's not enough paper to write about it."

NBA

Continued from C1

to take it. "O'Neal said, 'But if I'm not feeling it, I'm not going to try to start the issue.'"

Aside from O'Neal and Bryant, there are other All-Stars in this year's game with ties to Los Angeles — Paul Pierce grey up the team and Ron Davis was a star at UCLA.

But will anybody care about those story lines when the ball goes up for the opening tip-off at 5:52 p.m. Sunday? Or will all eyes turn to the two Lakers whose uneasy relationship has lent a plot-twisting undertone to the team's continually evolving story.

O'Neal remains an icon in Los Angeles, a larger-than-life figure beloved for bringing three championships in the past four years.

Bryant's stature is not what it once was the rape allegation against him in Colorado tarnishing the image of a player once thought to be the perfect face of the NBA for its transition into the post-Jordan era.

O'Neal will come off the bench for the second straight year behind Gary Payton, who earned MVP honors in a game by scoring 37 points in the West's 155-145 double-overtime victory.

Other Western Conference starters are Kevin Garnett of

Minnesota, Steve Francis of Houston, Tim Duncan of San Antonio and Bryant.

Starting for the East are Vince Carter of Toronto, Allen Iverson of Philadelphia, Tracy McGrady of Orlando, Ben Wallace of Detroit and Carmelo O'Neal of Indiana.

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Among the reserves are six first-time All-Stars: Andrei Kirilenko of Utah, Michael Redd of Milwaukee, Kenyon Martin of New Jersey, Jamaal Magloire of New Orleans, Ron Artest of Indiana and Sam Cassell of Minnesota.

Bryant is expected to get a favorable reception from his hometown crowd and a chance to achieve some measure of image-rebuilding.

"Playing in the All-Star game is fun, especially with the amount of votes I received. I do want to get out there and play and show the fans I appreciate all the votes," Bryant said.

One player who could keep the game from being all about Bryant or O'Neal is Gary, who earned MVP honors a year ago by scoring 37 points in the West's 155-145 double-overtime victory.

New York opens spring training Tuesday, and Texas starts two days later.

A-Rod

Continued from C1

"I can't comment on the situation," said Rodriguez's agent.

The talks were first reported Saturday by The New York Post and Newsday.

Boston, the Yankees' perennial rival, nearly acquired Rodriguez in December but a proposed deal that would have sent outfielder

SPORTS

NASCAR race car drivers Tony Stewart, left, and Dale Earnhardt Jr., right, smile during a light moment in the garage area Friday, Feb. 13, 2004 at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.



Dale Jr. seeks first Daytona 500 win

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Dale Earnhardt Jr. already hears the whispers.

Will he ever win the Daytona 500? Junior goes into NASCAR's biggest event 0-for-4, even though he has been among the favorites in three of those races and was the overwhelming pick a year ago.

His father, who had a considerably better resume than the kid early in his career, took 20 years to win the Great American Race.

Until then, he was asked the same question every season leading up to the Daytona 500: "Think you'll ever win this race?"

Earnhardt Jr. shudders when he thinks about hearing that same query over and over for years to come.

"I figured that would start up after I didn't win it last year," Little E said, shaking his head.

That one was the biggest disappointment so far.

Junior won the Budweiser Shootout, took the outside pole in time trials, won one of the 125-mile qualifying races and the Busch Series race leading up to the big day.

It was, well, intimidating. No one had ever swept all four races at Daytona, but Junior was the odds-on favorite to be the first.

Even after a failed alternator cost him a lap, Earnhardt expected to get back into the fray. Instead, he sat frustrated and sullen as rain

stopped the event 91 laps before its scheduled completion.

Dale Earnhardt Inc. teammate Michael Waltrip won the race, as he did in 2001, the year Junior finished second - just moments after a last-lap crash on Daytona's 2.5-mile oval cost the elder Earnhardt his life.

The 29-year-old driver, a third-generation NASCAR star, earned the third starting position in Sunday's 43-car field at the season-opening Daytona 500, his powerful Chevrolet trailing only the Fords of pole-winner Greg Biffle and Elliott Sadler.

But thanks to an engine change by Biffle's team Saturday, Earnhardt moved up to the inside of the front row for the start. Biffle moves to the rear of the field for the green flag, but will still be credited with starting from the pole.

The audience of about 180,000 will include President Bush, who is seeking re-election, and Whoopi Goldberg, plugging her NBC sitcom while acting as honorary starter.

Earnhardt, who again won his qualifying race this week, remains a favorite. But it's a role he has to share this time with Waltrip, a perennial contender at Daytona and Talladega, the two big tracks where NASCAR requires carburetor restrictor plates to keep the cars under 200 mph.

Between the teammates, they have won nine of the last 11 Cup

races on the two tracks. Last year, Waltrip added a victory in the fall race at Talladega, while Earnhardt won the spring race there.

Biffle, then a Cup rookie, broke up the momentum slightly with a victory in July at Daytona.

Sunday's race is expected to be a typical restrictor plate event, with lots of two- and three-wide racing and the constant chance of a big wreck.

And throw in plenty of concern about tire wear, with Goodyear bringing a new right side tire that has put a premium on chassis setup.

Add in a rear spoiler shortened by three-quarters of an inch since last July, when the cars last raced at Daytona, and it's a new game.

The drivers do agree its considerably easier to get out front with these cars. But for someone to get to the front is going to take some help from a friend or teammate in the draft.

Junior and Waltrip chose to try it on their own late in Thursday's 50-lap race and Junior still ran away, beating Stewart to the finish. But, in a 200-lap, 500-mile race, they are expected to work together.

And, if Earnhardt comes up short again. Well, there's always next year.

"If I'm sitting here 20 years from now without a Daytona 500 win, that might mean something," Junior said. "Right now, it doesn't mean anything."

Rain postpones Busch race with Earnhardt out in front

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Everything was on schedule for Daytona's favorite Dale Earnhardt Jr. Saturday until the rain came.

The wet weather halted the Hershey's Kisses 300 Busch Series race with Earnhardt, going after his third consecutive win in the event, leading after 31 of the scheduled 120 laps.

The remainder of the race will be run Monday, beginning at 11 a.m. The cars will be impounded by NASCAR and no changes will be allowed until after racing resumes.

Earnhardt, who is also the favorite in Sunday's Daytona 500 Nextel Cup race, started eighth in the Busch event and steadily worked his way to the front, taking the lead on lap 11 at Daytona International Speedway.

Robby Gordon and Johnny Sauter followed Earnhardt to the front Saturday, kicking previous leader Kevin Harvick to fourth.

On the next trip around the 2.5-mile oval, Mike Bliss lost control coming off turn two while sandwiched between two other cars. Bliss slid into Wally Dallenbach, the two slammed into the wall and then bounced off, starting a wild melee.

A number of cars dodged the accident but those driven by rookie Paul Menard, Casey Kahne, Johnny Benson, Joe

Nemechek and C.W. Smith were damaged.

Michael Waltrip, who crashed during practice Friday and had to start from the rear of the 43-car field in a backup car, stayed on track when the leaders pitted and took the top spot.

But rain started to fall, extending the caution and Waltrip eventually pitted on lap 24, giving the

lead back to Earnhardt just before the red flag came out.

Gordon remained second, followed by Mike Wallace, 18-year-old rookie Kyle Busch and Ron Hornaday Jr.

NASCAR waited three hours and 20 minutes before announcing the postponement, the first for the Daytona Busch race since it's first running in 1955.

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President's Day Import Sale!

The Area's Best Selection of Imports at Unbelievably Low Prices!

<p>1999 Audi A4 Quattro 2.8L V6, AT, Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded! \$15,888</p>	<p>2001 Volkswagen Jetta GLS AT, Power Sunroof, Loaded, Only 37K Miles! \$13,475</p>	<p>2000 Honda Accord EX AT, Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded, Low Miles! \$12,995</p>
<p>2000 BMW 528i Sport AT, Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded, Low Miles! \$24,788</p>	<p>2000 Toyota Celica GT AT, Loaded, Low Miles! \$11,495</p>	<p>1998 Toyota 4-Runner Limited 4x4 AT, Leather, Loaded, Low Miles! \$18,495</p>
<p>2001 Lexus IS 300 AT, Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded! \$18,788</p>	<p>2000 Honda Civic EX Power Sunroof, Loaded, Low Miles! \$11,250</p>	<p>2003 Mitsubishi Galant ES AT, Loaded! \$11,775</p>
<p>2003 Mitsubishi Lancer ES AT, Loaded, Low Miles! \$9,495</p>	<p>2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse RS Loaded, Only 600 Miles! \$13,995</p>	<p>2002 Mazda 626 LX AT, Loaded, Low Miles! \$10,888</p>
<p>2002 Hyundai Elantra GLS AT, Power Sunroof, Loaded! \$9,995</p>	<p>2003 Hyundai Elantra GT AT, Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded! \$11,995</p>	<p>2002 Kia Rio AT, Only 29K Miles! \$6,895</p>

Prices do not include tax, title, or \$133.95 dealer doc fee. Prices good thru 02/17/04

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Bongos in the boardroom:
Companies get creative
in team-building exercises.
Page D3

The Times-News

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Section 1D

**BRIEFLY
IN MONEY.**

**Housing workshop will
take place Thursday**

TWIN FALLS - An Idaho Fair Housing Workshop for landlords and tenants will be held Thursday in Room 277 of the Taylor Building at the College of Southern Idaho. Anyone interested in learning the rights, responsibilities and remedies concerning rental housing in Idaho is invited.

Shirleane Hayes of the Intermountain Fair Housing Council and Karen McCarthy of Idaho Legal Aid will give presentations addressing fair housing and Idaho tenant law. Landlords and tenants in Idaho can learn things they need to know to make informed decisions and avoid risky business.

Form presentations begin at 6 p.m., with a question-and-answer session at 8:30 p.m.

The fee is \$20 for landlords and property managers. Tenants can attend free, with the cost paid by an Idaho Fair Housing grant.

The workshop is sponsored by the Idaho Housing Council and the Idaho Small Business Development Center at CSI. For information or to preregister, contact Sherry Rust at 732-6455 or srust@csi.edu.

**CSI will hold seminar for
radiological technicians**

TWIN FALLS - The second annual Continuing Education Seminar for Radiological Technicians will be held Feb. 28 at the College of Southern Idaho.

Registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Aspen Building hallway. The program will feature presentations by Dr. Robert Wasserstrom from Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, Dr. Frederick Fitts from Cassia Regional Medical Center, CSI Rad Tech instructor Gary Lauer and other representatives from CSI and the radiological industry. Participants will earn six continuing education credits, all approved by the American Society of Radiological Technicians.

Registration fee is \$50, which includes lunch. Proceeds will be used by the CSI Rad Tech Club to fund projects as a component of its community service commitment. For information or to register, contact Lauer at 732-6719 or at glauer@csi.edu.

**Burley merchants and
businesses host banquet**

BURLEY - The Burley Area Merchants Association and the Organization of Rupert Businesses will hold their first dual-hosted banquet 7 p.m. Thursday at the Burley Inn Convention Center.

Jan Rogers, executive director of the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization, will report on what is new with Mini-Cassia economic development. A reception to welcome the area's new economic director, Bob Shepard, will be held from 6 to 7 p.m., sponsored by the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce and the Mini-Cassia Economic Development Commission.

Cost is \$20 per person. Reserve tickets by Monday by calling the chamber office at 679-4793.

**Chamber of commerce
holds ribbon cutting**

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. Feb. 26 at the Lori Irish Agency, 1111 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. (next to Quinos).

**Idaho Wheat Commission
will meet Tuesday morning**

BOISE - The Idaho Wheat Commission will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the 1W conference room, 821 W. State St. in Boise.

Chairman Mark Darrington said the meeting will include a review of commission financial statements, research project and information and education updates and consideration of various market development requests from the agricultural community. The public is welcome.

For information, or to request assistance for the hearing impaired or handicapped, call 334-2553.

**Idaho Barley Commission
holds quarterly meeting**

BOISE - The Idaho Barley Commission will hold a quarterly meeting Thursday at 821 W. State St. in Boise. The meeting will begin immediately after the commission's review of research projects, approximately 1:30 p.m.

All barley growers and other interested parties are invited.

For information, or to request assistance for the hearing impaired or handicapped, call 334-2090.

Compiled from staff reports

BANKING on excellence



Dressed in clothes meant to look circa 1910 - to celebrate D.L. Evans Bank's 100 years of business - teller Pam Astley helps customer Guy Kaster with a deposit Friday. Independent financial-research company Bauer Financial Inc. recently gave the bank an "excellent" rating of four stars.

Ratings firm gives high marks to area banks

By Megan Hinds
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Customers of Magic Valley's four locally owned banks can feel assured their money is in good hands, according to bank ratings released recently by an independent financial research company.

Three of the four Magic Valley-based banks - Magic Valley Bank of Twin Falls, First Federal Savings Bank of Twin Falls and Farmers National Bank of Buhl - received a "superior" rating of five stars from Bauer Financial Inc. D.L. Evans Bank of Burley received an "excellent" rating of four stars. The ratings are based on data taken from July through September 2003.

Bauer Financial analyzes information disclosed publicly by banks and credit unions and releases quarterly reports on the financial condition of the institutions, rating them on a scale of zero to five stars. Banks with four- or five-star ratings are considered strong banks and recommended by the company, said Karen Dorway, president of Bauer Financial.

When determining a bank's Bauer rating, banks are judged on a number of criteria, including liquidity, profitability and loss trends, the level of delinquent loans and repossessed assets and the strength of the bank's investment portfolio.

Banks are evaluated by "numbers in relation to size," Dorway said. Small banks and large banks are judged by the same criteria but in proportion to number of employees as well as total assets and deposits.

Private bank rating companies like Bauer Financial don't have access to all the same information as state and federal bank regulators do, said Idaho Department of Finance director Gavin Gee.

"Compiling raw data for consumers to look at doesn't give the whole picture," Gee said. "They give an overall idea of the bank's financial situation, but sometimes they're just not quite accurate."

The Finance Department regulates Idaho banks by conducting regular audits that examine a bank's capital structure, management depth, earnings and profitability, liability structure and the quality of a bank's loan portfolio,

By the numbers

A snapshot of the numbers used by Bauer Financial Inc. in rating Magic Valley banks: (Figures taken from the quarter ending Sept. 30, 2003. Dollar values are in millions.)

	D.L. Evans Bank	Farmers National Bank	First Federal Savings Bank	Magic Valley Bank
Bauer's star rating:	****	*****	*****	*****
Date established:	Aug. 29, 1904	May 11, 1917	Jan. 1, 1916	Aug. 29, 1997
Number of employees:	177	67	135	30
Total assets:	\$348.152	\$285.869	\$324.559	\$67.472
Tangible assets:	\$348.152	\$281.223	\$324.349	\$69.025
Current quarter's profit:	\$0.666	\$1.365	\$0.751	\$0.165
Year-to-date profit:	\$2.351	\$3.305	\$2.002	\$0.484
Annualized return on assets:	0.94%	1.59%	0.85%	0.98%
Annualized return on equity:	11.48%	11.53%	10.06%	9.90%
Delinquent loans:	\$3.984	\$2.990	\$0.373	\$0.184
Nonperforming assets as percentage of tangible assets:	1.17%	1.06	0.12%	0.27%

Source: Bauer Financial Inc.

"All of us have outpaced in asset growth and deposit growth compared to the larger banks," Horner said. "Also, our customers understand that every dollar that comes in stays right here in Magic Valley."

Bauer Financial tends to place more importance on a bank's capital and capital ratio than on a bank's assets and earnings, said Philip Bratton, president of Magic Valley Bank.

"From what we can tell from the ratings, they're accurate and meaningful to a degree - a lot of it centers around capital," Bratton said. "It's just that some banks are more solid than what their rating shows."

The Bauer ratings are a way for banks to know how their competition is doing, said Ron Brown, president of Farmers National Bank.

"The ratings let us know how our peer group is competing quarterly," Brown said. "But we see our bank performance every day. It's nice to see how well capitalized we are according to the Bauer reports."

Brenda Sanford, chief financial officer for D.L. Evans Bank, said D.L. Evans' four-star Bauer rating could be attributed to the bank's rapid growth in recent years.

The bank opened two new branches in Meridian and Ketchum in 2003, and is celebrating 100 years of business in 2004.

"Our bank has a growth strategy," Sanford said. "When you're in a growth mode, you're not as concerned about profits as much as expansion, and that may be a reason why the ratings aren't as high for us."

Sanford said D.L. Evans' ratings aren't give as much weight to the Bauer ratings as they do to recommendations made by state and federal officials.

"We're more concerned with the federal and state regulators say about us," Sanford said. "We just make sure we're financially stable and that they confirm it."

Gee said a bank's rapid growth can be a problem if not managed well. However, D.L. Evans Bank does not fall into that category, he said.

Times-News business reporter Megan Hinds can be reached at 733-0930 or mhinds@magicvalley.com.

“To tell you we don't put stock (in the ratings) isn't true. But (Bauer Financial is) an outside company that doesn't know our region - for example, they don't know we're an ag-based economy and how much our success depends on that. (The ratings) are just one of those things that banks take into account to see the whole picture.”

— C. Alan Horner,
president of First Federal Savings Bank

Gee said. Independent bank rating companies do not provide on-site audits or examinations like those conducted by the Finance Department.

But the department, also, holds a high view of Magic Valley's four home-grown banks.

"From our perspective, all these banks are safe and sound," Gee said.

Officials of the Magic Valley-based banks surveyed are divided on how important the Bauer ratings truly are, tending to put more emphasis on the assets and deposits held by their banks.

"To tell you we don't put stock (in the ratings) isn't true," said C. Alan Horner, president of First Federal Savings Bank. "But (Bauer Financial is) an out-

side company that doesn't know our region - for example, they don't know we're an ag-based economy and how much our success depends on that. (The ratings) are just one of those things that banks take into account to see the whole picture."

The favorable Bauer ratings do reflect how smaller banks based in Magic Valley stack up against larger, national chain banks with Magic Valley branches, such as U.S. Bank, Wells Fargo and Bank of America, Horner said.

While the chain banks are much larger in terms of assets and deposits, the Bauer ratings can offer a fair comparison between large and small banks.

BUSINESS

Tracy Cox

JEROME - Tracy Cox joined the staff of First American Title Co. in Jerome location as an escrow officer.

Cox has lived in Jerome for the past 10 years with her husband and son. She has five years of experience working in the title insurance and escrow services industry.

First American Title offers title insurance, closing and long-term escrow services. Cox can be reached at 324-6822.

Toni Orth

WENDELL - Former Wendell resident Toni A. Orth of Boise completed the two-day certified legal assistant examination and now may use the CLS professional credential, according to the National Association of Legal Assistants Inc.

Orth is among 42 legal assistants in Idaho and 12,124 nationwide who have earned the credential. She is the daughter of Steve and Grace Kohler of Wendell and graduated from Wendell High School in 1997. Orth graduated from Boise State University in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in political science and a certificate of paralegal studies from BSU's American Bar Association-approved program.

Orth works at the corporate offices of Albertsons Inc. in the legal department.

Everton Mattress employees

TWIN FALLS - Greg Blothman joined the Everton Mattress Factory Direct retail sales staff in Twin Falls.

Blothman has sales background in automobile and home electronics in restaurant ventures. He is a Pocatello High School graduate who attended Idaho State University.

Blothman received the Top Product Award among the sales staffs of seven stores of the Factory Direct Retail Division in January for sales excellence and customer service.

Paula Woody

TWIN FALLS - Paula Woody is a Mattress Corp. certified Woody for completing factory and customer driven associate training programs.

Woody is a Jerome High School graduate and completed business accounting and administration classes at the College of Southern Idaho.

Steve Whitaker

TWIN FALLS - Steve Whitaker, a personal banker at the Wells Fargo Addison store in Twin Falls, earned a Series 7 license.

Issued by the National Association of Securities Dealers, a Series 7 license enables Whitaker to give investment advice and sell stocks, bonds and mutual funds. He is among hundreds of store-based bankers in

the 24-state Wells Fargo territory who are expected to earn accreditation this year.

To earn a Series 7 license, Whitaker completed a 400-hour training program and passed a day-long exam.

Since the launch of the Wells Fargo Series 7 training initiative in late 2002, about 550 store-based bankers have earned licenses. By the end of 2004, the company estimates 1,250 bankers will be accredited. Fifty percent of the company's store-based bankers - or a total of about 2,300 - will be Series 7 approved by the close of 2005, Wells Fargo said.

Harold Miller

BUHL - Harold Miller, director of the Buhl Highways District, was selected as the Buhl Chamber of Commerce's Extra Mile Award winner for January.

Miller was nominated by Richard Hill of the Buhl School District for his service to the community and the school district. Miller volunteered time and material to an assortment of community projects including the community track and soccer complex.

"He has been a beacon with respect to school closures on those winter mornings when the roads are not safe to transport children," the chamber said in a statement.

Mayor Barbara Gietzen presented him with a plaque and various gifts from sponsoring chamber members.

Rehabilitation employees

TWIN FALLS - Amy Beck and Susan Ewalt are new employees at the nonprofit Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services Inc.

Working in the Community Access Program as therapy technicians, Beck and Ewalt provide personal and social adjustment services to individuals with developmental disabilities to help them become more active, participating members of their communities. Individual and group training addresses skills such as self-care, communication, mobility, learning, decision making, living independently and money management.

Amy Beck

Beck has two years' experience as a therapy technician and therapy aide and four years of retail experience. Ewalt has more than 12 years' experience working with people with disabilities including over a year providing developmental therapy and support services.

Susan Ewalt

Myers is also a new employee in the Community Access Program. As a developmental specialist, she evaluates the needs and interests of program participants and develops service plans and intervention strategies for acquiring personal, social and

Dantelle Myers

independent living skills. She also supervises therapy technicians to be sure service plans and intervention strategies are carried out.

Myers has a bachelor's degree in social work from Idaho State University and over four years' experience working with adults with disabilities.

With more than 16 years of experience in industry and over two years of social service experience, DeAnn Foukal joined the Industrial Division. As a floor supervisor

at First Federal's Blue Lakes office, she was promoted to assistant vice president.

Walker began her career at First Federal in 1999 as a teller, then a customer service representative. She is on the Idaho Housing and Finance Coordinating Committee.

Thompson, a commercial loan officer, was promoted to vice president/senior commercial loan officer.

Thompson is a graduate of St. Cloud State University and has been in banking for 28 years, starting at First Federal in 1976. He is a member of the College of Southern Idaho community education advisory board.

Fort, a data processing manager, was promoted to vice president.

Fort is a graduate of Filer High School and CSI. She has worked at First Federal for 20 years.

Lynn Hedberg, branch manager of First Federal's Falls West office, was promoted to vice president.

Hedberg has been in banking for 30 years with 12 years in the Magic Valley and has worked at First Federal for the past five years.

Nine, information systems manager, was promoted to senior vice president.

Nine has a bachelor's degree in physics from Northwest Nazarene College in Nampa and Idaho.

Traveller came to First Federal in 1995 with over 25 years of experience in information systems. Nine served on the board of directors of Intermountain Automated Clearing House.

Traveller was promoted to senior vice president. Traveller is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in finance.

Meyerhoefler is a member of the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in finance and accounting. He began his career at First Federal in 1996 as a commercial loan officer. He has 14 years of business loan experience. He is a director and corporate secretary of First Federal, board member of Region IV Development, a director of the Idaho-Nevada Certified Financial Institution and a director of the South Central Idaho Works Board.

Dodds, chief financial officer, was promoted to executive vice president.

