

The Times

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Thursday, February 19, 2004

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Some clearing today and tonight, high 40, low 23.
Page A2

CENTENNIAL



Meals and memories: Families share Magic Valley's heritage recipes.
Page C8

MONEY

High-tech toys: Manufacturers unveil games and gadgets that interact with TV.
Page C5

OUTDOORS



Southern comfort: The South Hills offer local snowmobilers a local wonderland.
Page D1

SPORTS

Strong start: Four out of five area teams won at the State 1A girls basketball tourney.
Page B1

OPINION

State unity: Idaho needs to keep working with other states in high-level waste showdown, today's editorial says.
Page A6

COMING UP

Gibson's 'Passion'

'The Passion of Jesus Christ' stirs strong emotions.
Friday
The Times-News

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Water plan draws interest

Counties support proposal to recharge aquifer with canal diversions, but cost could interfere

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Regional efforts to raise the water table north of the Snake River would benefit the valley's economy but also would cost money.
Some of that money might come from Magic Valley residents. How such fees would be assessed hasn't been determined, however.

Officials from area counties indicated Wednesday they support efforts to stabilize the declining groundwater table north of the Snake River to sustain the regional water supply. Without the water, regional growth will be limited or even curtailed.
"What we are saying here is that we have fully developed our water resources," said Bob Muffley, executive director of the

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission.
The commission, a multicounty board focused on local water supply and water quality issues, invited county commissioners to its meeting Wednesday. The tone was serious as the region faces critical water shortages and even potential well shutdowns if a dispute between spring users and groundwater users eludes resolution.

Changes in irrigation practices, development of groundwater and drought have contributed to the aquifer's decline.
"Aquifer recharge" is the plan for consideration — raising the water table by channeling more water through canals and to targeted areas to allow seepage to reach the aquifer.
"This is an enormous undertaking," said David Blew, aquifer

recharge manager with the Idaho Department of Water Resources.
The proposed scale of recharge could grow to as much as an average of 350,000 acre feet of water during years when there is lots of water to rent. That equals enough water to cover nearly 350 square miles with water a foot deep. Based on historical water starts.
Please see WATER, Page A2

CSI FOUNDATION TURNS 20

Two decades of giving have benefited countless students

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Velva Lee Sherman enjoyed working at Clear Springs Foods in Buhl about two years ago, but she wasn't sure that she wanted to be transferred to do evisceration — the technical term for gutting fish.

Sherman, 54, from the Buhl area, was already taking a class at the College of Southern Idaho to prepare to learn how to use Microsoft Excel, so she decided to go full time and pursue an electronic office specialist certificate.

"I could have a chance to do something I liked to do," Sherman said.

With scholarships and encouragement from professors, she's almost ready to graduate with a major in accounting and bookkeeping.

Sherman was a stay-at-home parent for many years before she reentered the work force with the help of the college's Center for New Directions.

Mary Jo Benoit, CSI's scholarship coordinator, helped her get a second-round \$200 scholarship since she started looking after the application deadline.

"At the time, I was ready to kiss her feet," Sherman said.

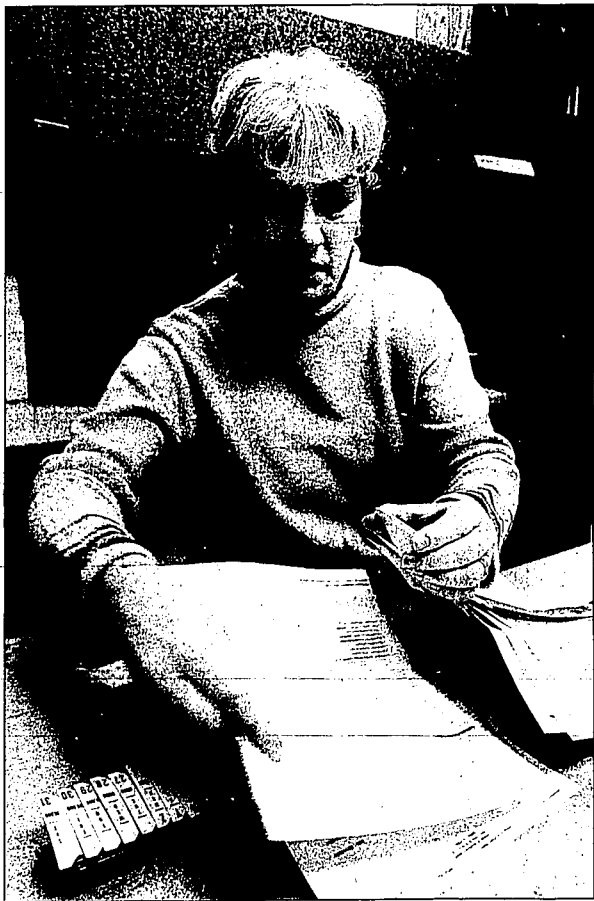
The next year she received a scholarship that covers almost all of her expenses as a full-time student.

CSI's tuition and fees are \$825 a semester for local students taking a full-time load of 10 to 20 credits, but for some potential students that is too much. Sherman is just one of many students who benefit from the efforts of the CSI Foundation, which raises money for scholarships and other projects the college needs, including new
Please see CSI, Page A2

A foundation celebration

CSI will celebrate its foundation's 20th anniversary at 4 p.m. today in the new student union. There will be welcoming remarks by former foundation president Lee Wagner. Music will be provided by the CSI Jazz Ensemble and cake. The event is open to the public.

More Inside
For a look at the numbers, please see page A2



Velva Lee Sherman, an accounting and bookkeeping major at the College of Southern Idaho, sorts papers during her work-study job at the college Wednesday. Sherman's education is made possible through the support of the college foundation.

Dean ends run at presidency

But he still could play a role at the convention

By Thomas Fitzgerald
Knight Ridder News Service

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Howard Dean, who just six weeks ago seemed to have the Democratic presidential nomination in his grasp, dropped out of the race Wednesday, declaring that he would convert his Internet-built campaign into a permanent movement to "take back our country for ordinary Americans."

As a candidate, Dean lost 17 straight primaries and caucuses over the past four weeks after leading in the polls for much of last year and in early January. "I am no longer actively pursuing the presidency," he led 250 hushed supporters in a hotel ballroom.
Please see DEAN, Page A3



Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean and his wife, Judy, thank his supporters Wednesday in Burlington, Vt., after Dean announced he was ending his campaign for the Democratic nomination for president.

Study: Idaho rates about average on property taxes

The Associated Press

BOISE — Idaho's system of taxing homes, business buildings and other real estate is not nearly as onerous as other states, a panel told the House Revenue and Tax Committee on Wednesday.

The Property Tax Task Force released its findings in a 15-page report. The committee was led by Boise State Political Science professor Jim Weatherly, and included members who are lawmakers, lobbyists, state employees and several county assessors.

"The heart of this is that in comparison to 18 states and two Canadian provinces, we were below average when it comes to property taxes," Weatherly said.

Additionally, the report said, the growth of property taxes in Idaho has been slower than in other states. The report also found that Idaho distributes less property tax

revenue to schools and other taxing districts than in other states, while more goes to county and city government.

Property tax in Idaho accounts for 26 percent of the total state and local government tax burden, including sales and individual and corporate income tax.

Republican Rep. Lenore Barrett of Challis, one of the Legislature's most fervent tax opponents, was still not satisfied with Idaho's position at 14th out of 18 states and two provinces. "I guess it's OK to be in the middle, but I'd rather be closer to the bottom," Barrett said.

Funding schools — C1



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. High 40. Tonight: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. Low 23. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. High 40.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

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

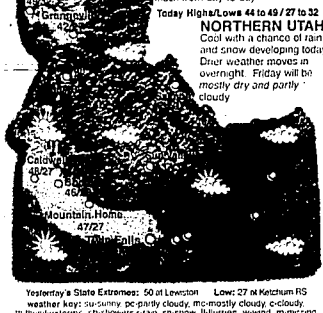
BURLEY/UPPER FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. High 40. Tonight: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. Low 23. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with showers and snow showers. High 40.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Cloudy with a slight chance of snow developing early today. Drier conditions moving in overnight. Hazy dry and partly cloudy early Friday.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 50 at Lewiston, Low 27 at Ketchikan RS.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes moon phases and sunrise/sunset times.

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table showing moonrise and moonset times for today, Friday, and Saturday.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists weather forecasts for various international cities.

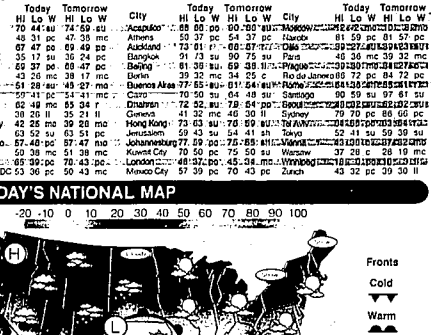
REGIONAL FORECAST

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

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Saturday. Lists weather forecasts for national cities like Denver, Chicago, and New York.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Advertisement for 'Comunidad' newspaper, featuring contact information and a phone number.

Advertisement for 'CANADIAN FORECAST' with a table of weather data for Canadian cities.

Advertisement for 'Army charges Guardsman in terror case' with details of the incident.

CSI

Continued from A1. buildings. The foundation is in its 20th year of helping the college. It was founded in 1984 by Miriam Breckenridge...

College of Southern Idaho Foundation numbers:

Table with 3 columns: Core assets, Scholarships, Amount, Number. Lists financial data for the foundation.

Herritt Center and the new student union

The college's core assets are invested in stocks by two management firms. In the future, Eaton hopes the foundation can contribute to the proposed higher education center...

Water

Continued from A1. tics, that much water has been available five out of every 10 years. An expensive effort. Many obstacles stand in the way...

Counties back the plan

The Mid-Snake Commission has been laying the groundwork for regional aquifer recharge for several years. It wanted to know Wednesday if counties would support the plan...

Army charges Guardsman in terror case

FORT LEWIS, Wash. (AP) - A National Guardsman attempted to provide the al-Qaida terrorist network with information about U.S. troop strength and tactics...

Bridge

Continued from A1. deep snow and soggy conditions of recent weeks have made those folks even more isolated because of bad conditions on the alternative roads.

The rescue

The repairs can't come too soon for Hornell and the other surfers. The repairs are being completed by her uncle in the snow.

Advertisement for 'Circulation' with contact information for Daniel Walock.

Advertisement for 'Mail information' with contact information for The Times-News.

Large advertisement for 'The Times-News NEW Information Line' featuring phone number 735-3350 and services like Ski, Lottery and Weather information.

Advertisement for 'IDAHO LOTTERY' with details about Wednesday drawings.

Advertisement for 'CORRECTION' with details about legislative listings.

Advertisement for 'Times-News telephone directory' listing various services and contact numbers.

Advertisement for 'Legislative listings need to be run again' with details about the publication's commitment to accuracy.

Bush retreats on jobs prediction

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush distanced himself Wednesday from White House predictions that the economy will add 2.6 million jobs this year, the second embarrassing economic retreat in a week and new fuel for Democratic criticism.



President Bush

"Now they're already walking backwards on their own predictions," Democratic presidential front-runner John Kerry said in Ohio, where unemployment has risen from 3.9 percent to 6 percent since Bush took office.

The jobs controversy came on the heels of White House economist N. Gregory Mankiw's assertion that "outsourcing" American

jobs overseas was good for the U.S. economy in the long run. Bush, House Speaker Dennis Hastert and other Republicans quickly disavowed Mankiw's remarks, and the economist had to apologize for a "lack of clarity."

Jobs are a sensitive political issue for Bush as he fights to keep his own job in a second term. The economy has lost 2.2 million payroll jobs since Bush took office,

the worst job-creation record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

The forecast of 2.6 million new jobs was contained in the annual Economic Report of the President, a 412-page volume of charts, graphs and text that predicted a bright economic future. The forecast came under special scrutiny after Treasury Secretary John Snow and Commerce Secretary Don Evans refused to repeat the optimistic prediction as they toured Washington and Oregon to promote the president's economic programs.

Bush himself avoided embracing the 2.6 million number when

asked about it Wednesday. "I think the economy is growing," Bush said. "And I think it's going to get stronger."

Democrats jumped on the White House retreat. "This administration is floundering on the most basic concern of most Americans — jobs," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass. "When two key architects of the president's economic policy won't even back up the White House's own projections, it raises serious questions about their credibility. This is nothing less than a candid admission by the Bush administration that its economic program fails to create jobs."

S.F.'s gay marriages trouble president

On the issues

How, if at all, should the federal government support the institution of marriage?

Sen. John Edwards
"We need to support millions of married couples who are struggling every day. For example, while we have gone a long way toward eliminating the marriage penalty in our tax code for middle-class families, those who are poor can lose thousands in tax credits when they marry. That's wrong."

Sen. John Kerry
"I will support families by protecting the increases in the child tax credit and the reduced marriage penalty. I will help families make ends meet by offering new tax credits to make health care, child care and after-school programs more affordable."

Rep. Dennis Kucinich
"Tax breaks for the wealthy have undermined social services at the state level, services that prop up economically weakened families. As president, I will put a stop to the hemorrhaging of jobs overseas. I will enhance Medicare for all into place. I will reverse the tax cuts for the wealthy and stop the privatization of Social Security."

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Wednesday that he was troubled by the issuance of marriage licenses to gay couples in San Francisco. But he again stepped short of endorsing a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

Bush plans to make such an endorsement, but the announcement's timing is being debated in the White House. Bush said during a brief question-and-answer session in the Oval Office that he has "watched carefully what's happened in San Francisco, where licenses were being issued even though the law states otherwise." More than 2,600 marriage licenses have been issued to same-sex couples since Thursday.

"Obviously, these events are influencing my decision," the president said. "I'm troubled by what I've seen. People need to be involved with this decision. Marriage ought to be defined by the people, not by the courts."

Earlier, Bush held an off-the-record meeting with 13 conservative Roman Catholic leaders and commentators.

Bush told GOP lawmakers last month that if he determined an amendment was necessary, he would support the Federal Marriage Amendment introduced by Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Colo. But some administration officials fret that this wording is ambiguous, and they cannot be sure what its effect would be.

Officials of several Christian conservative groups said White House aides assured them Bush would veto any amendment. Some of the officials are expressing increasing impatience with the delay.

Gore replaces Edwards in Idaho

BOISE (AP) — Former Vice President Al Gore will stand in for presidential contender Sen. John Edwards this Saturday at the state party's annual banquet, party organizers said late Wednesday.

But there is still a chance that Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, may also be able to attend the Boise event, Idaho Democratic Party Director Maria Weeg said.

Democrats announced earlier in the day that Edwards had to cancel his appearance so he could ramp up his campaign in Midwest and Eastern states.

Report: U.N. chief will support U.S. Iraq plan

The Washington Post

UNITED NATIONS — U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan will endorse the U.S. position that direct elections cannot be held in Iraq before the United States hands over political power to Iraqis on June 30, senior U.N. officials said Wednesday.

But Annan, scheduled to brief the Security Council and other U.N. members Thursday, will delay for at least another week his recommendations on the sensitive question of how to choose a provisional government, officials said. Annan's decision was a major boost for the Bush administration, which has struggled to address the demand of Iraq's leading cleric that direct elections be used to select an interim government, rather than the complex system of regional caucuses that the U.S.

Attacks kill 10 — A4

United States had proposed. The United States and Washington had turned to the U.N. United Nations to adjudicate the issue.

The U.N. move paves the way for a new U.S.-U.N. collaboration on an alternative transition plan that will allow the U.S. United States to end its formal occupation by June 30.

The Bush administration and Annan now have to tackle the difficult issue of how to choose an interim government.

Among the ideas under consideration, a U.N. official said, is organizing a national conference of tribal, political and religious leaders that reflects Iraq's disparate population to select a provisional government—similar to the Afghanistan's *loyajura*.

Politics' role in administration's science policy worries scientists

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — A group of more than 60 top U.S. scientists, including 20 Nobel laureates and several science advisers to past Republican presidents, on Wednesday accused the Bush administration of manipulating and censoring science for political purposes.

In a 46-page report and an open letter, the scientists accused the administration of "suppressing, distorting or manipulating the work done by scientists at federal agencies" in several cases. The Union of Concerned Scientists, a liberal advocacy group based in Cambridge, Mass., organized the effort, but many of the critics aren't associated with it.

White House Science Advisor

John Marburger III called the charges "like a conspiracy theory report, and I just don't buy that." But he added that "given the prestige of some of the individuals who have signed on to this, I think they deserve additional response and we're coordinating something."

The protesting scientists welcomed his response.

"If an administration of whatever political persuasion ignores scientific reality, they do so at great risk to the country," said Stanford University physicist W.H.K. Panofsky, who served on scientific advisory councils — in — the Eisenhower, Johnson and Carter administrations. "There is no clear understanding in the (Bush) administration that you cannot bend science and technology to policy."

Gay rights information disappears from federal worker Internet site

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A newly arrived Republican appointee has pulled references to sexual orientation discrimination off an agency Internet site where government employees can learn about their rights in the workplace.

Scott Bloch, head of the Office of Special Counsel, an independent agency whose mission is to protect whistleblowers and other federal employees from retribution, said he ordered the material removed because of uncertainty over whether a provision of civil service law applies to federal workers who claim unfair treatment because of their sexual orientation.

At issue is the meaning of a few lines of a civil service law that bans discrimination against employees and job applicants "on the basis of conduct which does not adversely affect the performance of the employee or applicant."

Bloch, who assumed office last month following Senate confirmation and counsel to the Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Justice Department. He was a partner in a law firm, spe-

cializing in civil rights and employment law, and has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Kansas School of Law.

The Human Rights Campaign, which lobbies Congress on gay rights, and Federal GLOBE, an umbrella organization for gay and bisexual employee support groups in agencies, faulted Bloch's decision to remove material from the Web site.

Nifty Lifty Look
Who's 50!
Shirley Novak Anderson

Edwards turns focus to Kerry

By Ron Fournier
Associated Press writer.

Their rivalry engaged, Democratic presidential contenders John Kerry and John Edwards unveiled distinctive strategies Wednesday for a 10-state showdown March 2. The challenger will attack Kerry's "freezing" policies and special interest ties, targeting Ohio, New York and Georgia with television ads.

The front-runner will battle Edwards on one front and President Bush on another, advertising in general-election battleground states while counting on arcane Democratic Party rules to protect his lead in nomination delegates.

"Every race is going to be contested. Every race," Kerry said in

Ohio, the focal point of his plans to beat Edwards in March and Bush in November. "We're fighting for every vote."

The rhetoric reflected a get-tough attitude in Kerry's camp, victorious in the Wisconsin primary Tuesday but nonetheless stung by Edwards' closer-than-expected second-place finish.

Kerry, winner in 15 of 17 can tests and still the undisputed front-runner, failed to push his chief rival from the race. He settled for the departure of Howard Dean, the former Vermont governor, who quit Wednesday after failing to win a single contest.

The Democratic race makes a pit stop next week in Hawaii, Idaho and Utah — where just 61 delegates are at stake — before turning to March 2 and the motherlode of 1,151 delegates, more

than half the total needed to claim the nomination.

In Wisconsin, Edwards' debate performance Sunday and his criticism of Kerry's free-trade policies fueled his 11th-hour upswing. The first-term senator assailed Kerry's 1993 vote for the North American Free Trade Agreement and also aired an ad condemning the treaty, without mentioning Kerry's name.

Kerry also took a hit from Bush's re-election team. He punched back on Edwards' trade criticisms Wednesday after allowing them to go unanswered in Wisconsin.

"He wasn't in the Senate back then," Kerry said in Ohio, coolly alluding to Edwards' relative lack of experience. "I don't know where he registered his vote, but it wasn't in the Senate."

Dean

Continued from A1

But Dean suggested he still would like to win votes and accumulate delegates in the coming primaries in order to have a voice in the party's selection. Noting that his name will remain on primary ballots, he urged backers to "participate" in the rest of the nomination process.

"Use your network to send progressive delegates to the convention in Boston," he said. "We are not going away."

On the other hand, Dean said he wouldn't offer a third-party bid for the White House and urged his followers not to be "tempted" into supporting an independent candidate. "The bottom line is we must beat George Bush," he said.

Dean has won 202 delegates so far. The 104 who were chosen in primaries or caucuses are pledged to vote for him on the first ballot in

Boston, but the 98 who are "super-delegates" — party leaders and elected officials who had only to declare that they would support Dean — are free to change their allegiance at any time.

In bowing out, Dean sought to frame his campaign's accomplishments for posterity. He said his message — confronting President Bush — had emboldened the other Democrats to assail the "special interests" in Washington.

