

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Isolated rain showers.
Tonight, a few showers. High of 54, low of 32.
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MAGIC VALLEY



'Spirit of Idaho': Two Vietnam veterans help reunite 'dog tags' with their owners.
Page A5

Decision time: Jerome council votes on yard sale restrictions tonight.
Page A5

MONEY

Supermarket strikers: Union's financial hardship committee faces tough task in California.
Page B4

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Spammers: Do they have a hold on your computer?
Page B5

SPORTS



Long shot: Sophomore Tyler Cook gives Carey a long-range threat.
Page B1

OPINION

One step forward: A Senate committee took the right path on forest fee measure, today's editorial says.
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COMING UP

Delighting in doughnuts
Which varieties do you crave?
Wednesday in The Times-News

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Company plans second digester

Facility near Wendell will produce enough methane to burn on dairy, sell on energy market

By Megan Hinds
Times-News writer

WENDELL — An Idaho Falls engineering company has reached an agreement to build an anaerobic manure digester on a second Magic Valley dairy farm.

Intrepid Technology and Resources will build a \$2.5 million anaerobic digester on a 6,000-head dairy near Wendell, said Jake Dustin, the company's

vice president.

Intrepid officials were asked by the owner of the dairy near Wendell to withhold releasing the name of the dairy until a later date. The project is still in the design stage, and financial details are still being worked out, Dustin said. Intrepid will either own the digester outright or will co-own it with the owner of the dairy.

Construction will not begin until a digester at the Whitesides

dairy near Rupert is up and running, Dustin said. The company will break ground on the Whitesides Dairy project March 31. That digester is projected to be fully operational in July and would be the first for a dairy in Idaho.

Anaerobic digesters are viewed by many in Idaho's dairy industry as a key to dealing with problems associated with waste, including odor.

The anaerobic digesters planned at the two Magic Valley dairies will use digester tanks containing bacteria which break down organic waste. The waste is turned into methane, a biogas

that can be used like natural gas or propane. Methane can also be used to produce electricity.

The Whitesides Dairy project initially will involve two tanks designed to process 32,000 gallons of manure a day, yielding 30,000 gallons of water and 3.5 cubic yards of solid waste for compost. The anaerobic digester at the dairy near Wendell will be "about three times the size" of the digester at the Whitesides Dairy, Dustin said.

"If we can make it work at a dairy this size, we can make it work anywhere," he said.

Both dairies with anaerobic digesters will have access to the

methane produced to use for daily dairy operations. Dustin said. The remainder of the gas will be Intrepid's to sell on the energy market.

The combination of the Wendell dairy digester and the Whitesides Dairy digester will be capable of producing about 150 million cubic feet of methane or 150 billion Btu of energy per year — enough to supply the average energy needs of 1,000 homes, according to a statement released by Intrepid.

Times-News writer Megan Hinds can be reached at 733-3238 or mhinds@magicvalley.com.

Advocates: Winter takes toll on homeless

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — His shelter is an old, abandoned house. There's no heat or water, but he said he's thankful to have a roof over his head.

He can find a hot meal at St. Edward's Parish Hall or the Salvation Army. He has several people he calls friends. And he has the unconditional companionship of one little calico cat.

For those simple things, 44-year-old John Drake said he feels blessed. Drake has been homeless for seven months, ever since the elderly person he was taking care of died.

"I'm unemployed, but I get money here and there," said Drake, who works odd jobs to keep a few dollars in his pocket.

Drake is luckier than some. Imagine sleeping in the freezing snow behind a strip mall — with the only thing between you and the elements a wet blanket.

That's how two homeless men have been surviving a particularly harsh Twin Falls winter, say police and advocates who would like to see an emergency shelter for the homeless in the city.

Phyllis Berg, director of Safe Harbor Inc., a local nonprofit group dedicated to helping the homeless, said she has been getting three or four calls a week from people looking for shelter from the cold.

"We're just tapped out," Berg said. "We don't have any money. I have people asking me, 'Is there somewhere, even a shed I could sleep in?' I'm concerned someone is going to freeze out there. I don't know how they survive."

The Twin Falls Police Department's night shift is used to responding to homeless calls this time of year. Sometimes it's complaints about loitering or panhandling. But often those calls come from good-hearted people just wanting an officer to check to see if a homeless person is all right, Sgt. Dennis Rinchart said.

"The night shift is dealing with them a lot more," he said. "A lot of the time it's single males, and it's hard to place them. It doesn't make sense to me."

For the homeless, winter can be down-
Please see HOMELESS, Page A2



John Drake, a homeless man in Twin Falls, enjoys the heated room at St. Edward's Parish Hall before eating dinner Monday. Lloyd LeClair, coordinator of the meal program, said between 80 and 100 people come to the parish for hot meals on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. "We've seen quite a few more people now that it's been so cold," LeClair said.

ADAM SMITH/The Times-News

Study links nicotine addiction, personality traits

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — If you're easy to anger, you might have a brain especially susceptible to nicotine.

Scientists using powerful scanners have documented nicotine triggering dramatic bursts of activity in certain brain areas —

but only in people prone to anger and aggression, not more cheerful, relaxed types.

Researchers made the discovery when studying people wearing nicotine patches. Intriguingly, the nicotine jizzed up the brains of not just smokers who are aggressive, but of nonsmokers,

too — and at very low doses.

It's the first biological evidence that people with certain personality traits are more likely to get hooked on smoking if they ever experiment with cigarettes.

And it may help explain why it's so much easier for some people to kick the addiction than oth-

ers, says psychiatrist Steven Potkin of the University of California, Irvine, who led the study.

It's almost, he says, as if some people are born to smoke.

Other scientists won't make that leap, noting that it's not clear
Please see SMOKING, Page A2

Kerry attacks Bush's economic policies, criticizes Daytona trip

The Associated Press

WAUSAU, Wis. — A confident John Kerry launched a full-throated attack on President Bush's economic policies, mostly ignoring his Democratic rivals on the eve of the Wisconsin primary.

Howard Dean's campaign shed another top manager and John Edwards vowed to press on no matter how he fares Tuesday.

Kerry, who has a commanding lead in the race to oppose Bush this fall, chided the president for taking time out Sunday to attend the Daytona 500, saying the country was bleeding jobs while he posed for a "photo opportunity." Bush had donned a racing jacket to officially open NASCAR's most prestigious event in front of some 180,000 fans.

"We don't need a president who just says, 'Gentlemen start your engines,'" Kerry said. "We
Please see KERRY, Page A2



Democratic presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., pauses to admire a metal sign engraved for him while touring the North Central Technology College in Wausau, Wis., Monday. At left is student Nathan Thums of Colby, Wis.



President Bush, right, receives a Valentine's Day card from 4-year-old Leah Cruise as she sits on the shoulders of her father, Marc Cruise, and mother, Sandy Cruise, center, watch as Bush greeted visitors during his arrival at Andrews Air force Base, Monday.

Dispatchers can't trace calls from cell phones

By Rebecca Meaney
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The harrowing experience of a TV engineer lost in a snowstorm in Cassia County last week highlights just how important it is to be able to track emergency calls from cell phones.

John Davis made a 911 call to the Power County Sheriff's Department, but dispatchers were unable to trace his call. Fortunately, warm clothing kept him alive until searchers found him after he had wandered on foot for about 48 hours in the Coterrell Mountains.

When someone calls 911 from a regular home or business phone, the address automatically is displayed on the screen of one of 5,000 call centers throughout the country. But a traditional cell phone can't be tracked.

The capability to do so is probably at least two years away in south-central Idaho, officials say, although cell phone customers each pay a \$1 monthly surcharge to support cell phone tracking technology.

The federal government told wireless carriers in 1996 to install technology that can find callers within 100 yards of their locations. Carriers either must use global positioning devices in 95 percent of their phones by Dec. 31, 2005, or install technology that automatically locates a caller based on the distance and direction from the phone to the tower transmitting the call.

The wireless companies will meet the deadline, but only about half of the nation's emergency call centers will have the enhanced 911 technology to locate wireless callers by that time, the National Emergency Number Association, a group that represents call center administrators, said last week. Currently, only about 1,100, or 18 percent, of the call centers have the technology.

In Idaho, a \$1 monthly sur-
Please see TRACE, Page A2

TWIN FALLS FORECAST
Today: Periods of clouds and isolated rain showers. Highs in the middle 50s
Tonight: Mostly cloudy with an occasional rain or snow shower. Lows in the lower 30s
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy and a slight chance for a rain shower. Highs in the upper 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST
Today: Partly to mostly cloudy skies and a few rain showers. Highs in the middle 50s
Tonight: Mostly cloudy with an occasional rain or snow shower. Lows in the lower 30s
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy and a slight chance for a rain shower. Highs in the upper 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST
SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Cloudy and unsettled weather is expected today and Wednesday. Rain or snow showers will be possible in the valleys with a wet snow in the mountains.

BOISE
Today Highs 35 to 45 Tonight's Lows 22 to 32
Periods of clouds and occasional rain showers are expected through Wednesday. Temperatures will be seasonably mild with highs in the 40s and 50s.

NORTHERN UTAH
Today Highs/Lows 52 to 67 / 35 to 40
Mostly cloudy skies and seasonably mild temperatures are expected through Wednesday. Rain and snow is possible on Thursday.

Star Valley
Today Highs/Lows 52 to 67 / 35 to 40
Mostly cloudy skies and seasonably mild temperatures are expected through Wednesday. Rain and snow is possible on Thursday.

Weather Key
Sun: Sunny; P: Partly cloudy; M: Mostly cloudy; C: Cloudy; E: Everywhere; S: Showers; R: Rain; SN: Snow; F: Fog; W: Wind; B: Blowing; V: Variable

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Isolated rain showers	A low rain or snow showers	Mostly cloudy, maybe a shower	Seasonal conditions	Mild with periods of clouds	A chance for showers
High 54	Low 32	48 / 30	45 / 28	50 / 29	47 / 28

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset
Yesterday's High: 31 Yesterday's Low: 14 Normal High / Low: 42/25 Record Low: 8 in 1963	Yesterday's: 0.00" Month to Date: 0.76" Avg. Month to Date: 0.43" Avg. Year to Date: 4.77"	Yesterday: 100% Today: 100% Today's Forecast: 100% Today's Forecast Low: 50%	5 p.m. Yesterday: 30.17 in	Today: Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 6:12 PM Wednesday: Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 6:13 PM Thursday: Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 6:14 PM Friday: Sunrise: 7:28 AM Sunset: 6:16 PM Saturday: Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 6:17 PM

MOON PHASES
Feb 20 New Moon
Feb 28 First Qr
Mar 5 Full Moon
Mar 13 Last Qr

MOONRISE AND MOONSET
Today: Moonrise: 6:51 AM Moonset: 3:01 PM
Wednesday: Moonrise: 6:55 AM Moonset: 4:16 PM
Thursday: Moonrise: 7:35 AM Moonset: 5:33 PM

REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Thursday
Boise	54-38	56-33	51-33
Bonners Ferry	43-29	42-28	49-23
Burley	54-32	48-28	42-28
Challis	51-30	43-23	40-18
Coeur d'Alene	44-31	43-30	41-29
Elko, NV	52-30	46-31	45-28
Edgemoor, OR	63-41	58-38	51-28
Hagerman	52-37	51-31	47-28
Grange	44-28	48-18	42-23
Hammon	50-31	50-31	47-28
Hayden	46-36	48-27	45-23
Idaho Falls	43-30	48-31	47-28
Jerome	48-38	50-35	46-28
Laurel	49-37	51-29	46-24
Malad City	45-31	50-31	47-28
Malta	51-28	45-25	46-23
Mountain Home	47-33	49-31	45-23
Payson	44-29	48-21	43-23
Portland, OR	44-21	46-21	41-28
Rupert	49-31	48-21	45-23
Rushburg	48-34	48-31	45-23
Richland, UT	49-30	47-35	46-23
Shoshone	44-30	48-31	45-23
Shoshone, UT	44-30	48-31	45-23
Stanley	43-35	48-31	45-23
Sun Valley	47-37	42-19	42-13
Yellowstone, MT	36-22	35-11	31-9

NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Atlanta	44-35	51-33
Baltimore	37-28	41-30
Birmingham	51-37	52-37
Boston	34-25	34-27
Buffalo	32-24	34-27
Chicago	32-26	45-27
Charlotte, NC	43-26	41-29
Chicago, IL	33-25	38-31
Cleveland	31-24	36-33
Denver	39-30	39-30
Des Moines	39-30	39-30
Detroit	39-30	39-30
El Paso	67-57	71-46
Farmington	50-35	50-35
Flagstaff	50-35	50-35
Fort Worth	50-35	50-35
Houston	67-57	71-46
Indianapolis	37-28	41-30
Jacksonville	50-35	50-35
Kansas City	40-28	41-30
Las Vegas	40-28	41-30
Little Rock	40-28	41-30
Los Angeles	67-57	71-46
Los Vegas	40-28	41-30
Memphis	75-53	69-49
Minneapolis	37-28	41-30
Nashville	50-35	50-35
New Orleans	60-40	61-42
New York	45-35	48-35
Oklahoma City	50-35	50-35
Omaha	37-28	41-30

U.V. INDEX
Low, Moderate, High
The highest the index the more sun protection needed

WORLD FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Auckland	90-66	90-70
Alaska	70-57	70-57
Amsterdam	52-38	54-34
Bangkok	32-26	32-26
Buenos Aires	84-64	81-67
Caro	50-32	52-47
Dhaka	82-62	82-62
Geneva	52-32	52-32
Hong Kong	70-63	70-63
Jakarta	84-64	84-64
Johns Bay	77-55	77-55
Kobe	52-38	52-38
London	48-38	50-41
Manila	84-64	84-64
Mexico City	63-45	63-43
Moscow	18-10	12-7
Nairobi	81-59	78-57
Paris	37-25	37-25
Perth	48-37	48-37
Prague	39-32	41-28
Rangoon	84-64	84-64
Santiago	81-59	84-61
Seattle	48-30	41-30
Singapore	81-59	81-59
Sydney	81-59	81-59
Taipei	81-59	81-59
Tokyo	52-38	52-38
Winnipeg	7-13	14-8

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

CANADIAN FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Calgary	10-1	1-3
Edmonton	10-1	1-3
Halifax	10-1	1-3
London	10-1	1-3
Montreal	10-1	1-3
Ottawa	10-1	1-3
Quebec	10-1	1-3
Saskatoon	10-1	1-3
Toronto	10-1	1-3
Vancouver	10-1	1-3
Winnipeg	10-1	1-3

Homeless

Continued from A1
right life-threatening.
"They can freeze to death out there," Rinehart said.
Some homeless people suffer from alcoholism, others from mental illness. Some are just down on their backs and many of them gave up a long time ago.
Homelessness, Berg said, is not a "one size fits all" kind of problem. Some need drug and alcohol treatment, and some need help with self-esteem. Others need help with job skills. And the longer they're on the streets, the harder it is to change.
"When people get down—and out, it takes so much to get back into the system," Berg said.
"People who haven't worked in a while have no references. Some have no identification. Some have had credit and can't get into a place."
Homelessness has many faces. One woman Berg helped was an 80-year-old grandmother raising her two grandchildren. Thankfully, fate decided to play her a good hand.
"It was an absolute miracle," Berg said. "One of our board members had a place and let her move in for \$100 down.
Safe Harbor Inc. has been looking at buildings in which to open a 10-bed emergency shelter for men. And now that the organization has gained nonprofit status, it is applying for grants.
Berg said the average stay would be three days. If someone says no to staying longer, he would be hooked up with a mentor to help him plan a program to get him off the streets for good.
Sharon Breshars, co-director of Valley House, a local homeless

Want to help?

■ **Where to go**
The South Central Community Action Partnership, located at 550 Washington St., can help the homeless with food, shelter, clothing, and a number of other needs. If the agency can't help, it can refer people to other agencies that can help. To learn more or find ways to help, stop by the agency between 8 a.m. and noon or between 1 and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or call: SCCAP at 733-9351.
■ **Jerome:** 300 N. Lincoln, 1-10 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 324-8856.
■ **Burley:** 314 E. Fifth St., 8 a.m. to

Meal

noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 678-9514.
■ **Meals**
• The Salvation Army at 348 Fourth Ave. N. serves a noon meal Monday through Friday.
• St. Edward's Parish Hall on the corner of Seventh Avenue and Second Street serves an evening meal from 5 to 7 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
• Safe Harbor Inc. and local church groups have been serving a noon meal on Saturdays at various locations in Twin Falls. For more information, call Phyllis Berg at 735-8787.

Trace

Continued from A1
change is tacked onto phone bills for land lines and cell phones. Phone companies must turn all but a tiny percentage of that to counties, which in turn use that money for call-tracking technology.
Dispatch centers around Malheur Valley are tracking revenue away to be used for the new equipment.
Since July, Cassia County has collected about \$12,000 from the 911 surcharge for cell phone use.
From Oct. 1 until Jan. 14, the county collected \$37,343 in surcharges, including land lines and cell phones, Cassia County Administrator Kerry McMurray told *The Times-News* last month.
The Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center—which serves Jerome, Lincoln and Gooding counties and rural Twin Falls County—says it is taking steps to incorporate tracking of emergency calls from cell phones.
"It's going to be a large project," said Ron Vogt, SIRCOCOM director. "We have to build an interactive map that shows latitude and longitude and other data, plus the information that

Kerry

Continued from A1
was confident his campaign was gaining momentum. He said he would remain in the race well into March and the Super Tuesday round of electoral face-offs.
Dean told reporters: "Let me remind you all that I have more delegates than everybody else in this race except John Kerry. So I think the campaign believes that some of you are writing a little bit misplaced."
Kerry's latest criticism of Bush came during a town hall meeting at Northcentral Technical College, where he toured the school's machine tool lab and posed for press pictures with students who engraved an 40-pound aluminum plaque with "Wisconsin Backs Kerry in 2004."

