

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 62

The Tin

Tuesday, March 2, 2004

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Cloudy with chance of rain or snow today and tonight; high 41, low 24.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Snowmobile death: An ava-

Ianche kills a Kimberly man.

Page A5

MONEY

Industry outlook: Experts pre-

dict low beef prices this

spring, with higher prices'

later in the year.

Page B4

COMPUTERS

And it's loaded: eMachines

Inc. offers a 64-bit laptop for a

reasonable price.

Page B7

SPORTS



Wright stuff? One-time wunderkind Janet Wright will attempt a comeback this season with the Atlanta Braves. Page B1.

OPINION

Words on water: State's cur-

tailment order for groundwater wells could lead to suc-

cessful pact, today's editorial says.

Page A10

COMING UP



Need a house facelift?

Check out these home fix-it ideas in a special report.

Wednesday In
The Times-News

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Joyous Haitians greet rebels in nation's capital

U.S. denies it forced out President Aristide

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Thousands of people cheering the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide greeted a rebel convoy in the capital Monday with shouts of "Liberty!" as U.S. Marines and French troops secured key sites in the capital.

Dozens of insurgents packing an eclectic array of weapons dating to World War II swarmed around a posh hotel, where rebel leader Guy Philippe met with members of the political coalition that opposed

Aristide. He was joined by rebel commander Louis-Jodel Chamblain, who is a former army death squad leader and a convicted assassin.

With U.S. military forces on the ground and more on the way, U.S. critics questioned whether Aristide resigned of his own accord Sunday.

After being flown aboard a contracted U.S.-government plane to the impoverished Central African Republic, Aristide on Monday reportedly called members of the U.S. Congress and an African-

Please see HAITI, Page A9



U.S. Marines take position Monday morning at the International Airport in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. French forces also are part of the vanguard of a multinational force approved by the U.N. Security Council. Right, a looter leaves a market Sunday one block from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince.

VS

Wolves at the doorstep

Animals kill cow, calf near Glens Ferry

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

GLENS FERRY: A ranch west of here lost at least one cow and a calf to wolves over the past week.

Rancher John McCallum said Monday there are children who live on the ranch and they are his biggest concern. He spotted three wolf tracks.

"There were fresh tracks this morning. I found tracks 80 feet from my house," he said.

It's the first year the McCallums have encountered wolves on their ranch north of Hammett. The wolves are coming down from the Bennett Hills, McCallum said.

The ranch runs 500 head of cattle over a large area. The kills have occurred within 100 yards of one ranch house, and the children no longer are permitted to go outdoors alone, he said.

George Graves, assistant state director with the federal Wildlife Services office in Boise, said that wolf kills have been confirmed involving a cow and a calf on the Hammett-area ranch.

"We believe it's more than two wolves involved in the predation," Graves said.

Wildlife Services agents are federal hunters hired for predator control services. In this case, the agency must take directions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, because gray wolves are under federal protection in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

The Fish and Wildlife Service wants the animals trapped, fitted with radio collars and released again to locate their pack and track its movements, Graves said.

Lives are taken in the area over the past few years, but have reported suspected losses to wolves, but these are the first confirmed, Graves said. The cow died early Wednesday morning, and the calf was killed the night before.

The wolves mortally wounded the cow and left her, but they ate the calf, McCallum said. He said there has been another calf killed and consumed and another cow killed.

McCallum said he thinks wolves should be limited to a certain migration area and then eliminated if they pass out of the bounds into populated areas.

For wolf reintroduction advocates, the rapid recovery of the gray wolf population has been an endangered species success story. Fifteen gray wolves were released in central Idaho in 1995. The reintroduction program already has produced 35 verified Idaho wolf-packs and nearly 400 wolves in the state, according to the latest counts.

But conflicts with people and livestock continue to be a hot point of contention.

Commissioners said they would review the proposals and pursue the deal that would be best for the county.

"We have to make sure it meets our needs and the needs of the citizens of Twin Falls County," Mikesell said.

Please see BUILDING, Page A2.

Please see WOLVES, Page A3



AP photo

NATION

Iraqis hail compromise on interim constitution, but keep details private

The Washington Post

RAGHADH, Iraq – Iraqi politicians hailed the agreement on the terms of an interim constitution Monday as a model of compromise between the country's principal religious and ethnic groups that will create the most progressive, democratic government in the Arab world.