Aides said Dean had no immediate plans to endorse another candidate, though he has had kind words recently for Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, and the two have talked since Sunday.

In the audience, staffers and supporters wept openly Wednesday and hugged one another, as a two-year enterprise that took off and rose to the top rapidly, then crashed to earth just

as fast, came to an end.

"It will be good to have an outlet for the grassroots support we've built up," said Marc Chadwick, a computer-systems technician for the Dean campaign who wants to stay and work for the new organization. "We've energized a lot of people."

Near the middle of Dean's speech, a woman shouted, "We believe in you, Howard!"

He paused, looked up from the podium and said, "Believe in yourself."

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NATION/WORLD

Reformer criticizes Islamic control

Lawmaker warns against demonstrations

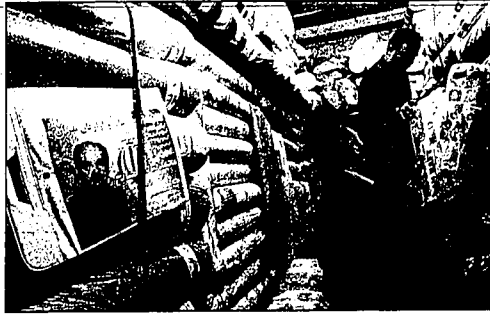
TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The leader of Iran's ruling clerics must be made more accountable to reform demands and should shed some powers to break a "vicious circle" of control, the most prominent dissident lawmaker and brother of the country's president said Wednesday.

But Mohammad Reza Khatami — deputy parliament speaker and among more than 2,400 candidates blacklisted from Friday's elections — warned against public demonstrations to demand change, saying Iranians have no appetite for another revolution.

In an interview with The Associated Press, he offered glimpses of a high-stakes gambit trying to pressure Iran's supreme leader and the Islamic power base that controls everything from foreign policy to the media. "They have no accountability to any part of the government and to the people ... We have a vicious circle here," Khatami said during the interview in the headquarters of his party, the Islamic Participation Front.

The strategy of directly challenging supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei could win applause from many Iranians frustrated by stalled efforts for more political and social openness.

But it carries clear risks. The



Candidate Mohammad Sadegh Mahayekhi's pamphlet for Iran's Parliamentary elections hangs at a textile shop at the Bazaar Wednesday in Tehran, two days before the elections.

Islamic leadership has come down hard in the past on those perceived as threats to the system.

On Tuesday, Khatami and other pro-reform lawmakers made public a letter sent to Khamenei accusing him of allowing freedoms to be "trampled in the name of Islam."

The letter served as a parting salvo by banned reform candidates calling the elections a "parliamentary coup" and urging for a voter boycott. It also was a taboo-breaking missive against the country's top religious and political authority — whose supporters say holds divine right to rule.

Khatami said Khamenei should dismantle some of his power structure to allow elected officials room to make key decisions.

"They know what the people want and, because of this, I think they should respond to this will of the people ... even if they don't like it," said Khatami, whose brother, President Mohammad Khatami, has greatly lost his appeal after backing down in attempts to postpone the elections.

He added that reformers want to reach a point "for people to believe they could change the leader."

It would be a huge challenge. Khamenei and his inner circle have vast and powerful resources, including militia forces and the judiciary. In recent years, conservatives have detained or intimidated hundreds of reformers and muzzled dozens of publications. The rulers' almost unlimited

power has become a crucial issue in the battle over the elections.

The Guardian Council, a 12-member panel appointed by Khamenei, issued the mass disqualifications through its powers to vet political candidates. The blacklist means that the 290-seat parliament will likely return to the control of hardliners.

But a sharp drop in voter turnout — particularly in the cities — would be interpreted as convincing public backing for liberals.

Khatami hoped for less than 25 percent turnout in the capital, Tehran, and anticipated 40 percent to 50 percent nationwide. In 2000, parliament elections drew more than 67 percent of voters around Iran and nearly 47 percent in Tehran.



Wissam Ali, right, 7, and his sister Ozek, 6 months, are treated at a hospital Wednesday in Hillah, Iraq, after they were injured when two explosives-laden trucks were detonated outside a Polish military camp in Hillah, south of Baghdad. The two children survived but both their parents were killed in the blast.

Suicide-bomb attacks kill 10, wound 100 at Iraq base

HILLAH, Iraq (AP) — Suicide bombers detonated explosives outside a Polish-run base Wednesday, killing 10 Iraqis and wounding more than 100 people, more than half of them coalition soldiers.

The attack in Hillah, the third suicide bombing of security targets in two weeks, was part of a wider effort "to isolate us from the Iraqi people," coalition military commander Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez told reporters in Tikrit.

Coalition and military officials said at least 106 people were hurt in the blasts, which happened in the Hayy Babil neighborhood near Camp Charlie. The wounded included 32 Iraqis and 26 Poles, as well as Hungarians, Bulgarians, Filipinos and an American.

The casualty toll could have been much higher had guards not opened fire and prevented the bombers from entering the camp. One truck exploded under the gun-

fire and another blew up after hitting a concrete barrier.

The 7:15 a.m. blasts — from 1,540 pounds of explosives — flattened 11 homes nearby and blew down the entire sides of several other houses in this town south of Baghdad.

Mohyee Mokheef, a 50-year-old cafe owner who lives in the neighborhood, said he was having breakfast when he heard a faint first explosion and a second, louder one that shattered the windows in his home. He blamed al-Qaida and an Iraq-based group linked to it, Ansar al-Islam.

"I saw dead and injured Iraqis lying on the ground," he told The Associated Press. "I suspect that Ansar al-Islam and al-Qaida were behind these operations because they want to create strife between Sunnis and Shiites and between the Shiites and Americans. They want to derail the elections process."

U.S. troops catch terror suspects

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. troops captured seven suspected militants believed linked to al-Qaida in a raid Wednesday in the central Iraqi city of Baquba, the military said.

Troops from the 4th Infantry Division carried out the raid targeting an "anti-coalition cell" that may have ties to Osama bin

Laden's terror group, a statement from U.S. command said.

Seven suspects specifically targeted in the raid and 15 other people were detained, the statement said.

Baquba is in the so-called "Sunni Triangle," north and west of Baghdad, the headland of anti-U.S. violence in Iraq.

Train explodes in Iran killing at least 200

NEYSHABUR, Iran (AP) — Runaway train cars carrying a lethal mix of fuel and chemicals derailed, caught fire and then exploded hours later Wednesday in northeast Iran, killing more than 200 people, injuring at least 400 and leaving dozens trapped beneath crumpled metal homes.

Most of those reported dead were firefighters and rescue workers who had extinguished most of the blaze outside Neyshabur, an ancient city of 170,000 people in a farming region 400 miles east of the capital, Tehran.

The dead also included top city officials — including Neyshabur's governor, mayor and fire chief as

well as the head of the energy department and the director-general of the provincial railways — who had all gone to the site of the derailment, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The explosion devastated five villages, where authorities rushed in blood supplies and appealed through loudspeakers for donors. Hardest hit was Hashemabad, where 41-year-old Zahra Rezaie, whose mud home was near the tracks, was cooking lunch for her family when she heard the explosion and felt the ground shake. Then the ceiling collapsed.

"It knocked down and broke some dishes. I was sure it was an



SOURCE: Associated Press

U.S. asked to counter drugs

WASHINGTON — Antonio Maria Costa, director of the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, met with U.S. officials this week, seeking action to counter increased opium poppy production in Afghanistan.

Costa told Pentagon and State Department officials that the activity is linked to international smuggling organizations and has increased since U.S.-led forces ousted the Taliban in 2002. He proposed creating counter-narcotics units within provincial reconstruction teams in Afghanistan.

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		LH150AED	150W 18.48	LH175A0G	175W 20.24
		LH200AED	200W 18.58	AH250AED	250W 20.24
		LH250AED	250W 18.58	MH400AED	400W 20.24
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Five-year-olds should't walk home alone

ACROSS

- Personnel
- School org.
- Rim entrapment
- Solo's princess
- Singer Guthrie
- ... cousin
- Carier's middle name
- Tykes
- Colorado resort
- Elite invites
- Affectionate offering
- Cesar's eggs
- ... affectionate
- ... offering
- Black-and-white auk's name
- Elite invites
- Contest
- Author Fleming's
- Temporary currency
- Sis counterpart
- Somali hub
- ... of State Powell
- BLT part
- ... Company
- Prime
- Bird's
- ... company
- Abdul Aziz
- Said
- ... of location
- "Jurassic Park" star Sam
- Olympic runner
- Zinepek
- ... company
- Banks or Kovacs
- ... garage
- Copenhagen native
- Fine hours
- ... of Getz
- Wine minerals

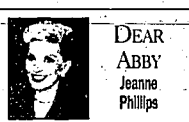
DOWN

- Staff symbol
- Pump
- St. Patrick's land
- Fruitcake
- ... of pity
- Fidelity
- Sax for Bird
- Cub Sammy
- Lunar features
- Alamos or
- Gatos lead-in location
- Out of the question
- Intate
- Sub detector
- Voucher
- ... of
- J.J. Forshing's troops
- House servant
- Agant 66's partner
- Nitardo's hero
- Pub. service
- Dundee man
- Buffalo's lake
- Adams and Cornelius
- Bumps off
- Instant lawn
- Sent a cyber-message
- Elogium
- ... of home?
- Cookware
- ... coating
- Dancer Gregory
- Critic Roger
- Behold!
- Favor
- Give off
- Angus of Bosc
- Actress Russo
- Cebasar's unlikely day
- Whepper

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

S	O	F	A	S	P	A	R	O	E	M	U	R
C	L	A	N	H	A	T	E	L	O	P	E	
A	L	I	T	E	R	O	I	S	V	I	O	
B	E	L	I	T	E	A	M	E	R	I	C	A
T	E	N	S	A	R	I	C	T	A	C	T	
A	L	O	H	A	T	E	R	E	S	A		
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M	E	T	E	S	E	N	L	L	I	N	E	N
S	C	E	N	T	S	E	N	T	S			
D	A	T	S	E	E	N	T	O	P			
P	O	L	A	R	D	E	R	E	M	O	T	
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P	E	A	C	E	T	I	N	A	I	N	E	
A	S	K	E	D	S	A	G	A	K	E	R	

DEAR ABBY: When my husband or I pick up our 7-year-old daughter at school — seven blocks from our home — we often see two 5-year-old girls who attend the same school. They walk the whole way home by themselves and pass our block every day. There are major intersections they must cross to get home. My daughter tells me that sometimes they don't look before stepping into the street. At one intersection, the light changes before you can reach the other sidewalk, and even I have to run before the traffic starts moving.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I am afraid for these children. Other parents have mentioned seeing them navigating the streets alone. To me, that means there could be a predator watching. On the days that my husband or I walk, we wouldn't mind inviting these little ones to walk with us. I want to give their guardians a note

saying so, but the girls were probably told not to talk to strangers. I don't want a predator to see me talking to the children and realize there is no one protecting them. Please tell me what I should do.

—AFRAID FOR THE CHILDREN

the problem, report it to the police. It is child endangerment.

DEAR ABBY: Last February, my husband suffered an anoxic brain injury — lack of oxygen to the brain. Needless to say, he is no longer the man he was.

Our friends have all disappeared. They tell me it's hard for them to see him like this. How do they think I feel?

Am I wrong to feel hurt? I don't understand why they can't even call. Talking has always been an outlet for me, but no one ever calls me anymore. No one knows how someone else feels until they've been there, but what happened to, "I'll be there for you," or "Call if you need me?" I wouldn't ask them for anything but conversation.

Is it normal for people to avoid friends when they are in trouble or pain?

—FRIENDLESS IN GEORGIA

DEAR — FRIENDLESS: It's human; it's common — but it's cowardly. You have my sympathy, but it's time you stopped waiting for calls that never come and do something on your own behalf. Rather than dwelling on how these supposed "friends" have let you down, your time would be better spent with a caregiver support group.

You'll find you have much in common. Locate one by calling the National Family Caregivers Association, toll-free, at (800) 896-3650, or visiting the Web site at www.nfacare.org.

There is also an organization called Faith in Action that offers respite care to caregivers like yourself. The toll-free number is (877) 324-8411. Adult day care for your husband could give you some much-needed time to rest and rejuvenate. Please consider it.

Aries — use caution when money's involved

IF FEBRUARY 19 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY — you are a magnet and attract some of the most unusual people into your life who may enlighten as well as excite you. Life is an exciting merry-go-round right now. Set the best and highest objectives, so that when you finally get off the carousel, the grass beneath your feet will be green and lush. You will be off to more serious and calm pursuits soon.

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

are feeling pretty frisky as the new cycle is about to begin, even though it might be one where everything goes your way. You are someone who embraces change and finds it exciting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You could be torn between what you must do at home and what is demanded of you in public. Keep a low profile and achieve a compromise for the moment to prevent not-so-friendly encounters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your keyword is "communication," and you should strive to make known your thoughts and ideas. Becoming obsessed by anyone, however, may lead to strong feelings that might spoil the peace and tranquility.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Avoid power struggles today, and try to remain neutral in the face of conflict. It is a good time to express yourself in public or at home. Tackle problems with objectivity and a lack of attachment to the outcome if you want to succeed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It is easy for you to become enthralled with innovative solutions that surround you today, but your

offhand good humor may offend someone close. Don't fight over the toys with your best friend or serious warfare could erupt.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your brilliant ideas could receive applause, especially if you start something today. Just being popular isn't always the key, however, money is often the measure of success, and this is not a good day to risk it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You might find your goals at odds with those of another. Tiptoe around certain land mines by remaining sensitive to the feelings of others. It is a great day for success in public sectors, but money may not flow easily.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Maintaining a neutral attitude will be most helpful today as some intense situations occur on the home front. One cycle ends and a new one begins this weekend — and the power will be in your hands.

Go crazy for Sassafras tea

Sassafras tea was about as popular in the England of 1586 as espresso is around here now. Sassafras stands cropped up all over London. Sir Francis Drake had brought in a shipload of sassafras roots, the first big export from North America to Europe. Turned into a craze. However, somebody whispered that the Indians drank sassafras broth to treat syphilis. That killed it. The stands closed down.



REVISITED
L.M. Boyd

authority says the owl and the eagle probably never see each other in flight.

In 27 states there are places you can stand so it's noon where your right foot is and 11 a.m. where your left foot is.

One family member is always better than any other at keeping secrets. You said there's a clue to which one. What's the clue?

A. Those who tell you the least about themselves are those best able to keep secrets about others.

Most striptease dancers were first-born children.

Court cases show a parent of several children may abuse one child only, but never the others. This torturous targeting makes a tale as old as Cinderella. But psychologists say they still haven't got a perfect handle on it. It's invariably too complicated.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): A project started today involving entertainment or inspiring innovation will be a very popular venture — but it might require big money. There are still some discordant elements that warn against taking risks with finances.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): You do not like change, but remember, when the winds blow hard, the tree that doesn't break is the one that bends. You need to tread carefully over sticky financial matters today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You

may lead to disappointment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): By being yourself, you may be able to take advantage of warring factions to land on top. You have an urge to party, but following frivolous desires may lead to disappointment.

Win a Pick Up Truck & Horse Trailer on March 19



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Whether you're an experienced rider or an urban cowboy, you'll want to register for a chance to win a 2004 Dodge Ram Quad Cab 4x4 and three-horse Monarch Gooseneck trailer at Fort Hall Casino on Friday, March 19. Receive one free entry to win when you register for the giveaway at the Player's Club booth. Earn additional entries when you play our gaming machines using your Player's Club card. The more you play, the more entries you earn, and the more chances you have to win. Ten entries will be picked daily and entered into a drawing barrel. Only those names in the barrel will be eligible to win the pick up and trailer at midnight on Friday, March 19. The winner may choose a cash payout instead of the pick up and trailer. You must be present to win. Visit the Player's Club booth to become a Player's Club member and for complete promotion details.



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EDITORIAL

Winnmill's ruling still aids Idaho's cause on waste

The high-stakes chess match over radioactive waste disposal in Idaho and other states is about to take another political turn. It appears that the Department of Energy is pushing out its rooks with another attempt to reclassify high-level radioactive waste.

The federal government, however, doesn't yet have the full advantage. Idaho and the other states still need to get together in forcing the federal agency to remove the waste.

Our view: Idaho and other states should keep working together in their fight to remove high-level radioactive waste.

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

Watchdog groups recently announced that the governors of Idaho, Oregon, Washington and South Carolina have started private talks with the Department of Energy on possible changes to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. The federal agency has been relentlessly pushed to change that law, in order to do cleanup on cheaper and faster pace.

Last summer, U.S. District Judge Lynn Winnmill ruled the Energy Department could not reclassify approximately 100 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste stored in Idaho, South Carolina and Washington. The agency argued that by flushing high-level waste a number of times, its radioactivity is lowered. Then it could be reclassified as low-level waste, mixed with cement, and left in place.

The Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, this type of material sits in 10 tanks with about an inch of residual liquid waste in the bottom of each tank. INEEL officials estimate that makes about 12,000 liquid gallons to be left permanently in place.

Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, when Winnmill's decision, then appeared further by pushing Congress to change NWPA as part of last year's Energy Bill legislation. A bipartisan collection of politicians resisted that move.

Now the Energy Department is going back to the states to

negotiate changes in the law. To aid its cause, the agency is using federal funding as a bargaining chip.

In the new 2005 federal budget, the Energy Department proposes a holdback of \$350 million in accelerated cleanup funds. That money will be available to the affected sites "only to the extent that legal uncertainty concerning the certain reprocessing wastes is satisfactorily resolved through pending litigation or by new legislation."

In other words, if the states agree to changes in the law, then they'll get the full funding.

In this version of political hardball, Idaho stands to lose big or win big. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has been an effective agent for the state with his thick ties to the administration. But when the feds tie the strings, to funding the state's economy and environment, it's hard to stand up to Uncle Sam.

Negotiations between the states and the department could be a fruitful way to end the stalemate. After all, the states have been urging the Energy Department to resolve this matter out of court from the very start.

As for Idaho, the manurepiling may be tricky for Kempthorne. He will have to decide whether his ties to the administration are more valuable than the collective unity he has crafted with other states in the legal fight.

In our view, the latter approach is still Idaho's best advantage. Having cooperated with other states and environmental groups, Idaho has the rule of law on its side. Under Winnmill's decision, the states all have the ability to stop the government from calling high-level waste something it's not.

That's a promise that goes beyond personal politics. Working together as a group, Idaho and the other states can be more successful in making it stick.

Senate past may haunt Dems' finalists

The current Democratic nomination contest is a throwback — a race between two senators whose claim to fame, such as it is, lies in answering roll calls, showing up at hearings and making lots of speeches. Time was when the Democratic presidential field was dominated by senators, but then the party decided it was better off finding candidates from precincts far removed from Capitol Hill.



DAVID S. BRODER

The tickets of Kennedy-Johnson (1960), Johnson-T Humphrey (1964) and Humphrey-Muskie (1968) were formed by men who had banded in their Senate years. That was the intent, too, of George McGovern in 1972, when he picked Missouri's Tom Eagleton as his original running mate. But the balance shifted in 1976 when Jimmy Carter, the former Georgia governor, defeated a field of congressional hopefuls and, with the exception of Walter Mondale in 1984, governors have mostly been in the driver's seat since, with Michael Dukakis and Bill Clinton at the top of three tickets.

In 2000, former Sen. Al Gore went back to his old haunts to find Sen. Joe Lieberman as his partner. And now the Democratic race has come down to John Kerry, the senator from Massachusetts, and John Edwards, the senator from North Carolina.

Is that helpful to Democratic prospects in November? I doubt it. John Kennedy was the last sitting senator to win the White House, which says something about how much voters value the lawmaking and largely rhetorical work of the Senate chamber as preparation for national leadership.

The senators and former senators who lost — Humphrey, Mondale and Gore — all were highly regarded by their colleagues and, operating in an era when Democrats usually controlled the Senate, all of them had notable legislative achievements to their credit.

But that counted for little with the voters, who rightly suspect that the ability with 100 members is not the best place to develop executive management skills or demonstrate national leadership. If that was true in the past, it is even more true now when



Republicans have run Capitol Hill for more than eight years.

Edwards' great boast is that he helped pass a patients' bill of rights in the Senate, but it died in the House and never became law. That's about what he has to show for his five years in office.

Kerry has been there nearly four times as long and actually has worked on significant environmental and foreign policy questions. But if you ask what he's done lately, he talks about things he's blocked — such as drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge — not things he's passed. Because Howard Dean was the only representative of gubernatorial ranks in this year's race, the legislative backgrounds of the candidates have not become an issue — arguing for most voters. Dean talked intermittently about being the only candidate who had actually balanced a budget or managed an ambitious health care program. But mostly he engaged the voters on their own ground — arguing about the wisdom of their votes on Iraq, the Patriot Act and the No Child Left Behind legislation.