Smoking

Continued from A1
how genetic a person's personality is hereditary and how much stems from childhood environments.
Smoking habits, too, can depend greatly on whether people grew up surrounded by smokers and the social and cultural conditions under which they try to quit.
Still, "we're looking for the variety of things that could make people likely to smoke, and this could be one of them," says William Corrigall of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.
It also has important implications for teenagers. Adolescents are prone to periods of aggression, before parts of the brain that control impulse and behavior finish forming—and smokers almost universally pick up the habit as teens.

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Daniel Walcek, circulation director
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Discuss Kerry's campaign in Gooding

GOODING - An informational meeting about U.S. Sen. John Kerry and his presidential campaign will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Gooding Hotel, 112 Main.

A representative from Kerry's campaign will be in attendance. Idaho's Democratic caucuses will be held Feb. 24, and this meeting will provide an opportunity to learn more about Kerry before making a choice for a Democratic presidential candidate.

The public is invited. For more information, call Donna Pence at 934-5302.

Library foundation will sell special notecards

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Public Library Foundation has created a new product to sell and raise money to benefit the Twin Falls Public Library.

Notecards were designed by a special committee, and centennial sculptor Ralph Lehman photographed the cover. The picture on the front of the cards is of a collectible law book printed in 1642 in London. Resting on the open book are antique reading glasses and a pocket watch. The book is from a private Twin Falls library.

The cards are of quality stock and have four pages for writing and a parchment divider page inside. The cards measure about 4 1/2 by 6 inches each.

Pepsi-Cola Twin Falls underwrote most of the expenses for this project. Lehman donated his time and talent for the cover picture and a parchment page photograph. Five thousand cards were printed and had to be assembled and tied with twine. Women from the LDS 7th Ward Relief Society have been helping with this task.

The notecards will be sold in boxes of five for \$10 and can be purchased at the Twin Falls Public Library. Proceeds will benefit the library.

Office on Aging plans seminar for caregivers

TWIN FALLS - A seminar for caregivers, sponsored by the College of Southern Idaho Office on Aging and Adult Services, will be held this month.

"Communicating Effectively with Health Care Professionals" is set for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 28 at the CSI Office on Aging Annex, 998 Washington St. N. A lunch break is scheduled for noon to 1 p.m.; lunch is the responsibility of those attending.

"This workshop gives family members and caregivers the insights and the tools they need to function as an effective member of the health-care team, along with the physicians, nurses, social workers, and others who may be involved," said Sage Geske, workshop presenter and public information and contracts manager for the Office on Aging.

The cost is \$25, which includes manual, workbook and instruction. Advance registration is required. To register or for more information, call Geske at 736-2122, Ext. 308, or 420-6244.

Compiled from staff reports

Meet the developer

Look for this and more Magic Valley stories on page A8.

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% 100000' peak
Upper Snake Basin	95%	66%
Salmon Falls	113%	82%
Salmon	91%	64%
Oakley	115%	85%
Big Wood	85%	81%
Little Wood	91%	64%
Henry's Fork/Teton	107%	76%
Big Lost	90%	61%
Little Lost	82%	55%

As of Feb. 16
*A completion of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.
**An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.

PROVIDING CLOSURE



Above, Boyd Nelson, left, of Jerome and Lloyd DeWitt of Kimberly hold a Vietnamese flag at DeWitt's home Monday. Nelson and DeWitt today will receive 'Spirit of Idaho' awards from U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo. The two Vietnam veterans assist in an effort to return American 'dog tags' found in Vietnam to veterans and their families.

Below, Lloyd DeWitt holds his dog tags from Vietnam.

Crapo honors Vietnam vets by returning dog tags to families

By Brandon Fiala
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Families of servicemen killed in Vietnam sometimes weren't allowed to see the bodies of their sons, husbands or fathers.

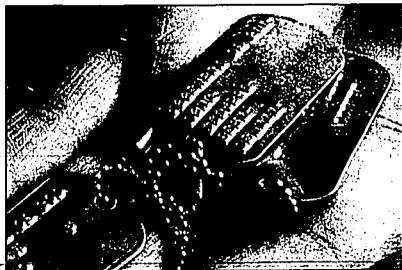
Two local veterans are helping provide closure for those families.

Boyd Nelson of Jerome and Lloyd DeWitt of Kimberly are being honored today with "Spirit of Idaho" awards from U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho. The two Vietnam vets assist in an effort to return American "dog tags" found in Vietnam to veterans and their families.

Through ZIP code searches, scouring the white pages and numerous phone calls, a group of veterans has successfully reunited more than 650 tags with their owners since 1998.

"If you lost a son in the war, I'm sure you don't care about a dog tag," Nelson said. "But it can help provide closure. Many families weren't allowed to see the bodies, but a dog tag is something they can hold in their hand."

Nelson said he met DeWitt in 1998 when he went back to Vietnam with other veterans to



make peace with the war. Since then, the pair have often returned to donate bicycles, food, toys and other items to needy Vietnamese families.

"We didn't do it to get recognized," Nelson said. "Not a lot of good" came out of that war, and here we are 35 years later getting an award."

DeWitt said that during one of the trips to Vietnam, veterans learned that roadway shops were selling dog tags as souvenirs. One of the veterans bought all the tags he could find, and has since tried to return them to their owners or their families.

"Two of the dog tags belonged to soldiers from Idaho, Nelson said.

"Lloyd and I took them back," he said.

One of the tags was returned to a soldier's family in the Treasure Valley, and the other to a Boise veteran, Nelson said.

Nelson said he was nominated for the award by his former boss at Dell Computer Corp.

"I told Crapo's office that DeWitt was involved, because I didn't want to get the award alone," he said. "I was excited, and I think it's a good thing."

Award ceremony

Four local people will be awarded "Spirit of Idaho" awards from U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo today for their volunteer work on behalf of veterans, children and animals. The ceremony is at 3 p.m. today at the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce conference room. Along with Vietnam veterans Boyd Nelson and Lloyd DeWitt, the honorees are:

- Jacque Law of Eden. The junior at Valley High School created Project Kids 2 Kids, an effort to help underprivileged children.
- Ray Gill of Buhl. He rescued two Shih Tzus that had fallen into a partially frozen lake in early January. The dogs' owners got stuck in mud at the bottom of the lake as she tried to get the dogs. So Gill grabbed a net and jumped into the water.

"Spirit of Idaho" awards are presented by Crapo to Iahvans who have made significant contributions to their communities. The first award was presented in November 2000. More than 100 people have since been honored.

Twin Falls council looks at zoning change for development

By Rebecca Meany
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Another of the city's areas of impact may feel the thrust of local development soon.

The public hearing portion of tonight's City Council meeting is scheduled to include discussion about a zoning change to accommodate the proposed development of Stone Gate Estates.

Developers have requested a zoning change from rural residential to R1-43,000 for about 133 acres at 2671 E. 4100 N. just outside the city limits.

The land lies south of Pole Line Road and east of Rock Creek Canyon. Rural residential designation means that single-family dwellings must each have a minimum of 20 acres. Lots in an R1-43,000 zone need only be one acre apiece.

In January, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended a vote 8-1.

In its present form, the ordinance would limit the number of yard sales allowed per residence to two in any one calendar year and limit the amount of time allowed per sale to 96 hours. Violators could be issued misdemeanor citations.

The proposal has stirred controversy among residents, and

The applicant, Mitch Bauman, representing Stone Gate Estates, wants to develop the area into a subdivision in three phases. The first phase would develop 28 lots, each with its own septic and water system.

The plan includes a 20-foot easement to the city for walking trails on the canyon rim.

An easement means that the property remains under the ownership of the developers but they grant limited use by the public.

An easement might be given

to land on the west side of Rock Creek Canyon to provide access to the bottom of the canyon. Or the land could be deeded to the city.

Bill Moyle, who owns a mink farm next to the area, brought up concerns about possible complaints of odor from future homeowners.

He discussed with the city staff that the developer create a quarter-mile setback for the subdivision.

Other landowners submitted for the record concerns about

the proposed lot sizes. Sherry Schubert McAllister and David Schubert stated a preference for five-acre lots along the canyon rim.

They also would like to see a barrier erected along the eastern boundary to minimize dangers posed by an open canal, farm machinery and discus applied to vegetation on their agricultural land.

The council meeting is being held tonight instead of Monday due to the Presidents Day holiday.

Yard sale ordinance goes to vote tonight

By Dixie Thomas Reala
Times-News correspondent

JEROME - A proposal to restrict yard sales is scheduled to be voted on by the City Council tonight.

In its present form, the ordinance would limit the number of yard sales allowed per residence to two in any one calendar year and limit the amount of time allowed per sale to 96 hours. Violators could be issued misdemeanor citations.

The proposal has stirred controversy among residents, and

Meeting tonight

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

City Administrator Travis Rothweiler has suggested amendments to the ordinance to allow more yard sales per year. He also recommends changing violation of the ordinance from a misdemeanor to an infraction.

In other business tonight, the council will consider the recom-

mendation of an ad-hoc selection committee - made up of Rothweiler, City Engineer Scott Bybee and wastewater treatment plant manager John Boyd - for a list of recommended firms to interview for improvements to be made to the city's sewer plant.

The committee has recommended Aqua Engineering, CH2M Hill, Forsgren and Associates and J-U-B Engineering.

The committee is also recommending that interviews with the firms take place Feb. 23-27. Once a firm is selected, the city will enter contract negotiations.

GOP leaders converge on valley today

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Republican big-wigs, lawmakers, officials and party faithful will gather in Twin Falls today for their annual Lincoln Day evening of food and fund-raising.

Before the 6 p.m. \$30-a-plate prime rib dinner at the Turf Club, many of those people will meet for Jerome County's Lincoln Day luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Best Western Sawtooth Inn in Jerome.

There's no Lincoln Day gathering in Mini-Cassia.

U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo and Rep. Mike Simpson are scheduled to speak in Twin Falls and Jerome events.

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Jury finds Rupert man guilty

Court will sentence man for six drug offenses in March

The Times-News

RUPERT - One of the 12 people who was arrested and charged with several drug offenses in July in Mini-Cassia was found guilty by a jury in a recent trial in Minidoka County.

Miguel Tellez Vasquez, 37, was found guilty of all six charges he faced in the jury trial that ended

Jan. 29. He is scheduled to be sentenced March 22.

The jury said Vasquez was guilty of three counts of trafficking methamphetamine and three counts of failing to affix a tax stamp to the drugs.

Vasquez, of Rupert, was originally arrested and charged with three counts of trafficking methamphetamine, two counts of delivery of a controlled substance in the presence of children and one count of obstructing justice.

The charges were later amended. Please see GUILTY, Page A8

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

WINTER SPORTS



Brad Chisholm, 25, of Santa Paula, Calif., leaps from a rock jetty to join other surfers in the Pacific Ocean at Marina Park Monday morning in Ventura, Calif.

Battle brews over doctor-owned hospitals

DENVER (AP) - Officials from big hospital chains are urging lawmakers in Colorado and around the nation to block the development of physician-owned specialty hospitals, saying they threaten full-service facilities.

IICA, the nation's largest hospital chain and the Tennessee-based parent of HealthOne, is battling doctor-owned hospitals in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nevada and Idaho by cutting off physician privileges and threatening to close emergency rooms.

Colorado is being closely watched by the industry because it is believed to be the only state with a bill pending on specialty hospitals.

"It's an important issue, and it's something we obviously are focused on and are concerned about," IICA spokesman Jeff Prescott told The Denver Post.

There are nearly 100 specialty hospitals in the United States. The number recorded in 1990, according to a report released last April by the General Accounting Office. The GAO estimates there are another 20 being developed, including the Animas Surgery Center in Durango, which has a reputation in the Colorado Legislature.

One measure, backed by hospital...

would bar physicians from treating patients at specialty hospitals they own. Another proposed bill would bar physician-owned specialty hospitals until research determines their effect on full-service hospital finances.

So far, specialty hospitals have been concentrated in smaller towns in the upper Midwest and South. But there could be a rush to develop west of the Mississippi, where most states don't require hospitals to provide community care before building.

"They jeopardize the ability of community hospitals to provide the full range of services the public expects, including emergency care and care for the uninsured and indigent," HealthOne spokeswoman Linda Kanamine said of the specialty operations.

Doctors, however, say patients get faster, more affordable and superior care in specialty centers. "It's not about money," said Dr. Michael Janssen, one of four spine surgeons who opened a 50,000-square-foot care center just blocks from North Suburban Medical Center in Thornton. "It's all about having a high level of quality, efficiency and care."

The hospital said it saw a 35 percent decline in outpatient profits and a 10 percent slide in inpa-

tient profits after the specialty clinic opened for business.

Colorado has a growing number of large, outpatient surgery centers with overnight beds that could eventually expand into boutique-style surgery hospitals. But physicians will have to battle deep-pocketed hospitals first.

Hospital administrators are already scrambling to get laws on the books to limit what could be a growth explosion, said Larry Wall, president of the Colorado Health and Hospital Association.

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, an HCA hospital, recently threatened to close its emergency room. Administrators blamed specialty hospitals for a shortage of doctors willing to work area emergency rooms, leaving it to pick up the slack.

Administrators at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kan., may revoke admitting privileges of cardiologists who operate a heart hospital nearby. David Nevill, chief executive of the center, visited Colorado last month to tell legislators how badly the center has hurt his hospital.

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls, an HCA hospital, last month revoked the privileges of five doctors who opened a small hospital nearby.

Governor defends campaign contribution management

BOISE (AP) - The governor defended his use and management of campaign money on Monday, publicly addressing for the first time complaints from critics that he had violated the intent of Idaho's public disclosure law.

"We've abided by the spirit and the letter of the law, and that is full disclosure," Gov. Dirk Kempthorne said.

A financial disclosure report filed with the Secretary of State's office earlier this month showed Kempthorne received eight contributions to his re-election campaign that appeared to exceed the legal \$5,000 limit.

But Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, who reviewed the matter at the request of both Kempthorne's campaign treasurer Larry Jeffries and Secretary of State Ben Ysursa, found the contributions were legal.

Wasden said changes made in the finance reporting law in 1997 clearly intent to create a situation where donors could exceed the general campaign limits in the case of incumbents.

Ysursa has said he will propose legislation this session to close what he sees as a loophole allowing unlimited contributions to finance the general expenses of

holding an office.

Jeffries pointed out that much of the money raised by Kempthorne last year was used to defray expenses incurred because of the office, including some related to Kempthorne's chairmanship of the National Governors Association.

Kempthorne said it makes more sense to use campaign-related money for those expenses than public funds.

"I think there'd be greater questions if I'd used state money," he said.

The governor made the remarks after re-appointing reporters his recent two-day surprise trip to Iraq.

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."

Karl Lewis Bronson - Payette

Karl Lewis Bronson, 87, of Payette died suddenly of natural causes Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004.

Karl was born Sept. 8, 1916, in Burley, Idaho, the son of James and Camilla Bronson. The Bronsons are a several-generation sheep, cattle and farming family that established Idaho roots in 1882.

After graduating from the University of Idaho in 1937, Karl served as director in the Payette Home Administration in Fremont County for several years.

He married Mary Lou Hepworth on June 1, 1941. Mary Lou died in 1999, after 58 years of marriage. During World War II, Karl served in the United States Army from November 1943 until May 1946. Following his service, he returned to Payette and, in 1947, with Ted Kiens, founded Growers Supply

Co. Inc., one of the first sprinkler irrigation companies in Idaho. In 1996, the Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association awarded Karl their Man of the Year award in recognition for his outstanding contribution to the irrigation industry in Idaho.

Karl was in excellent health and continued to actively co-manage Growers Supply, farms in Payette and Burley with his son, Richard. He had a great love for the land and was happiest working on his farms and spending time with his family. He passed away as he wished, with his boots on, "working until his last moment."

His parents, wife and a grandson, Matt, preceded Karl in death.

He is survived by five brothers and sisters, Ruth, Robert, Marilyn, Naomi and James;

three sons and daughters-in-law, James and Shullie of Sui Valley, Richard and Mary of Payette, and Gregory and Jeanette of Boise; and four grandchildren, Gretchen of McLean, Va., Jim of Payette, Megan of Portland, Ore., and Caric of McKinleyville, Calif.

At his request, he was cremated under the direction of the Cremation Society of Idaho. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Karl would have liked to thank all of his many friends for their loyal support over the many years. Contributions to a charity of choice may be given in Karl's name.

The family would also like to thank the prompt response of the Fruitland Emergency Team, Holy Rosary Hospital and St. Alphonsus Life Flight.

