

The Times-News

GOOD MORNING

Off the tracks

Train derails in Burley; no one is injured

By Lorraine Cavener
Times-News correspondent

BURLEY — Garth Bean was sitting in his pickup Saturday at the Occidental Avenue crossing in Burley, watching a train slowly make the bend toward the old sugar factory.

"I looked up and there was the train lying on the side of the track," he said.

"As one car came off the rail, several others followed.

"The ground was wet and the train was pushing the track down," Bean said.

Several of the train's cars went off the track before the engineer realized something was wrong and stopped, he said.

Jack Lisle, general manager of Eastern Idaho Railroad, said Saturday that company officials had not yet determined exactly how the train derailed.

"I'm not going to speculate," he said. "We don't know it's soft dirt or what."

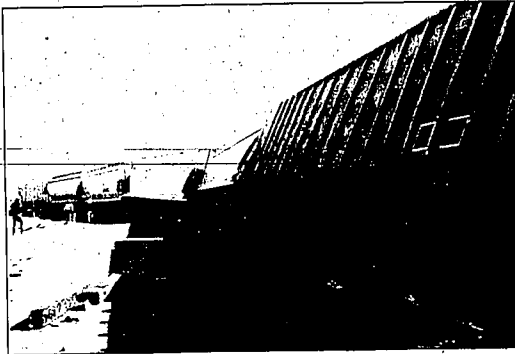
Nobody was hurt in the accident, which occurred at about 1 p.m. But the cleanup could take days.

Before repairs can begin, grain from five derailed cars will have to be transferred to trucks, Lisle said.

Altogether seven cars derailed. Occidental crossing, which is located just north of East Main Street, will remain blocked by the train for two to three days, Lisle said.

Lisle said he had no damage estimates yet, but he did say it would cost several thousand dollars just for the labor required in the cleanup.

Times-News correspondent Lorraine Cavener can be reached at 208-438-8446 or lcavener@pmt.net.



Seven cars of a slow-moving train passing through Burley Saturday derailed at about 1 p.m. Nobody was hurt.



On to nationals: The CSI men and women both qualified for their respective national junior college national tournaments by winning their Region 18 championship games Saturday.

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WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy and breezy at times. High 53, low 38.

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MAGIC VALLEY

Trade talk: Sen. Larry Crapo tells an audience that no trade agreement is better than a bad trade agreement.

Page B1

MONEY



Cooler construction: Twin Falls building activity slows; official predicts renewed vigor.

Page D1

FAMILY LIFE

Too 'Passion' ate?: Many adults who's seen the movie don't think children should see Mel Gibson's controversial new film, "The Passion of the Christ."

Page E1

OPINION

Needless exemptions: Public records already have enough exemptions under state law, today's editorial says.

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Well shutdown could hit many



Two Holstein cows drink water from a basin at the Beukers Dairy No. 2 in Jerome County. The dairy stands to lose stockwater and irrigation water if its wells are shut down according to an Idaho Department of Water Resources order.

Shutdown would leave many dairies waterless

JEROME — John Beukers has 6,000 cows that need water daily on his Jerome dairy, and he doesn't know how he will water them if his wells are curtailed. He stands to lose commercial stockwater and irrigation water.

"You can't take their water away and watch them die," he said. Thousands of cows on Northside dairies could be left without water, Beukers said. He wondered how water could be trucked in for that many cows, or how that many cows could be moved to other locations on short notice.

An economic analysis by University of Idaho extension educators Bob Oltenschlen and Bill Hazen estimated dairy industry losses to exceed more than \$100 million if wells are curtailed. But even more wells will be affected than originally evaluated. The economic analysis was based on the shutdown of wells developed after 1967, but the actual cutoff date is July 13, 1962. The analysis concluded that dairy cows in Lincoln, Gooding and Jerome counties would be reduced by 127,300 cows or by 54 percent. Even more cows would be affected now, because of the earlier shut-off date.

Beukers said he would hold fish producers responsible for herd losses. Holsteins average about \$2,000 a head, he said. "You start adding that value up, and someone has got to pay for them," he said. The fish producers have Idaho water law on their side. The law requires that when there is not enough water to go around, junior water users are shut down first.

— Jennifer Sandmann

Valley marches toward April 1 water deadline

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Magic Valley water users, down to the homeowner irrigating more than half an acre, will see their wells on the north side of the Snake River shut down April 1, unless solutions are found pronto.

Who else is affected? — A7

It's been up to the approximately 750 water users who received curtailment notices in the mail to figure out how they could be affected. The notices sent by the Idaho Department of Water Resources Please see WATER, Page A7

Farmer says he'll go broke under well shutdown

JEROME — Dean Dimond, who farms east of Jerome, wasn't expecting to receive a groundwater curtailment notice in the mail. His well was developed in 1961, about a year before the 1962 shutdown date. Then he opened the form letter and remembered that his water right was expanded in the 1970s. All of the water comes from the same well, but such are the intricacies and complications of Idaho water law. Dimond estimates about 80 acres of

his 322-acre farm will be dried up if curtailment is ordered. Another 300 acres farmed by the Dimond family also could be affected. Even though he doesn't know whether he will have his water this year, Dimond decided to prepare as if he would.

"If they shut us down, I'm done, I'm broke. If I don't set up and go, I'm broke," Dimond said. He has applied for his operating loan, which most farms use each year as capital for the season.

"I'm worried. If you can't get money to operate, you're done," he said. To compound the anxiety, Dimond has contracts for corn and Coors barley that he could lose if he can't supply the crops.

If it comes to drying up the farm for a year, another job won't cover the farm payments, Dimond said. "To me, Water Resources has screwed up, and now they are demanding the groundwater users fix their screws," he said.

— Jennifer Sandmann

Fair officials turn to taxpayers

Levy would pay for improvements, allow for free admission

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

FILER — Twin Falls County Fair officials want to ask county taxpayers to help foot the bill for the annual event.

In return, county residents would get free admission, which fair officials hope would bring

Pitching a levy

Twin Falls County Fair officials Monday will ask county commissioners to approve putting a two-year, 2-mill levy on November's ballot to make improvements at the county fairgrounds and allow for free admission. If approved by voters, it would cost property owners an additional

\$20 per \$100,000 valuation of property on their annual property tax bills. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Monday in commissioners' chambers on the fourth floor of the courthouse, at 425 Shoshone St. N. The meeting is open to the public.

more people out to the fair. "The fair is a community event, and unfortunately because of the rising cost, some people can't afford it," Fair Manager John Pitz

said. "That's not what a county fair is all about."

Fair officials Monday will ask Please see LEVY, Page A2

Idaho Legislators look at ways to solve water wars

By Julie Penco
Times-News writer

BOISE — The chairmen of the Legislature's resources committees say lawmakers intend to pass legislation that will help solve the problem of some 1,300 wells on the Northside that are scheduled to be shut down April 1.

But just what that legislation is, Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert, is reluctant to discuss. Stevenson heads the House

Resources and Conservation Committee.

He did say, however, there will likely be an interim committee set up to study the depletion of the aquifer throughout southern Idaho.

"They'll be technical people who really understand water," Stevenson said. "That's better than a bunch of politicians sitting around trying to solve this."

Please see LEGISLATURE, Page A2

7 days, 7 reasons to read

Swing and miss
A growing number of golfers are discovering their game isn't injury free.
Monday



Computer wars
Virus writers battle each other.
Tuesday

Eating right
Grains are the way to go.
Wednesday

Cool park walking
Cross country skiing in the wild outdoors near Yellowstone, in Outdoors.
Thursday

Neverending story
The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley present "Damn Yankees."
Friday



Sorrow and pity
Gibson's "Passion" Readers weigh in
Saturday



Centennial
Take a look at Twin Falls from new perspective.
Sunday

TWIN FALLS FORECAST
Today: Fairly cloudy with a stiff breeze expected.
Highs near 53.
Tonight: Increasingly cloudy. Lows near 38.
Tomorrow: Pleasant with decreasing clouds. Highs near 59.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST
Today: Breezy at times with patchy clouds. Mostly dry.
Highs in the lower to middle 50s.
Tonight: Becoming mostly cloudy. Lows in the 30s.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and pleasant. Highs in the middle to upper 50s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST
SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Partly to mostly cloudy with a slight chance of isolated rain and snow showers developing.

Map of Idaho showing weather forecasts for various regions including Boise, Northern Utah, and Mountain Home. Includes temperature and precipitation data for different areas.

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Legislature

Continued from A1
The roughly 1,300 Northside wells are operated by approximately 750 water users.
They've each received curtailment notices in the mail from the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

area want more attention from the governor's office in regard to the loss of spring flows, Stevenson said.
'They want the governor more engaged,' he said.

Circulation

Daniel Walock, circulation director
Circulation phone lines are open between 7 and 10 a.m. only. If you do not receive your paper by 7 a.m., call the number for your area:
Burley/Rupert: 733-0931
Paul-Oakley: 677-4042
Twin Falls: 733-0931

Mail information

The Times-News (UPS #61-080) is published daily at 132 Third St. W., Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises.
Periodicals paid at Twin Falls by The Times-News. Official city and county newspaper pursuant to Section 66-108 of the Idaho Code.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Weather forecast for Twin Falls from Today to Thursday. Includes icons for clouds, sun, and moon, along with temperature ranges and precipitation chances.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac data for Twin Falls including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moonrise and Moonset, and U.V. INDEX.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table showing regional weather forecasts for various cities including Boise, Burley, and other Idaho locations. Columns include City, Today, and Tomorrow with high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table showing national weather forecasts for major cities across the United States. Columns include City, Today, and Tomorrow with high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table showing Canadian weather forecasts for major cities including Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal. Columns include City, Today, and Tomorrow with high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.

U.S. forces kill nine alleged Taliban militants

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - U.S. special-operations snipers killed nine suspected Taliban militants in the Afghan mountains bordering Pakistan, the military said Saturday, marking one of American forces' deadliest engagements in months.
The military would not say if the clash marked the start of a promised spring offensive to capture Osama bin Laden, the fighting began when as many as 40 suspected Taliban tried to flank the position held by the Americans and their Afghan army allies.
Over the past two weeks, U.S. commanders have pledged what they call a hammer-and-anvil approach for the spring draw into summer, with the crucial support of Pakistan troops on their own side of the Afghan frontier.

Levy

Continued from A1
county commissioners to approve putting a two-year, \$10 million property tax levy on November's ballot. If approved by voters, it would cost property owners an extra \$20 per \$100,000 in valuation on their annual property tax bills.
Each mill would bring in an estimated \$270,000 a year. One mill would pay for capital improvements at the fairgrounds in Filer, including replacing the 50-year-old buildings with new multipurpose facilities that could be used year-round, Pitz said.
'We're looking at buildings that are anywhere from 50 to 70 years old,' Pitz said. 'They were built in the '30s and '40s and eventually, we're going to have to replace them.'
The \$270,000 from the second mill would take the place of fair admission revenues, money that goes toward fair operations. The annual cost to put on the event is about \$550,000, but fair officials are counting on growth, and therefore more revenue from special events and concessions, to pay the balance.

With free fair admission, it wouldn't be out of the realm of thought to think we could bring in 20 to 25 percent more people," Pitz said.

What about those from outside the county who come to the fair?
'We're still trying to figure out what we could do to make it fair for county residents who foot the bill,' Pitz said. 'One idea is to charge a parking fee for out-of-county vehicles - maybe five bucks a car. The Fair Board still has to work the logistics out.'
The fair would continue to charge for arena events. Fair officials are still crunching the numbers, but they expect admission to concerts would be \$5 for general admission and \$10 for reserved seating. Reduced admission would be cheaper, Pitz said.
'We can't give away a \$40,000 concert or a \$70,000 radio,' Pitz said.
The idea of a mill levy comes after a year of wrestling over whether to raise admission prices. The Fair Board recently voted to increase adult admission from \$6 to \$7 and to trim a dollar off children's admission, bringing it down to \$3. Family passes went up from \$20 to \$25.
'It's a whole new concept that's blossomed out of the work we started more than a year ago,' Pitz said. 'Eventually it will work. We want to make it so everyone can come to the fair.'
Making admission free would be an especially good deal for families, Pitz said.
'If they bring their whole family to the fair, it would be close to a break-even scenario,' Pitz said. 'If they want to come more than once, they'll actually save money.'
A separate project already in planning is a new \$2.3 million indoor arena which fair officials hope to open in 2006.
The board's matching funds for building with concrete floors now total \$306,000, including in-kind contributions and labor, and the Twin Falls County Fair Foundation has applied for three grants and plans to apply for more.
The foundation board also contracted with Debbie Currier of Media Marketing Services to look for building sponsorships.
Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at smiller@magicvalley.com.

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Bush, Fox talk about the future

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP) — President Bush gave Mexican President Vicente Fox a gift to take home on Saturday, his pledge to exempt certain frequent Mexican visitors from onerous new security checks at the U.S. border.

The visit by Fox to Bush's Central Texas ranch, held a year and a half after it was originally scheduled, was designed to lay past disputes to rest. But with Bush eager to boost his standing in the U.S. Hispanic community, the nation's fastest-growing voting bloc, American politics were never far from the agenda.

Bush used the leaders' joint appearance before Mexican and Asian reporters to make clear how he sees the November election, in which he almost certainly will face Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. The question is who brings forth the best pro-growth policies ... who (is) best to lead this country in the war on terror, he said.

Over intimate meals, relaxed discussions and an early-morning drive through wintertime-lush canyons to some of Bush's favorite spots on his 1,600-acre property, Bush and Fox aimed to look forward, not back.

The warm ties that characterized the two leaders' relationship three years ago had soured after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Bush shelved work on a migration accord coveted by Mexico; Fox abruptly backed out of a planned visit to Bush's ranch in August 2002 over a death-penalty dispute, and refused to back Bush at the United Nations on an Iraq war.

On Saturday, side-by-side in casual clothes and the warm March sun, horses and cows grazing peacefully in a meadow behind them, the two men sought to project an air of cooperation on immigration, trade, Haiti and anti-terrorism measures. Neither publicly mentioned other divisive matters — such as the water Mexico owes the United States or a continued disagreement over Mexicans on death row in the United States — that still divide the North American neighbors.



Martha Stewart leaves Manhattan federal court in New York Friday, with her lawyer Robert Morvillo, right. Morvillo, who is considered among the best white-collar criminal defense attorneys in the country, kept Stewart off the stand during her trial, betting that jurors would decide the defense had undermined the prosecution's case, which included nearly two dozen witnesses.

Stewart's defense made high-stakes gambles — lost important court trial

NEW YORK (AP) — Facing a stock scandal that threatened to shatter Martha Stewart's carefully tended reputation and enormous fortune, her defense team made three high-stakes gambles: They let the case go to trial, kept Stewart off the witness stand and put on a defense that took less time than one of her syndicated cooking shows.

The perfectionist homemaker wound up with the most crushing loss possible — a guilty verdict on all counts, and a likely new home behind bars.

"She should get her money back from her lawyers," said Thomas

Ajamie, a veteran Houston securities attorney. "How this even went to trial in the first place, I have no idea."

Stewart should have admitted from the beginning that she sold her ImClone Systems stock in 2001 based on a tip that ImClone CEO Sam Waksal was selling his shares, Ajamie said.

But Stewart made no mention of the tip in a Feb. 4, 2002, interview with investigators, and she said in a follow-up interview two months later that she had no memory of knowing in advance that Waksal was selling.

Legal experts said Stewart might have avoided prison if she had come clean then because the money at stake in the trade was so small. Stewart, who was briefly a billionaire after Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia went public in 1999, saved \$51,000 by selling a day ahead of a damaging government report about an ImClone drug.

"Had she admitted the mistake early on, she would have spent no time in prison," said Ajamie, who was careful to point out he was speaking in hindsight. "She's much worse off than had she tried to go in and just admit the mistake."

Infant deaths show flaws in child system

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — When Robert Morris' two children died unexpectedly on the same night nine years ago, authorities were certain that they had been smothered in their sleep.

But no charges were filed, and as time passed, the city lost track of the young father police suspected might be the killer.

No one noticed when Morris fathered a third child with a different woman — not even when that infant, too, died suddenly during the night.

A medical examiner said the baby was a victim of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

It took a fourth child's unexplained death and a phone call

from a tipster before authorities realized they could have a serial killer on their hands. Morris was charged this week with murdering all four children.

Social workers said the case illustrates a weakness in the way many cities and states keep tabs on parents accused of abuse or neglect.

Washington media take a night off from serious news

WASHINGTON (AP) — The serious news of the day — from Saddam Hussein's spider hole to Medicare to gay marriage — served as fodder for song, dance and silly dress-up Saturday night in the Gridiron dinner, a 119-year tradition of Washington journalism.

In the most unusual turn of this year's satirical script, syndicated columnist Robert Novak — who sparked a federal investigation by printing the name of an undercover CIA officer — was taking the stage as that CIA officer's disgruntled husband, former ambassador Joseph Wilson.

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Slain newsman's parents seek religious understanding

Los Angeles Times

Two years after Wall Street journal reporter Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and murdered by terrorists in Pakistan, his family continues to mourn in private. In public, however, his parents Judea and Ruth Pearl try to fulfill the ancient Jewish obligation of "tikun olam," — healing the world.

The Pearls, who live in Los Angeles, started the nonprofit Daniel Pearl Foundation and have undertaken a series of efforts to promote interfaith understanding, including an international music day named for their son, and journalistic exchanges with the Islamic world. And now, they are involved in a new book project focusing on Daniel's Jewish heritage.

Judea and Ruth Pearl are editors of the recently published book "17 Jewish Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl" (Jewish Lights).

In the moments before Daniel Pearl was killed at the age of 38, he is videotaped saying, "My father is Jewish, my mother is Jewish, I am Jewish." That moment inspired Alana Frey, a schoolgirl in Rockville Centre, N.Y.

For her bat mitzvah, she asked friends and family to write down what being Jewish meant to them. She planned to collect their responses, then send them to Adam, the son born to Daniel Pearl

and wife Mariane after Daniel's death.

Her purpose, Alana told the Pearls, was to help Adam understand his heritage and to make sure that "his father's words would always comfort him."

Judea Pearl told Rabbi Harold Schulweis, of Los Angeles' Valley Beth Shalom in their neighborhood, about Alana's plan, and the rabbi suggested that the Pearls expand it into a book. The rabbi helped them find their Vermont publisher.

Together, the Pearls and the publisher drew up a list of prominent Jewish figures in government, science, the arts and other fields whom they asked to contribute. Among the participants were a few the Pearls hadn't realized were Jewish, including TV journalist Mike Wallace and Kitty Dukakis, wife of former Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis.

The resulting book contains brief meditations on what it means to be Jewish by 150 people, including actor Kirk Douglas, historian Martin Gilbert and the Pearl family. Many, including Daniel's parents and his sisters, Tamara and Michelle, describe themselves as secular Jews.

Judea Pearl writes in the book: "I see Jews as the scouts of civilization — the ones who question conventional wisdom and constantly seek the exploration of new pathways."

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The President and the environment

IN BUSH'S WORLD

Human wants and needs trump Mother Nature and environmental protections

By John Hellpin
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — On his Texas ranch, President Bush goes back to nature by cutting down cedar trees with a chain saw to give the native oaks more water and light. Visiting the Santa Monica Mountains, he shovels dirt to fix a trail — an image the White House keeps alive on one of its Web sites.

The hand tools he favors and the immediate results they produce reflect how in just three years Bush has reshaped the debate over environmental protections.

Making life easier for people now gets more priority than protecting an endangered salamander. Preventing a wildfire from engulfing a home trumps not cutting down a tree. Cheap electricity prevails over cleaner air, at least for the time being.

Bush sells his policies in the simplest of terms, like "healthy forests" and "clear skies."

Environmentalists call those labels deliberate misnomers, intended to mask an agenda far different and more complex. They say Bush wants nothing less than to restructure a society that he and those around him believe has become too soft, and a government that, though well-intentioned, helped make it that way by over-promising to protect people from risks in life.

"They are very careful to present themselves as being in the mode of solving the same problems that environmentalists want to solve," said Carl Pope, the Sierra Club's executive director. "But when you look at what they do, and what they say in the fine print, they don't actually want to solve the same problems. They don't think they are problems."

Environmental groups have tried to call attention to some of the president's actions, but they acknowledge the environment is far down the list of voter concerns this election year.

The "healthy forests" law Congress passed last year is a prime example of how Bush reversed decades of government policy. He announced the initiative from a mountain peak blighted by wildfire in Oregon, a state he narrowly lost in the 2000 election and where battles over logging and water rights polarize voters.

"We've got to understand that it makes sense to clear brush," he said from a road dividing the Douglas firs that paralleled his black-and-white message. On one side, its trees unmanaged, was a bleak mosaic of dead trunks; the other side, thinned by undergrowth, held surviving trees and regrowth budding in the ash.

The new law sums up some core Bush beliefs: Nature requires intervention, market forces are better than regulations, and environmen-

tal protections are not possible without economic growth. After wildfires cost more than 3,600 homes in California alone last year, and 28 firefighters were killed battling the blazes, Congress agreed to let companies log large, commercially valuable trees in national forests in exchange for clearing smaller, more fire-prone trees and brush.

The contracts give timber companies incentive to invest in equipment while saving the government money on wildfire prevention. Critics say timber companies are unlikely to invest in equipment if the government is paying off in trees an industry that supported Bush in 2000. But, looking at the jobs that will be generated, many Democrats abandoned environmentalists they sided with in the past.

Bush and his aides say their view of nature as requiring upkeep is in the tradition of Theodore Roosevelt. Environmentalists would prefer he leave nature alone.

Bush and his aides say their view of nature as requiring upkeep is in the tradition of Theodore Roosevelt.

"That's an important part about conservation. It's man's ability to make sure that God's beauty is maintained and preserved," Bush said last August.

Environmentalists would prefer he leave nature alone.

"There is a philosophy that everything is put on earth for humanity's sake. And that's a very arrogant and somewhat selfish perspective," said William H. Meadows, president of The Wilderness Society. "Those of us who have worked around wildlands believe nature takes care of itself and, in fact, the biggest problem is where man has interfered."

When it looks like persuading Congress to change the law will fail, Bush uses executive orders, regulatory changes and court positions to carry out his pledge "to protect both the claims of nature and the legal rights of private property owners."

Just as his predecessor, Democrat Bill Clinton, filled top environmental jobs with a cadre of environmental group activists, Bush picked lawyers, lobbyists and experts from environmentally regulated industry.

The result is a catalog of policies that reflect a sophisticated insider's knowledge of government.

"He has figured out on environmental issues that you sometimes need to do what Clinton did, which is to use the regulatory agencies,



President Bush pauses in front of the destroyed home of Shannon Hayes, rear left, and Sean Hayes as he answers a reporter's question during his tour of fire-damaged Harbison Canyon, San Diego County, Calif., in this Nov. 4, file photo. In the name of wildfire protection, the Bush administration has sought to undo former President Bill Clinton's ban on road-building and logging in 58.5 million acres of national forests, and in December 2003 reversed the ban in more than half of Alaska's 17-million-acre Tongass National Forest, the nation's largest.

rather than try to get something out of Congress — especially environment, where 60 votes can block the Senate," said William L. Kovacs, a vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

That the policy changes in most cases have conformed to ideas put forth by the industries that were among his biggest campaign contributors has led an outrage and cynicism about his motives.

"Disconcerting to people in the environmental movement, pleasing to people who want to see their regulatory apparatus relaxed or rolled back somewhat" is how environmental historian John R. McNell of Georgetown University characterizes the reaction.

McNeill views Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney, a former chief executive of the Halliburton Co., as "almost reflexively hostile to environmental regulations" owing to their backgrounds in the oil industry.

"Many years hence, I think that Bush will be regarded as having fought against the tide in this respect. He represents, in some ways, the tail end of the fossil fuel era in human history," McNell said. "And their efforts to make the world safe for that industry is the central motivation in their environmental policy, or so it appears."

Much of Bush's approach to air and water pollution, as well as global warming, is tailored to the continued use of coal — among the dirtiest of fuels but also the source for more than half the nation's electricity.

Within months of taking office, Bush withdrew from an international climate treaty negotiated in Kyoto, Japan, that required the United States and other industrial nations to reduce by 2012 greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global warming to levels below what they were in 1990.

Vice President Al Gore's signature in 1997 on the treaty, which caps carbon dioxide from power plants, was viewed by the coal industry as a declaration of war. Bush used the fallout to help take him to the White House, upsetting Gore in West Virginia, the first win there by a GOP presidential nominee in the overwhelmingly Democratic state since President Reagan's re-election in 1984.

Shortly after assuming office, Bush also reversed a 2000 campaign pledge to regulate carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels, considered the biggest culprit for a

warming effect. Christie Whitman, the former New Jersey governor who headed the Environmental Protection Agency the first two years of Bush's presidency, recalled how Bush's turn on carbon dioxide occurred just after her meeting with other

industrial nations' environmental chiefs in Trieste, Italy in March 2001.

"It wasn't an issue that we focused on until I went over to Trieste and talked about regulating carbon, where a whole lot of people got very upset," she said.

MOUNTAIN TOP MINING:

Bush helps lift Appalachia miners from doldrums

By Jeff Donn
Associated Press writer

BOB WHITE, W.Va. — With a boost from President Bush, central Appalachia's mountaintop coal miners are finally embracing the future again, flagging more of this state's ancient summits for blasting and more of its toolboxes for burying them in many years.

The industry hasn't yet reversed more than a decade of trouble with output, jobs and environmental lawsuits. But its backers are at least feeling resurgent confidence — which could mean a raft of votes for the president this fall across the region.

Others are more disheartened than ever. Some conservationists and hill dwellers say the energy-hungry Bush administration is encouraging miners to pulverize this old, weathered landscape at a faster clip than ever.

In recent months, Maria Gunnoe has watched in fury as mining equipment chewed at the heights of Island Creek Mountain behind her family homestead in this coal outpost in southern West Virginia's Boone County, named for a type of coal in its forests.

Gunnoe and her brothers used to romp across wooded hillsides behind her simple two-bedroom home. Her family picked forest herbs for homemade medicines. Now, a 300-foot-high pile of waste earth plugs the valley like a giant cork. Green water collects in two settling ponds.

"I've nudged these mountains ever since I was a child," said Gunnoe in her soft twang. "When you go back here to this strip, the mountain is just gone."

Many more hillsops could be gone. West Virginia —

Page 56

A Patient's Perspective

Trust Your Hearing Professional Hearing Aid Services Tenny Garner Did!

When Tenny Garner, one of Twin Falls' top loan officers and a mother of three children, needed a hearing aid, she turned to one of the town's top hearing aid practices, Professional Hearing Aid Services.

"After saying 'what' and asking people to repeat themselves for 10 years, I finally made the decision to get a hearing test," she says. "Not to mention, my littles daughter, now 11 years old, kept saying to me, 'Mom, I don't want to have to say it three times.'"

"For years, my kids kept telling me to get a hearing aid. My hearing aids stopped that irritation in my family."

Tenny, age 56, has been wearing her hearing aid for a high-frequency hearing loss for nearly a year. "My hearing loss was embarrassing," she explains. "But now I hear everything. I no longer have to ask people to repeat themselves." Like many people who have had others tell them about their hearing problems or who have recognized their hearing difficulties on their own, Tenny started with an inexpensive hearing enhancer. She then moved on to the more advanced hearing aid technology. "I'll wear them the rest of my life," she proclaims, "and upgrade to more advanced hearing aid technology as I need to."

She is so pleased with the hearing aids provided by Professional Hearing Aid Services, she tells everyone. "I even take them out to show people and say, see how small? And ask them to try it!" She also tells everyone to go to Professional Hearing Aid Services for their hearing healthcare. "They take care of you!"



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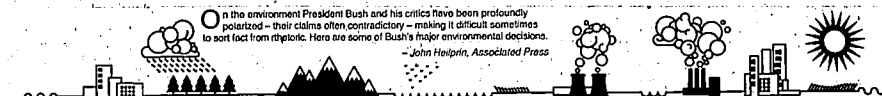


The President and the environment



THE ENVIRONMENT

Where Bush sees progress, his critics see rollbacks



Bush

Continued from A4
blocker is a key feature at the behest of states claiming the added pollution will endanger public health.

Citing language in the Clean Air Act for funding the "best available" technology in most cases, officials in the Clinton administration had used lawsuits to force several utilities to install hundreds of millions of dollars in new pollution-control equipment on older plants.

Bush's senior environmental advisers question whether "best available" technology always produces the best results.

"If you want the greatest environmental outcome the soonest, what typically happens is you end up picking the technology standard that's one step short of perfect," said James L. Connaughton, chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. "The technology that's one step short of the best technology is the one that people will tend to be able to afford and will, in fact, buy."

Nonetheless, Bush espouses the view that new technology driven by marketplace demand rather than government requirements will be the means by which pollution is reduced in the future.

Nonetheless, Bush espouses the view that new technology driven by marketplace demand rather than government requirements will be the means by which pollution is reduced in the future.

"In this century, the greatest environmental progress will come about not through endless lawsuits and command and control regulations, but through technology and innovation," he said in his State of the Union speech last year.

To stimulate demand, Bush wants to set broad, gradual, nationwide caps on both water and air pollutants that are below current levels. Polluters could then buy and sell among themselves the rights to pollute. Plants unable to reduce their pollution enough could buy allowances from other plants that cost more than is required.

That approach is based on the idea that innovators will find new, cheaper pollution-control methods as prices for pollution rights rise. Eventually, innovation and the market should lower pollution control costs to the point where it becomes cheaper for a company not to pollute.

For example, Bush's "clear skies" initiative would set annual nationwide caps to be met by

“
In this century, the greatest environmental progress will come about not through endless lawsuits and command and control regulations, but through technology and innovation.”
”

- President Bush

2018 on three major power plants' pollutants at well below current levels and then rely on pollution-trading schemes to reach them.

Mercury, a toxic element that contaminates waterways and goes up the food chain from fish to people, would be cut from 40 tons to 15 tons. Nitrogen oxide, a big factor in smog, would fall from 4 million to 1.7 million tons, and sulfur dioxide, blamed for acid rain, would drop from 10 million to 3 million tons.

Environmentalists don't dispute those figures. But they say the reductions would be bigger and faster under current regulations or, in the case of mercury, under proposals initiated by Clinton. The EPA itself has separate sets of figures on the issue, one supporting environmentalists' claims and another supporting Bush's.

Proving the effectiveness of one policy over another is virtually impossible until years later. And even then, the numbers are subject to interpretation.

Most would argue, for instance, that the air and water are cleaner now than 25 years ago - under both Republicans and Democrats - thanks to the landmark anti-pollution laws of the 1970s.

EPA's biennial water quality surveys, however, show a slight deterioration of lakes, rivers and streams and a big increase in polluted coastal waters during the eight years of the Clinton administration. The first report covering the first two years of Bush's presidency is due out this fall.

Paul Portney, president of Resources for the Future, an independent think tank, says Bush is correct that the environment is unlikely to improve in the long run if people's material needs aren't being met. But he says it's misleading to argue that growth is a necessary for environmental protection.

It is not clear a let-'er-rip approach to economic growth will necessarily mean a better environment," he said. "It got better because we put laws in place and enforced them."

BEFORE BUSH	ACTIONS TAKEN	ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION	WHAT HIS CRITICS SAY	STATUS
Arctic drilling President Clinton opened an eastern section of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska to oil and gas exploration in 1996, with tight restrictions.	Proposed oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Opened most of northwest portion of the reserve to oil and gas development, including areas for wildlife.	Tapping the oil would reduce the nation's dependence on foreign sources of oil. Limiting drilling to 2,000 acres in the refuge would protect wildlife.	A 2,000-acre limit is meaningless since the area can be spread across the entire coastal plain. Whatever oil there will have little impact on oil prices.	The Senate rejected drilling in the refuge the debate continues. Lease sales for oil in the reserves are scheduled for July.
Air pollution The Clinton administration sued 51 aging power plants and forced several to install pollution-control equipment.	Kept Clinton lawsuits, but changed rules used in lawsuits and moved to drop some investigations. New rules help industry expand without adding more pollution controls.	Old rules prevented plants from gaining efficiency. Congress should pass a new law to cut nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and mercury.	States suing said they should take over investigations. Bush's changes would let companies pollute too much, for too long and too often.	Federal court blocked allowing industry as "routine maintenance." More rules due in court through 2006. Bush's wants regulatory changes, since Congress stalled his.
Brownfields Since 1978, lawmakers have had to remove PCBs before any sales.	Allowed sales of land with PCBs before cleanup. Congress approved speeding cleanup of 450,000 sites and protecting cities and business from lawsuits.	Converting "brownfields" to new uses lets communities revitalize without being responsible for toxic waste. PCBs must be removed before redevelopment.	The changes will hide environmental problems instead of fix them, and undercut the public's ability to know where polluted sites are again.	EPA is writing rules this year on how often areas can gain liability protection.
Diesel pollution Clinton rules require heavy-duty trucks and buses to cut diesel pollution beginning in 2007. All new models will be covered by 2010.	Upgraded the Clinton rules, which also require cleaner diesel belt starting in 2006.	The cars and pollution will prevent thousands of premature deaths, heart attacks and respiratory ailments.	One of the biggest public health steps since lead was removed from gasoline. Will add to the price of new farm equipment and diesel fuel.	Dozens of states are pushing tighter rules on diesel pollution out of fear that new federal standards might be delayed weakened.
Drinking water Clinton fights arsenic in drinking water standard to 10 parts per billion by 2005. The standard was 50 ppb since 1942.	Responded the Clinton standard. Then did an about-face and adopted it.	Cost a major concern, particularly for Western towns where arsenic is both a naturally occurring and an industrial byproduct.	Bush rejected underestimating the cancer risk of arsenic in drinking water. Even at 3 ppb there are risks, according to the National Academy of Sciences.	One in 20 water systems, or about 4,111 nationwide, will have to treat their water more than the new standard. Heavy all serve millions of less than 10,000 people.
Endangered species law Developers and federal agencies complained environmental groups use the law to force the designation of "critical habitat" for species' recovery and to be up projects.	The ability to get new species protected should be limited. Proposed adding more than 20 plants and animals to the endangered species list, many in response to lawsuits.	The Endangered Species Act is "broken" because of excessive lawsuits, and the government lacks money to meet all its court orders to designate habitat.	Lawsuits make the government act, as with Florida manatees, listed as endangered since 1977. The Interior Department doesn't value habitat enough, according to congressional investigators.	House Republicans rejected Bush's act to restrict new listings. In the past two decades the number of U.S. species listed as endangered or threatened rose steadily.
Global warming Many scientists agree the Earth's atmosphere is warming partly from human causes. Vice President Al Gore signs the Kyoto International climate treaty in 1997 to reduce greenhouse gases. Senate fails to ratify it.	Reversed a 2000 campaign pledge to regulate industrial carbon dioxide and withdrew the U.S. from the Kyoto treaty. Proposed industry voluntarily slow the growth rate of CO2 emissions.	Limits on CO2 emissions would hurt the economy too much. Developing countries also must agree to limits. More research needed to firm up the science behind climate change.	Mandatory CO2 cuts are needed now. At Clinton's request, the National Academy of Sciences advises that the problem is real and getting worse.	Some countries plan to meet requirements the Kyoto treaty even if it never formally enters into force. Bush's 10-year U.S. plan for research pact underway, but could be at risk of failure.
National Environmental Policy Act The 1970 law requires government to study its environmental impacts. Advocates often use it to limit development and protect endangered species.	Recommends agencies create broad categories of projects for which they could exempt themselves from doing lengthy studies, and that a new guide for NEPA be written.	NEPA can cause bureaucratic gridlock. Opponents can still challenge an agency's categorization. Acknowledges its changes would reduce reviews of projects.	Bush wants to circumvent the bedrock environmental law by speeding the process going forward without full reviews.	Administration officials insist much of it treatment work will be done through prescriptive, not logging.
National forests Prohibition on most road-building and commercial logging set under President Clinton on 58.5 million national forest acres.	Speed up forest planning projects on public woodlands. Limited environmental reviews and public hearings.	Letting timber companies log in national forests in exchange for clearing animal vegetation will create jobs and save money on wildlife preservation.	Clinton left the parks in poor condition. Made progress toward rebuilding 2000 campaign pledge to eliminate the maintenance backlog.	The Park Service is reversing how it maintains roads and structures in its parks within a couple years.
Nuclear waste Congress in 1987 declared Nevada's Yucca Mountain as the only site to be studied further for permanent waste repository.	Selected a ridge of volcanic rock 100 miles from Las Vegas to entomb 77,000 tons of used reactor fuel from commercial power plants. Congress affirmed Bush's decision.	The site's geology and engineered barriers will keep radioactivity from leaking. Environmental studies would be subject to judicial review.	EPA's radiation standard was inadequate because it only applies to the next 10,000 years. After that, engineered barriers may degrade.	Later this year, the Energy Department apply for a license for the site and a federal court is due to decide on challenge by Nevada and environmentalists.
Supertund The Superfund program for cleaning the worst toxic waste sites began in 1980. Congress set up a special tax to help pay for cleanups in 1995.	Completed cleanups declined since 2001. Money collected from companies found responsible for polluting areas targeted from \$227 million to \$1.7 billion.	Cleanups are getting bigger and more complex, slowing the rate of completions. Not enough money available to start every project.	Clinton averaged 70 completed cleanups per year. Bush should push Congress to reauthorize the industry tax.	EPA has completed cleanups at about 400 sites. More than 1,200 remain on the Superfund list. The number of sites on the list has declined since the board between 1991 and 2000.
Water pollution States must test bodies of water that don't meet minimum water quality standards and establish how much pollution will be allowed in them.	Put on hold a Clinton rule to state plans how to reduce storm water and agriculture runoff pollution of polluted areas.	Improvements needed in testing and monitoring watersheds. Scientists insist the Clinton program could not ensure the right bodies of water were targeted.	Bush's 2002 budget would reduce on low-interest loans to states and communities for clean water projects. EPA's monitoring of water pollution are inadequate.	Biennial EPA reports show the permits pollution reduced rivers and streams, lakes and lakes have seen the board between 1991 and 2000.
Wetlands development Developers who disturbed more than a half-acre of wetlands needed permits. The Supreme Court ruled isolated wetlands can be protected just as habitat for migratory birds.	Speed up development ability to get permits. Speed limits on building in flood plains and filling along streams. Projects no longer have to restore wetlands acre-for-acre if "net loss" goal is met for each watershed.	New rules interpret what the court ruled, improve protections for aquatic ecosystems and simplify red tape.	New rules went beyond the court, adding endangered species and crop irrigation as insufficient grounds for protecting wetlands. Builders can put up homes in flood plains and reroute narrow streams.	Wetlands are bedrock of the lives of 10 acres a year, despite pledges by successive administrations to develop policies to restore or decline.

The President and the environment

Bush & wetlands development

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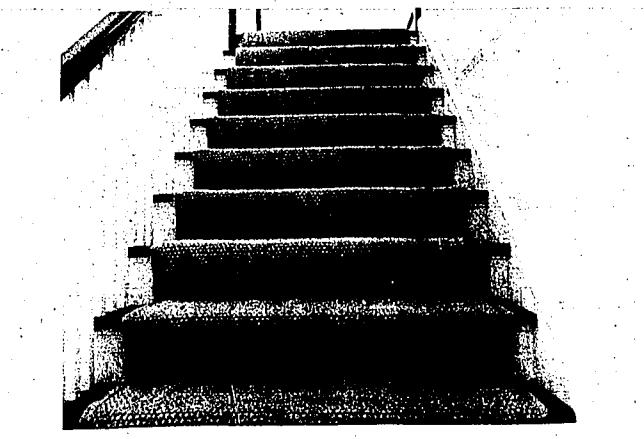
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The President and the environment



Mining

Continued from A4
 Appalachia's mining leader and the No. 2 state after Wyoming — approved 20,579 acres for future strip mining last year. That tripled the previous year and christened the most new acreage for strip mining since 1989, according to state data supplied under an open records request. Federal regulators approved four times more mining fill — leftover dirt and rock from operations — to be dumped in the valleys.
 The industry is eager to stir from its doldrums. In the year ending in September, coal-output-from-strip-sites sunk by 15 percent across mountaintop-mining country: West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee.
 Last year, mining authorities say that some forces finally turned in the industry's favor: a perkier economy with spurring energy demand, as well as spiking prices for competing natural gas.
 And President Bush. Miners tend to embrace Bush — a business-minded Republican and former oilman — as a far more sympathetic friend of the industry than President Clinton was.
 "He wants to create a more favorable regulatory environment, but it's a huge thing to try to change overnight," says Brian Patton, a fourth-generation miner who runs a 17,000-acre strip operation outside Hazard, Ky.
 For decades, miners have been blasting and scraping away the summits and flanks of these old, weather-worn mountains to reach the precious coal below. While still dominated by traditional shaft mining, the central Appalachian industry has turned increasingly to strip mining, as air pollution rules have put a premium on the low-sulfur, cleaner-burning coal within a few hundred feet of the mountaintops.
 Over the past five years, environmentalists have elevated

Appalachia's strip mines into a national battleground because, unlike other forms of mining, these operations often lop off entire mountaintops. Mining companies often gain waivers from rebuilding the slopes. Even when they do reshape the hills, they dump tons of leftover earth into neighboring creeks and valleys.
 "You can't lay it all at the feet of President Bush," says Earthjustice lobbyist Joan Mulhern. "The harm has been going on for a long time. But what's different about this administration is the speed at which they are willing to rescind environmental protections that stand between the coal companies and the mountains."
 Environmentalists and some mountain people lament the changes. In topography, the loss of the hills in wildlife habitat. They rail against dust, floods, and blasting with its vibration and flying boulders. Many demand stricter limits on the valley fills.
 But mining, of course, is deeply ingrained in the lives and history of this region. For the industry and its backers, mountaintop mines bring desperately needed local jobs and high-quality homegrown fuel to a nation that still derives half its electricity from coal. And old strip sites are occasionally reclaimed with gratitude for homes, stores, and even golf fairways.
 More often, though, an abandoned site is simply seeded with grass. It is left looking like barren Western prairie but was inconspicuously transplanted into the rolling carpet of Eastern broadleaf trees.
 Last year's permitting rebound augurs more of these desolate patches in the years ahead.
 Since coming to power, the Bush administration has cultivated the coal industry and recruited its players. The Interior Department's inspector general is investigating

whether its deputy director, former lobbyist Steven Griles, improperly dealt with matters involving former energy clients.
 The Bush team has also taken some concrete steps that spur strip investment through regulatory help. It has moved to water down a buffer-zone rule protecting streams. It has also changed the definition of "fill" to more clearly allow valley dumping of this extra dirt and rock.
 White House environmental adviser James Connaughton says the regulations were "clarified and tightened." He said regulators can now "issue permits that have strict performance requirements and are enforceable in a more timely manner."
 They have also made a start at

simplifying the mine-permitting process that the industry views as a galling octopus of state and federal agencies. It can take a dolly to cart around the application papers, needed for a single permit.
 Adding confusion, much of the region was subject to federal court bans or the threat of such bans on most new valley fill permits beginning in the late 1990s. The last one was struck down on appeal in January 2003, coinciding with the industry's rush for permits in West Virginia.
 Are most of central Appalachia's mountaintops now bound for dismantling — bucket by bucket? Probably not.
 Even here, much land isn't prom-

ising for mining. Federal regulators project a maximum of 7 percent affected by this type of mining in the main mountaintop mining states during the 20 years ending in 2012.

Geologic and economic forces act as brakes too: thinning reserves and booming competition from coal mined in such places as Wyoming and abroad in Colombia.

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Mountaintop mining poised to climb

The slumping coal mining industry in the central Appalachian region is hoping for a resurgence in production. The region's coal-producing leader, West Virginia, approved more land last year for strip mining than any year since 1989.

Original contour
Displaced surface rock and soil fills valley

Mountaintop mining
 The majority of central Appalachian strip mining occurs on mountaintops, which are rich in seams of cleaner burning coal. Unlike shaft mining and other forms of underground extraction, strip mining involves removing broad swaths of land to access shallow coal seams. The displaced rock and soil is then transferred to surrounding areas, such as valleys.

SOURCES: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration; West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

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Water

Continued from A1
where form letters without details specific to each water user.

Confusion and uncertainty has followed for many, particularly small water users struggling to understand why fish production 40 miles away has anything to do with their water.

Underneath the Snake River Plain is a massive aquifer, which drains into the Snake River from about Kimberly to King Hill. State water management has been heading down a long road, forced by a 1994 Idaho Supreme Court decision, to manage the aquifer and river as an interconnected system.

The state has been developing a computerized water model to evaluate how groundwater use affects the canyon spring water. The most up-to-date simulations determined who would be affected by the pending curtailment.

Department of Water Resources Director Karl Dreher will stop curtailment if groundwater users can help mitigate for the spring water losses. But groundwater users need to have that replacement water secured by April 1.

The two groundwater districts on the north side of the river are cooperating to come up with the replacement water to avoid curtailment, said Jeff Martin, hydrographer for the North Snake Ground Water District.

Securing the water is an issue of timing, he said. Upper Snake River water users are reluctant to commit to renting water until they know how much they will have for their own needs.

"Typically we have found that people have been reluctant to make commitments until May or June," Martin said.

If the reservoirs were full, the situation might be different, he said.

The groundwater district is seeing an influx of water users interested in joining or being annexed to be afforded the district's protections, Martin said. Groundwater users who are not members of groundwater districts could be curtailed even if the districts come up with the replacement water.

The groundwater districts have gotten a huge break, though. They must secure only half of the 53,000 acre feet of water originally ordered by Water Resources. Now they have 26,500 acre feet of water to secure, but that doesn't remove the obstacle of having the water pledged by April 1.

Water Resources erred in the original calculation, Director Karl

Some cities say they're OK; others worry

TWIN FALLS - Several local cities - including Wendell, Rupert and Burley - said they had enough water to survive a Northside groundwater curtailment, even if a portion of their water was shut off. But other cities are uncertain.

A large water right used by the city of Twin Falls is on the curtailment list, because it's on the north side of the river at Blue Lakes and piped across the canyon. But the Idaho Department of Water Resources said it will not curtail the city's water right there, because it is essentially a spring water-led to Blue Lakes and Alpheus Creek.

In Jerome, City Administrator Travis Rothweiler said the city could see 16 percent of its water right curtailed. But at that amount, it's not enough to cause shortages. The city is permitted to pump up to 7,500 gallons a minute, an amount that allows room for the city to grow, so it's not all being used.

Dreher said.

"I'm sorry the error occurred. It was under my watch, and I take full responsibility for it," he told a gathering of water users Friday.

An incorrect number that reflected two irrigation seasons rather than one was used in the original computer simulation, the department said. The new number estimates how much water could reach the springs if wells developed after July 13, 1962, are curtailed for one season.

The 1962 date is Rangen's water right. The fish producer's records dropped to record lows over the summer, and the company that already has felt the effects of water shortages made a "call" for water. Under Idaho water law, junior water users are curtailed to provide water for senior users. In this case, junior water users are groundwater pumped with wells developed after 1962.

Even though some groundwater users have rights senior to Rangen's, all pumps within the groundwater districts are involved in coming up with the replacement water.

"None of the spring users want anyone to be curtailed. However, our water rights have been curtailed for years, and we're looking to lessen the effects."

None of the spring users want anyone to be curtailed. However, our water rights have been curtailed for years, and we're looking to lessen the effects," said Jason Miciak, a Twin Falls attorney representing spring users Pristine Springs and SeaPac that also have water calls pending.

Lynn Babington, who has a

"The direct impact on the city, at this point, will be fairly minimal. However, the city is concerned about the indirect impacts," Rothweiler said.

Most of the city's economic success is dependent on agriculture, and agriculture will suffer if wells are curtailed, he said.

Richard Rau, public works director in Paul, said that city has water rights that could be affected. The city still would have use of a 1920 water right, but conservation measures probably would be required to meet the city's water demand.

"We're extremely worried and concerned," Rau said. And he wonders what shortages would mean for other needs such as schools and fire protection.