Not surprisingly, his effort to beat them in that arena failed. With abundant common sense, most voters understand that a Senate voting record is hardly a

John Kennedy was the last sitting senator to win the White House, which says something about how much voters value the lawmaking and largely rhetorical work of the Senate during his five years as president for national leadership.

bench. Kerry has fought the administration on energy legislation and many other fronts. So if the campaign is about indicting Bush, these guys are probably as good a pair of advocates as their party could put forward — two attorneys well-equipped to plead for political.

That the conventional wisdom is that this election, like most involving a referendum, will largely be a referendum on George Bush's record in office. To the extent that is true, either Kerry or Edwards is well-equipped for the coming battle. Both have been engaged in a constant critique over the past three-plus years of Bush's actions, policies and appointments.

Edwards has led some of the Judiciary Committee's cross-examinations of men and women Bush wanted to place on the federal

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David Broder is a columnist for the Times-News.

Social Security woes aren't tied to Mexico

The Mexicans are coming, and they are going to take away our Social Security. So say the latest warnings from anti-immigration alarmists. But, as with previous claims that immigrants were going to take our jobs or live on welfare (I always wondered how they were supposed to do both), this latest brouhaha is much ado about nothing.

The source of alarm is a new agreement, known as "totalization," which the Bush administration is negotiating with Mexico. Totalization would allow the citizens of either country who live and work in the other country to qualify for Social Security benefits that they earn while working there. They could receive those benefits even after they return to their home country, and in some cases could combine credits earned in both countries to qualify for benefits.

There is nothing particularly unusual about this agreement. The United States has been

MICHAEL TANNER

negotiating totalization agreements since 1978, and currently has such arrangements with 20 countries. There were few cries of alarm when the United States signed such an agreement with Australia in 2002. In fact, Americans have generally been the biggest beneficiaries of totalization because they are more likely to work for multinational corporations and split their working careers between the United States and foreign countries.

Of course, there is a bit different because there are more Mexican citizens working in the United States than the other way around. Even so, it is difficult to understand the hysteria. Most immigrants from Mexico do not stay in the United States for the 10 years needed to qualify for Social Security retirement benefits. But the new rules will likely lead to some

increase in the number of recipients. Moreover, because the time needed to qualify for survivors and disability benefits is shorter, those benefit payments can be expected to rise significantly. Still, the overall cost of benefits to Mexican citizens under totalization is estimated to be about \$78 million in the agreement's first year.

By way of comparison, we currently pay \$173 million a year to citizens of countries with which we already have agreements. By 2050, the annual payments to Mexican citizens would rise to about \$650 million. That is real money, of course, even by Washington standards. But, let's keep it in context. Given that Social Security currently faces unfunded liabilities of more than \$2 trillion, the additional cost of totalization is hardly staggering.

Social Security is facing a financial crisis, but it has nothing to do with Mexican immigrants, legal or illegal. Indeed,

at least in the short term, immigration benefits Social Security, increasing the size of the labor force and increasing the amount of payroll taxes collected. In fact, without immigrants Social Security might already be running a deficit. In the long run, of course, the pyramid will come crashing down. But that is because of Social Security's flawed financing structure.

Clearly, Social Security needs to be reformed. President Bush has, in fact, proposed allowing younger workers to privately invest a part of their Social Security taxes through individual accounts. That would go a long way toward solving Social Security's financial problems — and creating a better, more secure retirement system for today's workers.

Scapengoating immigrants will do nothing to solve the problem.

Michael Tanner is a director of the Cato Institute.

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e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

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503 Fifth Ave., Suite A

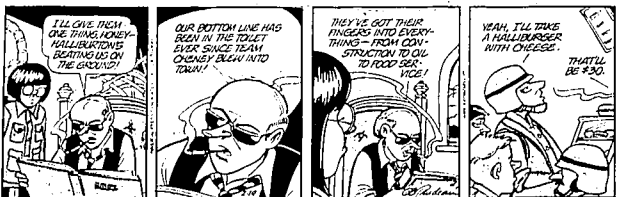
In Twin Falls, ID 83301
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In Washington:
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Rep. Mike Simpson
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Access Simpson's e-mail through his Webpage: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

LETTERS

'Day of Remembrance' is set for today

On Feb. 19, civil rights and social justice-minded persons will remember that 62 years ago the U.S. government restricted, excluded and incarcerated thousands of persons in concentration camps solely because of their heritage. Individual charges and trials were not in the plan because this on mass policy was designed to banish all persons of Japanese ancestry from the United States' west coast, including babies.

With his signature on Executive Order 9066 in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt set into motion actions leading to massive violations to civil and human rights and civil liberties. One concentration camp, established near Minidoka, Idaho, held thousands.

Sixty years later, Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne had the sensitivity and presence of mind to proclaim Feb. 19 as a "Day of Remembrance." With this action, he acknowledged the wrongs and that the message that such must be remembered so as to prevent a repeat of history.

In their letter to The Times-News editor (Feb. 9), Frank and June Thresher make sweeping generalizations and erroneous statements not based on facts. For informed facts based on careful U.S. government study, one should instead refer to the two-part CWIRC report: Personal and Family, which is available in the Government Documents section of most libraries.

RITA TAKAHASHI Berkeley, Calif. Editor's note: Rita Takahashi is a professor at San Francisco State University. She was born and raised in Idaho, where she and her family still own the family farm near Parma.

Bush will use WMD issue to his political advantage

If you think for one moment that Bush and Cheney won't find weapons of mass destruction, then get a bridge for sale. President Bush and Cheney will have a van full of stuff they declare to be the weapons they've been looking for. This can be about any kind of stuff. This will show up in a most opportune time, about the time his polls slip into defeat. They more than likely have them stashed already. It is a piece of cake for Cheney to have this done. After all, Halliburton, Brown Root, move 90 percent of all the military equipment for our military today. I know this "I told you" stuff works. We forget and forgive

twice a day. For sure, our politicians know that all of our politicians voted for the war - all but one. They did this without a dime's worth of proof that Bush and Cheney were telling the truth.

Dick Cheney can and has the stuff someplace already over there. He has made statements already that he will discover weapons of mass destruction. What is a bonafide weapon of mass destruction anyway? Is this stuff bigger than a coffee can? Is it risin, castor bean dust, anthrax, Smith Brothers cough drops - what? Who is it that makes this determination? I don't know what this pack of dingles we have in Congress will buy. They bought the words of President Bush and Cheney the first time around. Congress voted to let Bush and Cheney declare war on no information at all, only the word that Saddam had something. Our loved ones have died - 500-plus so far - on no sound proof at all, only Bush's and Cheney's words.

Hell, to date they ain't even found a single thing. This war was staged as a political maneuver that went haywire for President Bush. And a gold mine for Cheney - his companies are raking in billions each month. Halliburton and Brown Root, Kellogg, have been paid the most money in history to date. Cheney has some stuff buried over there, for damn sure, to find any day now.

Pay attention, folks. BARNY (B.J.) ROWLAND Hagerman

Idaho state board should reinstate Dr. Ramos

I am more than pleased about the recent announcement regarding Charles McDewitt's recommendation to have Dr. Angel Ramos reinstated as the superintendent at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind. If you win or if you lose, it always feels good to know that what you are doing is right. However, the rewards are much sweeter when the "right" is given justice, as was the case with Dr. Ramos. Although this is an important decision in the process, Dr. Ramos has only finished part of the journey. His fate lies in the hands of the Idaho State Board of Education.

I encourage the Board of Education to accept the recommendation and allow Dr. Ramos to continue the much-needed transition of the school from custodial to educational. I believe they should respect the process accepted by both parties, forego the reconsideration process and accept the decision.

As a member of the interpreting community, as a member of the deaf community and as an Idaho taxpayer, I ask the board put a stop to this great waste of time and money. Let Dr. Ramos get back to what he does best. Allow Dr. Ramos to continue working for this state, the school and, above all, the children.

I would like to say publicly how much I admire and applaud Angel for taking a stand for the

students. The choice to move on and leave Idaho behind they would have been understandable. However, if you know Angel, you know that is not his style. His courage and strength are above reproach, and that is why he needs to be reinstated. He provided, and still provides, the ultimate model for students attending ISDB.

Board members, I appeal to your sense of honor and integrity. Let Dr. Ramos help heal the school and motivate the students and staff forward to achieve their potential.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my view. JUNE FLANNERY Boise

Dedication to good work calls for reinstatement

To the Idaho State Board of Education: Thank you so much for all of your hard work for the state of Idaho. I grew up in Idaho and graduated from Bonneville High School in 1982.

I am deeply concerned about the problems that have been nationally recognized over the "issues with Dr. Ramos." The court has put forth its ruling, and I would ask you to please reinstate Dr. Ramos.

Last summer, I was able to fly to Boise and provide sign language interpreters in your state training to improve their interpreting skills. I found the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind to be one of the best schools that I have worked with. Dr. Ramos himself came to the trainings and supported the people taking the class to improve their interpreting skills.

To me, this showed the dedication that Dr. Ramos has for the deaf children of Idaho. You have a wonderful leader that can help Idaho be the best school in the world for deaf children. I do not understand why you would not want this to be your goal.

I have read your mission and your goal statements, and if you do not follow up and re-instate Dr. Ramos, I believe that you are not following what you have published that you would do to educate the children of Idaho. Please re-instate Dr. Ramos. CAROLYN BALL Fulton, Mo. Editor's note: Carolyn Ball is the director of the American Sign Language and Interpreting Department at William Woods University in Fulton, Mo.)

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 574, Twin Falls, ID 83402; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or emailed to letters@magicalcity.com.

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Virtue slides into self-indulgence



Cal Thomas

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai to deliver the Ten Commandments to the ancient Israelites, he encountered a people having a party and worshipping a golden calf. Clearly, the people were not interested in what God had to say to them.

Fast-forward several thousand years. Today, many people worship the "golden calf" of the Dow Jones Industrial Averages. In Dow we trust. Materialism has dulled our senses to anything that does not produce pleasure. And so we get "gay marriages," cloning, partial birth and every other kind of abortion, a high divorce rate, cohabitation, promiscuity, nudity, profanity, indecency - all part of what some have called the coarsening of culture.

Two twenty-something women were conversing in front of me at Reagan National Airport. Their language would have shocked my grandmother, who once admonished me for speaking words in her presence she deemed inappropriate. "Nice young men don't talk like that," she said. The offending words were "toilet paper." Nice young men? Who, or what, defines "nice" today?

Everywhere one looks, one sees a rejection of what previous generations called social norms, decency, virtue, values, propriety, morality, integrity and standards that no longer exist outside of some individuals and families who have embraced them.

Various groups, "alliances," "majorities" and "coalitions" have tried to prevent or retard what they see as social decay through the political system. It should be obvious after repeated failures that this tactic does not, and cannot work. That's because - like those ancient Israelites -

joined together is not likely to be put asunder by those who claim to speak for God or tradition. Culture mirrors our collective souls. Too many heterosexuals divorce. Others have too little time for their children - many of whom they deposit in "day care" while hurrying to jobs that consume 10-hour days. Increasingly, parents neglect and mangle their children to assuage guilt from working too much. They place their kids in government schools in which they learn things that are untrue and behavior that is unhealthy. They are allowed to have TV in their rooms and internet connections through which they explore the darker and seamier side of life. Teen magazines and peers further undermine what remains of modesty and self-control. The spirit of hard work, sacrifice and living within your means is replaced by the supposed virtue of big homes, high debt, nonstop work, expensive cars, fashionable clothes and ever-changing sexual activity.

The lessons learned by a previous generation that experienced a Great Depression and a world war have been replaced by self-indulgence and pleasure. Spouses are traded in when they fail to meet "expectations." If culture is to change for the better (is that a relative word?), millions of individuals must embrace a different creed. Even if culture doesn't change, people who adopt that ancient moral code - which has worked for all who try it - will find their lives much improved, though the rest of the world goes to "hell in a handbasket."

For the apparently declining numbers who care about such things, it should be obvious to all but the fund-raisers and self-appointed moral crusaders that trying to impose a moral code from above on a people who are having a party and living by other standards - or no standards - results in futility. If people were not one-deaf to ancient truths, they would embrace wisdom instead of rejecting it. The horizon may not yet have been reached. "They invent ways of doing evil," said one ancient writer about the immoral times in which he lived and the future he foresaw. The gay marriage debate appears to be over. Once homosexuals start "marrying" in Massachusetts (as thousands are doing in San Francisco in violation of state law), what man has

joined together is not likely to be put asunder by those who claim to speak for God or tradition. Culture mirrors our collective souls. Too many heterosexuals divorce. Others have too little time for their children - many of whom they deposit in "day care" while hurrying to jobs that consume 10-hour days. Increasingly, parents neglect and mangle their children to assuage guilt from working too much. They place their kids in government schools in which they learn things that are untrue and behavior that is unhealthy. They are allowed to have TV in their rooms and internet connections through which they explore the darker and seamier side of life. Teen magazines and peers further undermine what remains of modesty and self-control. The spirit of hard work, sacrifice and living within your means is replaced by the supposed virtue of big homes, high debt, nonstop work, expensive cars, fashionable clothes and ever-changing sexual activity.

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Cal Thomas is a nationally syndicated columnist and Fox News commentator.

Open Letter to the Idaho Legislature

Your 40-year alcohol tax policy may have been popular with the Hospitality Industry, but our young people are paying a heavy price for the lack of funding for prevention and treatment.

This makes you a big player in the present meth crisis: the Guru from California here a year or so ago said the youngsters justify themselves with alcohol and then try meth. Their future is very dim

Where is the follow through from the statement many of you use: "Our children are our most valuable asset."

You have deserted them! ARCHIE WALKER Glenns Ferry

Find out what is Gibson's 'Passion' Mel Gibson's "The Passion of Jesus Christ" is stirring strong emotions. Friday in The Times-News.

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MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

Committee plans vote on state pay raise plan

BOISE (AP) - The plan to break the two-year freeze in state employee pay was introduced by a Senate committee Thursday...



Schafer said. "It seems fair." He set Thursday for the committee vote on the proposal that earmarks more than \$19 million for merit raises...

during the economic downturn. Just over half the pay increase money comes from general tax receipts. The House-Senate budget committee has been operating since last week on the assumption that the plan would be approved...

"There's not a lot of room to maneuver," Senate Finance Committee Chairman Dean Cameron of Rupert said. On Tuesday, they authorized \$1 million in endowment earnings to boost logging on state lands...

Hansen schools take on ARTEC burden despite cost

The Times-News

HANSEN - The School Board has chosen to continue Advanced Regional Technical Education College programs despite the loss of their original funding source. Since the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation, which once stocked these programs with \$4.8 million in grants statewide, has discontinued its funding...

teacher Jim Lasso has been selected for a Who's Who Among America's Teachers honor. Certification - Maintenance Supervisor Bob Waymont also recently received a Level II Certified Building Operations certificate from the Northwest Building Operators Association.

House votes to merge Labor, Commerce departments

BOISE - The Idaho Commerce and Labor departments got one step closer to merging on Tuesday after the House of Representatives voted 62-5 to bring the two units under one management.

IDAHO LEGISLATIVE LOG

The Associated Press

Completes for Wednesday Signed by governor:

- SB156 (Appropriations) - Makes an emergency \$54.708 appropriation to the State Police for \$50,000... SB154 (Appropriations) - Makes an emergency \$50,000 appropriation to the Department of Correction for the current budget year...

Completes for Tuesday Signed by governor:

- SB219 (Finance) - Makes an emergency appropriation of \$100,000 to the Health and Welfare Department for the current budget year... SB121 (Finance) - Reduces the current budget for the Department of Juvenile Correction by \$1 million...

Introduced in Senate

- SB124 (Commerce and Human Resources) - Rejects a Human Resources Division regulation on state employment... SB122 (Education) - Requires the Office of Performance Evaluation to assess the Idaho Standards Achievement Test...

Introduced in House

- HB178 (Appropriations) - Allocated \$28.7 million to the Department of Parks and Recreation... HB179 (Wages and Salaries) - Provides disease control and increased teaching of animals...

Confirmed by Senate

Bak Miller, Caldwell, and M. Dean Huntington, Boise, to the Endowment Fund Investment Board.

Introduced in House

- HB174 (Environmental Affairs) - Requires motor vehicle emissions control programs in densely populated counties... HB175 (Appropriations) - Appropriates \$2 million to the Department of Game and Fish...

Education chief says states rejecting No Child Left Behind Act overreact

ST. PAUL (AP) - States threatening to reject the federal No Child Left Behind law are bluffing, said U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige during a Wednesday visit to an elementary school here. He said failure to comply with President Bush's education initiative could cost those states millions of dollars in federal funding.

No Child Left Behind leaving a bad taste

Several states are complaining that there is not enough federal funding to implement the No Child Left Behind Act. A recent survey of school districts in 47 states and Washington, D.C., indicated many districts are also less than satisfied with the clarity of information they receive from the federal government about implementing the law.

Table showing information source ratings for No Child Left Behind Act. Columns: Information source, Very helpful, Somewhat helpful, A little helpful, Not helpful. Rows: State education agency, U.S. Dept. of Education.

Senate passes bill aimed to attract foreign doctors

The Senate on Tuesday voted to ease Idaho's doctors, who are the only state not participating in a federally backed program to attract foreign doctors to work in underserved areas of the United States.

Information source

Table showing percentages for information source ratings. Rows: State education agency, U.S. Dept. of Education. Columns: Very helpful, Somewhat helpful, A little helpful, Not helpful.

The survey also revealed that districts are having trouble meeting NCLB standards for "highly qualified" teachers.

Pet of the Week advertisement featuring a photo of a dog and text describing its characteristics.

Build the Shelter! advertisement for a cat named Callie Jo, including contact information for Twin Falls Animal Shelter.

Auction Calendar advertisement for March, listing various items for sale and contact details for KLAAS AUCTION BARN.

Water... Agri-Action 2004 Breakfast advertisement featuring a photo of a man and details about the event, including ticket prices and a guest speaker.

Tattoo advertisement for Lamphouse Theatre, mentioning services like semi-permanent tattoos and piercings, and contact information.

Take it from SPOT... advertisement for Babbels Cleaners, featuring photos of rabbits and text about their cleaning services.

Movies advertisement listing showtimes and prices for various films at different theaters.

Snow Center advertisement featuring a photo of a woman and text about snow reports, forecasts, and resort information.

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Firm to buy Camas Prairie RailNet

LEWISTON - A Kansas company has purchased the Camas Prairie RailNet, a short-line railroad serving Lewiston and surrounding communities.

Watco Cos. of Pittsburg, Kan., bought the 177-mile railroad from Texas-based North American RailNet Inc. for an undisclosed sum. It takes over operations on March 1.

"We are extremely pleased to be adding this railroad to the Watco family of properties," Watco President Rick Webb said. "We have operated railroads in Idaho and Washington for 14 years and believe in the customers, the communities and the future of this region."

The short-line railroad serves the Potlatch mill complex in Lewiston and moves grain and container cargo to and from the Port of Lewiston.

Watco also operates short-lines in Rosalia, Wash., and Twin Falls.

Small farms in Idaho find niche, profitability

BOISE - While Idaho growth erodes farmland, census figures show an increase in the smallest operations.

Preliminary figures for the 2002 National Census of Agriculture show the amount of farmland in Idaho has declined from 12.1 million acres in 1997 to 11.8 million acres in 2002.

Farming operations earning \$10,000 to \$25,000 annually dropped by 27 percent since 1997. But farms generating less than \$2,500 per year in sales grew about 10 percent in that time, from about 8,000 to 12,000.

Tom Kurtz, deputy state statistician, said increasing numbers of country residents meet the census definition of a farm - which is having sales of \$1,000 worth of agricultural products a year. Many of these are hobby farms.

The survey recorded 25,016 farms in the state, with an increasing number operated by women and minorities. In the five years since the previous census, the number of principal farm operators who are women increased by 27 percent to 2,843. The number of principal farm operators who are Hispanic grew by 140 percent to 918.

The average Idaho farmer was 54 years old - 10 months older than in the count five years ago.

Association joins with national organization

BOISE - The Hispanic Business Association signed an agreement with the Small Business Administration for training seminars, workshops and counseling.

The agency will provide the instruction at the Hispanic Cultural Center in Nampa.

The pact also sets a goal of increasing the number of SBA-guaranteed loans to eligible Hispanic businesses and improving access by Hispanic businesses to government contract opportunities.

"We hope to greatly increase U.S. Small Business Administration services to the Hispanic community," said SBA District Director Tom Bergdoll.