"The interim constitution's bill of rights is 'something that is unheard-of, unprecedented in this part of the world,'" said Adnan Pachachi, a leader of the U.S.-appointed Governing Council. Another council member, Shiite Muslim politician Mowaffak Rubaei, proclaimed "a historic day in the long march toward building

a new Iraq."

But the council's 25 members, who hashed out the interim constitution in marathon meetings with American and British officials, were reluctant to provide details of the document on Monday. Officials with the U.S.-led occupation authority also refused to disclose the specifics. The plan is to be unveiled to the Iraqi public in Wednesday, after English and Arabic drafts are reconciled.

Shiites insist celebrating a religious holiday, "the final wording still has to be agreed upon," said Jeremy Greenstock, the top British diplomat in Iraq.

Pachachi was asked by reporters to list some of the liberties enshrined in the bill of rights.

Reading from the final draft, he said it included the freedom of expression, assembly, demonstration, privacy, thought, conscience and religion – quiet among others.

He also said it contains a broad social contract that appears far more extensive than some in the Bush administration favor. The document guarantees all Iraqi health care, education and the right to strike, he said. But one right the document does not endorse, he said, is the freedom to bear arms.

The lack of an official summary of just what the interim constitution says, however, has resulted in political leaders describing the language of the G3 article law in ways favorable to them, even if they are not entirely accurate.

IRS allows tax break for treatment

The Associated Press

OBESE Americans who take drastic, expensive actions to lose weight under a doctor's orders will at least be able to lighten their tax load.

The Internal Revenue Service allows taxpayers who are forced to spend thousands of dollars because of obesity to deduct expenses for stomach-stapling surgery, approved weight-loss drugs and nutritional counseling.

"At least one arm of the government recognizes the need to reward people for getting in shape," said Linda Webb Carillo, a spokeswoman for Weight Watchers International Inc.

In claim the deduction, a person must itemize. Deductions are allowed for uncompensated expenses for the treatment of an individual, spouse and dependents if the cost is more than 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income, IRS spokeswoman Kris Moor said.

For example, a person with an adjusted gross income of \$50,000 would only be able to deduct medical expenses exceeding \$3,750. The average cost of a gastric-bypass operation is about \$25,000.

Some, but not all, insurance plans cover them.

The IRS designated obesity as a disease in April 2002 and established deduction guidelines in its Publication 502. Previously, taxpayers only were allowed to claim the cost of weight loss programs recommended by a physician to treat a specific disease associated with obesity such as hypertension.

"The IRS ruling took a lot of people by surprise," said Morgan Downey, executive director of America-Obesity Association. "This takes a different approach from the normal kind of urging everyone to diet and exercise as a lifestyle recommendation because it recognizes obesity as a major medical problem."

The IRS ruling does not define obesity – generally described as "excess body fat of 30 pounds or more over ideal body weight, or a body mass index of 30 or more." A doctor's diagnosis is required before the surgery or nutrition counseling costs can be deducted.

There is growing evidence that obesity is taking a toll on the nation's health. The number of obese adults has doubled in 20

The cost of obesity

The IRS allows a tax deduction for weight-loss related expenses. To qualify, expenses need to be over 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income and a doctor's diagnosis of obesity is required.

National medical spending on obesity in billions:

Insurance category	
Out-of-pocket	\$ 6.9
Private	16.1
Medicaid	10.7
Medicare	13.8
Total	\$47.5

Note: Estimates are from a 2003 study of information from 1990.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

years, and is now up to nearly 59 million people, or almost a third of all American adults. Childhood obesity has tripled, with one child in six considered obese.

Officials charge relative with murder of family



Ernest Lee Hargon scattered rain and into the evening hours for the bodies.

In a Yazoo County courthouse about 100 miles away, Ernest Lee Hargon heard the three capital murder charges read and was ordered held without bond.

He is a cousin of Michael Hargon, 27, who disappeared on Feb. 14 along with his 29-year-old wife and their son, James Patrick. Friends and relatives of the family, many visibly shaken, attended the brief court appearance.

Blood-spattered bullet casings were discovered at the family's home in Yazoo County after their disappearance. Investigators have not found a .22-caliber weapon that apparently was fired in the house.