Other cities with affected wells include Gooding, Bliss, Hagerman, Richfield, Sheshone, Heyburn, Hazelton, Dietrich, and the Carey Water and Sewer District.

- Jennifer Sandmann

pending water call for his business Lyncell Farms, said at a Boise meeting Friday that the lower end of Billingsley Creek near Hagerman went dry over the summer.

Churches, businesses stand to take a hit

RUPERT - Big or small, any individual, business or organization with a water right for more than half an acre and well developed after July 13, 1962, is in jeopardy on the north side of the Snake River. Domestic wells for household use and irrigation of less than half an acre will not be affected.

At Rupert First Christian Church, the congregation has invested in extensive landscaping around the church building. The church's well, permitted to irrigate up to 2 acres of ground, could be curtailed.

"If errors that were made 40 years ago are going to take value away from us now, something is wrong with that way of thinking," Pastor John Marshall said. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also has water rights on church-owned farms that could be curtailed. Church headquarters in Salt Lake City declined to provide details. Other operators including fresh-pack potato plants, food processors, golf courses and community wells developed by homeowners' associations also could be curtailed.

With so many losses, county tax bases would be shot. Lincoln County Assessor Wendell Johnson said the county's property values have been looking up in recent

cut in half. Many spring users met last week with legislators, including House Speaker Bruce Newcomb and the deputy attorney general in charge of natural resources, Miciak said.

He said he was encouraged by their concern for the spring users' plight. "I am becoming increasingly convinced that a solution to this problem will require involvement by the Legislature and the natural resources division of the attorney general's office," he said.

Like other attorneys representing spring users, Miciak said he was disappointed with the order issued by Dreher over Rangen's water call. The attorneys believe that it sidesteps a number of procedures spelled out in Idaho water, including water rights decreed by the court.

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

“

None of the spring users want anyone to be curtailed. However, our water rights have been curtailed for years, and we're looking to lessen the effects.

”

- Jason Miciak, Twin Falls attorney

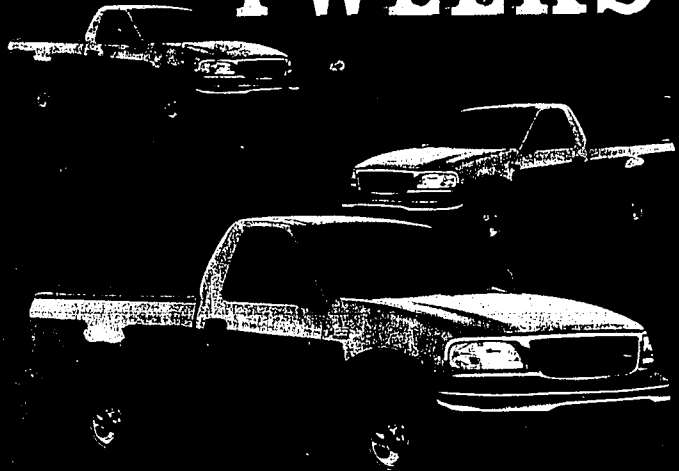
water users are groundwater pumped with wells developed after 1962.

Even though some groundwater users have rights senior to Rangen's, all pumps within the groundwater districts are involved in coming up with the replacement water.

"None of the spring users want anyone to be curtailed. However, our water rights have been curtailed for years, and we're looking to lessen the effects," said Jason Miciak, a Twin Falls attorney representing spring users Pristine Springs and SeaPac that also have water calls pending.

Lynn Babington, who has a

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NATION

NASA eclipsing other science spending

In the 2005 budget he sent to Congress last month, President Bush called for \$16.2 billion to be spent on NASA — a 5.6 percent increase over 2004. Other science-driven agencies did not fare as well.

Estimated federal budget spending on selected agencies in billions of dollars. Table with columns for 2004, 2005, and Change. Rows include Department of the Interior, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Energy, and Department of Commerce.

SOURCE: U.S. Office of Management and Budget

Mars critics ask if billions are well spent

By Joseph B. Verrengia, Associated Press writer

NASA's celebration last week of gritty evidence that Mars once had enough water to support life has spawned more questions: Where's the water now? When did it disappear? Are there any fossils of living creatures, or even microbes?

But prominent scientists outside the space agency are beginning to ask a harder question: Does Mars represent what is out of whack in American science and exploration?

"So what if there is water up there?" said George Washington University sociologist Amitai Etzioni, who served as a domestic affairs adviser in the Carter White House.

"What difference does it make to anyone's life?" he said. "Will it grow any more food? Cure a disease? This doesn't even broaden our horizons."

Even some physical scientists who understand the incremental nature of research are less than enthralled.

"It's all very exciting," deadpanned marine biologist Sylvia Earle, who holds the world's record for unthethered, undersea exploration — the oceans' equivalent of spacewalking. "It confirms what many of us had suspected for a long time."

Mars enthusiasts say the discovery by NASA's two roving robots is important precisely because it confirms what researchers had been discussing for years.

Science is strewn with plausible ideas that experimentation

has disproved. Today's \$820 million mission using the robotic rovers Opportunity and Spirit may be just the beginning of Mars spending, and that has scientists say it makes more sense to concentrate on pressing scientific issues that would improve life down here.

The Bush White House wants to return to the moon and eventually send astronauts to Mars, perhaps by 2035 — an effort that would cost hundreds of billions of dollars.

Considering the projected \$477 billion federal budget deficit and the competition for scarce taxpayer dollars, many scientists say it makes more sense to concentrate on pressing scientific issues that would improve life down here.

Both Etzioni and Earle, in separate interviews, suggested the world's oceans are the most obvious, and promising, scientific target.

Earth's oceans have been barely explored. New potential marine sources of energy and medicine, as well as knowledge about climate and origins of life on Earth 4 billion years ago, remain largely unexamined.

To some degree, Mars has divided space scientists, too. Astronomers bemoan NASA's decision to stop servicing the Hubble Space Telescope and let it die years ahead of schedule as the agency refocuses on stars to planets.

And Earle, the ocean explorer-in-residence at the National Geographic Society says, "I don't want to cut a penny from space."

"But the resources going into the investigation of our own planet and its oceans are trivial compared to investment looking for water elsewhere in the universe."

Nation in brief

and powerful winds that came through the city at about the time of the accident may have caused the vessel to capsize.

The accident happened at around 4 p.m. about a mile offshore.

The Inner Harbor is one of the nation's oldest seaports and draws millions of tourists every year. Water taxis ferry thousands of visitors each year to the many points on the harbor, including Fort McHenry, Fells Point and the National Aquarium.

CBS affiliate will pull plug on Martha Stewart show

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart's syndicated television show, "Martha Stewart Living," is being pulled from CBS' New York affiliate following the domestic maven's stock conviction.

WCBS will pull the plug on the show as of Monday and other CBS stations may follow suit. The New York Times and the New York Post reported in Saturday editions that the show, which had fallen in the ratings, previously aired on WCBS at 2:45 a.m. On Thursday, Stewart was nominated for a Daytime Emmy in the best host category for "Martha Stewart Living."

Stewart's conviction on four counts of conspiracy, making false statements and obstruction of justice sent reverberations through her media empire, which also includes a syndicated column and magazines.

—compiled from wire reports

TV news channels draw fire for filming underage sex stings

NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa. (AP) — The TV news report is hard to ignore: An unsuspecting man goes to a house where he allegedly thinks a teenage girl is waiting to have sex with him, but instead he is met by a TV reporter with a camera and microphones. TV news directors say the ratings week reports, which have been done in several cities around the nation, raise awareness about the growing problem of Internet-based exploitation of children. They say viewer response is overwhelming and almost entirely positive.

Child predators on the Internet are a huge problem ...

— Chris Blackman, WCAU vice president of news

"Even well-intended grass-roots undercover investigations can create more harm than good, and we firmly believe that law enforcement officials should be left to trained law enforcement officials," said Michelle Collins, director of the exploited child unit for the National Center for Missing &

Exploited Children. This past week, NBC affiliate WCAU-TV of Philadelphia lured three men allegedly seeking sex with teenagers to a rented house less than a half-mile from an elementary school in the small Philadelphia suburb of Newtown Square. Police were not notified of the station's plans.

The local district attorney is investigating whether the station broke any laws.

WCAU defended its report. "Child predators on the Internet are a huge problem, and NBC 10 helped raise public awareness of this issue," WCAU vice president of news, Chris Blackman, said in a statement. "In covering this story, NBC 10 believes that no one was put in danger and the station conducted itself responsibly."

Scholar gets seven months for spying

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — A scholar who was freed from Chinese prison after the U.S. government interceded on her behalf was sentenced Friday to seven months in a U.S. prison for selling computer equipment with potential military uses to China.

Gao Zhan, who was born in China but is a U.S. resident in McLean, Va., had pleaded guilty to one count of unlawfully exporting electronic equipment to agencies associated with the Chinese military.

She could have been sentenced to three years in prison, but was given a sharply reduced term after prosecutors said she provided substantial cooperation after her arrest on matters of national security.

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NATION



Luz Cuevas, left, gets a hug from her sister Luz de Jesus, while speaking to reporters about her daughter, Dellmar Vera, Tuesday, in Philadelphia. Vera, Cuevas' daughter, was thought to have died in a 1997 fire in her family's Philadelphia home when she was 20 days old, but was allegedly kidnapped by a woman who set the blaze to cover her tracks, police said. Cuevas contacted authorities after seeing the now 6-year-old at a birthday party in January and recognizing the child as her own, which was later proven through DNA testing. Police have issued a warrant for the arrest of Carolyn Correa, 41, of Willingboro, N.J., on charges of arson, kidnapping, and conspiracy.

Radio host wants Bush to lose race

Nowaday

Howard Stern, sounding grim and depressed, said Friday on his top-rated morning show that he expected to be forced off the radio within three months, the victim of a political and financial campaign driven by right-wing religious conservatives. He urged listeners to vote against President Bush in revenge.

"The plug is about to be pulled on me," he told his audience, which he estimated at about 16 million listeners nationwide. "I'm saying my goodbyes now. There's nothing you can do about it. . . . Vote George Bush out of office. That's all I ask. Remember me when you go to the voting booth."

Until recently, Stern has stayed away from politics. "I just want to do fart jokes and have stripper chicks in here," he said Friday. He has talked about going off the air before, but usually around the time contract negotiations. His current contract has two years to run.

Stern's show, carried on more than 40 stations around the country and broadcast from WXRK/92.3 FM in New York, was suspended Feb. 24 from six stations owned by radio giant Clear Channel Communications, a Texas company whose owners are major backers of Bush. Stern is syndicated by Infinity Broadcasting, a subsidiary of Viacom Inc., that also owns more than 100 stations.

When announcing the suspension, Clear Channel CEO John Hogan said that Stern was being punished for an incident in which a caller used a racial slur while referring to African-American women. On Tuesday, Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kansas, wrote to Viacom president Mel Karmazin about Infinity's lack of action. "In light of Infinity's reported new indecency policy, and the supposed use of a substantial time delay, I do not understand how such a broadcast could be aired using an Infinity broadcast license," he wrote.

"Clear Channel set me up," Stern said. "They used me. They threw me to the wolves." He said he expected Infinity to be forced to drop him by the threat of huge fines (Congress is considering raising fines for broadcast indecency to \$500,000, up from the current maximum of \$27,500) and possible loss of broadcast licenses. "Mel will not be able to do business. . . . The company will try to fight back, but it won't be able to. I'm heartbroken about this."

A Stern campaign against Bush is no idle threat, in the opinion of one industry expert. "George W. Bush should lie awake at night having lost Howard Stern's support and having Stern as a political enemy," said Michael Harrison, founder and editor of the industry journal Talkers magazine. Although it is independent, Talkers has links to the conservative Heritage Foundation, which sponsors its twice-yearly talk-radio seminars. Stern's clout, his influence over adults who vote, professionals, 30-something and 40-something professionals, is enormous, Harrison said.

Fire dept. questioned after claiming girl died

Night Rider News Service

PHILADELPHIA — As the parents of Dellmar Vera prepared to finally bring their daughter home, Philadelphia Fire Department officials defended their actions of the December 1997 night when she was thought to have been consumed by flames.

"I think we did what we were supposed to do," Fire Commissioner Harold B. Hairston said.

According to the department's official and cursory report of the one-alarm fire in Feltonville, Pa., one firefighter spent 15 minutes making a "primary search" for Dellmar, who was then 10 days old. A second firefighter spent an additional 20 minutes combing the child's burned-out bedroom for her remains.

All the while, Luzaida Cuevas, the child's mother, screamed, in Spanish, that her baby was alive and had been stolen from her.

The company commander made only two remarks in the official report. They were: "DOA 1 female approx. 1 week old," and "injured 1 female approx. 30 years old with burns to face, transported to hospital by M-24." The report of the fire marshal's office, handwritten at the bottom of the report, concluded that the cause of the fire was "Electrical wires - (Improper use of Home Made Extension Cord)."

Meanwhile, across the river in New Jersey, Carolyn Correa, now accused of starting the blaze, had Dellmar. She returned her Aaliyah Hernandez and friends and family she had given birth at home.

Correa, 42, of Willingboro, N.J., charged with arson, kidnapping and related offenses, remained in jail Friday, unable to post

\$1 million bond.

Dellmar, now 6, has been reunited with her parents. The trio met privately Thursday night after a custody hearing in New Jersey family court that determined Cuevas, 31, and Pedro Vera, 39, would have joint custody of the child. Dellmar is expected to be officially turned over to Cuevas, with whom she will live, on Monday, said Anthony Cianfrani, Cuevas' attorney.

During that first meeting, Dellmar was hiding under a table when her parents walked into the room. Cianfrani said. Cuevas was initially upset, thinking the child was afraid.

Then she jumped out from under the table and yelled. "Surprise!" Cianfrani said. "And after that, it kept getting better. It went really well."

But troubling questions remain. How did the Fire Department mislabel what was apparently an arson as an electrical fire? How could officials conclude a baby had died when there was no outright evidence of such? Why did no one listen to Cuevas if, as she claims, she screamed that her child had been kidnapped?

Under a resolution approved Thursday, City Council will hold a series of hearings to determine who erred on the night of the fire. The first is scheduled for 1 p.m. March 29 in City Hall.

Mayor Street is among those who wondered how the investigation was bungled.

"First thing that popped into my mind is, 'How can something like this happen?'" Street told reporters Friday following a meeting at a Philadelphia hotel. "We're very concerned, and we'll get to the bottom of it."



Carolyn Correa



Dellmar Vera

Singer Crosby faces gun, drug charges

NEW YORK (AP) — Musician David Crosby was arrested on marijuana and gun possession charges early Saturday at a Times Square hotel, police said.

Crosby, 62, a two-time inductee to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, had checked out of the hotel but left a piece of luggage behind, police said.

"A hotel worker found the bag

and went through it looking for identification, and called police after finding marijuana, a .45-caliber handgun and two knives, authorities said.

Crosby was met by police when he returned to pick up the bag, investigators said.

Crosby, a founding member of both the Byrds and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, had been per-

forming at the B.B. King Blues Club off Times Square and at Shea Auditorium in Wayne, N.J.

In 1995 he was convicted of drug possession in Dallas and spent a year in prison before his conviction was overturned on appeal.

Calls seeking comment from Crosby's management company were not immediately returned Saturday.

Woman finds severed thumb in her lunch

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Talk about leaving a bad tip at the restaurant. A 22-year-old woman found the severed tip of a thumb in her lunch salad at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers.

Stark County Health Commissioner Bill Franks said a worker at the restaurant, in the Canton suburb of Jackson Township about 70 miles south of Cleveland, was chopping lettuce Monday night when he cut off part of his left thumb, including part of the

finger nail.

Employees searched for the fingertip, but could not find it. The area was cleaned and sanitized, but the lettuce was placed in a cooler and then used for salads on Tuesday.

"It wound up being served at lunch time Tuesday to a 22-year-old woman," Franks said.

She had eaten most of her salad when she put the fingertip in her mouth, Franks said.

She first thought it was a piece of

gristle, a health department report said.

Red Robin spokesman Dwayne Chambers said employees, in their haste to get the injured man to a doctor, failed to follow the chain's procedures and throw out all food in the area.

"We clearly had a breakdown," he said. "We are incredibly sorry about what happened."

Chambers said he spoke with the woman. "She obviously was pretty upset," he said.

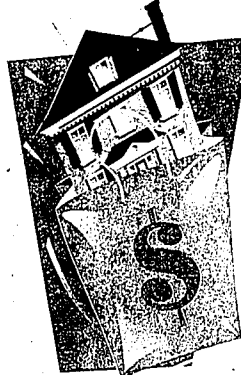
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WORLD

Experts learn that Russia helped Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Weapons hunters in Iraq have found evidence that experts from Russia and other countries helped with Iraq's missile program, but it is unclear whether those countries' governments played any role, U.S. officials said Friday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Bush administration will continue to monitor it has obtained and eventually present it to those countries. In addition to Russia, officials found signs that experts from Ukraine, Serbia and Belarus may have been involved.

It may be that the alleged assistance came from companies or individuals who came to Iraq without the knowledge or sanction of their home governments, the officials said.

Still, any such assistance would violate the prewar U.N. sanctions that prohibited foreign weapons aid to deposed President Saddam Hussein's Iraq, the officials said. They provided no details on what was discovered or the nature of the technical help.

The information found in Iraq was first reported Friday in The

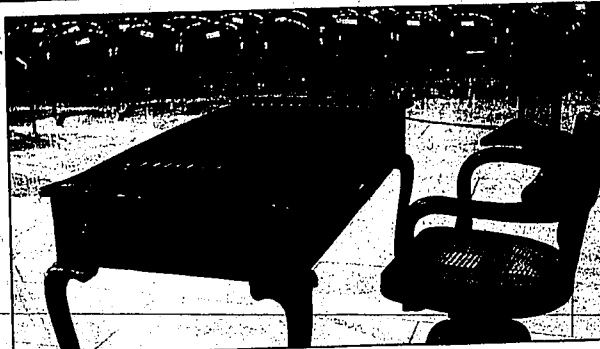
New York Times. Of all the prewar intelligence assessments regarding Iraq's illicit weapons programs, so far the predictions regarding long-range missile efforts have found the most validation.

"Since the war we have found an aggressive Iraq missile program concealed from the international community," CIA Director George Tenet said in a speech last month.

Previously, officials had said Iraq's missile dealings primarily involved North Korea. Last year, then-chief weapons hunter David Kay said Pyongyang and Baghdad had negotiated for the sale of missile technology.

It appears that North Korea kept an Iraqi down payment of \$10 million but never delivered any parts from its No Dong class of ballistic missiles, Kay said.

According to Tenet, Iraq had advanced design work for a liquid-propellant missile with ranges of up to 620 miles and was working on other kinds of missiles. Since the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq has been prohibited from having missiles with ranges longer than 93 miles.



A table with 25 pens to be used by an equal number of members of the Iraqi Governing Council and an empty chair lying idle in the middle of the lobby of the Convention Center for the historic new Iraqi Interim Constitution on Friday in Baghdad, Iraq. The signing ceremony has been postponed to give time for the members to consult prominent Shiite leader Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani.

Snag over Iraq's constitution shows a power shift is under way

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The snag over signing Iraq's interim constitution shows how power is shifting here, with Washington's ability to sway events diminishing as the June 30 deadline for the end of the U.S.-led occupation nears.

Weeks of intense negotiations under strong U.S. pressure produced a charter that American administrator L. Paul Bremer hailed as "really unprecedented" in Iraq's history and "in the history of the region" because of its protection of civil rights and promotion of the

rule of law.

In the end, however, five Shiite Muslim members of the Governing Council refused to sign, because the country's premier Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, believed the document did not promote the power of the majority Shiite community.

The council later announced it would reconvene Monday to sign the charter after a weekend of consultations.

But even if that happens, the delay was more than an embarrassment

for the Coalition Provisional Authority, which had invited the world's media to witness the Friday signing. By announcing that the occupation will end June 30, the Americans are now self-proclaimed lame ducks whose influence is ebbing, giving way to Iraqi politicians and the Shiite clergy.

From Washington to Baghdad, U.S. officials insisted that the ability of an unelected cleric to block a decision taken by the Iraqi administration represented the lowering of democracy.

Bombing injures ten soldiers

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. soldiers opened fire on a truck packed with explosives Saturday, killing the driver, and three Americans were wounded when the truck crashed on a bridge and exploded.

The apparent vehicle-bomb attack was in Habaniyah, west of Baghdad. In Amarah, seven British soldiers were wounded in a three-hour firefight with unknown attackers in southern Iraq, coalition officials said. Three Iraqis were killed, British officials said.

Meanwhile, Shiite members of Iraq's Governing Council conferred with the country's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, to resolve a dispute that held up the signing of an interim constitution.

Al-Sistani rejected two clauses in the interim charter — one that would have given Iraq's Kurds the power to secede and another that would have provided for a single president instead of a rotating leadership.

Defying al-Sistani's objections, the Shiite council members refused on Friday to sign the interim constitution hours before it was supposed to be signed, embarrassing U.S. officials and providing a stark reminder of the ayatollah's enormous influence in Iraqi politics.

With negotiations reopened, a Kurdish official said his side would not consent to changing the clause, which was agreed to by the entire council when it approved the constitution on Monday after several days of intense debate.

Russian parliament approves Putin's pick

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's new prime minister pledged Friday to take personal responsibility for creating a smaller, more efficient government, jumping into what promises to be a politically sensitive task after the pro-Kremlin parliament overwhelmingly approved his appointment.

Mikhail Fradkov, a little-known bureaucrat before President Vladimir Putin nominated him Monday to hold the nation's No. 2 job, sailed easily through his confirmation hearing in Russia's lower house of parliament, the State Duma.

Lawmakers voted 352 to 58 in favor of Fradkov, with 24 legislators abstaining. Fradkov needed a simple majority of 226 votes, and he does not need approval from the upper house.

Reforming the bloated, post-Soviet state bureaucracy "can help avoid ... decisions, when nobody bears responsibility for the result," Fradkov told lawmakers. He then headed to the Kremlin to meet with his boss, who is running for re-election on March 14.

In that race, Ivan Rybkin, a Putin critic, dropped out of the contest. Putin is expected to win in a landslide.

"I am withdrawing my candidacy. I will not participate in this race," Rybkin told a news conference after returning from a three-week trip abroad following a murky incident in which he went missing for days and claimed he was the victim of foul play.

Russia's economy has grown steadily during Putin's first term, in large part thanks to high world oil prices, but about a fifth of the country's 144 million citizens still live below the poverty line.

Putin nominated Fradkov, 53, after he stepped down by firing longtime Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov less than a month before the presidential election.

Some of the orders may be unpopular. Fradkov pledged to

reorganize the government by cutting the number of ministries, saying that there will be "significantly fewer" than the 23 that exist now and that he will have only one deputy prime minister — there are now several.

He said about a quarter of the functions carried out by the government are unnecessary or redundant.

Fradkov will have to balance the competing groups in Putin's inner circle as he embarks on his restructuring. The ex-security service and military officials, called the siloviki, are one of the most prominent.

But Sergei Markov, director of the Institute for Political Research think tank, said they share influence with the economic liberals and those from Putin's hometown of St. Petersburg who often shape the president's political agenda.

"For Putin, it is probably most important that Fradkov is a neutral guy that he doesn't belong wholly to any one crowd," said Masha Lipman, an analyst with Moscow's Carnegie Endowment.

Fradkov, who spent most of his last decade in the foreign trade sector but also served as a former head of the tax police, has given few hints of his concrete plans since returning from Brussels, where he was serving as envoy to the European Union.

Nikolai Kharitonov, a Communist lawmaker and presidential candidate, said the pro-Kremlin United Russia members, whose support for Fradkov guaranteed his confirmation, were "hastily praising a person they hardly know."

Dmitry Rogozin, a nationalist lawmaker who supports Putin, also said after the vote that many questions remain.

Leslie Voltaire, a minister in Aristide's government and a member of the tripartite commission that chose the council, said he was satisfied with the group's neutrality and independence.

"They will meet today, they will meet Sunday, and by Monday we will have a new prime minister," Voltaire said.

U.S. Marines patrolling the capital withdrew some of their guards from around the presidential National Palace and the prime minister's office Saturday after it became clear that the overwhelming show of force had become a sore point with Haitians.

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Haitian rebels say they won't put weapons down

GONAIVES, Haiti (AP) — Before a raging fire, rebel fighters in this bleak western town offered metal scraps Saturday to a voodoo war god, portending still more violence for Haiti.

Though rebel leader Guy Philippe has pledged his fighters will disarm, many insist they will not give up their weapons until militant supporters of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide do the same.

Rebels who choose not to show their weapons in public openly admit they have slashed them for later use. And the Gonaives ceremony to Ogun Fery, the war god, indicates Haiti's bloody uprising might not be over.

"In terms of where the guns are and who we will surrender them to, that's a secret," said local rebel commander Winter Elenne, 40. "When you lay down your arms you always want to have them somewhere where you can pick them up again if you need them."

The challenge of disarmament is just one of many stumbling blocks facing the impoverished

Caribbean nation, where an armed rebellion that began Feb. 5 has killed at least 130 people and forced Aristide to flee the country.

On Saturday in Port-au-Prince, a recently appointed council met to choose a new prime minister. Officials said they hoped to have a decision by Tuesday. Opposition leaders have been pressing for the replacement of Yvon Neptune, who stayed in his post even after Aristide fled the country.

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Study: More women work, but for low pay

GENEVA (AP) — Women make up a greater percentage of the global work force than ever before, but many make so little money they can barely survive, the United Nations said.

A report released Friday by the International Labor Organization said women now account for 40.5 percent of the world's work force, up from 39.5 percent a decade ago and the highest figure ever recorded by the U.N. agency.

Of the 2.8 billion workers in the world, 1.1 billion are women, said the report, issued ahead of International Women's Day on Monday.

But women account for 60 percent of the world's 550 million "working poor," the study said, using 2003 figures.

The ILO report covers women who get money directly for their work, whether they are employed on a formal or informal basis, and those who work unpaid while still generating income for their families — by tending animals or weaving, for example.

Homemakers are excluded from the labor force definition, although ILO officials said this does not mean the agency believes they are unimportant.

A separate, updated ILO study of

women's efforts to break the "glass ceiling" — an invisible, symbolic barrier to top jobs — said progress remains "slow, uneven and sometimes discouraging."

"These two reports provide a stark picture of the status of women in the world of work today," ILO chief Juan Somavia said.

Although women are slowly closing the worldwide employment gap, there are wide variations between regions.

In Europe's former communist countries, 91 women are economically active for every 100 men. But in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia, the figure is only 40 women for every 100 men.

The global growth in the number of female workers has not brought equal pay, however. In six occupations studied, women still earned less than their male counterparts, even in traditionally female-dominated occupations such as nursing and teaching, ILO said.

"In short, true equality in the world of work is still out of reach," the agency said.

Worldwide, female unemployment in 2003 was slightly higher than male unemployment — 6.4 percent for women and 6.1 percent for men.



An anti-President Hugo Chavez protester dressed as Death rallies with other opponents of Chavez in Caracas, Venezuela, Saturday.

Venezuelans march in mass protest after denial of presidential recall

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Blowing whistles and chanting, tens of thousands of Venezuelans marched through Caracas on Saturday to protest the rejection of a petition aimed at recalling President Hugo Chavez.

Protesters streamed toward a central avenue from several gathering points in the capital, many dressed from head to toe in the national colors of red, yellow and blue.

The march was peaceful, in contrast with last week's demonstrations. At least eight people were killed and hundreds arrested in five

days of rioting set off by the National Elections Council's decision.

One protester's sign read: "I'm not armed. Don't shoot! I'm Venezuelan."

The council accepted only 1.8 million of the 3 million-plus signatures submitted by opposition leaders in December. The minimum required is 2.4 million.

The council demanded confirmation of 1 million signatures, citing procedural violations. Another 140,000 signatures were rejected outright.

"We're prepared to take to the

streets a thousand times until we're allowed the recall referendum," said opposition leader Henry Ramos Allup. "Nobody is going to rob us of our right to oust Hugo Chavez peacefully."

Opposition leaders have appealed to the Organization of American States and the U.S.-based Carter Center for support, saying the stability of the world's fifth-biggest oil exporter is at stake.

Street violence abated last week after the OAS and Carter Center promised to help ensure that citizens would have their chance to prove they signed.

Palestinians use Jeeps in bomb attack

EREZ CROSSING, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinian gunmen and suicide car bombers staged an elaborate attack against a major Israeli checkpoint on Saturday, in what militant groups called revenge for recent airstrikes targeting their members.

Four assassins and two Palestinian policemen were killed, but no Israeli soldiers were hurt.

The attackers used vehicles that looked nearly identical to Israeli army jeeps, complete with military markings, black-and-white army license plates and flashing lights on the roof. It was the latest surge of violence ahead of a proposed Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

Militants said Saturday they were stepping up attacks to show they were forcing Israel out of Gaza. Israel was expected to intensify military strikes ahead of a withdrawal to avoid the impression of surrender. Seven Palestinians have been killed in targeted Israeli air strikes in Gaza City in the past week.

The attack began at about 10 a.m. when a Palestinian taxi sped into the Erez crossing zone between Gaza and Israel and exploded just outside a heavily fortified army checkpoint.

Moments later, two more attackers in a jeep with Israeli military markings pulled up. One of the men jumped out and opened fire with an assault rifle. Troops fired back, killing the pair.

A second vehicle disguised as an army jeep blew up outside the crossing zone, apparently after Palestinian policemen guarding the Gaza side blocked its path.

New rules wreck British lawmakers' boozy lifestyle

LONDON (AP) — Parliament's late-night culture of hard drinking, boozing and midnight votes could make a comeback if a large segment of disgruntled British lawmakers gets their way.

A campaign is growing in the neo-gothic Palace of Westminster to ditch the new "family friendly" working hours and revert to more nocturnal sittings.

Many MPs, or members of Parliament, argue that their timetable, which gets most House of Commons business wrapped up by 7 p.m., has destroyed the raucous, clubby atmosphere of political life and are demanding a return to the good old days.

"It has made the place like a morgue," Labour Party lawmaker Dennis Turner said.

His Conservative colleague, Michael Fabricant, agreed, saying, "Certainly in the evening it can be like the Mary Celeste" — referring to the mystery of the brigantine found abandoned at sea in 1872.

Prime Minister Tony Blair's government overhauled Parliament's working practices in January 2003, arguing that the electorate was turned off by the arcane, fusty environment.

MPs now sit their traditional hours on a Monday, from 2:30 p.m.

until 10 p.m., or later. But on other days, when the chamber now opens at 11:30 a.m., they aim to complete business by early evening.

Key announcements are made shortly after noon, rather than 3:30 p.m., allowing the government to set the news agenda earlier. Modernizers argue that the earlier hours promote a better work-life balance, are better for women MPs with children, and set an example to the business world.

But 246 lawmakers from all parties have signed a motion demanding a reconsideration of those hours, prompting the Commons modernization committee to hold a review. No date has been set for a decision.

Until January 2003, Parliament's nine bars and 16 eateries thronged with activity until late in the evening.

With debates often continuing into the wee small hours, MPs would retire for a pint and a game of pool in Annie's bar, secure in the knowledge that the division bell would summon them back to the chamber to vote.

On summer nights, lawmakers would spill out from the Stranger's bar onto the terrace to drink and gossip and scheme.

China ups military budget

BEIJING (AP) — China handed its enormous military a double-digit spending increase Saturday in a show of support, even as the new national budget turned inward to focus on the countryside and its growing income gap with urban areas.

The communist government's proposed increase of 11.6 percent — or \$2.6 billion — in military expenditures for the People's Liberation Army came days before an unprecedented referendum in rival Taiwan concerning the island's estranged relations with the mainland.

The increase was needed to improve the "defensive combat readiness of the armed forces under high-tech conditions," Finance Minister Jin Renqing told the National People's Congress in his annual budget presentation.

His report put total revenue for the central budget at \$157 billion, up 7 percent — or \$10.9 billion — from last year. It also included a 7 percent boost in overall spending from 2003, a move calculated to push the economy forward without widening an already huge wealth gap with areas left behind by a generation of economic reform.

Such an approach, Jin said, will

"increase everyone's confidence in accelerated development and stabilize overall reform and development."

China's budget is a telling glimpse into what its leaders, the stewards of a once-planned but increasingly free-wheeling economy, consider their top tasks. For this year-old complement of leaders, that means doing everything they can to create a "well-off" society that can bring stability.

In line with the optimistic forecast, Jin said the country's \$38.7 billion deficit was the same as 2003's — good news for China as it tries to assure the global financial community that it is traveling a responsible path and not allowing its economy to overheat.

"Keeping our proactive fiscal policy stable and consistent while working to improve it will help protect, consolidate and increase the current good momentum in economic development," Jin said.

He identified rural issues as the top spending priority and said funding for them will increase by 20 percent, a theme echoed by Premier Wen Jiabao in his state-of-the-nation speech Friday at the opening of the legislative session.

Thousands of women march in Paris for equal rights and jobs

PARIS (AP) — Thousands of women marched through Paris on Saturday to press for equal rights for women and show support for a law to ban Islamic head scarves in public schools.

Some carried pink signs, and one held a replica of a gallow's with dolls in the style of Barbie dangling from ropes. One sign read, "Neither for Sale nor for the Taking."

Police said some 7,000 people took part in the march, organized by the National Collective for Women's Rights and several unions

and leftist political parties.

Not all had the same agenda. Some demanded jobs for women and equal rights in the workplace. Others marched in support of a new law against wearing Islamic head scarves in public schools.

Both houses of parliament have approved the bill, which cleared the Senate on Wednesday.

Earlier in the day, two groups fighting for women's rights unveiled a plaque at the tomb of feminist writer Simone de Beauvoir in Montparnasse Cemetery.

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OPINION

Opinion Editor: David Cooper - 733-0931, Ext. 246

Sunday, March 7, 2004

The Times-News

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EDITORIAL

Current public record law provides wide exemptions

For people who say they want to go home early, Idaho lawmakers sure seem to relish extra work.

Perhaps that's the best way to describe legislators' attempts to exempt certain documents from Idaho's public record law. The state House has passed one measure and is considering another, to keep certain records out of the public eye.

In neither case is the legislation necessary. The state's public records law sufficiently covers the proprietary information that can be defined as "trade secrets."

Furthermore, by jamming more exemptions into state law, legislators are setting a bad precedent for secrecy.

Both proposed laws deal with information on livestock operations. The first is HB 682, which passed the House 61-8 on Thursday. One of its provisions would exempt cattle producers from submitting nutrient management plans for public review.

A nutrient management plan, or NMP, is a document that shows the amount of manure from a livestock operation and how it is disposed of.

State law requires all dairies to submit NMPs. Legislators who back HB 682 say waste from beef cattle is different from dairy waste. We aren't sure about that. Regardless, when the state creates exemptions for one industry, it certainly doesn't

smell good. If that isn't enough, the House is also considering HB 797. This one would amend the public records law to exempt certain records tied to "academic research or studies by employees, volunteers or students of public institutions of higher education or their related institutions or research foundations."

This language is aimed at the dairy order study by University of Idaho engineer Ron Sheffield. That research hit a wall last summer when some dairy critics made a public records request for Sheffield's data.

As a result, dairies participating in the study withdrew, not wanting their data to be used against them in a lawsuit.

Eventually, Sheffield's study got back on track as a double-blind study. The dairies send their data to a law firm, which forwards the information to Sheffield minus identifying information.

Having crafted that agreement, the state doesn't need legislation to shield research documents from public view. Is the public longing to know the research and participants for every university study? We doubt it.

Creating barriers around public information is generally a bad idea, and that's certainly true with these proposals. Neither is needed.

Our view: The legislature should ignore two bills that aim to exempt records from public view. **What do you think?** We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



Can Kerry neutralize Bush's campaign machine?

JOSEPH DOLMAN

Forget about his record in Vietnam. The real question after Super Tuesday is this: What did John F. Kerry do in the culture wars?

Tuesday, the senator from Massachusetts showed that he can charm a broad swath of Democrats nationally. New Yorkers have grown especially fond of him in the last few weeks as he worked the state with a credible message about jobs and trade.

He triumphed in New York, where he held rallies in Harlem and Queens with an informal sort of warmth that does not necessarily show up on TV. To me, he looked comfortable and real on the campaign trail while John Edwards, his chief rival, appeared pleasant enough but as plastic as a McDonald's place setting.

But now that Kerry has all but locked up the Democratic nomination, how skillfully can he handle the unforgiving Bush campaign machine?

Remember how it smeared Gov. Michael Dukakis in 1988 as a befuddled doofus who stood to the left of Marx and Lenin as he foolishly ran Massachusetts right into the ground? Who's to say that won't happen to Kerry?

Not me. Consider the surreal scene that happened in Manhattan on Sunday morning during the Democratic debate on CBS.

"Are you a liberal?" New York Times reporter Elizabeth Bumiller asked Kerry. She had just noted that the National Journal recently ranked him tops in terms of Senate liberalism.

This was not an especially cruel kind of torture. If he said, "Yeah—what's wrong with that?" he gives Karl Rove and George W. Bush the best round bite of the 2004 Republican campaign.

And he also scares the bejambers out of all those Americans who think liberals were placed on this Earth to carry out the will of Satan.

If he says no, he is obviously lying, and he could offend part of his political base.

An exit poll early in the day Tuesday showed that 53 percent of New York State Democratic primary voters call themselves liberals.

But Kerry should have had a snappy comeback, one that defused the matter. Instead, he only appeared trapped—like some Harvard student who has been congressed to answer for a list of ill-defined "un-American" activities.

Kerry: "Let me just ... 'Are you a liberal?' Bumiller interrupted.

Kerry: "Look, labels are so silly in American politics ..."

Bumiller: "But Sen. Kerry, the question is ..."

Now here's the thing: The Bush team won't talk about the economy. And it has to be careful about the Iraq war—because this operation has not been a clear success. And military swagger is tricky because Kerry was both a decorated military man in the Vietnam War, and later a high-profile antiwar protester.

They will not want to draw comparisons between Kerry's values in Vietnam and Bush's problematic record in the Air National Guard.

Solution? The Republicans will need to "push Kerry out of the center," explains New York City-based political consultant Hank Sheinkopf. Their mission is to turn the Ronald Reagan Democrats against him in the lunch-pail swing states like Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Missouri.

They must give him a liberal shellacking as they did to Dukakis. Already, Bush has rushed to turn gay marriages from a state issue to a federal issue. Anything to draw Kerry into the line of fire.

This is not about winning the impossibly conservative Deep South. As Merle Black, Emory University political scientist, sees it, Kerry could assemble a victory without carrying one state of the old Confederacy.

But Kerry will need to sell himself as a level-headed man who is strong on defense—in spite of his antiwar past—and an innocuous fellow when it comes to the culture wars.

His mission now is to show a hard-pressed electorate in the cities of Ohio and in the hills of western Pennsylvania that he can put bread on the tables.

He must do more to radiate optimism.

And if someone is so rude to call him a liberal, he had better have a smart answer handy.

Joseph Dolman is a columnist at *Newsday*.

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Managing Editor; Clark Walworth, Advertising Director; Mike Smit, Publisher

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LETTERS

Leaders stand and watch as M.V. wells go dry

For Sale: Cheap. Farm ground that used to produce dairy quality hay—no water—call for details.

Sound silly? That's what will happen if the threat by Dr. Dreher, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, to shut down more than 1,000 wells in the Magic Valley is carried out.

In the Feb. 28 *Times-News*, "Legislators hear rationale for state's well curtailment order." Dr. Dreher offered options: Groundwater pumps could present another mitigation plan; spring users could agree to settle for less water and litigation.

What Dreher doesn't talk about is the work that has been ongoing for years to develop water recharge districts in this valley. Dreher, who came to us from (as we recall) a mess in Colorado, wasn't exactly thrilled with the idea, saying his boss (the gov himself) didn't support the idea.

Do you suppose his boss does support the idea of losing thousands of acres of farm ground, most every dairy operation and destroying what's left of every small business?

Where is our governor anyway? One would think he would be all over this valley reassuring us that "something will work out." After all, some of his biggest contributors are the very people his administration is about to put out of business.

Okay, maybe he's still in D.C. counting the money from his recent \$5,000-per-plate dinner fund-raiser and doesn't know anything about this issue.

glings financially and we hardly have a Micron or Hewlett-Packard to go to that in hand and ask for help. Our largest businesses, which may be affected, pale by comparison to companies of that size.

So what's the answer? A local farmer put it best about shutting down the wells: "We can shut 'em down now, or shut 'em down later after we're all broke, or we can shoot the bums."

Being the non-violent type, we can't support shooting anyone. Why don't we believe — the spring users may get their water but it will break us all in the end. JERRY AND PATTY NANCE Driehar

A clever name doesn't make a successful program

If coming up with a "program name that says it all" solves a problem, why don't we ask our courageous leader to solve all our nation's problems with clever names? Why don't we ask President Bush to institute "No Child Born into Poverty," "No Child Born Uncaring Parents" or "No Federal Mandate Left Unfunded"? While he is at it, why not "No 50 States Killed in Battle" and "No One Dies of Cancer"? Then when those problems are solved, he can move on to other big ones: Social Security, AIDS, pollution, divorce, drug addiction, the Middle East conflict, world hunger—none of these problems can be easily or cheaply solved.

Our schools have always endeavored to educate all students and to leave no child behind. Unfortunately, neither caring teachers nor simplistic national programs with clever names can solve all of the problems that face students today. But we teachers do keep trying. LORRI HAZEN Twin Falls

(Editor's note: Lorri Hazen teaches fifth grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Twin Falls.)

Army relies more on Guard, Reserves

JOSEPH L. GALLOWAY

The warning order went out from Washington this week to three enhanced brigades of the Army National Guard—the 25th Infantry from Louisiana, the 116th Cavalry from Idaho and Oregon, and the 4th Armored Cavalry from Tennessee. "Get ready to go to Iraq late this year or early next."

The Department of Defense also alerted 1,000 members of the 42nd Infantry Division headquarters from New York to state that they would be the first Guard headquarters of its size to be tapped for duty in Iraq. That amounts to a total of 18,000 citizen soldiers.

Since the events of Sept. 11 changed the world, the National Guard and Reserves have been carrying a heavy load in deployments to both peacekeeping missions in Bosnia and Kosovo and combat duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, and this isn't going to change anytime soon.

Nearly half—46 percent—of the 110,000 troops now rotating in Iraq for a one-year tour of duty are Reserves and National Guard. Experts at the Pentagon say next year's third shift of troops going into Iraq could include an even higher percentage of Reserve and Guard troops.

With the active duty Army skinned back to only 10 divisions and a permanent strength of 480,000, there is no way all the missions the Army has been assigned around the world could be carried out without the Guard and National Guard.

Even as troops fan out on tough and deadly missions, the Pentagon is moving swiftly to reorganize the National Guard, streamlining an antiquated command structure that was designed for mass mobilization for a world war. The Pentagon also has added offensive, defensive and commu-

nications capabilities to many units, creating "enhanced brigades" that can operate independently.

The Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, is determined to modernize and change the National Guard and Reserves proper use of it. In return the Army would guarantee that a National Guard unit will not spend more than 12 months on active duty during a five-year period.

The number of enhanced Guard brigades will be increased from the present 15 to 22, and they will be trained and equipped to mirror the new modular Army brigades. This will be achieved by converting excess artillery battalions and air defense battalions into infantry units. Other Guard battalions will be converted to needed specialties such as military police.

Even as this is under way, Schoomaker and the Army staff are working to pull units critically needed in the early days of a deployment for combat into the active duty Army. This includes such specialties as port-opening units and civil-military affairs units. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has ordered the Army to balance the force in such a way that Guard and Reserves units would not have to be called up during the first 30 days of any combat operation.

The Army Guard and Reserves, totaling 555,000 troops, outnumber the active duty Army. Army leaders know that these part-time soldiers cost almost as much as active duty soldiers, and they are determined to get their money's worth out of them.

Army leaders hope that by mak-

ing better use of a modernized Army National Guard and Army Reserve, and squeezing new combat positions from a transformed active duty force, they can avoid any costly permanent increases in the size of the active Army.

Schoomaker believes privatization of soldier office jobs will recapture 10,000 to 15,000 soldiers for combat duty. He also plans to reduce the number of soldiers—now 75,000-plus—who are in movement at any given time, such as transferring, going to or from schools, or entering or leaving service. He believes that number can be reduced by at least 15,000 soldiers leaving them in their units doing the jobs they were hired to do.

With those 30,000 recaptured positions and the 30,000 additional troops approved by Rumsfeld as a temporary four-year increase in Army strength, the Army chief believes he can get by without a large permanent increase in the force, which would cost billions and be extremely difficult to finance in future budgets.

Schoomaker hopes that the current high level of deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq represents a peak, not a plateau. If the future is just as busy as it is now, then the need for armed might, then the United States may well need a bigger Army to do its business. If that is the case, Schoomaker has told Congress and his bosses in the Department of Defense that he will come back and say so and ask for the troops needed.

Joseph L. Galloway is the senior military correspondent for *Knight Ridder Newspapers* and co-author of the national best-seller "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young."

VP picks usually come from federal ranks

Now that John Kerry has locked up the Democratic presidential nomination, the question turns to his selection of a running mate. Among the names being discussed are Dick Gephardt, John Edwards and Tom Vilsack—a congressman, a senator and a governor. While there are few formal selection criteria for a vice presidential nominee, past choices have historically followed a little-noticed pattern: Candidates are almost always drawn from the ranks of federal officials—current or former senators, congressmen or Cabinet members.

JOSHUA SPIVAK

In contrast to the presidency, where four of the past five incumbents served as chief executive of their states, governors are rarely selected as running mates. Since Earl Warren in 1952, then-Maryland Gov. Spiro Agnew, Richard Nixon's choice in 1968, has been the only state official nominated for the vice presidency by the Republican Party. Gerald Ford chose a long-serving former governor of New York, Nelson Rockefeller, to be his vice president, when he succeeded Nixon in 1974 but replaced Rockefeller with Sen. Bob Dole on the 1976 ticket.

As for the Democrats, you have to go back to 1924 to find their last gubernatorial choice for vice president—Nebraska's Charles Bryan, brother of the "Great Commoner," William Jennings Bryan. Edmund Muskie, the Democratic nominee in 1968, and Joseph Robinson in 1928 had served as governors, but both had established reputations in the Senate by the time they were tapped for the nomination.

Ever since John Adams got stuck with ideological and electoral opponent Thomas Jefferson as his vice president in 1796 (under the pro-24h Amendment rules), choosing a running mate has been critical to presidential politics. But while vice presidents were judged important for electoral reasons, they rarely did much during the president's term, limiting their influence to "his superbowl" of excellence that Adams had bestowed on the job. In recent years, vice presidents have had greater political stature, but they still have not been chosen based on their fitness for office.

Rather, selections tend to reflect a president's ideological wish to counter a weakness, such as inexperience in a certain area, or to lend ideological, geographical or generational balance to the ticket.

Sometimes that is a good reason for favoring a federal official, as when presidential nominees whose experience is limited to the state level choose running mates with a background in Washington or foreign affairs. Such thinking explains Jimmy Carter's choice of Sen. Walter Mondale in 1976 and George W. Bush's choice of former defense secretary and congressman Dick Cheney. But even nominees with national experience have mostly chosen current or former federal officials.

In 2000, Al Gore's list was composed exclusively of senators. The most logical explanation for the preference for federal officials may simply be that their positions give them a broader public profile. Committee members also have the ability to sponsor and support bills affecting a nationwide audience make many federal lawmakers household names, something most governors never achieve.

Cabinet officials also operate on the national stage, and they have the additional advantage of providing a connection with the policies of the presidents they served.

A corollary to the wider profile is the message to interest groups implied by the choice of an elected federal official. During a typical congressional session, a lawmaker casts well-publicized votes on hot-button issues such as abortion, gun control or the environment, which may not come up during a typical governor's term. By picking as his running mate someone with a favorable record on specific issues, the presidential nominee is able to measure wavering voters that he has the right stance at heart.

Besides Vilsack of Iowa, governors Janet Napolitano of Arizona, Mark Warner of Virginia and, especially, Bill Richardson of New Mexico also have been touted as running mates for Kerry.