Dodds graduated from Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in accounting and from the University of Utah with a master's degree in business administration. He began his career at First Federal in 1985 as treasurer. Dodds is a member of the Financial Managers' Society and serves on an Idaho Bankers Association task force.

Kuster, branch manager of First Federal's Buhl office, was promoted to vice president.

Kuster has been in mortgage banking for 18 years with 12 years in the Magic Valley and has worked at First Federal for the past five years.

Richard D. Nine, information systems manager, was promoted to senior vice president.

Nine has a bachelor's degree in physics from Northwest Nazarene College in Nampa and Idaho.

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Kuster has been in mortgage banking for 18 years with 12 years in the Magic Valley and has worked at First Federal for the past five years.

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MILESTONES

Northwest Farm Credit Services returns money

TWIN FALLS - Northwest Farm Credit Services' Twin Falls branch said it returned nearly \$2 million to its customers.

Farm Credit's Interest Reduction Program returned 50 basis points to its member-stockholders on their average loan balances for 2003. The average check size was about \$1,662.

"The feedback we have received over the past four years on this program has been very positive," said Branch Manager Dave Stout said.

Over \$17.7 million was returned to more than 12,000 Farm Credit customers across Montana, Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Alaska.

Northwest Farm Credit Services provides financing and related services to farmers, ranchers, commercial fishermen, timber producers, agribusinessmen and rural homeowners.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Magic Valley Regional Medical Center Foundation awarded 15 scholarships totaling \$14,450 to spring college students studying health care.

Eight registered nursing students received scholarship for the spring semester. Shelley Allen, Janee Crisler, Brooke Frazier, Darcie Michele McClain, and three others are recipients of all Twin Falls, of Jerome; Steve Little of Buhl; and Dawn Edgar of Kimberly will begin their nursing careers at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center upon completion of their associate degree studies. This nursing scholarship program is funded by general donations and the medical center and is coordinated by the foundation.

Three scholarships were awarded to people pursuing master's degrees. Upon graduation, Tina Peer of Wendell; and Mindy Babbit and Roanne Mancari, both of Twin Falls, will continue teaching at the College of Southern Idaho's health science programs.

Nonnursing scholarships from the foundation's Employee Endowment were awarded to Scott Dayley, Tamra Dixon, Molly McGraw and Maria Van Hasselt for their schooling in lab/physiology, medical coding, radiology, tech and pre-nursing studies.

For information on scholarship opportunities or to make a gift in support of health-care education, contact Larry Basset, foundation executive director, at larryb@mvrmc.org or 737-2480.

Everton Mattress Factory Direct, which manufactures and distributes its Reston Sleep sets throughout the Northwest, helped sponsor specialty sleep mattress sets for the Magic Valley Sleep Institute, which helps identify health risk problems that manifest themselves through sleep patterns.

The center opened Nov. 2 on Shoshone Street in Twin Falls. It's partly owned by Twin Falls County's public hospital.

The mattress set that was chosen is a thermal-sensitive foam set that reacts to the patient's body temperature and conforms to provide fluid like responses which reduce pressure, Everton Mattress said.

Getting fired turned out to be a great experience for this 'Apprentice'

Knight Ridder News Service

DALLAS - Is this a great country or what?

Where else can getting fired in front of 19 million people feel like winning the lottery?

Arlington, Texas, resident Bowie Hogg, one of the "victims" on NBC's "The Apprentice," says being on the TV show was the best experience of his life.

"Well, maybe not the moment when Donald Trump said, 'You're fired,' but everything else."

"The bonus of winning this show is just that: a bonus," said the affable 25-year-old former FedEx account executive. "A job with a \$250,000 salary in New York City, especially for the type of work involved, is not a whole bunch of money. The true positive is the learning experience."

His tutorial began last summer when his FedEx colleagues encouraged him to try out for the show.

The Texas A&M University marketing graduate arrived late for the Dallas audition, T-shirt and flip-flops where he found hundreds of challengers in business suits.

"It's Saturday afternoon in the middle of July on Lower Greenville. There's no way I'm wearing a suit," he said.

His standard attire and unwashed answers apparently impressed the TV producers. Hogg was chosen for one of 16 slots out of more than 215,000 applicants nationwide.

Hogg said Trump's current countless hours on "The Apprentice" show "trump tried to teach us something important every single time he met with us. He wanted to help

us learn, grow and achieve so that we could become like him one day."

Becoming a Donald Trump clone would be A-OK with Hogg, who wants to become a big-time developer. Several commercial real estate companies are dangling interesting proposals. He said he won't dive into any job without completing thorough research - something Trump constantly harped on.

Hogg also has been offered the opportunity to run a bar in Key West, Fla., several sales jobs with pharmaceutical companies and the presidency of numerous start-ups.

Hogg, who was fired point-blank after the fourth episode, admits he didn't see it coming.

"Trump said, 'Bowie, I think you're a really good leader. And I'm going, 'All right, cool.' Then

he said, 'Bowie, I'm not going to lie, I see a whole lot in you.' And I'm going, 'All right, great.' Again."

Then Trump said his trademarked two words. "But how could I be made?" Hogg said. "He just complimented me."

The tax ride out of Gotham after contestants are fired is fiction. All 16 of them stayed in New York during the monthlong filming.

Hogg, who quit his \$60,000-a-year job to go on the show, is writing a book called "Excusing Busters" about the 50 most common and lame excuses for failure.

Is he taking fodder from the show? "Without a doubt. No one ever wanted to buck up on the mistakes we made."

So why does Hogg think he got the boot?

"Possibly because I'm not the best TV out there," he said, completely self-assured. "I'm not a punch-you-in-the-mouth conflict person. That's not my style. And I'm not your male model, QG."

He is a 6-foot-3-inch, 275-pounder who attended West Point on a football scholarship until he was sidelined by a back injury.

Given a second shot at TV fame, Hogg said, he'd change his demeanor. "He is a lot more vocal. You need to walk in with your exact points ready and then not to be afraid to make them - even if you're not asked."

As much as he admires Trump, there is one thing Hogg won't emulate: the Donald Hair.

"Oh my gosh! It's so extreme," he said. "A lot of balding men do the combed-over thing, but the sides of his hair are gelled and

stuck out. It's like his head has wings."

"But if that hair was all it took to be a billionaire and have a beautiful girlfriend like he has, give me his hairspray," Hogg said.

Only Trump knows who will win the 13-week marathon job interview, because the show's taping ended with two finalists. And no, Hogg won't reveal who those two are.

"I'm not sure even Trump has made up his mind yet, given the way he is," said Hogg. "It's supposed to happen around April 15."

But is he pleased with which two contestants are needed to complete the show? "One I wouldn't mind working for, and the other I'm sorta so on. But both would be great presidents of a Trump company."

Disney weighs stock offer

Analysts: Comcast might have to pay more

By David A. Wise and Christopher Stern
The Washington Post

The Walt Disney Co. board of directors is likely to reject Comcast Corp.'s unsolicited \$56 billion takeover bid as too low, which would force the Philadelphia-based cable television giant to consider what steps to take next in pursuit of its prey. Elmer said the company is profitable and that attendance at its theme parks is rising. "The theme parks have been in better shape or better than," he said.

Disney has retained the investment banking firms Goldman Sachs & Co. and Bear Stearns & Co. to evaluate Comcast's all-cash offer and advise a group of directors on the array of alternatives it could pursue to boost shareholder value. Among other things, Disney could pay a one-time dividend to shareholders, potentially forcing any acquirer to absorb the added cost, it could split the company into pieces, which the market might value more than the whole; and it could solicit offers for all or part of the company from friendly suitors.

The Disney board is unlikely to act on the Comcast bid until its financial advisers offer a detailed analysis, the advisers said. With Disney in the early stages of a financial recovery, and its shares trading well above the value of Comcast's offer, the prevailing view on Wall Street is that Comcast's takeover bid is likely to be rebuffed.

"I would think this is just the beginning of the game," said a senior analyst at the investment bank School, Fraser & Smith.

Comcast officials and advisers said the nation's biggest cable television firm has no intention of getting into an overheated bidding war. At the same time, Comcast is being very serious about pursuing Disney.

"We're going to be disciplined, and there's a price beyond which we will not go, where it just doesn't make sense," Comcast Cable Communications President

Stephen Burke said. Comcast's surprise bid on Wednesday came as Disney officials were meeting with analysts in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., home to its Walt Disney World theme park. Elmer and other Disney executives used their presentations to dispute criticisms of Disney's performance by former board member Roy Disney, nephew of the company's founder, and now by Comcast.

Elmer said the company is profitable and that attendance at its theme parks is rising. "The theme parks have been in better shape or better than," he said.

Disney's movie division would have finished the year at No. 1 even without the ES:NER said the company is profitable and that attendance at its theme parks is rising. "The theme parks have been in better shape or better than," he said.

"Elmer argued that the company had hit a 'home run' with its deal several years ago to buy

franchise ESPN and the ABC television network, despite the fact that ABC ratings remain in fourth place among the four major broadcast networks.

"We bought the ABC media network and ESPN for \$19 billion in 1995. It cost us essentially more than we paid for the entire acquisition," Eisner said.

Comcast's all-stock offer would give Disney stockholders 0.78 shares of Comcast stock for each share they own - which initially valued Disney at \$56 billion, or about \$26.46 a share. Comcast said it would also assume \$11.9 billion in Disney debt.

Jessica Reif Cohen, a Merrill Lynch & Co. media analyst, issued a research report Thursday suggesting that Disney might be worth about \$32 a share, a value that would add about \$11.6 billion to the deal.

For Comcast, one of the problems with an all-stock offer is that the value of a deal fluctuates with the price of the shares. Disney's stock price rose after the Comcast announcement while the cable company's share price declined. Based on Comcast's closing price of \$30.06 a share Thursday, the price it would pay

per Disney share dropped to \$23.45.

Comcast retained four Wall Street advisers to provide it with the advice and financial help it may take to get the deal done. For decades, Comcast relied on the Wall Street firm Lazard Freres & Co. for advice, and the advisers retained included Lazard's former premier dealmaker, Felix Rohatyn, and Quadrangle Group, a boutique investment firm set up by several former Lazard investment bankers. Comcast also retained Morgan Stanley & Co. and J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.

W. H. Hulse, Comcast's chief financial officer, surprised investors this week, advisers close to the company said the chief financial officer's top executives have been talking for decades of the potential benefits of combining their vast cable distribution network with a company that has the kind of rich content found at Disney, such as the ESPN sports channels and the classic film library.

"This is something they have thought of in the back of their mind," a Comcast adviser said. "They were waiting for the right time to integrate that kind of thing."

Other than taking its initial offer directly to Disney shareholders, Comcast, in the parlance of the takeover game, gave Disney a "bear hug," an unofficial takeover bid for its board to consider. Unlike some offers, though, Disney's board is under no legal obligation to respond within a certain time. Stephen

Fraiden, a partner in New York with the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis, said that should Disney reject the initial offer, Comcast will have to decide how much to increase its bid and whether to take its offer back to the board, or straight to shareholders in the form of a hostile tender offer.

While Disney lacks the kind of traditional takeover defenses that have drawn sharp criticism from institutional investors - a poison pill that makes a takeover prohibitively expensive, or varied terms for members of its

board of directors that would make it impossible to remove all of them at once - Fraiden said Disney's size may give it an advantage in the duel.

"It has one big takeover defense: It is really big," Fraiden said. "It is not that large to acquire a company that large."

Still, Comcast has moved opportunistically, when Disney was already under attack by others. Roy Disney and another board member resigned and called for Eisner's ouster, while institutional shareholders have expressed their unhappiness with company management.

Institutional Shareholder Services, of Rockville, Md., which advises hedge funds and other major investors on how to vote their shares, encouraged major investors to withhold a vote in favor of renominating Eisner to the Disney board of directors at its meeting on Jan. 22.

Patrick McGurn, ISS's special counsel, said the time for change at Disney, in one form or another, has arrived, and that big investors need to flex their muscles and put pressure on the board to act.

"It is necessary to send a message to the board and Michael Eisner that he can no longer continue to drive governance. The board has to play a more significant role," McGurn said. "The board clearly has opportunity now to assert its dominant role in governance. Investors are going to be watching closely."

During a midday address at the analysts' meeting in Florida, former Sen. George Mitchell, D-Maine, a Disney board member, urged Eisner to step down. He said the chairman and chief executive had managed the company well for many years and had enthusiastically endorsed efforts to strengthen oversight of corporate management.

But he said he was not convinced that he is open to the kinds of changes that may be needed to reach the company's full potential. The Teslik, whose organization represents hundreds of public pension funds, led the bid this week by Comcast, coupled with the drama of the process and the uncertainty of the outcome, will make this a high profile battle for months to come.

The Department of Justice raised no antitrust concerns last year when News Corp. acquired Time Warner. The Justice Dept. raised no antitrust concerns last year when News Corp. to provide local channels in DirecTV's 210 markets through 2008.

On Capitol Hill, legislators who had been involved in opposing media consolidation voiced concerns about the prospect of Comcast buying Disney. Some expressed hope that the deal would re-energize efforts to force Republican leaders in the House to allow a vote on overturning the FCC media ownership rules.

Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, and Herb Kohl, D-Wis., the ranking lawmakers on the Senate Judiciary Committee's antitrust subcommittee, said in a joint statement that the Comcast-Disney deal "may well pose a risk to competition in the marketplace of ideas and the diversity of news, information and entertainment available to the American public."

The timing of Comcast's announcement only raised the level of debate on the media consolidation issue, said Celia Wedler, research director at Washington, D.C.-based Common Cause.

While a federal appeals court in Philadelphia on Wednesday was hearing oral arguments in a case aimed at overturning the new FCC rules, Congress was holding hearings on an independence and the baring of Janet Jackson's breast on CBS during the recent Super Bowl halftime show.

"All of these events get people engaged in asking why television is in the state it is, and why so much programming continually reaches for the lower common denominator," Wedler said. "The overall message is that people aren't happy with the direction the media is going."



Linda Brown, a nurse at Weesbury United Methodist Retirement Community, in Meadville, Pa., dances to the best provided by co-workers during a drum circle jam session Jan. 22. A study of workers at Weesbury who participated in regular jam sessions using drums and a keyboard, by Meadville neurologist Dr. Barry Littman, showed an 18 percent reduction in employee departures.

WORKING IN RHYTHM

Companies go to extremes to foster teamwork

By Michael P. Rogan
The Associated Press

Arthur Hull calls it the "sneak attack."

A company tells employees to gather in a conference room under the guise they'll hear a lecture from an expert in their industry. When they arrive, they find "this guy who's got that funny hat and vest" and that they'll spend the next hour or two banging on drums and shaking maracas.

So can he see the hairs go up on the back of their necks... "We've been captured!" said Hull, a professional drum-circle facilitator from California.

This and other methods of preventing workplace malaise and burnout are being used by a host of companies, from the electric utility industry to the food industry. Team-building exercises can have executives and their underlings dashing around on scavenger hunts, dangling from ropes and racing equipment from dragon boats to dragsters.

The quirky exercises may become even more common, some say, if the job market improves enough that companies find themselves in need of new ways to retain employees.

But it's not clear whether they're worthwhile, or just a waste of time.

"I can understand the appeal," said Michael Ware, an organizational psychologist with the Washington, D.C., human resources firm Watson Wyatt. "It's obviously more than going to a dragon-boat race than to go to a classroom with a standup lecture... But as a scientist, an empiricist, it's a tougher sell for me."

Chris Neeka, a management professor at Virginia Tech, has studied research on the effectiveness of team-building exercises. He said that so far, there's little compelling evidence of long-term benefits for entire teams, but there does seem to be proof that individuals' attitudes and teamwork skills improve immediately after the exercises.

"If you get anyone out of their traditional boundaries, get them in a new environment, that helps creativity," he said. Many who have participated in the events swirled by them. Consider Emily Burke, who suffered a sprained elbow and a "bruised ego" when she crashed an Indy-style race car during a team-building event with her company, the Indianapolis ad firm Hiron & Co.

"I would do it again," said the 25-year-old public relations specialist. "Don't tell my mom, though."

Then there's Fred Cerrone, co-founder and president of Day Hospital, an Atlanta company that owns and manages 15 Marriott and Hilton hotels. Each year he piles his managers into a bus for a two-day adventure, telling them little in advance except clues like "bring a flashlight, bring toilet paper."

"Two years ago, he took them on a whitewater rafting trip. And although Cerrone said he has about 20 years and 50 pounds on most of his managers, he was right there on the river with them - until they hit a rock and the 57-year-old "shot out of that raft like a cannonball."

Cerrone became trapped under the rapids and almost drowned, before resurfacing with a broken toe. The trauma didn't spoil him on team-building events; last year he took his managers rappelling. "At some point, you have to step out on faith and take a risk," he said.

Not all exercises are so dangerous. At J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., managers of retail bank branches are divided into groups and sent out on scavenger hunts in the middle of a week of more traditional training. They get 45 minutes to find a shot glass, a chef's hat, a copy of "The Old Farmer's Almanac" and other items.

The idea is to teach the "discipline of execution," so managers can "bust through the roadblocks and do whatever it takes to get things done and get results," said Jeffrey Hawkins, the bank's senior vice president of branch performance and growth.

Drum circles also have become a popular way to try to build teams without breaking bones. A company called Drum Cafe, which started in South Africa, now has drum-circle facilitators in five U.S. cities and holds events at dozens of major corporations.

Demand has been so great that Hull, often referred to as the father of the corporate drum-circle movement, trains new facilitators to lead their own circles. He has a 10-day training center in Torrance, Calif., spent \$20,000 to outfit a room on the top floor of its building with drums for 40 people. Drum circles are held about twice a week.

"It was such a powerful moment," he said. "It's about teaming and what those high-performance teams can look like," said Ron Johnson, who runs the Toyota drum room.

Dr. Barry Bittman, a Meadville, Pa., neurologist, led a study of workers who participated in regular jam sessions using drums and a keyboard at the Weesbury United Methodist Retirement Community in Meadville. The results showed an 18 percent reduction in employee departures.

"A typical worker may be experiencing most of his or her stress from associates that they depend on in their team," said Bittman. "My personal belief is that recreational music making has great potential in bridging the divide and making people work together on a common ground."

Not everyone is convinced, especially when high-level executives are the ones pounding the drums.

Hellen Davis, a Malvern, Pa., corporate strategist and author of a book called "The 21 Laws of Influence," recently spoke at an event for executives of Raytheon, the Waltham, Mass., defense contractor. She was asked to stick around for the drum circle, but it didn't impress Davis.

Although some people enjoyed it, "my opinion was that it got them out of work and they didn't have to do anything. Other people were rolling their eyes, and said it was a complete waste of time," she said.

Still, Davis is not soured on all team-building events. She's scheduled to accompany a group of banking executives to a Florida winterland that emulates the thrill of skydiving.

Comcast plan energizes media consolidation foes

By Leon Lazárf
Chicago Tribune

NEW YORK - Critics of media consolidation have found a new rallying cry: Stop Comcast.

Consumer groups and some lawmakers said Thursday that Comcast Corp.'s stunning bid to buy the Walt Disney Co. - \$50 billion when it was announced - is expected to re-energize the debate over media ownership.

"This certainly brings the issue of media consolidation back to the forefront," said Rep. Maurice Hinchey, D-N.Y., who backed efforts to overturn new media ownership rules passed last year by the Federal Communication Commission. "The more the public knows and understands what happens when fewer companies own media outlets, the more concerned people become."

Comcast, however, counters that combining content and distribution is its logical next step, and one that will benefit its customers. For months, the cable-TV industry has engaged in a low-level war of attrition with publishers such as ESPN, each accusing the other of fueling rising cable rates.

The merger, were it to receive shareholder and regulator approval, would combine the country's cable television leader in subscriber base (\$18.3 billion) and customers (21.5 million) with some of the world's most attractive television and movie programming. Along with the ABC network, Miramax Films and Touchstone Pictures, Disney also owns ESPN, the Disney Channel, E! and 10 local television stations. Disney's 2003 revenues were \$27.06 billion.

The possibility that Comcast would acquire Disney's programming concerns consumer groups, which fear the cable company could refuse to carry channels that might compete with its own programming.

Battle of media giants

Comcast, the largest U.S. cable company, has made an unsolicited bid to buy a majority of Disney stock in a \$66 billion takeover.

Comcast	Disney
More than 21 million cable and high-speed Internet clients in 35 states and D.C., Philadelphia 76ers (NBA) and Flyers (NHL)	10 theme parks; ABC, E! cable network; ESPN, A&E, E! cable stations; Walt Disney Studios; Touchstones, Miramax movies
Philadelphia	Headquarters
Brian L. Roberts	CEO
1969	Created
59,000	Employees, 2003
\$18.3 billion	Revenue, 2003
\$3.24 billion	Net Income, 2003
Source: Comcast, Disney, AP	© 2004 HRT

"How likely is it that Comcast would want to carry a children's entertainment channel that competes with the Disney Channel?" said Gene Kimmelman, director of the Consumers Union, publisher of Consumer Reports magazine. "This runs counter to a free market, to being able to access diverse programming, whether that's entertainment or news."

But Comcast's strategy to combine its distribution network - the cable wires that feed into millions of homes - with Disney's programming is nothing new. Time Warner Corp., the country's second-largest cable-television operator, owns HBO, CNN, TBS and TNT as well as Warner Brothers Studios and New Line Cinema.

The story is similar at Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., owner of Fox Broadcasting, which recently received FCC approval to purchase the country's largest satellite-TV operator, DirecTV.

Were Comcast to buy Disney, said Jeff Chester, executive director of the Center for Digital

Democracy, an advocacy group, the owners of the country's three dominant television distribution networks would likely find ways to forge reciprocal agreements.

The problem with such combinations, he said, is that independent or start-up programmers might be shut out. "If you're a new entrant, the only way you'll succeed is if Comcast agrees to distribute you," Chester said. "If they refuse, your business is dead."

At present, there is nothing in the FCC's current ownership rules, or the package of revisions passed last year but awaiting a court challenge, that prevents Comcast from buying Disney.

The final hurdle that had prevented a cable company from buying a television broadcaster was removed in 2002 when a federal appeals court overturned a longstanding FCC ban.

Nonetheless, if a deal is struck, the FCC and federal antitrust regulators would have to sign off before Comcast could proceed with the takeover.

MONEY



Jerry Neufeld, left, John Wilkens-Wells, center, and Clair Bowman discuss strategies for preserving ag land during the 2004 Ag Summit Feb. 10 and 11 in Boise.

Protecting farm land requires multiple efforts

BOISE, Idaho — The numbers by themselves are frightening. The pace that agricultural land is converted to other uses has doubled in the last decade. America is now losing agricultural land at two to three times the population growth rate.

Even in a state like Idaho that is still considered to be 91 percent rural, the impacts of land development can be even more costly. In Canyon County, for example, every acre of farm land that is developed means the county loses \$10 in its economic base. Last year, 2,400 acres of farmland were lost in Canyon County alone, said Teri Otten.

“Often worked with the Canyon Agriculture Foundation for Education to develop a booklet for urban dwellers thinking of moving into Canyon County.”

“We wanted a way to educate people about what it really like to live in a rural area,” she said. “While the region loses its economic base with the conversion of farmland, individual households also pay a price. Elaine Clegg, co-director of Smart Growth in Boise, said transportation is now the second highest household expense, on average, Americans spend 18 percent of their disposable income on transportation, nearly as much as they spend on housing.”

When all the trips to take kids to activities or run errands or go to work are totaled, suburban man spend a total of 17 days each year behind the wheel, Clegg told participants at the 2004 Ag Summit held Feb. 10 and 11 in Boise.