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Reinke Sales Event Grand Prize Winner

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Vincent of Twin Falls are shown here being congratulated by Kermit Cochran, Reindee Manufacturing, and Ben Neff, Farmore Irrigation, at Agri-Action in Twin Falls, February 21st.

The Vincents won the grand prize of a John Deere Gator, awarded by Reindee and Farmore Irrigation from the nationwide 2003 Reindee Pivot Sales Event.

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Times-News writer Jennifer Sandmann can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or jsandmann@magicvalley.com.

Candidates vie for bushel of delegates

The Associated Press

Some just say no to Medical Marijuana PAC

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON – The Medical Marijuana PAC made its first contributions last week, saying it would back "medical marijuana supporters in close races." The first batch of \$1,000 contributions went to a bipartisan group of six candidates in close races. It's "the next step in the evolution

of medical marijuana as a political issue," the Marijuana Policy Project's Steve Fox said in an announcement adding that public support for medical marijuana is in the 75 to 80 percent range.
So, of the six – Reps. Bob Beauprez, R-Colo.; Michael Michaud, D-Maine; and Rick Larsen, D-Wash. – just said no... thanks.

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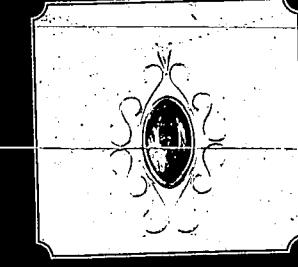
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Pedophile case opens in Belgium

ARLON, Belgium (AP) — Belgium's public enemy No. 1 and three co-defendants went on trial Monday on charges of kidnapping, abusing and killing young girls in a mid-1990s crime spree that shocked the country — as much for the inept police work as for the depravity of the acts.

Marc Dutroux, 47, his ex-wife and two other defendants sat silently during selection of a 12-member jury and 12

alternates. At one point Dutroux seemed to nod off. "Your client is going to fall asleep," Judge Stefane Goux told one of Dutroux's three lawyers.

The case深藏在 the eve of the trial, when Dutroux said in a letter to VTM television network that he was part of a criminal network with tentacles in Belgian law enforcement. He said co-defendant Michel Nihoul, a 62-year-old Brussels lawyer, played a key role in the

wider organization.

Dutroux is charged with kidnapping six girls and killing four of them. The girls, two of them just 9 years old, were abused in the cellar of a house owned by Dutroux. At the time the former electrician was free on parole for abducting and raping young women.

Dutroux is also charged with killing an accomplice, Bernard Wehnlein, whose body was found in a yard next to

one of Dutroux's seven homes. At parliamentary probe found that rival police units hindered the search for Dutroux, who was finally arrested Aug. 13, 1996.

Investigating magistrates have bickered over whether he was a lone or part of a pedophilia network. One magistrate was even removed for showing bias when he attended a benefit event for the victims' families.



Marc Dutroux, 2000

ENJOY SOME EARLY MARCH GREENERY at SWENSEN'S

This week, Swensen's would like to offer you a head start on the Spring season — with amazing prices on field-fresh green produce transported directly from warmer climates. So stop by

Seedless GRAPES	NAVEL ORANGES
99¢ lb.	10/\$1 38 lb. Box: \$9.99
Red or Green LETTUCE 2 \$1 Heads For	Fresh Bunched SPINACH, Romaine & Iceberg LETTUCE 69¢ Ea.
Extra Large Snow White CAULIFLOWER	Green CABBAGE 3 \$1 Lbs. For
Fresh Bunch BROCCOLI	99¢ Ea.
Mini CARROTS 1 lb. Bag	89¢ Ea.
Fresh Florida CORN 4/\$1 Classic Coleslaw or Tossed	DOLE SALADS 99¢ Ea.
Extra Fancy Large FUJI APPLES 879¢ Lbs.	