Richardson, with his experience as a congressman, U.N. ambassador and Cabinet secretary, may be able to buck the trend, but history suggests that none of them should stay up at night waiting for that phone call.

Joshua Spivak is an attorney and media consultant in New York.

Campaign goes on and on and on

JAMES KLURFELD

Are you ready for this: Eight months of a presidential campaign, starting now? Actually it started about two weeks ago.

I'm a self-described political junkie, and I'm not ready. Maybe we should all be glad we don't live in Ohio or Florida, two of the key battleground states.

In New York, they aren't going to run a lot of ads for either John F. Kerry or George W. Bush because it's a lost cause for the Republicans. But we're still going to be inundated with politics for the rest of the year.

This is nuts. A president serves a four-year term and spends almost 25 percent of his time in an actual election contest?

How does that make sense? It's not good for the country. Every decision is now viewed through the prism of the campaign.

Even decisions that are not blatantly political will seem blatantly political. As in: Bush is giving in too easily to the Islamic fundamentalists on the Iraq constitution because it's an election year. Or Kerry turned from free trader to a protectionist because it's an election year.

Alan Greenspan, the head of the Federal Reserve, did the nation a favor last week by admitting what everybody in Washington knows: The Social Security system needs to be modified if the Baby Boomers aren't going to break the bank.

But will anybody talk honestly about it in the middle of the campaign? Of course not. But because of our extended campaign, that means for almost a full year the subject is taboo.

What's real and what's posturing? Governing comes to a halt, no matter what they tell you.

Sure, this is the messy part of a democracy. But does it have to last eight months?

Other countries do it in a much

This is nuts. A president serves a four-year term and spends almost 25 percent of his time in an actual election contest? How does that make sense? It's not good for the country. Every decision is now viewed through the prism of the campaign.

more compact period of time. Our political calendar is way out of whack.

This never-ending campaign also is not good for the candidates. It's a brutal process: living out of hotel rooms and grabbing meals on the run for months if you are the challenger. And, if you travel on Air Force One, it's still not the best use of your time.

Even for reporters, it's a weird existence. After spending almost two years on the road during the 1984 presidential campaign, I couldn't write a story unless I was on a bus or in a phone booth.

And I found myself hopping the shuttle to New York and immediately back to Washington just to satisfy my craving to be flying from city to city again.

I know that politics goes into every decision a president makes from the day he takes office.

And politics certainly dominates the agenda after the midterm elections. But an eight-month campaign?

Put the blame on the Democratic National Committee, which structured its primary season in a six-week window from the Iowa caucuses Jan. 19 to Super Tuesday March 2. And it worked. Kerry emerged in Iowa and then could not be stopped.

And I doubt even if there were another six weeks or 12 weeks in the process, the result would be any different.

But that's not the point. Why not start the process in April and let it run through June if you want to have it compressed?

Or spread the process out, so the voters have more time to evaluate a candidate and somebody actually has time to emerge after the front-runner is established.

Is this a better system than the one in which the party bosses picked a candidate in the back rooms of a convention? Probably. The old system gave us Warren G. Harding ... and Franklin Roosevelt. The new system has given us ... well, you know. It's more democratic and gets more people involved, although the percentage of the population actually voting in elections has declined recently.

We have no choice now but to endure the next eight months. But for 2008, somebody ought to fix what is clearly broken.

James Klurfeld is editor of *Newsday's* editorial pages.

LETTERS



Dividend taxes would amount to a double tax

In a letter published March 3, Mark Cook repeats a common misconception when he complains about rich Republicans living on "tax free" dividends.

First of all, the majority of Americans now invest in the stock market, not just rich Republicans.

Secondly, dividends are the after-tax profits of corporations owned by the stockholders. An analogy would be a small-business owner who brings home his paycheck from which taxes have been withheld. If he hands part of it to his spouse, should she pay taxes again on what she receives? It's the same with dividends. The stockholder is an owner and receives the profits (dividend) after the corporation has already paid taxes on its profits; why should he pay taxes again?

STANLEY MCGELSON
Twin Falls

Some with Italian, German ancestry were interned

The letter of Feb. 25 from Greg Rogers of Hazelton begs correction. If only he had researched his family information on the World War II Japanese-Americans, he would have known that more Germans and Italians were interned than were Japanese nationals. He can check that out

from a German-American who was interned alongside Japanese, but he never received the \$20,000 blood money. Try the Web site: www.falltimes.com.

The rest of his opinions are just that, opinions — not history.
RALPH WILLIS
San Jacinto, Calif.

St. Ben's facility has an unfair advantage

The editorial of Feb. 27 regarding a "New St. Ben's facility" was a classic example of journalism for Profit 101. The headline, in bold print, is intended to get the readers' attention, and to establish the bias of the individual writing the editorial. Thousands of studies have shown that the average reader remembers the bold type and, within minutes, forgives the rest of the story. Without the headline and it's bias, what does the whole story actually say?

It does not say that the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center management and board is against competition. *The Times-News* says that. It does say that the proposed St. Ben's facility will result in unfair competition with Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. That fact should be obvious, even to a casual reader of the editorial. The use of federal and state grants to build and the retention of its "critical care status" will indeed give St. Ben's a significant cost of doing business advantage over Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. If that is

not the case, then why is the management of St. Ben's so dead set on keeping that status?

Does June Standlee realize that for every dollar of Medicare treatment St. Ben's delivers that it is reimbursed \$1? And does she understand that for every dollar of Medicare treatment delivered by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, it is reimbursed 40 cents? Is that fair and equitable? Is that reasonable competition?

The Times-News further spins its bias by saying, and I quote, "Leaders of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center — the dominant medical facility for Magic Valley — continue to interpret all competition as a threat to their prosperity. Who is the 'their' referred to by *The Times-News*? The medical staff? The administration? The board of directors? The editorial writer would have you think so.

So, who are the 'their'? They are you and me. We are the taxpayers who benefit when the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center does well (and it has done a great job for this community for decades), and we will be the ones to pay the price if it does not do well. We own it. It is a Twin Falls County asset.

The one thing in the editorial I can agree with is that competition is good. Too bad *The Times-News* has no competition. The public might get more than a single bias on important stories.

LEE ODENWALD
Twin Falls

Getting in touch

Want to make your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how:

Sen. Mike Crapo

In Twin Falls, call or write:
Heather Tiel, regional director
202 Falls Ave., Suite 2
Twin Falls, ID 83301
734-2515; Fax: 733-0414
In Washington:
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-6142
e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

Sen. Larry Craig

In Twin Falls, call or write:
Mike Mathews, regional director
560 Filer Ave., Suite A
Twin Falls, ID 83301

734-6760, Fax 734-3905
In Washington:
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2752
e-mail: http://crag.senate.gov/email

Rep. Mike Simpson

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

Write to us

The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

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Linda Miller is Retiring!



Linda Miller, Sales Representative for The Times-News will be retiring after 31 years of dedicated service.

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- Monday, March 8
- 4-6 p.m.
- Red Lion, Twin Falls

The Times-News

When golf hurts

Bad biomechanics may doom golfers to serious problems with their backs, wrists — and perhaps even their hips. Monday in *The Times-News*.



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They got the bronze: Statue-making saves small town.

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MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

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

Section B

The Times-News

Sunday, March 7, 2004

The calculus of Stanford basketball

It was an indifferent Saturday night in the backwash of February, and me and seven buddies who had slept through the game decided to make much of an impression in the cavernous new basketball arena.

But UCLA, six-time defending NCAA men's basketball champion, was in town, and we all wanted to see Bill Walton, the best college player in the country at the time.

I was sitting in the cheap seats behind the UCLA basket, with the home team losing ugly. The Bruins' Larry Farmer grabbed a rebound at the end of the court and lobbed the ball overhead to Walton, who was streaking down the floor with only the last scrub off Stanford's bench — a Rhetoric major inserted into the game after it got out of hand.

Walton soared toward the basket and caught The Rhetoric Major under the chin with his knee, sending him reeling.

He landed in my lap, taking out a whole row of folding chairs in the process. The Rhetoric Major was only semi-conscious when the referee pointed at him and yelled, "That's a foul!"

Walton strolled up, grabbed The Rhetoric Major by the hand, helped him to his feet and patted him on the rump.

"Hey," The Rhetoric Major crowed unsteadily, "at least I passed calculus!"

I'm not sure whether Walton or The Rhetoric Major is more astonished that Stanford University, just now the No. 1-ranked men's basketball team in the republic, had a record of 26-0 headed into Saturday's final regular-season finale at Washington — and will perhaps become the first Pacific-10 Conference team since Walton's squad to finish its schedule undefeated.

This, after all, is Egghead Tech, the home of guys who can't jump. We used to punctuate unsightly losses with the cheer, "That's all right, that's OK, we got higher GPA!"

Now it's not that smart kids can't play basketball — Duke has been doing it for years. It's just that generations of Stanford students and alumni have grown accustomed to genteel defeat and lots and lots of moral victories.

This is a campus where "statue," William Ernest Housley's poem about finishing second, has long been etched into every soul:

"In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed."

After it became obvious by the late 1940s that athletes from schools such as UCLA were quicker, bigger, stronger, faster, better at thinking on their feet and more talented, Stanford eagerly embraced the noble lessons that can only be learned from failing to hit the point spread.

Sure we might lose to UCLA by 50 points, but those same athletes some day might be driving limousines.

Please see CRUMP, Page B4

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	'03 season peak**
Upper Snake Basin	94%	70%
Salmon Falls	122%	107%
Salmon	97%	78%
Oakley	120%	102%
Big Wood	95%	80%
Little Wood	102%	85%
Henry's Fork/Teton	113%	90%
Big Lost	103%	82%
Little Lost	95%	72%

*A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with 20-year average.
**An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in March.

Crapo: Protect agriculture

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Sen. Mike Crapo told a gathering of agriculture industry supporters Saturday that "no agreement is better than a bad agreement" when it comes to trade.

"I believe in free and fair trade," the Idaho Republican said. During the forum, which was attended by about 15 people at the College of Southern Idaho, Crapo outlined his vision for

future trade agreements. The senator said he is hoping the United States will continue to put agriculture first.

Crapo said he does not see himself voting for the Central American Free Trade Agreement, which would bring more tariff-free sugar into the U.S. market, making it more difficult for local sugar producers to compete.

The senator praised the country's stance to try to level the playing field in trade by pushing for agreements that equalize tariffs.

Right now the average tariff on imports worldwide is about 62 percent, while U.S. tariffs are about 12 percent.

"We've got to get to parity," Crapo said.

Even though world trade negotiations broke down in past years in



Sen. Mike Crapo

Seattle and Cancun, Mexico, Crapo said the United States may be able to get back to larger agreements through bilateral trade agreements without too much compromise.

And while Crapo said no agreement is better than a bad agreement, he also conceded that no agreement is perfect.

Jim Patrick, who farms south of Twin Falls, told the senator he was concerned that minor crops that are important to Idaho have been hurt in trade negotiations to help

larger crops. Lonni Thactec, secretary of the Idaho Sugarbeet Growers Association, concurred.

"I don't believe we can lose any of our industries," Thactec said. Crapo said he hoped that the more demand there is for Idaho's products, the better off everyone, including small farmers, will be.

Patrick said afterward that he worries about the Central American agreement because it could cause the Magic Valley to

Please see CRAP0, Page B4

LEARNING HOW TO HELP



Mark Madson, right, training coordinator for the Salt Lake City chapter of the Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Organization, explains the set-up and use of a mobile kitchen to a group of trainees Saturday. Run by six volunteers, each kitchen can supply the Red Cross with up to 3,000 meals twice a day. Ninety percent of the food the Red Cross serves is prepared by these volunteers.

Twin Falls election filing period begins Monday

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls County voters will see some familiar names on this year's ballot. And perhaps some new ones, too.

Filing begins Monday for two county commissioner seats as well as the offices of prosecutor, county clerk and sheriff.

Democrat Bob Powers has announced he will make another try for the District 2 commissioner seat now held by Republican Tom Mikesell.

Powers, a 30-year resident and part-time reserve deputy for the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department, lost to Mikesell two years ago, receiving 6,699 votes or 37 percent, to Mikesell's 10,756 votes, or 58.6 percent of the total vote.

Powers said he'd like to see voters have more say in county decisions. He said commissioners should never have approved the formation of an ambulance dis-

trict or the purchase of a county building without the approval of voters.

"I don't believe they should be financing anything over a one-year payment period without a two-thirds vote of the electorate," Powers said. "They had a lot of poor planning. If they had a three- or four-year plan with some priorities, they wouldn't be jumping around like frogs in a hot frying pan."

A local business owner and former City Council member, Mikesell was sworn in to a two-year term as commissioner in January 2003, replacing Republican Marvin Hempleman, who retired after more than two decades in the office.

Mikesell has said he plans to run again for the seat but could not be reached for comment Friday.

In District 3, Republican Commissioner Bill Brockman will try to hold on to the seat he was first appointed to in 1999 by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. He was elected to the seat in 2000.

How to run for county office

■ Important dates to remember:

- Monday: First day to file.
- March 19: Last day to file.
- May 25: Primary election.
- Nov. 2: General election.

■ Qualifications —

- Candidates must meet the following qualifications:
 - 21 years of age.
 - Citizen of the United States.
 - One-year resident of the county prior to election.
 - Commissioner candidates must also be 90-day residents of the dis-

trict they're running for prior to the primary election.

■ Filing

Beginning Monday, candidates for county office can begin filing at their respective county clerk's offices. A candidate has the following two options when filing to be placed on the ballot:

- File declaration of candidacy and pay the \$40 filing fee. A declaration of candidacy must include the candidate's name printed exactly as the candidate wants it to appear on the ballot, and it must be notarized.
- The candidate's signature must be notarized.
- In lieu of paying the filing fee, file a

declaration of candidacy plus a nominating petition with five verified signatures of registered voters.

Commissioner candidate signatures must be from voters in their districts. All petitions must be notarized.

Forms and maps are available at county clerk's office.

■ Campaign disclosure

- Each candidate must certify a political treasurer. A candidate may serve as his or her own political treasurer.
- All candidates must file a C-1 form (Appointment and Certification of Political Treasurer) before receiving any contributions or making any expenditures. The form is available and must be filed at the county clerk's office.

Burley officials seek geese control proposals

By Shelley Ridenour
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Geese harassment isn't only OK, it's acceptable practice in many places.

Because the Burley airport and golf course are so near the Snake River and cropland, large flocks of Canada geese hang around at both public facilities. While city officials don't dislike waterfowl, the birds can pose some problems. City Administrator Mark Mitton said.

For the past four years the city has contracted with Tib Smith to harass the birds from the two sites in an attempt to discourage geese from spending time on the run-

ways and fairways.

Recently Mitton has heard from several people who say they want that assignment, so the city is now accepting proposals to control the geese.

Interested people need to submit a proposal to the city, outlining how much they'll pay the city to do the work. Mitton said. Bidders must meet minimum insurance requirements of \$100,000 bodily injury coverage and \$50,000 in property damage coverage. They also must agree to use dogs to chase geese from the properties at least twice a day for the four months from Oct. 1 to Jan. 31 every year, at least once a day between

Feb. 1 and March 31 each year and on an on-call basis from April 1 through Sept. 30 each year.

Licensee hunters may kill no more than 12 birds a year at the golf course during the hunting season specified by the Idaho Fish and Game Department.

The contractor can't keep any of the birds killed at the golf course in accord with the city's agreement with Fish and Game. Any dead geese must be field dressed and the shooter has to notify the city's golf course manager and notify Fish and Game. The meat must be preserved until a Fish and Game official arrives to pick it up, according

Please see GEES0, Page B4



Geese search for food on a fairway at the Burley Municipal Golf Course Friday. As many as 500 geese have been counted on the course at any given time.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 738-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

William (Bill) Helm Kestler - Twin Falls

William (Bill) Kestler, 79, died on the afternoon of March 2nd in his home.

Bill was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Dec. 15, 1924, to Flavine and Bert Kestler. As a youth, he attended Twin Falls' public schools and the local Methodist church.



His education was interrupted when WWII broke out and he enlisted to serve his country in the Army service of the armed forces in May of 1943. While in active duty, he was stationed in The Netherlands, Belgium, England, Germany and France. He returned to Twin Falls in September of 1945.

That same fall he married English war bride, Clarissa Mae Goldie. Upon his return to Twin Falls, he used the GI Bill to learn the auto body trade from Earl Strickland. He continued in that trade for 28 years until he chose to retire in 1973.

His patience to work with detail was evidenced early as a youth when he tediously put models in gallon jugs. He received many blue ribbons at the Twin Falls County Fair for his workmanship, several trophies, he was drawn to wood working, a skill which he learned while attending high school.

Over the years, he produced many grandmother clocks, wall clocks and mantle clocks of various designs and sizes.

In more recent years, he has found joy in making a variety of small wood toys and mind-puzzles. He also built several small steam engines which he proudly displayed to visiting family and friends.

Another hobby emerged of which he had always had an interest: the restoring of antique cars.

His 1932 American Austin and his 1939 Blantam have been in many parades in the area and could be seen being driven on the streets of Twin Falls.

In the spring of 1996, a group of "mature" people who gathered for coffee in the mornings, decided it might be fun to look for hidden

graves in Twin Falls County, Idaho.

Along with John Meyers and James Holloway, he searched throughout the desert and located 17 burial plots.

These graves held the remains of pioneers of all ages who died as they moved westward from 1875-1900. In 1998, they produced a book titled "Scattered Graves" which describes where the graves are located and includes a brief history of early settlers to Twin Falls.

Bill was an avid reader and enjoyed time spent browsing at the library. He loved the mountains and the desert and would take his camper out for days at a time.

His contagious smile, laughter and warmth will be missed by everyone. He particularly loved children and they loved him in return as he was such fun to be with. He was quick to help anyone who was in need. He delighted in telling jokes and stories.

He enjoyed family picnics and was the designated "homemade ice cream" maker. He was a loyal and loving person who enjoyed the time to spend with family and good friends.

Bill is survived by a brother, Wilbur Kestler of Twin Falls, and a sister, Shirley Sawyer and her husband, Edward of Quincy, Ill.; the following nieces and nephews, Donna Katric and her husband,

Chuck of Twin Falls; Mike Kestler and his wife, Nora of Twin Falls; Brently Huether and husband, Merritt of Twin Falls; Tedean Little and husband, David of Camarillo, Calif.; Terry Kestler of Whittier, Calif.; Danny Kestler and wife, Diane of Oregon City, Ore.; Faye Brester of Wilsonville, Ore.; Cynthia Keppner and husband, Larry of Charlottesville, Va.; and Heidi Ludwig and husband, Mark of Quincy, Ill.; plus 19 great-nieces and nephews; close family friend, Ardean Duffel; a dear friend, Jeanne Sund of Twin Falls, and her family; plus many close friends.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother, Flavine Helm Kestler; his father, Bert Kestler; brothers, Ray Kestler and Ted Kestler; and sister, Ruth White, in addition to many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Cremation arrangements are being handled by the White Mortuary & Crematory.

A celebration of his life will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 10th, 2004, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park." The service will be conducted by Pastor Mike Kestler, nephew of the deceased.

All family and friends are invited to a luncheon following the services to be held at Calvary Chapel Church.

Memorials may be made to the Twin Falls Public Library, 432 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, or a charity of your choice.

Roman James Moyer - Burley

Roman James Moyer, 17-month-old son of Todd and Shawna Moyer of Burley, passed away Thursday, March 4, 2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley of a sudden illness.

Roman was born on Sept. 30, 2002, in Burley, Idaho. He was a very happy and outgoing boy. He will be remembered for his big smile and his love for people. Roman was his parents' "little hunk" and they enjoyed his sense of humor and love of fun. He loved his sister, Lexie! They enjoyed many playful afternoons together.

He is survived by his parents, Todd and Shawna Moyer of

Burley; his sister, Alexis (age 4) of Burley; and his grandparents, Jim and Peggy Moyer of Mountain View, Dan Murphy of Boise and Sue Murphy of Eagle.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, March 8, 2004, at the Burley 2nd, 4th and 10th Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 515 E. 16th St., with Bishop Michael E. James officiating. Burial will be in Dry Creek Cemetery in Boise. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Sunday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church.



Phillip A. Smith - Buhl

Phillip A. Smith Sr., 90, of Buhl, Idaho, passed away on March 3, 2004, at the Valley Regional Medical Center after a short illness.

He was born Oct. 30, 1913, in Fon du Lac, Wis., to Roy and Charlotte Smith. He was raised and educated in the Midwest, graduating from Purdue University, School of Engineering in 1935.

After college, he moved to New York City, N.Y., where he met and married Josephine Percy in 1938. During World War II, he worked with research members of MIT and governmental agencies in the engineering field, supporting the war effort. Phil and Josie moved with their three young sons to South Lyon, Mich., in 1954 where the family raised registered Aberdeen Angus, and Phil continued his engineering career with Federal Mogul Corporation of



Detroit, Mich. In 1972, Phil and Josie retired to Buhl, where they shared their lives with new friends, playing golf, hunting and fishing — and enjoying their adopted state of Idaho.

His wife preceded him in death in 1998.

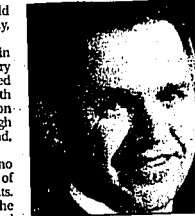
He is survived by an older sister, Louise Mourt of Auburn, Ind.

Valgene Povey - Rupert

Valgene Povey, 60-year-old Rupert resident, died Thursday, March 4, 2004, at his residence.

He was born March 29, 1943, in Rose Picher Tovey. He attended schools in Rupert until the seventh grade, then moved to Hazelton where he met and married his high school sweetheart and best friend, Linda Black, on June 25, 1963.

They were married in the Idaho Falls Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Valgene was a member of the Rupert 4th Ward. He had worked as a mechanic for 41 years. He worked for Goode Motor for 28 years and then for Garrys American Car Care Center until the time of his death. He enjoyed



his family and friends as well as fishing, camping and gardening.

Survivors include his wife, Linda of Rupert; a daughter, Melinda

sons, Phillip A. Jr. (Peggy) of Buhl, Idaho, Stephen W. (Judy) of South Lyon, Mich., and James C. (Pat) of Post Falls, Idaho; grandchildren, Michelle (Robert) Moore and Debbie Smith, all of Michigan, Sara Smith (Robert Morris) of Bellevue, Idaho, Jamie Smith of Helena, Mont., and Kevin Smith of Kenai, Alaska; and one great-grandchild, Alexander Moore of Michigan.

At his request, cremation has taken place with no services. There will be a celebration of life reception for Phil and Josie from 3 to 5 p.m. March 28, 2004, at the Clear Lake Country Club in Buhl, Idaho.

The family requests in lieu of flowers a donation be made to the charity of your choice. Arrangements were under the direction of Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

(Kenneth) Ketchie of Las Vegas, Nev.; a son, Jared (Sonya) Povey of Twin Falls; three sisters, Barbara Martin of Twin Falls, Kara (Trell) Rives of Kayville, Utah, and Nelda (Jerry) Fredrickson of Rupert; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Clarence H. Povey.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at the Rupert West Stake Center, 100 W. 36 S. in Rupert with Bishop's Counselor Gary Stevenson officiating. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Payne Mortuary and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday prior to the funeral at the church.

OBITUARIES

Howard O. 'Christy' Christiansen

Howard O. "Christy" Christiansen, 89, of Gooding, died peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, March 3, 2004, at Gooding County Memorial Hospital.

Christy was born on Oct. 28, 1914, in Odebolt, Iowa, the seventh of 14 children born to filled and Ida Eva Christiansen. He moved to Idaho in 1938 and attended Albion State Normal School along with his future wife, Elma Jean Nielson of Fairfield. Christy was active in college athletics and lettered in basketball and foot- ball. He began his teaching and coaching career in Bliss—Christy joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 and was stationed in Pensacola, Fla. Elma Jean joined Christy in Pensacola where they were married on July 21, 1943. Following his military service, Christy returned to Idaho where he started the Gooding Implement Company in 1948.

He was an avid athlete and sports- man and especially loved baseball, golf and fly-fishing. After being paralyzed by a serious automobile accident in 1953, Christy began a three- year recovery at the Salt Lake Veterans Hospital. With Elma Jean's love and support, he was able to beat all odds and lead a full and produc- tive life. He started a new career and established Christiansen Insurance Agency, winning many awards for



outstanding performance.

Following his retirement in 1980, Christy had more time to spend with Elma Jean and his extended family in his beloved summer log cabin in Smoky Bay where he indulged in his passion for fly-fishing. He especially enjoyed teaching children to fish and rides in his motorized cart were a popular pastime for children of all ages. For 17 years, he and Elma Jean escaped the Idaho winter in Yuma to become "snowbirds" along with numerous old friends and neighbors as well as new acquaintances, including members of the San Diego Padres.

Christy was active in the Wendell

Lion's Club, president of the Gooding Rotary Club, a charter member of the Gooding Elks Club, and a long-time member of the Gooding Country Club. He was a friend and mentor to many other paraplegics and inspired everyone he met with his positive outlook on life.

Christy is survived by his wife, Elma Jean, and two sons, David and his wife Roberta Woolcover, and Tom and his wife Janet Floyd, who reside in Boise. His surviving siblings include Frances Johnson of Minnesota, Dorothy Balcombe of Washington, Lawrence Christiansen of Arizona, Christy Levee behind three grandchildren, Laura Jackson, Daniel Berman and Jennifer O'Brien; and five great-grandchildren, Jennifer, Connor, Bennett, Noah and Willson. He was preceded in death by his two infant sons, Jack and Kenneth, two sisters and seven brothers.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 13, 2004, at Demaray's Chapel in Gooding with a reception to follow from noon to 3 p.m. at the Schubert House. Memorial contributions may be made to the Spinal Cord Society, 19051 County Highway 1, Fergus Falls, MN, 56537-7609.

Ruby Pearl Wilson - Ontario, Ore.

Our beloved mother, Ruby Pearl Wilson, 74, passed away March 4, 2004.

She was born Aug. 15, 1929. Ruby was preceded in death by her parents, John Edward and Artie C. Sullivan; her husbands, David Tracy Wilson and Ernest Lee Huber Jr.; and her first-born son, David Wayne Wilson.

Ruby was very loved by her eight children, 29 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

She will be remembered for her willingness to accept anyone as part of the family, never judging anyone, and her strength of forgiveness.

She leaves behind a legacy of unconditional love. Ruby will be dearly missed.



A service will be held at 1 p.m. March 13, 2004, at the Church of the Nazarene, 315 Yakima, Filer, Idaho.

All who knew and loved her are welcome to join the family in this celebration of her life.

DEATH NOTICES

Verma Bodenhofer
GOODING — Verma Bodenhofer, 82, of Gooding, died Friday, March 5, 2004, at the Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center.
Arrangements will be announced by Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Edna Christine Akins
RICHFIELD — Edna Christine Akins, 88, of Richfield, died Friday, March 5, 2004, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.
The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 9, 2004, at the Harvest Community Church in Richfield with the Rev. William Lineberry officiating. Burial will follow at the Richfield Cemetery. At

the family's request, no public viewing will be held. Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

John B. McBride
RUPERT — John Bruce McBride, 76, of Rupert, died Saturday, March 6, 2004, at his home.
Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Vera Marie McVey
RUPERT — Vera Marie McVey, 96, of Rupert, died Friday, March 5, 2004, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise.
Arrangements will be announced by Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Science fair names winners

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Two Boise High School seniors took the crown at the 37th annual Science Competition Day at Boise State University and were given a four-year renewable scholarship to Boise State.

Riley Anini and William Clark were among 300 students from 13 statewide high schools participating in the event Saturday.

The Science Competition Day exam is a written test covering biology, chemistry, engineering, geology, science, mathematics and physics. Students participated in hands-on design and problem-solving competitions and a team ProblemAThon where students solve math problems.

Physics professor William Smith, chairman of the event committee, said students showed high levels of enthusiasm.

Words cannot adequately express our deep appreciation for the many kind and sympathetic acts that came to us at the time of our recent bereavement.

The Family of Dan Wilcox

The Family of Nina Elaine Sorensen would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, flowers and love during our recent loss.

The kindness and sympathy of relatives, neighbors and friends will always remain in our hearts!

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SCHOOL LUNCHES

AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

Milk or juice served daily. Monday: Grilled cheese Tuesday: Tacos Wednesday: Chicken nuggets Thursday: Hamburgers Friday: Pizza day

BUHL SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu Milk served daily. Choice of fruit or juice every day. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Breakfast sandwich Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy Thursday: Waffles Friday: Fruity yogurt Lunch Menu Salad bar and milk served every day. Monday: Grilled cheese sandwich Tuesday: Spaghetti and meat sauce Wednesday: Chicken nuggets Thursday: Bean and cheese roll-ups Friday: Soft-shell tacos

CASTLEFORD SCHOOL

Breakfast menu Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Doughnuts Tuesday: Hashbrown patties Wednesday: Cinnamon rolls Thursday: Scrambled eggs Friday: Breakfast muffin Lunch Menu Salad bar and milk served daily. Monday: Soft-shell tacos Tuesday: Turkey and noodles Wednesday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce Thursday: Toasted cheese sandwich Friday: Fish and fries

CLOVER TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Turkey gravy and noodles Tuesday: Hamburger casserole Wednesday: Ham sandwich Thursday: Chili buns Friday: Scrambled eggs

FILER SCHOOL

Monday: Rib-b-que Tuesday: Chicken nuggets Wednesday: Tacos

Thursday: Spaghetti Friday: Deli ham sandwich

HANSEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Breakfast Menu Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy Wednesday: Cheese buns Thursday: Cream of Wheat Friday: Cereal Lunch Menu Milk served daily. Monday: Corn dogs Tuesday: Rib-b-que Wednesday: Fish patty Thursday: Soft tacos Friday: Roast turkey

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Choice of milk every day. Monday: Hamburger Tuesday: Turkey sandwich Wednesday: Baked potato bar Thursday: Corn dog Friday: Beef and cheese pizza

KIMBERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Burrito Tuesday: Chicken nuggets Wednesday: Fettuccine Thursday: Chili Friday: Roast turkey

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Burrito Tuesday: Chicken nuggets Wednesday: Fettuccine Thursday: French bread pizza Friday: Pot roast

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday: Spaghetti Tuesday: Tacos Wednesday: Chicken tenders Thursday: Beef and cheese burritos Friday: Pizza

MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Fresh fruit and milk served daily. Monday: Chicken enchiladas Tuesday: Turkey sub

Wednesday: Pizza Thursday: Chili Friday: Cheeseburgers

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily. Monday: Deli sandwich Tuesday: Pot roast over noodles Wednesday: Chef's salad Thursday: Steak beef bites Friday: Grilled cheese sandwich

MURTAUGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Corn dogs Tuesday: Chicken burgers Wednesday: Burritos Thursday: Finger steaks Friday: Hamburgers

ROBERT STUART AND O'LEARY JUNIOR HIGH

Breakfast menu Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: French toast Wednesday: Cereal Thursday: Oatmeal Friday: Cereal Lunch menu Milk served daily. Monday: Ham and cheese sandwich Tuesday: Beef tacos Wednesday: Chicken nuggets Thursday: Nachos supreme Friday: Pizza

ST. EDWARDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Hot dogs Tuesday: Chicken nuggets Wednesday: Noodle soup Thursday: Cheeseburgers Friday: Bean and cheese burritos

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY

Milk served daily. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: French toast Wednesday: Cereal Thursday: Oatmeal Friday: Cereal Lunch menu Monday: Hamburger deluxe Tuesday: Crispy beef tacos Wednesday: Deli turkey sandwich Thursday: Pepperoni pizza Friday: Unrustable cheese sandwich

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast is served daily. Lunch: The high school has a choice of main line, hamburger bar, and salad bar each day, taco bar on Wednesdays and potato bar on Fridays. Main line menu varies every day. Monday: Malibu chicken sandwich Tuesday: Chicken nuggets Wednesday: Cheeseburger Thursday: Ham and cheese sandwich Friday: Pizza

VALLEY SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served daily. Monday: Lasagna Tuesday: Cheeseburger Wednesday: Baked ham Thursday: Turkey gravy Friday: Cream of potato soup

BLISS SCHOOL

Milk served daily. Monday: Tostada Tuesday: Corn dog Wednesday: Sausage pizza Thursday: Sub sandwich Friday: Rib-b-que

DIETRICH SCHOOLS

Salad bar, fruit and milk served daily. Monday: Cheese bake Tuesday: Beef and bean enchiladas Wednesday: Sloppy joes Thursday: Peanut butter and jelly or tuna sandwiches Friday: Pizza

GLENN'S FERRY

Monday: Pizza Tuesday: Hot dog Wednesday: Chili Thursday: Crisp chicken Friday: Fish and chips

GOODING SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. The third choice is for junior high and high school students only. Monday: Spaghetti Tuesday: Pizza Wednesday: Hot dogs Thursday: Nachos Friday: Walking tacos

HAGERMAN SCHOOLS

Choice of milk offered daily.

Breakfast menu Monday: Cereal Tuesday: French toast Wednesday: Cereal Thursday: Sausage gravy Friday: Cereal Lunch menu Monday: Fish nuggets Tuesday: Corn dog Wednesday: Nachos grande Thursday: Pizza Friday: Hamburgers

IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Milk served daily. Breakfast menu Monday: Cinnamon toast Tuesday: Ham and toast Wednesday: Pancakes and syrup Thursday: Sausage patty and english muffin Friday: Biscuits and gravy or jelly Lunch menu Salad bar and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Turkey bagel sandwich Tuesday: Italian spaghetti Wednesday: Cheese or sausage pizza Thursday: French dip or peanut butter and jelly sandwich Friday: Hamburgers

JEROME SCHOOLS

Milk served daily. Monday: Beef barbecue on a bun Tuesday: Pepperoni pizza pocket Wednesday: Traveling taco Thursday: Lasagna Friday: Beef and noodles

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Breakfast Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy Wednesday: Pop tarts Thursday: French toast Friday: Cereal Lunch Monday: Chicken patty Tuesday: Chili Wednesday: Hot dog Thursday: French dip sandwich Friday: Beef taco

SHOSHONE SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Burrito Tuesday: Chili Wednesday: Chicken nuggets

Thursday: Sloppy joes on a bun Friday: Cheese bake

WENDELL SCHOOLS

Breakfast and choice of milk served daily. Monday: Hamburger and bun Tuesday: Soft taco Wednesday: Corn dog Thursday: Pizza Friday: Subway sandwich

BURLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday: Hoagie or hot combo Tuesday: Hamburger, cheeseburger or bacon cheeseburger Wednesday: Chili or BQ Thursday: Chicken malibu or tuna Friday: Beef stew

CASSIA SCHOOLS

Milk served daily. Breakfast menu Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Peanut butter and jelly on toast Wednesday: Maple bar Friday: Breakfast burrito Friday: Oatmeal Lunch menu Monday: Taco salad Tuesday: Chili Wednesday: Macaroni and cheese Thursday: Cheese squares Friday: Hamburger on a bun

MINDOKA SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. Breakfast menu Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Breakfast burrito Wednesday: Cereal Thursday: Breakfast cookie Friday: Cereal Lunch menu Monday: Burrito Tuesday: Chicken sandwich Wednesday: Hamburger pizza Friday: Baked potato

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

Jerome makes wastewater treatment plans

By Dixie Thomas Reed Times-News correspondent

JEROME — The city of Jerome will interview representatives of four engineering firms Monday and select one to spearhead the wastewater treatment plant's latest round of upgrades. City Administrator Travis Rothweiler told the Urban Renewal Agency Thursday that the chosen firm will work with the city in designing the remodeling projects and supervising their construction. This latest round of upgrades will increase the treatment plant's capacity and enhance its filtering

system to remove more solids from the wastewater. The improvements are mandated by stricter Department of Environmental Quality and Environmental Protection Agency standards that soon will go into effect. Rothweiler said the city hopes to have a plan ready by June 1 to present to the public in a series of informational meetings. Construction on the wastewater treatment plant could then begin next year. The planned upgrade will cost somewhere between \$5.6 million and \$12.5 million. The city is not sure how large the plant will need to be in 20 years and has been

investigating new technology to help solve the growth question. In other business, Jerome Recreation District Director Tom Kuntz told the Urban Renewal Agency that bids for the pool renovation had come in under the \$75,000 limit set by agency. Construction can begin later in March and should be completed in about six weeks. That way the pool will be ready by the beginning of swimming season. The Urban Renewal Agency had pledged \$75,000 toward helping the recreation district make repairs to the pool and deck. Rothweiler told the Urban Renewal Agency the city was plan-

ning a beautification project for Lincoln Street South and Main Street West. The Idaho Transportation Department, the city and members of the public will be involved in planning for the beautification of the gateways to the city. The project will include street lights, landscaping and refurbished streets. Rothweiler asked agency members to hold off on their project to install decorative lighting to South Lincoln and include that project with the larger beautification project. "Install everything at the same time when the streets are torn up," Rothweiler suggested.

Filer annexes 65 acres

By Micky Walker Times-News correspondent

FILER — Ron and Janie Pierce can now take the next step toward building their subdivision. The Filer City Council voted 3-0 last week to annex 65 acres owned by the Pierces. Councilman Bob Templeman was absent from the meeting. The annexation will now allow the Pierces to bring a preliminary plat for a proposed 180-home subdivision before the City Council. Their land is located one-quarter of a mile south of U.S. Highway 30 on Stevens Avenue. After the plat is submitted to the city, surrounding property owners will be notified and the hearings process on the subdivision will begin. The Pierces originally sought a special-use permit last year to build a subdivision of one-acre

lots. However, due to concerns about domestic wells and septic systems, they chose to seek annexation so the property could be connected to the city's sewer system and other services. In other business, the council adopted an ordinance dealing with lot requirements and property development standards. Lot setbacks — the distance from property lines to structures — for rear yards were reduced from 25 to 20 feet. Side lot lines were increased from 5 to 7 feet in residential areas. In the commercial zone, lots with buildings and off-street parking also will have to allow room for garbage containers. Mayor Jay Fort proclaimed March as Red Cross Month and tentatively set April 23 as the time to celebrate Arbor Day.

Walker says she will seek full term as Utah governor

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Gov. Olene Walker, Utah's first female governor, will seek a full term in the November election, she announced Saturday.

"There are still things that need to be done in Utah," Walker told reporters at a news conference in her Capitol office. "We need a little more time to complete the task." Walker, 73, succeeded Gov. Mike Bennett in November following his appointment as head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Walker served as Leavitt's lieutenant governor for 11 years. It didn't take long for the Republican governor to cross the lines of her own party after taking the reins. Walker swept into office with an ambitious proposal for education funding, proposing a nearly \$116 million addition to the state's \$2.1 billion education budget. She also offered a state budget that would divert money from peace-sacred road funds to pay for an increase in education funding, which lawmakers implacably resisted. Walker spoke positively Saturday at working with the Legislature. She said she hadn't made her final decision until after the 45-day session was over. "I found out that they respected what I had to say," Walker said. Walker counts securing the funds for a state reading program as one of her greatest accomplishments in the session, her first with a pulpit and veto pen. The legislature agreed to pony up \$15 million of a \$30 million initiative to help first through third grade students achieve reading skills at or

above grade level by the end of the third grade. Walker said she crowded field of gubernatorial candidates. In addition to Walker, GOP hopefuls include former U.S. Rep. Jim Hansen, businessman Fred Lampropoulos, House Speaker Marty Stephens, industrialist Jon Huntsman Jr., state Board of Regents Chairman Nolan Karnas, Utah County Commissioner Gary Herbert, and State Sen. Parley Hellewell. University of Utah law school dean Scott Matheson Jr. is seeking the Democratic nomination. Joe Cannon, chair of the Utah Republican Party, said Walker's incumbent status and long history in politics could make her tough to beat. "Nobody's ever had more training than she's had," he said. "I think she'll be a formidable candidate." Jason Chaffetz, Huntsman's campaign manager, said Walker would add a "positive dynamic" to the race. "I think it will draw even more attention to key issues facing the state. I think that's a healthy thing in general," he said.

SERVICES

Marilyn Rose Bernat of Mountain Home, vigil and funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Monday at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Mountain Home (Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel, Boise). Phyllis Kouriland, service at 1 p.m. Monday at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Wood River Chapel). Melvin Louis Brehmer of Rupert, private service for family and friends at 10 a.m. Monday at the Hansen Mortuary, Rupert Chapel; friends may call from 6 to 8

p.m. today at the mortuary, 710 Sixth St., Rupert. Nick Shaver of Buhl, service at 11 a.m. Monday at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth Ave., Buhl. Marjorie Ann Mendipal of Buhl, celebration of life at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Buhl (Farmer Funeral Chapel). Terry Lynn Woods of Hagerman, graveside service at 1 p.m. Friday at the Hagerman Cemetery.

Washington man dies in avalanche

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — An avalanche near Pack River Park killed a Washington man who was snowmobiling on the west side of Jeru Peak on Saturday. A witness called emergency personnel at 12:40 p.m. Saturday afternoon, telling a Boundary County Sheriff's dispatcher that a CR was near progress on the man. A medical helicopter was called in, but the victim had died. The victim's name has not been released. Forest Service Enforcement officer Lee Taylor said "The man and another person were riding on a 50-degree slope near overhanging snow and ice and triggered the avalanche when turning downhill. The falling snow hit the victim, sending him about 500 feet downhill and burying him and the snowmobile under five feet of snow.

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

SWINGIN' IN THE SUN



Cornelius Coleman and his son Dajon, 4, enjoy a sunny day at Pat Baker Park, Saturday in Reno, Nev.

Geese

Continued from B1
to Brent Winn, the city's parks and golf course superintendent.

Any geese shot legally at the airport by the contractor can be kept, Milton said. The bird limit is determined by Fish and Game.

Smith plans to submit a proposal to continue his contract, he said Friday. He's not so much interested in hunting, but rather in training dogs. He raises and trains labs and says this situation provides great practice control.

Bird dogs are typically trained to push birds out and retrieve them after the hunter shoots a bird, Smith said. But in this situation, the dogs are trained to flush out the birds and "then they have to come back. It works real well for me to teach the dogs control."

Because it's a relatively controlled setting, Smith said the thrill of the hunt at the two places is lacking. "It's far beyond a thrill shoot for a goose hunter," he said.

Geese control simply must happen at the two sites, Milton said. "If something would spook a big flock of geese at the wrong time when a plane is coming in, it could wreak havoc."

At the golf course, the geese dig in the ground, leave plenty of droppings and can get in the way of golfers.

"They make an unsightly mess on the golf course," Milton said. "They make too much fertilizer for the golf course."

"They get used to people, Smith said, and sometimes aren't scared off by golfers.

This type of program exists in other places, three wildlife officials said. None of the three voiced concerns about Burley's plans.

There's no concern about this hurting the birds," Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge Manager Steve Bouffard said.

Craig Tabor, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service resident agent in

charge and field supervisor for special agents in Idaho and Nevada, said permits are issued in these cases when community leaders show the need exists.

"Geese getting sucked into an engine can be a big problem, the service recognizes that," Tabor said. "We recognize the hazard that this can pose."

Fish and Game Regional Supervisor Dave Parrish said his agency works with the city on this project because they recognize it needs to occur.

People who are interested in the project should call Burley Community Development Director Brian Tibbets at City Hall 378-2224. Proposals are due to city officials by March 31.

Shelley Riderour is editor of The Times-News Mini-Cassia Bureau. She can be reached at 208-677-4042, Ext. 642, or by e-mail at riderour@magicvalley.com.

Deaths of nearly 300 elk baffle health officials

Los Angeles Times

RAWLINS, Wyo. — Wildlife officials are combing the snow-covered high plains here for clues to explain the mysterious deaths of 280 elk, more than 60 percent of a herd that inhabits the southern edge of Wyoming's Red Desert.

State Game and Fish officials say they cannot recall an elk die-off of this magnitude unrelated to harsh winter weather. The stricken elk, wintering in a broad wedge, were found beginning a few weeks ago, dying of dehydration or starvation.

"There are a lot of strange things about this," said Dr. David Barber, an epidemiologist for Wyoming's Health Department. "It is an unusual clinical presentation. The legs seem to be especially weak, or there is neurological paralysis. Yet, in the early stages, the head and neck and eye movement are perfectly intact. Everything about it is unprecedented: the number dying, the number affected, all in a fairly small area. There are a remarkable lack of clues. It's really a baffling picture."

State veterinarians say they have found nothing in the annals of wildlife medicine that mimics the symptoms displayed by the normally robust elk here. In addition to the unexplained paralysis or general weakness, forensic experts find it

odd that the illness has targeted females, which make up nearly 84 percent of the afflicted animals.

Strange, too, is the capricious nature of the outbreak. Nearby herds of antelope, mule deer and wayward livestock have not been affected. Nor, officials say, do the affected elk appear to be contagious.

The elk have been found in what's known as Hunt Area 108, a 520-square-mile tract about five miles outside Rawlins, in the south-central part of the state.

The situation is being monitored by state health officials, who have been fielding citizens' calls about the illness to aliens, ranchers' poisoning and water tainted by waste from oil and gas production, which has been undergoing rapid expansion in the area.

Wyoming's wildlife bureaucracy has been mobilized. The Game and Fish Department has sent biologists, veterinarians and wardens into the field, flying over the area and walking it in search of downed animals.

Over the weekend, Greg Hiatt, a wildlife biologist for the agency, steered a pickup along a barely discernible road, then skidded the truck to a halt. "There she is," he said, pointing to a dark shape crouched at the bottom of a snowy

ridge. "Wow. She's still alive." Getting out, he crunched across the rind of frozen mud and stopped to peer through powerful binoculars. "She's one tough gal."

Hiatt watched as the cow elk struggled to rise, her front hoofs pawing at the ground to no avail. After a few frantic moments, she slumped back down.

During a severe winter storm the next day, Hiatt and game wardens moved the live elk to the state's most sophisticated veterinary lab, in Laramie, where she was being rehydrated and observed by veterinarians.

There, scientists have been examining and testing elk carcasses almost around the clock.

Officials say the majority of known wildlife diseases have been ruled out, including chronic wasting disease, as well as most bacterial, viral and common parasitic ailments.

Water, plant and soil samples have yielded little for scientists to go on, although the tests are continuing.

"We've done all the easy stuff," said Dr. Merle Haisebeck, a veterinarian at the lab. "We are now into flip o'clock things. It's a process of elimination. It tests things like something poisonous, but you never know."

Man convicted in death files motion to test hair

BOISE (AP) — A man convicted in the death of former Caldwell resident Cary Sturgis has filed a motion to test long hairs found in Sturgis' hands the night of his death.

Dane Lawson, 19, was convicted last year of involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to a 10-year prison term for beating Sturgis, 41, who bled to death on Dec. 7, 2002, in Caldwell's Pioneer Park.

Two other men charged in Sturgis' death, Cole Scott, 17, and Eric Owen, 21, pleaded guilty to manslaughter charges.

Prosecutors disclosed during pretrial discovery that strands of hair were found in Sturgis' hands during the autopsy but were never tested to determine who they belonged to, according to a Feb. 27

motion by Lawson's attorney John Bujak.

The motion said Bujak asked to have hair tested by a Texas laboratory after Lawson's trial but prosecutors refused, saying they would have a state laboratory test it.

Bujak's office called the laboratory to check on the testing status and was told the hair strands were sitting in an evidence vault because prosecutors had not requested testing, according to the motion.

The laboratory also said it could not do the type of genetic test needed on a private lab, the motion states.

Prosecutors have said they gave the defense permission to test the hair, and the defense declined.

Crapo

Continued from B1
lose as much as \$40 million in sugar business. He was also glad to have the chance to talk with Crapo.

"It's good for us to just get our opinions out," Patrick said. Crapo said he doubts the Central American Free Trade Agreement or a bilateral agreement with

Australia will be brought before Congress this year because they are so controversial.

"It's an election year," he said. "Thaete said afterward that he hoped it would not come to a vote this year."

"Trade agreements can ruin us in a heartbeat," Thaete said.

Filing

Continued from B1
Republican Rep. Frances Field of Grand View.

Itler could not be reached for comment Friday.