Sugar gets excluded from Australia free trade pact

BOISE, Idaho — Sugar production officials are relieved that the proposed Australia Free Trade Agreement, which was completed last week, wouldn't allow more sugar into the United States.

“It was good news,” said Mark Dutton, executive director of the Idaho Sugar Beet Growers Association. “We were very pleased with that.”

Excluding sugar from the agreement, which still requires approval from Congress, was the right thing to do, said Carolyn Cheek, chairman of the U.S. Sugar Industry Group in Arlington, Va., which represents

Farmbeat
Highlights of this week's Ag Weekly, The Times-News' weekly report on agriculture.

beet and cane sugar producers. “We hope they use this as a template for the rest of the free trade agreements,” Cheek said.

Sugar beet grower Jeff Henry, who farms in the Hazelton-Eden area, said the move was important to U.S. producers, who already face low prices.

“We're pretty close to having the market full, if not a little over,” said Henry, a commissioner for the Idaho growers-association. “And I think that's reflected in the price right now.”

The U.S. sugar program costs taxpayers nothing, relying instead on sales quotas to stabilize prices, though producers get yearly production loans from the federal government. “The amount-of-imported foreign sugar is limited by tariffs.”

Weekend storms dump snow in the wrong place

BURLEY, Idaho — The storm the first weekend of February that left much of southern Magic Valley with 10 to 13 inches of snow didn't do much to help irrigators who rely on the Snake River for the irrigation water supply.

While the storm dumped about 7 inches at Magic Mountain, which helps irrigators on the Salmon tract south of Twin Falls, not as much fell in western Wyoming. The dam tender at Palisades reported only an inch fell there over the weekend, said Tim Miller, a hydrologist with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

“We've got a lot of snow on the ground, but it's not where we need it,” Miller said.

As of Feb. 12, the snowpack for the Snake River above Palisades Basin was just 95 percent of normal.

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mal, that's the watershed that provides about half the irrigation water to crops in the Magic Valley that rely on the Snake River for irrigation supply. A lower elevation basin, the Henry's Fork, was at 108 percent of average — but Henry's Fork only supplies about a quarter of the total water supply, Miller said.

Opportunities spring up for potato industry in Japan

DENVER, Colo. — U.S. potato trade officials say Japanese trade representatives were surprised to learn that dehydrated potatoes can be an ingredient in spring rolls.

“They didn't know you could make this out of dehydrated,” said Dick Obery, a Wisconsin potato grower who is the USPB International Marketing Committee chairman.

The US Potato Board was able to demonstrate how versatile dehydrated potatoes can be during a dehydrated potato seminar in Japan on Feb. 5. Board officials organized a lunch featuring 14 different dehydrated potato menu items.

“The spring rolls were killer — they were so good,” Obery said.

John Kosper, vice president of international marketing for USPB, said USPB received a positive response from the Japanese trade representatives.

“They were very interested in utilizing dehydrated,” Kosper said. “They were quite impressed with the different foods.”

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Recovery from bankruptcy will take time and planning

By Pamela Yip
The Dallas Morning News

Is there life after bankruptcy? Yes, it's possible to rebuild your financial life, but it's going to take time and vigilance.

“There is life after bankruptcy, but a person has to ask themselves what kind of life after bankruptcy do they want to have?” said John Ventura, a consumer bankruptcy attorney in Brownsville who's written several books on consumer money and legal issues.

“Do you want to have a lot of credit in the future? Are you going to get into the same old habits? Or do you want that peace of mind of having a savings account and buying things when you can pay cash for them and can afford them?”

The course of action that experts recommend after a personal bankruptcy is one that all of us should follow:

Track your spending. Trim your spending. Avoid debt.

Be disciplined with your checking and savings accounts.

But even before that, it's important to determine what got you into bankruptcy in the first place. Was it a job loss, serious illness or divorce? Or was it simply that you didn't live within your means?

“Look back and figure out what got you there,” said John Waskin, executive director of American Credit Counselors Corp., a Huntersville, N.C., credit counseling firm. He said that's the key to avoiding problems in the future.

If it's because you overspent, you need to develop a spending plan so you'll be able to keep track of expenses.

“This is an opportunity for people to take a real close look at how they handle money,” Ventura said. “There are a lot of people who can benefit from training about budgets and living within your means.”

Use credit as little as possible.

“After bankruptcy, you're going to have to live and love the use of cash,” said Rudy Cavaroz, director of corporate relations at Management International, a Houston credit counseling agency. “It's going to help you save more and learn to live without the luxury items you were used to.”

“If you want something, you save for it, and you get it later because you've saved for it.”

• • •

The only credit people should be using post-bankruptcy is for a mortgage and “maybe a car,” Waskin said.

But given the necessity of a

credit card in today's society, you should have one — and only one — if you want to do such things as rent a car and make hotel reservations.

“Don't tempt yourself” by getting one with a \$3,000 credit limit and running up the balance, Waskin said. “If it's off every month. Credit cards are a wonderful convenience if controlled.”

Surprisingly, you may find yourself getting credit card offers in the mail.

“After you've gone bankrupt, you will find credit card places which will loan you money,” Waskin said. “The bad news is that they're going to charge you an arm and a leg because you're a credit risk.”

Lenders say that just because you receive a credit card offer doesn't mean you'll actually be approved for credit. A bankruptcy can stay on your credit record for as long as a decade.

• • •

One of the best ways to rebuild your credit and still keep yourself in line is to get a secured credit card.

A secured card requires a cash collateral deposit that becomes the credit line for that account. For example, if you deposit \$500 in the account, your credit line is \$500.

“When the bill comes in, pay it off,” said Howard Dvorkin, president of Consolidated Credit Counseling Services in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

“Do not run balances. Certainly on a secured card, you don't want to be paying interest on your own money. That's ridiculous.”

After you've made steady on-time payments, ask the issuer if it will convert your card to an unsecured card.

“Keep your living expenses below your income,” said Jane Jolley, a consumer bankruptcy attorney in Collierville. “Do not rely on credit cards as extra income during the month.”

Applying for too much credit too soon after a bankruptcy will scare away lenders if you do apply for a car or house loan, Dvorkin says.

Maintain a consumer debt-to-income ratio of 20 percent or less, says Jolley, who teaches a course on debt education and credit rehabilitation to consumers who've filed for bankruptcy.

Your debt-to-income ratio reflects how much debt you're carrying in proportion to how much you're earning.

That includes payments for cars, student loans and credit card payments. Don't include mortgage/rent and utilities.

To calculate the ratio, add those total monthly payments and divide that amount by your take-home pay. The figure you get will be your debt load or debt-to-income ratio.

• • •

Obtain copies of your credit report from the three major credit bureaus and make sure your bankruptcy and the debts you discharged are properly noted, Jolley says.

The major credit bureaus are Experian — 800-311-4769 or www.experian.com; TransUnion — www.transunion.com; and Equifax — 800-997-2493 or www.equifax.com.

“Close all open credit accounts you are not using or do not need,” Jolley said. “They should reflect 'Closed by request of consumer.’”

Make sure all loans that have been paid in full are noted as such on your credit reports and show that they are no longer open credit lines.

• • •

Cut all unnecessary spending to the bone.

“Track your spending for at least one month, recording every single expenditure,” Jolley said. “You may be surprised at how much you spend on things such as snacks at work, ATM fees, late fees on video rentals, eating out, alcohol, tobacco products and lottery tickets.”

“If you total you spend per month on these items may be very different than the seemingly small amount you spend day to day.”

Start paying all your bills on time, not just credit cards. That includes your cable bill, phone bill and utilities bill.

“People don't realize these are creditors,” Dvorkin said.

• • •

Open a checking account and don't write checks that will bounce.

Learn to save, save, save.

“Arrange your spending to make sure you save money each month,” Jolley said. “Anticipate that you will need cash for deposits, down payments and emergencies.”

Open a savings account and make regular deposits, even if they're small amounts.

“The habit of saving every month is important,” Jolley said. “Be patient but single-mindedly focused on regaining control over your financial life.”

“The best way to repair the credit and rehabilitate yourself is time,” Dvorkin said.

“It allows the nasty stuff to fall off over time.”

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Making The Case for Dairy

Lactose Intolerance Doesn't Mean Avoiding Dairy

If you think being lactose intolerant means eliminating delicious and nutritious dairy foods from your diet - then think again.

Recent research has shown that lactose intolerance does not equate to dairy intolerance. That means people who may be lactose intolerant usually don't have to pass by the dairy case when shopping for food.

Lactose intolerance produces gastrointestinal symptoms such as bloating and gas and is associated with lactose maldigestion. Lactose maldigestion is the body's inability to completely break down the sugar, which is the milk carbohydrate in milk and some other dairy foods.

"Misunderstanding about lactose intolerance is at an all-time high. All too often people unnecessarily cut dairy out of the diet, eliminating a major source of calcium and other essential nutrients," says Dr. Kristin Ritzenthaler.

Researchers examined the effects of a dairy-rich diet for 21 consecutive days on African-American teens who did not like milk and as a result were non-milk drinkers. In the study, participants consumed four servings of dairy each day, about the amount needed to meet current calcium recommendations for teenagers, which is 1,300 mg/day. The results showed that the African-American teen girls were able to consume this dairy-rich diet comfortably. In fact, one common test for lactose maldigestion suggested that over the three weeks, the girls' ability to digest lactose actually improved.

This is great news not just for today's teenagers but also for moms and dads. It's been noted that nine out of ten girls and moms don't get the calcium they need. The incidence of lactose intolerance in the United States may be inflated due to the lack of proper medical diagnosis, faulty self-diagnosis, and confusion about the condition. The prevalence of

lactose maldigestion has been estimated to be about 25 percent of the population. However, the proportion of this group that experiences symptoms of intolerance actually appears to be far less. In fact, because lactose intolerance is highly individual and influenced by several physiologic and psychological factors so its true prevalence in a population is unknown. Also, there are other factors that can contribute to gastrointestinal symptoms, which mimic lactose intolerance.

The problem with a faulty diagnosis is that it may lead to a diet void of dairy products. Those restricting their intake of dairy may actually be doing more harm than good. Eliminating dairy foods from your diet may mean you aren't consuming enough calcium and essential vitamins and minerals to maintain a healthy body. And this lack of calcium has the U.S. government's. Proper calcium intake is important for bone health and avoiding osteoporosis.

In addition, according to recent research published in leading medical journals suggest that consuming calcium-rich dairy products is not just good for healthy bones and blood pressure. Recent findings suggest that consuming three to four servings of calcium-rich dairy products such as milk, yogurt and cheese, while dieting will result in more successful weight loss. In addition, individuals that consume three or more servings of calcium rich dairy products are leaner than those of consuming one or less serving.

So cut your calories but not the dairy. And there's more good news. Most people with intolerance can easily consume up to two cups of milk per day without experiencing symptoms. The best



to do so is to have your first serving at breakfast time and the second during dinner. In fact, consuming milk on a regular basis may actually improve tolerance to lactose over time.

And for those that think lactose intolerance is the same as milk allergies, that's just not true. A milk allergy is an allergy related to the proteins in milk, not lactose. Most allergies to milk occur in about one to two percent of the pediatric population and many of those outgrow those allergies by the age of three.

So if you think you may be lactose intolerant, get a proper diagnosis from a professional. Lactose intolerance doesn't mean you have to be hasty about crossing dairy foods off your grocery list. Drink up and enjoy.

TIPS FOR TOLERANCE:

1. Work it in. Start with a smaller portion and slowly increase the serving size.
2. Pair the dairy. Drink milk with other foods, not on an empty stomach.
3. Say cheese. Cheese (e.g. Cheddar, Colby, Swiss and Parmesan) has very low or no lactose, so it goes easy on the stomach.
4. Get a little "culture." Cultured milk products such as yogurt contain "friendly" bacteria that help digest lactose.

Information provided by the United Dairywomen of Idaho and the National Dairy Council.

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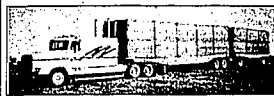
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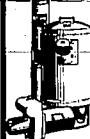
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS Case No. CV 2004-16 CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT COMMUNICATIONS IN THE Matter of BRANDAN LABERG, d.o.b. 12-10-90 TAIKHARA LABERG, d.o.b. 08-27-92 Children under the age of eighteen. THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO SHANE WETHALL 133 North Stone St, #2 Spokane, WA 99205 STACY TYLOR 190 Allyn Road, Wick, WA 98959-314 YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate's Division of District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, who is the above-named children come within the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act. You are hereby directed to appear personally for a Review Hearing at the Twin Falls County Courthouse, 425 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, on May 6, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. You are notified that the service of the attached Petition and the attached summons, guardian, or custodian of the children, confers personal jurisdiction of the Court upon you and subjects you to the provisions of the Child Protective Act. You are notified that if you fail to appear without reasonable cause, the Court may proceed in your absence or you may be proceeded against for contempt of Court. You are notified that the parent(s), guardian, or custodian may be financially liable for the support and/or treatment of the children. You are further notified that the children and parent(s), guardian, or custodian have the right to be represented by an attorney of your choosing, or if financially unable to pay, have the right to have an attorney appointed by the Court to represent the children or the parent(s), guardian, or custodian. You must appear before the date of the hearing shown above, at which time the Court shall consider appointment of an attorney for the children and inquire whether the parent(s), guardian, or custodian requires the separate appointment of an attorney. You are further notified that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that if a child is placed in the custody of the IDHW and also placed in the custody of the home for a period not less than fifteen (15) out of the last twenty (20) months from the date of adjudication, the IDHW shall maintain a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. This presumption may be rebutted by a finding by the Court that the filing of a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights would not be in the best interest of the child and their family, or that the child is placed permanently with a relative. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of said Magistrate Court this 5th day of January, 2004. Clerk of the District Court by Taina Hildahl Deputy Clerk PUBLISH: February 15 and 22, 2004

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4161 Creek Mesa Drive In Rock Creek Estates (Off Pole Line Road) Available for viewing this beautiful Palagonia Construction has designed and executed this custom 5,000 sq. ft. Mediterranean home overlooking Rock Creek. Beautifully crafted interior design. A large courtyard has a fountain, barbecue and fireplace to enhance outdoor living. For more information on this home, call 735-5333.

Very nice family home This home has only been lived in 5 months since it was new. The rest of the time it was a model home. It has a lot of upgrades a must see for the price. \$165,000 MLS# 109308

501 HOMES FOR SALE TWIN FALLS Sat. 1:00-3:00 pm. 493 BOXWOOD COURT \$219,000. A must see! 208-735-2422

TURN KEY HOME Top of the line manufactured home in Hansen Court. 2 by 6 construction, low hick walls, washer & dryer, Range, Ref. And most of the furnishing etc included. Forch shed, lawnmower. 1999 Model 832 Sq. Ft. \$38,000 +10x20 Call Carolyn 743-4268 - 734-7608

GREAT HOME ON LAKE Selling A Farm & Improvements Separately. Nice Home Situated on Lake. Have Very Nice 4 bdrm, 2 bath, Dbl. Garage home on 1 acre. 606 E 200 N. Jerome \$110,000. MLS# 106272 Call Ray Sabala 539-3321

501 HOMES FOR SALE TWIN FALLS Sat. 1:00-3:00 pm. 493 BOXWOOD COURT \$219,000. A must see! 208-735-2422

RENAISSANCE OFFICE PARK Go by and look at what is going to be the office park EVERYONE wants to be in and then call for leasing info 731-3164

Very nice family home This home has only been lived in 5 months since it was new. The rest of the time it was a model home. It has a lot of upgrades a must see for the price. \$165,000 MLS# 109308

502 HOMES FOR SALE TWIN FALLS Sat. 1:00-3:00 pm. 493 BOXWOOD COURT \$219,000. A must see! 208-735-2422

NEW LISTING Nice home, built in 1950. 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, plus a sunroom on main level. Basement has 2 possible bedrooms and family room (no egress windows). 2 car Garage with 1 opener. New carpet. Hard kitchen and dining. New water heater. Call me to see. \$88,500 MLS# 109433 Call Victoria Ray 423-4682 or 420-3199

Call Today! Ross Deah 731-3164

502 HOMES FOR SALE TWIN FALLS Sat. 1:00-3:00 pm. 493 BOXWOOD COURT \$219,000. A must see! 208-735-2422

Wonderful home priced to sell 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath, Gas heating, fenced yard a quiet cul de sac. Exterior has been freshly painted, also included is a swing set and entertainment center in the living room \$69,000. MLS# 109043 Call Bob or Betty Vech 731-6500 or 731-4749

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TWIN FALLS Beautiful charming vintage brick home. 4 bdrms., 2 bath, gas fireplace, lg. kitchen. Upgraded gas heat/AC. In ground swimming pool with cover. Many updates. \$157,500. Call 733-0516.

TWIN FALLS Foreclosure! 3 bdr., 2 bath - \$52,500. Call 800-319-3323 ext. 1732 for listings.

TWIN FALLS Foreclosure! 3 bdr., 2 bath - \$52,500. Call 800-319-3323 ext. 1732 for listings.

TWIN FALLS Must See! New secure condo, unit, 2 bdrms., includes large master suite with walk-in closet, 2 bath, gas fireplace, ceiling fans, refrigerator, stove, oak kitchen, and secure parking. \$55,000. Call 208-733-6287/636-3547.

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TWIN FALLS Wonderful location. 4 bdr., 2.5 bath, updated interior, large craft room could be a 5th bdr., Covered patio, great landscaping, and so much more at \$151,000. Call Jani or Bob today for your exclusive viewing. 734-3372.

TWIN FALLS New! 3 bdr., 2 bath. Great neighborhood, 1544 sq. ft. Lots of extras. Must see. \$123,500 or \$4000 down. \$881/mo. total mortgage! Call 208-280-1591.

TWIN FALLS Wonderful location. 4 bdr., 2.5 bath, updated interior, large craft room could be a 5th bdr., Covered patio, great landscaping, and so much more at \$151,000. Call Jani or Bob today for your exclusive viewing. 734-3372.

ALPINE REALTY

TWIN FALLS Rent To Own 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, Call Dave at 208-532-7374 208-912-4233

WENDELL 3 bedroom, 1 bath 125 4th Ave West \$65,000. For Sale by Owner. Call 208-580-1304

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MOUNTAIN HOME Grain Handling Facility (could be disassembled & moved.) Six 10,000 bu. Bohn granaries, high speed cup elevator from dump pit, top bolted transport for filling and full reload capabilities. Complete fan & air system to all granaries. This is an excellent facility, but needs to be moved. Make offer. Please call (home) 208-587-8592 or (cell) 208-989-4605

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BLISS 100 acres, sprinklers, sugar beets, etc. Lays well 733-1359.

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BUHL KANAKA RAPIDS \$51,800 Price reduced over \$20,000 on this beautiful 5 acre home site on Mud Creek. Includes geothermal water, abundant wildlife, trees, great fishing and access to the Snake River. Call Dorothy 737-3803. MLS#100937 PC#0451

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Nice Family Home!

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ONE-LEVEL HOME with almost 2,000 sq. ft., 3 bdrms, 2 bathrooms & family room! Features include Crown hardwood flooring, recessed ceiling, tile in most appliances, etc. \$142,900. Call Cathie Gleivins @ 731-9900 for more information.

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WONDERFUL HOME, PRIME AREA!
Newly remodeled in well-established area. 1,500+ sq. ft. features a 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with a large fenced yard with fountain and landscape. Plus 2-car garage, alarm system & much more. Call Judy today for an appointment to see! 734-4477 or 308-8253.

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A great view & beautiful homes surround this excellent 1-acre lot in Rock Creek Point Subdivision. An excellent property to build your dream home. \$30,000. For more information, call Judy at 734-4477 or 308-8253.

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2607 LONGBOW, TWIN FALLS
\$165,000 - 1-3 P.M.

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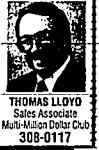
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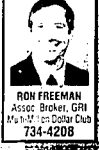
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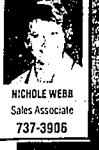
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• \$34,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109035
• 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, Super shop, central air, central vac. Lots of extras!
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PC# 1002

• \$42,500 • Bull • MLS#106577
• 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, New carpet and vinyl, finished yard.
Call Vicki @ 204-8484

PC# 1003

• \$59,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107841
• 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, Totally remodeled, 2nd floor w/ Alex Castaneda 595-7581 or Mirinda 420-4729

PC# 1004

• \$65,000 • Murtaugh • MLS#109220
• 3 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, Nice home across from school, Lamis room in basement. Viki/Sue 204-8600 or Ron 595-8644

PC# 1005

• \$68,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108938
• 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, Lots of space, large yard, gas heat.
Twin Falls Homecon Lynn Ramussen 737-3900

PC# 1006

• \$69,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109133
• 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, Family room, gated fence with alloy access.
The Twin Falls Home 737-3939 Tami 737-3940

PC# 1007

• \$69,900 • Bull • MLS#109488
• 3 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, Manufactured home on 1.72 acres, priced to sell!
Diana Doman 737-3916 or 420-8110

PC# 1008

• \$70,000 • Jerome • MLS#108726
• Excellent investment property with 25 x 32 shop.
Alex Castaneda 595-7581 or Mirinda 420-4729

PC# 1009

• \$71,000 • Wendell • MLS#108075
• 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, Nice home with extensive remodeling.
Brenda Carter 410-977 Londa Harris 204-8822

PC# 1010

• \$74,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108860
• 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, Large yard, 2 car garage, large master bedroom.
Nichole Webb 539-7355

PC# 1011

• \$81,900 • Harzen • MLS#108196
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Nicely maintained beautiful large lot.
Dorothy Geist 737-3900 Ken Roy 737-3939

PC# 1012

• \$83,000 • Ellet • MLS#109489
• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Manufactured home on 1.72 acres, priced to sell!
Alex Castaneda 595-7581 or Mirinda 420-4729

PC# 1013

• \$84,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#106633
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
1514 Construction "The Dawn"
Twin Falls Homecon Lynn Ramussen 737-3900

PC# 1014

• \$89,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#107534
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
* Custom wood * * Vaulted ceiling.
The Twin Falls Home 737-3939 Tami 737-3940

PC# 1015

• \$100,000 • Bull • MLS#109435
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Newly remodeled updated and spacious 2 car garage.
Linda Harris 204-8822 Realtor related

PC# 1016

• \$104,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109258
• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Great family home, Close to school, Large lot, Kay & Eric Knudsen, 948-9400 or 948-9401

PC# 1017

• \$107,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#109363
• Combo office and warehouse in good location.
Ken Roy 731-6665 or Dorothy Geist 737-3900

PC# 1018

• \$110,000 • Bull • MLS#108214
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Family room, nice big kitchen, and family room.
Call Vicki/Sue 204-8600

PC# 1019

• \$117,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#109321
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Great New Home, 1514 Construction, Call Vicki/Sue 204-8600 or Ron Freeman 737-3915

PC# 1020

• \$119,900 • Shoshone • MLS#108874
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, New country country home, view, and wildlife.
Londa Harris 204-8822 Realtor related

PC# 1021

• \$120,000 • Jerome • MLS#106791
• Commercial/Industrial Main St. Retail on ft. approx. 1033.
Alex Castaneda 595-7581 or Mirinda 420-4729

PC# 1022

• \$120,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108666
• 4 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, 1991 sq ft. Master suite, family room, and large lot.
Nora Kent 731-6332

PC# 1023

• \$110,000 • Bull • MLS#108214
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Family room, nice big kitchen, and family room.
Call Vicki/Sue 204-8600

PC# 1024

• \$129,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109087
• 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2011 sq. ft. Room for the whole family, Close to school with 2 car garage.
Nora Kent 731-6332