Daniel Andrew Wilcox - Rupert

Daniel Andrew Wilcox, a 52-year-old Rupert resident, passed away Feb. 15, 2004, a loving husband, father and grandfather who will be missed greatly.

Dan was born Feb. 9, 1952, in Jerome, Idaho, to David LaMar and Marilyn Belle Holmes Wilcox. He graduated from DeLoe High School and lived in Rupert for over 30 years.

He married Deborah Hall Sept. 15, 1973, in Elko, Nev. Dan worked as the human resources manager for Idahoan Foods Inc. and worked 27 years at Magic Valley Foods. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, building and spending time with his grandchildren. He was a member of the LDS Church.

Dan is survived by his wife, Deborah; his children, Justin L. Wilcox of Rupert, Brandon Andrew (Halle) Wilcox of



Rupert, and Crystalyn Ann (Lance) Vaughn of Meridian; grandchildren, Isler, Madsyen, Bryson and Braxton; his mother and father-in-law, John and Verlee Hall of Paul, brothers,

Donnis (Trista) Wilcox, David Lyn (Brenda) Wilcox, Elko, Nev., Allen (Barbara) Chandler of Twin Falls and William Troy (Tonja) Chandler of Twin Falls; sisters, Marsha Wilcox of Las Vegas, Nev., and Kristine (Kevin) Peterson of Buhl; sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Sharon; one brother, Donald; and one nephew, Jamie. Service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at the Rupert LDS First Ward, 806 G St., with Bishop Paul Duncan officiating. Burial will follow in the Paul Cemetery.

A gathering for family and friends will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. tonight, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2004, at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Herman Alfred Frey - Castleford

Herman Alfred Frey, 77, of Castleford, passed away Feb. 13, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center with his family by his side.

Herman was born June 17, 1926, in Huggins, Miss., to Homer and Lou Ella Frey.

Herman and his family moved to Buhl in 1936, and they farmed south of Buhl for many years.

He was drafted into the army his senior year of high school in March 1945, where he

served in Japan with the 11th Airborne Division 457 Field Artillery as a paratrooper. Herman always made it a point to share that "the bad only jumped from planes and had never actually landed in one!"

Herman was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

On June 6, 1948, Herman married the love of his life, Juanita Rose Stary. They were

married 55 years at the time of his death. This union blessed



Herman and Juanita with five sons whom they were very proud of, Richard (Flower) Frey of Twin Falls, Jack (Diane) Frey of Buhl, Mark (Cindy) Frey of Castleford, James (Jackie) Frey of Buhl, and Quintin (Shellie) Frey of Castleford.

Herman is survived by his sisters, Ann Harris and Beulah

Fisher of Missouri, Bessie (John) Clover of Nampa, Ruby Helvin and Blanche Bezeley of Twin Falls; 17 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Herman was preceded in death by his parents, Homer and Lou Ella; one brother, Floyd; and one great-grandson.

Herman will be remembered for his friendly nature, his love for farming, and his willingness to help others. The family requests memorials to be sent to Castleford Quick Response or The Idaho Home Health and Hospice.

The family will greet visitors from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004, at Farmer

Funeral Chapel, 130 Ninth Ave. N., Buhl. Service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, 2004, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, with a graveside service to follow at West End Cemetery.

Janice Dixon of Idaho Falls, formerly of Gooding, burial at 2 p.m. today at Gooding Memorial Cemetery (Valley Mortuary, Driggs).

Frank Leon McCreary of Hansen, service at 1 p.m. today at White Mortuary.

LaVonna "Vinnie" Isabell Sorenson of Mountain Home, service at 1:30 p.m. today at Summers Funeral Homes, McMurtry Chapel in Mountain Home.

Juanita "Wanda" Leona Kirkland of Twin Falls, service at 2 p.m. today at the Carey LDS Chapel. Friends may call at the Carey LDS church from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. before the service. (Wood River Chapel of Hailey.)

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 Cemetery; visitation from 1-8 p.m. today at Demary's Shoshone Chapel.

Joseph Vao Palmer of Las Vegas,

New, formerly of Rupert, service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Paradise LDS Chapel, corner of Bringham and Yellowstone, Chubbuck; family will receive

friends from 6-8 p.m. today at Cornelson-Henderson Funeral Home, 431 N. 15th Ave., Pocatello, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Virginia Sue Sullivan TWIN FALLS - Virginia Sue Sullivan, 74, of Twin Falls, formerly of Clayton and Challis, died Feb. 15, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Service of remembrance will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at Parker's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Joe Frazier JEROME - Joe Frazier, 71, of Jerome died Sunday, Feb. 15, 2004, at his home in Jerome.

Arrangements will be made by Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Arlene Brown TWIN FALLS - Arlene Brown, 76, of Twin Falls, died Sunday,

DEATH NOTICES

Feb. 15, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Graveside service at 3 p.m. Memorial Park, Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."

William A. "Bill" Kimball VAIL, Ariz. - William A. "Bill" Kimball, 59, of Vail, Ariz., formerly of Kimberly, Idaho, died Saturday, Feb. 14, 2004, in Tucson, Ariz.

Cremation was under the direction of the Desert Rose Mortuary in Tucson, Ariz. A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held in Vail, with his many friends. Graveside service will be held in the Twin Falls Cemetery under the direction of the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls, Idaho. Obituary and service information will be announced at a later date.

Legislative auditor hits Utah schools for undermining textbook catch-up effort

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - School districts reduced their own outlays for textbooks in 2002 when they took a one-time \$23.7 million funding boost from the Legislature, solving only half of the problem of outdated, irrelevant or worn books, legislative auditors reported Monday to a leadership committee.

Some districts may have misapplied textbook funds on teacher training or library books, said the report from Legislative Auditor Wayne Welsh's office.

In a release made part of the 16-page audit report, state schools Supt. Steven O. Laing said districts only slightly reduced their own expenditures on textbooks in the 2001-2002 school year. With the state's help, overall spending on textbooks increased to \$32.46 per student from \$28.44 per student

the year before.

Laing said districts were forced to reduce their own spending on textbooks after the Legislature ordered a \$15 million cut in public education in a lean budget year.

The special state payment was used to buy more than 750,000 textbooks but "a one-time appropriation cannot solve an ongoing problem," Laing said.

The money was not distributed according to need, the larger a district, the more money it got. Welsh said that contributed to a failure in solving the state's textbook problems.

By April 2003 only half of the textbook shortage needs of the 16 largest districts, representing 75 percent of all Utah students, had been satisfied by the special appropriation, said legislative audit supervisor Janice Coleman.

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Ann Mario McMartin, 18, left, and Britalyn McMartin, 23, from Tracy, Calif., celebrate after they were married Monday at City Hall in San Francisco. Ann Mario is holding a copy of their marriage license. The couple changed their last names to McMartin, a combination of their former last names of McClinton and Martin.

San Francisco's gay weddings continue; so does legal fight

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — As hundreds of gay and lesbian couples lined up at City Hall for the historic chance to wed with the city's blessing, opponents filed legal papers Monday arguing that only judges can declare California's prohibition on same-sex marriages to be unconstitutional.

In a brief submitted for a court hearing Tuesday, lawyers for one of two groups seeking to block the unprecedented wedding march said Mayor Gavin Newsom was in blatant violation of state law when he directed the county clerk to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

Newsom has argued that the equal protection clause of the California Constitution makes denying marriage licenses to gay couples illegal. But lawyers for a group formed to defend Proposition 22 — a 2000 ballot initiative that says the state will recognize only marriages between a man and woman as valid — contend the mayor lacks the authority to make that decision.

"What the mayor and his cronies have attempted to do is short-circuit the legal process by being both judge and jury themselves," said Alliance Defense Fund attorney Benjamin Bull.

The city's lawyers said they will

argue that local government agencies or officials are not barred from advancing their own interpretations of the state constitution. They also claim the plaintiffs have failed to demonstrate that continuing to issue licenses for same-sex couples would cause the irreparable harm necessary to obtain a court stay.

"Same-sex couples denied the right to marry face far greater harm than the petitioners here," stated a legal brief filed by the city Monday.

The looming legal showdown didn't deter thousands of people from lining up outside City Hall in the rain Monday. They hoped to join more than 1,700 other same-sex couples who have exchanged vows here in recent days. Despite miserable weather, many couples camped out overnight rather than risk going home still single.

"This is an opportunity we couldn't pass up," said David Miller of San Francisco as he and his boyfriend, Guadalupe Jimenez, waited in a line that snaked from the county clerk's office and wound three blocks around the ornate building.

Since San Francisco officials began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples last Thursday, hundreds-of-gays-and-lesbians have wed. Most are from the Bay

Area but about 50 are from other states, including New York, Georgia, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, Assessor Mabel Teng said.

Many of the city workers who helped process the licenses during the holiday weekend were volunteering their time, Teng said. She expected more than 600 same-sex couples to wed Monday, bringing the total to about 2,350.

The city will continue issuing marriage licenses on Tuesday "unless told otherwise by the city attorney," she said. She added that the city will be able to issue only about 30 to 50 licenses a day starting Tuesday because the volunteers will have to return to their regular jobs.

On Monday, a cadre of city workers deputized to perform weddings simultaneously presided over 10 ceremonies on the grand marble staircase at City Hall. Moved by the happy spectacle, caterers and donors kept the waiting couples nourished with doliated pizzas, bagels, soup and coffee.

"Usually, humanity comes out like this when there is a disaster, but here we have a joyous, civil rights thing going on, and people have just rallied," the Rev. Penny Nixon said as she prepared to officiate at a friend's wedding.

Same-sex marriages become a family affair

Los Angeles Times

SAN FRANCISCO — The necessity of the moment for this city's unprecedented stream of same-sex weddings is a baby carriage.

As hundreds of gay couples have lined up on City Hall, city officials are issuing marriage licenses to homosexuals, they have carried the occasional rainbow-placed gay-pride flag or political placard. But far more common are strollers, bags of diapers and juice cups — trappings of the mundane domestic life that many gay couples say they want society to formally recognize.

"We're already a family," said Mara McWilliams, a 34-year-old mental-health worker from San Jose, as she waited in line for her turn in the clerk's office Sunday morning. Her 8-year-old daughter, Serena, clutched her leg as McWilliams' partner of four years, Renee Mangrum, dashed off to get coffee. "This is to show the world we're normal, professional people. We're not here with our freak on."

The demand for weddings was so high that City Hall was closed before noon and hundreds of people were turned away because officials said they didn't have the time or resources to meet all the requests. City Hall was open again Monday, with couples trying to get married before a court hearing on the issue Tuesday.

Mayor Gavin Newsom on Thursday opened City Hall to gay couples who wanted to wed, and decreed that the building would remain open throughout the three-day Valentine's Presidents

Day weekend.

A spokeswoman for the Washington-based Family Research Council, which opposes gay marriage, called the child issue "emotional blackmail," saying it has swayed some people who would not otherwise support matrimony between people of the same sex.

The spokeswoman, Genevieve Wood, said, "I don't think public policy should be intentionally creating motherless or fatherless homes. If society makes a strong statement on that, maybe we can

discourage these kinds of decisions," Wood said.

Some of those in line Sunday with children in tow said the issue of gay marriage went beyond matters of romance.

For example, when Laura Bursch was giving birth to her twins two years ago, she had complications with the pregnancy. If she had died giving birth, her partner, Stacey Bursch, would have had no legal right to the children.

"They're my kids, too," Bursch said.

Consent bill highlight rift in anti-abortion movement

POISE (AP) — Legislation creating new hurdles for women seeking abortions in Idaho has opened up a rift in the state's anti-abortion movement.

Groups aligned with anti-abortion activist David Ripley and his Idaho Chooses Life organization on Monday urged defeat of the so-called informed consent legislation being backed by two other anti-abortion groups, Right to Life of Idaho and the Cornerstone Institute.

The new bill, formally filed with the Senate on Monday, now gives any person the authority to sue an abortion doctor for damages if the informed consent law was not followed. Previously, only pregnant women or their doctors could sue for damages.

Women would be required to sign a statement that she has reviewed the information and wait 24 hours before the procedure may be performed.

The bill also directs the Health and Welfare Department to publish a new pamphlet and create a Web site outlining the procedure, possible consequences, the stages of the fetus and abortion alternatives. It also says the pamphlet should be distributed through health districts and other outlets.

But Barbara Gough of Generation said claimed it fails to require detailed scientific information about potential side effects of abortion, has no independent review of the pamphlets and does nothing to protect a woman's right not to have an abortion, regardless of parental



or partner pressure. "I'm appalled by its content," Gough said. "I felt I had been slapped in the face."

The harsh statements came two weeks after Cornerstone criticized Ripley, Generation Life and others for taking Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to court to force his administration to begin publishing the pamphlet detailing information about abortion and its alternatives.

The lawsuit, which was dismissed by the Supreme Court earlier this month without comment, was filed in the middle of what Kempthorne said were talks about resolving concerns over providing abortion information to women.

Julie Lynde of the Cornerstone Institute and Kerry Uhlenkott of Right to Life of Idaho, who been working on the issue, said it was unproductive to attack a governor with a strong anti-abortion record.

Both rejected Gough's characterizations of the new bill, contending it would make major strides toward creating an atmosphere in which women can make such critical decisions with dignity.

Lynde said the problem with the more aggressive view of the movement goes back to the 2003 session and the complete lack of success Ripley and his combative, confrontational tactics had in the Statehouse.

"Last year, David ruffled a lot of feathers," Lynde said. "Because there was fall out from last year, we had feedback from legislators that if Idaho Chooses Life has its finger prints on any legislation, it's not going anywhere at all."

Gough said she was baffled by the rift in the movement, calling it "a really devastating thing to have this division when we should be working together."

She said the refined version of the abortion bill actually takes away protections women currently have from abortion — a charge Lynde rejected.

The division within the anti-abortion community will make it more difficult to win approval of the bill, Uhlenkott said, but she predicted that obstacle could be overcome.

Abortion rights activists complained about the expansion of those getting the right to sue abortion doctors while some other changes from the original bill were seen as improvements. The overall proposal, however, was still viewed by those groups as a medical invasion of a doctor's ability to treat patients.

Abortions in Idaho have decreased since 1980, when 2,553 were performed in the state. The number nearly halved in 1990 — to 1,390 — and nearly halved again by 2001, when there were 738, according to statistics compiled by the Department of Health and Welfare.

Only a handful of doctors perform abortions in Idaho.

Compromise wolf-management bill moves ahead

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) —

Wyoming would maintain fewer breeding pairs of wolves than what the federal government wanted, but would drop its shoot-on-sight provision under a measure recommended by a House committee Monday.

House Bill 155 represents a compromise agreement between lawmakers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over a state plan that would allow for removal of federal protection of the rapidly expanding species. The service last month rejected the plan approved by Legislature in 2003.

Rep. Mike Baker, R-Thermopiles, sponsor of the bill said whether one believes that wolves were properly reintroduced into the Yellowstone region by the federal government doesn't matter now.

"They are here," he said. "We need the tools to manage them."

The House Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee voted 6-3 to allow the House to fully debate the measure. Baker said the compromise could avoid litigation and put the state and the Interior Department on the same side should a suit be filed.

Rep. Mick Powers, R-Lyman, who voted against the bill, said the Legislature should resist changing the state's plan under the belief it will avoid a legal fight.

"If this is what we're feeling ourselves if we don't think it's going to end up in court," he said. "I've got to

court and get on with it."

Jim Magagna, lobbyist for the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, argued adamantly against the bill and said the committee simply passed the buck.

"My reaction is they did nothing," he said. "They just passed the decision up (the legislative line)."

Magagna said HB155 takes away methods ranchers could use to remove problem wolves, such as aerial hunting and explosives, methods that would be allowed under the current, but federally rejected, plan.

At a meeting, Baker produced two new letters, which he said bolsters the argument for supporting the legislation.

One was from National Park Service Director Fran Mainella announcing the wolves and their prey — elk, deer, moose, bighorn sheep and bison — would be managed inside Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. The letter also states that the Park Service will assist Wyoming in managing wolves.

Baker said management of wildlife in a national park would be unprecedented and represents a major concession by the federal government.

The other letter, from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Director Steve Williams, said HB155 would establish the legal framework to support removing wolves from the Endangered Species List and turn-

ing management over to the states of Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.

Williams, who attended the meeting, told the committee, "Our view of House Bill 155, with amendments, addresses our concerns adequately."

Under the measure, Wyoming would maintain 15 wolf packs in the state with a minimum of 10 breeding pairs. The federal government had previously mandated 15 breeding pairs.

Also, rather than allowing wolves to be shot on sight outside Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and adjacent wilderness areas — as Wyoming's current plan outlines — the animal would be subject to regulated hunting by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. License fees for residents would be \$5.