Grant Loebis plans to run to hold on to the prosecutor's seat. Loebis has been prosecuting crimes in Twin Falls County for more than a decade.

In 1997, the Twin Falls Republican Central Committee and county commissioners appointed Loebis the county prosecutor after G. Richard Bevan resigned.

Loebis was elected to the post in 1998 and again in 2000.

"I just plan to continue to work to make Twin Falls a safe place for people to live and raise their families," Loebis said.

County Clerk Kristina Glascock will seek to retain her job come November.

Glascock, formerly the 5th Judicial District deputy clerk, was appointed to her current position in July by the Twin Falls County Republican Central Committee following the resignation of Ibot Fort.

The former county clerk is serving a one-year prison sentence for using more than \$60,000 of the county's money for gambling.

"I just want to see things I've been working on continue to be carried out," Glascock said. Those things include "looking at our internal controls, implementing policies and procedures and making it a better work environment for our employees."

Incumbent Sheriff Wayne Tousey, who ran as an independent candidate in the last election, began working with the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office in 1978. He moved over to the Idaho Department of Probation and Parole in 1985 and returned to the sheriff's office in 1987.

He was first elected sheriff in 1993. He plans to run again for the office.

Sheriff's Deputy Robin Stubblefield announced his candidacy for Twin Falls County sheriff at

February's Republican Lincoln Day Dinner.

Neither Tousey nor Stubblefield could be reached for comment Friday.

Any new county candidates on the horizon?

"At this point, I haven't heard of any Republicans who are planning to challenge the candidates," said Mike Mathews, chairman of the Republican Central Committee.

"We have solid people in those positions, and we support them 100 percent. But if other people want to get involved, they can."

Meanwhile, Democrats are hop-

ing to bring some balance back into politics in a heavily Republican state.

"I think we're going to have a good shot at that," said Harry Phillips, Twin Falls County Democratic chairman. "At each event, we're getting more and more people. People are waking up around here. We're not going to take over the state, but we're certainly going to make our presence known."

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3254 or by e-mail at smiller@magicvalley.com.

Twin Falls County seats up for election

- County commissioner District 2 seat (four-year term) now held by Tom Mikeseil. District 2 includes the area between Wilson Street North and South and Blue Lakes Boulevard North and South. Annual salary: \$43,888.
 - County commissioner District 3 seat (two-year term) now held by Bill Brockman. District 3 includes the area east of Blue Lakes Boulevard from the Snake River down to the south county border. Annual salary: \$43,888.
 - County clerk seat (four-year term) now held by Kristina Glascock. Annual salary: \$43,888.
 - County prosecutor seat (four-year term) now held by Grant Loebis. Annual salary: \$67,682.
 - County sheriff seat (four-year term) now held by Wayne Tousey. Annual salary: \$46,717.
- For more information, stop by the county clerk's office at 425 Shoshone St. N., or call County Clerk Kristina Glascock or Elections Director Larry Haycock at 738-4004.

What's open elsewhere

Here are offices open in other south-central Idaho counties, along with information about the incumbents and others who have announced their candidacies:

Jerome County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Republican Alvin Chojnacky. Is up for a four-year term. Chojnacky says he's running again.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican John Elorietta. Is up for a two-year term. Republican Joe Davidson has announced that he'll challenge the incumbent in the primary.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Jim Weaver. Is up for a four-year term. Weaver says he's running again. Two men, Republicans Bryant Nelson and Wayne Childers, have announced that they'll challenge Weaver for his party's nomination.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Republican John O. Nicholson. Is up for a four-year term.

Where to file: Jerome County Clerk's Office, 300 N. Lincoln, Jerome. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Gooding County

• The county commission District 2

seat, now held by Republican Carolyn Elxpuru. Is up for a four-year term. Elxpuru says she's running again.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican Rob Sauer. Is up for a two-year term. It is not known whether Sauer will run again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Shaun Gough. Is up for a four-year term. Gough says he's running again.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Republican Phillip Brown. Is up for a four-year term. Brown says he's running again. He'll be challenged in the primary by Republican Calvin Campbell, who recently announced his candidacy. Campbell, who lives in Gooding County, currently is the Camas County prosecutor.

Where to file: Gooding County Clerk's Office, 624 Main St., Gooding. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lincoln County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Republican Lawrence Calkins. Is up for a four-year term. Calkins says he's running again.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican Jerry Nance. Is up for a two-year term. Nance says he's running again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Steve Southwick. Is up for a four-year term. Southwick says he's running again.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Republican E. Scott Paul. Is up for a four-year term. Paul says he's running again.

Where to file: Lincoln County Clerk's Office, 111 W. B St., Shoshone. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Blaine County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Democrat Mary Ann Mix. Is up for a four-year term. Mix says she's running again. Tom Bowman, a Democrat, has said he'll challenge Mix in the primary.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Democrat Sarah Michael. Is up for a two-year term. Michael intends to run again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Walt Fennell. Is up for a four-year term. Fennell says he's running again. The longtime sheriff will be challenged in the primary by Republican Steve England, who is a patrol officer with the Halley Police Department.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Democrat Jim Thomas. Is up for a four-year term.

Where to file: Blaine County Clerk's Office, 206 First Ave. S., suite 200. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Camas County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Republican Ron Chapman. Is up for a four-year term. Chapman says he's running again.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican Ken Backstrom. Is up for a two-year term. Backstrom says he's running again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Dave Sanders. Is up for a four-year term. Sanders, who was appointed sheriff in 2003, says he'll run for the office.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Calvin Campbell. Is up for a four-year term. Campbell, who lives in Gooding County, currently serves by appointment. He is running for Gooding County prosecutor.

Where to file: Camas County Clerk's Office, 501 Soldier Road.

Cassia County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Republican Cley Handy. Is up for a four-year term. It is not known whether Handy will seek reelection.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican Dennis Crane. Is up for a two-year term. Crane says he's running again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Jim Higgins. Is up for a four-year term. Higgins says he's running again.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Republican Al Barnes. Is up for a four-year term. Barnes says he's running again.

Where to file: Cassia County Clerk's Office, 1459 Overland Ave.

Minidoka County

• The county commission District 2 seat, now held by Republican Dan Stapelman. Is up for a four-year term. Stapelman says he's running again.

• The county commission District 3 seat, now held by Republican Dave Tostes. Is up for a two-year term. Tostes says he's running again.

• The county sheriff's seat, now held by Republican Paul Fries. Is up for a four-year term. Fries says he's running again.

• The county prosecutor position, now held by Jason Walker. Walker, who was appointed last fall, says he intends to run for this position.

Where to file: Minidoka County Clerk's Office, 715 G St.

Bronze statues save town

JOSEPH, Ore. (AP) — Residents of this mountain community used to be cowboys and lumberjacks. Now they make bronze statues of cowboys and lumberjacks.

Joseph is flourishing as a center of bronze statue casting, an industry supporting three foundries, several studios, art galleries and other businesses in this town settled by emigrants who traveled the Oregon Trail.

Men who once felled trees now deal in delicate wax molds. Gone are the logging trucks, chain saws and timber mills. In came metal "patina" paints, deals with galleries in Santa Fe and New York, and subscriptions to Artweek magazine.

In a town of around 1,000 people, more than 100 are employed in the bronze statue business.

Some of their work is displayed in the booths of Main Street — "cowboys, an Indian chief, a rearing stallion and a crouching mountain lion.

The bronze business is a boom in this sparsely populated part of northeastern Oregon; Willamette County has consistently the state's highest unemployment rate at around 17 percent, largely because of the travails of the timber industry.

Like other businesses, bronze casting — mostly in Western-themed subjects — weathered a blow during the recession. At least the industry is closed, but bronze art is still the town's largest employer after government.

It is, says those in the business, the economic savior of Joseph. "The art business is the best example of an entrepreneur possible," said Gary Parmenter, manager of Parmenter Studios of Joseph, one of the larger shops in town. "Out of nothing, he makes something that is viable."

The city's unlikely transformation into a hot spot for bronze art began in the mid 1980s, as the town's two timber mills were closing. It was a glut time for Joseph. Merchants shuttered their shops on Main Street. Homes stood vacant as families moved out.

Tourists visiting the nearby Eagle Gap Wilderness area or picturesque Willamette Lake often blew through town without stopping at the town's grocery store or hardware store to stroll along the chipped wooden sidewalks, recalled Parmenter. Glenn Anderson, a former resident and collector, is credited with bringing bronze foundries to



A large bronze running horse statue stands in downtown Joseph, Ore. A former timber town, Joseph is flourishing as a center of bronze statue casting, an industry supporting three foundries, several studios, art galleries and other businesses.

Joseph. He and artist David Manuel opened the Valley Bronze foundry in 1982 with proceeds from the sale of three statues depicting Nez Perce Indian leaders. Through the 1980s, supporting businesses opened to "chase," or polish, cast bronze parts, weld parts into statues, and to handle the many plaster and wax models used in bronze casting.

A second foundry, Joseph Bronze, opened to take spillover orders. A third, Park Bronze, opened in nearby Enterprise. Rather than bring in employees from outside, the foundries hired laid-off timber workers.

At first, Parmenter said, longtime residents were dubious of the art world forming in their midst. "They were skeptical about who we were and what we were, but they've accepted us pretty well," he said. "Small towns have to live off what they can get."

Two large galleries, a bookshop and a restaurant replaced the shuttered businesses. The Baptist church on Main Street adorned its entryway with a bronze frieze of Jesus. The city sponsors an annual Bronze, Blues and Brews festival.

And the foundries have landed some prestigious orders recently. This year, Valley Bronze completed a \$2.4 million order from the federal government for bronze wreaths, armatures and flags for the National World War II monument scheduled to open on the Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C.

In May, Valley Bronze cast a pair of monumental bulls unveiled last August at Reliant Stadium in Houston, home of the Texans NFL franchise and site of this year's Superbowl. Most of the bronze art in Joseph tends toward Western themes. Galleries display Indian warriors on horseback, playful bear cubs, rugged Western men and frontier women.

And clients and tourists are coming. One customer enamored by the delicate female figurines sold at Parmenter's studio flew into Joseph on a private jet in the late 1990s to purchase works, which sell from \$5,000 to more than \$300,000. Such high rollers aren't so common these days.

At the Joseph Bronze foundry, manager Rob DeSpain stands beside a sputtering propane torch used to heat bronze ingots to thousands of degrees to pour into molds. The shop is still busy, but business is off 40 percent since last year because of the recession, DeSpain said.

One effect is that most statues are smaller now, he said. They tend toward the cheaper, one-third or one-fifth of life-size, rather than true-to-life sizes.

Still, he can employ 26 people to pour, weld and grind the art into shape in the foundry beside a hay field, a freeway and a sheep-capturing tractor, and cow pastures on the edge of town.

Victim of freeway crash tells others about drunken driving

BOISE (AP) — If you're convicted of a DUI in Boise, a judge might order you to hear Natalie Marti talk about how a drunken driver killed her husband and baby daughter.

One year ago, Shawn Marti, 24, and 5-month-old Sage died when a drunken driver, going the wrong way on Interstate 84, slammed into the family car.

Natalie Marti was in a coma for about two weeks and was not well enough to hear that Shawn and Sage had died until that April. Now, she wants to tell others about her ordeal.

She has joined a Mothers Against Drunk Driving victim impact panel. In spring, she'll begin talking to people convicted of a first or second DUI about the devastation caused by drunken driving.

"Her story is huge," MADD victim advocate Alesha Lind said. Natalie doesn't remember the crash. She uses a three-ring binder filled with graphic photos of the family's crushed Toyota and the other driver's pickup to help her explain what happened. She explains what happened with a matter-of-fact tone.

They were driving home to Caldwell when watching Shawn's younger sister perform in a Boise High School production of "Oklahoma!" at about 10:30 p.m. They were heading west at about 65 mph, approaching Caldwell, when they were struck head-on by an eastbound pickup going about 100 mph in a westbound lane.

Looking at the crash photos and photos of herself in a coma at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center doesn't rattle the 24-year-old Boise woman. "If I had some memory of that

day... but since I don't, it's like getting all the pieces together," Natalie said. "I want to know the answers."

Images of Shawn and Sage are impossible to avoid at the Cazier home. The couple's wedding portrait is displayed in the homes front room, along with other photos of the couple and their daughter. Natalie wears her wedding ring on her finger and her husband's wedding ring on a chain around her neck. A bracelet on her wrist spells out "Sage" in beads.

She believes she is alive because God has more work for her to do on earth, she said.

Jennifer Marti said her daughter-in-law's service on the MADD panel will help her do that work. "I think this has really given her a great purpose and opportunity to share their love story," she said.

Natalie left the hospital in late April 2003. She began driving a month later, even though doctors warned her family it could take six months before she'd be able to get behind the wheel again.

An occupational therapist rode with Natalie to make sure her motor skills were sharp enough for her to safely drive again. Her mother and sisters were in their front yard when Natalie surprised them by driving past their home.

"We were jumping around and screaming," said her mother, Mary Cazier. "From the day she got out of the hospital she wanted her independence. She didn't ask for it. She just did it."

Two months ago, Natalie called the MADD office in Boise and told them she wanted to get involved. She went to the Statehouse and sat at the MADD booth Feb. 3, handing out information and talking to law-

makers and others who passed by. In 2005, MADD will lobby to make a third DUI a felony if it occurs within 15 years of the previous offense. Right now, a third DUI is a felony only if it occurs within five years of the last conviction.

Natalie will soon begin training to join the victims panel. She likely will begin speaking on the panel in April or May, Lind said.

Panels meet on the first Wednesday of every month at the MADD office in Boise. They include about 50 DUI offenders and four speakers who share their story.

Natalie said she will bring photos of Shawn, Sage and the crash site to share during the panel. She believes that her story has the power to keep people from getting behind the wheel after they've had a drink.

Jennifer Marti said she impressed her daughter-in-law's interest in MADD and hopes it will have an impact on those who consider driving drunk. "All of us have suffered, but if we can have some meaning to it, then it's not all for nothing."

AUCTION CALENDAR

Through March 27

MONDAY, MAR. 8, 11:00AM
Joe Holcomb Estate, Hansen Farm Machinery
Times-News Ad: 3-6
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
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MONDAY, MAR. 8, 6:00PM
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TUESDAY, MAR. 9, 5:00PM
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WEDNESDAY, MAR. 10, 11:00AM
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US AUCTION
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THURSDAY, MARCH 11
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MONDAY, MAR. 15, 11:00AM
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TUESDAY, MAR. 16, 11:00AM
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Ad: Ag Weekly 3-13; Times-News 3-14
US AUCTION
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THURSDAY, MAR. 18, 11:00AM
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Sportsmen launch new effort toward unity

By Bob Flick
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Amid all the noise over social issues in the Idaho Statehouse this week, one issue is being deafening on a perennial target of legislative fire — the Fish and Game Commission.

For the first time in decades, the commission's budget cleared the House-Senate budget committee and both houses without dissent. Republican Rep. Lenore Bars of Challis, an arch critic of state wildlife management, was the only dissenter anywhere.

"Being in the middle of the controversy doesn't get the job done," Director Steve Huffaker said. After a decade in the political arena, Huffaker has dramatically lowered the profile of the department and its governing commission.

It has some sportsmen like former Director Jey Conley questioning whether either is providing the leadership needed on key issues like wolf management.

But Conley admits that sticking to fundamentals means "they're not getting picked on by the Legislature." Hunting and fishing interests

want to capitalize by using the new congressional atmosphere to organize a sportsmen caucus in the Legislature, patterned after the successful effort that claims about 400 members of Congress on its roster.

As in more than a dozen other states, the caucus offers its lawmakers members and its sportsmen supporters the chance to exchange views on key issues and to preview legislative concepts before they are committed to paper and those with

varying views are forced to dig in. "If there's anything in this state that's more emotional than hunting, fishing, I don't know what it is," Fish and Game Commission John Wats of Boise said. "Everybody has an opinion."

But all too often those opinions, based on isolated situations or incidents, become embedded in proposed bills that can disrupt and undermine the department and its governing committee.

"If the caucus works the way it should work, it will minimize legislation that is hurtful to fish and game," Wats said. "It should help legislators understand issues from a statewide perspective."

The first step toward forming the caucus is being taken Tuesday with a dinner at Boise just a block from the Capitol. Organized by 16 sportsmen's organizations, about 30 of the 105 House and Senate members plan to attend. Freshman Rep. Dave Langhorst, a Boise Democrat and an avid hunter, has been one of the organizing forces.

"Right now the sportsmen's committee in Idaho is so fragmented," Langhorst said. "The more you get people talking about their issues, their interests, the more you find commonalities, and out of commonalities comes consensus."

Retiring state Senate Resources Chairman Laird Noh, a Republican sheep rancher from Kimberly, raises a question about the financing from the National Shooting Sports Foundations, which is financed by the gun and ammunition manufacturers.

"The question is who sets the policy in that case," Noh said. But Langhorst and Jerry Bullock, the president of the eastern Idaho

chapter of the Safari Club International and another caucus promoter, discounted concerns that any segment of the sporting world would control the caucus. Bullock expects other groups to help finance future events, and he says the day-to-day operations of the caucus will cost almost nothing.

The staff of the congressional sportsmen's caucus offered to provide information and other support. "We certainly have been way overdo as a group in our organized and rational approaches to that department and how it works and how it's supported by us," Bullock said. "This is the first step. If you take the first step, there's a chance that the other guy will take a step in your direction."

Sportsmen tried to generate the same kind of cooperative atmosphere more than a decade ago when they set up regional wildlife councils, but they failed to take hold. Huffaker and others believe the direct involvement of lawmakers can keep the new caucus viable.

"It takes a lot of energy to keep that kind of thing going," Huffaker said. "People just have an awful lot going on. But the politicians are going to be there, and they're going to be confronted with all these issues so to the extent that sportsmen can communicate with them and let them know what the issues are, that's a healthy thing."

It also becomes increasingly important for the future of hunting and fishing as the Legislature becomes more urbanized and the number of sportsmen's licenses keeps dropping. Combined hunting and fishing license sales dropped 33 percent from mid-1996 through last summer.

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Nevada gold mine plan may alter government regulation of industry

BATTLE MOUNTAIN, Nev. (AP) — On a high-desert mountain where prospectors first struck it rich in the 1860s, the largest gold mining company in the world plans a major expansion that critics say could change the way the U.S. government regulates toxic mining waste.

Newmont Mining Corp.'s proposed \$200 million Phoenix project would cover nearly 10 square miles of northern Nevada, reclaiming parts of an existing 3,000-acre contaminated-site-and-spreading-gold-mining-operations-over-an-additional-4,300 acres beginning in 2006.

The open pit project would be the first major U.S. mine to post money in a new environmental trust fund required under controversial regulations President Clinton ordered his last day in office.

The Denver-based company's plans are drawing criticism from conservationists and pitting two federal agencies against each other. The Bureau of Land Management backs the project but the Environmental Protection Agency agrees with a watchdog group's claims that the Denver-based company is dramatically underestimating the potential costs of environmental risks over tens of thousands of years.

"They are predicting acid will drain off the site for 20,000 years," said Tom Myers, a hydrologist and executive director of the environmental group Great Basin Mine Watch in Reno.

"It's the first place in the country the mining industry is proposing long-term treatment of predicted acid mine drainage," Myers said. "It's perpetual treatment and we do not condone perpetual treatment."

The government's new trust fund is intended to protect U.S. taxpayers by setting aside money to address any ill effects that might be detected in the years after a mine plays out and the company restores the site.

In this case the fund would be used if pollution resulted from water passing through waste rock, some of which Newmont intends to use to help refill the open pit. The leftover rock, while inert underground, contains acids that are released when exposed to the elements.

"I'm not really worried about Newmont going away, but if they sell it to 'Joe Bob Mining' when the site is essentially mined out, that worries me," Myers said.

Newmont officials acknowledge sulfuric acid could leak far into the future but insist state-of-the-art reclamation practices will minimize risks at a mine that promises to bring 270 jobs to a depressed rural mining area.

Nevada ranks third in the world in gold production behind South Africa and Australia, but the mining industry has struggled in recent years. Mining jobs in the state dropped from nearly 15,000 in the



An open pit in the side of Battle Mountain new Battle Mountain, Nev., is seen in this aerial photo, taken Feb. 4.

mid-1990s to fewer than 9,000 in 2002, according to the Nevada Mining Association.

Newmont is confident the new trust fund — besides the usual bond posted to cover reclamation costs — will safeguard the environment.

"It's a contingency for what we think is highly unlikely. We think we have a real sound project there," said John Mudge, Newmont's director of environmental affairs.

Just how big of a contingency is being disputed by the EPA, which fears toxic leaks, and BLM, which believes leaks are unlikely.

Newmont maintains, and BLM agrees, a \$400,000 trust fund, backed with additional investment in a \$1 million surety bond, is sufficient.

EPA says \$33 million is closer to the mark.

"It's a huge disagreement — a big discrepancy for a very big project with a very large potential for impacts," Jeanne Geselbracht, an EPA specialist who reviewed BLM's environmental studies, told The Associated Press. "They're proposing only about 1 percent of what we think is needed to start out the trust fund and make sure taxpayers don't get stuck with the bill."

"It looks like a pretty sure thing that there will be groundwater contamination and that they will need

to use the money. It could become a Superfund site," she said from San Francisco.

The huge open pit is carved into the side of Battle Mountain about 12 miles south of the town of the same name on Interstate 80, about 200 miles east of Reno. Dozens of mines have opened and closed there in the 140 years since miners first tapped the minerals beneath the 8,200-foot peak.

"There's no more sacrificed mountain in this state than this mountain here," Myers said during a recent aerial tour with Light Hawk of Lander, Wyo., a group of volunteer environmentalist pilots who fly news reporters on observation flights.

The Mine Watch doesn't want to block the project — just up the ante in the trust fund, Myers said.

The group warned BLM that the project will dry up streams, pollute groundwater and surface water, cause substantial toxicological threats to wildlife and likely end up on the EPA's Superfund list.

"They have predicted pollution will occur at several locations as water drains through the waste rock that will be left behind. They basically are predicting this kind of thing will get into the groundwater," Myers said.

Newmont has agreed to post a bond to cover \$237 million in reclamation costs to return the site to its condition before mining. That money would be returned within 30 years if the work is completed on schedule.

BLM officials concluded \$488,000 is a sufficient initial investment for the new environmental trust fund to cover the site over the long term and dismissed EPA's estimate that \$33 million was needed. That decision that can be appealed through March 20.

"Anybody can do anything they want with numbers," said Gail Givens, BLM's assistant field manager for nonrenewable resources in Nevada. "Even if we are wrong, we have safeguards built in to make it right," including a review of the fund status every three years.

Computer modeling suggests acid rock drainage could find its way into the water table, Givens said. But he said a thick cap of soil and vegetation planned to cover the waste rock piles will keep water, rain and snow from reaching the rock.

Geselbracht said EPA officials described in several meetings with BLM how they calculated cleanup costs but never received a good explanation from their counterparts about the discrepancy in cost estimates.

EPA has been raising concerns about the project for more than three years. Groundwater at the site already is contaminated with arsenic, cadmium, copper, nickel, zinc, selenium, mercury, beryllium and chloride, the agency said.

Laura Yoshii, acting EPA regional administrator, warned BLM in May 2001 about the plan, and EPA Regional Administrator Wayne Nasti reported in November 2002 that the project "will likely create a perpetual and significant acid mine drainage problem requiring mitigation for hundreds of years."

Mudge said the existing contamination is one of the reasons Newmont wants to repair the site and expand with more efficient, modern mining practices.

"This is our chance to go in and really mine this area out, reclaim and close out all the existing areas," he said. "I can't emphasize enough how it is going to improve the environment out there where a lot of historic mining has been taking place."

Utah loses battle over workers comp fund

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A 3rd District judge has ruled against the state of Utah in its long-standing claim over control of the state's Workers Compensation Fund and its more than \$800 million in assets.

Judge Timothy Hanson ruled on Friday that Utah "has no ownership in the Workers Compensation Fund or its assets, other than as a policyholder."

Fund officials had claimed it belonged to policyholders and that Utah had no ownership rights other than as its largest policyholder.

Utah's executive-branch leaders believed the state had "founder's interest" because of its role in cre-

ating the agency and managing it for 70 years.

The fund was set up by the state in 1917 as a last resort for employers and employees who could not otherwise afford high-priced insurance for on-the-job injuries. Today the fund insures 50,000 Utah employees who pay into it.

Hanson's decision was hailed a victory by Workers Compensation executives, who say it "will go a long way" toward resolving a legal snag that threatened to prevent the insurer of workplace injuries from courting highly profitable clients in Idaho and other states that prevent state-owned or -controlled entities from competing against private companies.

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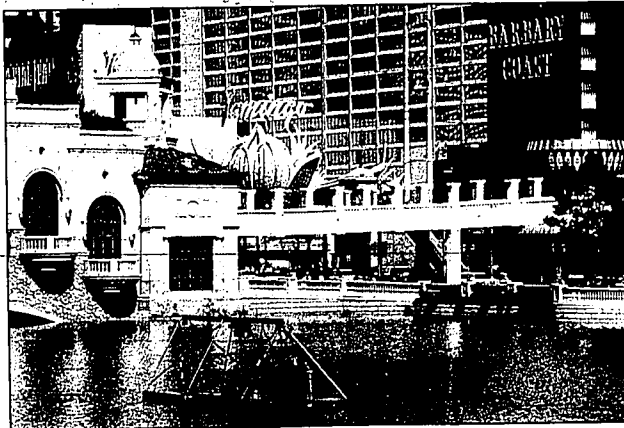
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Booming Vegas turns its thirsty eyes north

And that has rural areas around the state worried.



Divers perform maintenance on the fountains of the Bellagio Resort Hotel and Casino last month in Las Vegas. Southern Nevada is in the midst of a four-year drought.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — After nearly two decades of busily converting desert into sprawling metropolis in the fastest growing region in the nation, southern Nevada finds itself beset by a four-year drought and straining against limits on the water it can pump from nearby Lake Mead.

Las Vegas is turning to neighboring counties to the north to quench a thirst the nation's largest man-made reservoir can't sustain. Officials are planning to build a \$1 billion pipeline to tap rivers and groundwater from neighboring rural counties.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority says there is enough water out there to let the Las Vegas population nearly double in the next decade — to more than 3 million — without drawing more from the Colorado River, that supplies Lake Mead.

Some at the head of the proposed pipeline worry their high desert valleys and canyons will dry up if fresh groundwater is pumped to Las Vegas. They say the obvious solution is being ignored.

"You have growth in an area that doesn't have water and the decisions aren't how to control growth, it's how to get water," said Paul Johnson, chairman of the White Pine County Commission in Ely, 250 miles north of the Las Vegas Strip.

Farrel Lytle, who lives in Eagle Valley — an enclave of about 30 homes, a trailer park and a gas station — is worried his community will go the way of California's Owens River Valley.

That country dried up. It lost its water to a big city," Lytle said. Johnson also sees parallels in the early 1900s Los Angeles water project that drained a valley north of Los Angeles and turned Owens Lake, east of the Sierra, into a dust bowl. The 1974 film "Chinatown" was loosely based on the episode.

All of these preceding disasters are examples that people say when they talk about transferring water," Johnson said.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority last year settled a 1989 water rights claim it staked against vast stretches of Lincoln County. And is negotiating with White Pine County, the next county to the north.

White Pine's five-member commission suspended talks last month to address community opposition to water sharing.

"The community is very divided on this deal with this," Johnson said. He acknowledged that 8,600 people living in a rural county size of Massachusetts may be no match for business and political interests in Clark County — which includes Las Vegas and 1.6 million of the state's 2.3 million residents.

"We're trying to save our water," said Gary Lane, a truck stop owner, cattle rancher and alfalfa farmer outside the White Pine community of Lund, 210 miles from Las Vegas. "We're looking at our pumps and our springs running dry if the water is pumped out."

No one really knows how much water exists beneath the desert. State Engineer Hugh Ricci esti-

mates there are millions of acre-feet.

"The question is, where can you get it and how much can you get?" Ricci said.

Water officials say they'll need to drill test wells to determine whether the supply is finite and ancient water trapped underground or is replenished by springs and scarce surface precipitation.

Nevada in 2003 led the nation in population increase for a 17th year, according to the state demographer. About 80 percent of new residents moved to Las Vegas or nearby. The Lake Mead reservoir behind Hoover Dam is at its lowest level in 35 years, at 1,140 feet above sea level or 65 feet below its high water mark. It is still more than half full, with about 5 trillion gallons of water.

A growth study delivered to the Southern Nevada Water Authority on Feb. 26 did not refer directly to water. But it came the same day the authority received a report on plans to reach far to the north to meet future demands.

One project calls for tapping groundwater in northern Clark County by 2007. Another would draw water from the Virgin and Muddy rivers before they empty into one end of Lake Mead. The third would extend the pipeline north to Lincoln and White Pine counties.

The growth study, by Las Vegas-based Hobbs Ong & Associates, was commissioned to determine whether growth control would work as a means of drought management, and to provide an answer to other states relying on the Colorado River who wonder why southern Nevada won't stop growing.

It said the economies of southern Nevada and the rest of the state

depend on continued growth, as well as on gambling, tourism and mining. Turn it off and the entire state would suffer, it concluded.

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Toxic underground plume threatens California water

By Marc Lifsher
Los Angeles Times

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. is poised to begin pumping polluted groundwater from under the Mojave Desert to stop the toxic chemical hexavalent chromium from seeping into the Colorado River and tainting the water supply of 18 million Southern Californians.

The chemical compound, made infamous by the 2000 movie "Erin Brockovich," is "on the brink of contaminating the Colorado River," the Metropolitan Water District — MWD — of Southern California warned in a strongly worded Feb. 11 letter to state regulators. "We ask that you take additional emergency action sufficient to protect a resource of such critical importance to California."

The toxic plume is emanating from land near PG&E's Topock natural gas compressor station, south

of Needles on California's border with Arizona.

The utility used the chemical compound, also known as chromium 6, to control such things as corrosion and mold in water-cooling towers at the isolated plant, which pushes natural gas along a pipeline from west Texas to the Los Angeles Basin. PG&E dumped the untreated wastewater in nearby percolation beds between 1951 and 1969.

The plume of at least 108 million gallons of chromium 6-tainted water is now threatening the river and causing alarm among experts at the Metropolitan Water District, which operates the Colorado River Aqueduct, a major source of Los Angeles' drinking water.

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Dirty Dancin' 2 on Daily 7:15 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30
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Sat - Sun 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:45
Miracle on Daily 6:45 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30
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Sat - Sun 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:20 - 9:50
Welcome to Mesopotamia on Daily 7:30 - 9:50
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:20 - 9:50
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Sat - Sun 12:15 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30
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In Middleton, students are gaining a little botanic wisdom (and a lot of produce), thanks to the Idaho Lottery. This new greenhouse at Middleton High School is just a small example of how Idaho schools benefit from lottery funds, with \$250 million contributed since 1989. The Idaho Lottery - Benefiting Idaho's Public Schools and Buildings.

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BUSINESS PROFILE

Y.E.A.R.S.

Blue Cross of Idaho has its members' best interests at heart.

For the past 59 years, Blue Cross of Idaho has provided the people of Idaho with the best in health care insurance. That commitment of providing only the best service has helped Blue Cross of Idaho become a leader in Idaho's health care industry.

One reason for Blue Cross of Idaho's excellent reputation as the state's premier insurer is that this company is committed to helping shape the future of health care in Idaho with its members' best interests at heart.

Blue Cross of Idaho helps keep Idahoans healthy as an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Blue Cross of Idaho is also a tax-paying, not-for-

profit mutual insurance company, with more than 314,000 members enrolled in Traditional, Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), Managed Care, Medicare supplement and Medicare + Choice products.

Along with tending to its members' medical needs, Blue Cross of Idaho contributes to the state's economic welfare. At its headquarters in Meridian, Blue Cross of Idaho employs more than 600 employees, with additional staff in district offices in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls.

Blue Cross of Idaho is equally respected for its

dedication to community, believing that when it comes to giving to the community, it must lead through example. Part of Blue Cross of Idaho's commitment to being a caring corporate citizen includes its ability to offer resources, time and

Part of Blue Cross of Idaho's commitment to being a caring corporate citizen includes its ability to offer resources, time and teamwork to the neighborhoods it serves.

teamwork to the neighborhoods it serves.

As Blue Cross of Idaho sees it, its contributions go a long way in making a difference in peoples' lives and making a significant investment toward healthier communities.

Some of the community organizations Blue Cross of Idaho is involved with include Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health, the United Way, the Boys & Girls Club, Blue Crew, and Partners in Education.

At its heart, Blue Cross of Idaho understands that for its customers, quality health care is priceless. Affordable health care is a priority for all Idahoans; it is also a priority for the

insurer. Given the compelling issue of rising health care costs, Blue Cross of Idaho is working to address the issue through lower per-member administrative expenses, more efficient technology, increased savings from providers

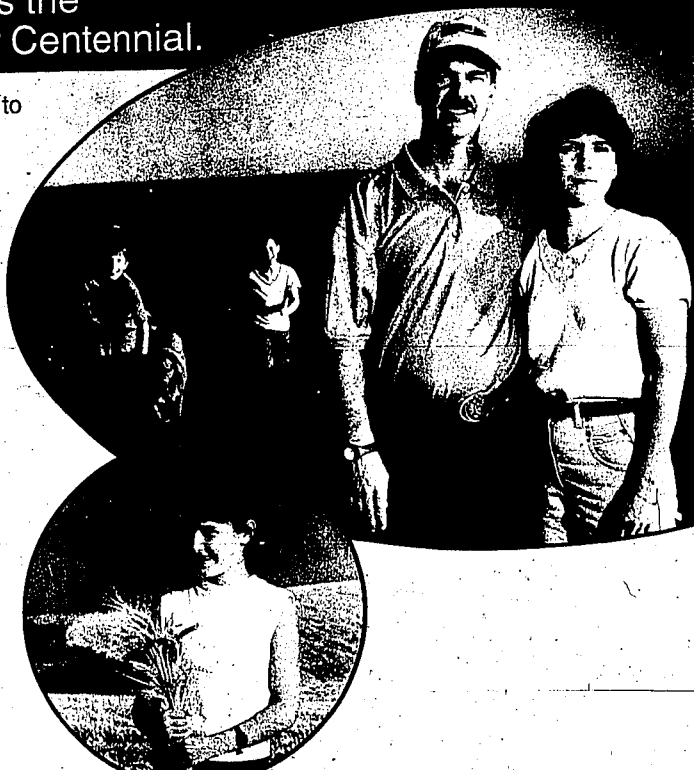
and the promotion of wellness, prevention and evidence-based medicine.

Blue Cross of Idaho is a leader in working cooperatively with community-based health care providers. The insurer's statewide network means that its customers choose their doctors, hospitals, and other health care professionals from the state's largest provider panels.

Blue Cross of Idaho is proud to have been an essential part of helping the state of Idaho and the Magic Valley grow and prosper, and looks forward to serving Idaho in the years to come.

Blue Cross of Idaho congratulates the scenic town of Twin Falls on their Centennial.

For 58 years we have worked with your community to improve the health of Idahoans. We also celebrate our partnerships with local health care providers, brokers, employers and their employees. We work cooperatively with Idaho health care providers to ensure our customers' access to needed health care services and to promote the delivery of quality, cost-effective care.



Blue Cross of Idaho



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Does Savannah State belong in Division I?

SPORTS

INSIDE

State results C2
NHL C3
NBA C4

Sports Editor: Joe Paisley, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

Sunday, March 7, 2004

Section C

The Times-News

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

66
We're young and we're stupid.
99

— Pittsburgh defenseman Josef Melichar, after the Penguins' 9-4 loss to Nashville

IN BRIEF

Babe Ruth league holds registration

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Babe Ruth baseball league will hold registration from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the Harmon Park Recreation Building for players ages 13-19. All players living in Twin Falls County must register Tuesday. A release form for players under age 19 must be signed by a parent. A \$5 registration fee must be handed in Tuesday. A copy of the player's birth certificate is also required for anyone new to the league. Call Brent Jussel at 734-6384 or Linda Britsan at 734-2633 for more information.

Burley Amateur Baseball registration starts soon

BURLEY — The Burley Amateur Baseball Association will hold registration for children ages five to 17 at Mountain View Elementary School starting Wednesday, March 10 from 6-8 p.m. Registration will continue on Saturday, March 13 from 9-12 a.m. and Thursday, March 18 from 6-8 p.m. Sponsors and coaches are also needed. For more information, please call Mike Alencor at 877-2454 or Kathy Marker at 678-7973.

Register now for St. Patrick's Day run/walk

BOISE — The Malad Gorge-St. Patrick's Day run/walk will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 13 at Malad Gorge State Park. Entrants have a choice of a 3.5 mile walk, 3.5 mile run or a 5.5 mile run. Each runner and walker will receive a race t-shirt and enjoy a post-race party featuring Clear Springs trout. Prizes will be awarded to the top three overall finishers and top three finishers in each age group. Participants can pick up registration blanks in Twin Falls at the YAC's Golds Gym, Big 5 Sports and Donnelly Sports. This is the 14th year for this race that is jointly sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, Malad Gorge State Park and South Central Idaho Tourism and Recreation Association. For more information, call the Chamber office at 837-9131, SCITRDA at 732-5569, or check out scitrida@csi.edu.

Church league plans organizational meeting

TWIN FALLS — An organizational meeting for the Magic Valley Church League will be held at 7 p.m. March 11 at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 259 Main Avenue East in Twin Falls. The meeting concerns both men and women leagues. Call Kevin Newby during the day at 737-1425 or in the evenings at 734-3169.

Jerome Cal Ripken plans registration

JEROME — The Jerome Cal Ripken League or players ages 9-12 will hold registration March 13 and 16 at the Jerome Recreation District, 2037 South Lincoln. A parent or legal guardian must be present at registration and bring a valid birth certificate. Players should bring a baseball glove to participate in a skills assessment. Players will be sized for uniforms and receive fund-raising information. It all should take no longer than 45 minutes.

On March 13, nine and 10-year-olds will register from 9 a.m. to noon while the older kids will sign up from 1 to 3 p.m. On March 16, all ages register from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The fees are \$50. The season runs from April 17 through June 7 with each team playing about 15 games. Playing time is guaranteed for each player.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

CSI women beat Salt Lake, head to nationals



By Kevin Colbert
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Finally. The anticipation formed during a long, successful season for the College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team came to a climax Saturday as the Golden Eagles defeated Salt Lake CC 62-56 to win the Region 18 tournament and earn a trip to the NJCAA national tournament in Salina, Kan. "I couldn't believe we won," said CSI's Delicia Jernigan. "I mean, you know that it's possible. But after the season has gone by you're like, 'Oh, thank God.'"

Top-seeded CSI (25-6 overall) broke open a 50-50 game with 7:31 remaining thanks to some stellar defense on the best shooting team in the conference. No. 2 Salt Lake (24-9), which entered the tournament shooting 47 percent from the floor, was held to 37 percent shooting in the second half and 43 percent for the game. The Eagles also kept the Bruins scoreless for nearly six minutes in a stretch where CSI extended its lead to 59-52. Only a 3-pointer by SLCC's Mara Best with 34.6 seconds remaining ended the drought, but it was too late.

Region 18 All-Tournament Team
Most Valuable Player
Andrea Sivakova, CSI
All-Tournament
Lenka Zimova, CSI
Jenn Cook, Salt Lake CC
Chelsey Chambers, Salt Lake CC
Amanda Pillmore, Dixie State College
Delicia Jernigan, CSI

"We switched up defenses on them a lot and that caused them some problems," CSI head coach Handy Rogers said. "We went to the 2-3 zone, and they've never seen that from us. We used to run a 1-2-2."

The Eagles were also helped by some poor Salt Lake free throw shooting in the second half. The Bruins connected on just seven of their 15 charity tosses after halftime, including four critical misses in their scoreless stretch.

Jernigan and Andrea Sivakova, the tournament's most valuable player, led the Eagles with 12 points apiece. The Eagles' Sidney Orndorff, who finished with just seven points on 2-of-13 shooting, grabbed 11 rebounds and dished out five assists to make up for

her lost shooting touch. "The poor girl missed some easy lay-ups, but she's got to keep shooting," Rogers said. "... But I thought she played well for us. She does some little things for us that people don't look at unless you look at the stat sheet." Forward Melaine Halaufia gave the Eagles an unexpected lift in the first half, connecting on two consecutive 3-pointers, the first of which put the Eagles ahead 21-19. Her second 3 gave CSI a 24-19 lead. She finished with eight points.

"We're just trying to get her in the corner to clear out, and she thinks we're running a play for her," Rogers said with a laugh.

The NJCAA national tournament begins March 16. It is the program's fourth trip to nationals. Notes: The 2004 all-Region 18 women's basketball teams were announced Saturday with two CSI players on the first team. Orndorff and Zimova were joined by Salt Lake's Jenn Cook, North Idaho's Britanna Thompson, Dixie State's Amanda Pillmore and Eastern Utah's Chelsey Warburton and Cassie Warburton. Denisa Svarova and Jernigan were

Please see WOMEN, Page C2

CSI men head to tournament

By Kevin Colbert
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's been a long, and sometimes trying, season for the College of Southern Idaho men's basketball. But any problems the team may have had this season seem like they happened a million years ago after the Golden Eagles defeated Snow College, 80-74, to clinch a trip to the NJCAA national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan., beginning March 16.

The win is especially sweet for fourth-seeded CSI (24-9 overall) since Snow (23-10) defeated the Eagles on CSI's home floor last weekend, costing head coach Chip Arnold and his crew a share of the Scenic West Athletic Conference title.

"We played them our first games (of the SWAC season) and they swept us and beat us last week, so we had a lot to take out on them," said CSI's Jason McGriff. "We had to come out and do what we had to do."

CSI shot 56 percent for the game while Snow connected on just 41 percent of its shot attempts.

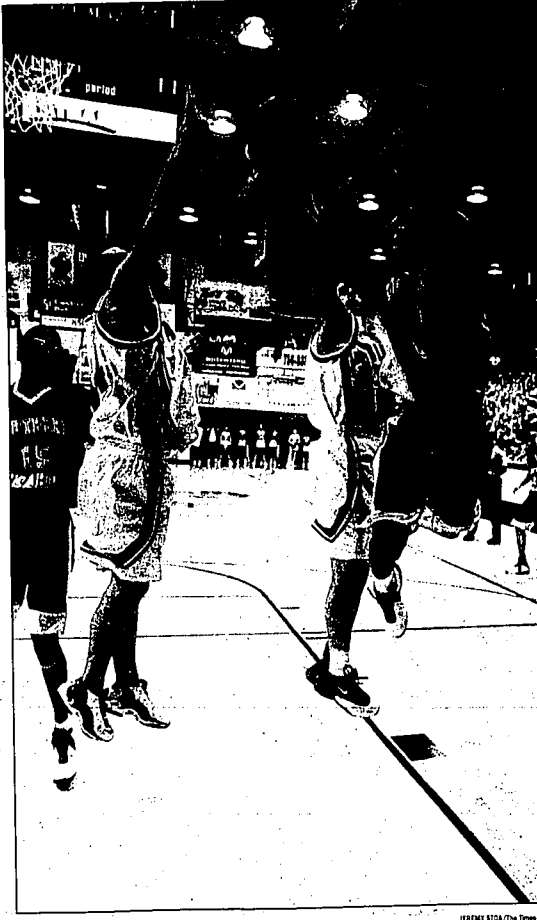
"They're the best shooting team in the conference and were the best defensive team in the conference," Arnold said. "Tonight, the defense won."

CSI's Aking Elting continued his outstanding play with 17 points and six assists in being named the tournament's most valuable player. "Aking deserved the MVP," Arnold said. "He played great in all three games and played super at the end of the year for us. I'm proud of that guy. A 6-foot-10 guy carried us on his back."

Dani Hazut led the Eagles with 22 points, including 3 of 5 from behind the 3-point arc and 8 of 13 from the field.

"He was hitting the mid-range jumper and getting past people

Please see MEN, Page C2



Golden Eagle Aking Elting (13) splits two of Snow College's defenders during the Region 18 championship game at CSI Saturday. The Eagles won the game 80-74 to advance to the national junior college tournament on March 16.

JERRY STIGA/The Times-News

Wendell routs Ririe for 2A basketball title

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

NAMPA — Wendell's 79-46 drubbing of the Ririe Bruins marked the end of a perfect 25-0 season for the 107jan boys basketball team. It was an exercise in domination on both ends of the court, as Wendell shot 50 percent from the field while holding Ririe to 25 percent shooting.

But the game meant so much more than the statistics will ever show.

It was Wendell coach Allen Kelsey fighting back tears, his

Please see WENDELL, Page C2



Wendell seniors Tyrol Davis, left, and Kael Pope celebrate their impending 2A state championship win with head coach Allen Kelsey at the Idaho Center in Nampa Saturday. Davis and Pope both left with about two minutes remaining. Wendell defeated Ririe 79-46 to win its first state boys basketball title since 1970.

Unranked Washington upsets No. 1 Stanford 75-62

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Top-ranked Stanford lost for the first time this season, falling 75-62 to unranked Washington on Saturday. The Simons scored 16 points to help Washington end the Cardinals' effort to complete the first 18-0 season in Pac-10 Conference history. On Thursday night, the Cardinal rallied to beat Washington State on a last-second shot. Stanford (25-1, 17-1) shot only 39 percent, had 18 turnovers and was in foul trouble for most of the game that ended with Huskies fans storming the floor and dancing in jubilation.

The loss, left Saint Joseph's (27-0) as the only undefeated team in the

College hoops — C4

country. The Hawks are attempting to become the first team to enter the NCAA tournament unbeaten since UNLV in 1991.

Washington (17-10, 12-6) won for the 12th time in its last 13 conference games. It was only the second time ever that the Huskies have beaten a top-ranked team.

Nate Robinson added 13 points, and Brandon Roy and Will Conroy each scored 12 for the Huskies. Stanford's Josh Childress and Matt Leitch were in foul trouble much of the game, with Leitch fouling out with a minute left.

Please see STANFORD, Page C6

SPORTS

Century downs Bonneville for the 4A championship

NAMPA - Andy Suedt scored 27 while backup mate Ryan Ray scored 17 to lead Century past Bonneville 65-53 to claim the Diamondbacks' second Class 4A boys basketball title in three years Saturday night at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

4A Boys Real Dairy Shootout
Consolation championship
Madison 55, Moscow 49
Third Place
Hillcrest 66, Vallivue 59
State championship
Century 65, Bonneville 53

3A Boys Real Dairy Shootout
Consolation championship
Shelley 67, Lakeland 64
Third Place
Fruiland 61, Marsh Valley 60
State championship
Preston 68, Middleton 39

boys basketball title Saturday at the Idaho Center in Nampa. Chris Larsen scored 20 and pulled down seven rebounds in the win. Kelly Rawlings added 15 points and five assists. Middleton was led by Jordan Hammond with 17 points and five rebounds.

Century 65, Bonneville 53
71:12-45
17:11-23-10

Preston 68, Middleton 39
NAMPA - Preston shot 50 percent from the field to overwhelm Middleton 68-39 for the 3A state

Lakeside edges out Carey

CALDWELL - Lakeside's Arthur Elwell got the last of his game-high 12 rebounds and put it back for the winning basket with 17 seconds left in the Lakeside-down Carey 65-63 in the IA fourth-place game Saturday at the state tournament in Caldwell.

Lakeside's rebounders. Green had no problem carrying the Panthers' offense with 25 points. But he was one of only four Carey players to get into the scoring column.

Tim Wolfe hit a pair of free throws with 1:17 left in the game to push the Knights ahead for the first time 63-61.

Lakeside's second lead of the contest. The first had come just 1:16 earlier.

Green hit a turnaround jumper for his 11th straight successful field-goal attempt and a tie game, 63-63, with 10 seconds to go.

Carey coach Dick Simpson lamented after watching a couple last-gasp shots miss the mark on the Panthers' final possession.

"When you come to a tournament and play four games in four days, sometimes it's who has enough left in the tank," Simpson said.