"A lot of businesses started in our community don't have the necessary tools, so they falter or fail," said Ray Veloz, chairman of the Hispanic Business Association board and owner of Northwest Sales and Distribution in Nampa. "Our goal is to give them the tools so that they don't fail."

State gives Moscow grant for high-tech jobs

MOSCOW - Moscow will use a Gen Company Grant from the Idaho Department of Commerce for economic development intended to bring high-tech jobs back to the community.

The \$45,000 grant will be used to design a technology development center in the Alturas Technology Park. Advanced Hardware Architecture, a telecommunications company, will be the center's major tenant. Company officials say they will hire for 20 high-tech jobs and create eight others in three years.

AHA experienced rapid growth in the 1990s and moved to Pullman, Wash., saying it could not find land in Moscow.

Compiled from wire reports

Going hi-tech

Makers unveil toys that interact with TV

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - The latest generation of high-tech toys has arrived.

A miniature Barmobile can now rev its engine in sync with an animated version on TV, while a plush cat can sing along with a DVD or video.

Toy companies, hoping to compete with video and computer games, are marketing toys that interact with what children are watching on TV. But unlike some high-tech toys of the past that were too difficult to operate, manufacturers promise the latest versions are easy to use.

"Toy makers have been able to put more technology into the toy, and still enhance the play factor," said Tom Conley, president of the Toy Industry Association, the industry trade association. He estimates that about 70 percent of the new toys introduced at this week's American International Toy Fair, the industry product expo, will have some sort of interactive feature.

The new toys include:

- Serafina, from Mattel Inc., a furry toy cat named for a character in "The Princess and the Pauper," that sings and wags its tail in response to what's happening on the DVD or video that stars Barbie. The toy will retail for \$40.

- Hasbro's "Wheel of Fortune," which allows consumers using a handheld wireless device to actively compete with the contestants on the TV series in real time. If you beat the contestant, the TV sends a signal to down-



Kristen Conners, a toy demonstrator, becomes the fourth player in Tiger Games' Wheel of Fortune Live Play, competing against actual players on TV's Wheel of Fortune game show in the company's showroom at the American International Toy Fair in New York, Friday. The game beams the puzzle from the TV directly to the handheld unit.

load bonus games into your device. The product is priced at \$29.99.

- Ohio Art's ETO, an electronic version of its Etch-A-Sketch, which retails for \$34.99, and uses the TV as its sketching tool. The system comes with its own control device that's hooked up to the TV and allows children to create their own original artwork, sound effects and maze games.

- Mattel's InterACTV, which allows children to interact and

learn with their favorite characters from popular shows like "Blues Clues" and "Dora the Explorer," using the TV and a DVD player. The \$39.99 learning system from the company's Fisher-Price division comes with a wireless controller that uses sensors and touch-screen technology.

One of the latest technologies in toys, licensed by Mattel and Hasbro, is called Video Encoded Invisible Light, or VELL, created by Veil Interactive Technologies.

VELL is a special process that alters the illumination levels of an image on TV. Humans can't detect it, but a photosensor on the toy picks up the signal, which then prompts the toy to react in a certain way.

Scott Miller, vice president of business development at Veil, said many toy companies were interested in adopting the technology, but the company was careful to launch it with what it

Please see TOYS, Page C7

Three Fred Meyer stores will close in Utah

Five locations will become Smith's Marketplace

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Three Fred Meyer Food and merchandise stores in Utah are owned by toy Cincinnati-based Kroger Co. It purchased Portland-based Fred Meyer in 1999, one year after

Smith's and Fred Meyer - which both have stores in Magic Valley - are owned by Cincinnati-based Kroger Co. It purchased Portland-based Fred Meyer in 1999, one year after

Fred Meyer acquired Smith's. As part of the plan to remove the Fred Meyer brand from Utah, Kroger also will close a Fred Meyer regional office in Salt Lake City that employs about a dozen workers. Most of them will be offered jobs in Boise, Kroger said.

Workers at the Fred Meyer stores will be offered comparable employment in Utah or elsewhere, it packages, said Fred Meyer spokeswoman Mary Loftin.

Kroger officials said Fred Meyer operations will continue in four other states where it has nearly 130 stores: Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska.

While in Utah, Fred Meyer stores, while profitable, have never been as successful as Smith's, said Loftin. "Smith's has a lot more growth potential in Utah."

The Fred Meyer closes begin April 17 with stores in West Valley City and Ogden. A store in Sandy will close when a tenant is found, Loftin said.

Five other Fred Meyer stores in

Utah will become known as Smith's Marketplace, a new format similar to Fred Meyer that features an expanded grocery selection as well as a pharmacy and general merchandise, said Smith's spokeswoman Marsha Gilford.

She said Smith's will spend more than \$7.5 million to convert the five Fred Meyer stores, which are in Bountiful, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, West Jordan and Logan.

Smith's operates 126 stores in Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, Montana, Idaho, Arizona and Wyoming.

Wireless merger now puts spotlight on Nextel

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Nextel Communications Inc. has in the past had merger talks with WorldCom Inc., AT&T Wireless Services Inc. and other potential partners, but they led nowhere.

Now the question is: Will Cingular Wireless LLC's \$1 billion bid for AT&T Wireless, a deal that would result in the nation's largest cell phone company, force Reston, Va.-based Nextel into a marriage with another carrier?

Susan Kalla, an analyst for Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group Inc., says yes. She gives Nextel at most two years before it succumbs to a merger or acquisition. Combinations like Cingular Wireless and AT&T Wireless will achieve enough cost savings to "put smaller players like Nextel at a competitive disadvantage," Kalla said. "Nextel will be forced to do some consolidation."

Niktor Siverts, an analyst for Deutsche Bank, says not necessarily. "When niches come under pressure there are two things you can do," he said. "You can either try to become better and

better at what you do, or you can bulk up and become a much larger carrier."

"Siverts argued that Nextel's target market - businesses - will inevitably become more competitive and less profitable. But he said the company can survive as a stand-alone player. "The niche itself will not disappear; it will just splinter into many niches," he said.

Audrey Schaefer, a Nextel spokeswoman, declined to comment on future strategy. "Of the six national players, five of them basically compete on price," she said. "Nextel has taken a different avenue."

Nextel's trademark service has been its walkie-talkie, which allows users to reach people by pushing a button to talk instead of dialing phone numbers. The feature first attracted construction workers and truck drivers, but eventually became popular among professionals who need to be in constant communication with customers and co-workers. Over 90 percent of Nextel's 12.3 million customers are business people, according to the company.

That has enabled it to avoid many of the

price wars that other wireless carriers have used to lure customers. As a result, Nextel has the highest average revenue per customer per month in the industry, \$71, and the lowest customer turnover rate, 1.4 percent.

But Verizon Communications Inc. and Sprint Corp. launched their own "push to talk" services last year to compete with Nextel. The new services are suffering from technical difficulties but analysts said the two carriers could eventually rival Nextel in price and quality.

Moreover, the next round of competition among wireless carriers will focus on high-speed Internet services that will transform cell phones into the next laptop, an area where Nextel does not have a clear advantage, analysts said.

Analysts said Nextel could pursue two strategies. It could become a specialty player, offering businesses increasingly sophisticated wireless services, such as remote access to company databases or live video feeds over its networks. Or it could evolve into a broad wireless company, possibly by merging with Sprint.

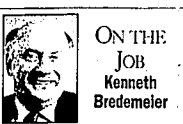
Resolving pay disputes requires knowledge of labor laws

The Washington Post

Pay disputes are a staple of work life, but special circumstances always seem to perplex individual workers.

Question: I work for a nonprofit where the daily shift is 8.5 hours, but I was only paid for eight hours today, even though we were told we could clock out after eight hours. I never thought my having to donate a half-hour per shift was legitimate, and the recent change confirmed this suspicion. Am I wrong to think this has been illegal? What can we do to collect it?

Answer: Philip M. Schwartz, a



ON THE
JOB
Kenneth
Bredemeler

Washington lawyer who represents corporations on employment issues, said this worker should check with her payroll or human resources department to find out why the clock-out procedure was changed. Schwartz said the change might be benign; for

example, the previous, 8.5-hour pay period might have included an uncompensated half-hour lunch break. Conversely, he said this worker might have a legitimate complaint. If hourly employees work more than 40 hours in a seven-day work period, they are entitled to time-and-a-half pay. He said that if she has since emerged satisfied with why the hourly clock-out change was made and thinks she was previously short-changed, she should check with federal or state wage and hour officials to see if filing a formal complaint is warranted.

Q: I worked as a manager in a

department in a large corporation's nonprofit foundation. While we intended ourselves to our constituency as working for the foundation, we were in all respects employees of the corporation. During my last eight months of employment, the corporation declared bankruptcy, from which it has since emerged.

I terminated my employment in April 2003. Raises and bonuses retroactive to Jan. 1, 2003, were approved and distributed to all departments except mine. Our supervisor said this was because bankruptcy officials decided we

Please see PAY, Page C7

State holds property

The Times-News

BOISE - The state is safeguarding unclaimed property for hundreds of people and businesses whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley.

The Idaho State Tax Commission is looking for those folks, and hoping they'll call to claim the property.

It's stuff for which Idaho businesses have been unable to find the rightful owners, such as payroll checks, contents of safe deposit boxes, tax refunds, stock dividends, worker's compensation benefits and the like.

The Times-News on Thursdays prints names of a sampling of unclaimed-property owners whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley communities. Today's list is from Buhl and Ketchum. The tax commission said each person or business listed today - or the person's heir - owns unclaimed property worth \$100 or more.

Watch for other towns in coming weeks.

Buhl

- Alvina Almeida
- Dolor Almeida
- Eleanor Armistage
- Jimmy Armistage
- CESS Farms
- Cecilia Avilar
- Antonio Avilar
- Suzann Caldwell
- Jan Brown
- Silvan Caldwell
- Danny Calvillo
- P. Clane
- Charles Comer
- Eliadio Penari Cruz
- Adrian Figueroa
- Regina O'Hull
- Melvin Hunt
- Jensens Custom Threshing
- Sylvia Mettner
- Marilee Metzner
- Mildred Novak
- Leona Perez
- Austin R. Perez
- Robert D. Purviance
- Juan M. Reyes
- Charles J. Rowan
- Paulino Strobel Ayala
- Otto Strobel
- Kathy Strobel
- Richard J. Valle
- Travis J. West
- Calvin Wood

Ketchum

- Robin Beck
- Anita M. Bepko
- Douma Billa
- Nicholas Bonas
- Susie Bolter
- David Brown
- Barton
- Andrew G. Carrier
- Heidi M. Clark
- Kerry Clark
- Kenneth Coyne
- Duck Soup
- Loth L. Epperson
- Dwaine E. Gittus
- John Goodman
- Reamy Goodwin
- Richard J. Hawthorne
- Joseph E. Jones
- Louise Kelso
- Charles Ketchum
- Michael J. Kubacki
- Jason Kunitz
- Linda M. McCoy
- Linda A. Miller
- Victoria A. Mogiler
- Kaitlin Lee O'Donnell
- Gage Ann O'Donnell
- Nancy Parsons
- Perseus Limited
- Pinquide Inn
- Pioneer Mortgage Inc.
- James R. Rasmussen
- Charles Rioja
- Richard G. Self
- Charles Thompson
- Mark H. Tustin
- Mary Waggoner
- Emily West
- White Cloud Property Management Inc.

What to do

- See your name on Idaho's unclaimed-property owners list? To claim your property, do one of these:
- Call 1-800-972-7660, Ext. 7623 or Ext. 7627.
- Write to the Idaho State Tax Commission, Unclaimed Property Section, Box 36, Boise, ID 83722-0410.
- Send e-mail to lostandfound@tax.state.id.us.
- Log on to www2.state.id.us/tax and click on "Unclaimed Property" for instructions and claim forms that can be printed and mailed to the commission. The site also provides a search link for other names and a link to other states' unclaimed-property listings.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including soybeans, corn, wheat, and oil. Columns include commodity name, high, low, close, and change.

BEANS

Table of bean prices for various types such as navy beans, pinto beans, and lima beans.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices including wheat, corn, and soybeans.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices for different grades and varieties.

SUGAR

Table of sugar prices for various grades and origins.

WHEAT

Table of wheat prices for different types and grades.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

MARKETS

Table of market prices for various metals and currencies.

NEW YORK (AP) - The Treasury Department...

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Treasury Department, citing high administrative costs and relatively low demand, said that after this year it will stop issuing "HH" savings bonds, which pay interest to their owners semiannually.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table of fossil fuel prices including oil, natural gas, and coal.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table of metal and currency prices for various commodities.

U.S. will stop issuing 'HH' bonds

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Treasury Department, citing high administrative costs and relatively low demand, said that after this year it will stop issuing "HH" savings bonds, which pay interest to their owners semiannually.

Continued from C5

Mattel is using the VHS technology initially in three of its Batman toys, but chairman and CEO Robert Eckert expects the company to use it in other toys as well.

Continued from C5

Some of the high-tech toys sold in recent years, such as robotic dinosaurs and animals, were too complex for children, Eckert said. This generation of toys is easier to play with.

Continued from C5

The Batman toys can receive signals from a new animated series called "The Batman," which will air this fall on two cable channels, Kids' WB! and The Cartoon Network. For example, the Batman action figure will start speaking phrases at the exact moment the cartoon version does.

Continued from C5

He can decide what obligations they were not part of the profit-making component of the corporation. But I recently discovered that bonuses and raises were paid to people who worked at the company in 1992, but the corporate HR department requested my share of the money and was told that my request was denied because the review of this issue took place after my termination.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table of mutual fund prices and performance data, including fund names, shares, and returns.



Deals and memories

Area families share stories, recipes

TWIN FALLS - First you'll need a large helping of sagebrush.

Add liquid gold - make sure it flows freely to area farms. Next, sprinkle heavily with a pioneering spirit and fold in the Western values of independence, family and love of the land.

The recipe for Magic Valley is tried and true and shared by generations of southern Idahoans. It binds us together like the flour in Aunt Betty's pie crust. As generations here have passed on the stories of how each family came to southern Idaho, we've gathered around the kitchen table. We've shared our history and a piece of chocolate cake.

So, we thought it would be pretty powerful to combine the two - a bit of history from area families along with the recipes they have carried with them through the years.

Today we present the first of a two-part look at a few of Magic Valley's heritage recipes, with one from Lincoln County and

Mouth watering yet?

The Times-News is collecting recipes from popular attractions and from families who home-stood here prior to 1945. If you have a recipe you'd like to share or have a craving for a local favorite you'd like us to track down, call reporter Karma Metzler Fitzgerald at 886-7068 or send e-mail to karmawrites@veloci-tus.net.

one from Camas County. Both are from families with long ties to this land and the people who saw the "magic" here and stayed.

- stories by Karma Metzler Fitzgerald

Sagebrush and sourdough

SHOSHONE - Perhaps Marge Kelley was born a bit late.

“ I don't know how to describe it. You can't buy anything like them. You can't even make them. They were unique. ”

- Louis Kelley, on his mother's pancakes

It was so rocky that Kelley gave up on buying the lighter, more refined women's shoes available. They just wouldn't last on the sharp lava. She wore

her husband's boots and raised her five children among the sagebrush. As hard as it was, her children say she held that family together with plenty of love, good advice and great cooking.

Sourdough pancakes were the morning staple. Each morning after the chores were done and before school, four boys and one girl would crowd around the table in their tiny house, and though they didn't have much, they always had pancakes.

"I grew up on sourdough pancakes," said Louis Kelley, Marge's son. "I don't know how to describe it. You can't buy anything like them. You can't even make them. They were unique."

The Kelley children say the sourdough starter came from Marge's aunt. Over the years, Marge's sourdough pancakes became a Christmas morning tradition.

Until she died, her children and grandchildren would come back to the farm every Christmas morning and share a meal with the family. When she died, each child and grandchild got a share of the starter.



Marge Kelley fries sausages on Christmas morning. They were served with her sourdough pancakes, a Kelley family favorite.

Sourdough Pancakes

à la Marge Kelley
North Shoshone homesteader

Every night add 2 cups flour and 2 cups water to your starter. (If you lack starter, consult standard cookbooks or find a sourdough friend who'll share.)

That would make about six cups of starter.

In the morning pour about 4

cups into a bowl and add:

- 1 tablespoon of sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- perhaps 1 or 2 eggs (Marge Kelley would use them if she had them.)

Mix and make pancakes.

- Source: Jean Kelley Smith, North Shoshone

Beefy rewards

FAIRFIELD - Back in the days when downhill skiing was a lot of hard work - no chairlifts, nothing groomed - it was easy to work up a hearty appetite with just a few runs.

At Soldier Mountain Ski Area, skiers had warm rewards waiting for them at the bottom of the hill: chili that was beefy, never mushy, and always piping hot for just 25 cents a bowl.

"It was good wholesome home cooking," said Rick Carrico of Twin Falls, who started skiing Soldier when he was 8 years old. "The chili was unlike anything anywhere else. I don't know, maybe it was the ambiance, the snow ... the people."

Their fans say the Soldier Mountain founders - the Frostenson family and their partners the Hansens - filled the lodge with warmth and emphasized skiing as a sport for families. The chili was a recipe Bob Frostenson likely made up, according to his son and daughter-in-law.

"I can remember the smell of it," Jack Frostenson said. "He made it in great big pots at home and transported it to the ski lift."

Jack Frostenson said there was a special place in the back of his dad's pickup to hold the big pot

of chili. And although the pickup slid off the road a time or two, that special chili never spilled.

Jack's wife, Linda, said there was something special about the chili: It was never too spicy, and always loaded with lots of meat. The scent of cummin always filled the air when a pot was on the stove.

The chili doesn't get made often these days. A few members of the Frostenson family even admit to being a bit sick of the chili they made each weekend for more than 30 years. But it is still a holiday treat around the Camas County farms where members of the Frostenson family still live.

"Good people seem to be surrounded by recipes that are extra special," Carrico said. "I will never forget the Frostensons, and I still crave that chili."

“

Good people seem to be surrounded by recipes that are extra special.

”

- Rick Carrico, on the Frostenson family chili recipe



Bob (left) and Stan Frostenson on Soldier Mountain. The chili they and their partners took turns making warmed Magic Valley skiers for more than 30 years.



Photo courtesy of Frostenson family

Bob's Ski Lift Chili

à la Bob Frostenson
co-founder, Soldier Mountain Ski Area, Fairfield

• 2 lbs. red beans soaked overnight and cooked two hours or until tender (enough for speed) 3 large cans of beans, mixing both small red and kidney.

- 1 quart canned tomatoes
- 1 large onion, diced

- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- 1 Tablespoon cummin powder
- 1 to 2 teaspoons chili powder or more, to taste
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 lbs. ground round hamburger - not browned - broken into walnut-size pieces and added to simmering chili about 45 minutes before serving.

- Source: Jack and Linda Frostenson, Fairfield

Rotary club works to create CSI scholarship

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The Blue Lakes Rotary Club of Twin Falls is accepting donations toward a permanent scholarship at the College of Southern Idaho.

Part of Rotary's aim is encouraging the ideal of service in current and future business professionals.

The local club said its scholarship project will help celebrate the Twin Falls centennial this

year and the centennial of Rotary International in 2005.

"Our goal is to raise at least \$10,000 to establish the endowment," said Shawn Bariger, a Blue Lakes Rotary board member coordinating community service. "The scholarship will be given annually beginning this fall with the recipient demonstrating activity in serving others."

The club said tax-deductible donations toward the scholarship

endowment can be given to any member of Blue Lakes Rotary or mailed to P.O. Box 1132, Twin Falls, ID 83303. Receipts are available upon request.

To raise more money toward the project, Blue Lakes Rotary will hold a fund-raising dinner and silent auction this month.

The Centennial Scholarship Endowment Dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 29 at Rock Creek Restaurant in Twin Falls. The menu includes prime rib

or salmon. A no-host bar will be offered. Dinner tickets, at \$37.50 per person, are available from any Blue Lakes Rotary member or by calling Mike Morgan at 732-0232.

Silent auction items donated by local merchants will be available for purchase.

Fast and furious by Blue Lakes Rotary have supported Twin Falls elementary schools and installed new playground equipment at Dierkes Lake.

Preparing for print



Upcoming books on local landmarks and old schoolhouses celebrate Twin Falls' first century.

Sunday In The Times-News



Kicksledding: It's gaining popularity in Alaska.

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OUTDOORS

INSIDE

Ask the officerD2
ComicsD3

Outdoors Editor: David Cooper—733-0931; Ext. 246

The Times-News

Thursday, February 19, 2004

Section D

Southern comfort

The South Hills offer M.V. snowmobilers a closer paradise

By David Cooper
Times-News writer

You won't find much gold in the South Hills. But for Magic Valley snowmobilers, the gobs of drifting snow stretching across the Sawtooth National Forest is almost as precious.