Lean Ground BEEF	Boneless Beef TOP ROUND STEAK
\$1.59 Pkgs. 5 lbs. or More	\$2.29 1 lb. S1.69 Pkgs. Less than 5 lbs.
Beef CUBE STEAK	\$3.49 1 lb.
Fresh Pork PICNIC ROAST 69¢ Lb.	Family Pack PORK CHOPS \$1.89 Lb.
Western Family LUNCH MEATS 12 oz. 3 Varieties 99¢ Ea.	Center Cut PORK LOIN CHOPS \$2.19 1 lb.
Top Value BACON 1 Lb.	Stoves PORK SAUSAGE ROLLS \$1.29 1 lb. Ea.
FALLS BRAND WIENERS or FRANKS 2 lb.	\$3.59 Ea.

KELLOGG'S CEREALS
• Crispix 12 Oz.-18.5 Oz. • Asst. Fruit Harvest 12-14 Oz.
4/\$10
Maruchan RAMEN NOODLES 3 Oz. 10/ \$1
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Banquet	Tree Top APPLE JUICE 12 Oz. Froz. Conc. 5/\$5
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Western Family ICE CREAM Half Gallon 2/\$3	Western Family ORANGE JUICE 12 Oz. Froz. Conc. CASE of 24: \$18.88
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Western Family POTATOES • FRIES • BARS • TATERS • HASHBROWNS 32 Oz.	Western Family FROZEN VEGETABLES • CORN - PEAS • PEAS & CARROTS • MIXED VEGETABLES 16 Oz. 99¢
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Western Family OIL Asst. 18-25 Oz.	2/\$3 • Vegetables 32 Oz. Canola
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Betty Crocker SUPREME BROWNIE MIXES Asst. 18-25 Oz.	2/\$3
Western Family CREAM SOUPS 10.5 OZ. CELERY • BROCCOLI CHICKEN • MUSHROOM	5/\$3

Purina CAT CHOW 18 lb. Cottonelle BATH TISSUE 12 Roll Pkg.	Tidy Cat CAT LITTER 20 Lb. \$2.99
CHEER DETERGENT 86 Oz. Powder 80 Oz. Liquid 2/\$10	GAIN DETERGENT 78 Oz. Powder 100 Oz. Liquid \$4.99

Nestle's QUIK Ready to Drink Asst. 16 Oz.	Western Family SPREAD BIG 3 lb. Tub \$1.29
Western Family Sliced Cheese SINGLES BIG 16 Oz. Pkg.	2/\$5
Cream O' Weber HALF-N-HALF Qt.	Cream O' Weber BUTTERMILK Qt.

SHASTA 6 Pack	5/\$5
FRESH from the SWENSMART BAKERY	
12 Oz. 1 Loaf	RANCH ROLLS 99¢ Maple or Chocolate BARS 2.79¢ 2/\$3
EDDY'S Giant SANDWICH BREAD 24 oz.	PURINA CAT CHOW 18 lb.

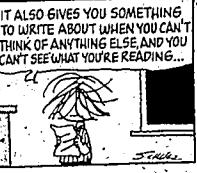
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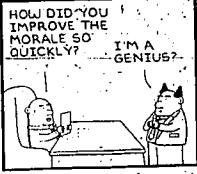
COMICS

Classic Peanuts



By Charles M. Schulz

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Garfield



By Jim Davis

Hi and Lois



By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

The Wizard of Id



By Chris Browne

Hagar the Horrible



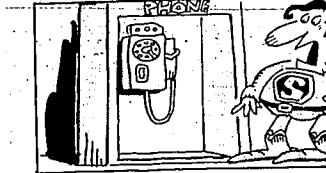
By Mort Walker

Beetle Bailey



By Bob Thaves

Frank and Ernest



By Greg McNamee

The Born Loser



By Greg Evans

It's High Time You Broke Down and Bought Glasses!

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Blondie



By Dean Young & Stan Drake

Picicles



By Brian Crane

Dennis the Menace



By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus



By Bill Keane

Rose Is Rose



By Pat Brady

Zits



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

Luann

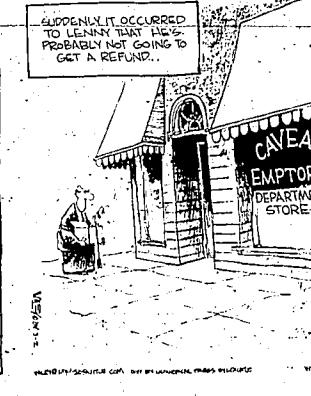


By Greg Evans

Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur



By Wiley