Elwell's game-winning shot was one of three shots taken by the Knights (18-8) in their final possession.

"I thought we might have had enough in the tank."

Lakeside outscored Carey 14-8 in the second half.

"If we could have gotten one of those shots to fall at the end... Carey coach Dick Simpson lamented after watching a couple last-gasp shots miss the mark on the Panthers' final possession.

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"If we could have gotten one of those shots to fall at the end... Carey coach Dick Simpson lamented after watching a couple last-gasp shots miss the mark on the Panthers' final possession.

Raft River wins 1A consolation championship over Sho-Ban, 67-58

By Jon P. Brown
Times-News correspondent

Kyle Burnett hit a 3-pointer with 1:23 left as the Chiefs tied the game 56-56 after an 11-4 run. Burnett had blocked a shot earlier and also scored on a jumper during the spurt.

But just as he had all game - Braden Barrett had the answer for Raft River (25-2).

CALDWELL - Jeff Greenwood wasn't surprised when the game between his Raft River Trojans and the Sho-Ban Chiefs turned into a contest of streaks, which the Trojans eventually won 67-58.

Barrett nailed a layup to cap a string of six consecutive points he had scored for the Trojans as Raft River embarked on an 11-0 run to put the game away.

After all, the Trojans' coach surmised, it was 9 o'clock on a Saturday morning. You expect consistency out of teenagers at that time of day? On the weekend?

Barrett finished with a game-high 24 points and Nelson chipped in 17 for Raft River. Burnett had 23 for Sho-Ban.

Adding to the up-and-down start to the final day of the 1A tournament, there was a 5-minute delay at the 327 mark of the second quarter when the Vallivue gym's fire alarm system activated and the building was cleared.

"You get two teams that like to run with the ball, you're going to have a streaky game," Greenwood said. "It causes a lot of gray hair."

So does Sho-Ban (19-5) nearly having the last streak.

While Carey couldn't contain

T.F. holds off Centennial for third place

CALDWELL - Senior guard Graham Stanley tipped in an offensive rebound as time expired to lift Twin Falls High past Centennial for third place, 60-59, at the 5A Boys Real Dairy Shootout boys basketball state tournament Saturday morning at Caldwell High School.

5A Boys Real Dairy Shootout
Saturday's results
Consolation championship
Lawiston 74, Capital 52
Third place
Twin Falls 60, Centennial 59
State championship
Borah 62, Eagle 37



Twin Falls High senior post Luc Martin shoots while Centennial's Jared Gentle defends during the third-place game at the 5A state boys basketball tournament in Caldwell Saturday.

Centennial had rallied from down eight at the end of the third quarter by scoring seven points in the first minute of the fourth, thanks in part to a 3-pointer and two Bruins turnovers.

points and seven rebounds. Twin Falls out-rebounded the Patriots 37-21.

"It was back-and-forth after that," said Bruins coach Matt Harrington. "Twin Falls called timeout after crossing halfcourt with a few seconds left after Centennial's Harrison Williams missed the first free throw of an one-and-one on the one end."

Centennial was paced by Josh Ware with 16 points and five assists while Williams scored 14. Jared Gentle added 13 points and five rebounds.

Williams was fouled soon after Bruins post Luc Martin scored inside to make it 59-58, Patriots.

"I was proud of how the team responded to the 67-61 semifinal loss to Borah Friday night."

The Bruins set up the play for Mitch Smith from short range but the junior guard's shot bounced off the back of the rim. Stanley crashed the boards and tipped the ball in at the buzzer to seal the come-from-behind win.

"We didn't talk Xs and Os or do a scouting report," Harr said. "We just asked that they give us 32 Core minutes and they did it. We played four really excellent quarters."

Twin Falls took second place in 1993 and third in Harr's senior season, 1985.

Harr is understandably hopeful about the future of the Bruins program.

"We did the things we didn't do the night before (against Borah)," Harr said.

The junior varsity went undefeated and this year's junior class went 17-1 as sophomores.

Stanley finished with 13 points and eight rebounds (six offensive) while Mike Smith added 11 points and five assists. Martin added nine

"These seniors deserve a lot of credit. They taught the younger guys a lot. They're hard workers and these lessons will carry over for next year's seniors."

Wendell

Continued from C1
voice cracking while saying, "This one's for you, Trent," during the award ceremony in memory of the late Trent Davis, who died in a traffic accident in late December.

2A Boys Real Dairy Shootout
Saturday's results
Consolation championship
Pottlacher 46, Hometown 45
Third place
Molad 45, New Plymouth 43
State championship
Wendell 79, Ririe 46

It was younger brother Zac Davis wearing not only a "TD" armband, but another on his elbow that read "DAD." It was at least one sports-writer watching the first quarter through teary eyes after Davis touched that armband before a free throw attempt.

as much as we could."

And it was Kati Pope raising the state championship trophy high above his head as the Trojan faithful rocked the Idaho Center.

The Trojans came out determined, stretching a 20-13 first-quarter lead to 46-23 by half.

"We knew there was never going to be a point where we would lay off on them," Pope said. "We left it all out there and wanted to win by

angles and hitting 4-9 three-pointers through the game. After the game Davis reflected on his thoughts of his father during the contest.

"There was no one to sag off of," Pope said. "It didn't matter who they focused on."

"You think about what he told you about how to shoot," Troy Davis said. "All I can really remember is, 'Keep your elbow in,' and arch and it'll go in, 'Just keep shooting.'"

Now, all of the desire, the excellence, and the determination of the Wendell Trojans will be remembered forever as the Trojans finish their new state championship banner in their gymnasium.

While Pope was saddled with early foul trouble, Lancaster answered the call, hitting on 11-of-14 shots for a game-high and career-high 25 points.

While the win is the first Trojan boys basketball state championship since 1970, Kelsey is most proud of the fact that Troy Davis finished his high school basketball career as a champion.

"For some reason he picked the last two games to play his best basketball," Kelsey said. "I'm really happy for him."

"There isn't a more deserving kid," Kelsey said. "I love that boy, he and his brother. You talk about courage. They're tremendous."

Lancaster's performance wasn't a surprise for Pope or any of the Wendell players, who know that on any given night, any Trojan starter can hit for 20 points.

"I've always had the goal to come up and win this," Pope said.

Cutthroats fall short in 1A third-place game

By Jon P. Brown
Times-News correspondent

CALDWELL - The third-place game in the Idaho IA boys basketball state tournament is supposed to be a second chance of sorts. A second shot at state hardware despite a loss in the semifinals.

Women

Continued from C1
named to the second team along with Lael McVea and Chelsey Chambers of Salt Lake; Dixie's Camille Gardner and Snow's Candace Jones.

Men

Continued from C1
and hitting that, too," Arnold said. Jake Schroeder led No. 2 Snow with 18 points. Teammate Tyler Hollist added 16.

The Community School Cutthroats couldn't swim upstream to cash in on their chance, losing to an opportunistic Troy squad 67-50 at Vallivue High School on Saturday.

The Trojans (21-6) held an 11-2 scoring edge on points off turnovers, making an otherwise respectable 11 turnovers by Community School (21-7) sting all the more.

1A Boys Real Dairy Shootout
Consolation championship
Raft River 67, Sho-Ban 58
Fourth-place game
Lakeside 65, Carey 63
Third-place game
Troy 67, Community School 50

"We didn't get a lot of second chances. Community School coach Mike Wade said, 'Frequently, a big part of our game has been second and third chances on trips (down the floor).'"

But we couldn't handle their size, and they out-rebounded us."

Community School wing John Hayes (14) battles Troy's Tyler Bollman, left, and Tyrel Fredericksen for a rebound during the 1A third-place game Saturday in Caldwell.

Hayes scored a team-high 14 points in the game.

But Troy unveiled another part of its game to light off on an 8-2 run behind seven points from Smith. Smith and teammate Tyler Bollman led all scorers with 19 points apiece.

Those earning honorable mention included: Sivakova, CSI; Heidi Clemmer, Colorado Northwestern; Samantha Rogers, Dixie; Kristin Peterson and Rana McMurtry of Snow; and Salt Lake's Jon Bonham. CSI's Rogers was named coach of the year.

CSI women 62, Salt Lake CC 56
Salt Lake CC 56
CSI Women 62, Snow College 44

Continued from C1
and hitting that, too," Arnold said. Jake Schroeder led No. 2 Snow with 18 points. Teammate Tyler Hollist added 16.

The following is a list of the All-Region 18 Team:

Continued from C1
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Satan leads Sabres past Maple Leafs

TORONTO (AP) — Miroslav Satan had a goal and two assists, and Derek Roy scored, and the Sabres remained undefeated against Toronto this season with a 5-1 victory Saturday night.

Martin Brodeur made 32 saves for the Sabres, 3-0 against the Maple Leafs.

Devils 4, Hurricanes 1

RALEIGH, N.C. — John Madden had a goal and an assist, and Martin Brodeur made 25 saves to lead the New Jersey Devils beat the Carolina Hurricanes 4-1 Saturday night.

BOSTON — Mike Knuble scored a power-play goal with 5:14 left in the third period to lift the Boston Bruins to a 2-2 tie with the Atlanta Thrashers on Saturday night.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — John Hedberg stopped 32 shots for his second consecutive shutout and Markus Nash had a goal and an assist to lead the Vancouver Canucks to a 4-0 victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Saturday night.

Blues 4, Islanders 2

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Former

Islanders goalie Chris Osgood stopped 39 shots, and Keith Tkachuk scored his team-leading 27th goal late in the second period to lead the St. Louis Blues to a 4-2 victory over New York on Saturday night.

Lightning 5, Panthers 3
SUNRISE, Fla. — The Tampa Bay Lightning scored three first-period goals, then held off a late rally to defeat the Florida Panthers 5-3 Saturday night.

Penguins 2, Mighty Ducks 1
PITTSBURGH — Ric Jackman and Matt Bradley scored first-period goals and rookie Andy Chiodo

stopped 26 shots Saturday night as the Pittsburgh Penguins snapped a 16-game home winless streak with a 2-1 victory over the Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

Senators 4, Predators 2
OTTAWA — The Ottawa Senators' fans are happy their team sticks together and can overcome a blizzard.

Capitals 2, Flyers 1
WASHINGTON — Power-play goals by Jeff Halpern and Anson Carter lifted the Washington Capitals to a 2-1 victory over Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday night.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Special Olympics seeks help for Winter Games help

McCall — Volunteers are needed to work at the 2004 State Special Olympics Winter Games to be held in McCall March 12-14. For more information, call Shana Endow at (208) 323-0482 ext-114.

Jerome Babo Ruth signs up to take place next season

JEROME — The Babe Ruth league for players ages 13-15 will hold registrations April 3 from 10 a.m. to noon at the five district offices and from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on April 6. The fee is \$65 for the season, which runs May 1 through June 25. If enough players register, there will be separate 13- and 14-year-old leagues.

Each team will be selected from each league to compete in tournaments during June and July. For more information on the league, call Larry or Debbie Bos at 324-3920; Mike McDonald at 324-4681 or Leisa Kraker at 324-4681.

Former 49er Owens wants to fly with Eagles

PHILADELPHIA — Even though he was traded to Baltimore, Terrell Owens still hopes to catch passes from Donovan McNabb in Philadelphia next season.

One day after the San Francisco 49ers sent the four-time Pro Bowl receiver to the Ravens, Owens said he is not happy with the deal and plans to file a grievance.

"This is about me wanting a fair shot at a team that I want to go to. Baltimore is definitely one of my choices, but Philly was my No. 1 choice, by priority on my list. Owens said in an interview on ESPN late Friday night. "I talked to my agent earlier and we're going to file a grievance for the situation and we're going to hope for the best possible situation."

Stealers re-sign Haggans, to meet with Staley

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Steelers stayed in-house Saturday to make their first major free-agent signing of the offseason, bringing back linebacker Clark Haggans in a move that likely means former All-Pro tight end receiver Jason Gildon won't return.

Myiskina wins Qatar title for second straight year

DOHA, Qatar — Anastasiya Myiskina won the Qatar Open for the second straight year Saturday, defeating Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-6, 6-4, 6-4 in an all-Russian final.

For the third straight year, Myiskina and the seventh of her career.

Kuznetsova lost her second straight final in two weeks. At the Dubai Open last weekend, she fell to No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardescu, whom she beat in the Qatar semifinals.

Eberharter clinches downhill; Miller closes

KVITFJELL, Norway — Stephan Eberharter won the men's giant slalom on Saturday to clinch his third straight season title in the discipline, and Bode Miller finished 26th to lose his lead in the overall standings.

Eberharter spent the Lillehammer Olympics course in his fourth downhill victory this season. Austrian teammate Fritz Strobl was 6:04 behind and France's Antoine Deneriaz was third, 6:07 behind.

Hermann Maier, the three-time overall champion, finished ninth but it was enough for the Austrian to take the overall lead from Miller.

Miller was greeted by a big banner at the finishing area saying "Go Bode Go." But Miller trying to win the overall crown since Phil Mahre in 1983, wound up way back in one of his worst disciplines and added only five points to his total.

Lightning 5, Panthers 3

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SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

NBA	
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Team	Score
Atlanta	101-95
Boston	101-95
Brooklyn	101-95
Charlotte	101-95
Chicago	101-95
Cleveland	101-95
DC Wizards	101-95
Indiana	101-95
Los Angeles	101-95
Memphis	101-95
Minnesota	101-95
Orlando	101-95
Philadelphia	101-95
Pittsburgh	101-95
Portland	101-95
Sacramento	101-95
San Antonio	101-95
Seattle	101-95
Tampa Bay	101-95
Utah	101-95
Washington	101-95
Wash. Wizards	101-95
Wichita	101-95

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Time	Event	Channel
7:00	Auto Racing	ESPN
7:00	Bowling	ESPN
7:00	Football	NBC
7:00	Golf	ESPN
7:00	Hockey	ESPN
7:00	Horse Racing	ESPN
7:00	Tennis	ESPN

Area ski report

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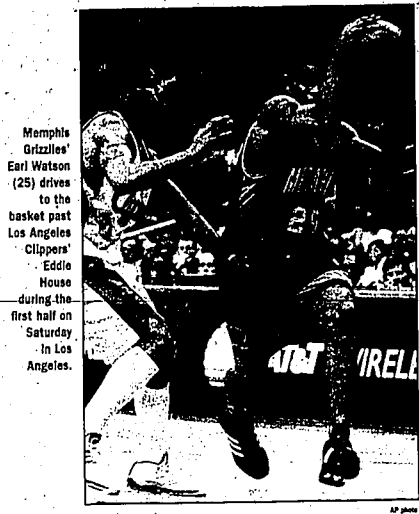
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SPORTS



Grizzlies inch toward their first winning season ever

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The Memphis Grizzlies reached another milestone in their surprising season.

James Posey had 15 points and reserve Charles Oulaw added 13 points and 11 rebounds to help the Memphis Grizzlies beat the Los Angeles Clippers 98-92 Saturday for their fourth straight victory.

The Grizzlies improved to a franchise-record 14 games over .500 (38-24) with their 13th win in 16 games. Memphis is four victories short of clinching a winning record for the first time in the franchise's nine-year history.

"We have guys who respect the game and understand what Hubie's trying to teach us," Shane Battier said of the Grizzlies' 70-year-old coach Hubie Brown.

"We have guys who want to become better basketball players. And we all know that by listening to Hubie, we will. We respect his game plans and are very willing to carry them out."

The Grizzlies, who never had a winning month before going 10-4 in January and 10-3 in February, are off to a 3-0 start in March.

"From the very first day until today, I coach the same way as I've coached for 30 years," Brown said. "You don't play hard, you lose your minutes and you don't get back in. You force shots rather than pass the basketball, we take you out and you don't get back in. With us, if you play selfish, we bury you. That's how it's done here."

Things could not get tougher for the Grizzlies, who placed center Lorenzen Wright on the injured list before the game because of a sprained right knee. However, Brown is confident his team can maintain its improved play.

"Things could not get tougher for the Grizzlies' fourth straight against the Clippers, and improved Memphis' record to 10-17 against them. The Grizzlies do not have a winning record against any other team since joining the league in the 1995-96 season."

Maggette and Elton Brand each scored 18 points for the Clippers, who have lost four straight and 11 of 14. Maggette also had six rebounds and a career-high seven assists.

Eddie House, who played a season-high 42 minutes against the Grizzlies on Feb. 11 at Memphis and came within three assists of a triple-double, was the first player off the Clippers' bench this time and finished with 10 points in 20 minutes.

Battier grabbed an offensive rebound after a missed 3-point shot by Earl Watson and fired the third-quarter buzzer with a 16-footer that put Memphis ahead 73-71. Battier was 0-for-6 before that shot.

The Grizzlies opened the fourth with a 14-3 run and the Clippers got no closer than the final margin.

76ers 97, Bulls 88

PHILADELPHIA - Kenny Thomas had a season-high 27 points and 11 rebounds, leading the Philadelphia 76ers to a 97-88 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Saturday night.

Allen Iverson had 20 points and 11 assists and reserve Zenden Hamilton added 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Sixers, who had lost 18 of 24.

Eddy Curry scored 24 and Jamal Crawford and Antonio Davis each had 16 for Chicago, the second-worst team in the NBA.

The Sixers came in two games behind three teams that were tied for the final spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs race.

Down four midway through the fourth quarter, Philadelphia went on a 12-0 run to take a 91-83 lead with 2:18 left. Thomas had six points and moved into a three-point lead with a pair of free throws. The Bulls didn't get any closer the rest of the way.

Cavaliers 106, Bucks 97

CLEVELAND - LeBron James had 24 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds, and Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 29 points to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers over the Milwaukee Bucks 106-97 Saturday night.

Carlos Boozer had 22 points and 13 rebounds and Jeff McInnis had a season-high 12 assists for the Cavaliers, who won their third straight and moved into a three-point lead with Boston and Miami for the seventh playoff spot in the East.

James also had four steals to go with another array of jaw-dropping dunks.

The Bucks were led by Michael Redd with 18 points and Brian Skinner with 15. Damon Jones had 13 points and 10 assists.

Heat 102, Kings 96

MIAMI - Lamar Odom earned the first triple-double by a Miami Heat player in nine years with 30 points, 19 rebounds and 11 assists to help beat the Sacramento Kings 102-96 Saturday.

The triple-double was the fourth in Heat history and Odom's eighth.

He achieved a season high in points and a career high in rebounds, and he matched his career high in assists.

Rafer Alston scored 20 points for Miami. Reserves Rasual Butler and Odonis Haslem added 17 apiece.

Mike Bibby scored 24 points and Chris Webber 22 for the Kings. Peja Stojakovic went 4-for-13 and scored just 14 points.

The Kings, who shot 39 percent, came into the game with the NBA's best record, but fell to 20-3 against the Eastern Conference.

No. 3 Duke holds off No. 14 North Carolina

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) - There'll be no losing streak in Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Freshman Luol Deng scored 25 points and senior Chris Dubhon had an extraordinary defensive effort on Rashad McCants in the second half to lead No. 3 Duke to a 70-65 victory over No. 14 North Carolina on Saturday night.

The game was another great one in what many consider the best rivalry in college basketball.

College hoops

The Blue Devils (24-4, 13-3) had already clinched the Atlantic Coast Conference regular-season title for the sixth time in eight years, but they were coming off a rare home loss.

Georgia Tech beat Duke 76-68 on Wednesday night to snap the Blue Devils' 41-game home winning streak, the longest in the nation. With a new streak started, Duke can now look to win its sixth straight ACC tournament championship next week.

The win was the 14th in 16 games for Duke against North Carolina (18-9, 8-9), including an 83-81 overtime victory in Chapel Hill on Feb. 5.

McCants had 20 points for the Tar Heels, but he got 16 in the opening 22 minutes and the rest in the final 1:37.

In between he was covered by Dalton, whose layup with 6.1 seconds left was the game-winner in the first meeting.

No. 5 Mississippi St. 82, Alabama 81, OT

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - Timmy Bowens' first last-second shot kept No. 5 Mississippi State alive and his second gave the Bulldogs their first outright Southeastern Conference title in 41 years.

Bowers hit a layup in traffic with a second left in overtime to complete a 16-point run and give Mississippi State (25-2, 14-2 Southeastern Conference) an 82-81 victory over Alabama on Saturday.

Earnest Shelton had 25 points, nine rebounds, four assists and four steals for Alabama, which had an 18-point lead early in the second half.

No. 6 Pittsburgh 59, Villanova 45

PITTSBURGH - Chris Taft led Pittsburgh's comeback from its worst start of the season with 16 points and 11 rebounds and the Panthers wrapped up the top seed in the Big East tournament.

Chevon Troutman had 17 points and Carl Krauser added 11 for the Panthers (27-3, who finished 13-3 in the Big East for the third straight season. Allen Ray scored 24 points for Villanova.



Duke's J.J. Redick, right, drives to the basket against North Carolina defender Mervyn Scott in the first half Saturday at Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham, N.C.

No. 8 Oklahoma St. 70, Texas A&M 41

STILLWATER, Okla. - John Lucas scored 20 points and Joey Graham had 14, helping Oklahoma State claim sole possession of the Big 12 title with a victory over last-place Texas A&M on Saturday.

The Aggies (7-19, 0-16) became only the second team in the eight-year history of the Big 12 to go winless in league play. Baylor did it in 1999.

Kansas St. 58, No. 10 Texas 48

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Tim Ellis hit six free throws in the final 52 seconds and Kansas State, despite setting an arena record for fewest points in a half, stunned Texas.

Kansas State (14-13, 6-10) missed 22 of its first 26 shots while scoring only 17 points in the first half.

Jeremiah Massey led Kansas State with 14 points and 10 rebounds, and Ellis had 13 points.

No. 16 N. Carolina St. 81, No. 11 Wake Forest 70

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Engin Asutur made a career-high five 3-pointers to help North Carolina State lock up second place in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Asutur went 5-for-7 from 3-point range and scored 17 points, just eight points in the first 3.5 minutes and finished with 18 points in the Missouri Valley quarterfinal.

Bradley Strickland had 12 points and eight rebounds for ninth-seeded Wisconsin (7-22).

No. 15 S. Illinois 93, Evansville 67

ST. LOUIS - Darnen Brooks gave Southern Illinois a fast start with eight points in the first 3.5 minutes and finished with 18 points in the Missouri Valley quarterfinal.

Bradley Strickland had 12 points and eight rebounds for ninth-seeded Wisconsin (7-22).

No. 17 Wisconsin 70, Indiana 52

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. - Devin Harris got Wisconsin started with

Boston College 63, No. 12 Providence 54

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - Jared Dudley had 15 points and eight rebounds and Boston College held Providence to a season-low 15 first-half points.

Providence star Ryan Gomes missed his first seven shots and finished with 13 points on 4-for-15 shooting, and the team shot just 19 percent in a dreadful first half.

No. 13 Cincinnati 83, No. 20 Memphis 79

CINCINNATI - Tony Bobbitt hit a 3-pointer with 36 seconds left, then made a pair of free throws to help Cincinnati forge a four-way tie for the Conference USA championship.

The Bearcats (21-6, 12-4) earned a share of their eighth regular-season championship by knocking off the conference's hottest team down the stretch.

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Thome will likely miss rest of spring training

By The Associated Press

Jim Thome will likely miss the rest of spring training after X-rays Saturday confirmed the Philadelphia slugger had broken his right middle finger during a fielding drill.

Thome, who led the National League with 47 home runs last season in his first year with the Phillies, was hurt Friday. After tests showed the break, he headed back to Philadelphia to be examined by a specialist.

The Phillies have been hit by finger injuries this spring. Closer Billy Wagner hasn't thrown from the mound in nearly two weeks because of an inflammation in the middle finger on his left hand.

"It's the fickle finger of fate, I guess," Wade said.

In exhibition games:

Athletics 26, Angels 3

At Phoenix, Bartolo Colon was pulled six batters into his Anaheim debut and Oakland put on an overpowering offensive performance after he left.

The A's homered six times and had 27 hits in their highest-scoring spring training game since records were kept beginning in 1986.

His backside was covered with dirt, for the rest of the day, a battle scar, so to speak.

"The ground ball in was a nice play. I should have had the one in the hole," Rodriguez said.

A two-out, Golds' Gold shortstop, Rodriguez is still getting used to the third base position and the terminology - he's not used to describing balls to his right as being near the foul line, instead of the hole.

Each morning, Rodriguez has

Padres 15, Mariners 2

At Peoria, Ariz., Rookie Khalil Greene hit a three-run homer in San Diego's seven-run first inning, and Mark Loretta and Tagg Bozied later added solo shots.

Seattle's Joel Pineiro gave up seven runs on eight hits in one inning.

White Sox 3, Diamondbacks 1

At Tucson, Ariz., Jose Valentin homered and Jon Rauch pitched three perfect innings, and the White Sox improved to 3-0 in Cactus League play under first-year manager Ozzie Guillen.

Cubs 5, Giants 3

At Mesa, Ariz., Tom Goodwin singled, hit an RBI triple and stole a base as the Cubs beat San Francisco for a second straight day.

Royals 10, Rangers (ss) 7

At Surprise, Ariz., Chan Ho Park threw 14 of his last 17 pitches for strikes after giving up an early run in his first spring start for Texas. Park pitched just two innings after April last season because of a back problem.

Ken Harvey had three hits and drove in three runs for the Royals, and starter Jeremy Affeldt threw

two shutout innings, allowing two hits and striking out one.

Brewers 6, Rockies 2

At Tucson, Ariz., Ben Ford gave up a hit and struck out one in two innings.

Colorado's Shawn Estes allowed two hits and walk with two strikeouts in the first two innings.

Astros 9, Braves 3

At Kissimmee, Fla., Andy Pettitte coasted through two scoreless innings in his spring debut with the Houston Astros. Pettite struck out two and walked none.

Yankees 14, Blue Jays 5

At Tampa, Fla., Alex Rodriguez went 3-for-3 with a triple and Jorge Posada homered and drove in six runs to lead New York.

Devil Rays 7, Pirates 6

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Tino Martinez homered in his first spring at-bat for Tampa Bay.

Dodgers 6, Mets 2

At Fort Myers, Fla., Franklin Gutierrez drove in three runs for Los Angeles.

James Baldwin started for the Mets and pitched two innings.

16 points in the first 13 minutes and then the Badgers relied on a stifling defense to beat Indiana.

Harris finished with 26 points, and the Hoosiers had another bad shooting day, making just 35 percent from the field.

No. 19 Georgia Tech 63, Florida St. 60

ATLANTA - Marvin Lewis scored 16 of his 21 points in the second half of the final home game of his college career, helping Georgia Tech hold off Florida State.

Jarrett Jack added 18 points, a career-high 12 rebounds and six assists for the Yellow Jackets (22-9, 9-7 Atlantic Coast Conference), including two free throws with 33.5 seconds left.

Marquette 81, No. 25 Louisville 80

MILWAUKEE - Freshman Dameon Mason's three-point play with eight-tenths of a second left lifted Marquette past Louisville.

Mason finished with 14 points, and Steve Novak led the Golden Eagles with 20 points. Francisco Garcia had 23 points for Louisville.

Idaho St. 74, Montana 73

POCATELLO - Scott Henry scored 24 points and Montana missed two desperation 3-pointers in the final seconds in Idaho State's 74-73 victory Saturday in the opening round of the Big Sky tournament.

The Grizzlies (10-18), who swept the Bengals (13-17) in the regular season, trailed by 10 with less than 7 minutes to play when they started a rally that just came up short.

Marquis Poole added 19 points for the Bengals. Jeff Gardner scored 13 points and Redd scored 12 for Idaho State.

Booker had 17 points to lead the Grizzlies. Karmar Davis scored 12 and Criswell and Victor Venters finished with 11 points apiece.

Idaho State will play Northern Arizona in the Big Sky semifinals Tuesday night at Eastern Washington.

Boise St. 59, UTEP 45

BOISE - Brian Defares scored 18 points. Aaron Haynes added 14 and Boise State stifled Texas El Paso's offense in a 59-45 victory Saturday.

Boise State (20-8, 12-6 Western Athletic Conference) leading 36-32 midway through the second half. Defares and Haynes scored all of the Broncos' next 14 points during a 14-5 run that nearly put the game away. The Broncos were never threatened again.

UTEP (22-6, 13-5) had entered the game averaging nearly 80 points a game, but the Broncos' zone defense kept the Miners from scoring inside.

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BOISE - Brian Defares scored 18 points. Aaron Haynes added 14 and Boise State stifled Texas El Paso's offense in a 59-45 victory Saturday.

Boise State (20-8, 12-6 Western Athletic Conference) leading 36-32 midway through the second half. Defares and Haynes scored all of the Broncos' next 14 points during a 14-5 run that nearly put the game away. The Broncos were never threatened again.

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UTEP (22-6, 13-5)

Record field starts Iditarod

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Vern Halter and his team of Alaska huskies approached the start line, and after a brief personal history and a countdown, lifted his foot off the sled brake to become the first musher out of the chute Saturday at the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Sled dog racing fans let out a cheer as Halter, starting his 16th race, and his team went down the Iditarod trail.

The ceremonial start in the 1,000-mile race from Anchorage to Nome — the longest sled dog race in the world — is a raucous affair where mushing fans line the start three-deep to give the dog teams a big send-off. Fans crowd around their favorite mushers, getting autographs and photos.

Suzanne Jammin came all the way from Washington, D.C., to get her picture taken with four-time Iditarod winner Martin Buser of Big Lake. Buser is running in his 21st Iditarod.

"We have followed him since the beginning," said Jammin, who recently moved from Alaska. Buser, who came in fourth last year and won in 2002, said he feels better than ever this year.

"I'm just getting good," he said. The Iditarod, now in its 32nd year, commemorates a 674-mile relay race from Nenana to Nome in February 1925 when dog teams successfully delivered serum to prevent an outbreak of diphtheria among children.

A record 87 teams are competing this year. The purse is more than \$700,000, with the winner getting \$69,000 and a new Dodge pickup truck worth \$41,410. About one-third of this year's record field are rookies.

It normally takes top teams nine to 10 days to go the 1,000 miles from Anchorage to Nome, but race officials are expecting a faster race. Only Buser has done it in less than nine days. He holds the course record of eight days, 22 hours and 46 minutes, set in 2002.

Three-time Iditarod champion Jeff King scolded at that description, saying he got a good look at Buser's team during a shorter race earlier this season.

"There was nothing that impressed me," said King, of Denali Park, who was third in



2000, '01 and '03 and will be looking for his fourth win. Four-time winner Doug Swingley of Lincoln, Mont., is back after taking last year off. He and Buser will be looking to join Rick

Swenson of Two Rivers as the Iditarod's only five-time winner. Remy Brooks of Healy, who came in second in 2002 and 2003, will be looking for his first win. Last year's winner, Robert Sorlie

of Norway, is not racing. The serious racing begins Sunday at the official restart in Willow, more than 25 miles north this year from race headquarters in Wasilla because of icy conditions.



Adrian McPherson throws during a brief practice for the Indiana Firebirds in Orlando, Fla., Friday. With his Florida State University career cut short by gambling allegations, McPherson is quarterbacking a wireless team in the Arena Football League. The Firebirds played the Orlando Predators Saturday.

Former FSU quarterback returns in Arena League

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Adrian McPherson should be spending this spring practicing for his senior season at Florida State, or even weighing a decision whether to be among the early entries for the NFL draft.

But with his college career cut short by gambling accusations, McPherson is lucky to be quarterbacking a wireless team in the Arena Football League.

It's a step down, and he knows it. "When you're growing up and playing football, your dream is not to play in the Arena League," McPherson said Friday, a day before his 0-4 Indiana Firebirds played the Orlando Predators. It will be his first game in Florida since being kicked off the Florida State team in 2002.

McPherson's past should be the classic story of a young man making bad decisions, then gratefully humbly accepting a second chance after owning up to his mistakes.

The 20-year-old McPherson is halfway there. Given another opportunity to make good on his talents, he calls his life a "blessing" that prompted him to grow up. He also blamed himself for poor choices in friends.

McPherson has braces on his teeth and diamonds in his earlobes, but he has yet to come clean on the allegations that riled FSU and leadership.

"That's something that I let everybody make their own assumptions on," McPherson said.

McPherson pleaded no contest last July to gambling and theft charges, and was sentenced to a community service, 90 days on a county work detail and up to 30 months probation.

McPherson claims he's been persecuted by those reporting his troubles.

"A lot of people view different things about me that weren't true," said McPherson, who refused to answer a question posed by a newspaper reporter who covers his hometown of Bradenton. "I kept every article because I want to see them every day — it motivates me."

Despite the uproar McPherson created on the Tallahassee campus, his former coach and teammates wish him nothing but the best.

Said coach Bobby Bowden: "It wouldn't surprise me one bit for him to play so many years (in the AFL) and end up in (NFL) football. I think he has that kind of talent. I'll

be pulling for him." McPherson was one of Bowden's top recruits in 2001, when the superstar from Bradenton Southeast High School was the first player named Florida's "Mr. Football" and "Mr. Basketball" in the same season. In 18 games for the Seminoles, he passed for 1,125 yards and 14 touchdowns with just one interception.

"We are all supporting him here," said quarterback Chris Rix, whom McPherson beat out for the starting spot for four games in 2002. "He was a Seminole and I think most people around here still believe he's a Seminole."

Before McPherson joined the Firebirds six weeks ago, coach Steve Deberg had heard the stories but hadn't met the player. But any concern Indiana's management had passed after Deberg researched McPherson's past and then sat down with his parents.

"He's got in some trouble, but he was only 19-years-old ... and was learning to be an adult," said Deberg, a longtime NFL quarterback in his first year of coaching.

McPherson saw his first AFL action on Feb. 24, ending a 15-month layoff. He's shown talent, completing 57 percent of his passes for six scores and 408 yards, with three rushing touchdowns.

But the quarterback has also shown inexperience. In his first start last week, he threw the ball into the stands following a late go-ahead touchdown. The unsportsmanlike conduct penalty led to a failed two-point conversion, and the Firebirds lost 49-46.

DeBerg raves about the 6-foot-3, 185-pound quarterback's arm strength and accuracy, running ability and vision. He even declared him an NFL talent. And the coach should know, having played 17 seasons in the league.

"I would expect he'd probably play this one year, then probably move on," DeBerg said.

McPherson is signed with Indiana only through this season, said spokesman Mike McCaffrey.

McPherson isn't talking about his future, only discussing his focus on beating Orlando in front of 100 friends and family members making the two-hour drive from Bradenton.

"Everything happens for a reason," McPherson said. "This organization gave me a second chance to play football, and I'm going to help them be the best team we can."

Retiree from Michigan takes on the challenge

By Mary Pemberton Associated Press writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Jim Warren probably could not have imagined how his life would change the day his wife spotted a musher driving a truck down a Michigan road, the dogs peeking out from the dog box in the back.

"She said, 'We need one of those and we can take our dogs with us,'" Warren said.

The only problem was Jim and Jennifer Warren had just one dog, a Golden retriever.

A lot has changed in the last decade. Jim Warren says dog mushing has become "the family obsession." He and Jennifer now have about 40 sled dogs.

At age 59, the Linwood, Mich., man is the oldest rookie in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, set to start Saturday from downtown Anchorage.

"One of the things these guys tell me is I don't have this retirement thing down," Warren said earlier this week, sitting across from his son at a home where they're staying in Wasilla, close to Iditarod race headquarters.

When asked what his friends think, Chris answers for his father. "They think he's nuts," he said.

Warren can sympathize with the Iditarod nonbelievers. "Most people probably have better sense at my age," he said.

Jim Warren and his son drove approximately 4,000 miles over



Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race rookie Jim Warren, 59, right, from Linwood, Mich., gets a lick from one of his lead dogs, Utah, far right, as his son, Chris, holds Brutus, Warren's other lead dog in Wasilla, Alaska, Feb. 27. Warren will be the oldest rookie among the 87 mushers running in the 1,100-mile sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska, starting Saturday.

one sled to Alaska last week. The road to the Iditarod has been a long but enjoyable one, for both the retired engineer and his family. 46-year-old Jennifer, 10-year-old son Chris and 14-year-old daughter Whitney.

Getting to the 1,100-mile race — the longest sled dog race in the world — accelerated when Warren retired three years ago. When he isn't running dogs on trails at the

family's Sled Dog Lodge near Lake Superior, he's busy managing the Warren Homestead Christmas Tree Farm.

Warren is serious about his Iditarod run. He budgeted \$25,000 just to run the this year's race and will need more. He's spent approximately \$50,000 to buy sled dogs. His fastest dog is a 38-pound female named Utah he bought for \$3,500 from three-time Iditarod champion Jeff King of Denali Park.

"She sure is a good leader," Warren said. "If you had 16 dogs

like that, you'd win the Iditarod." The mushing obsession began percolating several years ago when Jennifer was recovering after she broke her back in a skiing accident. During that time, Jim and Jennifer sled with dog chews and training runs of four to five miles. As the Iditarod drew nearer, his days got even longer. Eighteen-hour days were normal. He did overnight camping runs with the dogs to get them used to trail conditions. He also rest for a few hours in a sleeping bag on the ground and then hop back on the sled.

Warren trained five days a week and did dog chores the other two. Warren said there's one section of the trail that is making him a little nervous — the Dabzell Gorge where teams descend 1,500 feet to 2,000 feet, usually at breakneck speed.

"We don't have places to train for that in Michigan," he said. "It is going to be a white knuckle drive down the Dabzell Gorge."

O'Meara shares lead after three rounds; Woods trails by six strokes

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Mark O'Meara upstaged friend Tiger Woods on Saturday, shooting a 4-under-par 68 to share the third-round lead of the Dubai Desert Classic with Paul McGinley.

McGinley, who held a one-stroke lead after two rounds, shot a 3-under 68.

England's Brian Davis had a 69 and was three strokes off the lead. Countryman Simon Dyson (70) and Paul Casey (70) and first-round leader Bradley Dregge (72) were five back.

Woods shot a 69 and trails the leaders by six strokes. "Anyone on that board over there can definitely do it tomorrow," said Woods, who would pocket \$333,330 with a victory — about 1/10th of his \$3 million appearance fee.

Woods racked up four birdies. "I hit so many good putts today," he said. "I just have got to hit them a little firmer. They (greens) are not putting that fast. Putts against the grain are pretty slow."

Despite three days of morning deluges because of fog, the entire field finished the third round.

O'Meara, who has not won an official tour event since the British Open in 1998, is prospering with his new "saw-like" putting grip. He shot five birdies, including three straight in a stretch on the back nine when he briefly took the lead.

But he missed a mako putt on the 18th. "I think the chain saw ran out of gas," O'Meara said.

O'Meara promised not to be looking over his shoulder at Woods on Sunday. "He's going to have to shoot a pretty good score," O'Meara said.

"But look. I'm 200th in the world ranking and he's No. 1. I don't think Tiger Woods is too scared of me." Ernie Els shot an even-par 72 and was tied for 15th.

Teske cuts Davies' lead on wet day at Concord

SYDNEY, Australia — Rachel Teske shot a 1-under 71 in wet conditions Saturday, cutting Laura Davies' lead to two strokes after the third round of the Women's Australian Open.

Teske, from Australia, was one of only three players to break par. She moved into second place with a 1-under total of 215.

England's Davies had a four-stroke lead after two rounds, but a 5-over 77 in a rain-interrupted third round left her at 3 under. Sophie Sandolo of Italy also had a 77 and was in third place at 217,

one stroke ahead of Germany's Martina Eberl and Australia's Nadina Taylor.

Parry has one-shot lead at Doral in Ford Championship

MIAMI — Craig Parry nearly missed his tee time for the opening round of the Ford Championship at Doral. He best missed much sleep.

Parry shot a 5-under 67 in the third round Saturday, moving to 13-under 203 and taking a one-shot lead over Gene Sauters (64) and Scott Verplank (65).

Phil Mickelson, Joe Durant, Chris DiMarco and three others were two strokes back at 111 under. The tightly grouped field — 18 players within five shots of the lead — should make for an exciting final round on Donald's beefed-up Blue Monster course. "Anyone within eight shots can win," Parry said.

Marsh takes the lead at Maui-Cat Classic

HUIXQUILUCAN, Mexico — Graham Marsh of Australia shot a 6-under 66 Saturday to take a one-stroke lead after two rounds of the MasterCard Classic.

The 50-year-old Marsh had five birdies on the front nine and two birdies and a bogey on the back to move to 8-under 136, one stroke ahead of Iluh Baiocchi of South Africa.

"I stayed out of trouble," Marsh said. "With this golf course, if you stray it's not a bogey, it's a double or triple bogey."

Baiocchi birdied the 18th to finish with a 66. "It was a case of making some good putts and not wasting opportunities," he said. "I was hitting all the fairways and

greens and wasn't struggling." Baiocchi said he would have to perform well Sunday to overtake Marsh.

Jay Sigel had seven birdies, but made double bogey 14th and finished at 3-under 69. He was two strokes behind the leader at 6 under.

Tom Kite (68) and Jim Ahern (70) were tied for fourth at 140, and Hale Irwin was another stroke back after a 71.

The Bosque Real Country Club course, which is 8,100 feet above sea level, is playing about 200 yards longer than last year, and the pros say it is playing tougher.

First-round leader Andy Bean had a double bogey and two bogeys Saturday, following an opening 67 with a 2-over 74. Only 15 of 78 players beat par in the second round, compared to 32 last year.

SPORTS

Rivalry between Flyers, Senators heats up with penalty record game

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The next time the Philadelphia Flyers and Ottawa Senators meet, perhaps the game should be staged in a boxing ring, not on the ice.

The bad blood between the rivals escalated into a fight-filled game Friday night as the teams combined for an NHL-record 419 penalty minutes. The old record was 406 set by the Minnesota North Stars and Boston Bruins in 1981.

Five separate brawls broke out in the final two minutes and a total of 16 players were ejected. And, the way the Flyers beat the Senators 5-3 to remain tied for first place in the Eastern Conference.

"It was exciting for hockey and for our fans," Flyers goaltender Robert Esche said. "The teams meet again in Philadelphia on April 2.

The Flyers, eliminated from the playoffs by Ottawa the last two seasons, wanted retribution because Senators forward Martin Havlat hit Mark Recchi in the face with his stick last week. Havlat played his first game after being suspended two games by the NHL, but wasn't involved in any of the fights because Senators coach Jacques Martin let him sit in the penalty box to serve a penalty.

With 4:35 left, Flyers enforcer Donald Brashear began the fighting by going after Senators enforcer Rob Ray. After their fight ended, the rest of the players on the ice

"It was exciting for hockey and for our fans."

— Robert Esche, Flyers goaltender

went after each other, including the goalies as Ottawa's Patrick Lalime skated from his crease to get at Esche.

Once all the debris was cleared and calm restored, the fighting resumed as Senators' forward Chris Neil went after Radovan Somik, who isn't much of a fighter.

Flyers center Michal Handzus called it a "chicken move."

Again, all the players, except the new goalies, went at it. When play resumed, more fights broke out as Handzus, also not a fighter, went at Mike Fisher.

"When it's time to go, it's time to go," Handzus said.

The teams actually played 24 seconds before the next round of fights broke out. Mild-mannered Flyers John LeClair and Recchi dropped their gloves this time, with Recchi getting good shots on Bryan Smolinski.



Ottawa Senators goalie Patrick Lalime (40) and Philadelphia Flyers goalie Robert Esche join in the fight-filled final 1:45 of the third period Friday in Philadelphia.

"My teammates didn't forget what happened," Recchi said. "There was a lot of emotion."

The fighting concluded with Philadelphia's Patrick Sharp going against Jason Spezza. In all, 20 players got fighting penalties and only five players remained on the benches when the game ended.

"I don't know what they were trying to do," Senators defenseman Todd Simpson said.

"It was pretty stupid. I thought we did a great job standing up for each other. That's what they wanted and we stood up to them."

One by one, Flyers players skated off the ice to cheers and were greeted by high-fives in the hallway by teammates already ejected from the game. Philadelphia general manager Bob Clarke sought Martin after the game, but team officials stopped him from getting inside the Senators' locker room.

Asked why he started the fighting, Brashear said, "Why wouldn't I? Did you see the last game?"

The 409 penalty minutes in the third period set an NHL record, breaking the mark of 372 by the Flyers and Los Angeles Kings in 1979. The Flyers totaled 213 penalty minutes and Ottawa had 206.

"We knew we had to fight back. We had to stand up for each other," Fisher said.

New rules get first real test Sunday in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — Mark Martin doesn't expect much to change Sunday when NASCAR's new softer tires and rear spoiler combination gets its first real test at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

"My read on it is the guys that had it going last year are just making the adjustments that they need to and still have the same kind of advantages that they had last year," Martin said Saturday as his team prepared his Roush Racing Ford for the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400.

Over the winter, NASCAR shaved three-quarters of an inch off the rear spoilers, decreasing downforce, and asked Goodyear to bring a softer tire to most of the tracks this year.

The idea was to promote more passing and, therefore, more excitement for the fans, particularly at the intermediate tracks like the 1.5-mile Vegas oval.

Many races at the 1.5- and 2-mile ovals had become little more than professional.

Turbulent air made it difficult to pass and the hard tire compounds allowed teams to use two-tire and no-tire pit stop strategies or longer fuel runs to gain track position.

The new combination was not in use in the Daytona 500, which has different aerodynamic rules because of the engine restrictions used at NASCAR's biggest tracks.

The second race of the season was on Rockingham's 1.017-mile oval, where aerodynamics don't mean as much and an abrasive track surface has always made

UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400
TV: Fox, 12:30 p.m.

tires wear in a hurry.

So, is it a whole new ballgame at the tracks like Vegas, at which more than a third of the NASCAR Nextel Cup schedule is run?

"There is an opportunity for someone that wasn't on their game to emerge based on the changes — just accidentally," said Martin, who won the Inaugural Cup race here in 1998.

"But, for the most part, it was be the same guys running up front."

If that's the case, look for Martin or one of the other Roush cars to wind up in Victory Lane.

Roush Fords have won four of the six races here, including last March, when Matt Kenseth picked up his one victory on the way to the Cup championship.

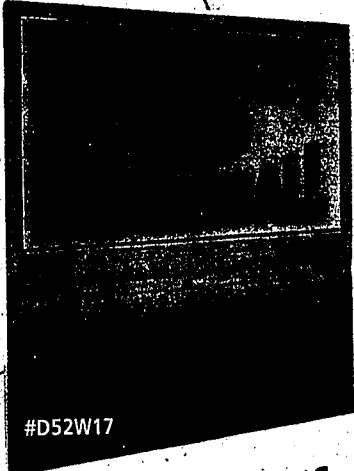
The other wins by Jack Roush-owned cars were by Jeff Burton in 1999 and 2000.

Burton, whose struggles of the past few seasons have continued into 2004, will start 28th, right behind Martin, while teammates Kurt Busch and Greg Biffle put themselves in much better position, qualifying second and ninth, respectively.

Busch, who will race 18-year-old brother Kyle in a Cup race for the first time, will start alongside 23-year-old Kahne, who won his first Cup pole in only his third race in NASCAR's top stock car series.

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SWAC

Continued from C1

out despite only giving up one hit through three innings.

The Eagles again played small ball in a fifth-inning rally, scoring five more runs for the 9-0 final. Four of the five runs were scored by players that were either walked or hit by a pitch. Catroni put the game away with a two-out triple over the leftfielder's head to drive in the final two runs. He finished 2-for-3 and a run scored.

DJ Edwards also went 2-for-3 for CSI. Edwards also had an RBI and a run scored.

The Golden Eagles put together a three-run third inning to take a 4-2 lead.

Aakhus hit a single, then advanced to third base on a throwing error by the Spartan pitcher as two runs scored. Theodore then hit a double to drive in Aakhus for the 4-2 lead.

The Spartans scored each of their runs on fielder's choice plays.

The Golden Eagles next play at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Southern Idaho 8, Colorado Northwestern 2

Zach Aakhus and Theodore Alexander each drove in a pair of runs in Game 2 to cement the four-game sweep for the Golden Eagles.