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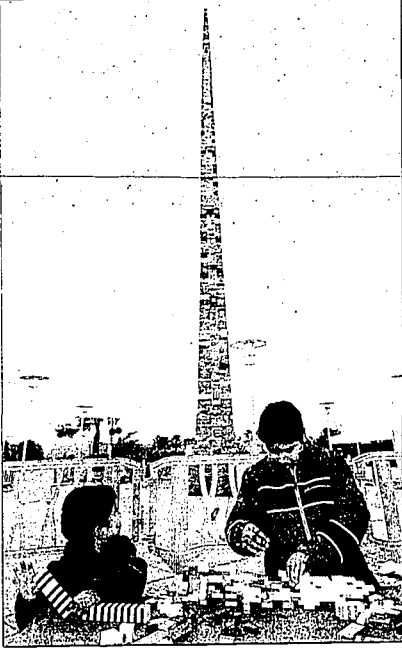
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MAGIC VALLEY WEST

LEGO MANIA



William Zetina, left, looks up at the LEGO World Record Tower as his brother Eduardo, works on his own LEGO creation before the official measurement of the world's tallest LEGO tower Monday at LEGOLAND in Carlsbad, Calif. The tower made of more than 500,000 LEGO bricks is more than 90 feet tall, breaking the previous record of 89 feet held by LEGOLAND in Denmark.

Short school week seems to be paying off

OROFINO (AP) — When the Orofino school district decided to shorten the school week to respond to budget cuts seven months ago, Superintendent Al Armen had misgivings. "It's not something I would have ever done," Armen said "except like I-4 was forced into it."

But the four-day week seems to be working, so far, he said. After one full semester, the district has managed to save at least \$12,000 in pay for substitute teachers and non-teaching positions, plus utility, heating and transportation costs.

Armen said that by the end of the year, the district should have met its goal of reducing operating expenses by \$150,000.

About 77 percent of parents expressed approval of the four-day week, according to a survey taken during the fall parent-teacher conferences. Most of the administrators and teachers Armen heard from also seem to be in favor.

"We felt it was a pretty good sampling," Armen said, "so we're going to do the same thing again this spring and give parents another opportunity to see how well they like it."

The district's budget has eroded more than \$1 million from two years ago. Area lumber mills have shut down or cut back operations, the taxable value of property in the district has plunged and enrollment has dropped by nearly 300 students. The district includes about 1,415 students in Orofino, Weippe, Pierce, Peck and Cavendish.

State support, which makes up about 85 percent of the district's \$8 million annual budget, has also

been slashed as the number of students declines.

The financial picture "I've seen in my 36 years," said Armen, who has been a teacher, coach, principal and a superintendent at Orofino and Grangerville-based District 241.

But what may determine whether the four-day week goes forward will be how well students perform on the Idaho Standards Achievement Tests this spring. The tests are the state's new measure of how well students are learning and making progress.

"We'll know that before school's out," Armen said. "I think we have to at least do as well or better than what we did before. If scores slip at all, Armen said, he will reconsider four-day school weeks.

About 100 school districts in six states — Louisiana, Oregon, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming and South Dakota — have been experimenting with four-day school weeks. Most are rural and have fewer than 1,000 students.

District administrators researched the schools and found that, even though there do not appear to be any significant losses in student achievement, neither are there any major gains.

"The board looked at that and said, 'Well, if we can save some money doing that instead of cutting another program, that would be better,'" Armen said. "I think they're still thinking the same way."

The Challis School District has also shortened its school week. As in Orofino, Challis lengthened the school day by nearly an hour Monday through Thursday, and students have Friday off.

Meet economic developer at reception

BURLEY — A public reception for the new Mini-Cassia economic developer is set from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Burley Inn. Anyone may attend.

Bob Shepard began work the first of the month as the new economic development director. People may visit with Shepard informally at the Thursday reception.

Following the reception is a joint banquet of the Burley Area Merchants Association and the Organization of Rupert Businesses. The 7 p.m. banquet groups have conducted a joint banquet. The deadline to buy banquet tickets was Monday.

Who's too young for a tattoo, body piercing?

The Idaho Legislature is considering a bill that would make it illegal for anyone younger than 14 to get a tattoo or a body piercing, except for ears.

Under the proposal, kids between the ages of 14-18 would have to get parents' permission to get a tattoo or a piercing. The Times-News is preparing an article about the proposed law and would like to talk with teenagers and young adults who have tattoos or piercings — or have decided not to get them.

If you'd like to share your ideas, call Steve Crump at 735-3223 or e-mail him at crump@magicvalley.com. — compiled from staff reports

Coalition aims to help young firebugs change their course

FARMINGTON, Utah (AP) — Some young firebugs start their blaze because they're mad at the world. Others are just very curious about whatever.

Whatever the fire-starters' reason, a coalition of counselors, firefighters and law enforcement authorities in Davis County would like to intervene and set the young on a better path.

The program is targeted at young children who set fires in their homes or at school. "We're hoping to eliminate juvenile fire-setters and provide a resource of help for troubled children," Davis School District Fire Marshal Steve Hermansen said. "Before, the process was fractured. We want to coordinate all of our resources."

In 2001, there were seven structure fires and six outside fires at education facilities in Davis County.

Border crossing closes briefly after guards find grenade in car

BLAINE, Wash. (AP) — One of the U.S.-Canada border's busiest crossings was closed for about an hour Monday after guards found a grenade in the glove compartment of a car leaving the United States, Canadian officials said.

The driver, a woman from Houston, was taken into custody but released after interviewers determined she hadn't known the grenade was in the car, Royal Canadian Mounted Police spokesman Tim Shields said. The woman's husband works for the U.S. military and is apparently stationed at Fort Lewis, south of Tacoma, he said.

"According to her, she was intending to drive toward Vancouver, Wash., not Vancouver, British Columbia," Shields said. Vancouver, Wash., is on the state's

border with Oregon, some 250 miles south of the Canadian city. "She was apparently new to the area," he said.

The 28-year-old woman didn't realize her mistake until she arrived at the Peace Arch border crossing in Blaine, and she had no choice but to drive through Canadian customs. An officer searched the car, which is registered to her, and found the grenade, he said.

She claimed to have no idea the weapon was there and "appeared to be quite traumatized," Shields said.

No charges were expected against the woman, who was returned back to the United States Monday afternoon, said Canadian customs spokeswoman Paula Shore.

CASSIA COUNTY COURTS

BURLEY — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Cassia County included:

Misdemeanor dismissals
Eva R. Hawkes, 46, insufficient funds check fraud, amended to public disturbance, dismissed, \$100 fine; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Robert Turner Jr., 59, driving without privileges, dismissed; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Juan A. Galindo Jr., 59, one count exceeding allowable gross loads, dismissed; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Veronica M. Vasquez, 28; two counts insufficient funds check fraud, dismissed, \$100 fine; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Brenda Marie James, 21; insufficient funds check fraud, amended to public disturbance, dismissed, \$100 fine; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Shawn Dawn Robinson, 20; insufficient funds check fraud, amended to public disturbance, dismissed, \$100 fine; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Misdemeanor sentencing
Blazay Vicky Gonzalez, 21; one count failure to purchase a driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; one count open container, pleaded guilty, \$15.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Priscilla Martinez, 31; inattentive driving, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Jose Hidalgo Garcia, no age available; driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$136.50 fine, \$98.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Maricelle Mortensen, 39; driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase a driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Manuel Eric Barajas, 20; driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase a driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Kiel D. Anderson, 20; disturbing the peace, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Manuel Michael Glenn, 20; disturbing the peace, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Edward E. Greenwell, 37; inattentive driving, amended to driving offense, pleaded guilty, \$36.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Rachel R. Labra, 23; disturbing the peace, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$98.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Victor L. Tamayo, 25; one count disturbing the peace/offensive to disperse, dismissed; one count disturbing the peace, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs, six months probation, 30 days in jail, 30 days suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Jacob Scott Hankel, 25; possession of drug paraphernalia, pleaded guilty, \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs, one year probation, 10 days in jail, 10 days suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Robert Michael Glenn, 20; driving without privileges, amended to third offense driving without privileges, found guilty, \$200 fine, \$78.50 court costs, 180 days driver's license suspension, one year probation, 30 days in jail, 28 days suspended, one day credited, two days Mini-Cassia work; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Driving under the influence sentencing

Gregory Clay Garatea, 50, misdemeanor second offense driving under the influence, amended to misdemeanor driving under the influence, pleaded guilty, \$300 fine, \$78.50 court costs, 180 days driver's license suspension, one year probation, 180



days in jail, 178 days suspended, two days credited; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Andres Silva Torres, 44; one count misdemeanor second offense driving under the influence, pleaded guilty, one year driver's license suspension, two years probation, 365 days in jail, 350 days suspended, 165 days credited, three days in jail in lieu of fine; one count driving without privileges, dismissed; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Felony dismissals

Rod Lee Andersen, 44; one count aggravated assault (use of a deadly weapon), dismissed; one count misdemeanor second offense driving under the influence of a deadly weapon to commit a felony, dismissed; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Commercial truck driving sentencing

Ronnie Joe Winslette, 26; failure to stop at checking station, pleaded guilty, \$118.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Richard Dawayne Williams, 34; failure to stop at checking station, pleaded guilty, \$118.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Robert J. Hurd, 37; weight exceeding allowable gross loads, pleaded guilty, \$27 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Geor C. Jorgensen, 63; failure to obtain oversize permit, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Mark A. Lambert, 33; failure to display hazardous transporter permit, pleaded guilty, \$63.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Carrie Lee Woodfork, 36; motor carrier log book violations, pleaded guilty, \$263.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Jason L. Masiak, 20; failure to obtain oversize permit, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Mattew M. Wisel, no age available; weight exceeding allowable gross loads, pleaded guilty, \$99 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Gale D. Hovsen, 29; two counts weight exceeding allowable gross loads, pleaded guilty, one count \$10 fine, one count \$36 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Michael E. Bryan Sr., 59; one count failure to have proper reflectors, pleaded guilty, \$43.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; one count failure to appear, dismissed; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Withheld judgment

Eleanora P. Rocha, 23; peit the Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Rick L. Nay, 19; racing on public highways, Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Juvenile sentencing

Jonathan Gil, 15; failure to carry driver's license on person, pleaded guilty, \$13.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs.

Julio C. Lopez, 17; failure to purchase a driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs.

Manuel Castro Juarez, 15; one count leaving the scene of an accident, pleaded guilty, \$86.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; one count failure to purchase a driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; one count failure to give immediate notice of an accident, pleaded guilty, \$86.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs. one year probation; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Utah law holds jail time for journalist offenders

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Some lawmakers may dream of it. Reporters and editors rounded up and tossed in jail.

Though no one expects it to happen, a little known Utah law holds just such punishment for journalists whose stories influence elections — directly or indirectly.

The obscure statute requires that a newspaper must file a statement of ownership with county clerks before publishing anything that could influence elections.

Not one organization has filed with Salt Lake County, home to the vast majority of the state's news operations.

Theoretically, editors and stories about various issues confronting lawmakers or city governments, for example, are violations that could earn a reporter a class B misdemeanor, punishable by 6 months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

"If I got a request for prosecution, we'd look at it seriously," District Attorney David Yocum said.

Yocum's joking, and he says the law is probably unconstitutional. "No one's ever been prosecuted for this," he said. "It would be kind of stupid."

States across the country are infamous for outdated laws, passed decades ago but forgotten and left on the books.

Yet Utah passed its election journalism law in 1995. It was supposed to include a section that requires a candidate or campaign staffer with ownership interest in a news agency to file the statement.

But that part was somehow erased during 1997 revisions. Utah Assistant Attorney General Thom Behrens says the statute is "catching everybody by surprise," and if no newspapers have filed the statements, they may be violating the law.

Utah also contained fossils whose skull was encased in a 1,000-pound block of stone that had to be cut from an escarpment near Farmington, N.M., and flown to a flabbed truck.

And in 1981, on public land 40 miles west of Albuquerque, N.M., paleontologists discovered the 150 million-year-old remains of Seismosaurus, one of the largest and, at more than 130 feet, probably the longest dinosaur ever found.

It took 10 years just to recover it," O'Neill said. Seismosaurus' reconstructed skull has visited Japan twice for an exhibition of the world's largest dinosaurs, and is destined for display at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science in Albuquerque.

O'Neill said BLM's concern for its fossils began to grow in the 1970s, when energy shortages prompted renewed interest in coal, along with traditional oil and gas prospecting.

"Unfortunately, a lot of the coal areas also contained fossils," O'Neill said. "We set out to inventory the fossils — particularly on land being proposed for mining development."

Also, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 required all federal land agencies to assume stewardship for the resources under their purview, he said. Today, BLM has more than 100 "administrative set-aside" lands reserved for paleontological research — and routinely calls for environmental impact statements to assess new mining ventures.

Private citizens homesteaded the best land long ago. Then the federal government closed off the most beautiful land and made it into parks and preserves, under the National Park Service and the Forest Service. The rest — much of it windblown badlands, parched desert or other remote corners of nowhere — went to the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management.

But while BLM's public land may have started out as leftovers that no one else wanted, it has turned out to be prime territory for paleontology — fossil hunting and the ancient creatures.

"These are barren, eroded areas, with very little soil, so the surface geology is exposed," Mike O'Neill said. "And since it doesn't run much, the bones don't decompose. They're encased in the rock."

O'Neill, 63, is BLM's senior paleontologist, one of five the agency has on staff to manage research, deter fossil poaching and prevent destruction of fossil beds on 261 million acres of public land, most of it in 12 western states.

Over the years, BLM has produced several spectacular fossils: 14-foot mammoth tusks near Lee Crues, N.M.; huge tortoise fossils and armadillo-like shells from a 15 million-year-old fossil bed in Arizona; the remains of an entire marine ecosystem at Utah's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument; and the bones of a 14-foot, meat-eating Albersaurus

Guilty

Continued from A5

ed to the three counts of trafficking and three counts of failing to affix a tax stamp.

Former Minidoka County Prosecuting Attorney Rick Bollar's court filing stated that Vasquez had delivered at least 28 grams of methamphetamine at a house in Rupert on three occasions in January, February and March 2003. The deliveries were all made to a Burley resident, Alejandra Valencia Flores. Vasquez was also arrested in July operation, accused of 10 drug-related offenses.

According to a court affidavit, Flores arranged to sell a police informant one ounce of meth for \$500 on Jan. 31, 2003. Police monitored the sale and learned that

the drugs were brought to house by Vasquez. Another drug buy between the informant and Flores was arranged for Feb. 10, 2003, the affidavit states. This time an ounce of meth was to be bought for \$600. Again, Vasquez supplied the drugs.

The third buy was arranged for March 3, 2003. The purchase price for two ounces of meth was \$1,100. When the informant met with Flores, the drugs were again provided by Vasquez, according to the affidavit.

At the time of the arrests, Cassia County Sheriff Jim Higgins said the 12 people were the largest number of people arrested at one time on drug charges in the county.

EDITORIAL

Craig emerges to defend rights of public land users

Watching Idaho Sen. Larry Craig join forces with environmental groups is like seeing Hulley's Comet. Few observers live long enough to see it twice.

Craig deserves credit from public land users for opposing pay-to-play fees in national forests and other federal lands.

Our view: Idaho Sen. Larry Craig deserves praise for voting against forest access fees last week.

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

The Recreation Fee Authority Act, or S.1107, sponsored by Sen. Craig (Thomas, R-Wyo.), could be the beginning of the end for the fee demonstration program in Idaho's Sawtooth National Forest and similar sites. The program, which charges citizens for merely visiting their national forests, is ripe for termination.

Craig helped push S. 1107 through the Senate Energy and Resources Committee last week. The bill would make fees permanent in America's national parks. The committee withstood heavy pressure from within the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to make fees permanent not only in parks but also in national forests and Bureau of Land Management territory.

By rejecting those lobbying efforts, the committee leaves the fee demo on track to expire in 2005. Craig, who chairs the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, merits applause for sticking with his 2002 promise to oppose continuation of the program.

Unlike a true user fee, the forest-fee doesn't apply to specific services or facilities. Instead, it's an access fee. Citizens must pay for simply

parking at a trailhead to stroll through the national forest—a forest they theoretically own. Craig supported the fee demo when it started in 1996 and for years afterward. But he did so on the conditions that recreationists and nearby communities support the program, and that the money stay in the forests where fees are collected.

The latter condition has never really been proved. But the first support from the local public—has been a hoax from the start. Despite describing the program as a "demonstration" to test public support, federal agencies did their best to coerce public participation. Then they hoisted off how many supposedly willing participants had paid the fees.

Classifying every permit purchaser as a supporter is like calling your steer a supporter of branding irons. Participation does not signify approval.

And now the feds are tightening the screws. Under new BLM regulations that go into effect this April, violators on BLM land could face \$5,000 fines and six months in jail.

Raising the penalties for noncompliance, federal agencies are admitting their lack of public support. When citizens recognize an unjust law and widely disobey it, the law cannot stand.

Passing S.1107 is a huge step, but the agencies' campaign for the fee demo will continue. Craig and the rest of Idaho's congressional delegation should keep trying to kill it for good.

Bush stretches the deficit dollars

If you want to understand the budget in the national news of President Bush's new budget, the last person you should ask to explain it is... the president.

Oh, yes, he's got an MBA from Harvard. But it seems he isn't very good at analyzing numbers, particularly if they're written in red and have lots of zeros behind them.

JACK Z. SMITH

The president insists that the gargantuan budget deficits being rung up by his administration and the Republican-dominated Congress aren't any big deal. He says he can whittle the record \$211 billion deficit projected for the current fiscal year down to a comparatively svelte \$237 billion shortfall within only five years.

But that's still a wretched performance compared to the budget surpluses rung up in the latter years of the fiscally responsible Clinton administration.