A season rich with lathers of snow has created endless possibilities for Magic Valley winter recreationists. The high drifts are especially rewarding for local snowmobilers, who have anxiously been waiting through a sleepy dry spell that has kept many sleds parked in the garage over the past few years.

Snowmobilers who use Diamondfield Jack Snow Play Area in the heart of the South Hills as a launching pad have hardly been disappointed. Late February snowfall has only gotten stronger and should stay in place for a longer snowmobile season.

Before you go

Recreational snowmobiling has plenty of thrills, chills and spills in the white outdoors, thanks to an abundance of snow, speed and scenery. Since sledders have greater access to remote backcountry locations, they should also put a higher emphasis on safety.

A sturdy helmet, multiple layers of warm, dry clothing and good gloves and boots are also prerequisites. Most snowmobilers recommend traveling with a partner or with a larger group. That way if your machine breaks down or needs to be towed, a rider can easily hitch a lift. Sledding with others in a group also adds to the camaraderie and charm of exploring the hinterlands.

As you head out, be sure you are familiar with the machine. Steering a snowmobile isn't as easy as it looks and it takes time to master. So don't go full throttle if you're not accustomed to balancing the machine through tight turns and inclines.

An important skill with snowmobiling is knowing when to sit and when to kneel. By kneeling with one knee on the seat and one leg on the running board, a rider can maneuver the sled more easily. If you kneel, keep the standing portion of your body on the uphill side of the sled. This prevents the machine from veering off downhill.

Another tip: If you get stuck, always try to turn the sled facing downhill. Otherwise you will go nowhere when you bog down on an incline.

Trails paved with snow

Idaho's popularity as a snowmobile

If you go

► Diamondfield Jack Snowplay Area is 35 miles south of Twin Falls. From Twin Falls, take Highway 30 east to Hansen and turn south on Rock Creek Road.

Drive 28 miles into the hills and pass Magic Mountain Ski Area. Two 65-car plowed parking lots provide access and the Forest Service maintains a warming hut and heated restrooms.

For information, call the Forest Service at 737-3200.

Snowmobilers who use Diamondfield Jack Snow Play Area in the heart of the South Hills as a launching pad have hardly been disappointed.

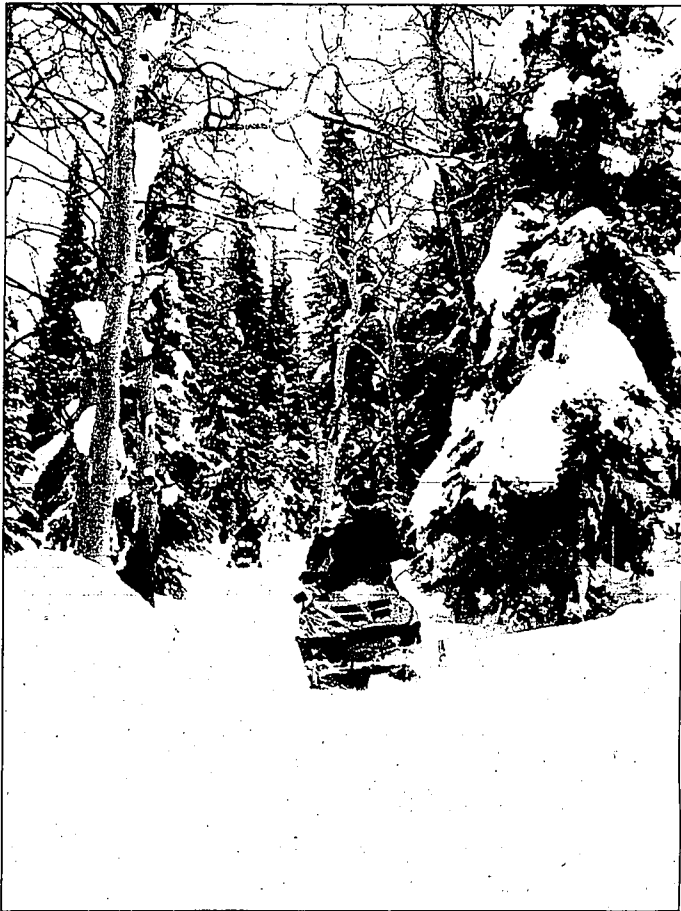
haven has grown over the years. Tourists have always flocked to Island Park in the east, the Stanley region, and the Winter Wonderland Trail near McCall. And the state boasts of having more groomed trails than any Western state.

But many Magic Valley sledders prefer the wide open range of the South Hills for numerous reasons.

Crosswinds between the Nevada, Utah and Idaho borders seem to provide a more-than-generous portion of snow in good winters for the area. The traffic is much friendlier — and much closer to boot. And the trails of hills and forests seem to stretch on beyond horizons.

If you're a beginner, Diamondfield Jack provides 200 miles of groomed trails. Signs and

Please see SLED, Page D2



Two sledders carve their way through pine groves decorated with gobs of snow near Monument Peak.

Photos by DAVID COOPER/Times-News

Safety on the sled

An adventurous day on a snowmobile can be a refreshing remedy for the winter blahs. But a wrong turn or a bad storm can make you trek a frigid disaster. So be sure you take the proper steps, tools and equipment to assure a safe trip.

Make a plan

- Check the weather report and avalanche conditions
- Let people know where you are going and when you'll return, and if your plans change make sure to tell someone

Dress appropriately

- Warm layers help regulate your temperature throughout the day. You can add or remove additional layers as needed with respect to the condi-

- tions and level of physical activity.
- DOT and SNELL approved helmet
- Goggles or face shield
- Polypropylene base layer for wicking moisture (long sleeve shirt and pants)
- Warm fleece insulating layer (jacket & pants)
- Waterproof/windproof/breathable outer layer (jacket and bibs)
- Warm merino wool or wool socks that wick moisture
- Waterproof/insulated winter boots

- Waterproof/insulated gloves or mittens
- Warm hat

Prepare for the worst

The Boy Scout motto "Be Prepared" was never more applicable than in snowmobiling. Consider taking the following survival items.

- Flares, candles, waterproof matches; disposable lighters
- Cell phone
- Map, compass, GPS

- 50 feet of 1/4-inch rope
- First aid kit
- Space blanket
- High energy food
- Signal mirror
- Knife
- Metal cup
- Folding saw
- Extra drive belt, spark plugs and tool kit
- Tarpsaulin or plastic windbreak

— Sources: Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation



Bret Heider of Twin Falls crashes through a drift for some air near Thoroughbred Springs.



Leo Heider, left, and Steve Lund, both of Twin Falls, look southwest across the South Hills and into the edges of Nevada.

OUTDOORS

Fish and Game stocks Crystal Lake with fish

JEROME - Clear Lakes fish hatchery donated 43,600 fish to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to stock in area waters this past weekend.

Crystal Lake received the lions share of the fish, getting 31,805; 8,772 fish were planted in the Snake River at Shleers, and 3,023 fish were released in Riley pond at Hagerman Wildlife Management area.

"The outlet area of Crystal looks like a crowded raceway," said Joe Chapman, Fish and Game Fish Hatchery Manager. "These fish were just under three fish per pound or about 9 inches long, so they have some growing to do yet. But it is going to make some great fishing opportunities for area anglers."

Group holds annual Withers Memorial bass derby Feb. 29

HAGERMAN - The Idaho Bass Hunters will hold their second annual Dave Withers Memorial Big Bass Derby on February 29 at Lower Salmon Falls boat ramp in Hagerman.

Blast-off time is at safe light. A Big-Fish-of-the-Day trophy will be given to the winner of the measure-and-release competition, and a pulch lunch will follow the event.

The price is a \$10-minimum donation, per person. Proceeds will benefit the Bull High School Scholarship Fund. For more information, please contact Don Perkins at 308-7658.

Twin Falls sponsors skating class at Sun Valley arena

The city of Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department is offering two ice skating sessions at the Sun Valley Ice Arena. The cost is \$45 and includes transportation, instruction, skate rental and admission for both Saturdays of an individual session.

Session 2 will be Feb. 28 and March 6. Children ages 6 to 8 must be accompanied by a parent, while 9 years and up may travel alone. Registration deadline is Feb. 23 for Session 2. Register at 136 Maxwell Ave. or call 736-2265 for more information.

Ducks Unlimited holds Couples Banquet Feb. 28

The Jerome Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is holding its 17th Annual Couples Banquet on Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Jerome Fairgrounds. Happy hour starts at 6 p.m. Dinner follows at 7.

Kirt Martin from the Snake River Grill will serve his famous peach wood smoked prime rib or Alaskan king crab.



Steve Lund steers through a trail with miles of hills and plateaus behind him.

Sled

Continued from D1

markers can keep you on familiar paths in the nearby range of the snowplow parking areas. And you don't have to go far to find open fields that perfect settings for higher speeds.

For those riders who are more adventurous, you can spill down the western side of the hills toward Thoroughbred Springs, or push higher into the eastern slopes of Hidden Valley and

Outdoor news in brief

A silent auction, live auction and raffles will take place during the evening. Prizes include guns, decoys, prints and more. For tickets and other information on how to support Ducks Unlimited, call 324-3707.

Hagerman visitor center hosts movie activity

Hagerman Fossil Beds Visitor Center will host a Fun Family Fossil Film Festival, Friday, Feb. 20 for kids and families. The event will feature the film Ice Age. Phil, the park paleontologist, will connect the relationship between the film and Hagerman's fantastic fossil facts. Feel free to bring your favorite blanket and pillow.

The visitor center also features fossil exhibits displaying Idaho's state fossil and numerous other species from the Pliocene epoch. A children's corner, the Jr. Ranger Program, a slide show, self-guided driving tour, and a bookstore are offered at the Visitor Center.

Winter hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday to Memorial Day Weekend. The center is located at 221 North State Street in Hagerman. For information call 837-4793 Ext. 5224, or visit www.dps.gov/ifa.

Fly-tying class starts soon at local outdoors store

Sportsman's Warehouse will be hosting an entry-level class for fly-tying Feb. 27 through March 12 at its store on 1940 Bridgeview Blvd. The course costs \$40 for all tools and materials provided, or \$25 for the fly-tying materials only. Register and prepay by Feb. 25 at customer service. For information or questions, call the fishing department. Sportsman's Warehouse, 373-9900 Ext. 2.

Third annual Snow Box Derby will be held March 6

Mark your calendars; the Third Annual Snow Box Derby is set for March 6, with the Blaine County Recreation District and Rotanun Ski Club hosting this fun family event at Rotanun Ski area west of Hailey.

The derby provides the chance for families to get away from the TV or computer and breath fresh air and meet new people while participating in some healthy competition. This year's event is sure to offer more of the same.

Everyone can participate in the Snow Box Derby. All you need is a cardboard box, an adventurous spirit and a helmet.

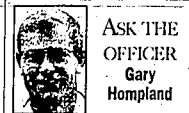
- compiled from staff reports

Fawn mortality study inspires cautious optimism

Question: "How are the deer fawns doing that you captured and fitted with radio collars on the fawn mortality study?"

Answer: For those that don't know, the Magic Valley region is participating in a statewide mule deer fawn mortality study. This study is designed to help biologists understand why some populations of mule deer are not improving even with conservative hunting seasons. Hopefully this study will provide some insight into why some fawns are not surviving to maturity.

In mid-December, we captured 26 fawns in drive nets near Sugar Loaf in unit 54 south of Twin Falls. All 26 were assessed for general health, weighed, and fitted with radio transmitter collars. The collars not only help us locate the animal but a frequency shift in



ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

the transmitter indicates if the fawn is dead.

A wildlife technician regularly monitors the 26 collars to determine their approximate location. When he detects a transmitter that has shifted to mortality mode, he hikes to the location as soon as possible to sleuth the cause of death.

To date, only two fawns have died this winter. The first fawn was healthy at capture and was killed and consumed in a heavy stand of brush by a mountain lion.

While this is unfortunate for the fawn, there was nothing remarkable about this mortality.

The second fawn was not very healthy at capture and was the lightest fawn of the 26 weighed. It apparently succumbed to an attack by a coyote but escaped and died in a secluded area. Scavengers had not eaten it. The bone marrow of this fawn was red and runny suggesting it would not have survived the winter.

Natural winter fawn mortality has been documented to be over 40 percent in some growing populations. At less than 10 percent mortality so far, Magic Valley biologists are cautiously optimistic that this deer population may have turned the corner and may be starting to improve. However they are quick to remind me that winter is not yet over.

The department wants to remind the public that "critical spring green up" is just around the corner for most big game populations. This green up period represents the time when most big game animals are at their most susceptible to succumbing to the winter. Their nutritional "savings account" is tapped out and they cannot sustain human disturbance.

For people entering hunting please be aware of your impacts on deer and elk populations recovering from a stressful winter.

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer for the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Contact him at (208) 324-4350 or e-mail him at ghompland@idfg.gov or visit www2.state.id.us/ishg.htm

Experts strive to save mule deer habitat across West

RENO, Nev. (AP) - Wildlife biologists are mapping mule deer habitat from Mexico to Canada and identifying specific regional problems to try to stem the deer's decline across the West.

As recently as the 1960s, an estimated 2.3 million mule deer roamed the diverse landscape stretching from the Pacific Coast to the Great Plains and the deserts of the Southwest to the mountainous terrain of the Northwest Territories. But their numbers have since dropped sharply, the biologists reported.

In Nevada, mule deer populations dropped from about 149,000 in 1993 to 109,000 a decade later, said Gregg Tanner, big game chief for the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Mule deer are generally bigger than white-tailed deer and more muscular, inhabiting diverse terrain throughout the West from forested coastal regions to mountainous desert rangelands. Its name comes from its distinctive long ears, similar to those of a mule.

The Mule Deer Working Group of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies hopes to reverse the declining population

trend by identifying and mapping habitat and recommending how best to manage it.

"One thing we recognized early on, a lot of work done on mule deer has been done on a small scale," said Jim DeVos, research chief for the Arizona Game and Fish Department and chairman of the working group.

The biologists from Western states and Canadian provinces formed in 1998 to address mule deer management problems and promote cooperative research.

The three-year mapping project, DeVos said, will allow biologists and others to identify the key problems in the areas where mule deer live. It's expected to be completed this spring.

Biologists hope the information that will be made available on a Utah State University Web site will be used by property owners, land managers and urban planners to enhance and protect critical mule deer habitat.

Also, the group is starting to develop broad guidelines for managing mule deer habitat.

"There are a zillion habitat guidelines that have been written," he said. "But they're pretty darn site specific."

Effective habitat management, experts said, needs to recognize the social and political forces in the West, including population growth and natural resource development.

"We have to be a balance struck somewhere," said Terry Cloutier, president of the Reno-based Mule Deer Foundation. "Everyone has their own little interest and a lot of time wildlife tends to bite the dust."

Experts said there's no one cause for the deer's decline. They suffer from the same problems that plague other wildlife species - human encroachment and development, habitat changes, predators, diseases and climatic changes, such as drought and severe winters.

While some states are seeing a rebound, others are continuing a downward trend, DeVos said.

"Wildfire, particularly in central and northern parts of the state, have very seriously negatively impacted prime sagebrush communities and mule deer habitat," Tanner said in Nevada.

"What we're seeing right now, a lot of factors don't allow mule deer numbers to rebound to the same numbers they once did,"

DeVos said. "Climate controls the direction mule deer are going in. But habitat condition controls the amplitude, or the peaks and valleys that occur in the population."

In forest environments, experts say, fire suppression hurts deer habitat because it disrupts the natural rejuvenation of the grassy plants and shrubs called forbs that deer feed on. It also increases the intensity of fire when it does occur, leaving a moonscape terrain that can take decades to recover.

Without fire, the habitat is dominated by trees that may offer shelter but provide little food.

In other places like the Great Basin, massive fire destroys the delicate sagebrush ecosystem that is then taken over by invasive weeds such as cheatgrass, which then provides fuel for more fires.

DeVos said the Bush administration's Healthy Forest Initiative approved by Congress will help rehabilitate deer habitat.

"If we continue to be so far apart in our positions that no progress can be made, nature will continue to have these catastrophic fires and our arguments will continue and the forests will burn," he said.

Young hunters should register for education course

JEROME - Youth wanting to hunt this fall need to plan now to sign-up for one of the several hunter education classes this spring.

Because of last year's law change, allowing 10-year-old children to hunt small game with an adult, classes are expected to fill up early. A parent needs to attend the first night of class for all 9- and 10-year-old students.

"With this many eligible students, some may have a tough time finding a spot in class that will fit into their schedule," says Clayton Nielson, Fish and Game Hunter, Education coordinator.

Sign ups begin the third week of February and will be held at:

- Feb. 23 - Farmer's Insurance Office, at 130 Broadway Avenue North, in Bulli
- Feb. 23-24 - Boy Scout Service Center, at 2988 Falls Avenue East, in Twin Falls
- Feb. 23-24 - Cassia County Sheriff's Office, 129 East Front Street, in Elgin
- Feb. 24-25 - ISDB Campus (Round Building), 202 Fourteenth Avenue East, in Gooding
- Feb. 25 - Filer Middle School, 299 Highway 30, in Filer
- Feb. 25-26 - Blaine County Sheriff's Office, 201 First Avenue South, in Hailey
- Feb. 25-26 - Fish & Game Regional Office, 868 East Main Street, in Jerome

Registration times are from 5-8 p.m., with Bulli's going from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration requires an address, phone number, date of birth and social security number

Fish and Game notes

for each student. Cost is \$8 per student.

Education instructors are needed for hunter classes

With the growing demand for Hunter Education in the Magic Valley, Fish and Game is looking for new volunteer instructors in Hailey/Sun Valley area, Twin Falls, Wendell, Burley, Filer, Carey, Bliss, Jerome and Hanson.

Part of the criteria for being a volunteer instructor includes: Enjoys hunting, desire to perpetuate the sport of hunting by working with youth, pass a background check and department interview, attend an instructor workshop and practice teaching with a trained instructor.

"It's a big job, but it can be very rewarding," said Clayton Nielson, Fish and Game Regional Hunter Education Coordinator. "We generally ask the instructors to teach two classes a year, but with the influx of students some teachers have been handling as many as six classes a year."

"Our goal with getting new instructors it to help lighten the load of the current volunteers and provide the additional classes needed in the valley to satisfy the student demand," he said.

In preparation for the coming spring classes the Fish and Game will be hosting a training class for new hunter education instructors March 20-21.

Anyone interested in becoming

part of the Hunter Education program should call 324-4359

Fish and Game seeks input from hunters on seasons

JEROME - The Department of Fish and Game is still looking for hunters to help with the upcoming hunting seasons.

At big game public meetings held last week, Fish and Game employees only received comments from just over 80 sportsmen.

"We would really like to hear what they have to say on the proposed seasons," said Randy Smith, Fish and Game Regional Wildlife Manager. "The more information we can glean from the sportsmen gives us an idea on how they would like us to meet our management goals."

One of the subjects up for discussion is how to maintain the quality of mature bucks in hunting Unit 45, located north of Bliss.

"Hunter numbers and buck harvest in Unit 45 has increased. Controlled mule-deer-hunt, have increased to a level that is affecting the quality of mature bucks in the resident deer population," Smith said. "Hunter numbers have grown in recent years and hunter success has increased to over 50 percent. To insure the future quality of the hunt our goal is to reduce harvest from 130 bucks a year to 65."

Some of the options to reach this goal, include: A controlled mule-deer hunt with 200 permits; a controlled traditional mule-deer hunt with 400 permits,

or an unlimited controlled traditional muzzleloader hunt that restricts muzzleloaders Units 45, 52 and 53.

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

Other items the Department is seeking input on include:

- What did hunters think of the motorized vehicle rules in hunting Units 47, 48 and 49 and would they like to see the rule expanded to other units.
- Pro reproductive performance of mule deer in Unit 56 has resulted in lower deer numbers and low buck to doe ratios. The department is asking sportsmen which of three possible changes for the unit would be best.
- Possibly reducing the number of cow tags in Unit 43 to help increase the elk numbers in that unit.
- A proposed archery pronghorn hunt in Units 44, 48 and 52.
- Move the antlerless elk hunting season in Units 46, 47, 54 and 55 to March 1-21.
- Possibly shortening the Bennett Hills A Tag-general spike season by one week.
- Because traditional muzzleloaders are less effective than modern muzzleloaders, would hunters prefer to keep the current 40 muzzleloader antelope permits in Unit 47 or increase the permit number to 65 as a traditional hunt.