Game 1
Southern Idaho 9, Colorado Northwestern 0
CSI 201-888-1143
201-550-1444
Hwy -20, Eric Canyon, SD, CO, 80109-1214
Franklin, Wyo. Civic
Batches - CHCC Zac Hays (1), John Donald (1), Frank Hays (1) and John Hays (1)
Pitcher - CHCC Zac Hays (1), John Donald (1), Frank Hays (1) and John Hays (1)
Ferry - CHCC Zac Hays (1), John Donald (1), Frank Hays (1) and John Hays (1)
Akers - Brian 12 P 3 H, 3 R, 4 ER, 1 BB, 1 SO, 150 Feet, 11 IP, 2 H, 2 ER, 1 BB, 1 SO, 100-0-0
ER: 280-550

Chris Tolo earned his first win of the season by striking out two batters and giving up only two earned runs through three innings of work.

Andrew Shive and Arin Formanek combined to pitch four innings of scoreless ball to finish the game.

Game 2
Southern Idaho 8, Colorado Northwestern 2
CSI 201-888-1143
201-550-1444
Hwy -20, Eric Canyon, SD, CO, 80109-1214
Franklin, Wyo. Civic
Batches - CHCC Ryan O'Brien (1), Brandon Brubaker (1) and Don Hays (1)
Pitcher - CHCC Ryan O'Brien (1), Brandon Brubaker (1) and Don Hays (1)
Ferry - CHCC Ryan O'Brien (1), Brandon Brubaker (1) and Don Hays (1)
Akers - Brian 12 P 3 H, 3 R, 4 ER, 1 BB, 1 SO, 150 Feet, 11 IP, 2 H, 2 ER, 1 BB, 1 SO, 100-0-0
ER: 280-550

Stanford

Childrens had 15 points, and Lottich, against Washington State, had just two on 1-of-11 shooting.

Stanford was 5-of-24 from 3-point range, and seemed rattled by a record crowd of 10,086 at Bank of America Arena. No team has com-

pleted an unbeaten season since Indiana in 1976.

Stanford's 26-game winning streak was the longest in the Pac-10 since Oregon State won 26 straight in 1980-81.

No team has won all 18 games since the league expanded its schedule in 1973.

Nominations taken: Do you know a young person excelling in business?

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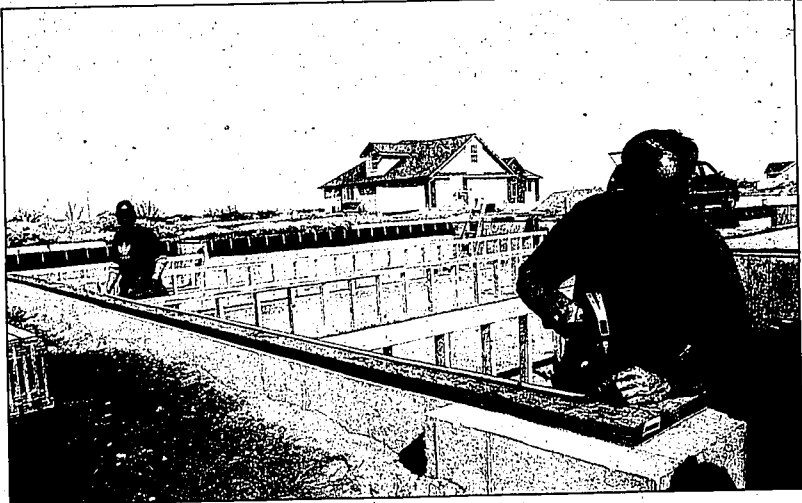
Business Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins 733-0931, Ext. 2428

The Times-News

Sunday, March 7, 2004

Section D

Slowdown hits — but for how long?



Bart, right, and Nick Starr of Bart Starr Construction take measurements while working on a house on Joshua Way in Twin Falls Wednesday.

Official predicts renewal of construction activity this spring

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The city's hot construction market might have cooled during this winter.

Or it might simply be in hibernation.

Building official Marianne Barker predicts that the latter case is true and expects the city building department to see plenty of permit applicants this spring.

"We've had an awful cold winter, and I think we're just going to get slammed pretty soon," Barker said last week.

With fewer home starts and less commercial activity, Twin Falls saw February construction values fall 39 percent from a year earlier. The city last month issued permits for projects totaling an estimated \$2.03 million for combined construction types. That's \$1.81 million less than in February 2003.

In all of 2003, Twin Falls' construction values for combined types posted a stunning 43 percent year-over-year increase. Year-to-date 2004 values have declined 15 percent from the first two months of 2003.

There are plenty of pages left on the 2004 calendar, of course. But the city's monthly reports of building activity give economy watchers a good indication of local vigor. And an indication of what's to come in the market for construction labor.

Twin Falls issued just 21 permits for new single-family homes inside the city limits last month, averaging \$97,100 each in estimated value. That total is significantly less than the 38 permits for new single-family homes a year ago, but it's identical to the 21 such permits in

February 2002 and in line with recent history.

That history? City records show that during the past decade, the city issued an average of 17 new-home permits during each February.

Last month's average new-home value was a little higher than recent annual averages. The average value of new single-family homes edged down from \$96,099 in all of 2002 to \$95,058 in full-year 2003.

Each month's permit list also provides a window into local business investment. Highlights from February follow.

Stores and offices

On former farmland at the northwest corner of Falls Avenue East and Locust Street South, a business park with a mix of office and retail space is taking shape.

Work began there last fall on a 12,000-square-foot building in which Prudential Idaho Homes & Properties will be the anchor tenant. Owner Manaus LLC hopes to attract other tenants tied to home construction such as finance and title companies.

Now work is starting immediately on a couple of neighbors to that building.

Wolverton Development & Construction in February received permits for the shells of two mixed-use buildings — a 9,098-square-foot one near the center of the development, and an 8,703-square-foot one on the Falls Avenue East side.

Owner Gary Wolverton hopes to have the two ready to lease in late spring. He has tenants lined up for much of the space but declined to name them.

Wolverton said the company is

The February report

Estimated values for construction that received permits in February from Twin Falls city:

Type	Feb. '04	Feb. '03	Feb. '02
New single-family homes	\$2,040,776	\$3,704,628	\$2,282,467
New multifamily units	0	0	0
New commercial projects	\$603,149	\$191,951	\$186,720
Commercial alterations/additions	\$75,720	\$658,148	\$1,247,186
Total (including such things as mobile homes, residential alterations/additions and signs)	\$2,826,306	\$4,641,048	\$3,927,705

Source: City building department



Here's how Twin Falls' total construction values in the past five months stacked up against the same months a year earlier:

Feb. '04	▼ down 39 percent
Jan. '04	▲ up 21 percent
Dec. '03	▲ up 188 percent
Nov. '03	▼ down 50 percent
Oct. '03	▲ up 87 percent

talking to clients such as lending institutions, mortgage companies, cellular service providers and other businesses that want the high visibility of a traffic corridor but the square footage of a larger office.

The city building department estimated construction values for the shells at \$286,462 and \$316,667. That doesn't include interior improvements that will suit individual spaces to tenants. Wolverton declined to say how much his company is investing in the project overall.

Wolverton Development also plans retail-and-office buildings on two more sites in the development at Falls and Locust — another at the center and one on the west end — to be ready for tenants by late summer.

Wolverton expects one of those to house a day spa. "It should be a really nice project," he said.

Elsewhere in town

Other noteworthy commercial permits in February:

• East Glass' remodeling for sales and manufacturing operation at 1820 Kimberly Road, Suite 200 — a \$200,000 project.

• Dr. Richard Roberts' \$19,800 remodeling project to create two examination rooms at his 256 Martin St. dental office.

• Great Trucks' \$19,000 remodeling to change the use of a building at 703 Washington St. N. to a retail store.

Way to save: IRAs celebrate 30th birthday

By Ellison A.R. Powell
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Happy 30th birthday to the Individual Retirement Account.

Created by Congress in 1974, the IRA has become a useful tool for workers to save for retirement, especially those who don't have a company-sponsored plan.

Americans had an estimated \$2.33 trillion in IRA accounts at the end of 2002, according to the most recent figures from the Investment Company Institute trade group in Washington, D.C.

That represented about one-fifth of total retirement savings of \$10.15 trillion.

Although attention in recent years has focused on other savings vehicles such as the company-

sponsored 401(k) retirement plans, there's still a place in many families' savings strategy for the traditional IRA and its younger cousin, the Roth IRA.

"IRA contributions, because of compounding over time, can add up to significant dollars to help ensure a comfortable retirement," said Anthony Luciano, vice president of retirement products at Fidelity Investments in Boston.

Technically, anybody can open an IRA. But workers who are covered by employer-sponsored retirement plans are not able to take a tax deduction for their annual contribution.

A worker who opens a traditional IRA can put up to \$3,000 into the account this year; those 50 and older can invest an additional \$500. Next year, the limit will rise

to \$4,000, with a \$500 catch-up provision for older workers.

Workers who are not eligible for company-sponsored retirement plans — about 40 percent of the workforce — get a double tax benefit. They get the tax deduction for their contribution, and earnings aren't taxed until the money is withdrawn for retirement starting at age 59-1/2.

While workers who have company plans can't deduct their annual IRA contributions, the money still grows tax-deferred until retirement.

Roth IRAs — which were created in 1997 and named for William V. Roth Jr., the late Republican senator — work a bit differently. They're funded with after-tax money, which means there's no deduction, but grow tax-free for-

ever. And there are income limits for opening Roths — \$150,000 for couples and \$95,000 for individuals.

The fact that Roths provide lifelong tax protection has made them increasingly popular, not only as savings accounts for workers with no company plans but also for workers who want to supplement company offerings, Fidelity's Luciano said.

"We see folks who contribute to their 401(k) up to the company's matching contribution, then use an IRA for other money because there are more investment options," he said. "Or they max their 401(k) and also fund an IRA."

Fidelity has a calculator on its Web site at www.fidelity.com to

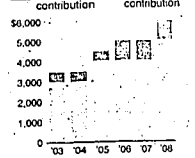
Please see IRA, Page D2

IRA limits

The maximum amount you can contribute to an IRA goes up next year to \$4,000. If you're over 50, an additional \$500 is allowed as a catch-up provision for older workers.

IRA and Roth IRA contribution limits

Maximum contribution Catch-up contribution



NOTE: IRAs can be funded for 2003 with April 15, 2004.

SOURCE: Ed Scott's IRA Advisor AP

BizFact

Hispanics online

Hispanics spend more time on the Internet than any other group does. Average minutes spent, per month:

Spanish language sites: 174

English language sites: 110

Both English, Spanish sites: 109

All U.S. users: 92

Source: Pew Internet Project

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Seminar focuses on money management

TWIN FALLS — A "Successful Money Management Seminar" will be held from 6 to 8:20 p.m. April 6 in Room 113 of the Shields Building at the College of Southern Idaho.

Students will be taught to define their financial goals and chart a course to achieve them through easy-to-follow instruction and non-technical language, organizers said. Students will learn to maximize their income, get more from their investments and protect their money from income taxes and inflation. Information offered in the course will be noncommercial, organizers said.

Instructors Brian Robinson and G. Clay Esplin are licensed in investment securities and insurance and have years of experience presenting this seminar.

Cost is \$59; each student may bring a guest free of charge.

For information or to register, call 732-6290 or 732-6288.

Mini-Cassia chamber sets customer service event

BURLEY — The Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce will present an "Excellence in Customer Service" seminar from 8 a.m. to noon March 17 at the Century Cinemas, 464 E. Fifth N. St. in Burley.

The seminar will provide business- and their employees tools to deliver top-notch service to their customers, organizers said.

Registration fees include seminar materials, a continental breakfast and refreshments. The cost for chamber members is \$10 per person, or \$5 each for two or more from the same business; non-members' cost is \$25 each, or \$20 each for three or more participants. Deadline to register is Friday.

Make checks payable to the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce and mail to the chamber at P.O. Box 610, Heyburn, ID 83336. For information, call 679-4793.

The event is supported by the Burley Area Merchants Association, Organization of Rupter Businesses and the Mini-Cassia Chamber Ambassadors.

Idaho nursing board sees three vacancies

BOISE — Dan Bauer, chairman of the Idaho Board of Nursing, announced three vacancies to be filled on the board.

They are to be filled by:

• A person licensed in Idaho to practice practical nursing.

• A person licensed in Idaho to practice professional or registered nursing who is educated at the associate degree or diploma level.

• A person licensed in Idaho at the bachelor's, master's or doctorate level.

Interested groups or individuals should submit nominations directly to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0057.

Study favors putting CEO alone at the top.

Presidents have vice presidents, generals have chiefs of staff and university presidents have provosts. But when it comes to corporations, a new study says the age-old tradition of a second-in-command appears to be a bad idea.

Companies where a chief operating officer manages internal affairs and a chief executive officer is devoted to external matters and strategy outperform companies where a CEO is alone at the top, researchers found.

It's possible that "the CEO/COO duo is an inferior arrangement, or that it is a sign of an inferior CEO," wrote Donald C. Hambrick, professor of management at Penn State University, and Albert A. Cannella Jr., associate professor of business at Texas A&M University.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

Buhl restaurant reopens under new management

BUILH — The Taco Maker/Jake's Restaurant in Buhl, reopened under new ownership. The business, east of Buhl on U.S. Highway 30, had been closed for several months.

New owners Jim Ellis and Bryson Swasey held a grand opening last weekend.

Ellis has over 18 years of experience in the restaurant business. The restaurant will be run by Ellis and his wife, Peggy, who have moved their family to Buhl from Ogden, Utah.

"We're anxious to become part of the community," Ellis said. "We're very community oriented so we want to do as much as we can and sponsor as many events as we can. Anyone with any ideas please feel free to bring them up."

Customers can choose from a variety of Taco Maker Mexican menu items or Jake's hamburgers, and fries. A new addition to the business is Jake's Over the Top milkshakes in over 30 flavors.

The restaurant will employ about eight full-time and 12 part-time workers. Hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The restaurant is closed Sundays.

The business can be reached at 543-9169.

Tuxedo rental service honors Sweetheart Manor

BURLEY — Rae Smith and Sweetheart Manor recently received the Elite Retailer of the Year award from Jim's Formal Wear. Jim's is a formal wear distribution network with more than 4,000 independent retailers. They provide tuxedo rental services for weddings, prom and black tie events. The award is based on rental volume, order accuracy and customer service.

Sweetheart Manor has been renting tuxedos from Jim's since 1998.

T.F. salon owner opens permanent cosmetics studio

TWIN FALLS — Robin Johnson, owner of New Image Salon, opened a permanent cosmetics studio in her salon.

Johnson opened the New Image Salon in October 2002 and added the permanent cosmetics studio in August. She has been in the beauty industry for 12 years. She graduated from the American Institute of Intradermal Cosmetics in Dallas in June.

Johnson can be reached at the New Image Salon, 834 Falls Ave., Suite 130; phone 735-0606 or 280-3680.

Firm ranks Zions Bank as having top Web site

TWIN FALLS — An Internet site study released in February by financial services consulting firm Speer & Associates Inc. ranks the Zions Bank Web site (www.zionsbank.com) as the top bank Internet site among regional banks with assets of \$15 billion to \$25 billion. The consulting firm's Internet Site Assessment Study is conducted twice a year, tracking the business development and transaction capabilities of retail Internet offerings by financial institutions in the Western hemisphere. Zions said. Speer's February study ranks 79 financial services companies — 50 from North America and 29 from Latin America. In the overall ranking, Zions ranked seventh just after multi-regional and Canadian institutions.

In the past year, Zions' Web site has added a new bank application interface and such transactional capabilities as online check image views and automated clearing-house transfers to external institutions. Also, Zions Bank customers who enroll in Zions Internet Banking get instant access to account information, transfer funds, pay bills, schedule bill payments, open an online safe deposit box and receive e-mail notifications regarding specific account information.

All visitors to the Zions Web site can use free financial tools and calculators, get insurance quotes and apply for insurance policies, consumer loans and credit cards. Mortgage rate monitoring, mort-

gage loan tracking and online stock trading are also available.

Magazine ranks Subway as top franchise opportunity

TWIN FALLS — The Subway restaurant chain was named the No. 1 franchise opportunity for 2004 by Entrepreneur Magazine in its 25th annual Franchise 500 rankings. This is the 12th time in 16 years that the sandwich chain has received that honor.

The rankings consider factors including financial strength and stability, growth rate, size of the system, and start-up costs.

April V. Pennington of Entrepreneur Magazine said: "There's good reason for Subway's dominance. Its enterprising approach made Subway explode onto the franchising scene ... Subway has risen to prominent place as it capitalizes on society's appetite for healthy dining and catapulted it ahead. ... although Subway has long touted itself as the 'fresh alternative' to greasy fast food, the successful Jared Fogel campaign took Subway's low-fat offerings and brought them to consumers' attention."

Ranked No. 219 in Entrepreneur's first Franchise 500 ranking 25 years ago with only 134 locations in operation, the Subway chain has witnessed the pool of franchisees grow quickly. Subway said it receives about 130,000 requests for franchise information per year, with about 25 percent eventually applying to purchase a franchise.

CAREER MOVES

Building operators

TWIN FALLS — Bill Southwick and Amir Bajraktarevic of the Twin Falls School District recently completed their Level 2 Building Operator certification.

The certification requires five days of intensive study on building systems and energy conservation, heating and cooling systems, air systems, controls and lighting. It is offered by the Northwest Building Operators Association.

The program instructs building operators in up-to-date facilities management and prepares them for changing needs in the profession. Southwick and Bajraktarevic will be able to help the Twin Falls district reduce utility bills; increase facility safety; comfort and air quality; and assist with facility assessments and recommendations, the association said.

Hospital workers

GOODING — Gooding County Memorial Hospital welcomed three new employees:

• Michael Doratan started in the radiology department as an ultrasound technologist. He graduated from New Bridge College in Santa Ana, Calif., in June 2003 and recently moved to the Gooding area.

• Shelleana Chandler came to the hospital's pharmacy

department as a pharmacy technician with nine years of experience. She studied at the University of Texas at San Antonio and recently moved back to the area to be near her family.

• Georgeann Jones started in the nursing department as a ward secretary. She has three years of experience as a ward secretary and seven years' experience as a CNA. While working at the hospital she is continuing her education toward a nursing license.

Red Brady

TWIN FALLS — Red Brady, sales manager for AmeriPride Linen and Apparel in Twin Falls, won the company's Golden Eagle Award for 2003. In addition, he was the Sales Manager of the Year for the northern California group for AmeriPride.

Brady and his wife will travel to New York City for five days to receive his award.

AmeriPride provides uniform and linen rental and laundry for thousands of businesses in southern Idaho.

The company has had a key plant in Twin Falls for over 100 years and has depots in Boise, Sun Valley, Pocatello and Elko, Nev.

CONTRIBUTIONS

■ The Glanbia Charity Challenge will celebrate its 11th golf outing Aug. 9. Glanbia Foods of Twin Falls sponsors the event, and donations to various charities over the past 10 years totaled nearly \$500,000. This year, Glanbia is seeking charity applications for the golf money.

To expand access to funds from the golf tournament, Glanbia is asking charities to submit written letters outlining the organization, how much money is needed, how the money will be used, and the area the charity covers.

Mail or deliver the letter to: Glanbia Foods Inc., Attn: Lauren Vyle, 1373 Filmore St., Twin Falls, ID 83401. For questions, call Yohe at 733-7555, ext. 12. The deadline for application letters is March 22.

■ Bon-Macy's presented a check for \$35,164.48 to the Southern Idaho Chapter of Make-A-Wish Foundation to help grant wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Kim Haskell, regional vice president, presented the check to Marcia Kanakas, executive director of the Southern Idaho Make-A-Wish Foundation, Feb. 27.

The money was raised through Bon-Macy's holiday change reward program: when a customer enrolled in the program with his or her Bon-Macy's account, \$10 of the \$25 activation fee was designated for the local Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Department Stores Inc., is based in Seattle and operates 48 stores in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

■ Michael's Arts and Crafts Store donated six lap blankets to Phillis Wright, co-director of Valley House.

Michael's said members of the community donated crocheted squares for its Keep America Warm program. Sharon McKenna, event coordinator, with the help of Vera Carrell, Helen Slater, Pat Walker and Karen Kees, had the squares together. Space for the sewing party and refreshments were provided by Michael's store manager Jim Buckley.

Study: Chronic unemployment is worst since '83

Older people join ranks of the jobless

Knight Ridder News Service

CHICAGO — Long-term joblessness is the worst it's been in this country for more than 20 years.

According to a new study by the Economic Policy Institute, a Washington, D.C., think tank, 22.1 percent of all unemployed workers were out of work for six months or more in 2003 — the worst annual rate since 1983.

And a growing number of those long-term job seekers were people with lots of experience and plenty of education, raising more questions about the loss of highly paid work during the nation's persistent "jobless recovery."

"What this shows," said EPI economist Sylvia Allegretto, "is not that young, uneducated people are doing better. It's that older, better educated people are joining them (among the long-term unemployed)."

Chronic joblessness has been particularly painful since December, when Congress allowed the federal extension of state unemployment benefits to expire.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal think tank in Washington, D.C., estimates that 760,000 have lost their benefits nationally since the federal program ended in Illinois alone. 17,679 residents exhausted their 26 weeks of regular state benefits in January and did not qualify for

another 13 weeks of aid.

A lack of education remains the quickest way to join the ranks of the unemployed. People with a high school degree or less make up almost two-thirds of the nation's jobless and more than half of the long-term unemployed.

But since the economy began to sour in 2000, the number of older, college-educated people among the long-term unemployed has exploded. The EPI study shows that the number of people with a college degree who have been out of work for at least six months grew 299 percent to 369,145 people by the end of 2003. The number of people 45 and older in the same situation grew 217.6 percent to 685,200.

The study also shows that college graduates now make up a disproportionate share of the long-term unemployed. While grads comprised 15.3 percent of the unemployed, they represented 19.1 percent of the long-term unemployed. Why this is happening remains a question, economists said. Outsourcing of white-collar jobs to places like India is probably one explanation. More important is that companies are using new technology to boost productivity, eliminating white-collar work in greater numbers, Allegretto said.

It's also true that the jobs being created in today's economy aren't as desirable as in the past. Temporary agencies, for instance, have done a lot of the hiring over the past year. But those jobs aren't necessarily a good fit for someone used to a good salary and benefits.

Another EPI study of job quality shows that in 48 of 50 states, jobs in higher-paying industries are shrinking while jobs in lower-paying industries are growing. From the end of 2001 to the end of 2003, the industries losing jobs paid wages of \$16.92 on average, while the industries gaining jobs paid an average wage of \$14.65.

In February, the Pew Hispanic Center released another surprising finding. According to the Labor Department's Current Population Survey, Hispanics grabbed 64 percent of the new jobs created during 2003. One reason is that they didn't pay as well. The Pew report showed that Hispanics — many of them new immigrants to the U.S. — are attracted to sites with low interest rates pumped up homebuilding. That helped lower the unemployment rate among Hispanics, but also put downward pressure on their wages.

Cristal Narusis, of suburban Crystal Lake, Ill., knows how hard it is to find a white-collar job these days. Three months ago he was a technical support worker for an aerospace company in Rockford, Ill. But after surviving several rounds of layoffs, he eventually lost his job.

Since then, the 46-year-old has done some part-time computer work. He's even raised cash videotaping weddings. But no real prospects and no health insurance.

"I was able to keep up with Cobra for six or seven months," he said. "Then I had to let it go."

Narusis was lucky in one respect. Because he worked for an aero-

space company, he has received 39 additional weeks of federal jobless benefits under a program that helps industries adversely affected by the Sept. 11 terror attacks. In January, he was able to receive a new benefit and is eligible to receive another 26 weeks of state benefits.

Unfortunately, those new checks are \$400 a month less than he had been getting. And his wife doesn't work. Consequently, he has applied for jobs at places such as Menards and Home Depot without any success.

"This is ridiculous," Narusis said. "I'm not the type of individual you would think would take this long to find a job. You sometimes wonder if it's your age. Or on the application, they ask for your past salary. You're in a Catch-22. They don't want to hire you because they're afraid you're going to find a regular job and quit."

Employees like Narusis aren't likely to get much help from the federal government. A Senate measure to restart the federal unemployment extension program was attached to a gun liability bill. But last week it fell two votes short of the 60 needed to pass, despite support from 12 Republicans from high-unemployment states.

It's also unclear how much help to expect from the economy. Like most economists, Mark Zandi, chief economist of ZandEconomy.com, is hopeful that increased production and robust corporate earnings will soon lead to meaningful hiring. But as merger activity picks up around the country, he now has a fresh worry.

"It would be easier to promote (such an account) because it could be advertised everywhere," said Salsburg said. "That sparks participation across the income spectrum."

year in after-tax money. Earnings and withdrawals would be tax-free starting at age 58.

"It would be easier to promote (such an account) because it could be advertised everywhere," said Salsburg said. "That sparks participation across the income spectrum."

Consumer credit firm issues equity loan warning

The Associated Press

With Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan lecturing Congress on finances last week, the issue of home equity loans and heavy consumer debt took center stage although Greenspan said there's no reason to worry about personal debt levels just yet.

With that in mind, Cambridge Credit Counseling Corp. is warning homeowners to think twice before loading up on a home equity loan.

Many people like the attractive interest rate, figuring on consoli-

dating other, higher-cost debt. Yet that scenario goes awry for many borrowers, said Chris Vialle, Cambridge's chief operating officer.


"Consumers need to know that just because their monthly payments are lowered, does not mean they can continue spending feverishly," he said.

Cambridge suggests homeowners make a budget. And to look ahead a little, remember that housing values can decline and you could end up owing more on your house than it is worth.

And, before you borrow, shop for different rates.

Save money by clipping coupons in The Times-News

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IMPORTANCE OF COMPARABLES

QUESTION: I understand the most important task in selling a home is deciding on the right sales price. How do you come up with the best price?

ANSWER: This is not done by looking into a crystal ball or consulting with a guru. The most important factor is the price of comparable sales in your immediate area. These are sales that have already been completed or homes as nearly like yours as possible.

The sales should also be near in time, for 5-year-old sales have almost no meaning in today's volatile financial market. Also, the homes should be similar in style, size and condition as your property — the closer the better.



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IRA

Continued from D1

help people determine whether a traditional IRA or a Roth would be better for them.

Banks, savings banks, mutual fund companies and brokerages can help consumers set them up. And workers who didn't fund an account last year have until April 15 to make their 2003 contributions.

Ed Slott, an IRA specialist in Rockville Centre, N.Y., who wrote "The Retirement Savings Time Bomb," describes the Roth as "the greatest savings vehicle ever creat-

ed" and said it should be especially attractive to young people.

"If you get into the habit of saving and put a few thousand into a Roth every year, before you know it you'll have a few hundred thousand — all tax-free," Slott said.

Workers also can use IRAs to stash the balances from their company-sponsored plans when they change jobs. Financial institutions can help savers open these "rollover" IRA accounts in a way that they don't jeopardize the tax-deferred status of their savings.

Dallas Salsburg, chief executive

of the nonprofit Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington, D.C., said IRAs have not been as popular as they might be because some savers aren't put off by the income limits on participation and the complexity of the rules governing the accounts.

The Bush administration has proposed replacing the IRAs with a tax-sheltered account that has no income limits, but it is unclear if the plan will be approved by Congress. The Retirement Savings Account, as proposed, would allow a worker to set aside up to \$5,000 a

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New rules affect rendering industry

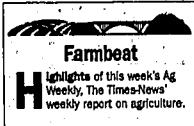
TWIN FALLS — Changes in meat-processing protocols and animal byproduct usage are trickling down to pool in the dirt of livestock pens.

New rules from the U.S. Department of Agriculture — following the December discovery of a Washington dairy cow infected with bovine spongiform encephalopathy — disallow the use of downer cattle for human consumption and have wrought heavy losses to the rendering industry.

The edict has resulted in more carcasses in need of disposal, higher carcass hauling fees and uncertainty as to the future needs of renderers.

If hauling charges — which have as much as doubled in the Magic Valley recently — become unfeasible for producers, or the rendering companies decrease carcass intake, the dairy industry, in particular, will be faced with finding alternative means of disposal.

Hauling cost is "going to be significantly more than it ever used to be," said Brandon Jones, part owner of Kolob Packing Company. "The cost of disposing them will increase; renderers can't market a lot of the products they used to."



Bill offers protection to grain producers

BOISE — Selling feed grain to livestock producers won't be as risky for grain producers if a bill introduced last week in the Idaho Legislature is adopted.

For the last 14 years, grain producers interpreted the state's lien law to say that if a grain producer sold feed to a livestock producer, the grain producer had a lien on the livestock, explained Dar Oberding, a lobbyist for the Idaho Grain Producers Association. A decision last August from a federal bankruptcy judge in Pocatello threw that interpretation out and left producers who sell feed to feedlots or dairies without any legal protection if the livestock producer declared bankruptcy.

House Bill 775 would provide feed grain producers with a security interest without usurping the lender's priority position. The bill allows for the creation of a form that will help feed-grain producers

evaluate a buyer's credit risk. Grain producers have long complained that they can't find out whether a dairy or cattle operation is in a financial position to pay a feed bill.

Pumpers prepare for possible curtailment

RUPERT — Although the April 1 is still weeks away, snow is melting and farmers are getting ready for planting season. But for those who farm the approximately 110,000 acres that could be left dry this season by the state's recently issued curtailment order, the question is what — if anything — they should plant.

About 1,200 wells operated by 750 entities could be shut down on April 1 unless ground-water users can secure 53,000 acre-feet of water for mitigation or 16,000 acre-feet of aquaculture-quality water that Rangen, Inc. can use in its Hageman-area fish facility.

The affected wells were developed after July 13, 1962. All the wells are in Water District 130, which includes pumpers in Minidoka to Gooding counties, and parts of Lincoln County.

Dean Stevenson has water rights on both sides of the July 13, 1962, cutoff. He is making contingency plans to shift his crop rotation this year to move row crops from pivots

with junior water rights to those with senior water rights. And even though the price of wheat is better than it has been in several years, the Paul-area producer is not contracting any more wheat production. "I am really concerned," he said.

Wild horses, livestock will share Saylor Creek grass

GLENN'S FERRY — Wild horses and domestic livestock have long shared a hunk on the range in the Saylor Creek Wild Horse Herd Management area south of Glenn's Ferry. This year, added numbers of horses and livestock will have access to the area's abundant supply of healthy, well-established range forage.

At a public meeting in Glenn's Ferry last week, the Bureau of Land Management invited discussion on proposed grazing use changes and wild horse herd management in the Saylor Creek area.

The outcome was good news for ranchers. "There will be an increase in livestock because there is more forage available than allocated," said Mike Horney, BLM range management specialist.

About 80 percent of Saylor Creek's 87,000 acres is planted in crested wild grass due to BLM fire re-habilitation and range projects in the 1970s.

Nomination form

Nominator
Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
E-mail address: _____
Company: _____
Position: _____

Nominee
Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
E-mail address: _____
Company: _____
Position: _____

How long have you known the nominee? _____

What is your relationship to the nominee? _____

How does the nominee exemplify the spirit of leadership and entrepreneurship? _____

Why does this person deserve to be considered for Southern Idaho Business "20 Under 40"? _____

Please list measurable achievements by the nominee: _____

Describe an instance of exemplary accomplishment by the nominee: _____

Additional comments or attributes: _____

Fitness goals offer business opportunities

NEW YORK (AP) — When Jim Schakenbach is in the mood for the workout he often bypasses the gym in favor of an afternoon of snowshoeing near his Massachusetts home.

"It's just a good cardiovascular workout," the 48-year-old Schakenbach said. "It just helps you delay that softening of old age."

Many baby boomers like Schakenbach have decided to forgo aerobic workouts and countless hours spent on treadmills. They're looking for new ways to stay in shape that are easier on their aching joints and compatible with their busy schedules.

As a result, more companies are tapping into the fitness needs of boomers — the post-World War II generation of Americans born between 1946 and 1964 — with everything from super-efficient exercise machines to new gear for sports once overlooked.

The Nautilus Group, which makes fitness machines for the home and gym, recently introduced a treadclimber, a \$2,000 hybrid treadmill and stairclimber. The product was inspired by focus groups with boomers who said they wanted a low-impact workout that wouldn't take too much time.

Because boomers are more willing to spend money on exercise equipment than other generations, they represent an attractive market for companies like Nautilus.

Something like 70 percent of disposable income in the United States is owned by baby boomers. So that's why we've targeted them," said Gregg Hammann, president and chief executive of Nautilus.

At Gotham Bikes in New York, boomers are buying bicycles in the \$300-plus range that are designed for comfort rather than speed or racing. And they are diligent about safety, too, including helmets and bike lights with their purchases.



Two Colorado women walk around East Lake in East Lake, Colo., Friday. Baby Boomers' desire to stay fit as they get older have been providing new business opportunities.

As for snowshoeing, Schakenbach isn't alone. He rediscovered the sport a few years ago after three decades, and now regularly ventures out with his wife.

"If you can walk, you can snowshoe," he said. "It's great exercise and you're not paying hundreds of dollars to buy lift tickets. If I've got some time on a weekend, I can just

say let's take three hours and go explore this meadow or mountain we've never been to."

The number of people snowshoeing has grown from 440,000 in 1994 to nearly 6 million today, with 49 percent of snowshoers between the ages of 35 and 59, according to Kathy Tubbs, general manager of Tubbs Snowshoe Co. in Stowe, Vt.

She says that growth has been helped by design changes in the sport; snowshoes have evolved from the clunky wood and deerhide to lightweight aluminum frames customized to fit even the most petite athletes.

And Tubbs is now targeting its marketing at boomers. It has partnered with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to increase awareness of the disease and is sponsoring family races that appeal to boomers looking to spend more time with children.

For those boomers who still fancy running, even road-race organizers are trying to capture their attention — and their pocketbooks. Increasingly, marathons are offering half-marathon and other less intensive alternatives designed to appeal to boomers, who have historically been the core participants in marathons, which stretch beyond 26 miles.

The HP Houston Marathon recently introduced a half marathon and 5K event, and marathon managing director Steven Karpas expects both events to eventually eclipse the full marathon in popularity.

"When you offer a half marathon and 5K, you see entire families registering for the event, not just the marathoners," Karpas said. "This is also a way for boomers who have run marathons but don't want to do that anymore to still participate."

That's what 43-year-old Mike Robertson did over Thanksgiving. He and his wife headed to Atlanta to run a half marathon, spending big on two nights hotel, meals and entrance fees. Robertson says he's run marathons before, but enjoys combining fitness and family.

"It's a great way for us to see the town and get some exercise and vacation in," the Mount Pleasant, S.C. resident said.

Publication seeks nominations of exceptional business people

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Do you know a young business owner or manager with exceptional motivation? ingenuity? Entrepreneurial spirit? Give them credit where credit is due by nominating them for Southern Idaho Business "20 Under 40" feature.

The monthly publication is looking for outstanding young leaders in private-business, aged 40 or younger.

Southern Idaho Business, a business-to-business publication of The Times-News, is distributed monthly to business owners and managers throughout Magic Valley. A committee of community busi-

ness leaders and Times-News editors will select the top 20 submissions and profile them in the July issue of Southern Idaho Business.

Fill out the following application form and tell us why your young business leader deserves recognition. We'll be judging on nominees' achievements, goals, business strategies, growth rates and the like. The deadline for submissions is March 31.

—Direct submissions to: Megan Hinds, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. All nominations must be submitted in writing.

Any questions? Contact Hinds at 735-3238 or mhinds@magicvalley.com.

More workers seek financial help through workplace programs

By Andrea Coombes
Knight Ridder News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Despite stock-market gains and an improving economy, more workers sought help with their finances through employee-assistance programs last year.

Employee-assistance programs now span the range from mental-health and drug abuse services to child-care referrals and legal aid, but financial aid is a fast-growing segment, providers said.

Forty percent of all work-life calls (related to mental health) made by workers were related to financial help, up from 26 percent a year earlier, according to ComPsych, a Chicago-based employee

assistance provider covering about 25 million people worldwide.

Most of those calls were related to debt, refinancing and failed investments. ComPsych wouldn't release the exact number of calls received, but said the total number of calls relating to financial help jumped 69 percent last year compared with the number of those calls a year earlier.

Many people "took on debt several years ago as interest rates started to go down, with the expectation that they'd get bigger raises," said Richard Chafetz, chairman and chief executive of ComPsych.

"When that doesn't happen, it creates a bit of a panic state about your financial situation," he said. Spouses' job losses also created problems. "If you increased your

debt and your lifestyle prior to 2003 and you lose some of your income for whatever reason, that's obviously a burden."

Meanwhile, other employee assistance providers said the calls they're receiving are decidedly more urgent.

"Over the last couple of years we've been seeing a shift: We're getting a lot more calls from people in dire straits financially," said Jonathan Helmer, manager of legal and financial services of the employee assistance program at Ceridian, which provides EAP and other human-resources and payroll services to companies worldwide.

"We've switched from focusing on financial health to almost being a financial triage, where people are calling with much

more urgency than in the past," he said.

Other EAP providers added staff in recent years to meet employees' increased needs for financial help. "A couple of years ago, we saw a need for basic financial services, things like how to do a budget, how to take care of their credit-card debt, how to arrange for their child's education," said Judith Braun, vice president of client services for Mines & Associates, an employee-assistance provider to over 400 clients nationwide.

"In response, we added a financial advisor to our staff so they can use their EAP benefits to meet with a financial advisor on their issues. That has been a big success," she said.

Still, Helmer said the urgency is leveling

off slightly. "The initial round of layoffs and bad (unemployment) news has slowed down a little bit," he said.

"The issue we hear a lot from those people now is they're becoming re-employed but at much lower salaries. They're maybe not facing foreclosure or bankruptcy, but they're struggling to make ends meet because they have much lower income," he said.

And mental health services are still the most requested EAP benefit, some said. "The No. 1 reason people call is for marital and relationship issues," Chafetz said. Among work-life services offered by ComPsych, such as elder- and child-care aid, the most-requested services are legal and financial advice.

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MBA no longer guarantees success

Business schools see reduced demand for degree

By Katharine Yung
Knight Ridder News Service

It was the educational status symbol of the 1980s, the must-have tool for climbing the corporate ladder.

For years, the MBA seemed like an automatic ticket to a six-figure salary, in many cases a pathway to a new career and a more prosperous life.

But that perception appears to be changing. Demand for masters' degrees in business administration is falling for the second year in a row, report several MBA admissions directors across the country. At some business schools, the number of applications has slid as much as 25 percent or more.

Applied for the degree is so low that FedEx literature commercial even mocks it.

"You don't understand. I have an MBA," says Tom, a new employee whose boss asked to ship some deliveries using FedEx.com.

"Oh, you have an MBA. In that case, I'll have to show you how to do it," his supervisor replies.

FedEx.com makes shipping so fast and easy even an MBA can do it," chimes in the voice-over narrator.

Three years into an economic recovery creating few jobs, the MBA no longer carries the cachet it used to. Going to business school — even the top ones — no longer leads to three or four job offers. Although corporate recruiting of MBA students has picked up, jobs are still scarce, and many recent graduates are struggling to find work.

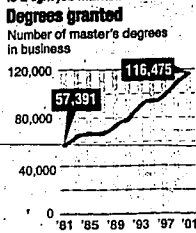
When Mark Davidson entered Duke University's Fuqua School of Business in the fall of 1999, he had high expectations about what an MBA would do for him.

"I thought I would be walking with Dorothy and the Tin Man down the Yellow Brick Road," he says. "I thought people would be knocking at my door."

Instead, the 31-year-old is living with his parents in San Diego and doing part-time contracting work in commercial real estate investment. He's been searching for a permanent job since being laid off 11 months ago from a property man-

A matter of degree

While the number of people receiving MBAs has more than doubled since the early 80s, salaries for MBAs have slipped recently due to a tight job market.



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Topmca.com, Recruiter Research 2003
Graphic: The Dallas Morning News

Reality check

Average U.S. and European salaries for MBAs

1996	\$65,106
1997	\$68,676
1998	\$66,563
1999	\$73,307
2000	\$78,372
2001	\$81,680
2002	\$74,367
2003	\$75,846

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Topmca.com, Recruiter Research 2003
© 2004 KRT

agement company that didn't have enough work for him.

The grim job outlook has led many potential business school applicants to either give up the idea of earning an MBA or wait until the economy shows further improvement, admissions officials say.

Others opt to take night classes while working full time. As a result, business schools are working harder than ever to market their programs.

"The applicants are not seeing the guaranteed job at the tail end," says Daniel Garza, director of domestic admissions at the University of Texas, at Austin's McCombs School of Business. "It's making them hesitant."

Last year, a majority of the 289 graduate business school programs reported receiving fewer applications, according to a survey released in July from the Graduate Management Admission Council, a nonprofit organization of graduate business schools. This occurred despite some of the lowest interest rates for student loans in years.

The fall-off in applications appears to be continuing this year, several admissions directors report. At McCombs, the number of applications is down 26 percent. Garza noted that four other top business schools at state schools around the nation had reported an average drop of 33 percent.

Elite private schools aren't immune either. Applications to the prestigious Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania are off

20 percent.

Normally, when the economy turns sour, business schools and other educational programs benefit as people opt to sit out a tough job market by spending time in the classroom.

Yet that logic works in reverse if economic downturn drags on, the less willing people are to give up the security of their jobs to go back to school, according to the Graduate Management Admission Council.

But the tight job market isn't the only factor hurting interest in business schools, admission directors say.

There are fewer 25- to 34-year-olds now — the age range most likely to attend business school — which also plays a role in the drop-off. International students continue to have problems obtaining the visas they need to study in the United States, largely because of a security measures put in place after Sept. 11, 2001.

Even so, business schools are not happy with the decline in applications. And they're experimenting with new ways to boost interest in their programs.

Duke University's Fuqua business school plans to start advertising its full-time MBA program because the number of applicants this year has shrunk, says Daniel Nagy, the school's associate dean. That's a change from previous years when all Fuqua did was hold information sessions about the

school and send e-mails to people who took the Graduate Management Admission Test.

At Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business, where applications are off 10 percent so far this year, MBA students are reaching out to prospective applicants. In previous years, that type of personal contact was reserved for students who had already been admitted, said Marcel Armstrong, Cox's associate dean of graduate programs.

And at the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, admissions officers are promoting their school in "network" and professional conferences, rather than just at traditional MBA forums.

MBA graduates who entered the workforce over the last several years are largely satisfied with the benefits that their degrees have afforded them, according to surveys by the Graduate Management Admission Council.

At the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business, Don Martin, associate dean of admissions and financial aid, acknowledges that "ultimate success in life is not dependent on an educational degree."

But, he says, feedback from graduates of his school reveals that the benefits that their degrees have afforded them, according to surveys by the Graduate Management Admission Council.

For now, recent MBA graduates such as Mark Pruett dream of being able to say that. The 31-year-old graduated in December from the School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas.

More than half the students who graduated with him did find a job by graduation.

Pruett had hoped an MBA would allow him to switch careers. Before business school, he had worked as a programming analyst at a manufacturing company. Now he's looking for a job in information technology strategy and planning.

"So far, he's only heard from headhunters trying to recruit him to do the type of work he did before entering business school.

"It's discouraging," says Pruett, who is taking evening classes at UT-D to get another master's degree in information technology management and consulting. The job market "has not been what I had hoped, but I'm not surprised by it."

Banks seek employees to sell their goods

Retail savvy comes in handy

By Mark Skertic
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Chris Reilly had two reactions when he got a call from a Bank of America Corp. recruiter asking if he was interested in a job: He figured it was either a college buddy playing a joke or a headhunter who had found the wrong guy.

But Reilly, an executive with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, quickly learned that he was exactly the sort of person some banks are now looking for.

In September, Reilly, 37, was named Bank of America's consumer market executive in Chicago, in charge of hiring, working on new branch openings and "creating a new culture in the bank," he said.

He's part of a growing trend that has seen banks in Chicago and elsewhere looking for people with retail backgrounds — employees who know how to rent out cars or sell things like cell phones, laptops or jeans. With training, they are becoming bankers who can do the same with checking accounts and retirement programs.

It's a movement that is taking hold in a variety of banks.

Reggie Buchanan, 33, a former director of sales development with Best Buy Co. on the East Coast, was recruited when he got a call similar to Reilly's.

"I just didn't see it," said Buchanan, who is training to run a branch for Bank One Corp. "I don't play with numbers. I sell stuff to people."

Buchanan was persuaded to give it a try by a family friend who was already in banking. He said he considers himself engaging and friendly, qualities he wants in the people he will hire.

"The skills are extremely transferable from a selling capacity," he said. "In a way, it's exactly what I was doing at my previous employer."

Necessity is forcing many banks to embrace practices that are expected in retail shops, said Charles Stern, a consultant with NewGround, a company that works with businesses who want to change their image. Her clients include Bank of America, LaSalle Bank and PNC Bank.

"The reason this movement has been successful is that banks have been successful in using technology for all the wrong reasons," she said.

"They've shunk their relationship with their customers to a three-by-five card that people carry in their wallets."

"They taught customers to price-shop. They discouraged conversation. They devalued the people who work in their branches. If you wanted a career path, your promotion was out of retail," Stern said.

Some banks have expanded the effort beyond just hiring. They have incorporated retail concepts into the design of banks, making them places that more resemble a Starbucks than the staid financial institutions that have been the model for more than a century.

Washington Mutual has abandoned teller windows. Now, bank associates greet customers at kiosks.

If you go in to hand a check or change a \$20, you'll be handed a slip of paper with a special code. Take it to the bank's "cash dispenser," mangle it and your money will pop out.

There are still teller windows at some Bank of America branches, but there are also plasma-screen computers at work stations. If customers want to stop in and do banking online, a computer is available to them. At Bank One, employees wear casual uniforms, making training emphasis has been placed on customer relations.

"I'm less focused on where we hire people from. To me, the big deal is the type of person we hire," said Charles Schief, Bank One president and chief executive of retail banking.

"You can't teach personality to someone."

Not everyone is convinced that retail experience on a resume makes someone a more attractive employee prospect. Frank Slocum, regional president for Harris Bank's offices in the southwest suburbs of Chicago, recently added 40 positions to fill slots in four new offices.

At least 75 percent of his new employees came with previous banking experience, he said. When he's hiring branch managers, he wants someone who has previous bank experience on both the operational and sales sides.

Although it's beneficial to have some people with no bank experience "woven into the mix," Slocum said, he finds that financial experience "gives you a better base."

Homemaker reflects on her absence from workplace

By Carol Kleiman
Chicago Tribune

Carla Ross, a full-time homemaker living in Lake Forest, Ill., has been on "maternity leave" since 1985. That's when her first child was 2 years old and she was pregnant with her second child.

"I love being a mother, but I never intended to be at home for 18 years — never," said Ross, age 50. "I wanted to devote my time to my children, to become an anchor for the home. And my husband's income was sufficient for me to do so. We were very lucky to be in that position."

Ross' husband, Thomas, is a patent attorney. They have two children, 21 and 17. Ross will face an empty nest next year when her son Brian will have graduated from college and son Michael from high school.

"The homemaker had worked until a week before Brian was born and then went back to work the next year. She worked for three years more — her son was in day care — and then quit and never

went back.

A human resource professional, Ross, who has a bachelor of science in consumer and family sciences, was a personnel director for several retail chains and enjoyed her work — the challenge, the excitement.

"But my working full-time didn't work for us as a family," she said. "My husband had a demanding job that required a lot of travel, and when it came time for me to travel to recruit personnel, I felt that what I was doing and what I was earning were not worth the cost of being away from my son."

Ross remembers having to go on a recruitment trip and "leaving a crying baby in my husband's arms. I realized I could not balance both work and family."

So she went in to her boss and resigned.

"I didn't plan to return very soon but I always knew I wanted to go back to work someday," she said.

In fact, the transition was challenging. "I missed going on my train to work every day with my husband. I missed work," she said. "I never found motherhood overwhelming and I feel I accom-

plished a lot. What was hard was the isolation."

But she candidly adds that "I've done both — been a working mother and an at-home mother — and it's totally tougher to work and at the same time to raise kids than it is to be at home."

Ross also observes that "the years have passed quickly and our family needs were served better by my being at home and my husband's financial support."