The Bush administration projects that budget deficits will total a monstrous \$1.87 trillion for fiscal years 2004 through 2009. But the situation could worsen considerably after that if the Bush tax cuts are made permanent. Moreover, numerous budget watchers say Bush's deficit projections, gloomy as they may be, are grossly understated.

Bush either flat doesn't understand the severity of the deficit problem or, in his hypercompetitive zeal to win re-election Nov. 2, is intentionally deceiving the American public as to their gravity.

Many Americans are catching on anyway. A new Time/CNN poll shows that 58 percent now believe that Bush is doing a poor job in handling the budget deficit. Only 33 percent give him a good rating.

If you want to far more honest look at the budget deficits and their negative long-term consequences than you'll get from the fuzzy-math White House, two



excellent sources are the Brookings Institution, a well-respected think tank, and the Concord Coalition, a bipartisan budget watchdog.

Brookings has produced an excellent report titled "Restoring Fiscal Sanity: How To Balance The Budget." It recommends measures that would move the government back to a balanced budget. Concord has done a series of excellent briefs on the deficits.

Both the Brookings and Concord papers are available on their Web sites.

The Brookings report explains with clarity and authority how the dangerous Bush administration/congressional practices of increasing spending and sharply cutting taxes will, unless reversed, lead to persistent large deficits that will "weaken the economy and lower family incomes."

The report outlines how deficits will raise interest rates and increase the government's borrowing costs, with five result-

ing negative effects:

- Slower economic growth.
- Increased household borrowing costs.
- More risky and expensive indebtedness to foreigners.
- More tax revenues devoted to paying interest on the national debt (leaving less available for services).
- "Unfair and irresponsible" imposition of enormous tax burdens on future generations of Americans.

The Brookings report issues a fervent plea for farsighted fiscal stewardship—a concept alien to Bush and Congress.

The report warns that unchecked budget deficits could, by 2014, cost the average U.S. household \$3,000 in added interest on the national debt and \$1,800 in reduced annual income.

Both Brookings and Concord point out the crying need for the White House and Congress to revert to "pay-as-you-go" budgeting. That means, for example, that if you adopt a tax cut, you

offset it with spending reductions. Or if you raise spending, you offset it by boosting tax revenues.

Both Brookings and Concord lament the folly of generating huge deficits at a time when Washington needs to be addressing the enormous shortfalls projected in Social Security and Medicare funding in coming decades.

Regardless of November's election outcome, a budgetary reality check soon will be required in Washington. As Brookings cautions: "Whoever is elected president... will face a huge fiscal hole that cannot realistically be filled by spending cuts or revenue increases alone. A very substantial amount of both will be needed."

That will require much more fiscal responsibility on the part of the White House and Congress—and much less futzzy math.

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

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LETTER

America had to stand up to terrorism

I am an old man, and I'm ignorant of most knowledge about politics and the like. What little wisdom I've gained in life doesn't give me bragging rights.

When the terrorists killed 2,000 or more Americans on 9-11 and what I know about their hate of Americans, I must support the war against them. Any reasonable excuse to put our troops in Iraq was the right thing to do. We had to stand on Middle East soil with our fists raised high to wage war against a mad dictator and terrorist. Had we not shown our muscle and our determination for justice, we would have less respect and would be hated even more.

To those terrorists and the like, a sign of weakness makes them like a predator after a wounded animal, and they would not stop until the kill is complete. The terrorist will always be persistent in his aim to destroy America. It's sad that we, as Americans, are so divided on the war. This will weaken our defense and com-

tribute to a downfall. If we had been lit again and again since 9-11, would we not be unified? I am thankful that we have protected ourselves against repeated attacks to date.

When I was growing up, you either confronted the bully and demanded he give up his ways or engage in a fist fight. Better to fight than live in constant fear. Yes, better to fight than be intimidated to death.

It's only when we put our enemies down that we are able to negotiate peaceful terms.

SAM OVERTURE, Mesa, Ariz.

(Editor's note: Sam Overture is a Mesa, Ariz., resident who lives in Mesa, Ariz., during the winter.)

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Box Falls or Butte office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@njgvalley.com.

States' addiction to lotto fever grows

When jackpots climb astronomically, the media make the lottery a top news story. It appears that everyone is playing the game. Surprisingly, this frenzy is not what a lottery is all about. It is not the occasional "big game" but rather the everyday "small game" that defines state lotteries.

SILVIO LACCETTI

These small games are everywhere—they shamelessly—encouraged by advertising and much indulged. The most important of these are the scratch-off games.

They are like candy for kids. On a recent visit to a local lottery vendor—appropriately named Good News Deli—I noticed the enormous colorful display of plastic bins above the counter. Each bin contained large rolls of scratch-off lottery game cards.

Each game beckoned the consumer with exotic or interesting names, with games within the games, and prizes to suit your taste. One game promised a \$2,500 win, another up \$500,000, a third \$1,000 a week for life. Altogether there were 51 scratch-off games in my state, New Jersey. Just pay a buck or two and scratch. It

could change your life! Later that same day, at my local supermarket, I noticed a huge bank of colorful vending machines dispensing all manner of trinketry and candy. Just 25 or 50 cents in a slot would get little Rebecca or Mikey gum-balls, miniature figurines, sports cards or lollipops. There were 35 of these slot machines and one giant machine that had perhaps another 30 coin slots.

The parallels between lottery and kid's candy are significant and telling. Both are acts of seemingly harmless play. Both are acceptable acts of consumerism. Both offer instant gratification. Moreover, where there is a payoff, it is almost always a small one.

Clearly, Americans who play the lottery want to win something, anything, even the financial equivalent of rings and things and gambols. They have a special love affair with scratch-offs. Scratch-off fever is, so great that it generally constitutes the single largest income stream for state lotteries.

For example, in Texas it accounts for fully 60 percent of a total of \$3 billion in revenue. In New Jersey, 37 percent of \$2.1 billion in revenue is from scratch-off games. On average each state that has a lottery offers 30 scratch-off games. Ironically, lottery cards are sold in Atlantic City casinos

So who really wins with state lotteries? Not most players, that's for sure. Payouts to players range from 50 percent to 55 percent in most states. Perhaps state educational systems gain the advantage since almost all lotteries earmark funds for them. Payouts average about 35 percent for education.

doing a healthy business in the newspaper-sovenir-sundry shops. Folks in Las Vegas don't have a state lottery, but whenever locals visit California, many are sure to stop at the state line outlets to buy scratch-offs. According to one source, some dwellers in the gambling capital of the world organize special trips to buy California lottery cards!

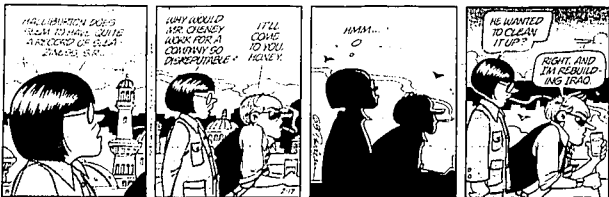
Through adroit marketing, clever game designs, and powerful advertising based on psychological manipulation, playing scratch-offs isn't really considered gambling. It is as if you're playing.

So who really wins with state lotteries? Not most players, that's for sure. Payouts to players range from 50 percent to 55 percent in most states. Perhaps state educational systems gain the advantage since almost all lotteries earmark funds for them. Payouts average about 35 percent for education.

Silvio Laccetti is a professor of humanities at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N.J. He can be reached by e-mail at slaccetti@stevens.edu.

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsler



Attracting the best teachers

Big city school districts are desperate to improve the quality of teacher recruits, yet they offer new teachers the worst possible deal. Come to work for us, and we will put you in the tough schools that experienced teachers avoid. You will work with other green teachers who are also struggling and with students and children who think that the school system has abandoned them. Your starting salary will be low, and it will grow only with seniority—regardless of how well you perform or how much your skills (e.g., in science or mathematics) are worth elsewhere. You will be required to join a union that protects senior teachers but does not do much for you.

PAUL T. HILL

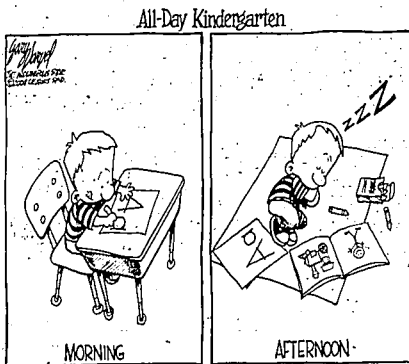
No wonder teaching is unattractive. No wonder that the ablest students in college avoid education majors, that the ablest education majors avoid teaching, and that the ablest new teachers are the most likely to quit.

On the other hand, teaching is attractive to senior teachers, who get the best job assignments, the most professional and emotional support, and the highest pay. Longtime teachers are paid well regardless of how much their skills are needed or how hard or effectively they work.

Raising starting teacher salaries is an obvious first step, and ensuring that new teachers get assigned to functioning schools where they can get good mentoring is another. But unions often oppose such proposals.

Seniority preferences and skewed pay scales have created a zero-sum relationship in which senior teachers always win and new ones always lose. Higher starting salaries are not enough. Something must be done about the career system that gives new teachers the worst jobs, the least help, and a road to career advancement that favors persistence over performance.

Other government organizations that depend on the quality of new recruits offer a different deal: they rotate them among



assignments so they can develop their skills. Moreover, the rate of career advancement depends on performance, and there will always be room at the top for someone who demonstrates special brilliance.

The foreign service and the military, for example, rotate young officers, paying special attention to the ablest. They also protect the possibility of rapid promotion by requiring senior officers to retire if they have not won in the competition for a higher rank. Officers can stay in one rank for just a few years, and only a fraction can be promoted.

This "up or out" process guarantees opportunities for newcomers and quality at senior levels. That is why diplomatic and Army careers, in which newcomers get very tough assignments, still attract the likes of former U.S. Ambassador Donald McHenry and Gen. Tommy Franks.

Like the foreign service and the military, public education depends on quality people. But only the field of education protects incumbents and fails to create an open opportunity structure for capable newcomers. The results are obvious: education repels the most ambitious young people and disproportionately attracts

No wonder teaching is unattractive. No wonder that the ablest students in college avoid education majors, that the ablest education majors avoid teaching, and that the ablest new teachers are the most likely to quit.

those who prefer security and dread being judged on performance.

Paul T. Hill is a distinguished visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution; a member of Hoover's Koret Task Force on K-12 Education; and a research professor and acting dean at the University of Washington's Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs.

Cat's killing sends a terrible message

I was shocked and horrified by the article in *The Times-News* of Jan. 30 with a Pucello headline which begins, "Investigators have determined there was no malice in the killing of a cat in Marsh Valley High School and no charges will be filed."

Perhaps there was no premeditated malice—but malice and cruelty, yes. How else to categorize the torturous and painful death of this cat? It was hit in the head and knocked unconscious. Then, as it was having seizures, a boy stepped on its neck. Then, at the direction of the teacher, the boy ground his foot down harder on the cat's neck and killed it.

Most little boys are cruel and mean to smaller animals, pulling legs off grasshoppers, wings off butterflies, squashing caterpillars and other harmful practices inflicted on small animals, but by the time they are in high school, they are usually cognizant of how civilized people treat animals.

What kind of message is this sending to these almost-adult young men? That it's OK to brutalize and torture a smaller being if it's bigger than you? If this cat had been around for awhile, long enough for it to become a nuisance, it had probably been fed and petted by the students so that it felt secure and safe in that

LETTERS

environment. If it wasn't wanted, the proper authorities should have been called long ago.

This cat's only crime was that it was allowed to become a nuisance at the school and that it was a stray. It didn't deserve to die in such a heinous manner.

MARJORIE DUBOIS
Jerome

Public can read more accounts of Custer

There are more than 1,800 rare books at www.moa.umich.edu. Making of America (MOA), funded by the Mellon Foundation, University of Michigan. The simplest manner to look up and read a book is to first click on MOA Books, then browse. This will bring up A-Z at the top of the page. Click on C. Then Cu and scroll down to Custer—My Life on the Plains.

She was freed from bondage by the Union Army, twice captured by the Confederates and twice escaped and joined Custer. She was his cook for three years, taking him coffee and food on the front lines with shells exploding overhead. After the war she was Mrs. Custer's maid and traveled to Fort Leavenworth and "out into the field with Mrs. Custer." These two females often ended up in places they shouldn't have been.

Chasing Sioux (KS), Custer rode out of camp one day and

glanced at her tent and had a premonition. He rode and moved the tent to the highest bluff and took a Gatling gun on wheels and rolled it up to the front flap of the tent for protection. That night, yelling awakened Mrs. Custer, Fizza and Mrs. Custer's eastern visitor. Soldiers were floating by their island in a raging flash flood.

The three women tied tent ropes together and pulled one of seven doomed men out of the raging current. It took all three women barefooted and dressed in their bloomers, pulling together in mud and water, to accomplish the feat.

On Custer's first movement against the Sioux, he left camp with four greyhounds and siced them on some antelope. The antelope excited. The bull got wind and two of the dogs never returned.

Coming upon a huge buffalo bull that towered above his thoroughbred, Custer made a city boy mistake. He chased the beast too long, enjoying the chase and profane expletives. The bull got wind and turned and tried to put his horse. Custer tried to stay on and charge hands with his rifle and blew his horses head off and ended up on all fours in front of the enraged beast. The bull was tried to charge him and ran off. Custer had ridden this horse for three years during the Civil War.

BOB BERENTZ
Filer

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Dean says he will push ahead in race

LA CROSSE, Wis. (AP) — Struggling Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean revealed Monday that national campaign chairman Steve Grossman has departed, but the former Vermont governor would not disclose the circumstances surrounding the change.

At an appearance here on the eve of the Wisconsin primary, Dean said Grossman was no longer with his campaign. "I absolutely don't feel betrayed by Grossman. I consider him to be a

friend," Dean said, without elaborating.

It's the second time in recent weeks that Dean has had a major shakeup in his campaign. On the day following the New Hampshire primary, in which he finished second to Sen. John Kerry, he announced that campaign manager Joe Trippi was leaving. This came after Dean decided to give the top campaign post to Roy Neel, a longtime confidant of former Vice President Al Gore. Trippi told people at the time that he

chose to resign rather than remain in the campaign in a lesser role.

Monday's revelation came as Dean had a brief exchange with reporters before appearing at a campaign event. Asked when he had last talked to Grossman, Dean said, "I have not talked to him since things came out in the newspaper."

Asked to elaborate, he replied, "My response is, I'll speak for the campaign."

Grossman had said earlier that if Dean stumbled in Wisconsin, he

would seek to convert his grassroots network into a movement that helps expand the party and elect the Democratic nominee.

"I have no doubt he'll support the nominee in any way he can, no matter who the nominee is and obviously that nominee looks to be John Kerry," Grossman said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press from Vermont. "He may say that Tuesday night. He may wait until Wednesday or Thursday to say that."

But Dean said Sunday he was

staying in the race. "We are not backing out," although he added, "The forum we will use to stay in the race remains to be seen. Period. Anybody who says anything to the contrary has misspoken."

Neel said he had spoken with Grossman on Sunday and it became clear that Grossman would be joining Sen. John Kerry's campaign.

"He's made clear in his on-the-record comments to the press he has another agenda at work now," Neel said Monday.



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SPORTS

Coming Wednesday

A special edition of the Varsity page.

The Times-News

Tuesday, February 17, 2004

Section B

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I was so skinny I had to wear skis when I took a shower to keep from going down the drain.

— Former Los Angeles Laker Steve Neter, who spoke of his time when he was 6-foot-9 and 180 pounds when he attended Cypress College in California.

A-Rod puts on pinstripes



Alex Rodriguez

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — It's a done deal: Alex Rodriguez is a Yankee.
Commissioner Bud Selig approved the record-setting swap Monday, allowing the reigning American League MVP to be traded to New York by the Texas Rangers.
"I'm pretty excited. This is a big, big one," Yankees owner George Steinbrenner said.
"It ranks with when we signed Reggie" he said, a reference to when slugger Reggie Jackson joined the Yankees before the 1977 season.
Texas will pay \$67 million of the \$179 million left on Rodriguez's \$252 million, 10-year contract, the most cash included in a trade in major league history. The Rangers get All-Star second baseman Alfonso Soriano and a player to be named — but they also will pay Rodriguez through 2025.

"I am very concerned about the large amount of cash consideration involved in the transaction, and the length of time over which the cash is being paid," Selig said.
"I want to make it abundantly clear to all clubs that I will not allow cash transfers of this magnitude to become the norm. However, given the unique circumstances, including the size, length and complexity of Mr. Rodriguez's contract and the quality of the talent moving in both directions, I have decided to approve the transaction."
Rodriguez will move from shortstop, a position at which he's been an All-Star seven times, to third base, where he will replace injured Aaron Boone. The Yankees will keep Derek Jeter at shortstop.
"Jeter is the captain. He is the leader," Steinbrenner said.

Panthers take Northside title

By Dustin Lapy
Times-News correspondent

SHOSHONE — The Carey Panthers took down Richfield 58-39 to win the Northside Conference boys basketball championship going into the District IV playoffs next week.

"That's where we wanted to be," Carey coach Dick Simpson said. "We're guaranteed to get (to state) now. That's all we wanted."