For more information, call the Department of Fish and Game at 324-4359. To comment on the proposed changes drop by the office at 868 E. Main in Jerome.

Reservoir shows good winter climate for cutthroat trout

POCATELLO (AP) - Recent measurement of dissolved oxygen content in the Blackfoot Reservoir indicated a good climate for fish, primarily cutthroat trout.

Dick Scully, regional manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, feared the dissolved oxygen level would be low because the reservoir was down to only 12 feet at its deepest point. Usually less water means less oxygen for fish especially if there is an ice cover.

However, the water had 4 to 6 parts per million of oxygen - sufficient to sustain trout, he said.

Fish start dying when oxygen levels drop below 3 parts per million, he said.

The last time Scully said there was high cutthroat mortality in the reservoir due to insufficient oxygen was in 1993.

"After six years of drought, the reservoir got almost as low as it is now, and a lot of dead fish were floating along the shore as ice began to melt and made a ring around edges of the reservoir," Scully said.

Scully believes a big storm Dec. 26 helped improve the reservoir's oxygen content. He said high winds blew snow and ice off the reservoir, allowing sunlight to penetrate the surface. Consequently, phytoplankton in the reservoir were capable of more photosynthesis, producing more oxygen.

PUBLIC MEETING
Please Join Us

Bureau of Land Management

Will discuss proposed grazing use changes to

The Saylor Creek Wild Horse Herd Management Area

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Oregon Trail History and Education Center
at Three Island State Park, Glenns Ferry, ID

3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

For More Information, Contact
Jeff Steele at (208) 736-2350

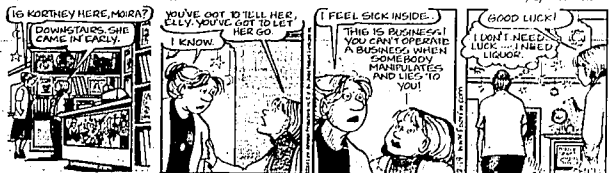
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



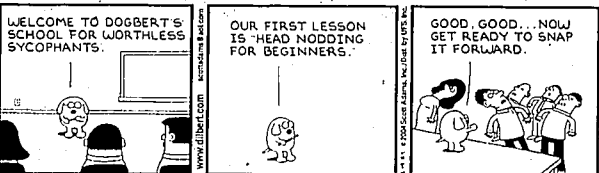
Far Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis



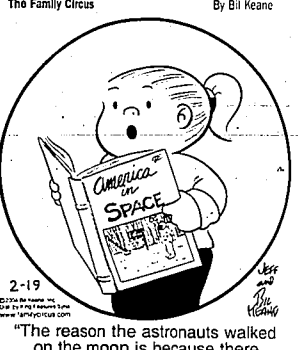
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



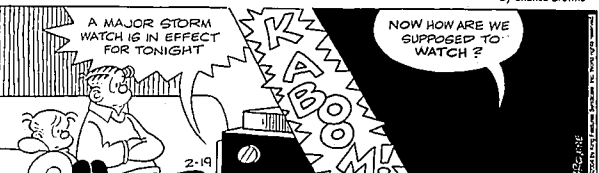
The Family Circus

By Bill Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



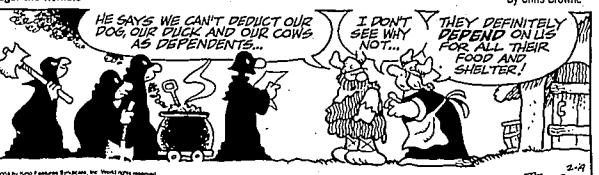
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Luan

By Greg Evans



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



OUTDOORS

Kicksleds make inroads in Alaska recreation

SOLDOTNA, Alaska (AP) — Norma Smith had never stood on the runners of a kicksled before she tried one out at the Kenai Peninsula Winter Games. Three hours later, she entered a race and clocked 130 yards across the finish line.

"Not had for the 82-year-old me from Kasilof."
"I dragged her out here," said Smith's daughter, Norma Daniels, as she watched her mother practice. "She's more excited than I am."

Smith, Daniels and dozens of peninsula residents embraced the snow outside the Soldotna Sports Center courtesy of Paul and Teresa Quade of Kenai, owners of Alaska Sparken, the only distributor of the Finnish-made kicksleds in Alaska.

Paul Quade, 55, is part salesman, part missionary for kick sports in Alaska, proselytizing skeptics who mistake kicksleds for toys. He sings the praises of kicksleds as an alternative to cross-country skiing.

"The last 50 pounds in three years on them things," he said of kicksleds and the scooters he sells for summer use. "That made a big difference to me."

Spent 10 minutes with Quade and you'll have eight reasons why every Alaskan should own a kicksled. Spend 10 minutes on a kicksled and you may decide he's right.

Think scooter on snow — or ice. Think Fred Flintstone driving a Flexible Flyer with handlebars.

Kicksleds are a traditional mode of transportation in Nordic countries. Swedes, Norwegians and Finns used them to gather firewood, Quade said.

Between 1890 and 1900, kicksled racing was a national sport in Finland. The sport disappeared for 85 years and kicksleds were relegated to children and the elderly.

In the mid-1980s, Finnish medical student Hannu Vierikko had the idea of using kicksleds for cross-training. He experimented with designs and came up with the steel and aluminum models used today. He founded Kickbike Worldwide, selling scooters under the copyright name Kickbike, and kicksleds.

Quade sells the sleek Kickpark, designed by Vierikko and manufactured by E.S. Lahinen, better known as ESLA, which has been building kicksleds since 1933. The Kickpark's steel runners connect to an aluminum tube and handlebars. The kicksleds come in three colors, fold down to fit in a car and weigh about 14 pounds.

Kicksleders stand on one runner and kick with the other leg. When one leg tires, they switch. The steel runners flex with the handlebars to make wide turns.



AP photo

Quade hates treadmills. In late 2000, he wanted outside winter exercise that would not irritate his bad back and knees. And he wanted an activity he could do with his three children, then ages 5 to 11. Browsing on the Internet, he found kicksleds.

The family sent away for four and spent the winter playing. When summer came around, they started thinking of commercial possibilities. The kicksleds are now carried at shops in Anchorage, Girdwood and Palmer. Quade sold about 60 in 2002 and 140 last year, though not all in Alaska.

Cross-country skis have advantages. They're faster. Skis are more energy efficient — once you've had them waxed and once you've driven to a groomed trail.

The convenience of kicksleds is a big selling point.

"You can go right from your door, get 20, 30 minutes of exercise, outdoors," Quade says.

There's no waxing and less need for accessories. You can kicksled in running shoes or boots, or you want to get fancy, crampons, ice grippers or track shoes with spikes.

Learn to ski and you can count

On the Net

Alaska Sparken:
www.AlaskaSparken.com
Kickbike Worldwide:
www.kickbike.fi
ESLA:
http://www.esla.fi/indexe.htm
International Kicksled and Scooter Association:
www.wildhorse.com/walcominc.html
Weissensee, Austria International Kicksled Day:
www.autoped.nl/weissensee/eng/s.html

on a certain amount of falling. Kicksleds are a far more stable platform.

"I haven't been up on skis for 15 years," said Norma Daniels, a grandmother herself. "These will hold me up a little better."

Quade's initial kicksled training sessions last about two minutes — less for 3-year-olds.

"It's a low skill level to jump on them," Quade said, "but the technique can be developed over the years."

Bill Evans of Anchorage, a commercial fisherman, falls in the latter camp. He has raced kicksleds in Finland and Austria in events



Above, Brock Sarka, 2, kicks toward the finish line of the Kicksled race during the Kenai Peninsula Winter Games in Soldotna, Alaska. Left, Paul and Teresa Quade of Kenai, Alaska, owners of Alaska Sparken, show the traditional ESLA Kicksled in Soldotna on Jan. 31. The Quades are the only distributor of the Finnish-made Kicksleds in Alaska.

from 100 meters to the marathon, 26 miles. He circled an ice oval 110 times at Westchester Lagoon in Anchorage to say he had raced 50 kilometers, about 31 miles.

"As far as I know, I'm the only one who has ever attempted a 50K on a kicksled in Alaska," he said.

Racers try for maximum traction, lifting knees high, swinging their push leg like a pendulum, stepping down close to the opposite foot on the runner. They can reach speeds approaching 25 mph.

There's one other advantage over skis. Kicksleds work on ice, snow or hardpack. For fresh snow, Quade sells plastic runners to fit over the blades. For rinks, ice, he sells runners that have a blade like a skate.

Quade also sells traditional ESLA kicksleds. Instead of a metal, they have frames of birch and come with a seat in the front to carry gear or a passenger. One is designed for ice fishermen.

Sleds cost \$200 to \$230, not counting accessories such as specialized runners. Kicksleds for children under 8 cost \$109.

Anyone who entered the Kenai Peninsula races on Jan. 31-Feb. 1 was eligible for a drawing for a free kicksled. Smith, the great-grandmother, said the kicksleds brought back memories of riding a scooter when she was a child.

"I love it," Smith said. "If I won one of these, I'd be out every day of the winter."

Snowcat skiing: Every day is a powder day

By Roger Phillips
The Idaho Statesman

BOISE — Tamarack Resort's snowcat reared back like a stubby jetliner lifting off. Its diesel engine rumbled and its tank tracks dug into the snow, tilting the dozen skiers and snowboarders back in their seats as they rapidly gained precious elevation.

They chattered like school kids on a first field trip as they peeked out the windows at the snow-covered slopes. The traces of old ski tracks were barely visible, like a giant snake slithering down the mountain.

Soon the snowcat reached the foggy, wind-swept spine of West Mountain and the skiers and boarders prepared for their first run down Tamarack's new slopes. They clicked into ski bindings, strapped on snowboards and launched downhill, throwing thick rooster tails of snow with every turn as they careened down the mountain. The fog parted to give them a glimpse of the surrounding forest, peaks and Long Valley and Lake Cascade spread out below.

"It's neat to see how each run changes as you go through it," Ross Riegel of Cascade said. "You get surprises, a new view or a new bowl to ski."

Loggers spent last summer cutting the first ski runs on the mountain. Tamarack plans to have ski lifts installed next year, but for those who can't wait, the cat will give them a sneak peek at the resort's taking shape.

"It's got really nice pitches, rolling terrain and beautiful scenery," Belinda Brey of McCall said. But her favorite part was the powdery glades. "Think the best thing about this mountain is the tree skiing," she said. "There's a lot of pockets in the trees,

and they're naturally spaced." Uncrewed slopes and powder are what cat skiing is all about, and Tamarack provides an opportunity for intermediate-to-advanced skiers to get more powder turns in a day than they are likely to get all season at lift-served resort.

Early storms allowed Tamarack to get a jump on snowcat trips in December. But according to lead guide Y.T. Nelson, prime time is mid-January through mid-March, when consistent snow storms pelt the Central Idaho mountains.

"That's really the meat and potatoes for the backcountry," Nelson said.

Tamarack is developing its ski runs for all levels of skiers and snowboarders, which gives intermediate skiers and boarders a unique cat-skiing opportunity.

Cat-ski trips typically take place in the backcountry on natural terrain, which often makes them expert-only trips. "Anyone who can ski a blue run on a powder day can do this," Nelson said.

Mark Anderson, a longtime Boise Telemark skier, had hiked to the slopes of West Mountain before taking a cat-ski trip at Tamarack last month. "It seems like it has a really good angle for intermediate to advanced skiers," he said. "You don't have to be an expert to do it; it's pretty friendly."

Tamarack will make it even friendlier later this winter when it starts grooming the bottom part of the mountain. Nelson said the cat-ski trips will concentrate on the upper half of the mountain, or wherever the snow is best. Then at the end of the day, skiers will be able to ski from the summit down 2,800 feet to the resort's base area for apres ski snacks and drinks.

Classifieds 733-0931

BLM Wild Horse ADOPTION

What Wild horses are available for adoption on a first-come first-served basis, now through March 14 at the Boise BLM corral. Select your horse before noon and 8:00 pm Monday through Friday until March 5, and every afternoon from March 8 through March 14. A non-competitive fee will be charged for each horse.

Where: BLM horse corral, south of Boise on Pleasant Valley Road (4 miles south of the junction with Gowen Road).

Adopter Requirements: Potential adopters must be at least 18 years of age, have facilities consistent with BLM requirements, have no history of mistreating animals, and must have an adoption application approved by BLM. Applications may be approved at the corral site.

For additional information, contact Sam Matlase at (208) 817-1179 or 384-3356, or Joan Howard at 384-3437.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Wild Horses and Burros Program

Idaho ski areas offer tempting new runs, lifts and packages

LEWISTON (AP) — This winter offers new terrain for skiers and boarders and next winter will see even more.

Lookout Pass at Kelllogg and Brundage Mountain near McCall have each undertaken expansion projects that have added new ski runs. Schweitzer Mountain at Sandpoint has thinned trees on its backside to create new glade ski opportunities, and Silver Mountain at Kelllogg has cut four new ski runs.

Skiers willing to spend a little extra money this winter can get a sneak preview of next year's grand opening of Tamarack Resort at Donnelly. The soon-to-be ski area will offer guided cat skiing this winter. The price is \$249 per person, but if people book before the end of November for mid-week spot the cost is \$150.

Five to six runs and some lift lines have been cut at the hill that towers over Cascade Reservoir south of McCall.

"The whole upper half is blessed with lots of natural open terrain," says Steve Stuebner, a spokesman for the resort.

He says 25 percent of the terrain will be oriented for beginning skiers, 50 percent for intermediate and 25 percent for advanced skiers. Tamarack will open for lift service next winter.

Those looking for new territory don't have to wait. Brundage Mountain is in the beginning stages of its five-year expansion plan. Five new runs have been cut on the mountain, and crews have cleared thick brush to improve glade and tree skiing.

Brundage plans to add two new ski lifts next year, but the work depends on the ski area having

profitable winter, according to spokeswoman Mary Naylor at McCall.

The ski areas to the north also have new terrain. Silver Mountain has four new runs, the jewel being the new, double black diamond-rated Moonshine.

The ski area is in the beginning stages of a multi-year expansion project. Most of this year's work is at Kelllogg, where the ski area's gondola begins. Silver Mountain gondola to open by Nov. 27.

Schweitzer Mountain, chainsaws have made thinning easier for skiers who like to head off-trail and between the trees. Thinning was done to improve the glade skiing there.

Schweitzer will offer guided backcountry skiing off the backside-of-the-mountain this year. The price for a day of backcountry skiing and lunch is \$195.

Workers at Ski Bluewood near Dayron are putting the finishing touches on preparations for the ski season. Bluewood Manager Bruce Goodall is closely monitoring weather forecasts and wishing away the balmy weather of the past few days. The mountain has 15 inches of snow at its summit and 5 at the base.

"All it takes is one or two good dumps of snow."

"The next system is the one behind it both look promising," Goodall says.

The resort is scheduled to open Wednesday.

Regional ski areas are hoping to recover from a generally poor winter last year.

Many ski areas did not open until — December — and — even January. But already this year Lookout Pass has opened. Silver Mountain plans to open Nov. 27. Brundage is scheduled to open Wednesday.

Schweitzer has about 2 feet of snow at its summit, but needs at least another 18 inches to 2 feet to open. The resort has a planned opening date of Thanksgiving Day.

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"All it takes is one or two good dumps of snow."

"The next system is the one behind it both look promising," Goodall says.

Coming Friday ...

Gibson's 'Passion'

Mel Gibson's new movie is stirring strong emotions. Read more about it Friday in The Times-News.

Week-End in The Times-News

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For and about the Latino community

Comunidad

Community editor: Pat Morantowin - 735-3288

The Times-News

Thursday, February 19, 2004

Section E

After-school program offers fun, learning

By Heather Abel
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - It's Wednesday afternoon. Children file in, take off their winter coats, grab a slice of pizza. They joke with each other for a few minutes, then get started on their homework, work on their reading skills or color.

In mid-November, Noel Morfin founded this afterschool program for Hispanic children at El Milagro migrant housing complex in Twin Falls. The program is called Manos De Amistad, which means hands of friendship.

For Morfin, associate pastor in charge of Hispanic ministries with the United Methodist Church, the reason was somewhat personal. He remembers coming to Idaho from New Mexico when he was in the third grade.

"I had such a hard time in the third grade," Morfin said. "I know what these kids are going through."

Many children who speak mostly Spanish "mentally drop out" because they have a hard time understanding the English language in the school classroom, he said.

"A lot of them don't understand English very well," Morfin said. "We're trying to get them familiar with the language. And-most importantly, we want to get them reading."

On average about 25 children show up each week. The children get a snack, read, do crafts and get



Israel Perez, 11, foreground, his brother Alan Perez, 12, and Humberto Magana, 12, listen to Noel Morfin during the Manos De Amistad after-school program in Twin Falls.

help with homework.

Morfin said there will also be outdoor activities, like basketball and soccer, when the weather gets warmer. The Methodist Church pays for the program, which costs about \$150 per month. Donations are welcome and there is always a need for books, Morfin said.

"It's fun," said fifth-grader Soledad Verduzco, who enjoys the

activities, especially coloring and drawing.

Morfin's wife, Dana Morfin, is a reading specialist at Oregon Trail Elementary School, also helps with the after-school program, along with three or four other volunteers.

"You just hope that somehow you make a difference," Morfin said.

Lend your support

The free program is for children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. It meets once a week from about 4 to 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday. If you would like to donate to the after-school program or learn more, call Noel Morfin at 731-

Agreement plans to increase SBA training for minorities

BOISE - Increasing the amount of small business training for Idaho's minorities is the reason for the creation of a memorandum of understanding signed this week at the Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho.

Idaho Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, is working with the Hispanic Business Association, U.S. Small Business Administration, Nampa Mayor Tom Dale and Caldwell Mayor Garret Nancolas to produce an agreement that will create jobs and promote the growth of minority-owned small business, organizers say.

The memorandum of understanding will seek to improve access to capital, increase training and provide improved access to federal contracts.

"Small business is the backbone of our economy and with Idaho's Hispanic community now 10 percent of our population, the new jobs and new investment that will result from this agreement will benefit all of Idaho," said Crapo, a member of the Senate Small Business Committee.

"We hope to greatly increase U.S. Small Business Administration services to the Hispanic community. This important and growing segment of our population has not been participating in our programs in representative numbers. We want to make sure that everyone has the



Noticias

opportunity to participate in these programs," said SBA District Director Tom Burdell. "This partnership sets a precedent. I applaud the SBA's commitment to minority-owned businesses, and I pledge to work closely with the agency to ensure that the agreement is a success," said John Edwards, president of the Hispanic Business Association.

Mujeres Unidas de Idaho prepare for annual meeting

NAMPA - Mujeres Unidas de Idaho, a women's advocacy and education group, will hold its annual Conference July 30-31 at the Hispanic Cultural Center in Nampa.

For more information visit its Web site, www.mujeresunidasidaho.org.

College education includes lessons on Latin heritage

By Richard Brand
Knight Ridder News Service

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Katherine Estevez always thought she was the all-American girl, captain of her high school's volleyball team and a devoted fan of Britney Spears and NSYNC.

Now a junior at the University of Florida, the Miami Lakes native uses the word "American" to describe her Anglo classmates and hangs a Cuban flag in her dorm room. She's not confused or rebelling. She says she's simply reveling in her Cuban heritage on a rural campus dominated by Southern whites.

Experimenting with identity has always been part of college life. Now that experience is being enjoyed by an exploding number of second-generation Latinos like Estevez, Americanized as they come, yet still the children born of Hispanic immigrants.

For them, the search for identity is complicated by the way race and belonging sometimes overlap and contradict. Their parents call them gringos, their classmates now call them Hispanic.

The issue of Hispanic identity is even further muddled because for the first time the number of Hispanic births has surpassed the number of immigrants as a source of population growth - meaning that second-generation Latinos are fast becoming the dominant face of the Hispanic community.

The identities they shape in college will reverberate in American society, where Hispanics have become the largest minority group. According to recent surveys, second-generation Hispanics tend to be wealthier, more liberal and better educated than their parents.

Spanish radio shock jocks present obstacle for regulators

By Richard Brand
Knight Ridder News Service

The Federal Communications Commission may be in an uproar over Janet Jackson's exposed breast, but it's unlikely they were paying much attention to the raunchy jokes on the radio last week about her "teta desnuda."

"Spanish-language radio, once considered a tame alternative to its English counterpart, is getting known for shows with language and jokes racy enough to make Howard Stern blush.

Last week, for example, the most popular Spanish-language radio show among young people in South Florida, "El Vicio de la Manana" on WXXJ-FM, called Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide's office, and when they

For many of them, identity is fluid.