The homemaker channeled her considerable energy and talents into volunteer work when her older child went to grade school. She says she "became involved in his school."

What this meant for Ross is that she spent almost two decades in active leadership roles, as president of a foundation that raised money for enrichment programs for the local school district; as head of a benefit for a community center; and as president of the high school's parents and teachers group.

When the school year started last September, Ross realized she "needed something else in my life.

My kids are graduating and I feel as if I'm graduating, too. Now is the time for me."

The homemaker says she thinks she will be an even better worker. "If an totally free of encumbrances, can devote myself to a career and am much wiser than I was in my 20s," she said. "I feel I have so much more to offer professionally. A lot of my volunteer work has involved managing people and budgets, fund raising, and taking a more mature, have much more experience — and this time, I'm not going to have another child and don't have to worry about child care."

However, she admits that "it's hard to get out there so many years later. But I'm excited about it. Excited and fearful. I'm eager to get on with it."

And Ross has this advice for other women who opt to be at home. "Keep your hand in your profession and don't feel it's your missing out on something else," she said. "Enjoy what you do and feel good about yourself."

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 \$189,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107316 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful updated home, 1970 sq. ft. Unique style. LynnRammussen.com Lynn Rammussen 737-3908	 \$224,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#106252 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Living, dining, & Shambor Construction 2672 sq. ft. TheLionTeam.com Web 737-3939 Text 737-3940	 \$174,900 • Hammett • MLS#108660 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful, vine country Tudor on 10 acres, barn, view. Kathy Partridge 737-3929 Ron Freeman 737-3915	 \$179,900 • Buhl • MLS#108932 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Wolverson Homes. Family Room. trail, and tennis court. Ken Roy 737-3969 Dorothy Gid 737-3963	 \$179,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107746 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1872 sq. ft. elegant, upgraded, 3 car garage. Tom Lloyd 737-3924 or 308-0117
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 \$279,950 • Twin Falls • MLS#106652 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Price reduced! Great location, open great room! Carolyn Cudde 737-3913, 428-3381	 \$285,000 • Buhl • MLS#106849 Pika kitchen/bath, building, in-cvrt ry, hcr 10000. And 2 acres with highway frontage. Call Vicki Surber for additional information - 280-8484	 \$425,000 • Jerome • MLS#109137 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Golf course! Open fireplace, beautiful. Carolyn Cudde 420-3381 or 737-3913	 \$475,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#107791 4 beds, 4 baths. Incredible! Gorgeous interior, fabulous yard! Carolyn Cudde 737-3913 or 420-3381	 \$825,000 • Jerome • MLS#109106 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Canyon view! Spectacular home, unique location! Carolyn Cudde 420-3381 CarolynCudde.com

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TWIN FALLS Custom home, 1.43 acre lot, 4 bdrm., 2 bath, 2800 sq. ft. Natural gas, AC. Must see! \$215,000. 739-0917.

TWIN FALLS Newly completed custom 4 bdrm., 2 bath, Southwest of town, approx. 1.5 acres, w/extra, \$144,800. 429-3491.

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BALT LAKE CITY "THE BARE" Condominium Rental Special! "THE KIMBALL" Located across from Tomp's Square. 182 bedroom rental. Short & long term rental. With this ad. www.TheKimball.com Phone: 888-897-0328

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GOODING 20 acres bare ground, 2500, 43 acres bare ground, \$39,800. Call 208-539-4587

GOODING 2003 manufactured home, 1280 sq. ft. with 2 car garage on 2.0 acres. Fenced & cross fenced, BLM on 2 sides. \$115,000. 208-539-4587.

JEROME \$29,500 Approx. +/- 2.5 acre lot SW of Jerome, includes 2 shares of Northside Canal Co. For more details visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS#108017 PC#4511

517 CONDOMINIUMS

TWIN FALLS Condo, 2 story, 200 yards from canyon trail, Mt. Washington. 3 bdrm, 1 bath, den, living room, 2 car garage. \$125,000-1208-733-6997

TWIN FALLS Live in 1 1/2 story ranch on the other Hampton Village development. Single floor. Two car garage. Close to canyon trail. 734-0527

518 MOBILE HOMES

FILER 94 Baywood 2 bedroom, 1456, \$9500. Call 208-736-5301

TWIN FALLS 14x68 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1100 sq. ft. \$16,900. 731-8000 or 733-3377

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KIMBERLY \$64,500 This 5 acre parcel is ready to become your new home site. Natural rock wall on East side of property. Well installed, just needs power. For more information visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS#108532 PC#5021

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KIMBERLY scenic ranch-ette, Cottonwood Heights Subdivision. 3.5-9 acre lots. 423-5278 / 539-7804

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TWIN FALLS -Tired of stocks? Cash back return on new 4 plexes. Call Chuck 733-8207

TWIN FALLS Cash flow. Updated 4-plex. Quiet neighborhood. Fully occupied. \$178,000. Call 801-838-3736.

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515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Flower Shop For Sale

Florist & Gift Shop in Magic Valley small town for sale, due to owners illness. Good customer base & numbers. 1-800-925-4304. Call for details. Ask for Sue!

JEROME 51 acres w/water & P.R. frontage, located on US 93, \$350,000. Call Bob Bennett at Knipe Land Company 599-3091.

TWIN FALLS \$40,000 Zones R-6 with professional overlay-great medical office location, close to hospital. For more information visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS#107032 PC#3581

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TWIN FALLS Excellent commercial property at 2556 Kimberly Road with a small office, heated shop & storage on 3+ acres. Call Cathie Blevins for details 731-2900.

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McCall Time Share, May 24 to 31, Aspen Village, McCall, Idaho. Sleeps 6 people, no dogs, club house, tennis courts. \$2,543-6899 after 40pm.

This year will be our best! Use Classified, 733-0931.

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TWIN FALLS Condo, 2 story, 200 yards from canyon trail, Mt. Washington. 3 bdrm, 1 bath, den, living room, 2 car garage. \$125,000-1208-733-6997

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FILER 00 Oakwood in nice park, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 1400 sq. ft. \$16,900. 731-8000 or 733-3377

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TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 1 bath, fenced back yard, detached garage, \$700 + deposit. 216 Pierce St. Call 208-644-9067.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. W/D included, remodeled kitchen. \$525. 420-3851.

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TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, \$650. 8 bdrm., 2 bath, \$675. 208-738-0322.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrms., 1 bath, \$675/month + 1 mo. deposit. 208-734-4263.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fenced yard, garage, sprinklers, near CSI, no smoking/pets, refs. \$725. 208-734-3373.

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 1 bath, fenced back yard, detached garage, \$700 + deposit. 216 Pierce St. Call 208-644-9067.

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrms., 1 bath, formal dining/living area, large family room. No smoking/pets. Refs. \$725. 208-734-3373.

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 1 bath, large living room, storage shed, pets negotiable. Deposit \$500 Rent \$595 per month. 734-7935.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, \$425/mo. plus laundry facility. Call 208-324-2244.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., duplex, quiet neighborhood, garage, fireplace, fenced back yard, water, sanitation and lawn mowing paid. No smoking/pets. 1 yr. lease. \$550/month + \$500 dep. 208-733-8844.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. duplex. Extra nice apartment. \$475 + dep. 734-0162.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Carpet, W/D hookups, gas heat. \$550/mo. plus \$200 dep. 1811 Sun Lane. Weekdays only. 393-2051.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2nd floor apartment, laundry storage, \$425, 833 Shoshone N. 948-9300 or 734-4339

TWIN FALLS 355 Elm St. 2 1/2 bdrms, 2 bath, \$800/mo. 2 car garage. W/D hookup, incl. (208) 733-0881.

TWIN FALLS Very clean 2 bedroom, 2 bath apt. \$525 + dep. W/D no pet/smoking. 733-1640.

TWIN FALLS Very nice 2 bedroom duplex. Great location. Garage, AC. DW. W/D hookups. \$575 + dep. Call 208-988-5833.

TWIN FALLS 1 1/2 bdrm. appliances. Hallovs Property Mgmt. 734-4334

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm., \$300/mo., \$100 dep. 208-734-5001 or 731-2049.

TWIN FALLS 1 bedroom, garage, range, refrigerator, no smoking. \$425 + \$50 for utility/mo. \$200 dep. 733-7589 or 420-6268.

TWIN FALLS 1 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, \$330 mo. + dep. Includes utilities. Call Lyle 208-731-6588.

TWIN FALLS 1 bedroom, \$330/mo. + \$300 deposit. 1 b bath, \$330 mo. + dep. Call 208-324-2244.

TWIN FALLS 1 bedroom, 442 Locust, \$315/mo. + \$315 deposit, no pets. 208-420-5888 or 733-3429. Even w/weekdays.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, \$450. + dep. 1 bdm, \$350 + dep. all utils. paid. Call 734-3811 or 420-3792.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, \$450 + dep. 128 Martin #161 bedroom, 1 bath \$425 + dep.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, \$425 + dep. 413 3rd Ave. #1, 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$425 + dep.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. & studio units avail starting at \$225. BRAWLEY REALTY 734-5858.

TWIN FALLS Attractive 1 bdrm duplex, appliances, garage, water/sewerall paid. No pets. \$375 mo. Call 208-734-8189.

TWIN FALLS Avail. NOW Clean 2 bdrm., 1 bath, \$410 per mo. + \$200 dep. \$200/mo. incl. No pets. Located near downtown. Credit check required. Call 208-733-3373.

TWIN FALLS Beautiful 1 bdm duplex, 1 bath, \$400 month. Gas heat, AC, ref. microwave, DW, range. No smoking, no pets. \$500/mo. incl. \$100 off 1st months rent with 1 yr. lease. 208-734-3373.

TWIN FALLS Corner lot, 1 b bath, 2 b bath apt, deluxe 4 bedroom, 1650 sq. ft., large master bedroom, w/privat bath, walk-in wardrobe, ceiling & light kitchen, Refrig., stove, AC, full garage w/apprnt. AC, fenced yard w/aut sprinklers, 10x20 dog house, no pets! \$1,800 m + 1 yr. lease. Call 734-7963.

TWIN FALLS clean quiet, 1 bdrm, gas heat, no smoking, pets. Call 734-2828 or 731-4256.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 2 bath, no smoking, \$500 month. Call 208-734-2587.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath duplex, Sawtooth district, central air, W/D, hook-ups, appls., lg. fenced yard, lawn care/some utility. \$525. 734-1556/543-8648.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath duplex, Sawtooth district, central air, W/D, hook-ups, appls., no smoking/pets \$675. Refs 1 year lease req. Available 03/31/04. Call 732-0022 after 5pm.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 1 bath apt. \$525. + \$300 dep. No pets. 732-0105 or 212-1187.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, appls, garage, \$650/mo. + \$200 dep. \$500. 208-539-4907.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, in 4plex, new carpeting, garage, gas heat, AC, \$675. 208-317.

TWIN FALLS 527 Borah W. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$450 + deposit. 207 Ridgeway 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$450 + deposit. 682 Monroe and 633 Quincy-GREAT 2 bdrm., 2 bath with patio and carpet. \$500 + deposit. 349 Morningdale #2 like new 3 bdrm. 2 bath with garage \$550 + deposit. 737 Honey Locust Lane #2 & 3 These are GREAT.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrms. with extra storage \$475 + dep. 128 Martin #161 bedroom, 1 bath \$425 + dep.

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TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 1 bath apt. \$525. + \$300 dep

Sunday, March 7, 2004

THE ACES ON 'BRIDGE'

Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff: How much does one need to overcall a pre-empt? In balancing seat I held ♠ K-Q-10-5-4 ♥ 5-2 ♦ A-Q-8-6 ♣ Q-5 and heard my LHO open four hearts. I decided to bid overcall with four spades, and received severe love for my self-esteem and pocketbook in the process.

Jump to four of the major. With an unbalanced hand in that range, jump to four of a new suit as a void there. This hand could be treated as worth a splinter raise OR a balanced raise. The singleton ace or king is not the ideal holding for a splinter bid.

ANSWER: Oh dear! I have to admit I might have acted myself with this hand. I would certainly have bid three spades over a three heart pre-empt. I think you were a little aggressive, but not out of line. Sometimes one gets away with these actions, even when they are unsound.

Dear Mr. Wolff: After your partner opens one no-trump, what does a transfer followed by a jump in your own suit or in a new suit mean? And is that answer influenced by whether you play Texas transfers, in which four of a red suit in response to a one-or-two-trump opening is a transfer to the next suit?

ANSWER: Texas transfers show hands with no slam interest, or hands intending to follow up with Blackwood. A regular two-level transfer, then a jump to four no-trump, is quantitative, not Blackwood, while a jump to game is a mid-slam try with a six-card suit. A transfer followed by a jump in a new suit is also a slam try, showing shortage and setting your own suit as trumps.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Can you suggest a book to help me remember cards played? I get so frustrated when one of your columns says, "Since you were counting cards, you know West started with x spades, y hearts, etc." But in reality I have trouble remembering what has been played. Can you give me any secrets?

Dear Mr. Wolff: Does the Stayman convention apply when East opens the bidding with one spade, South overcalls with one no-trump, West passes and North responds two clubs? My partner (North) intended it to be a Stayman response. I maintain that since the no-trump bid was an overcall, the convention is negated. I passed, and we went down three when we could have made two no-trump.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Can you give me a clue on how to deal with strong hands after opening and then hearing partner respond in a suit you hold four cards in? I had ♠ A-Q-5-4 ♥ A-J-5-2 ♦ A ♣ K-8-5-4 and opened one club, and heard my partner respond one heart. What is right now?

ANSWER: As in almost all bridge discussions, there is no right or wrong. I believe the answer to your question is merely a matter of partnership agreement. I do play transfers here, and in a new partnership will ask, "System on?" That is shorthand for "system on in response to one no-trump overcalls as well as to one no-trump openings."

ANSWER: With 18-19 balanced,

DELL, 2400 brand new, with new HP scanner with Epson color printer with new high tech desk. \$3900. Call 407-1194.

PC NEW AMD XPT800 CPU, 256MB, 40GB HD, LAN, DVD, floppy, 5.6K modem. \$550. 423-9241 ext 9 p.m.

610 FURNITURE & CARPETS "I would my dining set the first day using The Times-News Classifieds. We had no way call. -Laurel Twin Falls-

Bedroom Set 5 piece dark oak, bookcase headboard, night stand, dresser, bed, mirror and chair. \$1500.00. 324-4111.

Bedroom Set 5 piece, brand new, all in box. Bed, rails, dresser, mirror, night stand. Retail \$899. Sacrifice \$399. Call 208-232-4111.

610 COUCH & TV - set. Basic dress, multi-colored. Butcher block style table w/ chairs. Call 208-374-7474.

610 COUCH 8 p.c. burgundy sectional with recliners and 2 tables with drawers. \$1499.00. Call 733-1211 from 12-8 p.m.

610 COUCH leather hide-a-bed, 1 year old brown, still boxed. Retail \$699. Sacrifice \$399. Call 208-374-7474.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER Beautiful French Country. 150" wide, 60" deep. 2 side pockets with side components and many drawers. Sold with 46" flat screen TV. \$1499.00. Call 733-1211 from 12-8 p.m.

DESK Hooker, 60x30x30H, new \$1200 sell for \$500. Lay-Z Boy desk chair, recliner chair (burgundy), now \$800 sell for \$400. Cochran china hutch, new \$200 sell for \$50. Call 738-1661.

KITCHEN CABINETS oak, wall and base, great work. Many to choose from, all cabinets & cabinets used. Call 208-208-0576.

LIFT CHAIR power, vinyl, blue color, used very little. \$400. Call 208-423-0091 or 208-733-0881.

MATTRESS AND BOX SET FULL, New all in plastic, list \$329 sacrifice \$99. Call 208-423-6557.

MATTRESS BRAND new latex and box springs and 18" x 80" x 80" High top, 18" x 80" x 80" High top, leather, dark oak color, \$1100.00. Call 324-4111.

MATTRESS, King pillow top, split, multi-colored, still in plastic, sacrifice \$240. 420-6350.

MATTRESS, Queen on pillow top and box set, new, still in plastic, sacrifice \$129. 420-6350.

MISCELLANEOUS Solid wood TV/bookshelf. \$500. Good condition. 208-737-7474.

RECLINER Lane rocker, brown, older, \$35. Call 208-324-1147.

611 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING SLEIGH BED \$249. Solid wood, 140" x 80" x 80" box set. List \$1000. Sacrifice \$249. 208-420-6350.

611 SOFA cushioned, 125" Dining room table, \$125. 2 dark blue sectional sofa, 150" Dresser, \$75. Oak entertainment center, \$120. Make offers. 308-1333.

611 SOFA cushioned Lay-Z Boy, hunter green, aluminum, 4 pr. 6 1/2 ft. \$300.00. Old Waverly, 324-8286.

WANTED: Dark green or dark blue sectional sofa, excellent condition. 208-737-4844 or 308-4868.

WATERBED single, headboard, mattress, liner, 208-737-4844 or 308-4868.

611 FIREPLACE WITH INSERT heavy duty, insert chamber and circulating fan. \$150. Call 733-0373.

STOVE wood burning, Vermont Castings, good condition. \$200. Call 208-676-9030.

612 AUCTIONS & AUCTIONEERS STOVE wood, Franklin, IL. Call now. \$250 firm. Call 208-676-9030.

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Prime Time Auctions Spring Auction Sat. March 13, 10 AM 1030 Yellowstone

813 JEWELRY DIAMOND Round brilliant, E color I 2 \$500. Call 738-1366

814 LAWN & GARDEN GHS WALKER '02 6 ft 48" cutting deck for \$600.

814 LAWN & GARDEN ROTOTILLER Craftsman, one year old, 6.5 hp, 17" wide, used one time.

815 EXERCISE EQUIPMENT TIRES FOR SALE, sixx tread radial spx tread

816 MISCELLANEOUS BIKE Upright, Life-Cycle new pair \$2900 sell for \$600.

817 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS A FRIENDLY REMINDER It's against Twin Falls City Ordinance 575.

MATRESS Soaly Posture, queen size, \$250. Call 208-423-6557.

POOL TABLE Brunswick, 7x4, Made in USA, 6 mos. old, paid \$3,700, asking \$1,900.

POOL TABLE for sale, 8x4 Harvard in good condition. \$400. Call 208-735-0564 between 10 am - 1 pm.

SNOW BLOWER 4 horse power, Arlins brand, \$225. Call 208-438-5856.

SOFA sculptured velvet, \$350. Includes wood furniture. \$50. Shop table and tables \$150. Make offers. Call 734-7523.

SONY 30" TV, \$175. Entertainment center, \$75. Twin bed, \$50. DVD system \$175. Call 734-5208.

SPEAKERS Gozillia-box w/2 1/2" (2) 60W Equip, (2) 8" 20W Equip, (2) 5x8 MB quarts, (2) 6.5 MB quarts w/2 tweeters. Carped speaker box, that fits 10" x 4" channel. Equip amp, 328-3747.

TIRES FOR SALE, sixx tread radial spx tread \$3500 sell for \$600. Call 208-735-0564 10 am to 1 pm.

TREADMILL, Pro-form 585T, \$100. Call 208-735-0564 10 am to 1 pm.

816 MISCELLANEOUS 817 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

A FRIENDLY REMINDER It's against Twin Falls City Ordinance 575.

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705 HAY, GRAIN & FEED, 710 CROPS & PRODUCE, 714 PASTURE WANTED, 716 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY, 706 FARM & RANCH SUPPLIES, 707 IRRIGATION, 708 SEED & FERTILIZER

ACOUSICAL & DRYWALL, CLEANING, HANDYMAN WORK, HOME REPAIR, STORAGE, LAWN CARE, TREE SERVICE, PAINTING, CARPENTRY, HOME IMPROVEMENTS, HOME CONSTRUCTION, HOME REPAIRS, REMODELING & REPAIRS, ROOFING, SHARPENING SERVICE, BUY IT! SELL IT! A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEED, BUY IT! SELL IT!

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WACKER BHD-26, gas powered portable rock drill and breaker complete with manuals and maintenance tools. 3 chisels, 30" drill rod and 4 drill bits. Excellent cond. \$1500. 208-678-1172 between 8 and 10pm.

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WANTED
Condom Tim Also older packaging items, collector. 208-736-0870.

WANTED
Horse 3 wheelers, Call 423-4602.

WANTED
Ice cream freezer. Hand crank or motor. Only call 208-736-0870.

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Older guitars & amplifiers. Any condition Please call 208-436-9491.

WANTED
4th 4x4 truck looking for cargo grooming cloth & grooming supplies & shop equipment. 208-436-1229 or 404-3332.

WANTED
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WANTED to lease, station in hair salon in the Mini-Casas area. Call 208-312-2471

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44 MAG Desert Eagle, \$750. **50 BMG S&W**, \$200. **208-338-4507**
BENELLI '02 FBE, 12 ga shotgun, 3.5", black synthetic, whubus, Jamie. 539-7472 or 539-8663
P&G single cam bow 60-65 lb. carbon fiber, ready for 3-D arch, \$225/offer. Call 423-4602.

REMINGTON 1187, excellent condition, \$400. Call 208-537-0441.

REMINGTON 700 VSP 300 Wing Mag. \$600. Call 539-7036 N.mg.

REMINGTON custom cam but 670 shotgun, hovers 16 shells, \$500. Roro HK P702 3mm, 4" 18 round mag. with box \$600. Call 208-736-2828

RUGER 01, 30 inch barrel, 3 inch chamber, Gai's special. L1, now in stock. Call 208-677-2700

SELL OR PAWN your guns for cash. See Jack at 101 W. Addison, case building, west 89 Reno.

THOMPSON CENTER model 83, Winchester barrel, single shot, 22. Rifle, 3-39 scope, \$875. Ithica cbl. barrel, 20 gauge, engine \$850. 208-733-0918

826 SPORTING EQUIPMENT

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827 GARAGE SALES

FILER Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 8-6 pm. Text and sign up. Homebased. 198 furniture & misc. Main Street.

828 TOOLS AND MACHINERY

Tool for Flat File March 13th (8-5)
Iron work (10-4)
Tool for Flat File March 14th (10-4)

Household appliances 80 admin. Call 208-433-9339

801 ATV & MOTORCYCLES

BOSS '81 150cc, 4 stroke, 2000 cc. Call 208-433-9339

HARLEY-DAVIDSON '00 Road King, thousands in extras, \$17,000. For complete list call 208-423-4547

HONDA CR250R, needs tune-up & tires, \$349-1499. Call 208-733-6368

HONDA XR200, \$800 or offer. Call 539-4508

HONDA '81 XR200, comp. clutch, tubes, \$1200. 543-8491/m.v.m.g. 208-934-5111

KAWASAKI 2510 4x4 Nite, low, 2nd, 4th, 173 miles, \$5000/offer. 208-678-5045

KAWASKI '92, KX65, pre-circuit pipe, allencer, Renhall handle bars, twin air filter, \$1800. 324-7148

POLARIS '01 Sportman 500 HO, yellow, 4x4, 173 miles, \$5000. 539-5060

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WHEELS & TIRES 5 custom from Lea Schwab Tires. P235 x 70R x 15.5 lug. Less than 2K miles. Paid \$1100 asking \$800. Call 420-4161

800 SKI-DOO '87 200 Summit, fully pan, handle bars, skis, and extras. \$2200. Call 208-731-1810

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YAMAHA '82 EXCITER electric start, runs good, \$600/offer. 208-436-3814 or 208-670-3814

YAMAHA '94 VMAX 600, 3027 miles, excellent condition, \$1350/offer. Arctic Cat '88 Pantera 404, exc. cond. offering, \$750. Snow trailer, hand made, 2-place tilt, \$350. Firm. 208-880-1126 lv. msg.

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Camping trailers - Selection Quality - Low Prices - 208-312-1826

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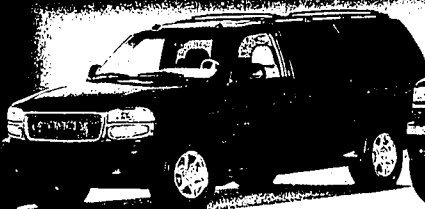
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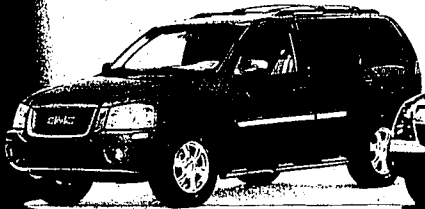
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Flat is 'phat': Nearly two-dimensional TV screens are getting increasingly popular. Page E3

FAMILY LIFE

INSIDE

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Crossword E5
Centennial E6

Features Editor: Steve Crump - 733-0931, Ext. 223

Sunday, March 7, 2004

Section E

The Times-News

Doing nothing, and doing it well

I once read a magazine story about family rituals, defined as pauses that refresh the soul. Some of the families interviewed had created their own holidays - everything from Dessert-only Dinner Day to Big Birthdays Birthday Bash to Pajama Day, where everyone in the family hangs around the house in pajamas all day to watch videos and eat popcorn.

Last week, I found out the year is already filled with little-known holidays. I received a calendar from Site59, an on-line travel service. The calendar lists dozens of holidays I never knew existed, but I guess they do. There's a National Splurge Day (June 18), a Take Your Webmaster to Lunch Day (July 6), even a Make Up Your Own Holiday (March 26).

This year, we've already missed I'm Not Going to Take it Anymore Day (Jan. 7) and Get a Different Name Day (Feb. 13). But there's always Embrace Your Geekness Day (July 13). And National Procrastination - Week starts tomorrow. Some of the holidays don't apply to everyone. Oct. 14 is Be Bald and Be Free Day. And Jan. 25 is Take Your Dog to Work Day.

I guess family cats have to stay home that day, but there is a Hug Your Cat Day (June 4).

Of course, I think it's possible to take this whole thing too far. When I lived in Ohio, I hung out with a family that could find any excuse for a party. One night, the mom decided to have a sleepover for her 6-year-old daughter's friends, in honor of Sandman Day or something. The kids weren't really old enough to keep themselves busy all night, so they mostly just ate everything in sight.

The started with candy at the neighborhood ball park and progressed to chips and dip back home. When my friend caught one child licking the bottom of the dip bowl and another one standing at the refrigerator drinking dill pickle juice straight from the bottle, she decided it was time for the kids to get into their sleeping bags. That lasted about 15 minutes, until three of the girls started complaining of stomachaches.

All of the parents had been called to the rescue by midnight.

That's an example of a celebration that should never have been.

Other celebrations should have been undertaken with greater care, especially during busy times of year. One December I read this church bulletin announcement: "The church is glad to welcome our guest ministers, the Rev. and Mrs. Shirley Green. After the service, we request that everyone remain in the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens."

Somewhere in all of that was a church secretary who had attended one too many holiday celebrations.

Then there are those celebrations that deserve a little extra thought. When my daughter was in third grade, I remember her getting so scared of Halloween that she dreamed she was calling "time and temperature" and the operator was speaking in a scary voice. That same week, she dreamed she was a waitress who had to serve a headless horseman in her restaurant.

We were afraid to ask her how the poor guy was going to eat.

But we should have kept her home from a few Halloween celebrations that year.

I like a good party as much as the next guy. And I'm going to keep my new holiday calendar nearby, for days when I need a reason for no season.

Meanwhile, I'm looking for a day when I can say, "Absolutely nothing happened on this date. There is absolutely nothing to celebrate today. I am decorating the house in nothing. I am preparing nothing good to eat. Today, I am simply going to do nothing and do it well, all day long."

Now that's a celebration to refresh the soul.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

Too 'Passion'-ate for kids?

Many adults don't think youngsters should see Mel Gibson's movie

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Roman guards employ a cat-o'-nine-tails that rips the flesh from Jesus' back. As Jesus is being crucified, a Roman centurion scolds a soldier for not nailing his hands properly. He yells Jesus' other hand, pulling the arm out of the socket.

To see whether Jesus is dead, another soldier pierces his side with a lance. Blood showers down on the soldier.

Mel Gibson's controversial new movie "The Passion of the Christ" isn't for the faint of heart. But is it for kids?

"I don't think so," said Dottie Nester, 69, of Burley, who otherwise loved the movie. "It's too much."

"The violence," said Dawn Pettit, 49, of Twin Falls, "is relentless."

Notwithstanding, Bob Harris, who runs Century Cinema in Burley, has seen a steady stream of church youth groups since the film opened on Feb. 25.

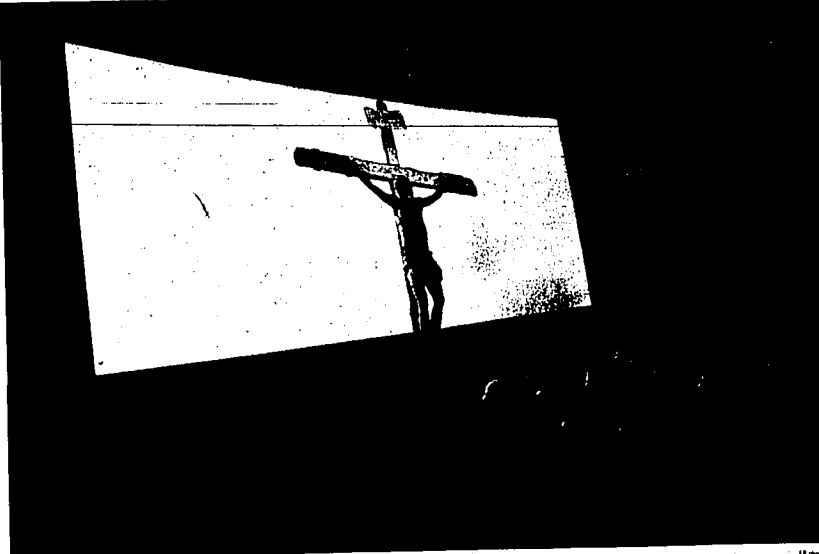
"We're seeing quite a few kids come in with their parents," he said.

"I haven't seen any young people walk out in the middle of the film, and I haven't seen a youngster who looks upset at the end, although I haven't really been paying attention to that."

Gibson himself says the movie is R-rated, which means that children are to be admitted only accompanied by an adult, is well deserved, but that he'd allow his own 13-year-old son see the film because the boy understands its context.

The sensible, says George Scartell, an assistant professor at Tufts University in Boston whose work include research on spiritual and religious development.

"Parents know their children better than anyone," Scartell told The Associated Press. "Violence for one child may be a very different experience than violence for another."



People view Mel Gibson's film 'The Passion of the Christ' at Cinema Carousel in Norton Shores, Mich., February 24.

"(Mel Gibson) is a powerful director who's too obsessed with blood and rage."

- Marc Gospin, director of the Center for World Religions, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution

But that's not a universal opinion.

"He is a powerful director who's too obsessed with blood and rage," Marc Gospin, director of the Center for World Religions, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University told AP. "And that

Please see PASSION, Page E2



After seeing the movie 'The Passion of the Christ,' Michael Palmisano, 24, left, is counseled by Beth Salcedo of First Baptist Church of Folsom near the Holiday Square Cinema in Covington, La., February 25. Salcedo was one of the many people on hand in the parking lot near the theater, to counsel people with questions about the movie and its meaning.

Ninety-nine pound woman tastes fame in world of competitive eating

The Washington Post

PHILADELPHIA-The world's greatest eaters parade into the Wachovia Center and the crowd goes wild.

Here comes Augustine Chung, who once ate two pounds of caviar in six minutes. He's in a white fur coat and is accompanied by a stripper wearing only a bikini bottom and body paint.

And here's Paul "Totally Apatulng" Lawrence, riding a float that looks like a giant cow tongue, a not-so-subtle reference to his most famous feat-eating 20 pounds of cow tongue in 20 minutes.

And here's Don "Moses" Lerman, who holds the world record for butter-eating-seven quarter-pound sticks in five minutes-wearing biblical robes and holding the Ten Commandments carved in Syrofont.

"This is the biggest event in the history of competitive eating," the emcee screams, and the crowd of 20,000-many of whom tallgated \$5,720 a pop on Jan. 30, and it sounds like the rest of the world is four beers behind.

This is Wing Bowl XII, the world's most exuberant chicken wing eating contest, and the 25 distinguished eaters are on stage. All but one are men, several well over 400 pounds, who look like NFL offensive linemen who retired in a doughnut factory.

The 25th contestant is competitive eatings' 2003 rookie of the year, Sonya Thomas, 36, 99 pounds, wearing a black bon over her wallkita frame.

It's 8 o'clock-showtime!-and here comes a float topped with



Sonya Thomas, a tough act to swallow: The 99-pound woman has burst upon the world of competitive eating like a thunderbolt. "I don't like to lose. I have to be the best," says Thomas, who is being hyped as "a cross between Billie Jean King, Anna Kournikova and a Jackal loose on the Serengeti."

two blond dominatrices. Somebody sings a heartfelt "God Bless America," and then, as confetti falls, one dominatrix climbs a ladder and ceremoniously drops an egg to the floor-splatt-and the contest begins.

Tiny Sonya Thomas rips into her wings, cheeks bulging like Dizzy Gillespie in mid-solo.

"Sonya has taken an early lead!" the emcee bellows.

Sonya Thomas burst upon the world of competitive eating like a thunderbolt.

On TV, she'd see the annual Fourth of July hot dog eating contest at Nathan's on Coney Island and it ignited a hunger inside her-for fame, for fortune, for

Avoid many pitfalls of overindulgent parenting

Ask yourself if the tools and skills you're teaching your child will serve him when he's 15 or 22. "How will this behavior be tolerated at a workplace?" queried Connie Dawson, co-author of "How Much is Enough? Everything You Need to Steer Clear of Overindulgence and Raise Likeable, Responsible and Respectful Children."

Make children pay you back. For example, if you help them do something they should be able to do on their own, require them to do an extra chore to compensate you for your time.

On children's birthdays, let them choose a new privilege and a new responsibility.

Hold children responsible for their actions, even accidental ones. Let children clean up messes, or if one hurls the other, let the perpetrator get ice or a Band-Aid for the victim. "Otherwise, parents are teaching children that it doesn't matter what they do - they just have to say 'sorry' and they're off the hook," said Elizabeth Cray, a Seattle parent educator and author.

Don't save your kids. Example: Your child leaves the spelling list at school. Put the problem on him: "How are you going to get your spelling words, then?" Cray advises. Maybe he needs to call a friend and write down the whole list by hand. "Don't make forgetting easier than remembering," she said.

If you're tempted to over-venture, adopt a puppy or volunteer.

Let kids suffer consequences. You insist kids clean their rooms before going to a play date; they

procrastinate. Etc... and pick up toys because they'll be disappointed not to go. "It teaches children you'll do stuff if they just don't do it," Cray said.

Don't soften the blow. If parents impose consequences, kids are often unhappy. That's OK, Cray says. Don't make them feel better by letting them watch a favorite video or eat ice cream.

Don't assume that because you're not rich, you can't overindulge your kids. The majority of adults overindulged as children reported their family had the same, less or much less money than their neighbors, according to "How Much is Enough?"

If older kids balk at chores, discontinue family services, such as rides to friends or favorite snacks for school lunches.

If you realize you've been overindulgent, don't try to change everything at once. You'll get too much resistance from your child and end up giving up, which is another bad message. Instead, start with one step and enforce it consistently until it's habitual. Then move on to another challenge.

Help kids distinguish between needs and desires. "Kids should want for things once in a while," Dawson said. As her book notes, "If every day is an exciting high, the highs get flat and are never high enough."

Accept your unpopularity. "Kids will always push," Dawson said. "It's up to the parent to decide where 'no' is, and to hold it."

-Source: Seattle Times

Please see EATING, Page E5

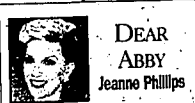
FAMILY LIFE

Grandma plays favorites between siblings

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Todd," and I have been happily married for four years and together for six. We have a daughter (mine from a former marriage) and a beautiful little boy together. I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that Todd loves both children equally. Despite some tough financial times over the past two years, we are a happy family.

Our problem? Todd's mother, who has a negative, bitter woman who insists she "can't possibly" show our daughter the same love she shows our son. She sends affectionate notes to our son; none to our daughter. She shops at discount stores for our daughter and only the best shops for our son. She sent our son a beautiful handmade toy and our daughter a pencil - yes, a pencil!

Please understand this isn't about gifts or the amount she spends. It's about the obvious disparity. Even worse, she's always saying that Todd couldn't possibly love our daughter the way he does our son. Need I tell you the damage this has already done to our daughter?



DEAR ABBY Jeanno Phillips

We are at our wit's end. Todd is ready to just walk away from his mother. I know we can't change the way she feels, but are we wrong to insist that she not show it so openly to our daughter? Help, please.

READY TO WALK AWAY DEAR READY: You are not wrong. What you have described is emotional abuse on the part of your mother-in-law. Her blatant favoritism is heartless, deliberate and harmful to your children's relationship with each other - not to mention damaging your daughter's self-esteem. If she fails to comply, you are also justified in limiting or restricting her contact with them.

DEAR ABBY: My mother passed away two years ago and I still have

Write to Abby and letters to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069, or via her Web site at http://www.DearAbby.com

many of her things. I'm afraid that she'll understand that I don't love her or respect her belongings. If I don't keep everything...

My question is, do you think she'll understand that I don't have a lot of space in my house? Do you have any ideas about where I could put her things? Thank you for taking the time to answer my questions.

WITHOUT MOM IN WASHINGTON DEAR WITHOUT: Your mother left her things to you because she wanted you to enjoy them. Of course she would understand if you cannot use them all. She didn't intend for them to be a burden but a blessing.

Since there are more things than you need or want, please consider sharing the rest with other relatives who can appreciate their sentimental value. If that's not possible, donate them to a charity - possibly one that raises money to fight the disease that took her. I can't think of a more worthwhile use for them than that.

DEAR ABBY: My long-divorced father was befriended by a well-to-do family from another country who has lived in the United States for a few years. They invited him to accompany them on a four-week visit to their country. While there, they talked him into marrying (on paper only) one of their sisters so that her child could get a U.S. visa.

The child has now arrived in the U.S. My father thinks he did a wonderful thing. I think he was used. What do you think?

CONCERNED IN MINNESOTA DEAR CONCERNED: I think your father committed immigration fraud. Please consult an immigration attorney on his behalf immediately. What I think is less important than what the INS will think if they get wind of his "good deed."

WEDDINGS

LAUBBACHER-EVANS

SAN DIEGO - Jenna Laubbacher and Aaron Evans were married Jan. 10 at Mission Bay in San Diego, Calif.

The bride is the daughter of Mark and Karen Anderson of San Diego. The bridegroom is the son of Pastor Jim and Patty Evans of Twin Falls.

The groom's father, Pastor Jim Evans of Heritage Alliance Church, officiated the ceremony. Sarah Laubbacher, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Kevin Gray, friend of the groom, was best man.



Jenna and Aaron Evans The groom is a graduate of Kimberly High School and is a senior at Simpson College in Redding, Calif. The couple resides in Redding.

GEIST-DAISHER

BUIH - Nikki Sue Geist and Miles E. Daisher were married Feb. 14 at the Bryan home overlooking Donner Lake and mountains in Truckee, Calif.

The bride is the daughter of Harry and Dorothy Geist of Buhl. The bridegroom is the son of Philip and Mary Ellen Daisher of Penn Valley, Calif.

Chris Ernost officiated the ceremony. Pat Tisholtz was the guitarist and soloist.

Arienne Venzon and Sarah Slothover, friends of the bride, served as the bride's maids of honor.

Bridesmaids included Jenny Apperson and Brittany Stannahan, friends of the bride. Ashley Geist, niece of the bride, was the junior bridesmaid. Miranda Geist, niece of the bride, was the flower girl.

Shane McConkey, friend of the groom, served as best man. Groomsmen included James Friseth, Tad Fletcher and Charles Bryan, friends of the groom, and Mike Alexander, friend of the bride.

Ushers were Casey Geist, Stephen Ippolito, Ryan Geist, Kevin Tegan, Riley Geist, Michael Ippolito, Brandon Tegan, Jonah Tegan and Andrew Ippolito, nephews of the bride, and Bryan and Philip Lerch, nephews of the groom.

The groom, best man and groomsmen skydived from an airplane into the wedding site to begin the ceremony.

Special guests included Jim and Sue Sara of Buffalo, N.Y., aunt and uncle of the bride, and Bonnie



Nikki and Miles Daisher Selfert of Kent, Ohio, aunt of the groom. A reception and dance was held following the ceremony at the Bryan home. An after-wedding party was held Feb. 15 to view the current film about the couple on the Discovery Channel.

Wendy Tegan and Ashley Ippolito, sisters of the bride, and Shelley Lerch, sister of the groom, served at the reception.

Jeff Geist and Pete Geist, brothers of the bride, and Rick Tegan, brother-in-law of the bride, were the greeters.

The bride is a graduate of Twin Falls High School, Willamette University in Salem, Ore., and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo., with a master's degree in occupational therapy. She is employed by the state of California and the state of Nevada.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Chico State University in Chico, Calif. He is employed as an athlete with the Red Bull organization.

The newlyweds reside in Truckee, Calif.

EWING-BEEM

BILLINGS, Mont. - Whitney Ewing and Derek Beem were married Dec. 20, 2003, at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Billings, Mont.

The bride is the daughter of Kelly Ewing and Duane and Debbie Anderson, also of Billings. The bridegroom is the son of Steve and Debbie Beem of Eden.

Tiffani Ouradnik, friend of the bride, served as the bride's maid of honor.

Jeff Ouradnik, friend of the groom, served as best man.

Andrew Johnson, cousin of the bride, was the ringbearer. A reception was held following the ceremony at the Yellowstone Country Club in Billings.

The bride is a graduate of Montana State University in Billings with a degree in communications. She is employed at



Whitney and Derek Beem Washington Pavilion. The bridegroom is a graduate of Rocky Mountain College in Billings with a degree in business management. He is employed at Wells Fargo Bank.

The newlyweds reside in Sioux Falls, S.D.

ANNIVERSARY

THE GREENERS

BURLEY - Delano and Mary Greener will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house Saturday, March 13. Friends and relatives are invited to call from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Unity LDS Church, 250 E. 274 S., Burley. They request no gifts.

The couple was married March 13, 1954, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple.

They both attended Burley High School. He owned and operated Greenway Canvas for more than 25 years. She was secretary for Springdale Kindergarten, Mountain View Elementary School and White Pine Intermediate School, working for more than 23 years in the Cassia School District. They both retired in 2001 to serve a family history mission in Salt Lake City, Utah. They have been actively engaged in many positions in the LDS Church.

The couple has six children: Ben (Karl) Greener of Timonony, Utah, Bryce (Sheri) Greener of Burley, Bryce (Victoria) Schaner of Burley, Daria (Craig) Greener-Blake of



Mary and Delano Greener Ribley, Barney (Sherrie) Greener of Burley and Brent (Laura) Greener of Burley. They have 38 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.



Mary and Delano Greener Ribley, Barney (Sherrie) Greener of Burley and Brent (Laura) Greener of Burley. They have 38 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

ENGAGEMENTS

BROADHEAD-DE LOS REYES

BURLEY - Elaine Broadhead and Brandon De Los Reyes announce their engagement.

The bride is the daughter of Jeff and LuAnn Broadhead of Burley. The bridegroom is the son of Jose and Debbie De Los Reyes of Chubbuck.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, March 13, at the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. An open house to honor the couple will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 12, at 906 E. 18th Lane in Burley. A reception will be held Saturday, March 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Mystique Theater, 156 E. Chubbuck Road in Chubbuck. There will be a reception line from



Brandon De Los Reyes and Elaine Broadhead

2 to 2:30 p.m. with a dance immediately following.

BARNES-SCHWERMAN

TWIN FALLS - Paul and Gretchen Barnes of Bakersfield, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Jessica Barnes to Taylor Schwerman, son of Chuck and Julie Schwerman of Twin Falls.

Barnes is a 2003 graduate of the University of San Diego. She is currently completing her student teaching in San Diego as a graduate student at the University of San Diego.

Schwerman is also a 2003 graduate of the University of San Diego. He is employed at Deloitte International Accounting Firm in



Taylor Schwerman and Sarah Barnes The wedding is planned for Saturday, June 26, in San Diego.

BECK-MILLER

BURLEY - Reid and Karen Beck of Burley announce the engagement of their daughter, Summer Joy Beck, to Brent Drew Miller, son of Joseph and Judy Miller of Sandy, Utah.

Beck is 1995 graduate of Burley High School and a 2002 graduate of Brigham Young University. She served an LDS mission to Salta, Argentina. She is employed at Timpanogos Elementary School in Provo, Utah.

Miller is a 1993 graduate of Alta High School in Sandy, Utah, and a 2003 graduate of Utah Valley State College. He served an LDS mission in Melbourne, Australia. He is employed by JC Penney corporate office in Salt Lake City, Utah. The wedding is planned for Saturday, March 13, in the Mount



Summer Beck and Brent Miller Timpanogos LDS Temple in American Fork, Utah. A reception to honor the couple will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. March 13 at the Ambulatory Surgery Center, 1344 Hilland Ave., Burley.

PARTRIDGE-REED

TWIN FALLS - Stephen and Brenda Partridge of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Megan E. Partridge, to Tyron J. Reed, son of Rick and Halli Reed of Riverton, Wyo.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, May 1, in Twin Falls. The couple will reside in Riverton, Wyo.



Tyron Reed and Megan Partridge

MCENTARFFER-WALKER

JEROME - Carl and Judy McEntarffer of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Marie McEntarffer, to Brian Craig Walker, son of Anthony and Machele Walker of Jerome and Robert and Lorrie Perkins of Hazelton.

McEntarffer is a 2003 graduate of Jerome High School and attended Idaho State University. She is employed at Idaho Home Health and Hospice in Twin Falls.

Walker is a 2000 graduate of Valley High School and a graduate of the College of Southern Idaho. He is serving in the U.S. Army in Fort Bragg, N.C.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, May 1, in Jerome. A



Brian Walker and Stephanie McEntarffer reception will be held at 4 p.m. May 1 at El Sombbrero Restaurant in Jerome.

FEDDERS-GAALSWYK

CASTLEFORD - Roger and Bonnie Fedders of Irwin, Iowa, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Jo Fedders, to Donald Lee Gaalswyk II, son of Donald and Dianna Gaalswyk of Castleford.

Fedders is a 2000 graduate of Unity Christian High School in Orange City, Iowa, and a 2003 graduate of Donald College. She is currently employed at Hy-Vee in Sioux Center, Iowa.

Gaalswyk is a 1997 graduate of Castleford High School. He is employed at Rockledge Dairy in Castleford.

The wedding is planned for



Sarah Fedders and Donald Gaalswyk

at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the Moon Glo in Buhl.

BATES-EWING

BUIH - Judi Bates of Pocatello announces the engagement of her daughter, Angela Christine Bates, to Ray Ewing, son of Keith and Leilani Miesionig and Steve and Kathy Ewing, all of Buhl.

Bates is a graduate of Pocatello High School and is attending Idaho State University.

Ewing is a graduate of Buhl High School and ISU with a master's degree in English literature. The wedding is planned for 7 p.m. Friday, March 12, at Rocky Mountain Ministries Church in Pocatello. A reception will be held



Ray Ewing and Angela Bates at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the Moon Glo in Buhl.

SUNDERLAND-STOKER

RUPERT - Lee and Marjorie Sunderland of Rupert announce the engagement of their daughter, Malorie Sunderland, to Jamie Russell Stoker, son of David and Gloria Stoker of Chubbuck. Sunderland is a graduate of Minico High School and is currently attending Idaho State University, majoring in speech pathology.

Stoker is a graduate of Highland High School. He is employed by Desert Boobs in Pocatello. The wedding is planned for Friday, March 12, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. A reception to honor the couple will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at Peterson's Barn in Rupert.



Malorie Sunderland and Jamie Stoker

Passion

Continued from E1

doesn't sit well with the adolescent tendency toward extreme emotions. Andrea Pierce, 30, of Twin Falls, who has children 3, 9 and 11, said she might take her oldest to "The Passion" - but not the two youngest. And, she, too, liked the movie.

"But it's really bloody," she said. "Kids would be upset."