They beat all expectations. I'm just thrilled for them."

The win gives the Panthers a 20-record on the season. The win Monday was Carey's 18th in a row.

With the loss, Richfield plays The Community School today at 7 p.m. to decide seeding in the district tournament. The winner of that game is guaranteed a berth in the state tournament.

The Community School advanced with a 62-52 win over Dietrich Monday.

Carey 58, Richfield 39

SHOSHONE — The Panthers outscored Richfield in every quarter, including a 24-15 fourth to pull away in the win.

Carey center Blake Surens led all scorers with 18 points. He also finished with a double-double, grabbing 13 rebounds and recording three blocks.

"He played big for us on the boards all year," Simpson said. "And he came through tonight when we needed him."

Panther point guard K.C. Rivers chipped in six points, six assists and three steals.

Todd Green and Tyler Cook did the work for the Panthers from the perimeter, scoring 12 and 11 points respectively. Cook drained three 3-pointers including a half-court shot at the final buzzer.

"Carey's an excellent team," Richfield coach Garr Ward said. "They execute well and it shows from their record."

Despite the lopsided win the Tigers applied pressure throughout the game.



Richfield forward Julian Koch goes up for a shot against Carey defenders Ty Simmons, left, Tadd Green during their Northside Conference championship game in Shoshone on Monday. Carey prevailed 58-39.

Victor Vasquez led Richfield with 11 points and ripped off five steals. Charlie Amy and Julian Koch did the dirty work inside trying to contain Surens. Both Amy and Koch played most of the second half with four fouls apiece.

Neither fouled out of the game. Koch led the team with eight rebounds.

The problem for Richfield was knocking down the outside shots. "We've got to play good defense and execute the right way on

offense for us to be effective," Ward said. "We have to get the right shots to be effective. They've just got to let it come to them."

The Tigers did spark a rally in the second quarter, clamored with

SAWTOOTH CENTRAL IDAHO CONFERENCE BOYS TOURNAMENT

Declo seeks another trip to state

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's put up or shut up time tonight as the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference boys basketball tournament begins. From the 3A defending state champion Declo Hornets to the 4-16 Gooding Senators, everyone is looking to make sure their season doesn't end without a trip to Boise.

Declo sits at the head of the SCIC class with a 9-1 conference record, 15-3 overall. What many thought would be a rebuilding year for the defending state champions has turned into a great success for first-year coach

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TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Boys basketball

- 5A District Four-Five-Six play-offs
- see story, page B-2
- 4A District IV playoffs
- see story, page B-2
- 3A SCIC district playoffs
- see story, page B-1
- 2A District IV playoffs
- Valley at Wendell, 7:30 p.m.
- 1A Northside district playoffs, Shoshone
- see story, page B-1
- 1A Southside district playoffs, Murtaugh
- see story, page B-2.

IN BRIEF

Baseball/softball clinic takes place

TWIN FALLS — The District IV high school baseball/softball rules clinic will be held Feb. 23 at Twin Falls High School. The softball clinic starts at 6 p.m. followed by the baseball clinic at 7.

T.F. Legion parents meet tonight

TWIN FALLS — A Twin Falls American Legion Baseball meeting for parents of players who are planning to try out for a team will take place at 6:30 tonight in Room C-6 at Twin Falls High School. All parents are urged to attend this meeting. New information about the upcoming season will be discussed.

Minico wrestling registration is tonight

RUPERT — The Minico freestyle wrestling program will hold registration at 5:30 tonight 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.

5A and 4A girls games will be broadcast live

BOISE — The United Dairywomen of Idaho are sponsoring live TV broadcasts for the girls' basketball game Class 4A and 5A championship games starting at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 from the Idaho Center in Nampa.

The games will be carried by Cable One on Channel 17 in Twin Falls, 22 in Pocatello, 19 in Idaho Falls and 18 in the Treasure Valley area.

Youth hoops tourney will support cancer research

IDAHO FALLS — Idaho Premier Basketball is hosting an open format youth basketball tournament in the Idaho Falls area March 12-13 for boys grades 1-7 and girls 3-7 and 5A championship games starting at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 from the Idaho Center in Nampa.

Cook burns opposing defenses from long range

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

CAREY — Don't leave the little guy open or he'll light you up.

Northside Conference coaches have imparted that advice about guarding Carey's Tyler Cook on their players all season, to little or no avail. While small in stature — Cook is listed at a generous 5-foot-8 — the sophomore guard has big-time talent from beyond the 3-point arc.

"Tyler can really shoot the 3," said senior teammate Ty Simmons.

RIISING STARS

In fact, the 3 pointer is fast becoming Cook's specialty. He made 49 shots from behind the arc this season, more shots than he attempted from two point range.

Valley cruises past Glens Ferry, 73-62

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

HAZLETON — The Valley Vikings used a 23-point first quarter to cruise past the Glens Ferry Pilots, 73-62 during Monday night's opener of the District IV 2A boys basketball tournament.

The Pilots dug themselves into an early hole by fouling Valley's Michael Grant on two consecutive 3-point attempts. Grant, who averages over 25 points per game, sank all six of his first-quarter free throws on his way to 13 points for the period. In comparison, the Pilots managed 12.

"I bet you they scored off of every mistake we made," Glens Ferry coach Jeff McLime said. "We tried hard digging ourselves out of that, but we ended up digging a deeper hole."

While the Pilots battled hard, cutting the lead to six midway through the third quarter, the Vikings always had an answer to keep their lead safe. In the second quarter, it was junior guard Chad Anderson who scored eight points to help Valley hold its lead. Late in the fourth quarter, Grant sank two 3-pointers and a layup

Canyon Conference Tournament

Monday game starts 7:30 p.m. at 12 Valley's game starts 7:30 p.m.

for eight points in the final period. While his team didn't shoot particularly well and gave up too many offensive rebounds, Valley coach Bernard Mussman's team still advanced in the tournament.

"It was a little ugly there for a while," Mussman said. "At times we didn't rebound very well and we forced a lot of shots. But we settled down and played good defense."

Although he had an off night from the field, Valley's Grant led all scorers with 25 points, while senior guard Donny Kiehn added 11 and Anderson finished with 10.

"Everybody stepped up and scored a few," Mussman said. "It's good to see some of these other guys step up and score some points for us."

The Senators are led by seniors Eric Gushue and Angel Aguilar, at post and guard, respectively.

"They can be scary," Smyer said. Another team is Kimberly's Bulldogs, the only team to hand Declo a conference loss. Kimberly finished the regular season with an 11-7 record, 8-2 in conference. The Bulldogs feature senior post Ricky Zedler, the premier inside player in the SCIC.

Add in juniors J.J. Shawver and Darin Musser and the Bulldogs are dangerous team. Shawver is a 6-foot-2 shooting machine, while the 6-2 Musser is a versatile point-forward, with a wide repertoire of skills.

In Hailey, former CSI men's basketball coach Fred Trenkle is building a monster of a Wood River team. While they finished the regular season with an 8-11 record, the Wolverines had an even 5-5 mark in conference play. With a senior trio of 6-7 Jason Hoffman, 6-5 Cory Ott, and 6-4 Jeremy Seicho, the Wolverines have a vast untried in the SCIC ranks.

Wood River's first opponent, the Filer Wildcats, have been inconsistent at best this season. However, the Wildcats already own two victories over Wood River, thanks to strong play from senior guards Kyle Robinette and Cody Ehrmantraut. Junior post Dan Ransaw set the tone with a hard fight against the taller Wolverines point guard.

See story on PANTHERS, Page B2

See story on VALLEY, Page B2

See story on SAWTOOTH, Page B2

SPORTS

REGION FOUR-FIVE-SIX BOYS TOURNAMENT

Twin Falls vs. Minico: One more time

Is third time the charm for Spartans?

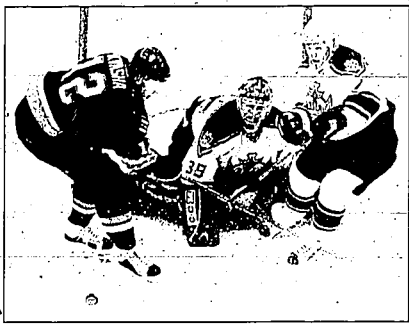
Games set
Region Four-Five-Six Tournament
Tuesday
Minico at Twin Falls, 7:30 p.m.
Highland at Skyline, 7:30 p.m.

TWIN FALLS - The Minico Spartans are hoping that the third time is indeed the charm during tonight's Region Four-Five-Six boys basketball tournament road game against the Twin Falls Bruins.

ly unlimited range, while junior forward Kody Bingham is a 6-foot-5 inside-outside threat with a great all-around game.

with Stanley.
While limiting the Bruins' 3-point looks will be a huge key for the Spartans, the Twin Falls posts can't be ignored. Senior Luke Martin and sophomore Brett Vriesman are both big and physical posts capable of scoring 20 on any given night.

Tigers are talented, they have been inconsistent, beating Minico by 20 in their first meeting but losing by two in the teams' second clash.



New York Islanders' Oleg Kvasha tries to get past Los Angeles King's goaltender Cristobal Huet and Derek Armstrong in overtime during the game at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y.

Islanders, Kings skate to 1-1 tie

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) - Arron Asham scored early in the third period and Rick DiPietro stopped 29 shots, rallying the New York Islanders to a 1-1 tie with the Los Angeles Kings on Monday.

Mallotra matched his career high with two goals to help Columbus beat Nashville.

4A District IV PLAYOFFS
Strength against strength: Burley vs. Jerome

By Joe Paisley
Times-News writer
TWIN FALLS - There is no clear favorite entering the 4A District IV boys basketball tournament, which begins Tuesday with No. 3 seed Jerome visiting No. 2 Burley at 7 p.m.

4A District IV Playoffs
Tuesday's game
Jerome at Burley, 7 p.m.
Thursday's game
winner at Century, 7 p.m.

Head coach Houston Finn hopes a couple of the young guards, notably Chance Craig, can step forward and put together two or three big games in a row.

national 4A basketball power has excellent depth at guard, led by Andy Stucki, Danny McAltese and Nick Ray.

Castleford knocks off Raft River in Southside

MURTAUGH - Raft River was knocked from the ranks of the unbeaten by defending state champion Castleford, 57-44, Monday night to set the 8-8 Wolves into the 1A Southside district championship shoot-out Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Hansen Center.

Local sports
Murtaugh 57, Oakley 44
191931-17
591915-20

Castleford Wolves in double figures in a 57-44 win over Raft River.
Evan Nolavenco scored 14 points, Roben Comer 11 and Kobi Bower 10 in the win. Raft River was led by Brandon Barrett with 14 and Quinn Harper with 12.

strikeout set up Van Elderen's homer on a 0-2 count.
The center fielder tried to make a great play but came up short and the ball rolled to the wall, Walker said.

Murtaugh 57, Oakley 44
MURTAUGH - Bridger Ward scored 20 and Jason Bischoff 17 to lead Murtaugh past Oakley in a lousert contest.

Hansen 61, Hagerman 58
MURTAUGH - Kyle King pumped in 20 points, including five 3-pointers, as Hansen upended No. 2 seed Hagerman 61-58.

College baseball
CSI 5,
Prairie Baseball Academy 4
HENDERSON, Nev. - Sophomore Sean Van Elderen hit an inside-the-park home run with Charlie Strandlund on base in the bottom of the ninth to rally the College of Southern Idaho baseball team past the Prairie Baseball Academy 5-4 Monday afternoon in Henderson, Nev.

Blues 4, Coyotes 2
ST. LOUIS - Jamal Mayers scored the go-ahead goal off goalie Brian Boucher's skates just four minutes left to help the Blues win their second straight game, and improve to 3-9-1 in their last 13.

Valley
Continued from B1
Glenn's Ferry was led by senior three Jeffrey Edwards' 14 points, followed by 12 from senior post Chanice Titus and 10 from fellow senior guard Scott Ardiano.

Castleford 57, Raft River 44
MURTAUGH - Sophomore Drew Tverdy's 15 points led for

Trojans avast, and will most likely have to be defeated twice for Glenn Ferry or Valley to advance to state.

Blue Jackets 4, Predators 2
COLUMBUS, Ohio - Manny

Cook
Continued from B1
Cook hit six trifectas in a game on three separate occasions, including his first victory, when he scored a career-high 22 points against Oakley and hoisted 18 shots from 3-point land.

game rebounding tear where he collected seven misses each game. Along with fellow sophomore center Drew Green and reserve guard Devin Simpson, Cook has been a huge boost for the Panthers.

That's 6-1 and you're 5-8, that's the toughest part," Cook said. "You just have to try your hardest. No matter who you're playing you're going to have a game in varsity."

"They're all older than me, all at college," Cook said. "I'm the one at home by myself."

Panthers

Continued from B1
a Vasquez trifecta that gave Richfield its only lead of the game, a 13-12 advantage.

each added 10 to lift the Community School past Dietrich in a lousert contest Monday.

Community School 62, Dietrich 52

SHOSHONE - John Hayes poured in 23 points while Jim Fairchild and Dylan McHenry

talented performer with great variety in his performance ahead of him. While Chivers is Bull's wa-

Weary Earnhardt wins another Daytona race

By Mike Harris
Associated Press writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — All Day Earnhardt Jr. wanted to do Monday. He was tired and wanted to enjoy his Daytona 500 victory.

Instead, he slipped on his driving uniform and returned to work, weary from lack of sleep and drained emotionally.

"I didn't matter, Junior held off a series of challenges and won the delayed Hershey's Kisses 300 Busch Series race.

The race was postponed Saturday by rain after just 31 of 120 laps at Daytona International Speedway.

Asked how much rest he got Sunday night after winning NASCAR's biggest race, Earnhardt grinned and said, "A little, but it's like the guy who goes into a gas station and buys a dollar's worth of gas, just enough to get there."

Once he climbed into his No. 8 Chance 2 Chevrolet, a car he co-owns with stepmother Teresa Earnhardt, Junior found the energy to take the Daytona Busch race for the third straight year.

He added Monday's win to victories in the Daytona 500 Sunday and in one of the twin 125-mile



Dale Earnhardt Jr. dives into the arms of his crew from his No. 8 Chevy Monday after winning the rain-delayed Hershey's Kisses 300 Busch Series race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla. Earnhardt added Monday's win to his victory in the Daytona 500.

qualifying races Thursday.

On top of that, Earnhardt finished second in the Budweiser Shootout, qualified third in time trials for the 500 and nearly added a victory in the Rolex 24 sports car endurance race. His team finished fourth in that event when a broken suspension part knocked their car out of the

lead with 20 minutes remaining.

"I guess you'd have to say it's been a heck of a couple of weeks," Earnhardt said.

He was out front for Monday's restart of the Busch Series season-opener but fell back as far as 10th before using a fast pit stop on lap 74 to catch the leader.

"I knew I could take the lead

any time I wanted to, so I could take it easy for a while," he said. "Some of those guys were racing up there a little harder than I really cared for. Mentally, you can only race that hard for so long."

He regained the lead on lap 85, gave it up twice briefly, then pulled away from everyone but Johnny Sauter at the end while the rest of the contenders got tangled in a side-by-side battle and slipped behind.

At the end, Earnhardt drove across the finish-line 0.135 seconds — about two car-lengths — ahead of Sauter. Nextel Cup drivers swept the top five spots, with Robby Gordon third followed by Kevin Harvick and Matt Kenseth.

Sauter, Gordon and Harvick are teammates at Richard Childress Racing in the Cup series, but they weren't able to gang up on Earnhardt on Monday.

"There was a lot of guys racing so hard for second and third, I didn't get as many challenges as I expected," Earnhardt said.

It was Earnhardt's ninth victory on Daytona's 2.5-mile oval. His 10th win totals the record with 34 Daytona wins, including the 1998 Daytona 500.

Unbeaten Stanford replaces Duke at No. 1

NEW YORK — The last two unbeaten teams are 1-2 in the rankings.

Stanford replaced Duke at No. 1 in the Associated Press men's college basketball poll Monday, and Saint Joseph's moved up to No. 2 for the first time in nearly 40 years.

The Cardinal and the Hawks, the only undefeated teams in Division I, each rose one spot after Duke (21-2) lost to North Carolina State 78-74 Sunday night.

That ended the Blue Devils' 18-game winning streak and their four-week stay at No. 1.

Stanford (21-0) received 64 first-place votes and 1,791 points from the national media panel. The Cardinal — beat California 69-58 in their only game last week and are the first team to top the poll this season.

Saint Joseph's (22-0) received the other eight first-place votes and 1,721 points to match the highest ranking in school history.

After No. 3 Duke, Mississippi State (21-1) moved up two spots to fourth, matching the Bulldogs' highest ranking since the final poll of the 1961-62 season.

Edmonton Oilers make roster moves

DETROIT — The Edmonton Oilers placed goaltender Ty Conklin and forward Brad Isbister on the injured list Monday.

Edmonton acquired goaltender Tyler Moss from the Vancouver Canucks to replace Conklin, who broke two bones in his right hand over the weekend. The Oilers sent forward Peter Sarnio to Vancouver.

Moss had an 89.7 save percentage and won 10-16-5 with a 2.90 goals-against average in 32 games for the AHL's Manitoba Moose this season.