"It's confusing. When you're in Miami, they'll say I'm not Argentine because I wasn't born there, but when I'm in Gainesville, I don't feel American," said Michelle Murphy, a prelaw senior who founded the Argentine Student Association, which has 10 members. "We cling together."

Those feelings of confusion are common for second-generation Hispanics, says Roberto Suro, director of the Washington-based-Pew Hispanic Center.

"Immigrants tend to call themselves American. And the second generation is a mishmash," Suro said.

While there has long been a presence on the University of Florida campus of Hispanics, who formed their first organization in 1975, the number of student groups has boomed. Today the state's largest campus is home to about 50 Hispanic student organizations, including those for Chileans, Panamanians, pre-mex Hispanics, and Brazilian Capeoina fans.

"A Miami outpost," jokes Danny Sanchez, as he strolls through campus wearing a guayabera, paying homage to his family's Cuban roots but looking out of place on a campus where students more often wear jeans, T-shirts and flip-flops.

Sanchez, a sophomore, is president of the Hispanic Student Association, an umbrella group that has a budget of nearly \$30,000.

"Hispanics stick out here. They have a thick Miami accent, an accent I didn't even know existed before I got here," Sanchez says.

couldn't get through, called his secretary gay.

A competing show, "El Mismismo de Miami" on WRTQ-FM, quipped about bare bottoms and chusty belts.

The rise of the Spanish shock jocks in markets with large Latino populations like South Florida, New York and Los Angeles has raised a chorus of complaints from Hispanic leaders, programming watchdogs and politicians who warn the medium is too explicit and largely unregulated.

"The standard by which we judge radio has been shattered. The level of acrimony that is there, the crude language, it's inappropriate for public hearing," said Raul Yazguirre, president of the Washington-based National Council of La Raza.

Celebrities join march in protest of Mexican slayings

By Olga R. Rodriguez
Associated Press writer

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico - Actresses Jane Fonda and Sally Field marched through this gritty Mexican border city Saturday urging authorities to investigate the brutal slayings of hundreds of young women and girls.

Mexican authorities say 258 women have been killed over the past decade in Ciudad Juarez, a city of some 1.3 million people. Many of the victims were sexually assaulted, strangled and dumped in the desert near Juarez, across the Rio Grande river from El Paso, Texas.

"I'm here because 300 young, vibrant women are not," Field said. "Now is the time on this planet when we have to stand up and shine the light on injustice."

The demonstration was sponsored by Amnesty International and the nonprofit V-Day Foundation, led by "Vagina Monologues" playwright Eve Ensler, which combats violence against women worldwide.

Participants chanted, "Justice! And 'Not one more!' as they followed Ensler through Juarez. Hundreds gathered at Juarez city plaza, where they recited a prayer and sang.

Women in the crowd held enlarged black-and-white photos of some victims.

Fonda, Field and Ensler participated in a panel discussion alongside mothers of slain victims, Mexican officials and U.S. Reps. Hilda Solis, D-Calif., and Janice Schakowsky, D-Ill. President Vicente Fox's recent appointment of special prosecutor Maria Lopez Urbina has inspired some new hope that investigators will solve the killings.

Fox also has appointed human rights lawyer Guadalupe Morfin to head a commission coordinating the efforts of agencies investigating the slayings.

The panelists urged Mexico to dedicate enough funds to the investigation.

Fonda met Friday night with mothers of the victims and said



Esther Chavez-Cano, left, marches along side Sally Field, center, and Jane Fonda, right, Feb. 14 in Juarez, Mexico. The three joined others in a protest urging Mexico to provide sufficient resources to newly appointed officials helping investigate the slayings of hundreds of women in Juarez.

she heard how the authorities have ignored their cry for justice.

Many of the victims' relatives blame police corruption and

incompetence for allowing the murders to continue.

They say police tampered with evidence, tortured suspects and forced confessions from them.

Mexicans worry about Amnesty program

Los Angeles Times

JUCHITPEPEC, Mexico - Cesar Garcia, who was earning \$15 per hour milking goats on his farm in Atlixco, returned to his family here on Christmas Eve, elated to see his wife and daughter for the first time since his illegal trek to the United States four years ago.

When the Christmas season ended, the 29-year-old Mexican's joy turned to confusion. News of President Bush's proposal to recognize millions of undocumented workers in the United States reached his television screen, leading Garcia to curse his timing.

"If only Bush had made that

speech a month ago, while I was still working up there, I surely would have been in line for a work visa," Garcia said Thursday as he harvested bunches of cantaloupe to near the volcanic slopes of Mount Popocatepetl, 40 miles north of Mexico City. "By coming home, did I miss my chance?"

Such questions abound in Mexico, the country with the biggest stake in Bush's immigration initiative. While welcoming it, migrants and officials from President Vicente Fox wondered how many people will gain the right to live and work legally in the United States and how they will be chosen.

TAKIN' THE STAGE



American singer Randy Eblight of the Mexican rock group "Motolor" performs during a concert in Lima, Peru, on Feb. 12.

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*The 2003 Hispanic Advertising & Marketing Report by the Hispanic Business Association.

Snake River bros donate to help children

RICHFIELD - The Snake River Bros presented money to several children in need.

The presentation was made Jan. 24 at the Richfield School during half-time of a basketball game. The Bros gave \$500 to each recipient. The money was actually given before Christmas to help with a better holiday, members said. The presentations also were a chance for members to meet the recipients and their families.

Those who received funds are: Tyler Astumlek, 2, son of Trent and Amy Lykins of Shoshone, has suffered kidney infections for most of his life. He underwent a double surgery in Salt Lake in November.

Lia Rathbun, granddaughter of Wanda Karstetter of Richfield, lost her mother in an automobile accident last year. Then Lia suffered a broken femur and ribs,

ruptured spleen, crushed kidney, broken pelvis and head injuries in an auto accident. She is undergoing speech therapy.

Kyle Jones, son of Kathy and Roland Jones of Richfield was injured in an automobile accident leaving him with a broken femur and left arm and bruising to the brain.

Dane West, 6 months old, son of Kristen and Shane West was born with an intestinal disorder.

The Snake River Bros is a non-profit organization that raises money to help children in need. Funds are raised through membership dues, organized motorcycle rides, raffles, newsletter advertising and donations.

So that their contributions do not interfere with insurance or governmental sources, they have provided gas cards, new tires and RV site rent so families can be



Snake River Bros president Bob Smith makes a presentation at Richfield School. The group gave money to children in need. Pictured are, front row: Tyler Lykins with mom, Amy Lykins; Wanda Karstetter and granddaughter, Lia Rathbun; Kyle Jones with parents, Kathy and Roland Jones; Dane West with parents, Kristen and Shane West and older brother, Ian Burr; and Bros member Steve Johnson of Richfield. In the second row are Bros members.

together when children receive medical attention away from home, the club reported. The Bros also provide gift certificates for

University of Idaho announces fall 2003 dean's list

MOSCOW - The University of Idaho announced the names of the students who made the dean's list for the fall semester, August to December 2003.

To make the list, undergraduate students must earn a term grade point average of 3.3 or better on 14 or more graded credits, and law students at least 3.0 GPA for a minimum of 10 graded credits.

Area students and their colleges are:

Bliss
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Lana Hooper

Buhl
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Tamra Geska and Johanna Hatt
College of Education: Tamra Geska
College of Engineering: John Barker and Matthew Busby
College of Law: Melissa Kippes and least 3.0 GPA for a minimum of 10 graded credits.

Burley
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Jerri Burger and Jakobi Conley
College of Science: Lake Edwards

Castelford
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Noelle Graboal

Fairfield
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Amika Backstrom

Filer
College of Education: Michelle Marquardt and Michelle Pospichil
College of Law: Tyson Nelson

College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Samuel Lopez
College of Science: Samuel Lopez

Gooding
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Erica Black
College of Education: Katie Wood
College of Engineering: Christopher Camie
College of Law: Margaret Sjostrom
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: George Arkosh, Elizabeth Bento, Erica Black and Katie Wood

Hagerman
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Bryce Johnson

Hailey
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Kristin Gallup and Amy Harrison
College of Business and Economics: James Farley
College of Education: Julie Nordstrom
College of Engineering: Mark Hagec
College of Law: Heidi Koonec
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Christopher Martin, Julie Nordstrom and Tessa Sheehan

Hansen
College of Law: Robert Gibson
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Sara Nelson

Heyburn
College of Law: Gregory Forbrach
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Kellene Koch

Jerome
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Andrea Cox, Becky Klimes, Robin Nafelt, Douglas Otis and Houston
College of Business and Economics: Sean Diehl, Benjamin Hornbacher
College of Education:

Melanie Alves
College of Engineering: Christopher Horgan, Karen Marshall, Laura Marshall, Callin Petersen and Wayne Thompson
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Casey Emerson, Krysta Gregg, Allison Marshall, Tyler Mesery and Phillip O'Connor
College of Natural Resources: Javan Bauder, Erin McElmonds and Casey Prestwich
College of Science: Jovian Hamler, Erin McElmonds and Tyler Mesery

Ketchum
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Taryn Wheeler

Kimberly
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Arton Carter, Amy Feinsuen, Miranda Melnyk and Laura Wells
College of Engineering: Matthew Shewmaker

Murtaugh
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Branden Bourn

Oakley
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Stacy Collette
College of Business and Economics: Derik Robinson
College of Education: Steve Collett
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Derik Robinson

Richfield
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Martha Burgess

Rupert
College of Education: Ashley Powers
College of Engineering: Joseph DePhillips, William Goodman, Brian Cotton and Scott Leback
College of Science: Connie Rensberg

Shoshone
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Ana Mamani

Sun Valley
College of Education: Christina Pendl

Twin Falls
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Rebecca Allred, Janna Bitt, Abbey Burgess, Elizabeth Burks, Angela Vanouzer and Janna Verburg
College of Business and Economics: Briana Allen, Natalia Bespyatova, Andrew Crist, Nicholas Olsen, Nathaniel Poppino and Allison Roloff
College of Education: Melanie Baldwin, Elizabeth Burks, Leah Cantrell, Anne Hanna, Brooke Jardine, Heli Eric Lively, Charles Meade, Nicholas Waters and Angie Williamson
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences: Paige Allen, Sharon Bokma, Kelsey Bradshaw, Alexandra Caval, Ellen Feasulens, Erin Joslin, Samuel Keeter, Kathryn Lake, Benjamin Meade, Marisela Nietz, Nathaniel Poppino, Deborah Shegar, Ryan Spritzer, Timothy Taylor and Jume Tucker
College of Natural Resources: Abbey Burgess, Amy Carroll and Stacy Lytle
College of Science: Brett Bingham, Sharon Bokma, Brooke Jardine, Dana Kaster and Scott Spritzer

Wendell
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences: Tamm Flores and Alike Vander Pol
College of Business and Economics: Megan Landers
College of Education: Solomon Meye
College of Natural Resources: Bethany Muffley
College of Science: Timothy Cantrell

Filer City Library adds books to collection

FILER - The Filer City Library, 219 Main St., has added several new books to its shelves.

Adult: "A Carrier and Ives Christmas," "Christmas Letters," "Homespun Christmas," "Christmas Duty," "Our Presidents: Their Lives and Stories" and "First Ladies of the White House" by Nancy V. Skarman; "Shy Ann and Summer of '02," by Michael Frederick; "Wolves of the Call" by Stephen King; "Freed" by Carol Higgins Clark; and "Evan and Ellie" by Rhys Bowen.

Juvenile: "Daring Rescue at Sonora Pass," "Dangerous Ride Across Humboldt Flats" and "Mysterious Robbery on the Utah Plains" by Stephen Bly; "Phantom of the Haunted Church" and "UFO's" by Bill Myers; "The Little Hands Nature Book" by Nancy Fusco Castaldo; "Higby the Average Monkey" and "Higby Throws a Fit" by Todd Aaron Smith; "The Gigantic Little Hero: A Story about Perseverance" by Matt Whittlock; "My Happy Heart" by Melody Carlson; "Girls Think of Everything: Ingenious Inventions by Women" by Catherine Thimmesh; "A Worm's Eye View" and "The Star of Christmas" by Cindy Kenney; "The Pirates Who Usually Don't Do Anything" by Cindy Kenney; and "Eric Metaxas; 'My Best Friend' and 'We Are All Different' by Kirsten Hall; 'Oops! I Made a Mistake,' 'Tyler is Shy' and 'Scaredy-Cat Sleepover' by Susan Hood; 'I can Jump Higher!' by Paul Z. Mann; 'Are you Still Mad?' by Ellen Weiss; and 'Lucky Duck' by Sue Kefner.

Juvenile video: "A Christmas Story" and "The Ballad of Little Joe."

For more information, call 326-4143.

Combined choir concert will be at Minico High School

RUPERT - Minico High School will present its Pops Concert at 7 p.m. Friday in the school auditorium, 292 W. 100 S., Rupert.

Performing will be the Spartan Singers, Reflections, Serenity Sounds, Concert Choir, several soloists and guests, the West Minico Middle School seventh- and eighth-grade choir.

Admission is by donation. Proceeds will help with expenses for an upcoming choir tour.

For more information, call 436-4721.

Program helps cancer patients cope with new looks

BURLEY - The American Cancer Society's "Look Good...Feel Better" program is a community-based, free program that teaches female cancer patients how to cope with appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment.

Using a specific program, certified cosmetologists demonstrate how women can use makeup, wigs and other accessories to look like themselves again.

Any cosmetologist who would like to help cancer patients, can call the local American Cancer Society at 878-5238 or Cindy Walters, American Cancer Society patient services chairman, at 436-0280 for more information.

Women who are undergoing or have just finished treatment, can also call the numbers for more information.

CSI's evening computer classes will begin Monday

TWIN FALLS - Evening computer classes will start Monday at the College of Southern Idaho.

The first set will include: "Introduction to Computers," "Introduction to Windows," "Introduction to PowerPoint," "Introduction to Front Page," "Home and Small Office Networking," "Using a Digital Camera," "More with Microsoft Access," "Dreamweaver" and "Personal Digital Assistants."

Each class will meet from 6:30-9:30 p.m. one evening a week for five weeks. Classes earn a college credit and costs \$82.50. The price does not include textbooks, which are available for purchase at the CSI bookstore.

Dancing-evening computer sessions will be held in March and April. For information, call Openka Paredes at 732-6441 or e-mail oparedes@csi.edu.

Buhl Booster Club sells scarves for athletics

BUIH - The Buhl Booster Club is selling beanies and scarves. The scarves read "Buhl Indians" and the beanies have an embroidered Indian head.

The scarves are \$12, the beanies are \$10 or \$20 for both. Profits go toward Buhl High athletics.

The scarves and beanies are available at the Buhl games or by calling Debora Laing or Mary Kelly at 543-4351.

Valley House announces election of new president

TWIN FALLS - Tim Obendorf was elected as the new president at the Valley House homeless shelter. Obendorf, who is a former board member, was elected in January and will serve a two-year term.

Other executive board members include Lori L. Bergsma, first vice president; John Martin, treasurer; Suzanne Root, co-secretary; and Norma Weaver, co-secretary.

For more information, call 734-7736.

Wendell United Methodist Men serve pancake dinner

WENDELL - The United Methodist Men will serve a pancake dinner for Shrove from 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Wendell United Methodist Church, 475 E. Main St.

A free will offering is accepted. For more information, call Herb Allred at 536-2446.

Gooding Duplicate Bridge club announces winners

GOODING - The Gooding Duplicate Bridge club has announced its Feb. 14 winners.

North/south: First, Henry and Dolores Robinson; second, Steve Borden and Lorna Bard; and third, Max Thompson and Bev Clark.

East/west: First, Rudy Grimes and Sam Smutney; second, Mary Steele and Lucy Gustafson; and third, Beverly Reed and Jeanne McComb.

A birthday party was given to Cecil Davidson. The bridge club plays at 1 p.m. every Friday at City Hall.

4-H sets up miniature horse classes, bassmaster club

TWIN FALLS - The 4-H Horse Committee has set up classes for miniature horses in showmanship and quality.

Some miniature horses are available for lease. The rules and bylaws are the same for other horse projects. A special needs class has also been added.

4-H has started a bassmaster fishing club. Leaders will teach fishing techniques.

For more information, call the Twin Falls County Extension Office at 734-9550.

FFA chapter serves annual appreciation breakfast

CASTLEFORD - The FFA will be having its annual breakfast from 7-8:30 a.m. Friday in the Castleford Ag Shop, 500 Main.

The FFA will serve eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, coffee, juice and milk. The event is free to the public.

Universal Peace dancers will teach in Buhl Saturday

BUIH - Dances of Universal Peace in the Magic Valley will hold a dance from 7-9 p.m. Saturday at the Eighth Street Center, 200 North Eighth, Buhl.

No experience is necessary. All ages are welcome. The cost is \$5 suggested donation.

Dances are led by certified, supervised leaders from Boise and Pocatello who are members of the International Network for the Dances of Universal Peace.

For more information, call 733-9681 or visit www.dancesofuniversalpeace.org.

DAV will hold several dances in the coming months

TWIN FALLS - The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) auxiliary will hold public dances starting at 8:30 p.m. Friday at the DAV Hall, 459 Shoup Ave.

Archie Turner will provide the music. The cost is \$2 suggested donation.

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Magic Valley Symphony League party succeeds

Many thanks to the businesses and individuals who made the 11th annual benefit card party a big success.

Thanks to Black Rock Clothiers, Candlestick Park, Edna Kukken, Every Blooming Thing, Gloria Hann, Gem State Walkers, Magic Valley Mall, Ruck's, Sycamore and Marion Shauntz for their generous contributions.

A mini-style show provided by Black Rock Clothiers was enjoyed by all.

Thanks to Father John Koelsch, Doty Miller, president

Jennifer Minkoff, Melanie Kerbs, Janice Forbes and league and symphony members who contributed ideas, desserts and footwork.

Special thanks to Janice for her cheerful, efficient supervision of the kitchen.

High scores in bridge were: An In Irvin, Margaret Brown and Cheryl Kaatz. High scorers in pinocle were Hazel Gates and Irene Surface.

Thanks to all for a great afternoon.

DORIS E. WILLIS
Publicist
Magic Valley Symphony League
Twin Falls

Cub Scout Pack banquet goes on with lots of help

Cub Scout Pack 139 held its annual Blue & Gold banquet, combined with Troop 139.

We want to give a really big thank you to the First Baptist Church for use of its facilities and a thank you for companies and people donating the food items:

United Daughters of Idaho, Solo Cup Co., Smith's Food & Drug Center, Brandt Sobotka, Albertson's Supermarket, Costco

Fraser, Jennifer Stevens, Kayla Miller, Samantha Sloum, Andrew Pospichal, Austin Hollingshead, Sarah Lassen, Amanda Jensen, Jaime Nebeker, Jillane Rainsdon, Collette Rosenkranz, Shannon Morrison, Kayla Schmidt, Jacob Dyson, Nicole Miller, Trent Garner, Nicholas Wilson, Amber Sheen, Ty Miller, Andy Hurley, Brian Bivens, Anika Summers, Caille Blass, Sara Elmuraat, Carrie Williams, Jose Ortega, Breah McCabe, Jaime Fort, Clinton Ward, Aron Mock, David Bitt, Cassandra Silveria, Morgan Weeder, Jennifer Orsland, Gregory Knutson, Joanna Plaza, Maveena Hoyt, Tyler Clelland and Rachel Auth.

The Letters of Thanks column will publish letters of up to 150 words from:

• Organizations thanking contributors or supporters.

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For more information, call 733-6931, Ext. 288.

To express gratitude of a personal or rather than public nature, call The Times-News Classified department at 733-0931, Ext.

Filer High School releases second quarter honor roll

FILER - Filer High School second quarter honor roll students were:

Seniors
Dami Thawte, Chelsea Robinson, Megan Lewis, Whitney Hurley, Ashley Shear, Adam Mouton, Tyler Lassen, Shannon Reaca, Lisa McLaughlin, Mandy Knight, Christopher Truong, Krista Chandler, Heather Dockstader, Brooke Raindon, Meghan Elliott, Cody Rheintraant, Kaysha Peterson, Jessica Alexander, Britney Pruntyre, Fabiana Mejia, Jeremy Fuchner, Matt Dyson, Tara Loughmiller, Letitia Holmes, Janelle Peters, Hannah Gobek, Christopher Behmuni, Drake Cantor, Jason Thompson, Katie Whit, John Walker, Loretta Drake, Rebecca D'Antonio, Haruka Sato, Jacqui Carnahan, Britney Rainsdon, Krystal Demoney, Chelsea Stutzman, Shauntz, Cassandra Abadie, Patrick Cloude, Katie Holloway, Jennifer Haines, Tiffany Ridley,

Joshua Lyndard, Jessica Nebeker, Lisa Roubush, Nicholas Barry and Andrea Sparks.