PC# 1025

• \$132,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#109280
• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
Lots of sq footage, Great yard!
Twin Falls Homecon Lynn Ramussen 737-3900

PC# 1026

• \$137,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109430
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Just like new, elegant updated, 3 car garage.
Diana Doman 737-3916 or 420-8110

PC# 1027

• \$139,900 • Kimberly • MLS#109182
• 4 bedrooms, 2.75 baths, Excellent shape, New kitchen, lots of extras. Large lot and Twin Falls Homecon Lynn Ramussen 737-3900

PC# 1028

• \$145,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108523
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, New carpet, 2nd fl. kitchen, full bath, w/ shower, 2nd fl. kitchen, full bath, w/ shower.
Ron Freeman 737-3915 Kathy Partridge 737-3920

PC# 1029

• \$159,000 • Bull • MLS#106362
• 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, Artisanal architectural, 2011 sq. ft. Unique style.
Linda Harris 204-8822 or Ron 595-8644

PC# 1030

• \$159,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109316
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Beautiful updated home, 1970's ft. Unique style.
Twin Falls Homecon Lynn Ramussen 737-3900

PC# 1031

• \$179,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107746
• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1872 sq ft., elegant updated, 3 car garage.
Tom Lloyd 410-977 or 308-0117

PC# 1032

• \$182,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#107122
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, New Home!
2164 sq. ft. Triple garage.
Ken Roy 731-6665 or Dorothy Geist 737-3900

PC# 1033

• \$187,500 • Murtaugh • MLS#109999
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Wonderful country home with acreage. Many upgrades.
Kathy Partridge 737-3920 Ron Freeman 737-3915

PC# 1034

• \$224,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#106252
• 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Slusher Construction 2001 sq. ft. Home sweet home!
The Twin Falls Home 737-3939 Tami 737-3940

PC# 1035

• \$238,700 • Twin Falls • MLS#109420
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths
3070 sq. ft. 3 levels, large lot.
Walt Hess 410-977 or Kathy Schrader 212-9212

PC# 1036

• \$249,900 • Ellet • MLS#1090410114
• Extra quality built home on 20 acres with water.
Kathi Schrader 212-9212 or Sandy Lawrence 212-2228

PC# 1037

• \$270,000 • Heystown Area • MLS#107699
• 47 acre river front property. Great potential for development.
19 Mirinda 737-3926, Alex Castaneda 737-3907

PC# 1038

• \$299,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108344
• 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, Home! w/ 4 car garage, country setting, home shop.
Cathy Carter 420-381 or Vicki/Sue 204-8600

PC# 1039

• \$275,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#107291
• 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, Incredible! Gorgeous interior, beautiful yard.
Carolyn Cutler 737-3939 or 420-8110

PC# 1040

• \$975,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#109138
• Two 8000 sq. ft. buildings, one 1 acre home, concrete driveway, and 200 sq. ft. office building.
Cathy Carter 420-381 or Carolyn Cutler



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JEROME
\$29,500 Approx. +/- 2.5 acre lot SW of Jerome. Includes 2 shares of Northside Canal Co. water. For more details visit TheHesTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS# 106517 PC#9051

TWIN FALLS
\$49,000 2 acres. Great building lot located south of Rose Hill Subdivision. For more details visit TheHesTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS# 108532 PC#6021

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TWIN FALLS
\$40,000 Zones R-6 with professional office/great medical office location, close to hospital. For more information visit TheHesTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS# 107032 PC#3561

516 VACATION & TIME SHARES

602 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

GOODING 4 bdrm., 2 bath, hardwood floors, gas heat, \$529,500-5025 HAZELTON Home ranch, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Country home. Large yard, curtilage. \$650/month + \$650 40p. AWH1-3/4 reserve now. 829-5527. JEROME 1 bedroom house for rent. Call 324-4310 or 420-1689 or 420-7193. JEROME 2 bedroom, full bathroom water & trash included. \$500 + deposit. Call 208-324-2154.

KIMBERLY new carpet 2 bdrm, 1 bath, DW, \$555. No pets. \$300/mo. Call 423-4729 or 420-3717.

TWIN FALLS beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, all appliances, \$219,000. Call 737-3939 or 737-3940.

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TWIN FALLS "Tired of stocks?" Check out on new 4 plexes. Call Chuck 733-8207.

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SALT LAKE CITY "TEMPLE SQUARE" Condominium Rental Special! "THE KIMBALL" Located across from Temple Square. 182 bedroom rental. Short & long term rental. With this ad. www.TheKimball.com Phone: 888-897-0326

BUHL 2 bdrm, 1009 N. Broadway, \$400, 3 bdrm, 309 9th Ave. N., \$500, 733-9658 or 731-2345.

JEROME 3 bdrm., 2 bath, appliances, \$450/month. Call 208-543-6573.

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, 1 bath, DW, \$555. No pets. \$300/mo. Call 423-4729 or 420-3717.

TWIN FALLS beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, all appliances, \$219,000. Call 737-3939 or 737-3940.

KIMBERLY
\$69,500 This 5 acre parcel is ready to become your new home site. Natural rock wall on East side of property. Well installed. Just needs power. For more information visit TheHesTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS# 106517 PC#9051

TWIN FALLS cemetery lot. Sunset Memorial Park. Sunny slope area. \$575. Call 208-734-0976.

TWIN FALLS Cash flow, updated 4-plex. Quiet neighborhood. Fully occupied. \$179,000. Call 801-836-3736.

TWIN FALLS 1/2 acre of property in Industrial Park, \$35,000. 208-731-1217

517 CONDOMINIUMS

BUHL Newly renovated 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, Hellows Property Mgmt. 734-4334 wintfallsrentals.com

JEROME 3 bdrm., 2 bath, mobile home, no pets, long term, \$500 + deposit. 324-6933 or 543-8342.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, DW, \$555. No pets. \$300/mo. Call 423-4729 or 420-3717.

TWIN FALLS beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, all appliances, \$219,000. Call 737-3939 or 737-3940.

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INCOME PROPERTY

514 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

515 MOBILE HOMES

516 REAL ESTATE WANTED

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES

BUHL Small 2 bedroom, fenced yard. Call 208-423-4777 alter 7 pm.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, mobile home, no pets, long term, \$500 + deposit. 324-6933 or 543-8342.

TWIN FALLS beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, all appliances, \$219,000. Call 737-3939 or 737-3940.

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INCOME PROPERTY

514 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

515 MOBILE HOMES

516 REAL ESTATE WANTED

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES

BUHL Small 2 bedroom, fenced yard. Call 208-423-4777 alter 7 pm.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, mobile home, no pets, long term, \$500 + deposit. 324-6933 or 543-8342.

TWIN FALLS beautiful 4 bdrm, 2 bath, all appliances, \$219,000. Call 737-3939 or 737-3940.

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2176 Addison Avenue East
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P.O. IRWIN REALTY • 800 FALLS AVE. E SUITE 1, TWIN FALLS, ID 83401

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This Fair Housing Act includes "children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18."
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complete a discrimination call 800-768-7661 or 1-800-889-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-827-8275.

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED
DON'T RISK FORECLOSURE Will Assume Mortgagee Proceeds determine address, & phone number to P.O. Box 5144 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.

Country Living...With All The Extras!
122 Acres
Bath
To Sift!
SLUSHER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - 644-1541

JACKPOT, NV 14'x66'
Finished, \$24,000. Will carry. Call 208-308-9388

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A Tribute to the RED, WHITE, and BLUE

magic valley realty
The Oldest Name in Magic Valley Real Estate Since 1950!
1280 Addison Avenue East, Twin Falls, ID • (208) 734-1901
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REDCUT **FILER** **ON 28+ ACRES** **JEROME** **NEW!** **TWIN FALLS**
Now \$82,000 4 bed, 2 bath mfg. home, 2 car garage. Sherri 731-2988 MLS# 108781
\$2,600,000 Mfg. facility with 130,778 sq. ft. Steve 734-1991 MLS# 108112
\$171,900 3 bed, 2 bath Many upgrades David 731-6922
\$199,900 Auto supply bldg. Archie 731-2039 Bobbie 731-4309 MLS# 105409
\$220,000 170 acre farm Deep well Judy 731-3141 MLS# 109440
\$800/mo. 800 sq. ft. office. Tony on Blue Lakes Tony 280-1360 MLS# 108797
\$170,700 3 bed, 2 bath Sits on 2 acres Kip 280-5000 MLS# 107866
\$95,900 3 bed, 2 bath Bobbie 731-4309 MLS# 107038
\$300,000 390 acre farm, 2 center pivots. Art 731-5415 MLS# 108396
\$119,500 70 acres with 61 water shares Judy 731-3141 MLS# 108273

RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS
Reflections in the pond...
Country Living...
Magic Hot Springs...
152 acres...
Build away from it all!
Very nice brick home...
Commercial potential...
Now small suburban...
17 acres...
New vinyl metal shop...
Great investment property...
Ready for your business...
Direct Rates Are As Low As Today!

Agents: KIP HANSEN, GARY SHARP, MICHAEL STANLEY, TONY CLARKE, ARNE LARSEN, JOHN MALLON, TONY ANDERSON, ART JENSEN, STEVE ANDERSON, BOBBIE ANDERSON, BOBBIE ANDERSON, BOBBIE ANDERSON.

2003 STRATUS WAS \$14,995 NOW \$11,988* OR \$209 MO.
2003 NEON WAS \$13,995 NOW \$9,438* OR \$169 MO.
2003 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE WAS \$21,995 NOW \$16,988
2003 DODGE DURANGO SLT WAS \$28,995 NOW \$23,788
2003 GRAND AM WAS \$13,995 NOW \$11,488* OR \$199 MO.
2003 IMPALA WAS \$17,995 NOW \$13,988* OR \$249 MO.
2003 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER WAS \$26,995 NOW \$22,988
2003 CHEVY S10 BLAZER WAS \$23,995 NOW \$18,488
2003 ACCORD WAS \$22,995 NOW \$19,488* OR \$339 MO.
2003 VENTURE WAS \$20,995 NOW \$15,488* OR \$269 MO.
2001 FORD WINSTAR WAS \$20,995 NOW \$16,988
2002 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE WAS \$21,995 NOW \$15,988

REAL ESTATE

Mini-Cassia REAL ESTATE

BRING THE PONY!
Very neat 3 bedroom 2 bath classic country is the ideal family home. On one acre with room for the pony and other family pets. Efficient heat pump and fireplace insert for year round comfort. Easy care metal exterior, detached garage and spectacular view are yours for \$30,000. #107113



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2000 Overland, Burley
878-2121
RIVERSIDE REALTY Visit us at: www.c21riverside.com
Century 21 Mattz Properties 2348 S. Main Street 866-26-091



Jerry Hines

FOR RENT
Now taking applications for our waiting list for 1, 2 & 3 bedroom Apartments.

Mountain View East
678-9141

FOR RENT
Now taking applications for our waiting list for 1 & 2 bedroom Apartments.

Valley Park Apartments
436-5882

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Now taking applications for our waiting list for 1, 2 & 3 bedroom Apartments.


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WENDELL 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, family room, attached garage, nice large corner lot. No pets. \$850 + dep. on approved references. Ask for form. 536-6323 days or 536-2416 evos.

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS
BRAND NEW APARTMENTS APPLY NOW
Spacious Affordable Apartments!
2 BDRM./2 FULL BATH starting at \$229
3 BDRM./2 FULL BATH starting at \$491
Garage
WD Hookups
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And more!

CARRIAGE LANE APARTMENT
2510 Whispering Pine Drive Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-735-2111
Office Hours:
M, Tu, W & Fri.
8:00 am-3:00 pm
Th 1:00 pm-7:00 pm
Sat 11:00 am-4:00 pm

HAZELTON
Now taking applications:
Syrin, Etah, etc.
1 bdrm. apts. Quiet and well maintained for the elderly 62 years of age or older. Handicap/Disabled regardless of age.
Federally Assisted Housing. Call 852-4206.
Handicap Accessible.
Equal Housing Opportunity.

BUHL 2 & 3 bedroom apts. Rent based on income. Please call 543-8333. Equal Housing Opportunity.

JEROME 1 & 2 bdrm., 1 bath, all appliances.
Hallowa Property Mgmt.
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JEROME Nice 2 bedroom townhouse! All appls. No smoking/pets. \$195. Call 324-3213 ext. 106.

JEROME nice clean 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, \$535 + 208-2424-420-1011.

KIMBERLY Affordable clean studios, appls. incl. \$270/mo. 208-312-2111

PAZ 2 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, W/D hookups, DW. No smoking. \$400/month \$200 deposit. 312-4159 or 312-4161

JEROME 1 & 2 bdrm., 1 bath apts. No pets/smoking. \$350-\$300/mo. + dep. Call 208-532-4555

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BURLEY Clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 2nd floor apartment. No pets. \$425/month + \$425 dep. 733-3669.

FAWNBROOK APARTMENTS
RENTS STARTING AT \$399
** ** ** ** **
Large 1, 2, 3 bedroom
734-1600
647 Frontenac Ave.
Handicap accessible
Equal Housing Opportunity

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RENTS STARTING AT \$399
** ** ** **
Large 1, 2, 3 bedroom
734-1600
647 Frontenac Ave.
Handicap accessible
Equal Housing Opportunity

GOODING Clean nice 1 bedroom units, for low income, B2 and older or disabled. Westside Court Apartments 93-1805. Equal Housing Opportunity.

HANSEN 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$300/month + \$300 deposit. No pets/smoking. W/D, utility, car lift. Call phone, incl. 423-5888.

JEROME 1 & 2 bdrm., 1 bath, all appliances.
Hallowa Property Mgmt.
734-4334
twinfallsrentals.com

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JEROME 1 & 2 bdrm., 1 bath apts. No pets/smoking. \$350-\$300/mo. + dep. Call 208-532-4555

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2nd floor apartment. No pets. \$425/month + \$425 dep. 733-3669.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, DW. No pets. \$255. Call 208-732-0895

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, very clean, off street parking, \$450/mo. + dep. No smoking/pets. Call Lyo 6 208-731-6589

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, appls, garage \$600/mo., \$200 move in allowance. 208-539-4071

TWIN FALLS Attractive 2 bedroom brick duplex, 2 bath, garage, sprinkler system, 1 year lease, no pets. \$550 month + dep. Call also 208-734-1825

TWIN FALLS Beautiful newer 2 bdrm., 2 bath apt. Gas heat, AC, ref., microwave, DW, range, No smoking, no pets. \$550+dep + ref. \$100 off 1st months rent with 1 year lease. 208-533-5373.

TWIN FALLS CLEAN & QUIET 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fully paneled, carpet on quiet cul-de-sac, all appls included, W/D hook-ups, carport/garage/yard, \$500 - a clean, quiet water, sewer, trash. Call Erin 208-420-4182.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 2 bath, all appls. W/D. 734-2444-5525 + dep. \$300 off 1st mo. Incls. all appls. & W/D. 734-2444-5525 + dep. \$300 off 1st mo.

TWIN FALLS ★FALLS APTS.★ and Phosant View Townhomes. 1,2,3 Bdrms. \$369-\$515

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TWIN FALLS ★FALLS APTS.★ and Phosant View Townhomes. 1,2,3 Bdrms. \$369-\$515

Your Magic Valley Connection...



www.magicvalley.com

TWIN FALLS H.B.O. microwave & refrigerator. Call 208-733-8452. TWIN FALLS \$105/week, \$375 mo. Quiet, microwave, dishwasher, w/d, m/c, 739-5988.

TWIN FALLS Best deal in town!! Microwave/dishwasher, cable TV, laundromat, daily maid service, check us out!! No pets. Rooms start at \$120/week. 4333 Addison, 733-5151. Monterey Motor Inn

TWIN FALLS weekly rates starting at \$110. Microwave & refrigerator, weekly maid service, individual heat. El Rancho, 380 West Addison.

606 MOBILE HOMES. FILTER extra nic, quiet, 2 bedrm, 1 1/2 bath w/dishwasher, \$375/month + deposit. No pets. Refs. 208-326-5887.

JEROME Spacious 14' x 16' w/dishwasher in built-in laundry room. Water and sanitation turn. \$380. Call 208-733-9259.

TWIN FALLS very clean, 2 bedrm, most useful quiet park, no pets, \$435/month + deposit. 208-733-8234.

607 OFFICE & RETAIL RENTALS. BURL Artist's studio with 400 sq ft and class room. Space, pottery kiln, yard. 600 square feet \$350/mo. Call 208-543-5417.

LYNKWOOD SHOPPING CENTER. Office & Retail. Henneke Management. 734-4334. TWIN FALLS 2nd Ave. S. 740 sq ft., off office and 700 sq ft. of storage. \$550/mo. 208-539-4537.

TWIN FALLS Blue Lakes office park, excellent location with 5 offices & 600 sq ft of storage. \$750/month. 280-3000.

TWIN FALLS Location, Location. Shoshone St., Falls Ave., Kimberly Rd., Various Sizes. Holloway Property Mgmt. 734-4334. twinfallsrentals.com

608 COMMERCIAL RENTALS. TWIN FALLS Prices reduced. Warehouse with 4 restrooms and office. 4000 sq ft., including office. 3808 8th Ave W. 733-0081 or 420-0081.

TWIN FALLS www.TwinFallsShops.com. Prices reduced. Shop/warehouse with 4 restrooms and office. 4000 sq ft., including office. 3808 8th Ave W. 733-0081 or 420-0081.

TWIN FALLS Office space available. Located in historic old town. \$125 & up. Incia. Office space available. Call 731-4812 or 734-8822.

TWIN FALLS Office/Shop/Warehouse of Various Sizes & Locations. Holloway Property Mgmt. 734-4334. twinfallsrentals.com

615 MOBILE HOME SPACES. KIMBERLY Single wide and double spaced avail. Friendly Village Mobile Estates. Ask about monthly rent FREE!! Call 208-423-5253.

TWIN FALLS Single & double spaces avail. Free rent. Cameo Mobile Estates. Call 734-5054.

616 ROOMMATES WANTED. TWIN FALLS Roommate wanted, \$250 month, utilities paid. 733-9973. 01111 731-AND FOUND

FOUND cat, in Kimberly, male, gray with white spots. Call 423-4110. FOUND Chinucha tomcat, neutered, NO collar, call for more information @ 208-423-4312.

FOUND Folding laundry rack, beat condition near Kimberly on February 7. Please call 208-423-6433 to identify. FOUND German Shepherd, brown, male, in Jerome County almost 2 weeks ago. 734-8332420-1585.

FOUND lab yellow, Near Sweetwater. FOUND over \$1000, Maple Valley Mall parking lot. Please call the County Clerk's Office @ 208-736-4004 ask for Kristina.

FOUND Tabby cat, male, beige, small, 1 mile N of Elgin, ID. Call for more information @ 208-326-5037.

FOUND TOOLS on Clear Lake Grade in Buhl. They fell out a box van. Call to identify \$443-6785.

FOUND Red Marlo Australia Shepherd, male, brown & white spotted, dark brown ear, 6 months old. Hazelton/Greenwood area. Call 208-543-1151.

FOUND Navy blue, size 12, left on ski bus to Pomera, CA. Call 733-3869.

FOUND Stock dog, black male, at Montana Steak house. Call 423-6851.

FOUND Terrier Spaniel X, black medium size, wearing puppy booties. Rupture Area, Nemo, Idaho. May be trying to get home. Reward \$2000. Call 208-734-2467.

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS. Please check your ad on the first day. If you find an error we will correct it. We are not responsible for errors after the first day of publication.

Call Twin Falls 733-3231 or Burley 477-4042.

PERSONALS. On this date, February 8, 2004, I Michael McFarlin am no longer responsible for any debts other than my own.

SPECIAL NOTICES. A L C O O T L T S AND C O U N T I E S. 208-733-8300 or 208-733-8305.

FOUND Bracolor, Black Bull dog, large, 3/4" linkers rose gold leaf design. Lost between Wal-Mart and the Times-News office in Buhl. Was a Christmas gift. Reward offered. 208-878-2912.

FOUND Calico dark, 6 month old, blue eyes, on Pole Line Rd by T.F. Fitness Center, before Saturday. Call 208-244-1470.

FOUND cat photo in a cage. Reward offered. Please call 208-734-3755.

FOUND Chocolate Lab, male, 1 year old, injured right hind leg. 771 860 West Paul, Idaho. Call 208-438-5134.

FAX YOUR AD. TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT. 208-734-5538 OR 208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

209 EMPLOYMENT. ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE. Position Open. Ad Weekly/Farm Times has an opening for an advertising account sales representative.

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BURLEY Little Explorers Childcare Center, ages 2 to 6. Sun 9-11. 210 licensed. ICCP certified. 20 years exp. Limited group size. Preschool available. Call 878-2570.

Kids Company Daily activities, field trips, art, music, dance, etc. NANNAN'S HOUSE Daycare & Pre-School. ICCP & CPH. 31 years experience. 24 hour service. Included. All ages! 208-735-4193.

OUR LITTLE ANGELS. Very small in home day care has 2 FT openings. Licensed, affordable rates. Call 208-324-0303.

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CHILD CARE. C/P/T Teacher's Aide. Exp. Mon-Fri 736-2000. COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST. The City of Twin Falls Communications Specialists/Dispatch. The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST/DISPATCH.

COSMETOLOGY. Cosmetology instructor. Part-time, must be state certified. Pleasant working environment. Call 734-4772 or 734-1697.

COUNSELOR. Full-time Associate adult counselor, CAD/C or BA with addition experience. Send resume to: Walker Center, 605 11th Ave. East, Gooding, Idaho 83330. 1-800-227-4190.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Part-time Work \$10.50 Base. Want professional people to work with potential customers on an on. Reps would explain products, answer questions, and help place orders. No door canvassing, phone sales or surveys. Training provided. Flexible schedules. Perfect for Students. CALL TODAY! 208-233-6200 www.darturtime.com

CONSTRUCTION. Accepting resumes and applications for foreman, operators, CDL drivers and laborers starting this week. No Calls Please! KD Excavation PO Box 327 Huxley, ID 83333 Fax 725-1528. Drug Free Workplace.

CONSTRUCTION. Buildings Superintendent. Five years construction experience required. Ability to do remodeling and new construction. Knowledge of electrical, HVAC, plumbing, codes and regulations. Excellent environment and benefits. Contact Cameron: 800-701-8889. 6 mo. Recent OTR exp. & CDL-A. www.knighttransp.com

CONSTRUCTION. Buildings Superintendent. Five years construction experience required. Ability to do remodeling and new construction. Knowledge of electrical, HVAC, plumbing, codes and regulations. Excellent environment and benefits. Contact Cameron: 800-701-8889. 6 mo. Recent OTR exp. & CDL-A. www.knighttransp.com

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DAILY. Experienced quiet gentle milker, in Owyhee County. Call 208-834-2015.

DENTAL. Dental assistant needed part-time. Experience preferred but not required. Send resume to: PO Box 835, Burley, ID 83318.

DRIVERS. Devisco Foods International/Jerome Cheese Company. An established employer in the dairy industry for over 50 years, now has 4 positions available for newly trained job of Tractor Trailer Driver. Devisco is looking for reliable energetic motivated and organized individuals to be part of its team. Must be working in a fast-paced environment, needs strong verbal and written skills and the ability to handle multiple tasks and pay attention to detail. This full-time permanent position requires 1-2 years relevant experience. Compensation is negotiable. Devisco offers the following: 401k with employer match. Employer provided health insurance up to 100%. Life insurance. Flexible benefit plan. Profit sharing. Paid vacations & holidays. Double time paid for Sundays & holidays. Please send resume to Jerome Cheese Co. Attn: Bill Ribesell@Deviscofoods.com. 47 W. 100 S. Jerome ID 83338 or fax 208-234-5022. Attn: Bill Ribesell@Deviscofoods.com. 420-7307.