Isbister sprained his right ankle. He had nine goals and seven assists in 43 games for the Oilers this season.

Predators acquire Sullivan for two draft picks

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Nashville Predators acquired forward Steve Sullivan from the Chicago Blackhawks on Monday for two second-round draft picks.

The 29-year-old Sullivan was the Blackhawks' leading scorer with 15 goals and 28 assists. He has two short-handed goals this season.

Sullivan has scored more than 20 goals in each of the last five seasons and has reached at least 60 points in each of the last four. He has 166 goals and 253 assists in 573 games over nine seasons with New Jersey, Toronto and Chicago.

Dodgers hire DePodesta as general manager

LOS ANGELES — Oakland Athletics executive Paul DePodesta was hired Monday as general manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

DePodesta, 31, has been a top assistant to Oakland general manager Billy Beane since joining the A's in 1998.

DePodesta was hired three days after Boston real estate developer Frank McCourt bought the Dodgers from News Corp. for \$430 million.

The Dodgers' front-office job had been held by Dan Evans, who was in the final season of a three-year contract. Evans interviewed for the job along with other candidates, including Philadelphia Phillies assistant GM Ruben Amaro.

Rebraca suspended, Williamson fined

LOS ANGELES — Detroit Pistons center Zeljko Rebraca was suspended for one game by the NBA on Monday for punching Sacramento's Brad Miller in the head Wednesday night.

The NBA also fined forward Corliss Williamson \$5,000 for committing a Flagrant 2 foul against Miller. Rebraca and Williamson were both ejected from the Pistons' 96-94 loss to the Kings.

Rebraca will serve his suspension tonight at New York.

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SCORES AND STATS

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Basketball

• Louisville at TCU, ESPN2, 5 p.m.
• Jazz at Heat, FSN, 5:30 p.m.
• Florida at Georgia, ESPN, 7 p.m.

Purdue at Michigan St., ESPN 5 p.m.

Women
East
Tennessee at Rutgers, 6 p.m.
Long Beach at Wagner, 6 p.m.
Drexel at Delaware, 6 p.m.
Ohio State at Cornell, 6 p.m.
North Carolina at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.
Florida State at Virginia Tech, 6 p.m.
Texas Tech at Texas, 6 p.m.
West Virginia at Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Georgia Tech at Clemson, 6 p.m.
Louisiana State at Louisiana Tech, 6 p.m.
Arkansas at Missouri, 6 p.m.
Oklahoma State at Baylor, 6 p.m.
Texas A&M at Rice, 6 p.m.
Alabama at Auburn, 6 p.m.
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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Truck driving school plans grand opening

TWIN FALLS — Top Gun Truck Driving Academy, which opened for business Jan. 26, plans a grand opening from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday.

Owners are Greg Christianson and Michelle Christianson. The former has 30 years' experience in the trucking industry — 20 years driving and 10 years in trucking safety and health.

Top Gun Truck Driving Academy offers three, four- and six-week commercial driver's license instructional courses. It's at 21389 U.S. Highway 30 in Twin Falls.

Admissions manager Bob Bice can be reached at 735-6656 or at home, 734-4825.

Asia, Mexico trade office managers meet in Idaho

BOISE — The state's international trade office managers for Asia and Mexico will be in Idaho Feb. 23 to March 12.

All four managers will discuss economic conditions in their respective countries during the Sixth Annual Global Market Trends Seminar, scheduled for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 4 at the Grove Hotel in Boise.

The trade offices can help Idaho businesses land millions in international sales, said Roger Madsen, acting director of the Idaho Department of Commerce.

"Each year the office managers participate in the Global Trends seminar and help Idaho businesses open doors to international trade."

Additional topics include market overviews, business opportunities, cultural issues and common pitfalls of exporting.

Each manager will also be available for one-on-one appointments with Idaho businesses interested in exporting their products and services.

The trade managers are Armando Orellana, Mexico; Eddie Yen, Taiwan; Cao Guoli, China; and General Woo, Joo Chang, South Korea.

Registration for the Global Market Trends Seminar is \$65 per person (includes lunch). For online registration, seminar information and other international trade events, visit www.idahotrade.gov.

Or call Riz Whitte at the Idaho Department of Commerce at 334-2470.

AT&T board mulls offers; Cingular increases bid

ATLANTA — The board of AT&T Wireless Services Inc. met Monday after Cingular Wireless boosted its offer to \$3.5 billion cash for the third-largest U.S. mobile phone provider in a bidding war with Britain's Vodafone Group PLC, according to people familiar with the talks.

A deal with Cingular, whose latest offer is an 18 percent premium over AT&T Wireless' closing share price Friday, could slim the field of national wireless carriers from six to five, possibly easing the price wars between the industry.

Vodafone has matched Cingular's offers in each stage of the process, two sources said on condition of anonymity. It was unclear if Vodafone had increased its offer on Monday.

There was no timetable on when AT&T Wireless, whose board was meeting in New York, would decide who will be its buyer. AT&T Wireless, Cingular and Vodafone all declined to comment.

A Texas-based Cingular, the nation's No. 2 mobile phone provider, early Monday offered \$14 a share for Redmond, Wash.-based AT&T Wireless, after offering \$13 a share or \$35 billion over the weekend, two sources said Monday on condition of anonymity.

Vodafone PLC of Britain also bid \$35 billion over the weekend, a source said.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Committee faces tough task

California supermarket strike affects lives, families

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Erica Salas, a 26-year-old with magenta streaks in her dark brown hair, may have one of the toughest jobs in the California supermarket strike.

Every day, seven days a week, Salas sits in a tiny office in the Local 770 union hall in the Koreatown section of Los Angeles, taking applications from people facing evictions, repossessions and foreclosures, sometimes even the prospect of giving up their children, at least temporarily, to relatives or former spouses.

As a caseworker on the financial hardship committee, the onetime Vons clerk helps decide how to mete out the \$1.5 million in emergency funds the local set aside to help the most down-and-out of the United Food and Commercial Workers members who went on strike or were locked out five months ago.

All too often, all she can do for them is listen. "It's hard emotionally, and it's physically draining," she said during a break last week. "You just want to cry."

About 59,000 people were suddenly without regular wages when the UFWC struck Safeway Inc.'s Vons and Pavilions stores Oct. 11 and Albertsons Inc. and Kroger Co.'s Ralphs chain locked out their union workers in the area the next day.

UFWC members who pull picket line duty earn strike pay. It was slashed nearly in half in late December, so that most make about \$145 for five days on the line. Company-paid health bene-



Casey Day, 13, center, participates in a rally with about 200 strike supporters in front of Vons supermarket Saturday at the Marketplace Shopping Center in Bakersfield, Calif. Southern California grocery workers could become part of a permanent underclass, always looking over their shoulders and fearing for their jobs, if they lose their labor standoff with the region's supermarket chains.

fits expired at the end of the year. The union and the supermarkets say they don't know how many people are still unemployed. The union says 9 percent of the 21,000 Vons and Pavilions employees who walked out have gone back; the 38,000 UFWC members locked out by Ralphs and Albertsons can't legally

return to their old jobs. If the scene every morning at Local 770's headquarters in Los Angeles is any indication, many of the 14,500 members affected by the strike and locked out haven't been able to find part-time work to supplement their strike pay.

By 10 a.m., dozens of people are queuing up. Armed with sheaves of unpaid bills, bank statements, rental and lending agreements and angry letters from creditors, they fill the hall decorated with murals depicting the union's history and spill out into an adjacent waiting room.

There is little conversation. "They are people leaving the middle class on an express train to who knows where," said Harley Shalaken, a professor of social and cultural studies for the University of California at Berkeley.

As of Thursday, Local 770 said it had written 4,000 checks to members' creditors. Salas and the 21 other volunteers on the hardship committee are getting the same \$25 a day as their colleagues on the picket line. They sometimes find themselves thinking that no pay would be enough.

"The reality is the devastation. I almost didn't come back" to work on the committee after the first day, said Dora Cano, locked out of her job as a bookkeeper at a Ralphs store. "You see grown men with tears in their eyes."

Salas said she didn't know how much emergency money remained in the committee's account and that in some ways, she would rather not know what was left to do out.

She ticked off a few of the hardship cases: the checker with an unemployed husband, two months behind in her rent; another checker who had been evicted from her apartment and was living in her car; a clerk whose car had been repossessed and bank account closed for insufficient funds and who, with his wife out of work, owed more than \$3,700 in back mortgage payments; and the clerk who said his wife had attempted suicide.

Most every story can seem as hard to listen to as to live. "You don't really sleep at night," said Janelle Arana, who had worked as a checker at a Vons store. "You lie awake thinking about everybody's hardships."

Former Qwest officials prepare for criminal trial

Four men face charges of conspiracy, fraud

The Associated Press

DENVER — Four former Qwest executives head to federal court today for jury selection in the first criminal trial arising from probes of questionable accounting at the telecommunications company that's the dominant provider of local-phone service in Magic Valley.

Prosecutors say the men — charged with conspiracy and fraud — devised a scheme that allowed Qwest to improperly book \$34 million from a computer equipment sale. Prosecutors say they conspired to lie about the deal and hid the facts from then-auditor Arthur Andersen.

The case is the first stemming from investigations that ultimately forced Qwest Communications International Inc. to erase \$2.5 billion in revenue from its books and prompted former CEO Joseph Nacchio to quit the company in 2002. The trial is expected to last a month.

At issue is a \$100 million deal with the Arizona School Facilities Board in the second quarter of 2001. The board hired the Denver-based company to build a network for Internet access to schools statewide.

Grant Walker, Thomas Hall, John Walker and Bryan Treadway are accused of rushing to get equipment for the project delivered by the end of the quarter so revenue could be booked right away, and then claiming Arizona officials wanted it done that way.

In the process, the four are accused of ordering equipment Arizona officials hadn't agreed to buy and of keeping a warehouse open on a Saturday, the final day of the quarter, to make it appear the material was received on time.

The men booked revenue from the sale before the computer equipment was

installed, hoping to meet lofty profit targets and help their own performance reviews and bonuses, prosecutors say.

If convicted, the men could face years in prison and millions of dollars in fines.

Defense attorneys are expected to argue the charges were the result of political pressure to crack down on corporate scandals, and that more senior Qwest officials found nothing wrong with the transaction.

Graham was the chief financial officer of Qwest's global business unit, while Hall and Walker were vice presidents for government and educational solutions. Treadway was assistant controller.

Attorneys for Walker, Treadway and Hall did not return calls last week. Previously, Hall's attorneys have said Qwest offered him as a sacrifice to law enforcement officials looking for somebody to blame.

Graham's attorney said his client was wrongly charged. "We think that there is no merit to the indictment. We don't think that Mr. Graham was involved in any wrongdoing," attorney Daniel Sears said.

Qwest has said only that it is cooperating with investigators. At a Denver luncheon Monday, current CEO Richard Notebaert refused to discuss the company's troubles.

"I'm not going to look through a rearview mirror," he said. Asked about changes at the company, he said: "We will stand the test of any scrutiny."

The four defendants and four other former Qwest executives have all been sued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which says they inflated Qwest revenues by about \$144 million in 2000 and 2001 to meet promises of double-digit revenue growth.

That lawsuit is on hold until the criminal trial is over. No other criminal charges have been announced against the company or any of its employees involving accounting irregularities, but U.S. attorney spokesman Jeff Dorschner

Four will face federal trial

A look at the first criminal trial stemming from the investigation into financial and accounting irregularities at Qwest Communications International. Jury selection begins today.

- **The defendants:**
 - Grant Graham joined U.S. West in 1998. Following the 2002 merger with Qwest, he was appointed chief financial officer for the global business unit.
 - Thomas W. Hall joined Qwest in August 2000, and was senior vice president of the government and educational solutions group of the global business unit.
 - Bryan Treadway joined Qwest as an assistant controller a few months before the 2001 transaction in Arizona that led to the indictment. He later was promoted to controller during his brief stay at Qwest.
 - John Walker joined Qwest as an assistant manager in 1998 and worked as a vice president under Hall in Qwest's global business unit.

- **The charges:** Each defendant is charged with:
 - Conspiracy, carrying a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.
 - Four counts of securities fraud carrying a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.
 - Making false statements to the SEC; carrying a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.
 - Six counts of wire fraud affecting a financial institution, carrying a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.

■ **Hall's next:** Grant Hall, Treadway and Walker, along with four other former Qwest officials still face a SEC civil lawsuit. The federal criminal investigation continues.

said the probe is continuing. Since 2002, when the SEC began investigating alleged fraudulent transactions designed to inflate revenue, Qwest has restated financial results for 2001 and 2002 to erase about \$2.5 billion in revenue.

The company still faces several shareholder lawsuits and about \$17 billion of debt. Qwest is the local phone company for 14 Western states, including Idaho.

COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

BOISE — Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Vernon H. Slater and Clarice A. Slater, 1981 E. 4200 N., Buhl, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40201.

Ricky Webb and Donnelly Webb, 4175 N. 2300 E., Filer, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40204.

Robert Dewhurst, also known as Robert W. Dewhurst, 104 E. Sixth St., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40205.

Melissa Stirling, 643 W. Milner Road, Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40203.

Jennifer Faye Larson, 659 Paradise Place, No. 4, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40209.

Valentin Espino and Cristina Espino, also known as Cristina Torres, 3875 S. 1600 E., Wendell, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40211.

Donald E. Teeter and Mildred Ann Teeter, 1365 S. 600 W., Oakley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40210.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Key E. Holland, also known as Key E. Cisco, 319 Elgah Ave. E., No. 319, Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities under \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40207.

Donald E. Leon and Eylee Leon, 310 C St. S., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities under \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40231.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Hector S. Leon, 3860 N. 2430 E., Filer, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40212.

Jose L. Marinheiro, 2334A E. 1850 S., Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40200.

Dorothy Dawn Seggerman, 142 Blair Drive, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40227.

Coridon Scott Dye and Monica Lou Dye, 326 W. Clark, Pocatello, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40228.

Simon Enrique Martinez and Leticia Martinez, 1851 N. St. Heyburn, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40229.

Donny Denn Laker and Pamela Elm Fox-Laker, also known as Pamela Fox, 360 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40233.

Stevn L. Puri, 250 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40234.

Sue Francis Gano, 465 Morningside Court, Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40235.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Justin Rutherford and Carrie Rutherford, also known as Carrie Jensen, 146 Addison Ave. N., No. 57, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, estimated number of creditors not stated, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40220.

METALS/CURRENCY

London/inv \$411.40 up 10.90
Paris afternoon fixing \$406.00 up 56.00
Zurich close afternoon \$405.10 up 52.40

NY Handy & Harmon closed
NY Handy & Harmon fabricated closed
NY Exported closed
NY Exported fabricated closed
NY Inter. gold spot month Non closed
NY HGRC Bank USA 4 p.m. Non closed

LIWDOH (WAP) — The dollar rose against most other major currencies in European trading Monday Gold and was up:
The item was quoted at \$1,272.1, down from \$1,272.7 Friday
Other dollar rates
-105.0 Japanese yen, down from 105.41
-1.287 Swiss francs, up from 1.2865
-1.3194 Canadian dollars, up from 1.3136

The Dutch pound was quoted at \$1,891.5, up from \$1,888.7
Zurich based on London at \$411.40 bid per tonne on delivery, up from \$410.00
Gold bid 70 cents in Hong Kong at \$411.75
Case covered in London at US\$62.00 bid per tray ounce, up from \$62.30

By The Associated Press
Electric energy prices, Monday
Hong Kong bid \$411.75 up 10.70
London afternoon fixing \$411.70 up 10.20
London afternoon fixing \$411.70 up 10.20

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER TAKEOVER?

Spammers increasingly exploit home computers

By Anick Jesdanun
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK - Next time you're looking for a culprit for all that junk mail flooding your inbox, have a glance in the mirror.

Spammers are increasingly exploiting home computers with high-speed Internet connections into which they cleverly burrowed.

E-mail security companies estimate that between one-third and two-thirds of unwanted messages are relayed unwittingly by PC owners who set up software incorrectly or fail to secure their machines.

David Lawrence, 43, owns such a computer, which turned into a "spam zombie" when a virus infected it in October. Five or six spammers were using his cable modem to remotely send pitches for products like Viagra and boosters for cell phone signals.

"Spammers and the people who write these viruses... is their life so void that they feel they have to mess up other people?" said Lawrence. "To me, it's criminal."

The self-employed businessman from Tifton, Ga., said he first learned of his computer's culpability when his Internet service got suspended. "I called to find out what was going on because I knew I had the bill paid," he said.

Lawrence is by no means alone. Hundreds of thousands of computers worldwide have been infected by S0b1g and other viruses that are programmed to spawn programs, known technically as proxies, to relay spam. Though Lawrence had anti-virus software, he hadn't kept it updated.

It's ironic to the president of the security Web site MySentry.com, Lawrence Baldwin, that those afflicted by spam are also often its couriers.

"That's further encouragement, justification for taking responsibility for your own system," said Baldwin. "If you don't, you can be part of the very problem you're complaining about."