Juniors
Daniel Ramseyer, Carmen Koehn, Diana Hafliger, Larry Moore, Cameron Knigge, Cole Biltzberg, Kyle Madison, Amy Huddleston, Ryan Jordan, Alex Serrano, Brad Griff, Sara Wright, Teresa Jones, Jennica Meacham, Lindsay Heinkes, Casey Scheer, Emily Hamman, Dani Harnsing, Seth Gladwick, Brad Silvester, Elizabeth Benge, Scott Orvil, Tad Gill, Chandler Chapin, Kyla Hottroge, Sarah Woolley, Jessica McLean, Bradley Reeder, Lara Schmidt, David Ryan, Lucy Miller, Rosanna Jones, Aubrey Heinzelman, Andrea Tapia, Alicia Fernandez, Rachel Jaynes, Michelle DeBello, Sarah Moursel, Kim Toothman, Robin Critchfield, Irene Eger, Jodi Powsly, Carey Farnsworth, Kristina Stevens, Corey Farnsworth, Cassandra Abadie, Spencer Marsh and Rebecca Corvin.

Sophomores
Colby Vance, Chelsea Kack, Jared Denton, Sarah Hooley, Ashley McClain, Misty Becker, Will Nussbaum, Nicole Huddleston, Anthony DeLeon, Kristin Peters, Sarah Hays, Miguel Rosa, Angela Brown, Ely Sifer, James Harry, Kristina Rary, Cole Barham, Kindra Truett, Jennifer Stevens, Kayla Miller, Samantha Sloum, Andrew Pospichal, Austin Hollingshead, Sarah Lassen, Amanda Jensen, Jaime Nebeker, Jillane Rainsdon, Collette Rosenkranz, Shannon Morrison, Kayla Schmidt, Jacob Dyson, Nicole Miller, Trent Garner, Nicholas Wilson, Amber Sheen, Ty Miller, Andy Hurley, Brian Bivens, Anika Summers, Caille Blass, Sara Elmuraat, Carrie Williams, Jose Ortega, Breah McCabe, Jaime Fort, Clinton Ward, Aron Mock, David Bitt, Cassandra Silveria, Morgan Weeder, Jennifer Orsland, Gregory Knutson, Joanna Plaza, Maveena Hoyt, Tyler Clelland and Rachel Auth.

Freshmen
Hanna Mock, Christine Locker, Leight Anderson, Kelsey Newton, Katherine DeHann, Ashley Lytle, Shanae Astle, Britney Stults, Clemente Ramirez, Emily Hughes, Erica Nunes, Nathan McGrover, Cassie Vierstra, Cody Morris, McKenzie Hinkle, Jennifer D'Antonio, Laura Patterson, Rebekah Ray, Chandler Petersen, Heather Doves, Amanda Russell, Sara Hamman, Andrew Skinner, Sydney Miller, Megan Alexander, Britney Beard, Jared Lassen Tyler Hutchinson, Ashley Aston, Jose Rosas, Kelsi Vinney, Eric Serrano, Tyler Knigge, Chris Malberg Tyler Barlogi, Courtney Kissel, Hannah Sackett, Kyle Roubush, Jasmine Sackett, Anthony Gumbel, Kendra Koye, Francisco Sanchez, Shealyn Emory, Jared Bean, Sleyter Patterson, Seanfin Harvey, Brandon Berham, Jeffrey Hite, Kristina Cortes, Isaac Wright, Kristin Ragain, Pat Egan and Camille Aguilera.

The Times-News

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101 Lost & Found	402 Music Lessons	602 Unfurnished Houses	811 Heating & Air Conditioning	904 Motor Homes & RVs	1002 Auto Parts & Accessories
102 Card of Thanks	403 Tutoring	603 Furnished	812 Auctions/Auctioneers	905 Snow Vehicles	1003 Autos Wanted
103 Dietary Aids	500 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE	604 Unfurnished/Apts/Duplexes	813 Jewelry	906 Travel Trailers	1004 Antiques & Collectibles
104 Personals	501 Open House	605 Apts/Duplexes	814 Lawn & Garden	907 Utility Trailers	1005 Semis & Heavy Equipment
105 Happy Ads	502 Homes for Sale	606 Mobile Homes	815 Exercise Equipment	1006 Trucks	1007 Truck Parts & Accessories
106 Special Notices	510 Out-Of-Area Homes	607 Office & Retail Rentals	816 Miscellaneous For Sale	1008 SUV's	1009 Vans & Busses
107 Abortion Alternatives	511 Out-Of-State Homes	608 Commercial Rentals	817 Musical Instruments	1010 Autos for Sale	1011 Imports & Sports Cars
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109 Health & Wellness	513 Acreages and Lots	610 Storage/Warehouse Rental	819 Bicycles	1013 Auto Services & Repairs	3000 Service Directory
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111 Entertainment Service	515 Commercial Property	612 Roommates Wanted	821 Variety Food Svcs.		
113 Child Care Services	516 Vacation Property/Time Shares	614 Wanted To Space	822 Wanted To Buy		
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217 Employment Opportunities	519 Cemetery Lots	701 Livestock & Poultry	825 Camping & Hunting Equipment		
300 FINANCIAL	520 Real Estate Wanted	702 Dairy Cattle & Supplies	826 Sporting Equipment		
301, Business Opportunities	521 - Manufactured Homes	703 Horses & Tack	827 Garage Sales		
302 Money to Loan		704 Pets & Pet Supplies	828 Flea Markets		
304 - Investments			829 Firewood		

50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS	50 LEGALS
<p>512 - Washington Street North Phase II</p> <p>In accordance with Federal and State guidelines for public hearings, the City of Twin Falls issues the following notice: The design for the third phase of the Washington Street North Project, located between First Avenue and Falls Avenue, is ready for public review. A public design hearing is scheduled for February 26, 2004, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (open forum format) at the Twin Falls City Council Chambers to provide an opportunity for the public to view and discuss the design aspects being considered for this project. These aspects include: additional right of way requirements, property access, access locations and items needed to be removed or relocated (such as trees and fences). Written and/or oral comments related to the project design will be recorded at the meeting. During and following the meeting, the design team will work with the public to answer additional questions or resolve any concerns related to the project design. Your involvement on this project is appreciated and we cordially invite you to attend and participate in this public hearing. If you require special assistance or auxiliary aids for communication please notify Aaron Wolf or Andrew Swanson at (208) 733-2446 at least two days prior to the hearing.</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 19, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO AND IN FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>Case No. CV 04-395</p> <p>NOTICE OF HEARING</p> <p>In Re: Jessica Rose Bragg Date of Birth: June 6th, 1985</p> <p>A Petition by Jessica Rose Bragg born on June 6, 1985 in Ventura, State of California now residing at 2436 E. 3870 N. Flor, Idaho, proposing a change in name to Jessica Rose Bragg-Samano, has been filed in the above entitled court, the reason for this change in name being: I would like the same last name as my Step-dad. The petitioner's father is living. Such petition will be heard at 9:20 a'clock A.M. on March 8, 2004 at the Twin Falls County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can, in such objections, show to the court a good reason against such a change of name.</p>	<p>"WITNESS My hand and seal of said District Court this 26th day of January, 2004.</p> <p>By: Clerk</p> <p>PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>Case No. SP-90-374 & CV-1990-0431</p> <p>NOTICE OF HEARING</p> <p>In the Matter of the Estate of P. HILLIP WAYNE REEVES, Deceased.</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marlene Reeves has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or his estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice of said claims will be forever barred.</p> <p>Claims must be presented to the personal representative's attorney at his address indicated below, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.</p> <p>DATED this 29th day of January, 2004.</p> <p>Voorhees Lamure LLP LaJamie A. Lamure Attorneys for the Personal</p>	<p>produce evidence and cross-examine witnesses. In the event that the matter before the Court is going to be contested, the hearing shall be rescheduled on a date when the Court calendar will allow sufficient time for all parties to be heard.</p> <p>DATED this 5th day of February, 2004.</p> <p>STEPHAN, KVANVIG, STONE & TRAINER By Russell G. Kvanvig Attorneys for Trustee</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 12, 19 and 26, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>Case No. CV-04-231</p> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>In the Matter of the Estate of KATHLEEN RUTHERFORD, Deceased.</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Trustee has filed a Petition with the above entitled court for approval of the annual accounting and fees. The hearing is set for Thursday, the 25th of March, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. at the courtroom of the above-entitled court at the County Courthouse in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, as duly ordered by said Court for hearing said Petition. Only ten (10) minutes have been allocated by the Court for this hearing. Anyone wishing to contest the proceedings must provide the Court and all interested parties with 48 hours' prior written notice of their intent to</p>	<p>barred.</p> <p>Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.</p> <p>DATED this 13th day of January, 2004.</p> <p>6/2004/0209</p> <p>2091 Todd Way Moriand, Idaho 83642 (208) 288-5200 6/2004/0209 4720 W. Pasadena Lane Boise, Idaho 83705 (208) 345-4745</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 12, 19 and 26, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>MAGISTRATE DIVISION Case No. CV 2003-2533 ORDER, NOTICE, AND SUMMONS FOR HEARING</p> <p>In the interest of: MARVBETH SIVER, d.o.b. 05/05/02</p> <p>MAGISTRATE SIVER JR. d.o.b. 10/02/03</p> <p>Children Under Eighteen Years of Age.</p> <p>A Petition under the Termination of Parental Rights Act, as amended by the Department of Health and Welfare. The merits of the petition will be heard in an evidentiary hearing on March 25, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. in the Magistrate Court, Twin Falls County Courthouse, Twin Falls, Idaho.</p> <p>The following individuals shall personally appear at the hearing: FREDERICK KISSSEE-SIVER, Mother; JERROD SIVER, Father.</p> <p>The above-named individuals further notified that they are entitled to be represented by legal counsel. They are financially unable to retain an attorney, they may apply to the court for an appointment of counsel.</p> <p>January 27, 2004 Magistrate</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 19, 26 and March 4, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>MAGISTRATE DIVISION Case No. CV 04-3550 ORDER, NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>In the Matter of the Estate of MUREL E. 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All persons having claims against the decedent or his estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice of said claims will be forever barred.</p> <p>Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.</p> <p>DATED this 13th day of January, 2004.</p> <p>6/2004/0209</p> <p>2091 Todd Way Moriand, Idaho 83642 (208) 288-5200 6/2004/0209 4720 W. Pasadena Lane Boise, Idaho 83705 (208) 345-4745</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 12, 19 and 26, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>MAGISTRATE DIVISION Case No. CV 2003-2533 ORDER, NOTICE, AND SUMMONS FOR HEARING</p> <p>In the interest of: MARVBETH SIVER, d.o.b. 05/05/02</p> <p>MAGISTRATE SIVER JR. d.o.b. 10/02/03</p> <p>Children Under Eighteen Years of Age.</p> <p>A Petition under the Termination of Parental Rights Act, as amended by the Department of Health and Welfare. The merits of the petition will be heard in an evidentiary hearing on March 25, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. in the Magistrate Court, Twin Falls County Courthouse, Twin Falls, Idaho.</p> <p>The following individuals shall personally appear at the hearing: FREDERICK KISSSEE-SIVER, Mother; JERROD SIVER, Father.</p> <p>The above-named individuals further notified that they are entitled to be represented by legal counsel. They are financially unable to retain an attorney, they may apply to the court for an appointment of counsel.</p> <p>January 27, 2004 Magistrate</p> <p>PUBLISH: February 19, 26 and March 4, 2004</p> <p>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS</p> <p>MAGISTRATE DIVISION Case No. CV 04-3550 ORDER, NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>In the Matter of the Estate of MUREL E. JAENCHEN</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Beverly Mills and George Dewberry have been appointed co-personal representatives of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or his estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice of said claims will be forever barred.</p> <p>Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and filed with the Clerk of the Court.</p> <p>DATED this 13th day of January, 2004.</p> <p>6</p>					

MANFIELD, ROBERT AND DANIELLE
RESCHEDULED NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On March 25, 2004, at the hour of 2:00 o'clock PM of said day...

PHASE 16A FAIRWAY ESTATES SUBDIVISION, PHASE 16A
TWIN FALLS COUNTY, IDAHO, recorded in Book 16 of said Plat, page 30.

This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 27th day of May, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (reorganized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by LOIS J. JEFFS...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, interest and impounds of \$365.54, due per month for the months of October, November, 2003 and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

PUBLISH: February 12, 19, 26 and March 4, 2004

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
FA-17151
On the 3rd day of June, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (reorganized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by SHIRLEY L LONG...

PUBLISH: February 12, 19, 26 and March 4, 2004

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
FA-17129
On the 29th day of March, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (reorganized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by LOIS J. JEFFS...

PUBLISH: February 12, 19, 26 and March 4, 2004

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Mickey R. Alexander
On June 2, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 A.M. of said day, in the lobby of First American Title, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho, CHARLES C. JUST, ESQ., Attorney at Law, as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction...

This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by SHIRLEY L LONG...

PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2004

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
FA-17129
On the 29th day of March, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (reorganized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by LOIS J. JEFFS...

PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2004

LEGALS
Continued from previous page
Lot a distance of 80 feet to a point, thence South parallel to the West line of said plat, 220 feet to the South boundary line of said Lot, thence West a distance of 100 feet to the point of beginning...

LEGALS
Continued from previous page
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PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2004

106 SPECIAL NOTICES
A.C.O.H.O.L.I.C.S.
206-733-8300 & 207-0556

FAX YOUR AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538
208-677-4533 (Burley)

REMEMBER
The Burley office has traced some time ago in The Times-News's Now is the time to come up your picture - along with the Classified Dept. today!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
BANKRUPTCY
Accruing rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcies.
Jill Statler at 734-9452

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CLERICAL RECEPTIONIST intelligent & hard working person needed for handling medical... responsibilities include: reception, correspondence...

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CONSTRUCTION Building Superintendent... experience required... ability to do remodeling and new construction...

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DAIRY Looking for qualified person experienced in concrete masonry... 32713 Co Twin Falls, ID 83303

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DRIVERS Come join our team. Enjoy benefits such as home ownership... 888-965-7600

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JEROME country long home... 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 baths, 2100 sq ft... 731-777-7000

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MOUNTAIN HOME Grain Handling Facility... 13,000 bu. hopper... 209-532-0734

RUPERT Double wide for sale... 14.44 acres... 209-532-0734

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517 CONDOMINIUMS... TWIN FALLS Condo... 209-532-0734

518 MOBILE HOMES... OFFICE TRAILER... 209-532-0734

519 CEMETERY LOTS... TWIN FALLS Condo... 209-532-0734

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES... JACKPOT, NY 14'x66'... 209-532-0734

522 UNFURNISHED HOMES... "LANDLORDS"... 209-532-0734

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521 MANUFACTURED HOMES... JACKPOT, NY 14'x66'... 209-532-0734

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523 UNFURNISHED HOMES... Buhl (2) 4 bdrm... 209-532-0734

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff... "Being a hero is about the short-lived profession of an erger."

Sometimes giving a hand as a problem makes the solution lose. Readers know they must do something clever or unexpected, heightening their awareness. So, today, you are asked to read through the report of the action and decide who missed his chance. Instead of me here, there are two candidates for east.

Defending against six spades, West led the heart Jack. Declarer won with dummy's king and sensibly decided to set up diamonds. His next move was to run the diamond eight to West, who won with the queen and returned another heart.

Declarer won with the ace, drew trumps, and then took ruffing finesses against the diamond ace, leading high diamonds from the South hand and ruffing in dummy when the ace eventually appeared. Twelve tricks were made.

Well, you may have spotted that West had a deceptive play at his disposal. Suppose at trick two he wins the diamond eight with the ace, not the queen! Declarer will now surely place the diamond trump, he will attempt to ruff diamonds in dummy until the queen drops from the East hand. When it doesn't show up, he will not suspect the possibility of an overruff.

However, on the third round of diamonds, East will surprise declarer by overruffing the dummy. It would have been a triumphant moment for West. What a shame he missed it!

ANSWER: Bid only two diamonds; any other call significantly misdescribes your hand. A preemptive jump to three diamonds would suggest the same hand pattern without the diamond ace, perhaps, while a cue-bid would show a limit-raise, about a 10-count. Here you will bid diamonds again if necessary to emphasize your extra trumps, but there is no need to do so yet.

Classifieds... It pays to read the fine print. Call Twin Falls 733-0931 or Burley 677-4042



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4 WEEKS TO DAYS

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)
\$2 each additional line. Private Party only. Merchandise only.

TheTimes-News Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 677-4042

AIRDEALE-2 Panchito, male, 4 Panach X Border Collie puppies. Call 734-3587.

BEAGLE - Adorable 10 week old male puppy looking for a good home. \$500. Call 208-678-7437.

BEAGLE puppies AKC reg. 1st shots, physical, wormed. \$350. 208-436-9339 or 208-670-1116.

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BUNNIES cute, playful, lovable, have been handled (45 months old, 6 wks old) \$37-6399.

CHIHUAHUA & Terrier - Wants a good home! Call after 2:00 pm. 513-4066.

CHIHUAHUA puppies, 6 weeks old, \$30/offer. Call 208-526-8877.

CHIHUAHUA/Jack Russ - self Terrier mix pups, 7 wks, 2 males, 1 black, 1 brown. 208-878-3025.

CHOW CHOW Puppies \$100. Call 208-543-6320.

ENGLISH BULL DOGS AKC registered puppies, (2) females, \$1500. Champion bloodlines, fat and wrinkly. **READY NOW!** Call 208-324-9664.

ENGLISH SETTER AKC, 2 males, 10, 9 weeks old, dewclaws and fat shots. Highbow, guinea, blue. Beautiful show quality with national champion bloodlines. \$700. Call 208-678-8641.

FREE Alaskan Malamute, female, pure white, gentle, good with kids, adult, ice blue eyes. 208-733-4161 or 208-731-5397.

FREE Australian Shepherd Chow X, females, and mates. Call 208-432-6150.

FREE Australian Shepherd Heeler X, 2 years old, very friendly, spayed. Call 208-731-7532.

FREE cats, male neutered house cats. To good homes only. 425-5400 leave message.

FREE kittens, lovable, To good homes. Siamese X, 1 male, 1 female, approximately 6 months. Also a couple odd kittens. 324-0497.

FREE Lab, awesome full bred, 5 mo. old, to good home only. Call 732-6265.

FREE Miniature Collie and Miniature Pinscher X puppies, 6 weeks old, to good homes only. 423-6119.

FREE Pitbull X, puppies, black and white, 1 male and 1 female. 324-3076.

FREE Retriever, male, 6 mo. old, Lab, female 8 wks old, 11 wks old, 1 male, 1 female, 4 mo. old. Call 208-431-0686.

GERMAN SHEPHERD Pups, purebred, black & silver, AKC reg. 1st shots, \$350. 208-366-7272. www.silvermountainpuppies.com

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LAB AKC puppies, (3) males, (1) golden, (2) black, \$150. 644-1612.

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HAY 50 tons 2nd, 20 tons 1st, 200 bales 4th, 600 bales barley straw, sm. bales, sm amounts ok. 537-6671 oves/420-0079.

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HAY Alfalfa 2,200 TT bales top quality 3rd cutting. \$70/ton. Please call 208-587-9131 or 587-1161.

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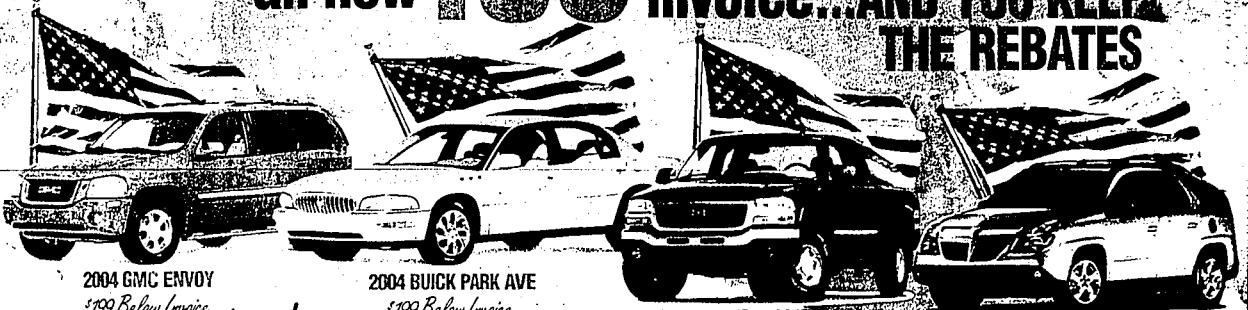
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