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DRIVER. Year round FT delivery person, good driving record, must know the Magic Valley area, some filling required. Apply at Fox Floral, 137 Main Ave. Twin Falls, ID.

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ROB GREEN NISSAN. open today 'til 5 pm. Tribute to the RED, WHITE, and BLUE. UNDER INVOICE ON ALL 2003'S & SELECT 2004'S. REBATES UP TO \$2500 OR 0.9% FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS. No Reasonable Offers Refused! ENTER TO WIN \$1000 WITH EVERY WRITTEN OFFER. GO GREEN! WE'RE BETTER, WE'LL PROVE IT!

DRIVERS
 Drivers needed for my company. Wage depends on experience. Possible benefits. Please call 208-323-6225.

DRIVERS
B&T Truck Driving School
 Class A CDL 34 & 6 weeks. Job placement. \$30,000 pay. 208-737-9272.

DRIVERS
 Class A Drivers needed for Western and upper Midwest runs, and occasionally Canada. Good experience with interstate endorsement preferred.

Good rate products, excellent hours, excellent pay. DOE Good home time. 1-800-957-2911

DRIVERS
 Experienced & Independent

55 MORE CASHES
 At The End of the Day!
 NEW YEAR NEW PAY
 VAN, FLARE, AUTOHAUL
 Top Pay & Benefit Package
 Sign-on Bonus
 Tuition Reimbursement
 CDL Training AVAL
 Owner Operators Welcome

HIRING EVENT
 Wed. 2/18, 12 noon - 2 pm
 Red Lion Hotel
 1357 Blue Lakes Blvd N
 Twin Falls, ID

SWIFT TRANSPORTATION
 1-888-890-8343
 www.swifttrucking.com
 (www in 1 min. 23 yrs. old)

EDUCATION
 Gooding School District has the following vacancies:

- Middle School Principal
- High School Business Instructor
- Part-time Health Instructor

Applicants must hold required certification for position.

Contact Gooding Joint School District #231
 507 Idaho St.
 Gooding, ID 83330
 or call 334-4321.

Please submit a placement file with references as soon as possible and call for application Official Transcripts are required. Applications will be taken until March 10, 2004. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Keep an eye on classified job ads. They're exceptional bargains every day.

DRIVERS
Glenn Milk Transportation
 OTR - full-time. Class A CDL required. vans & trailers. Family insured. 401k. Call 324-3515 between 9-3 p.m. weekdays.

DRIVERS
 Professional Truck Driving School
 Earn \$30,000 year. Get your class A CDL. So Habla Espanol. Call 208-734-0586.

DRIVERS
R&A Truck Driving School
 Earn up to \$30,000. Get your class A CDL. Call 208-736-5026.

FARM
 Laborer, shop & tractor operating experience. Call 432-5472 Bam-Spm

GENERAL
 • General Labor
 • CDL Class A Drivers
 • Housekeepers

PERSONNEL PLUS
 No application fee
 www.personnelplus.com
 111 Filer Ave. 733-7300
 733 Overland 678-4040

GENERAL
 NEED HELP IMMEDIATELY

EARNING POTENTIAL \$1500 TO START

Due to expansion Positions
 Must be filled immediately
 On Job Training
 No experience necessary
 Start Tuesday
 734-2888 Ask for Erik.

GENERAL
GEM STATE STAFFING
 DAILY WORK DAILY PAY \$

- Newer Foot FRAMERS
- LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
- FORKLIFT
- HOUSEKEEPING
- CONSTRUCTION
- PALLET REPAIR

• PRODUCTION
 TEMP & PERMANENT POSITIONS
 APPLY IN PERSON TODAY!
 870 Blue Lakes Blvd. N, Ste. 4
 735-5999
 So Habla Espanol

GENERAL
 Developmental Therapy Technician
 Psycho Social Rehabilitation Specialist.
 IBI Specialist
 to work with children & adults with disabilities. pay DOE 737-9993.

GENERAL
 Lead Runners Needed
 • Reliable transportation required.
 • Good driving record.
 • 60 hrs + bonus
 Apply at 305 Hankins Rd. S, Twin Falls, from 12-2pm Mon-Fri
 Any questions call Monica at 1-800-559-1599

TRUGREEN-GROWN
 Everyone grows in our environment
 EOE/AA/M/F/D/V
 Drug Free Workplace

GRAPHIC DESIGN
 Prepress/Graphics
 The Times-News is looking for an individual with experience in Prepress production and computer graphic design skills to work in our Twin Falls office. The successful candidate will manage daily pages, flow classified ads with Postpress and design advertisements on tight deadlines. The applicant must possess the ability to maintain quality control of ad production from start to finish and have strong typing skills (50WPM). Qualified applicants will have minimum of 3 years experience with classified and pagination systems, and Associates Degree in Computer Applications, Computer Graphics, Graphic Arts or the equivalent. Experience with Macintosh computers using Quark/Press, Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, strong typing and design skills are essential.

This is a full-time position with the Valley's best and biggest newspaper. 401k health insurance, paid vacation, and competitive pay make this a great place to work. Qualified candidates only!
 Attn: Kent Schmidt
 The Times-News
 PO Box 548
 Twin Falls, ID 83301
 or email resume and cover letter to kent@magickvalley.com
 Classified. The solution to all your needs. 733-9331

GENERAL
 Care for developmentally disabled. No experience required. We train. Day shift 87 hour, other shifts 87, 70, 58, 25 after 90 days. Salary, benefit package. Drug free workplace. Background check required.
 158 Blake Street North
 208-734-2322 ext. 3001

LAW ENFORCEMENT
The Jerome Police Department is taking applications for an Entry Level School Resource Officer. This is a Law Enforcement position within the schools.
 • Duties include making reports and investigations of crimes in the school, student and school safety, and making presentations to students on various subjects, such as Halloween safety. Some patrol duties may be included.
 Applicants usually start at the beginning salary range of \$178.70 to \$2,065.15 per month. Applicants must be POST certified or certifiable and at least 21 years of age. Applicants must pass a written exam, physical fitness exam, pre-employment drug screen, and a background check. A polygraph and psychological exam may also be required. Applications must have a resume attached. Applications may be picked up at the Jerome Police Dept., 124 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

The closing date for accepting applications will be February 20, 2004, at 4:30 p.m.
 The written exam, the physical test, and the oral testing will be on February 26, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at the Jerome City Council Chambers, 104 East Ave. A. A Doctor's release is required to participate in the physical fitness test. An application with resume must be received by the closing date in order to participate in the testing. If you have any questions, please call 208-324-4328 between 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Having an ad in the classified columns is a piece of cake. Call 733-9331.

GENERAL
TruckMaster Logistics Systems, Inc. of Jerome, Idaho is looking for a **TRAINING/INSTALLATION PERSON** to service its growing national customer base. A qualified applicant will have considerable experience in the transportation/logistics industry, have the ability to learn complicated software systems, and have a personality conducive to working with people on a one-on-one basis. Out of state/travel is a requirement, although more than two weeks a month is rare. Salary, DOE, starting at \$40K/year, benefits. Travel pay. Email your resume to employment@truckmaster.com

LAW ENFORCEMENT
The Jerome Police Department is taking applications for Entry Level Patrol Officer. New applicants usually start the beginning salary range of \$178.70 to \$2,065.15 per month. Applicants must be POST certified or certifiable and at least 21 years of age. Applicants must pass a written exam, medical exam, physical fitness exam, pre-employment drug screen, and a background check. A polygraph and psychological exam may also be required. Applications must have a resume attached. Applications may be picked up at the Jerome Police Dept., 124 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
The Jerome Police Department is taking applications for immediate openings for Entry Level Patrol Officer. New applicants usually start the beginning salary range of \$178.70 to \$2,065.15 per month. Applicants must be POST certified or certifiable and at least 21 years of age. Applicants must pass a written exam, medical exam, physical fitness exam, pre-employment drug screen, and a background check. A polygraph and psychological exam may also be required. Applications must have a resume attached. Applications may be picked up at the Jerome Police Dept., 124 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

LAW CARE
ENJOY THE GREAT OUTDOORS WHILE EARNING YOUR GREEN
 We are looking for individuals to help service our lawn care customers in the Twin Falls area. If you can supply the enthusiasm and drive we can supply the training and proper work environment for you to be successful.

We offer a competitive base salary, performance based incentives, advancement opportunities, a winning benefits package, an immediate opening and possible \$500 sign on bonus for experienced Idaho State Licensed Technicians.
 Any questions call Monica at 1-800-559-1569
 Everyone grows in our environment

TRUGREEN-GROWN
 EOE/AA/M/F/D/V
 Drug Free Workplace

When you have items around your home you no longer need, advertise them.

GENERAL
 Looking for FT self motivated individual for counter sales, cleaning, stocking and parts ordering. Position is must. Apply at Snake River Sports on Hwy 30 and Snake River in Burley, 208-878-7477.

Golf Shop Assistants
Blue Lakes Country Club
 Accepting applications for Seasonal golf shop staff. Please contact Golf Pro, Joel Waller or General Manager Rob Ellis at 733-2337
 Positions to be filled March 1st.

GENERAL
 Looking for FT self motivated individual for counter sales, cleaning, stocking and parts ordering. Position is must. Apply at Snake River Sports on Hwy 30 and Snake River in Burley, 208-878-7477.

HAIR STYLIST
 Want to be your own boss? Loose your own station. Make your own schedule. Reasonable rates and friendly atmosphere.
 Altitude 733-2599.

HOTEL
Hampton Inn a new hotel opening for a front desk supervisor in Twin Falls. This full-time permanent position requires 1-2 years hotel experience. Twin Falls Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
 9am to 5pm only
 Fax 208-732-5974

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When you have items around your home you no longer need, advertise them.

INSTALLERS
 HVAC installers wanted apply online at www.statehvac.com

MAINTENANCE
 Groundperson, full-time position available for person to complete apt. repairs, turnover appts, and maintain the grounds for apt. community located in Twin Falls. Salary based on experience. Application process full background check. Fax resume to Annette at 208-734-3004 or call 734-7477 EOE

MANAGEMENT
Operations Manager
 Dynamic national company, specializing in pump, tanks and pipe rental/sales has an opening in the Paul area for an aggressive individual possessing skills to oversee branch operations, including inventory control and delivery/installation of product. Some relief included. Degree in business and strong communication skills required. Class A CDL preferred. Degree a plus. Excellent compensation and benefit package. If you would like to join our growing team-oriented company, please send or fax your resume to Chad Herrick, ADM Fax 208-734-0647 or email adm@winfalls.com
 Relocation. Looking for 2+ years LTC DON experience & first-rate regulatory and clinical skills. Submit resume & cover letter with salary history/resume to Chad Herrick, ADM Fax 208-734-0647 or email adm@winfalls.com
 Call Chad at 208-734-4284 to schedule tour & interview.
 Equal Opportunity Employment

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 Equal Opportunity Employment

MECHANIC
 Ag & Industrial equipment dealer in Mountain Home & Boise area has position open for highly experienced mechanics. Must have experience on hay equipment and have own tools. Good driving record required. Hourly wage and benefits. Call Steve 208-376-3333

MECHANIC
 Busy shop needs experienced mechanic immediately. **Buhl Implant** Call 543-8232

MECHANIC
 RN - Full or Part-Time openings
CHAS Full-time nights. Apply in person.
 Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Ave. Twin Falls or call 734-4284 ask for Melodie

MECHANIC
 Looking for an ideal job with flexible hours and a dedication to work with a diverse clientele in a non-profit organization?
 We Need you...
Planned Parenthood of Idaho
 needs the following:
 Clinician/Licensed NP, CNM, or PA with experience in a CVN family planning, health care center preferred.
 Medical Assistant Certified MA with experience in both front and back areas of a health care center.
 Fax cover letter, resume Attn: Alycann 208-376-9444

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 Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Ave. Twin Falls or call 734-4284 ask for Melodie

MECHANIC
 Looking for an ideal job with flexible hours and a dedication to work with a diverse clientele in a non-profit organization?
 We Need you...
Planned Parenthood of Idaho
 needs the following:
 Clinician/Licensed NP, CNM, or PA with experience in a CVN family planning, health care center preferred.
 Medical Assistant Certified MA with experience in both front and back areas of a health care center.
 Fax cover letter, resume Attn: Alycann 208-376-9444

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THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

Medical Accounting Manager, Jim's Memorial Hospital located 21 miles west of Pocatello, Idaho in...

MISCELLANEOUS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS Enrollment positions. Seeking ambitious, enthusiastic individuals interested in on-call work.

Medical Direct care staff. All shifts. Call 208-734-4344.

PRODUCTION Group Lead - Production Solo Cup Company is currently accepting applications for Production Group.

Professional Licensed Social Worker or Registered Nurse to oversee out-patient mental health clinic.

RESTAURANT Oxbow Cafe Bliss ID. Line cook needed ASAP. Pay DOE, all benefits available.

SALES Outside Salesperson. Growing 30 year old company looking for aggressive outside salesperson.

SALES Assistant Manager, retail sales experience preferred. Apply in person at Idaho Tech Ranch, 1324 Albion Ave.

SALES Sales for blinds & shutters. Position available for experienced salesperson.

Medical Sun Valley (Wood River) Certified Medical Receptionist. Two positions available at the new St. Luke's Regional Medical Center.

MISCELLANEOUS Twin Falls Canal Co. Seasonal Employment Twin Falls Canal Co. is now accepting applications for our ditchriders.

Medical Ann's Eyewear Boutique has a position for an experienced Optician. Part-time & Full-time positions available.

PROFESSIONAL Idaho Youth Ranch is seeking a professional, caring individual to work with at-risk youth in a beautiful Ranch setting.

SALES Alterra, one of the largest operators of private care residences in the nation, currently has an excellent opportunity for an experienced professional at our Wyandott of Twin Falls residence.

SALES Full-time position in boat & RV sales. Must have prior experience in sales and be people oriented.

SOCIAL WORK The Dept. of Health & Welfare is seeking applicants for the classification of Social Worker to work in our Child Protection Units in Twin Falls and Jerome.

SALES Full-time position in boat & RV sales. Must have prior experience in sales and be people oriented.

TECHNICIAN Space for lease for a licensed cosmetologist. 208-644-1330.

Are you looking for a great opportunity to work for a great place? PARKE VIEW CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER is now hiring for a Medical Records Assistant.

Are you looking for a great opportunity to work for a great place? PARKE VIEW CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER is now hiring for a Medical Records Assistant.

PRODUCTION Packaging Supervisor. The South Idaho Press is looking for a full-time Packaging Supervisor.

RADIOLOGY MRI Technologist Alliance Imaging, the nation's leading provider of diagnostic imaging services, is seeking an experienced MRI technologist to join our team.

SALES Looking for a motivated, energetic person for Monday-Friday sales position. No exp., necessary with train.

SALES Still looking? So are we! Still looking? So are we! Still looking? So are we!

SALES Looking for a motivated, energetic person for Monday-Friday sales position. No exp., necessary with train.

SALES Looking for a motivated, energetic person for Monday-Friday sales position. No exp., necessary with train.

VETERINARY Kennel assistant, needed for busy veterinary practice. Must be organized, applicant, but will consider a trainee.

OPPORTUNITY FOR Licensed Nurses! Are you interested in an AWESOME career opportunity? Well, Parke View Center & Rehabilitation Center has the job for you!

PRODUCTION Packaging Supervisor. The South Idaho Press is looking for a full-time Packaging Supervisor.

RESTAURANT The Chawking Grille team is looking for two experienced co-workers. You must have a passion for the restaurant business.

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WOW Logistics, a leader in the warehousing and distribution industry has full-time openings in the Jerome, ID facility.

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The Right Care is Right Here! POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR... RN's - Float Team, ICU, Surgical, Operating Room, Medical. Ask us about our 15% bonus program.

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PEPSI
 Looking for an experienced warehouseman/Inventory Management position and a warehouseman/Inventory Management position. If you have a minimum of 3 years experience in a similar position, please send your resume to: **PEPSI**, 535 Eastland Dr. S., Twin Falls, ID 83401.

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 If you are looking for a legitimate offer...
WORK FROM HOME
 Call for free info...
218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS

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BELLEVEUE/HALLEY KETCHUM
 Both Carriers & Substitutes needed.
 If you live in these areas and would like to be a carrier...
 Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE
TWIN FALLS
 RT. 803
 100-300 El Camino Ave
 1130-1290 Atlantic St.
 RT. 882
 600-699 Ridgeway Dr.
 1000-1259 Wendell St.
 RT. 887
 400-500 Parkway Circle
 100-1195 Twin Parks Drive
 RT. 888
 600-1600 North Pointe Dr.
 600-2500 Northern Pine Dr.
 RT. 890
 1000-1299 Sparks St. N.
 1000-800 Park Terrace Dr.
 RT. 552
 600-900 Idaho Street
 700-900 5th St. W.
 RT. 569
 700-900 Midway St. W.
 1000-1550 Elm Way/
 5000 Spur
BULLH
 RT. 840
 1000-1700 Arrow Ct.
 1500-2000 Park St.
 RT. 845
 1000-000 Ave. N.
 1100-1500 Birch Street
 If you live near one of these areas and would like to be a carrier...
 Please contact Amy, District Mgr. 735-3347

WELDER
 Experienced welder, 3-4 years...
YOUTH COORDINATOR
 Idaho Federation of Parents seeks...
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
 Don't pay to find work before you get the job...
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
 Learn to earn \$3000-\$5000 per week by next week...
217

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE
TWIN FALLS
 RT. 702
 1800-2100 Cambridge Dr.
 RT. 735
 200-500 Elm St. N.
 100-503 Locust St. N.
 RT. 743
 700-200 Juniper St. N.
 1700-1800 Maplewood Dr.
 RT. 746
 300-400 Madison
 300-500 Wakefield Dr.
 RT. 754
 800-900 Elm St. N.
 1200-1400 Wilmore Dr.
 RT. 776
 500-700 Whispering Pine Drive
 2400-2500 Stadium Blvd.
 RT. 780
 250-300 Adams Way
 100-400 Cedar Park Circle
 RT. 782
 1700-1800 Glendale
 700-800 Juniper St.
 RT. 787
 250-300 Alvaris Dr.
 1700-1800 Birch Ave. E.
 RT. 814
 200-400 2nd Ave. N.
 200-500 3rd Ave. N.
 RT. 823
 100-500 7th Ave. E.
 RT. 825
 100-500 Jefferson
 RT. 830
 100-500 Tyler
 RT. 839
 300-500 Fillmore
 300-500 Iowa
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MINI-CASSIA Area
 We are currently accepting applications for independent carriers...
 Stop by our Burley office for an application...
 1263 Overland Ave.

AAA vending route, 10 machines, \$3595...
ABSOLUTE Gold Mine!
 Earn \$45,000/yr...
CHANGE YOUR LIFE
 Stress Free Environment...
Cooper Norman Business Brokers & Advisors

ROUTE SALES POSITION
 The Sara Lee Company has an immediate opening in the Twin Falls area for a Route Sales Rep...
Read The Classifieds Every Day!

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY
 Would you like to earn...
304 INVESTMENTS
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
 Big profits usually mean big risk...
702 DAIRY CATTLE & SUPPLIES
HOLSTEIN Springer Heifers
703 HORSES & TACK

ROUTES AVAILABLE
 The Times-News is currently looking for Independent Route Carriers...
KIMBERLY
 RT. 554
 100-800 Taylor St.
 100-400 Polk St.
 RT. 558
 200-600 Adams St.
 100-600 Lincoln St.
SHOSHONE MOTOR ROUTE 617
 If you live in these areas and are interested in being a newspaper carrier...
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STOP FORECLOSURE!
 Save Credit, Twin Falls area...
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY
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SIGN FRANCHISE #1 expanding locally...
WORK FROM HOME using your Personal Computer...
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PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
702 DAIRY CATTLE & SUPPLIES
HOLSTEIN Springer Heifers
703 HORSES & TACK

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES
DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
 CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts...
WHY WAIT \$5
 Receiving payments on real estate sold? We pay more for all types of loans...
306 FINANCIAL SERVICES
STOP FORECLOSURE!
701 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

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Read The Classifieds Every Day!

BULL, Black Angus, 2 year old, long yearlings and spring yearlings...
BULLS for sale, 2 year old...
HEIFERS
702 DAIRY CATTLE & SUPPLIES
HOLSTEIN Springer Heifers
703 HORSES & TACK

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APPENDIX QUARTER Maro, 13 year old, registered...
SHIRE X GELDINGS
702 DAIRY CATTLE & SUPPLIES
HOLSTEIN Springer Heifers
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CHIHUAHUA puppies, 6 weeks old...
COCKER SPANIEL puppies ready to go...
ENGLISH BULL DOGS
ENGLISH SETTER AKC
ENGLISH SPOTTED DOTTED
FREE BASKET BOUND TARI
FREE CATS looking for good homes...
FREE COLLIE DOG X
FREE English Satter Red
FREE Golden Retriever
FREE LAB PUPPIES
FREE PUG X
FREE Springer Lab X
FREE Terrier mix pups
FREE Terrier mix pups
GERMAN SHEPHERD
GERMAN SHEPHERD
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305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES
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FREE Lab, awesome lull bred, 5 mo. old...
JACK RUSSELL TERRIER
LAB PUPPIES
LOST CHIHUAHUA
LUTINO INDIAN RING NECK PARAKEET
MINI-SCHNAUZER
POMERANIAN AKC
SHIH-TZU PUPPY
705 FARM EQUIPMENT

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES
DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
WHY WAIT \$5
306 FINANCIAL SERVICES
STOP FORECLOSURE!
701 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE
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 The Times-News has always dedicated itself to enhancing our delivery service for our customers...
Call Jeni at 208-733-0931 ext. 302.

Route Sales Position
 The Sara Lee Company has an immediate opening in the Twin Falls area for a Route Sales Rep...
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Businesses Available
 Restaurants, Service Businesses, Retail, Light Manufacturing, Transportation...
208-733-6581
www.cnbba.com

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John Deere Oil Filters are designed to protect it.

Competitive Oil Filter
John Deere Oil Filter
RUBBER LOWER GASKET
 Resists decomposition better than cork or paper gaskets.
DEBURRED THREADS
 Prevents possible engine damage from small metal particles.
INTERNAL GASKET
 Prevents leakage by eliminating metal-to-metal contact.
PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE
 This end cap valve bypasses oil to the filter if the filter plugs after extended use or during cold weather startups.
METAL CENTER TUBE
 Crimping adds strength. Heat-cured polyester-blend media provides maximum filtration in tough operating conditions.
GLUED FILTER PLEATS
 No spot gluing, but glued end-to-end so you gain durability.
METAL END CAPS
 Provide a positive seal with the filter element. Firmly in place. No flimsy cardboard here.
INHERENT RETENTION
 Coil spring holds the filter element firmly in place.
SMOOTH CANISTER DOME
 Permits easy oil flow and prevents fatigue damage.
JOHN DEERE FILTERS & OIL
Save 15%
OFFER GOOD FEBRUARY 1-29, 2004
OPEN 8 AM-5 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY
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1/2 Mile East of Cinemas • 733-7272 536-6653
Call Toll-Free 1-800-227-1007 • Call Toll-Free 1-800-824-9519
Nothing Runs Like A Deere

FORD 1710 4x4 tractor, 2,4H9, front end loader, 3 PTO, recent overhaul, new seat & battery, \$7500 or best offer 734-5271

FORD NA 300, 53000, international 74 10 wheeler gas \$2000 GMC 74, rough but runs \$1000 Make offers on all 536-4479 or 280-0646

JOHN DEERE 4020 tractor, like new rubber, \$7000 offer. Call evas 208-543-6575

JOHN DEERE 544 loader, 1 ton all good shape. Phone call 208-543-6575

TOY TRACTOR collection 1 1/2 size. Alls Chalmers, H.C., J. Case, Ford, Massey Harris, Minneapolis, John Deere, New Holland, balance older models. Call 536-2039 evenings.