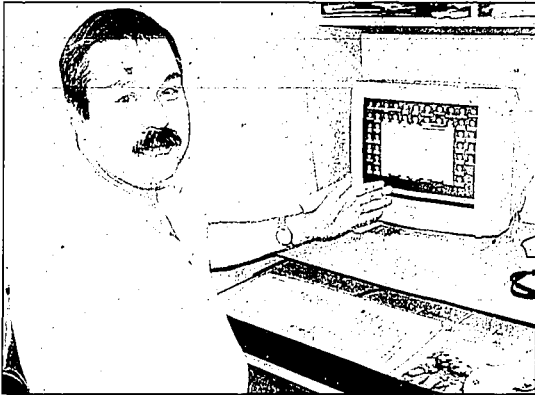
Any Internet-connected computer could be running a proxy spam relay, but most of the malicious programs are specifically for PCs that run Windows.

In the past, some spammers had sought out and exploited Internet-connected computers with misconfigured networking software. The most and growing threat is code purposely written to create spam relay proxies as it is spread by malicious viruses.

"It's just going to get worse," said Ken Schneider, chief technology officer at spam-fighting company Brightmail Inc.

"Traditionally, virus writers were driven more by reputation and trying to impress each other. Now there's an economic motive."

Just last week, a proxy program called Mitigueler began installing



David Lawrence shows SpyBot, a program he uses to search for and delete spam on his computer in Tifton, Ga. Lawrence's computer was turned into a 'spam zombie' when a virus infected it in October.



Spammers search for computers infected with viruses which create proxies - or "backdoors" into people's PCs - unknown to those infected users.

Junk mail - from someone you know

Spammers have found a way to fool people into opening e-mails from addresses they think are friendly, but are actually junk mail.



The openings allow spammers to make messages appear as if they are coming from the viral computer, not the spammer.

Proxies often stay open for a few hours and disappear by the time the Internet Service Provider - or ISP - catch on. This makes it very difficult to trace the origin of the message. If one proxy is shut down, spammers can move on to thousands of others that are open. Meanwhile, ISPs must cut off customers to prevent the spread.

SOURCE: Associated Press

itself on computers infected by last month's Mydoom outbreak, said Mikko Hypponen, manager of anti-virus research at F-Secure Corp. in Finland. He said such programs could also sneak in if computer owners fail to install patches to fix known Windows flaws.

The shift in spamming methods even prompted the Federal Trade Commission to issue a consumer alert last month. The advisory encouraged consumers to use anti-virus and firewall programs and to check "sent mail" folders for suspicious messages.

Others say home users should also keep their Windows operating systems up to date by visiting <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>.

"If your computer has been taken over by a spammer, you could face serious problems," the FTC advisory wrote. "Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) may prevent you from sending any

email at all until the virus is treated, and treatment could be a complicated, time-consuming process."

In the early days, spammers sent out junk messages directly from their machines. ISPs easily found them and closed their accounts.

Spammers then looked for so-called open relays.

These are typically mail servers at ISPs, often in Asia or South America, carelessly configured so that anyone on the Internet can send mail through them without needing a password. The relays make messages appear to have come from an ISP, not the spammer.

But ISPs and anti-spam activists soon identified many of the open-relay machines and either pressured their owners to stop or blocked messages from them.

Stymied by a more concerted effort by ISPs to lock down their Internet mail servers, the spam-

mers turned to the less vigorously protected landline machines.

They are abundant and simple to find. Spammers can cover their tracks and become virtually untraceable.

"It pains me to say it, but it's very clever of the spammer to have thought of this, getting legitimate PCs to send spam on their behalf," said Andrew Lochart, director of product marketing at e-mail security company PestPat Inc.

Steve Atkins, chief technology officer at the anti-spam consultancy Word to the Wise LLC, said some ISPs continue to be plagued by open-relay techniques, but spammers generally don't bother with them anymore because it's so much easier to have success with home machines.

Where much of the spam previously flowed through China, South Korea, Brazil and other countries whose ISPs left many relays open, it's now being hastened by a North American trend: more high-speed cable and DSL connections at home.

Such proxies are especially frustrating for ISPs to identify and block, said Mary Youngblood, abuse team manager at EarthLink Inc. She said some stay open only for a few hours and disappear by the time ISPs catch on, while newer ones reconfigure themselves constantly like chameleons on a single machine.

The more-versatile-the-open proxy, the longer it takes to isolate.

John Levine, co-author of "Fighting Spam for Dummies," said the proliferation of proxies could force ISPs to take such measures as limiting how many messages a customer can send in a given time period.

In the meantime, ISPs are often being forced to cut off their own customers.

"As a customer, to have someone just arbitrarily shut me off, that's more than mildly displeasing me," said Walt Wyndroski, network operations manager for CityNet, which had shut down Lawrence. "We try to think from the customer's standpoint, but we also have to look at the larger view of the health of the network itself."

Wallpaper personalizes cell phone backgrounds

By Heather Newman
Knight Ridder News Service

Product review

Custom wallpaper is unrolling on a small screen near you.

It's amazing that it's taken this long, when you think about it. But desktop wallpaper, those customized backgrounds that we tinker with endlessly on our PCs, has made the leap to cellular phones.

Verizon Wireless says wallpaper made up three of its top five downloads other than ring tones in December, despite the fact that most patterns had just become available and weren't heavily advertised. Sprint PCS says wallpaper and screen savers are in the top five most-downloaded items. Most carriers offer a healthy selection of wallpaper or screen savers for downloading onto your phone.

Wallpaper adds an image or slogan to the background of your cell phone screen, papering the usually white area behind the icons, banners, signal strength indicators and other doodads that clutter up the screen.

Verizon offers a collection of different backgrounds for downloading at 99 cents each (the typical starting price for most carriers), including Dilbert and other cartoon characters. My favorite ironic selection: a blue and red circular Dogbert banner that says, in large block letters, "Just Shut Up!"

AT&T Wireless spokesman Rick Ellis points out that nearly every major movie, show or video game tie-in includes wallpaper for wireless phones. Mark Elliott from Sprint says some of its most popular downloaded patterns include movies, TV, cartoons, fraternity and sorority logos, college and sports logos and seasonal themes.

But if you've got a color screen cell phone, you've probably got a few patterns already loaded (read: free) that you just haven't discovered yet. Check in the Settings section for your phone to see whether wallpaper and screen saver selections are available.

You select the wallpaper you want from the previews, and voila - a custom look for your phone's screen.

If you have a camera phone, you can often select the pictures it takes as your wallpaper right from the Settings screen, as Verizon spokeswoman Michelle Gilbert did with her daughter's baby pictures.

If not, you may be able to take advantage of a program that lets you upload your pictures to the Web, then download them to your phone.

I tested MyScenez (www.myscenez.com), which allows you to download three pictures to your phone for \$2.49. Snapfish (www.snapfish.com/infosnapfishmobile) is similar and works with Verizon, AT&T and Cingular Wireless.

I bought three pictures from MyScenez - there's also a subscription price for folks who want pictures on an ongoing basis - directly on my phone by downloading a tiny program.

Then I created an account at the Web site using a code the phone's program gave to me. Uploading a picture was as simple as clicking a Browse button and selecting the photo from a folder on my computer. The site automatically formatted the picture for my phone.

Then I went back to the program on my phone and told it to get the picture, which downloaded immediately. I flipped over to the Settings screen, picked out my new picture and it was done. Now Gilbert isn't the only person with pictures of a small fry on her phone's wallpaper.

Some advice: If you choose your own photos to use as your phone wallpaper, take careful note of where the standard, immovable icons are located on your screen. It's going to take me a couple of tries to get my daughter's face correct for located in the picture so it isn't blocked by the phone's menu.

Japan resurrects digital pets

The Associated Press

March 20, 1980 yen (\$19), and will be introduced overseas this summer.

TOKYO - Japan's popular digital pet from the 1990s is coming back. And this time Tamagotchi will be able to date, fall in love and even have babies.

Launched in 1996 but discontinued in 1998, Tamagotchi was an egg-shaped, pocket-sized gadget with a cartoon pet that appeared on a screen. Owners reared it by punching buttons that would feed the creature, play games with it or groom it. In time, the pet "grew" from an infant into a virtual adulthood, and bolder players could make it live longer.

The new, souped-up Tamagotchi Plus goes on sale in Japan on

It will be able to communicate with other digital pets through infrared signals, and owners can have them compete in eating contests or give flowers and other presents. Tamagotchi Plus is programmed to cultivate, intimacy, moving from friendship to love to marriage. In some cases, a child pops up on the displays.

Masashi Umeda, a spokesman for Bandai Co., the Japanese toy-maker that produces Tamagotchi, acknowledged that matching the device's initial popularity will be a challenge. Forty million Tamagotchis were sold worldwide.

Dropping check puts an end to Money troubles

By James Coates
Knight Ridder News Service

Q: Ever since I opened the Microsoft Money Express personal finance software, it has been automatically running every time I reboot or switch on my computer.

The program is not listed in the Startup folder with the other stuff that runs at boot-up without asking. So where does it come from, and how can I stop it?

A: The trick is to look in the system tray collection of tiny icons in the lower right-hand screen and find the one that looks like a blue circle with a big white M for Money stamped on it. Give this icon a single right-click, and you'll get a little pop-up box with several options, including the one to automatically load the software at boot-up. Just remove the check mark from that option, and the unwanted intrusions will stop.

The latest versions of Money please some customers with this auto-start feature because it allows folks with online banking accounts and stock portfolios to get an instant readout of checking balances and stock values at the start of every session.

Q: I have a problem on my Dell

Computer Q&A

computer that I've never seen discussed in your column. The mouse cursor arrow is "nervous." It will not hold still while moving it. The most frequent problem is during games like Free Cell and Solitaire where we are trying to move cards. Sometimes it has a mind of its own and completely disappears from the screen.

I would guess that it is some virus except for the fact that we have Norton AntiVirus and keep it up to date and also scan the files. It picks up nothing. It is very annoying when it wanders around. Do you have any suggestion on how to fix it?

A: Margaret Hubert We'll assume that your antivirus software does, indeed, make you immune to various programs, including so-called jokeware. Folks sometimes send to other folks these small programs that run in the background and do things like mess up cursors.

That leaves three possible fixes. Ms. H. - mechanical, settings or driver.

Mice based on the traditional rubber ball on the bottom can pick up dirt and grease that blocks the

signals sent to the computer as the rubber moves. You will find a small door on the back that can be opened to look for hairs on the shiny roller bars. Make sure they are clean and wash the ball with mild soapy water and dry it off. It's vented 80 percent of mouse misbehavior stems from dirty innards.

Second, check the mouse settings to make sure they aren't too fast or too sensitive, which also could produce nervous (and often) symptoms: Click on Start and go to Control Panels and open the one for mouse. There you will find a number of settings that might be changed to mend your maladroitness mouse.

The first thing is to change the mouse speed to make it slower.

Next, look for commands to make the mouse disappear while typing, and turn them off. There also are sensitivity settings for the scrolling wheel that should be set to be less precise.

Finally, you might restore the drivers Windows uses for the mouse in the fairly unlikely event this software was corrupted in Windows 98 and ME. Right-click on the My Computer icon and then select Properties and open the Device Manager tab in Windows XP, you first click on the Hardware tab and then find Device Manager.

Now scroll through the list of peripherals you'll be given and pick the mouse. Then select the refresh or restore command in the same display to reload the drivers.

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WORLD

NO STRANGER TO STRUGGLE

Haiti's leader again prepares for battle in face of political siege

By Palsley Dodds
Associated Press writer

He is no stranger to struggle. Jean-Bertrand Aristide was born into poverty, survived several attempts on his life as a priest espousing revolt and was ousted in a coup within months of becoming Haiti's first freely elected leader.

Now, facing an uprising that has killed more than 50 people and destabilized the Caribbean country, the embattled leader refuses to be sidelined a second time.

"I will leave the palace Feb. 7, 2004" — at the end of his term, Aristide, 50, insists.

That kind of resolve has been Aristide's trademark throughout a life scarred early on by violence.

He is most eloquent in the native Creole that he used to inspire Haitians to rise against the 29-year Duvalier family dictatorship. Jean-Claude Duvalier fled the country in 1986, and his regime was replaced by a series of interim leaders.

In 1988, the Salesians disowned Aristide for allegedly fomenting revolution through his fiery church sermons aimed at empowering Haiti's poor masses.

Students led the Salesians that Aristide had asked them to lay their machetes on the altar and to name their enemies, according to the Rev. Edward Capelletti, who was in charge of the office in New



Anti-Aristide protesters march in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Sunday. Defying government loyalists, more than 1,000 protesters demonstrated against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on Sunday.

Rochelle, N.Y., that helped the mission in Haiti.

Aristide's activism made him a target. In 1988, thugs backed by the army stormed Aristide's Saint Jean Bosco church during Mass and shot and hacked to death 12 parishioners, but Aristide escaped. He has also escaped two other assassination attempts.

Despite opposition from the army, business leaders, landowners and the United States, Aristide became Haiti's first freely elected leader in 1990, only to be ousted in a military coup eight months later. After he became president, he was

relieved of his priestly duties and is now married with two children.

In exile in the United States, Aristide successfully campaigned for U.N. sanctions and a military intervention, and defended himself against CIA claims that he was a psychopath unfit to rule Haiti.

Aristide followers also knew he suffered from depression, and loved him the more for that frailty. In 1994, President Bill Clinton sent 20,000 troops to restore him but insisted he respect a constitutional term limit and step down in 1995. Aristide handpicked his successor, Rene Preval, but was considered the power behind the scenes

until he won a second term in 2000, in presidential elections marred by a low turnout and an opposition boycott.

Legislative elections that same year were swept by his Lavalas Family party, but allegations that process was rigged led international donors to suspend hundreds of millions of dollars in aid.

Human rights groups accuse him of using police and armed militants to stifle dissent. Two journalists critical of Aristide have been assassinated, and scores have been wounded or killed during anti-government demonstrations.

Afghan election progress falls behind schedule

KABUL, Afghanistan — Preparations for the country's first direct nationwide election have gotten off to an alarmingly slow start, leading to widespread concern that polls scheduled for late June may have to be seriously delayed.

Nearly two months since voter registration began, less than 10 percent of about 10.5 million eligible voters have signed up, and only 2 percent of eligible women. No political parties have been officially recognized, no electoral law has been amended, and security problems have limited registration to major cities in a country with a 70 percent rural population.

"There is a race between institutionalization and reality," Manoel de Almeida y Silva, the U.N. spokesman, said on Monday. "Everyone is working very hard...to bring about elections as close as possible to the original date, but it has got to move faster."

Nevertheless, both Afghan and American officials here insisted Monday that they are optimistic the elections can be held by June or July.

Chechen president worries about war's missing

GROZNY, Russia — The president of war-shattered Chechnya said Monday that tracing the fate of hundreds of missing people was a top concern, but he skirted allegations that a militia under his son's command was behind many of the disappearances.

Since the 1999 start of the second Chechen war in a decade, reports of disappearances have been widespread, with blame fixed variously on the republic's separatist rebels and the Russian soldiers fighting them.

Especially feared are so-called "mopping-up operations," in which young men suspected of rebel connections are picked up by soldiers, never to be heard from again, locals and human rights groups say.

World in brief

from again, locals and human rights groups say.

And since the rise of president Akhmad Kadyrov, who took power in a Kremlin-backed October election, reports have spread of young men vanishing at the hands of a force run by his son, Ramzan.

Guyana's prime minister calls for investigation

GEORGETOWN, Guyana —

He added that such a commission should offer pardons and amnesty for those who provide evidence to investigators.

Policies, under the Home Affairs Ministry, currently are investigating the claims.

But critics say the probe is not credible because Home Affairs Minister Ronald Gajraj has been accused of leading an extra-judicial hit squad to battle a surge in violent crime in the South American country of 700,000 residents.

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— compiled from wire reports

Frankfurt airport begins using scan for immigration

BERLIN (AP) — Travelers at Frankfurt airport, continental Europe's busiest, can now enter Germany with a three-second scan of their eyes, providing their sign up for a test project for iris recognition technology.

Passengers in the six-month program still go through regular security controls, but can bypass conventional "passport" checks. They can simply put their passport through a scanner, take a quick look at a camera and a few seconds later enter the country, airport officials said.

To qualify, passengers would need background checks by German border police, a machine-readable passport, be citizens of the European Union or Switzerland, register at the airport and have an iris scan on file. The test is part of efforts in many countries, especially the

United States in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, to extend the use of biometric technology — using fingerprint, eye or facial recognition scans — to track travelers and immigrants, while also cutting down on time spent in line.

"Iris recognition is at this time the most secure biometric," Interior Minister Otto Schily, Germany's top security official, said in launching the test last week. "That's why we chose it for the Frankfurt airport pilot project." Biometric Systems, of Mitterfelten, Germany, and Tokyo-based Oki Electric Industry are providing the service through contractor Bosch Security Systems. They hope to have full-scale service in place after a six-month test. Germany passed laws after Sept. 11 attacks that provide for biometric features to be added to passports and personal identity papers.

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9:30-11:30
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Budding 2:45-5:15
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Returns of the King 10:15-11:30
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Ted Hamilton 12:45-3:15
Corky the Kid 7:15-9:45
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FREE English Setter Red Heeler cross puppies. \$100. Call 208-326-6519 leave a message if no answer.

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LITINO INDIAN BING NECK PARAKEET with large cage & accessories. \$70. 731-8890 msg.

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