Larry Roper, who runs Interstate Amusements theaters in Twin Falls, says he hasn't seen many children under 12 accompany their parents to the film, but there have been a fair number of teenagers.

Teenagers were who the Motion Picture Association, the movie industry's major trade group, had in mind when it established the "R" rating, which stipulates that no one under 17 should be admitted unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The less stringent PG-13 was aimed at younger children, with the warning that some material in a movie might not be suitable for them.

Christine McNurlin, 51, of Twin Falls, whose youngest child is 18, said that's a crucial distinction in the case of "The Passion."

"I think it's important that a child be emotionally mature enough," she said.

The extensive publicity about the film's violent content - and widespread knowledge of the story on which the movie is based - may help youngsters prepare themselves, Pierce said.

"It's about what happened to Jesus," she said. "And everyone knows it's a violent story." Appearing on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," Gibson said many of the events in the Bible would be R-rated if they were recounted on a movie screen. "I mean, look at that book," he told Leno. "That's a hot book."

The Associated Press contributed to this report

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com

Basque cooking Here's how, and the story behind it. Wednesday in Food and Home

Americans see the big picture - and it's flat

The Washington Post

Americans own about 240 million TV sets. But they aren't good enough.

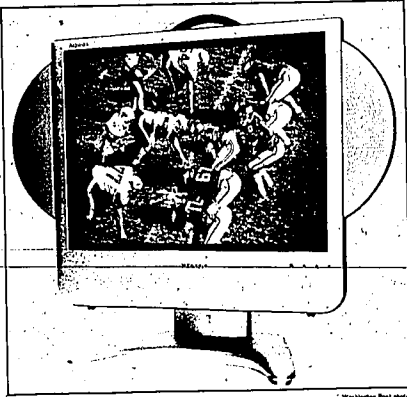
At least that's the impression one gets when looking at the astounding sales of the newest flat-panel and slim-profile TVs that have been flying off the shelves in the past year.

"I'd say flat screens are 90 percent of our TV sales right now," said John Myer, president of Maryland-based audio-visual chain MyerEmco. "A year ago it was probably 50 percent. It's been pretty tripled last year, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. In 2003, 657,000 flat-panel TVs were shipped to dealers from manufacturers, up from 191,000 the year before, pumping hundreds of millions of dollars into the hands of giddy retailers.

What is driving these sales, when we already have 2.3 televisions per household? It's not as if these are inexpensive purchases, though the prices have come down substantially. Yet people are ponying up hundreds to thousands of dollars to put yet another screen in their homes.

This buying binge is not about need. It's about want. And what's driving it is a confluence of sociological, psychological and cultural forces, coupled with recent advances in technology. It's about "The Jetsons" and what women want as much as it is about plasma and picture quality.

New flat-screen televisions generally have terrific picture quality. The 7 or 8 percent of U.S. consumers who are getting HDTV video signals on their nifty new sets



Washington Post photo

Sales of flat-panel televisions of all kinds more than tripled last year, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. Here, a wireless Sharp Aquos LCD flat-panel model that is only 15 inches and costs \$4,800.

are getting unsurpassed color and clarity. But a recent survey by Portland, Ore.-based QuixelResearch LLC showed that when it comes to why people are buying these pricey TVs, the beauty of the picture on the screen pales in comparison with the beauty of the set itself.

Fully 42 percent of new purchasers of flat-panel televisions rated the way the set looked—its flatness, its design or the way it fit into a room—as the primary reason for buying one. Just 18 percent cited picture quality. That was a stark

change from the year before, when, in the same survey by Quixel, a majority of flat-screen TV purchasers said picture quality was their main motivation.

Why has the design aesthetic taken the top spot? "Because women want these TVs, too. Enticing pictures of sleek and elegant televisions have been proliferating in all kinds of magazines and advertisements, and women are noticing. The small LCD versions, up to 20 inches or so, can fold under a wall cabinet in the kitchen or be hidden behind a mirror in the bath-

room. The way people in the industry describe the situation, women like unobtrusive TVs that won't ruin a room.

Women even like the bigger-plasma versions of flat televisions, now that they can be hung on the wall. And there are companies that make specially designed pieces of art to cover the plasma TV above that fireplace. Hilli a button and Monet's "Water Lilies" reacts so you can watch "Survivor."

"Women who fought having these big boxes in their homes now have no problem—it fits a lifestyle. It's not intrusive. They can make it look good in their home," said George Danko, senior vice president of consumer electronics and home essentials for retail chain Best Buy.

The Wife Acceptance Factor, or WAF as insiders refer to it, is a huge shift for an industry that has grown up marketing almost exclusively to men. Big-screen televisions have been selling well for years as baby boomers install home theater systems in their family rooms. But to the men who have been driving these purchases, the ugly factor of a screen that takes up too much, except to the extent that their plans were regularly nixed by disapproving spouses.

There is something about the look of these televisions that seems to get buyers particularly excited. In a country with a rising taste levels, these new contraptions have universal appeal.

That is due, in part at least, to Hanna-Barbera and its popular 1960s space-age cartoon, "The Jetsons." Television industry executives make repeated references to the famed show as a way to explain the "must-have" factor of the sleek new screens.

Virgo: Beware of speaking harshly

HOROSCOPE
Jeralaine Saunders

IF MARCH 7 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... you have a sincere capacity for understanding others. Relationships appear to dominate your life for the next several months. You have changed your outlook drastically in the past year and have discarded old things, people and ideas. Now is the time to plant some fresh thoughts and reap the rewards.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): You are revving up to put your money where your mouth is. The week ahead is ideal to focus on business. It's also a good week to pursue the person of your dreams.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): With Venus in your sign for the next several weeks, you are more likely to feel loving and kind than social activities will attract your attention. A new special friendship may brighten the next two days.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You should watch what you say the next few days as it might come out the wrong way and offend others. Keep sane remarks to yourself. Your ability to penetrate to the truth of matters, however, will be very keen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Focus on work and health may take priority this week as you focus on achieving your goals. If you apply yourself, you can finish projects. Slow and easy does it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The week ahead looks perfect for amusing yourself and having some playtime. If you tap into the energy at hand, you will find yourself making some powerful career moves, and enjoying it as well. Don't be impulsive with money.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Crossed energies ahead warn that you should beware of speaking too harshly or letting sarcasm get out of hand. You can view the truth

clearly, but it may be best to keep your observations to yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are more incisive mentally. You will need to bring your natural diplomacy to bear on some rocky situations in the workplace. Use criticism as a fulcrum to take action and improve situations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Relationships are building energy, and you will need to think about the direction you want them to take. Demands on your resources could require a decision in the next several days. You will be able to rise to the occasion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A tendency to say the wrong thing causes you a brief period of upset in the next few days. Since you may be feeling almighty powerful, you might ride roughshod over those in your way without noticing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Beware of the crosscurrents your love life could cause you trouble if some latent jealousy is aroused. Try to be more considerate of others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have a couple of pretty good days ahead and will feel more sociable and outgoing. You can forge ahead on your goals, and it will be easy to focus your energies toward accomplishments.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): A brief period of mental upset could mar the next few days, but don't lash out or retaliate. Use your current mental acuity to analyze the situation so that you can focus your energies toward making a positive mark in public.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Center

530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. The cost is \$5 for non-seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Pool room open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center will be open Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Menu: Monday: Sweet and Sour Pork over rice, oriental veggies, jello salad, cinnamon rolls.
Tuesday: Swiss steak, beet salad, carrots and bread, bowl of fruit, cookie.

Wednesday: Beef stroganoff and noodles, coleslaw, mixed veggies, roll, dessert.
Thursday: Fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, apple salad, veggies and biscuit, pudding w/ cookies.

Friday: Lasagna, french bread, green beans, tossed salad, short-cake.

Activities: Today: Dance, 2-5 p.m.
Monday: Quilting
Tuesday: Exercise class, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Ticket Tuesday, Blood pressure
Wednesday: Quilting
Elks card club
Foot clinic
Jackpot trip
Thursday: Center pinocle, 1 p.m.

Friday: Quilting
Lunch bingo
Blood pressure
Exercise class
Saturday: Super Bingo, 1-3 p.m.

West End Senior Centers Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl

Menu: Today: Roast Beef Dinner
Monday: Chicken Ala King, salad, fruit, biscuit, dessert
Tuesday: Swedish meatballs, rice, apple salad, winter blend, bread, dessert
Wednesday: Cook's Choice
Thursday: Ham, baked potatoes, green beans, salad, roll, birthday cake

Activities: Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.
Monday: Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Tax Assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crafts, 1-4 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Birthday Dinner, noon
Blood pressure clinic, 11:45 a.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St.
Diners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals are available each mealtime.

Menu: Tuesday: Sliced ham

Thursday: Corned beef, potatoes, carrots

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

Menu: Monday: Ham and bean soup, corn bread, celery and carrot sticks, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Turkey, potatoes and gravy, scalloped tomatoes, carrot and raisin salad, zucchini bars
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff over noodles, oriental veggies, green pea salad, bread pudding
Thursday: Ham, scalloped potatoes, mixed veggies, pasta salad, apple crisp
Friday: Meat loaf, potatoes and gravy, peas and pearl onions, three-bean salad, carrot cake

Activities: Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early bird, 6:45 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinocle, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Foot clinic
Blood pressure
Friday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
BJ & Friends, 11:30 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.

Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc.

310 Main St. N., Kimberly

Menu: Monday: Lima beans and ham, tossed salad, rolls, cottage cheese, relish dish, peaches, cookie, coffee and milk
Tuesday: Kansas meat balls, hashbrowns, buttered carrots, coleslaw, bread, butter, jello, coffee and milk
Friday: Turkey casserole, lime jello, potato salad, brownie, coffee and milk

Activities: Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Crafts, 1 p.m.
Friday: Bingo, 11:55 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizens

308 Senior Ave.
All dinners - \$3 for seniors. Suggested donation - \$3 at noon.

Menu: Monday: Pepper steak, rice pilaf, spring veggies, salad, bread, brownie
Tuesday: Ham and cheese macaroni, mixed veggies, penny carrot salad, muffin, oatmeal raisin cake
Wednesday: New England clam chowder, broccoli salad, mixed fruit, bread, cinnamon roll
Thursday: Turkey, potatoes and gravy, green beans, frog eye salad, roll, pineapple upside-down cake

Activities: Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinocle, 12:30 p.m.
Potluck, Glens Ferry, 5 p.m.

Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.

Pool, 1 p.m.
Pinocle at Shoshone, 1:30 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Massages, 10:15 a.m.
Computer Lessons, 12 p.m.
Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Turkey, potatoes and gravy, scalloped tomatoes, carrot and raisin salad, zucchini bars
Friday: Fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, apple salad, veggies and biscuit, pudding w/ cookies

Blaine County Senior Center
721 Third Ave. S., Hailey

Menu: Monday: Chicken casserole, mashed potatoes, baked tomatoes, bean salad, garlic cheese bread, ice cream sundaes
Tuesday: Ham with pineapple sauce, baked macaroni and cheese, green beans, rolls, carrot raisin salad, warm apple pudding
Friday: Fish fillets or chicken, shake and bake potatoes, hot puppies, coleslaw frosted grapes, lemon pie

Hagerman Senior Center
140 E. Lake
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Lunch is served at noon and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non-seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

Menu: Monday: Spaghetti and meatballs, green beans, garlic bread, peach pie
Wednesday: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing
Friday: Potato-bar with fixin's salad, pie

Silver and Gold Senior Center
Eden
Suggested donations for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Mondays are cookie and bread bake days and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days. Closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day.

Menu: Tuesday: Pepper steak, rice, veggies, salad, fruit cup, cookie
Thursday: Chicken noodles, mashed potatoes, peas, salad, pumpkin cobbler

Activities: Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Years Senior Citizen, Inc.

218 N. Hall St. W., Shoshone
Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

Menu: Tuesday: Meat loaf, macaroni and cheese, green beans, jello fruit salad, dinner rolls, coffee, pudding
Thursday: Grilled cheese sandwich, beef noodle soup, carrot sticks, ketchup pie
Friday: Beef tips and gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed veggies, green salad w/ dressing, sugar cookies, peas

Activities: Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday: Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early-bird bingo, 6:30 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.

Thursday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Friday: Pinocle, 1 p.m.

Richfield Senior Center

Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

Menu: Monday: Fried fish, California mixed veggies, tart tots, green salad, apricots, brownies, hot dinner rolls
Thursday: Sub sandwich, veggie soup, rhubarb pie

Blaine County Senior Center

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey

Menu: Tuesday: Chicken casserole, mashed potatoes, baked tomatoes, bean salad, garlic cheese bread, ice cream sundaes
Wednesday: Ham with pineapple sauce, baked macaroni and cheese, green beans, rolls, carrot raisin salad, warm apple pudding
Friday: Fish fillets or chicken, shake and bake potatoes, hot puppies, coleslaw frosted grapes, lemon pie

Activities: Monday: Twin Falls shopping, 9 a.m.
Tuesday: Massage, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Tax assistance, 9 a.m.
Development committee, 8:30 a.m.
Board meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Presentations on "Seizure Disorder," 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Carey Exercise, 10 a.m.

Three Island Senior Center

492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glens Ferry

Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Beverages with meals. Tables are available by phoning the center at 356-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for non-seniors under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Menu: Monday: Pot luck pork roast
Tuesday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, peas, carrots, oatmeal cookie, Texas toast
Thursday: Roast pork with rice, mushroom gravy, mixed veggies, citrus salad, bread

Activities: Monday: Roast pork potluck, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilt, 1 p.m.
Crafts, 5-6 p.m.
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.
Cardio, 1 p.m.

Camas County Senior Center

127 E. Willow, Fairfield

Noon meals are served Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on meal days. The cost of the meal for non-seniors is \$3.50; children under 10 are \$2.00. The suggested donation for those 60 years of age and older is \$2.50.

Menu: Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tax preparation by appointment, Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Pool 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Craft Class, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Art class, 9 a.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Pool, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert

Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Menu: Monday: Salad, Parmesan chicken, noodles, rolls, veggies, pie
Tuesday: Cottage cheese, sausage, biscuits and gravy, mixed veggies, jello
Wednesday: Bean salad, pork chops, potato casserole, carrots, rolls, cheese cake
Thursday: Coleslaw, beef stew, orange wedges, biscuits, pie
Friday: Smogashbord

Activities: Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu: Monday: Beef stir fry, peas and carrots, coleslaw, fruit, strawberries, cake
Tuesday: Ham and beans, cornbread, jello fruit, peaches, ice cream
Wednesday: Turkey and all the trimmings
Thursday: Chicken fried-steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, fruit jello, dessert
Friday: Herb cut, hashbrown bake, brussel sprouts, roll, peaches, frosted orange pie

Activities: Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Dominos, 10 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Activities: Monday: Buffet, 1 p.m.
Monday: Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Tax Assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crafts, 1-4 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Birthday Dinner, noon
Blood pressure clinic, 11:45 a.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.

4 Ways Travel Service, Inc

Carlson Wagonlit Travel

TRAVEL, FASHION & FINANCE SHOW

Women Helping Other Women

Saturday, March 13, 2004 • 12:30 PM at the Turf Club

- Travel Trends & Tips - Skin Care with Make-up Techniques
- Spring Fashion Show - Information on Responsible Healthcare
- Bragging for Women - Variety of Desserts & Refreshments

Call us for tickets at these women-owned businesses:
4 Ways Travel Steven Pierce & Associates
Black Rock Clothiers Beauty Consultant Helen Odenwald
Tickets will also be available at WOMEN'S HEALTH (Magic Valley Regional Medical Center), All proceeds go to MYRC's Breast Cancer Endowment Fund. Tickets: \$9.50 ea.

Call 734-7805 • 800-342-9728
160 2nd St. W., Twin Falls, ID 83401
Visit our Web site: www.4waystravel.com

Pool 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
S.I.H.B.A. assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.

Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7 a.m.-noon. Adults, \$4.25. Children under 10, \$3.50. Family of five, \$17.50

Golden Heritage Senior Center

2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu: Monday: Beef stir fry, peas and carrots, coleslaw, fruit, strawberries, cake
Tuesday: Ham and beans, cornbread, jello fruit, peaches, ice cream
Wednesday: Turkey and all the trimmings
Thursday: Chicken fried-steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, fruit jello, dessert
Friday: Herb cut, hashbrown bake, brussel sprouts, roll, peaches, frosted orange pie

Activities: Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Dominos, 10 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Menu: Monday: Salad, Parmesan chicken, noodles, rolls, veggies, pie
Tuesday: Cottage cheese, sausage, biscuits and gravy, mixed veggies, jello
Wednesday: Bean salad, pork chops, potato casserole, carrots, rolls, cheese cake
Thursday: Coleslaw, beef stew, orange wedges, biscuits, pie
Friday: Smogashbord

Activities: Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu: Monday: Beef stir fry, peas and carrots, coleslaw, fruit, strawberries, cake
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Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Dominos, 10 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Menu: Monday: Salad, Parmesan chicken, noodles, rolls, veggies, pie
Tuesday: Cottage cheese, sausage, biscuits and gravy, mixed veggies, jello
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Thursday: Coleslaw, beef stew, orange wedges, biscuits, pie
Friday: Smogashbord

Activities: Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu: Monday: Beef stir fry, peas and carrots, coleslaw, fruit, strawberries, cake
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Wednesday: Turkey and all the trimmings
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Friday: Herb cut, hashbrown bake, brussel sprouts, roll, peaches, frosted orange pie

Activities: Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Dominos, 10 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Night pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marzantonio - 735-3288

Sunday, March 7, 2004

The Times-News

Page E-4



Miss Kimberly will be crowned

KIMBERLY - Fifteen young women from Kimberly High School will vie for the title of Miss Kimberly.

The scholarship pageant will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Kimberly High School old gymnasium. The cost is \$8 per person, including children.

The contestants will vie for five College of Southern Idaho Presidential Scholarships and a Spirit of Miss Kimberly Award from the Kimberly Lions Club.

For the Miss Kimberly Queen for a Day Mentorship program, Local organizations, such as Wishing Star Foundation, have selected girls ages 5-12 to be paired with a pageant contestant who will become an encouraging friend and mentor.

The theme for this year's pageant is "When You Wish Upon A Star." Students from Kimberly High School will present a talent showcase of music and dance in an annual revue.

Participants are: Sarah Sargeant, daughter of Steve and Vicki Sargeant, is a senior, plays piano and is in the National Honor Society and Business Professionals of America.

Laura Allen, the daughter of David and Brenda Allen, is a senior, active in softball and plays harp and piano.

Jadey Graham, the granddaughter of Floyd and Deanna Finney, is a junior and active in choir.

Natalie Fowers, the daughter of Mike and Laura Fowers, enjoys running and is active in National Honor Society.

Alyson Loosle, the daughter of Kent and Wendell Loosle, is a junior, plays piano and is active in Key Club, BPA and Honor Society.

Katie Shirley, the daughter of James and Carol Shirley, is junior, active in FFA and 4-H and enjoys writing and swimming.

Danielle Everill, the daughter of Brian and Becky Everill, is a junior, plays piano, horseback rides and has participated in choir.

Lauren Almand, the daughter of John and Lorraine Jessor and Greg Almand, enjoys writing and drawing and is active in Honor Society.

Michele McRoberts, the daughter of Wally and Bobba McRoberts, is a junior and enjoys swimming, drawing and working out.

Altea Meza, Carlos and Patrece Meza, is a junior and enjoys piano, singing, snowboarding and volleyball.

Ashley Remaley, the daughter of Wes and Renee Remaley, enjoys art, dance and poetry writing.

Whitney Bollwinkle, the daughter of Barry and Rhonda Bollwinkle, is a senior, active on the softball team and enjoys art, piano and guitar.

Ashley Bollwinkle, the daughter of Barry and Rhonda Bollwinkle, has been active on the softball team and enjoys piano and snowboarding.

Carissa Bertero, the daughter of Henry and Cricket Mitchell, is a senior and on the cheerleading squad.

Melissa Larson, the daughter of Neil and Terry Larson, is a junior, active in softball and volleyball and enjoys photography.

Organizers strongly encourage finding child care for small children because of the program's length of more than two hours.

For more information, call Chris Burton at 423-4729, Pam Hammond at 423-4001 or Trena Fullmer at 423-233.

STORK REPORT

Magie Valley Regional Medical Center

Lillian Marie Griffith, daughter of Kay Lynn Hansen and Anthony Charles Griffith of Shoshone, was born Thursday, Feb. 12, 2004.

Allen LeRoy Wilson, son of Crispy-Brooke and Allen LeRoy Wilson of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2004.

Dino Ibrahim, son of Adisa and Sead Ibrahim of Twin Falls, was born Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2004.

Natalie Kay Tracy, daughter of Tawny Lynn Clayville-Tracy and Bryce Eugene Tracy, was born Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004.

Jasmine Marie Mower, daughter of Jennifer Lynn Mower of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004.

Lydia Dawn Casey, daughter of Jennifer Lynn and Andrew Edward Casey of Jerome, was born Friday, Feb. 27, 2004.

Elle Ann Saxton, daughter of Wendy Ann and William Solomon

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to: Jami Whitte The Community Page The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 Office to: 734-5538 Deadline: noon-Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper. More information? Call 735-3278

Dennis of Jerome, was born Monday, March 1, 2004.

St. Benedicts Family Medical Center

Brianna Elizabeth Carlos, was born to Jose Luis and Elizabeth Carlos.

Alcilia Rosali Perez, daughter of Danellie-Palermo of Jerome, was born Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2004.

Gabriel Seth Meyer, son of Joshua and Alicia Meyer of Shoshone, was born Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004.

Isadora Gabrielle Johnson, daughter of Lane Johnson and Sonia Hernandez of Jerome, was born Sunday, Feb. 21, 2004.

Jacob Andrew Price, son of James Hankins and Samantha Price of Twin Falls, was born Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004.

Gonzalo Antonio Tupa, son of Victor and Kasie Tapia of Shoshone, was born Sunday, Feb. 29, 2004.

ROCK AND GEM SHOW



Joe and Rita Arellano of Jerome man a booth at the annual Rock and Gem Show. The Magie Valley Gem Club will host its 2004 show at the Boys & Girls Club, 999 Frontler Road in Twin Falls. The show will run from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 14. Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children under age 12 with an adult. The event will include five dealers, displays, silent auction, wheel of fortune, a "hands-on" mineral table, grab bags, door prizes and demonstrations, such as wire wrapping and faceting. For more information, call show chairman Harold O. Waggoner at 423-9688.



Jerome postmaster Tony Sabala with retired postmasters Mac McKinney, Leo Coates, Sandra Turberville, Bill Barnes, Oma Hall and Myrl Wilson at the February meeting of the Jerome Historical Society.

Historical society hears about soil conservation

JEROME - The Jerome Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Jerome Civic Club Memorial Library. The program will be given by Lew Pence of Gooding, who is a retired Soil Conservation District director and still involved with the organization. Visitors are welcome. Refreshments will be served. A near-capacity crowd attended the Jerome Historical Society February program and meeting.

Tony Sabala, local postmaster, presented a program on the history of the Postal Service in the country, especially in the Jerome area. The Jerome Post Office was originally established in Lincoln County and Adeline Becker was appointed to the first postmaster's position in 1907. Regular mail service by stagecoach began in 1908. In 1911 two rural routes were started. When routes were established and regular delivery began, many of the community post

offices closed. One of those was located in Falls. City will Walter Copp the postmaster, followed by Guy Towle in 1913. Sabala said that city-wide delivery did not come to Jerome until 1948. Honored guests were eight retired Jerome postal workers, who were received a historical calendar from the society. Harold Greg was not able to attend the meeting. He is 95 and retired in 1970 after 35 years of service in Jerome.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CSI Mini-Cassia Center adds classes to schedule

BURLEY - The College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia Center has added several classes to the spring enrichment schedule.

"Beginning Conversational Spanish" will be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays, April 8-29. Students will speak, write and read the Spanish commonly spoken in this area.

"Writing for Therapy" will be held from 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 7-28. Writers will not be required to share their writing, but will learn skills to get thoughts on paper.

Classes will be held in room B12. The cost of each class is \$40. Classes have limited enrollment and fill quickly. Register by phone using a credit card or stop by the Mini-Cassia center at 1600 Parke Ave. For more information, call 670-1100.

Bruneau Sand Dunes observatory opens

BRUNEAU - The Bruneau Dunes Astronomical Observatory will open for the season on Friday.

Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. with an informative orientation program in the multimedia auditorium at 7 p.m.

March should be an excellent month (weather permitting) for viewing planets, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn should all be within the reach of telescopes.

according to the observatory. Visitors should bring warm clothing for the cold night air. Admission is \$3 for adults, children under age 6 are free. There is a \$4 vehicle fee at the park entrance.

Buhl Knights of Columbus serves corned beef dinner

BUHL - A corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. March 14 at the Immaculate Conception Hall, 1631 Poplar in Buhl.

The all-you-can-eat dinner is served by the Buhl Knights of Columbus. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. Children age 6 and under eat free.

Methodist church offers to give parents a break

TWIN FALLS - The First United Methodist Church, 360 Shoshone St. E., is offering to give parents a break and watch children from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 12.

Everyone is welcome for this free service. For more information, call 733-5872.

Better Breathers Club gets tips on better breathing

TWIN FALLS - The Better Breathers Club will meet at noon March 16 at the Office on Aging Annex at the College of Southern Idaho, 998 Washington St. N.

Lisa Weinard, a respiratory thera-

pist from Praxair, a medical supply company, will talk about a seasonal health check and tips for better breathing.

For more information, call Wehnard at 733-4450 or Mardo Eaton at 734-6507.

West Magic club hosts birdhouse building program

SHOSHONE - The West Magic Lake Recreation Club will meet at 11 a.m. Saturday at the club deck area, 950 West Magic Road 14.

Pon Wright-Pulliam will provide a presentation on birdhouse building. Supplies will be provided.

A general meeting will be held at noon March 14 at the Burien West Resort, 960 West Magic Road 20.

For more information, call 487-2288 or visit www.danfools.com.

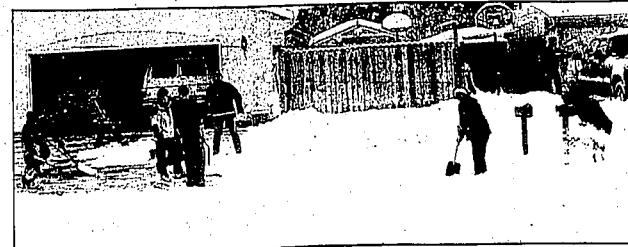
AARP hears about antiques, collectibles

BURLEY - The Mini-Cassia Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday at Golden Heritage Senior Center, 2421 Overland Ave. in Burley.

Gloria Adams of Rupert will speak on antiques and collectibles. Everyone is welcome.

New officers are Beilo Harrison, president; Merle Sager, first vice president; Virginia Hansen, second vice president; Gladys Harrison, secretary; and Donna Sager, treasurer. Ellen Christensen is membership chairman.

GOOD NEIGHBORS



People turned out to help clean each other's driveways on Gallup Drive in Twin Falls when nine inches of snow fell. But helping each other is not unusual on Gallup Drive. Neighbors share food and always help each other, said neighbor Danny Lumsden. "This is the nicest street. Everybody looks out for everybody on this street." Three different neighbors shoveled her drive way and she in turned helped other neighbors.

Norwood completes weeks of basic Marine training

Marine Corps Pvt. Woodrow W. Norwood III, son of Miria L. and Woodrow W. Norwood of Hazelton, has completed 12 weeks of basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.,

designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

In addition to physical conditioning, recruits spent numerous hours in the classroom and with field assignments that included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksman-

ship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. Recruits were taught to recruit. Norwood and fellow recruits performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training. Norwood and other recruits received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values.

Sunday Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

STEVEERINO! By Willy A. Wiseman, New York, New York

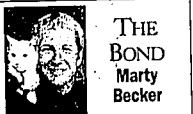
ACROSS 1 Thailand, once 5 Impet around 10 Genetic duplicate 15 Hebrew measure 19 to 20 Privately or 21 Vorobyev 22 River of Thebes 23 Crossword pattern 24 Shes from 25 Stephen's film? 26 Israel's airline 27 Party entertainment 28 British truck 29 Gauquain setting 30 Fall bloomer 32 Substrate 35 Entrance line 36 John Tyler's first lady 37 Steve's mishaps? 40 Continence 41 Iowa's state city 42 West of 'My Little Chickadee' 43 Brooder? 44 Knight's move 45 Church's successor 46 Nevada's act 48 San ... Texas 52 ... volatile 53 Fowl 54 Frodigious poet Stephen? 59 Fired 61 Wind 62 Long, counterpart 63 Circus Maximus wall 64 Microsilic mogul 66 Writer Steve? 71 French military caps 72 French card game 74 Aster of planet 75 Escort's offer 77 Columbus Barrett 78 Jazzy inflecker 79 Stevie? 81 Emily talk 84 Dejected 85 Desired to scratch 86 Klutz's comitant 87 Nevada wildfowl 89 West Coast sch. 92 Dodge fuel 93 ... 94 Perform again 95 Spot on a bet? 97 Steve's 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200

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- 121 Mahler's "Das Lied von der ..." 122 1945 conference site 123 Williams and Whitson 124 Singer 41 Greek letters 42 Surge through an entrance 43 Gran brittle 44 Of the 45 Earth crust layer 46 Intro 47 Reside where one works 48 Tropical blackbird 49 Old Chinese money 50 Kind of fruit 51 Rostrom's river 52 Not in that 53 Zich 54 Lent leftover 55 Not 56 Steve's career? 57 On-call army 58 Gov. med. grp. 59 SASE, e.g. 60 Money-gnuber 61 Sumo fin 62 Fit securely 63 Appointed time 64 Chose 65 Tins again 66 Medicinal marulast 68 Official seal of the Lord Chancellor 69 North of New York 90 Slicker 91 Given a position 94 1811-10-1020 100 Sicilian resort 96 Alias letters 97 Catch eight of 88 Spanish holiday 89 Diverse 100 Anticulated with the back of the tongue 101 Orange oil 102 Frat boys 104 Price ceiling 108 Tablet 109 Sicilian resort 111 Puts on years 114 Artie Chapman 115 Clan members

Sports safety for canines: Keep your pet in the game

America's fitness trend has gone to the dogs. Today, we aren't just staying in shape ourselves; we're also getting our pets off the couch and into organized sports activities.



THE BOND Marty Becker

Participation in various canine athletic adventures is at an all-time high. Last year, The American Kennel Club sponsored 1,400 agility trials involving more than 500,000 physically fit pooches. That's quite a jump from only a decade ago, when there were 23 AKC agility events with about 2,000 four-footed participants.

And you don't need a pedigreed dog to take part in shape enjoyable and bonding canine sports. Dogs and people both score big when they play sports together. Participating in these activities provides a great opportunity to bond with your pet, since the two of you will be practicing together, from leading and playing together as a team. Then there's the fitness factor: playing flyball or competing in retrieving contests will keep your pet trim, while it helps you shed a couple of pounds too.

Before you and your pet pack your gym bags and head off to achieve athletic glory together, take a few simple precautions to ensure the safety of yourself and your furry teammate. Your first step will be to select a canine sport that fits the age, lifestyle, temperament and physical stature of your pet. There are a wide range of exciting canine sports options available to you, from leading and skirting to dog version of cross-country skiing, to weight pulling and water retrieving, to more familiar activities like obedience and agility.

You should find a sport that will be comfortable and safe for both you and your pet. So, you probably don't want your squat, deep-chested bulldog to participate in a sport that requires a lot of running and jumping, or your short-coated Doberman to get involved in an outdoor winter sport. Regardless of what your requirements are, however, you and your pet are sure to find an athletic activity that you both can enjoy. A good place to do some research is www.workingdogweb.com. This researched site includes plenty of helpful information and links to canine sports organizations.

It's a good idea to consult with your veterinarian before getting your pet started in sports. Your vet

Doggie door crashing

Does your dog rush the door when someone is on the other side or when you go to open it? Perhaps it's time to teach your dog good door manners. It's only natural. A dog wants to be right at the door when you open it, to see who's there, to try and protect you or maybe to run out the open door. If you yell at the dog for charging the door, this only increases its concern that it needs to protect you. Greeting people first at the door is your job, not your dog's. Instead use rewards to teach your dog to sit and stay away from the doorway. Use visual cues like a line it shouldn't cross or a mat it needs to stay on. Do your training when no one is at the door and gradually increase the difficulty as your dog learns to stay in his place while you move towards the door. Eventually your dog will learn to wait patiently away from the door for his turn to greet the person at the door.

will be able to tell you if the activity you've chosen is compatible with your pet's age and physical condition. Although puppies love to play more than any creature on earth, you'll have to wait before sending them on the road to athletic stardom. A physically demanding sport can cause irreparable damage to a puppy's not-yet-fully developed bones. Also, they're still not quite coordinated, puppies are more prone to be injured when playing a sport.

You and your pet should both be in good physical shape before you begin actively participating in a sport. Proper conditioning is critical to avoiding sports injuries for you and your pet. So if the two of you aren't quite ready for prime time sports, start on a diet and exercise program before you enter competitions. On the subject of diet, the athletic dog will often have different nutritional requirements than

other pets. In many cases, particularly with cats, these dogs need a higher caloric intake in order to have the energy necessary to perform at their peak. Some people ensure that their canine teammates get the extra nutrients they require during competitions by giving them energy bar supplements like the ThunderDog Power Bar from Natural Life Pet Products (www.nlp.com). Your dog's specific dietary needs will vary, depending on his or her condition and your sport, so ask your veterinarian for advice.

An important rule of thumb (and paw!) is to make sure that you and your pet have the right equipment for your sport. Skipping in this area puts both of you at needless risk. The required "gear" will, of course, vary by game, but one thing I always recommend is to have a safe and secure traveling crate. In canine sports, where every game is a "road game," a good crate will be indispensable in helping you transport your tail-wagging teammate safely.

A final bit of advice regardless of which sport you choose to play with your pet, set realistic expectations. It doesn't matter how high the two of you finish in competitions. If you have fun, and get in some serious bonding, you and your dog will both be real winners.

Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker is the coauthor of the new book "Chicken Soup For The Horse Lover's Soul" and a popular veterinary contributor for ABC's "Good Morning America." Write to him by e-mail at knight_rtd@tribune.com or Knight_Rtd@Tribune.com. He is also a frequent contributor to National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20015.

7-year-old boy's strong interest in planes isn't necessarily unhealthy

Q: Our 7-year-old son has been obsessed with airplanes since he was 2. I do not use the term lightly—anyone who meets him is floored by his knowledge of planes. He is especially into World War II aircraft and the attack on Pearl Harbor. He builds models, reenacts the attack, knows every single ship, and so on. He talks nonstop about the various Japanese pilots, planes, and allied carriers. We have told him to cool it when it comes to talking about his interest with adults he's just met, because once he gets going he doesn't know how to stop. He knows that no other kids have this interest and wonders why it's called "weird" (this term). Is this something to be concerned about? Will admit to being numb from hearing him rattle on about this.



PARENTING John Rosemond

hood peers hid in collecting baseball cards. But many of today's parents tend to see a psychological issue behind any behavior or interest that is even slightly out of the ordinary. On the other hand, you should definitely let him know that dominating conversation with adults is not appropriate, that most adults will listen to him politely because they don't want to hurt his feelings, but that he needs to realize that listening to a long description of someone else's interest, when one has not solicited the description, can be significantly boring, even irritating.

I'd have no problem telling him this, in kind, but direct terms: "Your interest in airplanes, etc., is not a problem at all, and you are not weird because of it any more than someone who spends all day, nearly every day, designing airplanes is weird. We encourage you to continue developing this interest. We are certain that someday you will write an excellent book on the attack at Pearl Harbor and be regarded as a leading expert on the subject." For now, however, you need to learn to respect the fact that not everyone wants to hear you go on and on about it. Daddy is interested in (whatever), but you'll notice that he only shares his interest with people who express an interest, and not with just anyone. To help you learn this, we are going to give you a secret signal when we feel that you're starting to bore someone with your knowledge. When

we give you the signal, we want you to stop and find something else to do. If you seem to have a problem doing that, we will direct you toward something else." I'm recommending nothing more than that you help him develop self-discipline where this issue is concerned. Let this be a lesson to you: When parents think a problem is psychological in nature, their ability to discipline becomes paralyzed. So, loosen up!

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 26B, Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 and at his Web site: http://www.rosemond.com

Eating

Continued from E1 test started. And she won it going away, beating a dozen competitors by gulping 18 dogs in 12 minutes. On July 4, Thomas traveled to Coney Island to compete against the world's best eaters, including Takeru Kobayashi, the skinny Japanese superman who holds the world record: 50 1/2 hot dogs in 12 minutes. She finished with 25 dogs—but it was a new women's record.

Richard Shea, president of the International Federation of Competitive Eating, was stunned. He wondered: Who is this woman? The daughter of a poor carpenter in South Korea, Thomas earned a

college degree in hotel-management then worked in a hotel in Japan for a couple years. In 1997, at 30, she immigrated to the United States. She began working for a company that runs Burger Kings on military bases. At Andrews, she amazed co-workers by routinely devouring a dinner of 20 chicken nuggets, a Chicken Whopper and three king-size fries, washed down with huge Diet Cokes.

"Sonya's an eater," says her Burger King boss, Brad Dawypport. She has always preferred one gargantuan daily feast to three modest meals. "I eat a lot," she says. "I have a big stomach capacity." She also wants to be the best at something—and isn't that what America is all about? "In the U.S.," she says, "if you have the desire, you can do anything."

Know the score? Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

As in and of itself, I don't think this is anything to be concerned about, but there are psychologists who would disagree with me. Indeed, your son's interest in airplanes and air battles is a bit obsessive, but whether or not a given obsession is unhealthy is a matter of the extent, if any, to which it interferes with normal social, intellectual, and emotional functioning. If your son is not withdrawing socially into his "own little world" of World War II airplanes, if he readily participates in social activities, if he's doing fine in school, and if his emotional reactions are appropriate, then this degree of interest in one subject cannot really be said to be "unhealthy." It's unfortunate that your son thinks he's "weird." That, however, may be more of a function of the anxiety he feels coming from you than any message he's getting from his peers. In fact, it's hard for me to imagine that other 7-year-olds think something like this is strange. Like most parents today, you are "thinking psychologically" about something that may be no more significant than was the level of interest of some of my child-

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Centennial

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The Times-News

Page E-6

Sunday, March 7, 2004

Events bring readers together

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In 1918, Hazel (Malone) Aslett was born in the house in Twin Falls where serial murderer Lyda Southard had, shortly before, poisoned one of her husbands.

Aslett, now 85, has another historic house in her past.

She was 10 years old in 1928, when her family began its three-year stay in the home east of Twin Falls that Anne Pike Greenwood and her husband had built as a homestead prove-up site.

That house, which still stands, gained a prominent place in Magic Valley's historical consciousness when Greenwood wrote "We Sagebrush Folks," a book about early Twin Falls social and farm life.

Aslett, still a Twin Falls resident, bought a copy of "We Sagebrush Folks" expecting to read about several of her relatives who lived in the area. What she got was even closer to home.

Reading Greenwood's book was reliving her own life: "the way she described how they lived in that house — the old cook stove that was being fed with sagebrush for fuel, and how we took baths in the old wash-tub," Aslett said.

Not every Magic Valley reader will recognize so personal a tie to local literature.

But organizers of the third annual Magic Valley Reads event aim to test Twin Falls folks talking about local poetry, history, journalism and the stories of pioneer women. A series of literary events, all free, starts this week with a panel of journalists and newspaper columnists talking about newspapers' place in a community.

The five Magic Valley Reads! events are based — at least loosely — on a list of local authors' works, chosen to give a centennial flair to the communitywide reading project this year.

Organizers announced the titles on their suggested reading list in late November, to give readers time to prepare. (After all, the 2004 version of the communitywide project incorporates about 20 titles.) Organizers also hoped folks would spend some time between then and now discussing the selections informally.

"We think that we have some exciting programs, so read the books and be sure to come to the events. There will be some great discussions," said Susan Ash, a



Twin Falls Public Library patrons read newspapers and magazines in this 1965 photograph. A Magic Valley Reads! event this week will address the role of journalism in Twin Falls during the city's first century.

member of the Magic Valley Reads! steering committee.

Here's the plan for the first four Magic Valley Reads! events:

March 10

At a Twin Falls bookstore Wednesday, retired journalist Lorayne O. Smith will lead a four-person panel.

"We just plan to talk about what role the newspapers have had in our history," she said.

Smith, for instance, plans to discuss a time in the 1970s when *The Times-News* opposed plans for a coal-fired power plant in Lincoln County. Smith at the time covered Magic Valley's north-side counties as a reporter and wrote stories on the issue. Idaho Power Co. she said, subsequently dropped plans for the plant.

Whether or not you agree with the paper's stance, Smith said, the power plant incident is "an exam-

ple of what newspapers can do."

The panelists prepared remarks, totaling half an hour, will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

"We won't hold forth too long," Smith said.

Panelist James Varley — whose "Tales of the Tract" column about Twin Falls' early days appears in *The Times-News* every two weeks — will talk about newspapers as boosters of the growing community, Smith said.

During the city's centennial year, another role of journalism is increasingly evident: Books published recently by local historians rely heavily on old newspaper reports.

"It's obvious a newspaper is a very wonderful recorder of events," Smith said.

March 31

The second Magic Valley Reads!

event might well be the most lively.

Moderator Fran Frost said she and five other women will give an audiovisual presentation depicting women's stories from 1904-24, collected from numerous interviews, oral histories and local authors' works. They aim to give an overview of early Twin Falls women's lives at home, as professionals and in social circles — and do it within the context of state and national events.

"So that they're not just isolated stories," Frost said. Frost and her collaborators sought to learn what brought those women to the fledgling city and what they faced when they arrived. The presentation takes in the diverse experiences of city and country dwellers; women with families and those who were single; women who arrived with money and those who didn't.

"Audivisual" in this case, means the costumed presenters will com-

bine storytelling with music and historical photographs. They'll incorporate the Magic Valley Reads! books about women of early Twin Falls in both their prepared text and the discussion that follows their presentation.

In that discussion, they hope, audience members will share stories from their own family histories and comment on the books.

"This will be very lively," Frost said. "This is a spirited, ... crazy group." Lelle Poppleton finished the sentence.

April 7

"Poetry and poets of Twin Falls" is third in the discussion series. Don't be afraid to attend even if you haven't read any local poetry.

Moderator Jim Irons — a College of Southern Idaho English professor and Idaho's writer in residence for 2001-03 — and five other poets will read aloud from their own

works and those of their favorite fellow poets. For setting, they'll have an art theater in Old Towne.

Expect to hear a variety of styles from "six very different poets," Irons said.

Though four of the six teach at CSI, and the other two are former CSI poetry students, they're not "academic" poets, Irons said. Listeners can relate easily to their verses.

"It won't be any stuffy, ivory-tower poetry," he said. Poetry "doesn't have to be difficult to be good. So I think people will understand it and enjoy it."

Irons said he has participated in poetry readings in recent years with some of the other readers who are lined up for April 7.

"And we've drawn good crowds. So there seems to be an audience for poetry in Twin Falls," he said. Irons said he wouldn't be surprised if 50 or 60 people show up, "which is a good audience for poetry."

April 14

Twin Falls' centennial year is all about history.

For the fourth Magic Valley Reads! event, CSI history professor Jim Gentry and three other authors of local history books will each share about 10 minutes of perspective from their own books, before turning the session over to audience questions.

"I think all of us are interested in the applications of our information — not just the information for information's sake," Gentry said. Examples of that practical twist include understanding the area's fear of outsiders, or investigating how to go about building community interest.

Gentry's own talk will focus on his thesis of Twin Falls' placement on the middle and the edge — geographically and otherwise. "It's easy to understand how we're in the middle. It's harder to understand how we're on the edge," he said.

Gentry theorizes that some Twin Falls folks' fears about effects from nearby Blaine County or Jackpot, Nev. — or about "Boise swallowing us up" — spring from the defensiveness that comes of being on the edge.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins — serving also as Centennial editor — can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia@magicvalley.com.

Get ready to go

tives of personal experiences and regional and national issues.

■ **Moderator:** Jim Gentry

■ **Other speakers:** Mary Inman, Donna Scott, James Varley

■ **April 21**

■ **When and where:** 7 p.m., Twin Falls Public Library

■ **Purpose:** Open house and reception, with light refreshments, honoring local authors and Magic Valley Reads! participants. It's set to coincide with National Library Week.

■ **Presentation:** Professor James Armstrong of Boise State University presents "Culture of Reclamation," a video which includes poetry, historical narrative and photographs of the area.

(This year's Magic Valley Reads! Twin Falls Centennial project is supported in part by a \$1,991 grant from the Idaho Humanities Council, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.)

■ **When and where:** 7 p.m., The Lamphouse Theatre, Twin Falls

■ **Topic:** "Poetry and Poets of Twin Falls" — a poetry reading

■ **Moderator:** Jim Irons

■ **Other readers:** David West, Mark Brown, Tierra Lloyd, Nathan Barse, Whitney Smith

■ **April 14**

■ **When and where:** 7 p.m., Vera C. O'Leary Junior High School's auditorium, Twin Falls

■ **Topic:** "History of Twin Falls" — presentations and discussion

Magic Valley Reads! Twin Falls Centennial — which lengthened its name this year to honor the city's 100th birthday — plans five free, public events on Wednesday evenings in March and April.

■ **March 10**

■ **When and where:** 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble Bookellers, Twin Falls

■ **Topic:** "Role of Journalism in Twin Falls" — a panel discussion

■ **Moderator:** Lorayne O. Smith

■ **Other panelists:** Dale Stewart, Steve Crump, James Varley

■ **March 31**

■ **When and where:** 7 p.m., College of Southern Idaho, Shields Building, rooms 117-118, Twin Falls

■ **Topic:** "Women of Early Twin Falls" — an audiovisual presentation featuring women who lived in Twin Falls during 1904-1924, seen through the perspec-

Hit the books

Sampling this reading list will put you on the same page as readers all over town.

Organizers of the Magic Valley Reads! Twin Falls Centennial reading-and-discussion project hope you'll be ready to talk about some of these titles this month and next.

Their suggested reading list is divided into four categories that correspond with four upcoming events:

Role of Journalism in Twin Falls

■ "Idaho: Off the Beaten Path" by Julie Fanselow.

■ "Animal Husbandry and Other Social Graces" by Steve Crump and Suzanne Huahold.

■ "Zeal for Living" and "Daisies Don't Tell" by Lorayne O. Smith.

■ "Tales of the Tract," a 2002-04 column series from *The Times-News* by James Varley.

Poetry and poets of Twin Falls

■ "Earthbound" and "Cleanings" by Suelle Hoger.

■ Various poems by James Irons.

■ "Short of a Good Premise" and "Travelers in an Antique Land" by William Studdabaker.

■ "Culture of Reclamation," a video integrating poetry, historical narrative and photographs. It includes historical materials from the Twin Falls Public Library's Idaho Room. The video is a joint project of Boise State University and Idaho State University.

Women of early Twin Falls

■ "Lady Bluebeard: the True Story of Love and Marriage, Death and Fingerprint" by William C. Anderson (about Twin Falls murderer Lyda Southard).

■ "We Sagebrush Folks" by Anne Pike Greenwood.

■ "Gently Down the Stream" by

Ethlyn Walkington.

■ "Julio" by Helen Markley Miller.

History of Twin Falls

■ "In the Middle and on the Edge: The Twin Falls Region of Idaho" by Jim Gentry.

■ "Sagebrush Empire," a video about early Twin Falls.

■ "Tribute to the Past; Legacy for the Future," edited by Donna Scott.

■ "Steamboats, Shoshoni, Scoundrels and Such: Seldom Told Tales of the Western Frontier" by James Varley.

■ "Six Decades Back," by Charles Wolgamott.

■ "Twin Falls Centurybook, 1904-2004: Celebrating the Twin Falls, Idaho, Centennial" by Mary J. Inman.

■ "On Holy Ground: The History, Art and Faith of St. Edward the Confessor Roman Catholic Church" by Patricia Santos Marcantoni.

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