12 TRACTOR 673, 675, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

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HERBICIDE Uppel 120 oz. pkg. Brand new, never opened, make offer. Call 208-539-7320

STEEL BUILDINGS construction, arena's, shops, barns, designed to fit your needs. Call 423-4422

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ALFALFA 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th cutting. Small bales, 565/Ton. Call 208-356-2220 King HR

BARLEY STRAW 1,000 tons 3x4x8 bales, \$35 per ton. 208-788-3530

HAY 1st cutting, 35 tons. Please call 208-731-3131

HAY 2 sitting, 48 bales 35 ton feeder type. Can deliver. 208-543-6999

HAY 1st, 2nd & 3rd cutting, excellent quality. Small bales. 543-6865 evas

HAY 1st, second, & third, 3x4 bales, approx. 250 ton. No rain! 731-1122

HAY 2nd cutting, ton bales, in shed. Can deliver. Call 208-300-0894 or 431-2170

HAY 1st cuttings, good quality, close to Twin. Sell any amount. 733-2520

HAY 360T 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 1 ton bales, under cover. Kasola area. 208-436-9828 or 678-5988 evas

HAY 3rd crop alfalfa, 20% protein, 32" x 40", 555 a ton. 208-558-3843 ext 269

HAY Alfalfa 2,000 T1 bales top quality 3rd cutting \$7.00/ton. Call 208-597-9131 or 587-1161

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HAY For 250 one ton bales, second cutting, clean hay. 208-532-4800 or 208-431-8699

HAY Grass mix 1st & 3rd cut. Small bales. Call 208-326-4270 or 731-0741

QAT HAY Mid-size bales, Paul area. Call 208-678-2673

STRAW Barley mat, 1 ton \$40 per ton. Call 208-543-6999

STRAW clean barley and wheat, small bales. Call 208-212-4072

STRAW ton bales, Clean, cut. Small bales. Call 208-300-0894 or 208-431-2170

T.S.C. Hay Retriever licensed broker. Call Con. 280-04839

710 CROPS & PRODUCE

BEEF SHARES 40 acres, Twin Falls Factory District. Call 208-543-6223

FISH PACK FACILITY in Magic Valley. Turn key operation. Pack your own cuts. Small forms a co-op. For more information call Snake River Properties, 599-1246

CONSIGNMENT (208) 368-7122 office, 599-1246 cell

DIRT Road mix or field, clean. Call 208-324-9310

712 MISC. AG

FARMY PASTURES FOR RENT

BELL RAPIDS farm, 1200 acres, pivot, hand lines, 700 acres alfalfa, exc. opportunity. Call 208-539-0996

716 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

Grow your business! Advertise in The AC BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

To find out more call Linda at 208-735-3269 or 1-800-656-3843 ext 269

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CONSIGN your antiques now. Antique and Collectible Auction, Feb. 23rd, Idaho Auction Barn Call 208-731-4527

MACINTOSH computer with laser printer \$300. Call 208-678-8901 evas

809 FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD Cut, air hardwood, green, buy for next year 10% discount. 208-324-7697

810 FURNITURE & CARPETS

CANOPY black iron WITH QUEEN MATTRESS & FOX. New, still in plastic. Sacrifice \$299, 420-6350

COFFEE TABLE glass, \$30 matching end table \$15. \$40 for pair. Dining set glass matching chairs \$75. Papasan chair, black with wood frame. \$50. GE range \$175. 208-734-8561

COUCH beautiful vintage 97, newly re-upholstered in off white leather brocade. Tuffed corners and parts of the back. 3 cushions and small dark carved wood on it. Call 1-815-959-1589 or 500 Call 208-488-2527 to see or call 208-734-8561

KITCHEN CABINETS oak wall and base, great color. Many to choose from. Also oak doors & carpet. See call 208-628-9778

MATTRESS King pillow top, still in plastic, sacrifice \$249. 208-420-6350

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CHECK THE SERVICE DIRECTORY DAILY and find those who can help you in those ways that you desire you also to do yourself.

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FIREWOOD Cut, air hardwood, green, buy for next year 10% discount. 208-324-7697

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CANOPY black iron WITH QUEEN MATTRESS & FOX. New, still in plastic. Sacrifice \$299, 420-6350

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MATTRESS King pillow top, still in plastic, sacrifice \$249. 208-420-6350

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813 JEWELRY

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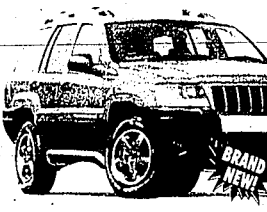
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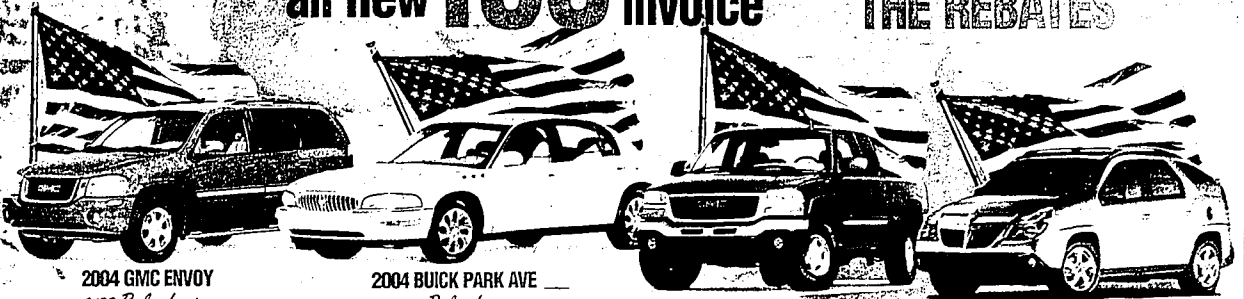
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Are we really ready for Go Fish for Art?

Tony "Whiskers" Mousiano is a 6-inch tall toy guy who squeaks out Mafia favorites like "Bada bing, bada bang, bada boom." Mousinator is a bodybuilder type, modeled after California's new governor. Heavy M is a rapper who changed the lyrics of Sir Mix-A-Lot's hit to "I like big tails and I cannot lie." All of them are mice, Spice Mice, to be exact. And they are making their official debut into the toy world at the International Toy Fair, which opens today at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City. Years ago I was a toy buyer, and I attended Toy Fair. I remember it as a magical show of shows, with M a d a m e Alexander dolls suspended on swings and Hasbro salesmen hawking the newly developed Nerf Ball. Reading about this year's Toy Fair brought back lots of memories.

What parent doesn't remember the valiant battles to buy the year's top toys? Some were willing to throw more tantrums than their children to obtain a Tickle Me Elmo or a Cabbage Patch Kid. Then there was Furby, that spooky-looking virtual pet that spoke his own language (Furbish, I believe) and interacted with other Furbies.

I was always afraid to let Furby into the house. TV gave us other popular toys, such as the Teletubbies (PBS creatures with TVs in their tummies), and Rugrats, from Nickelodeon. I think Teddy Ruxpin was the toy industry's initial attempt to produce an interactive toy. I'm not sure. I just remember taking old Teddy back to the store so many times that my daughter finally saw a new him before she got to play with him.

He was always self-destructing. And yet, on the few days when Teddy was working, at least he was polite. He would have been appalled at Furby, who responded to being ignored by saying, "Boring."

Then there were the days when we were all so worried about a year 2000 computer glitch, eventually given the acronym Y2K. As I recall, there was a Y2K doll, a nerdy-looking monkey that wore a badge saying something like, "You can blame all of the screws up on me."

I guess he didn't have a long shelf life. This year, the new toys are hoping to enter the ranks of classics - right up there with Lego and G. I. Joe and Scabble.

Matchbox Collectibles is rumored to be offering a garage-full of new die-cast vehicles that includes several Ford Mustangs, to celebrate the car's 40th anniversary. And Brinco Bats will offer Go Fish for Art, with card games featuring great artists. There will also be new X-Men action figures and something big showcasing James Bond.

But the news about Barbie may be the most intriguing toy news of all. Mattel has evidently decided to redefine who Barbie is, over and above a fashion doll living in a pink world with pink clothes and pink cars. This year, Barbie figures, books and DVDs are all supposed to be based on specific Barbie storylines. We'll find out what they are this week.

Meanwhile, we can mull over Nintendo's promise to take its market to the next level, with its tentatively titled Nintendo DS, complete with two separate screens that allow gamers to view from two perspectives simultaneously.

There's news on the videogame front, too. Namely, lots of exercise-friendly products for home systems. Yes, that's right. You can now get a full-body workout from your PlayStation 2.

According to one toy collecting Web site, you will soon be introduced to Gamebike, which will allow you to use your own bicycle as a controller for racing games. I'm still young enough at heart to appreciate new toys. But a toy that encourages you to work out? I'm not sure that's my idea of fun.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

Too fat too soon

The epidemic of childhood obesity spreads to many toddlers

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - There's a national uproar over the number of overweight kids in America. Now get set for another over the prevalence of fat toddlers.

The epidemic of childhood obesity has now graduated to preschool. "Young children are the most active Americans of any age," said Frances Berg, nutritionist and adjunct professor at the University of North Dakota Medical School and author of "Underage and Overweight: America's Childhood Obesity Crisis" (Hatherleigh Press, \$24.95). "Because young children naturally move around a lot, many people assume they are getting all the physical activity they need. But today TV and videos often keep them still for longer periods than parents realize."

An article published in the British medical journal The Lancet in August 2002 estimated that the average American 3-year-old gets just 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity each day.

They need at least an hour. "Parents and caregivers use television as a babysitter," said Dr. Ben Katz, a retired Twin Falls pediatrician. "It's not surprising that toddlers are fatter."

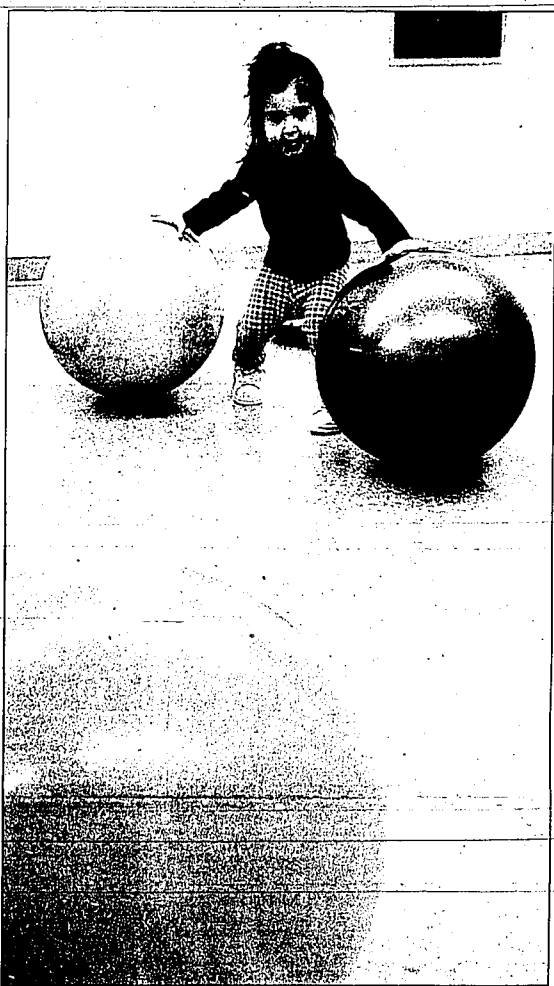
Fat kids turn into fat teenagers, research shows, and over the past 20 years the number of overweight adolescents has tripled in the United States.

"When I first started in practice, you never saw a child with Type 2 (so called adult-onset diabetes)," Katz said. "If the kid was diabetic, it was Type 1 (or so-called juvenile diabetes)."

Type 2 diabetes is related to being overweight.

"Now you see Type 2 diabetes in kids all the time," Katz said. As with adults, obesity in childhood leads to hypertension, chronic inflammation, increased blood clotting, tendency and blood-sugar imbalances. This clustering of cardiovascular disease risk factors, known as the insulin resistance syndrome, has been identified in children as young as 5, according to The Lancet.

You can blame heredity for some of that, but mostly it's due to bad diet and sedentary lifestyle, Katz said. "The same things that make adults fat make kids fat," he said.



Two-year-old Lil Marqucho plays with large bouncy balls at Kid Works Child Care Center in Twin Falls Thursday. Keeping toddlers active will help keep them from becoming obese when they are older.

"If you feed a toddler hamburgers and french fries all the time, they're going to gain weight." Young children are eating more carbohydrates than their parents and grandparents did - especially in the form of refined

foods such as breads, ready-to-eat cereals, potatoes, soft drinks, cakes, and biscuits, according to The Lancet article, which in turn stimulates hunger and causes overeating. "One of the best things you can

do to prevent early childhood obesity is breast-feed," Katz said. "Breast-fed babies tend to have fewer problems with obesity than bottle-fed babies." According to The Lancet, that may have to do with the nutri-

Getting kids active

- **Take a break from cartoons.** From Big Bird to Spongebob, little children love television. It's not necessary to cut out TV time altogether, but it's important to mix it up with active playtime. Toddlers and preschoolers should not be sedentary for more than an hour at a time except when sleeping.
- **Remember your inner child.** You'll set a great example for your child while getting some exercise yourself - and playing games with your child can be a great way to remember the fun of your own childhood.
- **Make playtime fun.** It's very important not to force your child to engage in physical activity. When you propose a game of tag or peek-a-boo, it should be because it's fun, not because there's been too much sitting around that day. If physical fun seems like a normal part of the day, instead of a punishment for too much TV, children will look forward to it - an attitude that they will carry with them once they get old enough to make their own choices about playtime.
- **Babies need movement too.** Try not to keep an infant confined to a baby seat for long periods. Even when very young, children move differently when strapped out on a blanket than when strapped in to a baby seat.
- **Get caregivers involved.** If child care is provided by a grandparent or other relative, express your interest that the child be active during the day. Though keeping up with an active child might be difficult for an older adult, even a slower activity, such as a walk around the block, is better than placating the child with television or a video.

Source: Frances Berg, "Underage and Overweight"

tional composition of breast milk - or factors as simple as taste preference.

Toddlers are naturally active, Katz says, and parents should encourage that.

"Young children love to run and play, but too many are stuck in the stroller, baby seat or playpen for long periods," Berg said.

Her suggestion: Incorporate physical activity into your child's playtime.

"The idea is not to have baby workouts," Berg said. "Physical activity should be a fun part of daily life, and never forced. If children begin to associate being active with having fun, they're more likely to stay active as they grow up."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com

Avoid fights when traveling

The Washington Post

Beware: Your lifelong friend might seem like the sweetest person in the world, but she could turn on you like a rabid dog.

Don't believe it? Try traveling with her.

See what she's like when she's jet-lagged. Get her hopelessly lost, then hand her the map and suggest she find the way back to your hotel, which isn't nearly as nice as it appeared in the brochures, which didn't mention the shared bathroom down the hall or the all-night bus depot next door. After that, something as small as suggesting a visit to one more cathedral could set her off.

Given that many of us aren't all that pleasant to begin with, should we humans ever pair up for the special stresses of travel? Should you ever risk a friendship by testing it on the open road?

When we asked readers to tell us about their travel companion stories, a theme emerged: Friendships Lost.

Rule 1: One snit per day

Experts smile knowingly when told you want to talk about travel companions. The issue keeps billable hours at the door. But some of the best advice comes from an ordinary traveler who invented what she calls the "one-snit rule."

"Often when traveling, accommodations aren't up to our expect-



Enjoy a more pleasurable trip with a few simple rules.

tations. Sometimes a meal isn't the best we'd hoped for, or we're just plain tired from the trip, so the snit rule is invoked," says Judy Carter, of Alexandria, Va. She and her companions agree before leaving home that each

person in the group will be allowed one bout of complaining per day. There is no snit credit: Use it or lose it. "When someone starts to whine, one of us declares, 'There's

Please see TRAVEL, Page E2

Beat colds and flu with these 10 tips

- 1 Every time you shake hands, make a mental note to wash your hands. Then, wash frequently and vigorously. Lots of soap and water dilutes viruses and sends them down the drain.
- 2 Keep your hands off of your nose and eyes. Scratch your nose or rub your eye and you may have introduced a virus.
- 3 Get enough sleep - eight to 10 hours a night. Being rested helps your body fight illnesses. Fatigue lowers your resistance.
- 4 Don't smoke. Smoking reduces your body's ability to fight viruses.
- 5 Don't eat after double-dippers at buffets. Someone bites a carrot and then sticks it back in the dip? Not only is it rude, it can be infectious.
- 6 Drink a lot of fluids, moisturize your skin and keep the nose moist. The skin keeps out coolies, but if it cracks or gets raw, it's like an open door. Same for the nose. If you're breathing a lot of dry air, your nasal membranes may crack. Most drugstores sell saline nasal sprays - basically saltwater that can moisten nasal passages with no side effects.
- 7 Avoid enclosed places. Sitting in an office with someone who is infected is a

- sure way to inhale the germs. Avoid it if you can. An office where someone is sneezing and coughing is the worst.
- 8 If someone sneezes or coughs, avoid your wash. Coughing and sneezing expel tiny globules that contain the cold germs. They're heavy and tend to sink, but slowly. The globules land on everything, including your hands. Wash and avoid touching surfaces around coughers and sneezers.
- 9 Handwipes are better than nothing for cleaning hands. But soap and water are the standards.
- 10 Be healthy. Exercise, eat properly, avoid stress. Healthy people have fewer bouts with colds and the flu, and illnesses of shorter duration.

Source: Dr. Mark Mengel, director of the Primary Care and Prevention Center at SLU Care's Des Peres Medical Arts Pavilion in west St. Louis County; St. Louis Post-Dispatch

FAMILY LIFE

Sunday Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ONE MORE SONG By Josiah Breward, Scranton, Pennsylvania

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Teen should take long look before leaping out of closet

DEAR ABBY: I am 16 years old and have been dating "Nora" for about six months. I love her, but I can't continue dating her because I recently realized I am more attracted to guys. We've been having sex for a little while, and I know Nora will be brokenhearted if I break up with her. But I am living a lie. How do I tell her?



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I'm sure many people will think the letter is intended for them. P.S. Contrition is a first step toward growth. Forgive yourself for your silly burst of temper and promise to behave better in the future.

-LIVING A LIE
DEAR LIVING: Before making any announcements, I urge you to think carefully about the implications. If you tell Nora, there is a strong possibility that she will tell others. How do your parents feel about guys? How do your friends at school regard homosexuality?

Write to Abby
Send letters to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69404, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069, or via her Web site at <http://www.DearAbby.com>

DEAR ABBY: Last March I had emergency surgery and was in the hospital for almost a month. It took me five months to fully recover. My family was wonderful. They sent gifts, called frequently and visited me. Their support helped to speed my recovery, and I returned to work and school sooner than expected.

As much as you may care for Nora, unless you are ready to be completely "out," it might be safer for you to allow the relationship to taper off. If she insists on a reason, tell her you are not ready for a serious commitment. It may be kinder than letting her think she doesn't measure up.

I made a vulgar gesture. I am over 50, well-educated, have good common sense and should know better. The look of horror and hurt on that woman's face was devastating. My grown daughter was in the car with me! I let her down, and I let myself down.

The anniversary of my surgery is coming up, and I am planning a celebration to thank everyone for their generosity. I want to make sure no one brings a gift and they know the party is for them. What would be the appropriate wording for the invitation?

DEAR ABBY: I've done something I'm ashamed of, and I have no way to apologize other than to hope the person I offended may see this.

I apologized to my daughter, but she will never forget that stupid act. I wish there were some way to change what I did. If the woman who was in that car reads this, I hope she knows that I am sorry. I ruined her Christmas spirit. It is all I have been able to think about since that night. Please forgive me.

DEAR CELEBRATING IN OHIO
When you extend the invitation, make no reference to the fact that it is for anything other than "a dinner party." When your guests have assembled, break out the champagne, make a toast in their honor - before you all get toasted - and tell them the party is for them.

On Christmas Eve, I was stuck in traffic and a woman with a carload of kids pushed into the intersection so far that I had no choice but to let her pass. She waved and

-ASHAMED
IN MIDLOTHIAN, VA.
DEAR ASHAMED: I'm printing your letter for all to see. Sad to say,

Dear Abby is written by Jeanne Phillips.

Shelter animals have stories, too

Meet Roger, a gorgeous, long-haired, smoky black cat brought to the shelter as a stray. Like most cats, he was wearing no ID tag, and so, like most cats in shelters, could not be reunited with his guardians. Now he lives in the shelter for a new home.



THE BOND
Marty Becker

take up those stories, we could bring an end to the homeless animal tragedy.

Then there's Pumpkin Pie, a sweet orange tabby kitten born into a world where there are already too many animals for the home. "She," he writes, "is waiting, hoping for one of those homes."

reasons animals end up in shelters: lost and stray animals without identification tags that could get them back to their families; overpopulation - litterers of puppies and kittens for whom there are not enough homes; and the surrender of dogs and cats by guardians who did not fully understand the commitment of caring for an animal.

And the answers aren't difficult - as Leigh and Geyer outline, they lie in the everyday decisions we make and actions we take: keeping current ID on our animals and ensuring they are kept safe and do not become lost. Spaying and neutering to help end overpopulation. Getting an animal only when we're absolutely ready, and then learning and agreeing to the conditions of the right companion who will make a good match with our lifestyle. Saving a life in jeopardy by adopting a homeless animal from a shelter or rescue group. And making an unconditional commitment to that animal for his entire lifetime.

Roger, Pumpkin Pie and Mishla are three of the animals whose stories are told in the powerful new book, "One at a Time: A Week in an American Animal Shelter" (No Voice-Heard) - Former shelter workers, authors Diane Leigh and Marilee Geyer tell us the true stories of 75 dogs and cats who passed their lives in California animal shelters during seven days they witnessed and documented. With compelling photos and moving vignettes, each animal's story unfolds to explain why he was in the shelter, how it could have been prevented, and what finally happened to him.

And then the book shows what happens to those animals, through the stories of the lucky few animals that were reunited with their guardians, and the joyful "happy endings" of animals adopted into new loving homes. There are also stories that depict the sad, but truthful, fate for many animals: euthanasia. That means ending their lives.

As former shelter workers, Leigh and Geyer remind us that killing millions of animals a year in shelters is no answer to this problem. As a nation, we have to begin to create a more compassionate society ... beginning with the precious lives "right in our own backyards."

This beautiful and important book needs to be on the reading list of everyone who cares about animals. "One at a Time: A Week in an American Animal Shelter" is \$16.95 and can be ordered from your local bookstore, Amazon.com or BarnesandNoble.com, or directly from the authors at www.NoVoiceUnheard.org.

Rule 2: Compromise, chill
Diane Land, of Arlington, Va., had a recipe for potential disaster: a trip for six, ages 11 to 70.

About these stories, Geyer says, "Although they are difficult, we made a commitment with this book to tell the complete truth. We don't feel we can turn away from the animals whose stories have endings that are hard for us to face." She continues, "Also, we believe that a society cannot change what it cannot see, and so we felt we had to show the full truth - the first step in changing this is facing it."

Former Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker is the coauthor of the new book "Check Your Soul For The Horse Lover's Soul" and a popular veterinary contributor for ABC's "Good Morning America." Write to him in care of Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, 790 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

Rule 3: Like each other
Florinka Present, 2002 winner of TV's "Amazing Race," could have picked just about anyone to accompany her on the reality show's 33-day, 13-country trip. She initially says she chose Zach Behr, a college kid because he could drive a stick shift.

"The most important thing to remember," Geyer implies, "is that there is immense hope in this situation, because each and every one of us has the power to make a difference. The problems that cause animals to become homeless and end up in shelters are completely preventable, and the solutions are in our hands. In fact, they are in no one else's."

If everyone in this country would

Rule 4: Have no fear
Given the possible hassles, why not just avoid the pitfalls by traveling alone?

Help 5-year-old conquer bad dreams



PARENTING
John Rosemond

early so that Mommy and Daddy go to bed earlier too and make up for our lost sleep."

Q: My 5-year-old daughter has occasional bad dreams. She can go weeks without one and then have them once or twice a night for two weeks in a row. She's on a regular sleep schedule, watches maybe an hour of PBS a day and half-hour computer. We are a low-key family that manages to live harmoniously together. I'm lousy to say. Do you have any ideas to cut down on bad dreams or ideas for her to cope so she doesn't feel she needs to wake me up and then I can soothe her?

just the way it should be. Nothing has changed. "Now, Daddy and I need our sleep. The more sleep we get, the better parents we are during the day. So, the rule, from now on is that when you have a bad dream, you are not to wake us up. You can turn your light on, you can get out of bed, you can call us, but you feel sleepy again, you aren't to call out for us or come into our room. If you wake us up, I will come in and help you calm down and go back to sleep, but the next night, you have to go to bed

Note also that for breaking the rule there is a consequence and it is not presented to the child as a punishment. The consequence will not only make sense to the child, but will cause her to deal with the bad dreams independently. In which case, she will learn that she is a more capable person than she previously thought.

Rule 5: Schedule time-outs
Time-outs are as good for travel companions as they are for toddlers.

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

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 26B, Indianapolis, IN 46240 and at his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com>

Rule 6: Check the basics
When you do have the luxury of choosing a companion, think about critical issues: budgets, attitudes about money, sleeping habits and travel styles. People who like to check every facial hair on every last painting in the Louvre, for example, won't do well with big-

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

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

Travel

Continued from E1
your snit for the day! Most of the time, the snit rule isn't used," Carter says. "Just knowing it's there is comforting."

Rule 2: Be realistic
But wait. Why should there be any snits? Don't excite spirits as you away from the stresses of our daily lives? Won't our relationships be as close to perfect as they're ever going to get?

Ah ha, big problem: Unrealistic expectations.

"Trips are anticipated as the peak experiences of our lives, so if anything goes awry, we tend to experience an exaggerated sense of disappointment," says Bethesda, Md.-based psychologist Dorothy Kaplan. The worst is when companions are anticipating very different visions of bliss.

"Often we just assume that our desires are obvious and shared," she explains. "But there are very different ideas about what is wonderful, and you should articulate your vision as part of planning the trip."

Rule 3: Choose wisely
You can get stuck with travel companions through birth or marriage. If there often are conflicts and control issues and you still need to travel with family, take an organized tour, advises Laura Maggio, director of Marriage and Family Therapy at Springfield College, Massachusetts.

"A structured tour leaves less room for decision-making," she explains. "So conflict is minimized."

Even given a choice of travel companions, we often blithely enter intimate relationships.

"A nightmarer with a passport" is how one reader described a woman she actually hired to come along.

"Many readers write of roommates who not only snored like chain saws, but in the morning would deny they did-as if you'd make that up.

Rule 4: Check the basics
When you do have the luxury of choosing a companion, think about critical issues: budgets, attitudes about money, sleeping habits and travel styles. People who like to check every facial hair on every last painting in the Louvre, for example, won't do well with big-

picture folks who do seven countries in six days.

Cuisine-compatibility is a woefully overlooked issue. People who will fret for months about hotel choices often figure they'll pick restaurants "what they get there." But as a Bethesda traveler wrote, "If one of you is happy with McDonald's and the other is looking for an unknown Inn at Little Washington, that's three unhappy meals a day."

Rule 5: Like each other
Florinka Present, 2002 winner of TV's "Amazing Race," could have picked just about anyone to accompany her on the reality show's 33-day, 13-country trip. She initially says she chose Zach Behr, a college kid because he could drive a stick shift.

But probe a little deeper and you'll find that Behr actually got the nod for personal qualities that are desirable in any travel companion. "He has a great sense of humor, is very optimistic, and can make fun of any situation."

"Are you sure you like the person enough to share precious vacation time?"

"Don't travel with people who annoy you and think that feeling will go away because you are on vacation. You'll just want to strangle them in a foreign setting instead of a familiar one," writes an Arlington, Va., reader whose experience is apparently still so raw that she asks that her name not be used.

Being in Paris will no more make a rude person polite than being in Texas will make a swaggering bully into a gentleman.

But liking or loving a person can't guarantee a stress-free experience.

Although Present left her TV adventures considering Behr one of her best friends, she says, "We had many fights. But we never let the argument take over the day. We fought; we cried; then we moved on. We would defuse (conflicts) by acknowledging each went our own way. We would take a time out."

Rule 6: Schedule time-outs
Time-outs are as good for travel companions as they are for toddlers.

Often people travel as if they're Siamese twins. Give yourselves a break, suggests Maggio, the therapist.

The ideal traveling companion, like an ideal spouse, is comfortable both in relationships and alone, says Maggio. They are flexible, so

are willing to do something that isn't their first choice. They are secure, so their feelings won't be hurt if you want to do something on your own.

Rule 7: Compromise, chill
Diane Land, of Arlington, Va., had a recipe for potential disaster: a trip for six, ages 11 to 70.

It worked out great, but not by happenstance.

"With six of us and seven days in London, we each chose one thing we didn't want to leave London without experiencing," she writes. "For three generations, the trip became the most egalitarian, and consequently stress-free, vacation we had ever taken."

Pauli Parham of Manassas, Va., is an airline employee who travels frequently, usually with a buddy. Her advice: Don't get hung up on little things. "Does it really matter if your friend exclaims over every historical thing they see? Is it worth getting into an argument over?"

"The less you want to compromise, the more interests and attitudes you must share. Yet when your travel companion is so like you that you're nearly clones, you'll miss out on the spice of diversity."

Rule 8: Have no fear
Given the possible hassles, why not just avoid the pitfalls by traveling alone?

You could ask the same question about life in general.

For practical reasons, even in a pinch, Fairfax, Va., traveler Dottie Kilgore, who can take or leave a travel companion, says she wishes she'd had a roommate the night a lion was roaring outside her tent in Kenya. "Roommates are also handy for checking to be sure that you are on the bus before it departs each time," she writes.

Damian Argil, who has been a tour guide and travel agent for 40 years, recognizes the dangers.

"You can't know beforehand how a person will behave in a trip. I face hundreds of surprises in my trips," Argil writes from Montevideo, Uruguay.

But he also knows the potential joys. In his e-mail, Argil apologizes for his English, then adds an eloquent note about having a fellow traveler.

"There are some places you must be with someone else," he writes. "New York, Paris, Venice or a sunset in Naples, Florida. These are places you need a companion, to share such magnificence."

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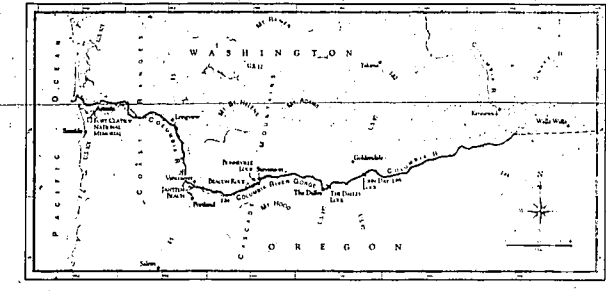
Writer retraces Lewis and Clark's river route to Pacific

By Gary Lee
The Washington Post

Across the regal blue waters of the Columbia River Gorge, Beacon Rock soared skyward. As our paddle-wheel boat chugged along, a few passengers clambered to the top deck for a closer look at the 848-foot monolith. Two days later we gathered again, in a soft drizzle, as our boat surged with the waves of the river through a sweep of bays to the edge of the ocean. The following morning we traipsed through log cabins at nearby Fort Clatsop, a re-creation of a 19th-century encampment surrounded by tall Oregonian trees.

Each scene captured the allure of the Pacific Northwest from a different angle. But for us, they were also landmarks in a stirring chapter of America's past. At the end of their 1804-05 expedition from Missouri to the West Coast, explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark had canoed along these waters. They had camped beneath that soaring rock (after Gibraltar), which they had named. They braved a downpour through the bays at the river's mouth before making their triumphant sighting of the Pacific. The fort was their home for three rain-soaked months as they prepared for the trip back east.

Two hundred years after the launch of Lewis and Clark's mission, a cruise from St. Lewis to Astoria, Ore., plan bicentennial commemorations. I joined in the hoopla in another way: by taking an eight-day cruise tracing the route the explorers followed from the confluence of the Snake and Columbia rivers to Fort Clatsop. I sailed on the Empress of the North, a 235-passenger stern-wheeler—a diesel-powered boat with the paddle wheel on the stern-owed by the American West Steamboat Co. Our trip



Graphic by GENE THORP/The Washington Post

started in Portland, Ore., chugged eastward on the Columbia to where it meets the Snake, then doubled back to trace the last leg of the explorers' trip. Visits to key historic sites were included, as well as on-board lectures.

Riverboat trips like this, which allow travelers access to lesser-known parts of the American heartland, are becoming increasingly popular, according to travel specialists. Voyages from New Orleans to Memphis on the Mississippi, as well as jaunts on the Great Lakes, are particularly big draws.

For me, the prospect of learning about a key chapter in America's past and seeing some spectacular scenery made a voyage on the Columbia too attractive to resist.

Like many Americans, I knew only vague details of Lewis and Clark's 3,700-mile trip: that it took more than two years, involved a constant struggle with nature and played a decisive role in the growth of the United States westward. I was curious to

learn more. And so one brisk morning last October, there I was, barreling along a highway in a motorcoach as the Cascade mountains in Washington state rose on either side. A copy of "Undaunted Courage," historian Stephen Ambrose's account of the Lewis and Clark mission, was in my backpack.

Later that afternoon we boarded the Empress, which was docked at Jantzen Beach, near Portland. The new vessel, the biggest and most luxurious among the handful of passenger boats traveling the Columbia, spared us the gritty realities the explorers suffered. They tackled the river's rapids in rough-hewn dugouts made of Ponderosa pine. Our stern-wheeler, 360 feet long and 58 feet wide, featured four levels of spacious cabins, complete with DVD players and mini-bars.

There were two sprawling lounges; corridors lined with historical photographs of the 1897-98 Klondike Gold Rush, Native American art and reproductions of paintings from the Old West;

and a dining room decorated with red velvet banquettes and chandeliers.

As a floating history classroom, the cruise did not disappoint. We sailed the same route the explorers took and saw several of the spots where they camped along the way. Like the explorers, we hoppedcoted to different stops on either side of the river in Washington state and Oregon. (A planned trip down the Snake River in Washington, which the explorers traveled before entering the Columbia, was canceled due to high winds.)

Nearly every day we took bus outings to exhibitions devoted to different aspects of the expedition. The driver and guide, Reid Adney, offered a warm, humorous running commentary on the scenery and local culture. Early evening dinners usually led to spirited discussions among the cruisers about Lewis and Clark.

Our first morning started with a Lewis and Clark 101 lesson. Bill Hottel, a specialist in the settlement of the Pacific Northwest who also leads tours for the

Smithsonian, talked about Thomas Jefferson's inspiration for launching the expedition. The visionary president directed the explorers to find a commercial water route from the Missouri River through the wild and largely unknown Rockies to the Pacific. He also asked Lewis to take stock of the natural resources in the West. Finally, he harbored dreams of bringing the Northwest—then mostly disputed territory inhabited by Indian tribes—under U.S. control.

After docking in the small town of Stevenson, Wash., about 150 miles from the Pacific, we toured the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center. An exhibit illustrated just how hard the Lewis and Clark trek along the Columbia was. During that era, the river rushed at a reckless pace, over deep gorges, dramatic falls and fierce rapids. Heavy rains pelted the explorers during most of their trip; it took them nearly six weeks to travel from the juncture of the Snake and the Columbia, a distance that we breezed along in four days. And the Native American tribes they encountered were not always friendly. They reported positive encounters with the Clatsop, Nez Perce and other tribes, but tangled with Chinooks, whom they suspected of stealing.

That afternoon, a rainstorm—the first of several we would have swept in. Underdressed, we visited by bus the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center across the river in the Dalles, Ore. A display showed how trade between the Indian tribes and the explorers had taken place. The explorers offered beads, buttons, knives and other trinkets in exchange for dried fish, deer meat, sea otter furs and other objects from various tribes.

Our last full day started with a bus tour of Astoria, Ore., the old-

est settlement in the Northwest, established in 1811 by John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Co. A port city of picturesque homes, antiques stores and restaurants, it was a place I would happily return to for a longer visit.

We ended at Fort Clatsop. After much discussion about where to spend the winter, the Lewis and Clark troupe decided to take a vote. The balloting would later go down in U.S. history as the first on-record official delegation involving a Native American, a woman and a black.

Using the team members' journals, historians have re-created the warren of log cabins as close as possible to how the explorers built it. The result, one of the most elaborate renderings of Lewis and Clark campsites along the trail, offers a rare insight into how they lived. Two rows of small cabins were separated by a small courtyard. The spacious cabin would later go down in U.S. history as the first on-record official delegation involving a Native American, a woman and a black.

"This was a place for the explorers to regroup," a guide explained. "They spent the winter reworking their journals, stocking up on supplies and establishing ties with the local Indian tribes."

Back on the boat that evening, we dined on lobster bisque and cracked oysters and reflected on the week. Impressions of the cruise ranged wide.

My own thoughts turned to the explorers and their triumphant battle with the odds. Like them, we had encountered rainstorms, difficult river conditions and high winds that forced a change in our itinerary. Looking around the table, I wondered whether we would have had the backbone to pull off a mission like theirs. Somehow, I doubted it.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Center
530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$5 for non-seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Pool—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.

Menu:
Monday: Sweet and sour pork, potatoes w/ gravy, veggies, red cabbage salad, biscuit, carrot cake
Tuesday: Spaghetti, green beans, salad, french bread, bakens choice
Wednesday: Meatloaf or liver w/ onions, potato w/ gravy, fried pasta salad, bread desert
Thursday: Chef's salad
Friday: Fish or chicken, fried potato, corn, coleslaw w/ apples, bread, pudding

Activities:
Today: Dance, 2-5 p.m.
Monday: Quilting, Haak music
Exercise class, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Blood pressure
Line dance, 7 p.m.
Tax Aid, by appt. only
Wednesday: Quilting
Foot Clinic
Elks card club
Band meeting
Exercise class
Thursday: Center pinochle, 1 p.m.
Lap top computer class, 1 p.m. in conference room
Tax aid program
Friday: Lunch Bingo
Blood pressure
Quilting
Exercise Class

West End Senior Citizens Inc.
1010 Main St., Buhl

Menu:
Today: Roast beef dinner
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Lemon pepper cod, scalloped potatoes, polar mixed veggies, coleslaw, cornbread, dessert
Wednesday: Chili, baby carrots, crackers, salad, applesauce, dessert
Thursday: Pork Chops, potato w/ gravy, peas, carrots, salad, roll, dessert

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.
Monday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crafts, 1-4 p.m.
Bingo, 7-9 p.m.
Tax assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Jackpot leaves center-at 4:30, jackpot at 10 p.m.

Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Saturday: Community breakfast

Filler 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.

Menu:
Tuesday: Roast beef, brown gravy
Thursday: Pork chop, cream gravy

Jerome Senior Center
212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

Menu:
Monday: Vegetable soup, ham and cheese sandwich, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Spaghetti, meat sauce, garlic bread, salad, brownies
Wednesday: Turkey sandwich, potatoes and gravy, creamed corn, jello, fruit, pudding
Thursday: Ham, rosemary potatoes, gravy, fruit medley, pineapple upside down cake
Friday: Meat loaf, potatoes and gravy, peas, carrots, pickled beets, peach cobbler

Activities:
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Gem state fiddlers, noon
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 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc.
310 Main St. N., Kimberly
Coffee and milk served daily.

Menu:
Monday: Macaroni and cheese, franks, coleslaw, harvard beets, peas, cookie
Wednesday: Oven fried fish, onion rings, mixed veggies, coleslaw, bread and butter, cinnamon roll
Friday: Roast beef, potatoes, gravy, green beans, confetti cabbage, bread and butter, cake, ice cream

Activities:
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Crafts, 1 p.m.
Friday: Birthday dinner at

noon. BJ and Friends will entertain. Pinochle 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizens
308 Senior Ave.
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menu:
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Lasagna, peas, salad, garlic bread, swiss apple cake
Wednesday: Teriyaki chicken, rice pilaf, stir fry veggies, penny carrot salad, bread, apricot upside-down cake
Thursday: Meatloaf potatoes w/ gravy, corn, cole slaw, roll, strawberry shortcake

Activities:
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 12:30 p.m.
Wed. On, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pool, 1 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 55 & alive, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Messages, 10:40 a.m.
Computer Lessons, 12:45 p.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: 55 & alive, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
SHIRA, 11 a.m.
Fiddlers, 12:30
Tops, 4 p.m.
Pinochle, 6 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.

Menu:
Monday: Pork, mashed potatoes w/ gravy
Wednesday: Lasagna
Friday: Cook's Choice

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. Closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day.

Menu:
Tuesday: Trout, baked potato, broccoli, coleslaw, pineapple cookie

Thursday: Turkey tetrazzini, deviled eggs, salad, applesauce, veggies, peach cobbler

Activities:
Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Years Senior Citizen, Inc.
218 N. Rull St. W., Shoshone
Milk and coffee

Menu:
Tuesday: Orange juice, boneless barb-cue ribs, baked beans, potato salad, carrot sticks, hot dinner rolls, strawberry short cake
Thursday: Orange juice, turkey salad sandwich, veggie soup, apricot pie
Friday: Orange juice, oven fried fish, later tots, buttered corn, green salad, apple brown Betty

Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: 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.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Richfield Senior Center
Menu:
Monday: Orange juice, lasagna, green salad, dressing, garlic sticks, pineapple upside-down cake
Thursday: Orange juice, egg salad sandwich, veggie soup, peach pie

Blaine County Senior Center
721 Third Ave. S., Hailey

Menu:
Tuesday: Washington chowder, cheese biscuits, salad bar, cherry pie, ice cream
Wednesday: Pepper steak, baked potato, hot rolls, creamy coleslaw, mixed veggies, peaches, brownies
Friday: Turkey, dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, hot rolls, sour cream chocolate cake

Activities:
Monday: "Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m.
Dinner & movie, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Reflex, 10 a.m.
Hearing clinic, 11 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: "Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m.
Better Business Bureau speaks "How to Utilize the BBB," 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: 55 & alive, 8:30 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.

Friday: "Over 60 and Fit," 9 a.m. Birthday Day

Three Island Senior Center
492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glens Ferry
Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings 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.

Menu:
Monday: Pot Luck, ham and beans, everyone brings a covered dish
Tuesday: Crispy fish, Alfredo noodles, mixed veggies, cherry cobbler, cornbread
Thursday: Roast pork, potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, apple sauce, rolls

Activities:
Monday: Potluck, 6 p.m.
Taxes, 6:5 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 a.m.-4 p.m.

Camas County Senior Center
127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 - 2 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.

Menu:
Tuesday: Hot ham and cheese sandwich, mushroom soup, steamed carrots, fruit, cookies
Wednesday: Enchilada, casserole, Mexican beans, salsa, salad, chips, flan
Friday: Beef roast, parsley potatoes, corn roll, fruit salad, dessert

Activities:
Monday: Art class, 9 a.m.
Tuesday: Weight loss group, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 10:30-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 10:30-2 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 1-3 p.m.
Friday: Pool, 10:30-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Saturday: Breakfast, 7:30-10 a.m.

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.

Menu:
Monday: Salad, meat loaf, mashed potatoes, beg. pie, biscuits
Tuesday: Fruit salad, clam chowder, broccoli, biscuits, pudding

Wednesday: Birthday Dinner
Thursday: Salad, pork chops, potato casserole, roll, green beans, ice cream
Friday: Smorgasbord

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.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
SHIBA assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Hearing specialist, 11:30 a.m.-1 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.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu:
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Chicken quinoa, buttermilk biscuit, salad, chocolate pudding
Wednesday: Meat balls, pasta, hard roll, veggies, fruit jello, cheesecake
Thursday: Cheesburger, casserole, peanut butter, cookie, rice cup, peanut butter cookie

Activities:
Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinochle, 7 p.m.
Hearing aid assistance, 11 a.m.
Friday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Edah-ho 77 officers and proteas at the official visit of the worthy grand matron included, from left, first row: Virgil Fenton, worthy patron; Bonnie Fenton, worthy matron; Darla Redman, worthy grand matron; and Dave Call, acting worthy grand patron; second row: Marie Barton, Ila Rose, Jean Weech, Martha Sabin, Peggy Gulbranson and Leland Sabin; third row: Jane Joosten, Kay Zemke, Clarice Leslie, Martha Klink and Elaine Lamun; fourth row: Dale Leslie, Doris Icenbice, Kathy Call, Lucille Whistler and Leola Miller.



Photo courtesy of MARIE BARTON

Newly-appointed grand representatives of other states in Idaho, Grand Chapter of Idaho, Order of the Eastern Star pictured with local and state officers are, from left, Bonnie Fenton, worthy matron, Edah-ho 77; Darla Redman, worthy grand matron; Peggy Hess, Rupert 39, to Washington; Milzie Brooks, Rupert 39, to West Virginia; Dale Leslie, Edah-ho 77, to Nevada; Dave Call, acting worthy grand patron; and Virgil Fenton, worthy patron of Edah-ho 77.



Grand officers attending the Edah-ho 77 official visitation were, from left, front: Darla Redman, Edah-ho 77, worthy grand matron; Bonnie Fenton, worthy matron of Edah-ho 77; Virgil Fenton, worthy patron of Edah-ho 77; and Dave Call, No. 2, Salmon, acting worthy grand patron; back: Doris Icenbice, Edah-ho 77, escort; Carol Burbank, No. 32, Caldwell, associate grand conductress; Darlene Owen, No. 60, Glenns Ferry, grand electa; Elaine Lamun, Edah-ho 77, grand adah; Kathleen Call, No. 2 Salmon, escort; Nancy Ross, No. 3 Pocatello, associate grand matron; and Dianne Redman, Edah-ho 77, escort.



E-dah-ho chapter hosts official visit

RUPERT - Edah-ho Chapter 77, Order of the Eastern Star, hosted the official visit of Worthy Grand Matron Darla Redman, a member of the Edah-ho Chapter, accompanied by acting Worthy Grand Patron Dave Call of Hugh Duncan Chapter 2 of Salmon. A school of instruction was held at the morning session. A luncheon was prepared and served by Bethel 18, Burley-Rupert, International Order of Jobs Daughters. Bonnie Fenton, worthy matron, and Virgil Fenton, worthy patron, presided at the afternoon session. Several grand officers and guests from other chapters were introduced and welcomed, including past grand patrons Virgil Fenton of Paul Chapter and Bert Ramaley of Twin Falls, a past grand patron of Pennsylvania. Grand chapter committee members and appointees were Clarice Leslie, worthy grand matrons memory book; Kay Zemke, gener-

al chairman of worthy grand matron-worthy grand patron special projects, scholarships and cancer research; and Martha Sabin, assistant teller, all of Paul; and Debra Arnold of Hermosa 32, Caldwell. Visiting worthy matron was Pamela Day of Rupert 39. The 50-year members (Golden Stars) introduced were Bert Ramaley of Twin Falls 29, Veda Shufelt and Martha Klink, both of Rupert 39; and Martha Sabin and Lillian Cook of Edah-ho 77. Lillian Cook is a 73-year member of Eastern Star and traveled from Spokane, Wash., to attend the meeting. "When Golden Stars are Smiling" was sung to honor these 50-year members. Those introduced representing other Masonic organizations were Jane Joosten, guardian, and Dale Leslie, fraternal relations and program associate guardian of Bethel 18 and Harold Porter of Jerome 54, Demolay, adviser. Escorts to

grand officers were Doris Icenbice and Kathleen Call. Peggy Gulbranson sang for the worthy grand matron and worthy grand patron who presented with gifts from the chapter and worthy matron and worthy patron. Grand Adah Elaine Lamun was honored. Lucille Whistler gave her life sketch and she was presented with a gift from the chapter. Gulbranson sang for her. On behalf of all the grand officers, Lamun presented gifts to the worthy grand matron and acting worthy grand patron. The worthy grand matron and acting worthy grand patron thanked the chapter. The secretary, Martha Sabin, was honored and presented a rose pin and an engraved key chain. Following the meeting, refreshments were served by Clarice Leslie, Lucille Whistler and Jane Joosten and other members of the chapter.

Students can apply for teaching scholarships

BURLEY - The Mini-Cassia Revised Educators Association is accepting applications for a scholarship. A student must be going into at least their junior year in an accredited Idaho college or university and have a declared major in education with plans to teach in Idaho. First preference will be given to relatives of retired teachers. A complete application includes the application form, three letters of recommendation, a certified copy of the student's college transcript and a letter explaining background, circumstances and goals. Donations to the scholarship fund are welcome and can be made in honor or in memory of a teacher, neighbor, relative or other person. Complete applications are due

by April 1. For applications or to donate to the fund, call scholarship chairman Ila Rose at 878-5885 or Virgil Fenton at 436-6426. **Cassia School District schedules child find** BURLEY - The Cassia Joint School District is looking for preschool age children who may have special learning needs. Any parent or guardian of a 3-4 year-old child who is experiencing a speech, physical, mental or emotional difficulty is encouraged to contact the Cassia Joint School District Office. The staff will arrange a free screening. Children who attend private or home schools are also eligible to attend a screening March 1. The purpose of the screenings is to determine if a child is eligible for the district's special education preschool program or other special education services. Children who have a disability may attend

the preschool or receive special education services free of charge. Appointments are required. For an appointment, call the secretary between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 878-6627. **Viking Lodge meeting includes Norwegian Bingo** TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Viking Lodge of the Sons of Norway will hold its meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1708 Heyburn Ave. E. in Twin Falls. The night will feature Norwegian Bingo. For more information, call 324-4085. **Sewing, craft classes for youngsters are scheduled** BURLEY - Sewing, cooking and craft classes are offered at The Party Place, downstairs in the First Class Weddings' building,

STORK REPORT

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
Hayden Price Wilsey, daughter of Leah Michal and Dean Scott Wilsey of Twin Falls, was born Monday, Jan. 26, 2004.
Libby Shwayne Logan, daughter of Rebecca Jean Simpson and Thomas William Logan of Kimberly, was born Friday, Jan. 30, 2004.
Ainsley Jean Newman, daughter of Carys Augusta and Tiras Jay Newman of Shoshone, was born Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004.
Pablo Ramirez Moser, son of Eva Ramirez and Robert Moser of Buhl, was born Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004.
Alicia Rachelle Buhler, daughter of Kacie Lynn and Matthew Gene Buhler of Twin Falls, was born Friday, Feb. 6, 2004.
Katie Jo Gutierrez, daughter of Randa Ann and Robert C. Gutierrez of Fillet, was born Friday, Feb. 6, 2004.

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to: "Announced" The Community Page The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 Or fax to: 734-5538. Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper. More information? Call 735-3278

Shoshone BPA heads to state

By Carl Dayton
Special to The Times-News

SHOSHONE - The Shoshone High School Business Professionals of America team will send eight members to state. "This is my first year coaching in the BPA. I wasn't sure what to expect so I was learning experience for both the students as well as for me," said Eric Dibb, vocational business teacher. Of the Shoshone students participating in the regional event last month at Burley High School, seven placed fourth or better to qualify for next events at the state meet next month in Boise. Hailey Harris, a sophomore, was the only first place winner, earning the gold in graphic design promotion. Earning silver awards were sophomore Rachel Fantone in administrative support, Cristen Fitzgerald in desktop publishing, and junior Meghan Sorenson in banking and finance. Senior Sarah Hubsmit brought home a fourth in business office systems and procedure, Kyle Astle and Cristen Fitzgerald, both sophomores, earned fourth place in marketing/management human resources, and senior Wendy Baltazar earned fourth in administrative support. "We definitely could have done a lot better. We could have used a little more practice but we did well for first year students," Rachel said. Other students participating were seniors Ismael Garcia, Chantel Wright and Stacey Hansen; juniors Brock Astle, Judy Villalobos, Katie Strunk and Griselda Zavala; and sophomores Dani Bozotto, Chelsea Gurenecha and Tara Wright.



Shoshone BPA students will go on to state competition.

"The competition was extremely fierce, which made for a thrilling time," Brock said. "This is what I told my students. I don't care if you make it state or nationals. What I care about is if you go in there and learn something," Dibb said. If students excel at the state competition March 11-13, they will fly to Cincinnati, Ohio for nationals at the end of April. Carl Dayton is editor of the Shoshone High School War Whoops newspaper.

CELEBRATING CLIFFORD



Verna Sherretz, pre-kindergarten students at Immanuel Lutheran School in Twin Falls celebrate the 42nd birthday of Clifford the Big Red Dog. The students made red cookies, wore dog hats and learned the Clifford square dance. Students in her afternoon class are, from left, front row: Kaden Lynch, Matthew Sato, Jacob Varga, Phoebe Valdez; second row: Taylor Johnson, Spencer Parks, A.C. Rambur, Taryn Caspersen and Madeline Ko.

SERVICE NEWS

Wageman is stationed at Florida naval station
Airman Michael T. Wageman, son of Bob and Linda Wageman of Twin Falls, is stationed at the Jacksonville Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla. After basic training, Wageman trained in miniature electronics, micro-miniature electronics and schematic programming. Wageman, 24, repairs electronic components on naval jets and expects to be deployed this coming year on the aircraft carrier, USS Roosevelt.

He enlisted in the Navy in March 2001. **Colbert is promoted, reports for duty on aircraft carrier**
Navy Petty Officer Third Class Michael J. Colbert, son of Cheryl A. Schmidliff of Elko, Nev., and Jon P. Colbert of Palm Springs, Calif., was promoted to his current rank and reported for duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, home ported in Bremerton, Wash.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

1232 Overland Ave. in Burley. Classes for beginning and intermediate sewing are open to children ages 8 years old and older and cost \$6.50 per class. Cooking and craft classes are open to children ages 7 and older and the cost is \$5 per class. Classes will be divided by age and skill level, and costs includes materials. The classes will run through April. Call 878-3853 or 312-3833 for more information on class times. **Oakley Valley Arts Council offers scholarships** OAKLEY - The Oakley Valley Arts Council is accepting applications from high school seniors for the Aaron and Gloria Johnson Memorial Scholarship. Two \$250 scholarships will be awarded to those who have been active in the community/Oakley Valley Arts, such as music, drama, set design or other activities, and

have a grade point average of 2.5 or better. Applications may be obtained from area high school counselors and must be postmarked no later than March 25. For more information, call 677-ARIS. **CSI alumni get in free to Feb. 27 basketball game** TWIN FALLS - The newly-formed College of Southern Idaho Alumni Association invites all CSI graduates and those who earned certificates for free admission to the Feb. 27 Golden Eagles basketball game with Snow College at the CSI gym. They are also invited to register for a digital camera to be given away at the half-time of the game. Alumni and Special Events Specialist Jolie Libicky said this is one of a number of events planned to honor CSI alumni. The

association has been formed to recognize the area's many CSI graduates and utilize their strengths on behalf of present and future CSI students. For more information about the association, contact Libicky at 732-6294 or a jlickey@csi.edu. **Buhl man celebrates 80 years on Friday** BUHL - Lee Monroe of Buhl will celebrate his 80th birthday with an open house at 7 p.m. Friday at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 1823 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls. The family requests no gifts. He is a 40-year resident of Buhl, the former fire chief of Buhl and member of the Moose Lodge. His children include Marsha (Dustan) Meisner of Burley; Marilyn (Steve) Sailors of Huntington Beach, Calif.; and Gary Monroe of Mississippi. He also has 10 grandchildren.

Aries: Put best foot forward; Gemini, write down your thoughts

IF FEBRUARY 15 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you have peace and tranquility after some whirlwind years. Now that you have won your independence and fought hard for freedom, there is plenty of time to stop and smell the roses.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): There is more energy at your disposal this week. Now that you have won your independence and fought hard for freedom, there is plenty of time to stop and smell the roses.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): It is time to let your loved ones know you care. Romantic interludes are a distinct possibility over the next few days. Peace and tranquility may be interrupted by some inaccurate information that you can safely ignore.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your judgment is better early in the morning. Imagination and fantasy

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

color the remainder of the day, and creative ideas flow. This is a good day to write down your most romantic thoughts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You feel you must get caught up on those little things that simply have to get done to make life run more smoothly. It is time to be practical and down to earth. If something about your taxes has confused you, this might be a good day to take another look.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you keep your ears open, you may hear some tender words from someone close today or get some information that might help you make money in a few weeks. It is a better time to play and relax with your favorite playmate than to work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are sensitive to your surroundings and are willing to escape into a dream world. Your imagination is at full throttle, and you may reap benefits from ideas that come to you now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The doves aren't the only ones billing and cooing. The next several days are a perfect time for intimate conversations and exchanging love letters. Or you can take this pleasant time to dream a little and follow your intuitions, as they are right on the mark.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may be able to mend fences in the home arena this weekend as touchy egos have settled down. You may start thinking about plans for the future as your imagination is strong and friends may offer some new ideas to help you make permanent improvements.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be a bit overly sensitive and self-conscious today, and

even out of sorts for a short while. A good walk or exercise will clear the cobwebs. Dreams for a career move might cross your mind, so take notes for future action.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Money and finances could still be a dominant factor in your thoughts, but this isn't a time to gamble a nest egg. However, you might be inspired to think about creative uses of your resources.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are feeling charismatic and romantic today. You would rather sit around dreaming big dreams, but there is much too much work ahead this week. You may have some brilliant flights of fancy, but responsibilities will probably bring you back to earth.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Today you are able to express those hidden thoughts and private dreams. You might receive some information that will improve your future or smooth out relationships.

ANNIVERSARY

THE CHRISTENSENS

RUPERT - Mr. and Mrs. C. Dee Christensen of Rupert were honored recently at a supper party with their family for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Christensen and Patti Stephens were married Jan. 22, 1954, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple.

They have lived in Rupert for the past 35 years. He worked at the Minidoka Power Plant in Rupert, retiring in 1997.

She taught at Declo High School, retiring in 2003.

They have been active in the LDS Church. The event was hosted by their children, Val and Karen Christensen of Rupert. The couple has seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



C. Dee and Patti Christensen couple has seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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ENGAGEMENTS

MORENO-SMITH

JEROME - Darla and Jerry McKean of Jerome and Abbon Moreno of Grand Junction, Colo., announce the engagement of their daughter, Airman Clista Moreno, to Airman First Class Ashaundei "Sean" J. Smith, son of Fern Smith and Harold and Phyllis Smith of Romulus, Mich.

Moreno is a 2002 graduate of Jerome High School. She is currently stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., where she works to maintain refueling vehicles for aircraft.

Smith is a 2001 graduate of Romulus High School. He is also stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., where he works on the landing gear and flight control of aircraft.

BINGHAM-WALKER

GOODING - Thomas and Joyce Bingham of Gooding announce the engagement of their daughter, Suzanne Marie Bingham, to Nathan Dee Walker, son of Darrell and Evelyn Walker of Corinne, Utah.

Bingham is a 2003 graduate of the College of Southern Idaho nursing program. She is employed at Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Walker is a 1996 graduate of Box Elder High School and attended Bridgerland Tech in Logan, Utah. He served a mission for the LDS Church in Vancouver, British Columbia. He is employed at Honeywell - Grain Inc. in Honeyville, Utah.

The wedding is planned for Friday, Feb. 20, at the Mt. Timpanogas Temple in American Fork, Utah. A country dance will



Clista Moreno and Sean Smith of the KC-135 tankers.

The wedding is planned for 4 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at the First Church of God, 131 E. Ave. F in Jerome. A potluck dinner will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the church.



The wedding is planned for Wednesday, Feb. 18, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. A reception to honor the couple will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 5, at the Corinne LDS Church in Corinne, Utah. A reception will be held from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at the Gooding LDS Church.

RICO-ROTHSCHILD

PHOENIX - Gonzalo and Mario Rico of Phoenix and formerly of Rupert, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Marie Rico, to James Scott Rothschild, son of Arnold Rothschild of Syracuse, N.Y., and Renee Rothschild of Dallas, Texas.

Rico is a graduate of Minico High School and attended Joseph State University. She is a graduate of Rainstar University in Scottsdale, Ariz., and is employed at Touch of Health in Phoenix.

Rothschild is a graduate of Fairport High School in Fairport, N.Y. He is employed by the Phoenix Police Department. The wedding is planned for 4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at Love



James Rothschild and Jessica Rico International Ministries in Phoenix. A reception to honor the couple will be held at 6 p.m. April 17 at the Crowne Plaza Resort in Phoenix.

WHEELER-EGBERT

PAUL - Dee and Linda Wheeler of Paul announce the engagement of their daughter, Tara Dawn Wheeler, to Jason Gordon Egbert, son of Gordon and Susan Egbert of Murtaugh.

Wheeler is a graduate of Brigham Young University and served an LDS mission to Utica, N.Y. She is a teacher at Heyburn Elementary School.

Egbert served an LDS mission to Knoxville, Tenn. He is employed at Gillette Sharp Corporation in Burley.

The wedding is planned for Wednesday, Feb. 18, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. A reception to honor the couple will be held



Jason Egbert and Tara Wheeler from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Paul LDS Stake Center, 424 W. Ellis.

BINGHAM-MANNING

JEROME - Eiray and Roberta Bingham of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Bingham, to David Golden Manning, son of Ray and Deon Manning of Garland, Utah.

Bingham is a graduate of Jerome High School, Ricks College in Rexburg and Utah State University in Logan, Utah. She is a first-grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School in Hyrum, Utah.

Manning is a graduate of Bear River High School in Garland, Utah, and is attending Utah State University in Logan. He is employed at the USU Alumni House in Logan. The wedding is planned for



Michelle Bingham and David Manning Friday, Feb. 20, at the Logan LDS Temple. A reception will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Jerome 2nd, 5th and 7th Wards LDS Church building.

Presidents' Day Weekend Sale Monday, February 16

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Page E-6

Sunday, February 15, 2004

The Times-News

That's entertainment

Amusements were simple in early Magic Valley

On a hot August evening early in Twin Falls' life, Miss Mamie Horn invited some 30 of her teenage friends to her home at the Harrington Hotel for a well-chaperoned evening of music, games and refreshments. Supper partners were chosen using a method unimaginable today. Paper hearts, each with a young lady's name written on it, were pinned on a wall, and then each young man was given a toy bow and arrow and asked to hit the heart with the name of the girl he desired to escort. According to report, the marksmanship was terrible. One poor fellow was so nervous he missed the wall completely.

Social life and entertainments were simpler in 1904. One's senses weren't constantly assaulted by things noisy, shocking or rude. Wireless telegraphy was just in its infancy, and it would be years before radios were available for the home. There was no television, of course, and motion pictures were just coming to the larger cities.

A few people did own "concert" phonographs, which were brought out on special occasions to entertain friends with musical selections. One fellow near Kimberly invariably enhanced the novelty of his phonograph, by bringing his team of horses close to the porch of his house and getting the animals to neigh for his guests in response to the songs.

In those days, people entertained themselves mostly by socializing with one another. There were bowling parties, candy pulls, box socials, cakewalks, shadow socials and "Kensington games" - whatever the latter might have been. Evenings were spent making music, or in playing popular card games like "high five," "500," "razzle dazzle" and bridge. Also modish were idyllic games like "Squawk," wherein a blindfolded person sits on the lap of another player and tries to guess whose lap it is when the player is asked to squeak like a pig.

Despite the harsh nature of life in a rough, new town, most everyone was involved in some cultural activity, no matter his or her station in life. There were several women's organizations, including the Syringa Club, dedicated to history, literature and art. "Musicales" were regularly held. Even ordinary ladies' parties usually took a cultural or artistic bent. Here are descriptions of two such gatherings held in the same week:

The first: "A literary afternoon was an innovation enjoyed by Mrs. Nixon. An original poem entitled "A Flowery Romance" was given in which the blanks were to be filled with the names of flowers. Mrs. Davis' botanical knowledge won for her a magnificent bouquet of carnations. Light refreshments were daintily served by the hostess."

And: "Mrs. F.E. Ramsay entertained a number of ladies in her home. ... Tissue paper was given them of which to fashion



TALES OF THE TRACT
James Varley

The Majestic

Our town's first regular movie parlor was opened by Paul Alexander and Carl Tschumy on Dec. 2, 1907. Little Mary Miller, daughter of Harry Miller, won a \$5 prize from the theater owners for suggesting the name "Majestic."

The theater was located over the Mission Cafe at 114-116 Main Ave. N, opposite the Perrine Hotel. An electric sign was put up, which bore a "distinctly metropolitan air" to the town.

With standing room only, that first show started with the comedies "Oh! That Limburger" and "Post No Bills." Then came "My Dear," an "illustrated song" - the showing of still pictures, accompanied by local vocalists or instrumentalists. The feature movie that night was "The Bandit King," depicting a band of desperadoes holding up a stagecoach, and being pursued and brought to justice by the plucky sheriff and his posse. The Majestic's owners were proud of their modern projection machinery, which was free of flicker and guaranteed to "prevent damage to the eyes." Adults paid a dime, and children a nickel, to see a performance of the program, which was changed three times a week.

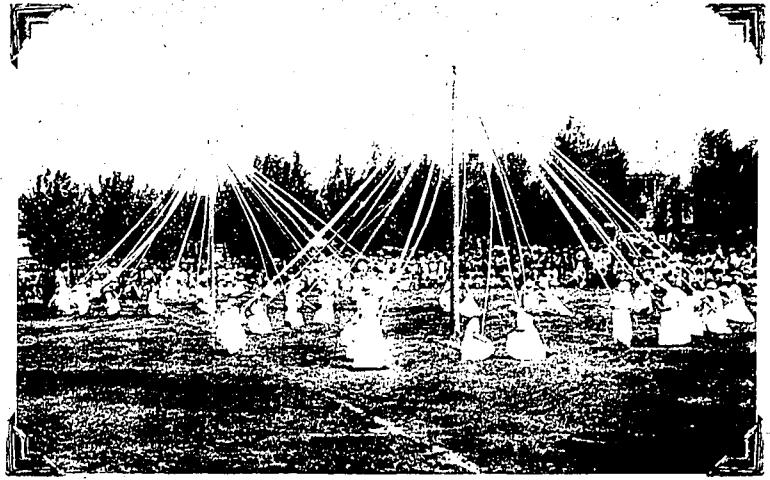
Soon it became faddish for the ladies of Twin Falls to get up theater parties, while their hubbies were "at lodge."

flowers or animals, and much amusement resulted therefrom."

Children participated in similar refined amusements. They had their own literary societies and were expected to recite, sing or play a musical instrument at social gatherings. Little Helen Seebeck celebrated her ninth birthday with a party at which her guests danced around a gaily decorated maypole.

As they are today, picnicking, fishing and camping were popular diversions. Clear Lakes, Shoshone Falls and the Blue Lakes were common destinations. One party of four families spent 10 days together in Shoshone Basin. Their breakfasts consisted of "trout, more trout, trout fried and fried trout, trout cooked with their heads on and trout cooked without the heads; trout fried with the eyes open and fried with the eyes shut." The group was said to be divided into two classes, "the cooks and the eaters, and the eaters had the best of it."

In wintertime, a good snowfall would



Dancing around the maypoles on May Day, about 1912.

Despite the harsh nature of life in a rough, new town, most everyone was involved in some cultural activity, no matter his or her station in life. There were several women's organizations, including the Syringa Club, dedicated to history, literature and art. "Musicales" were regularly held.

invariably bring out a throng of sledding enthusiasts, many of them small boys, who installed runners on wooden dry goods boxes. Sledding was equally popular with the beaux of Twin Falls, who in the winter of 1906, were said to be in great distress owing to the scarcity of sleighs. In Kimberly, some of these eager young men about town induced the blacksmith to fabricate a cutter, and, in it, a group of young people went to the Thanksgiving dance at Rock Creek, reaching home about 5 a.m. the following morning. Events like these were invariably chaperoned by a married couple.

Dancing was another immensely popular diversion. One of our town's first organizations was the Cassia County Social Club, a dance club for young people which had its initial gathering in the small temporary schoolhouse on Dec. 25, 1904. After the dance that night, the dancers repaired to a cafe for a meal. Later on, dances were held in the upper floor of the Odd Fellows Hall or at Billy Ring's roller skating rink. Several "sagebrush" orchestras, often consisting only of a guitar, violin and cornet, were available to supply the music.

In those days dance floors were given a liberal glazing of wax so that waltzers and two-stoppers could glide smoothly and lightly across the floor. Sometimes the waxing was imperfect, as evidenced at one memorable dancing party given at the Land and Water Co. office. Burt Ferrine was said to have walked across the floor, and made a "very graceful slide which

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Matinee Saturday Afternoon

This theater, a successor to the Majestic, opened in May 1908 at 325 Shoshone Ave. S. in Twin Falls.

reminded him of the days when as a boy he learned to skate away back in Indiana." But Bob McCollum, unaware of the glassy surface on the floor, tried to cross it and, at the third step, he "lurched to port, lost both propellers and grounded heavily in the keel." It was found necessary to skid him to safety in the rear office.

In another instance - at Buhl's first Thanksgiving dance given in 1906 by the Odd Fellows Lodge - the floor got covered with a thick layer of paraffin that "proved better adapted to catching flies than to

making dancing easy." The two-step became "any old kind of step to get the feet loose from the floor." At the evening's end, folks thanked the arrangements committee for giving them the opportunity to "exercise their limbs and take lessons in high stepping."

James Varley's newspaper columns are collected in a book titled "Tales of the Tract: The Beginnings of Twin Falls, Idaho and the Magic Valley," sold by the Twin Falls Public Library Foundation.



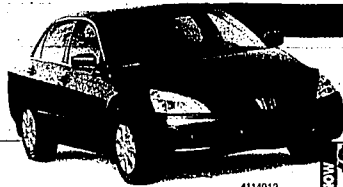
Picnicking and fishing on the Snake River about 1906.

Photo courtesy of Twin Falls Public Library

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