

The Time

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 74

Sunday, March 14, 2004

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy to cloudy skies and breezy. High 57, Low 37.

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MAGIC VALLEY



All dressed up: Find out who prevailed at the Miss Kimberly competition Saturday.

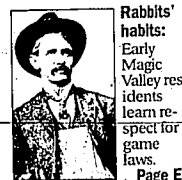
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MONEY

Dying to work: Mexican worker deaths rise sharply even as overall U.S. job safety improves.

Page D1

CENTENNIAL



Rabbits' habits: Early Magic Valley residents learn respect for game laws.

Page E6

FAMILY LIFE

Sticker-shock therapy: How to survive your teenager's driving years.

Page E1

SPORTS

Season starts: The Twin Falls Bruins opened their baseball season with wins against Madison Saturday.

Page C1

OPINION

Two steps forward: Dell Inc. and Simplot help local workers and communities eye prosperity, today's editorial says.

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Commission holds hearing

Idaho Power recommends small rate increase

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Idaho Power Co. customers can tell state utility regulators Monday what they think of proposals to increase the company's base electrical rates. Idaho Power asked the Public Utilities Commission to approve an average rate increase of 17.7 percent. The actual increase

Base rate proposals in cents per kilowatt hour	New Rates				Pct. Increase Idaho Power	Pct. Increase PUC staff
	Existing rate	Idaho Power proposal	PUC staff proposal	Idaho Power		
Residential	5.17	6.10	5.3	19.0%	2.5%	
Sm. Commercial	6.33	7.56	6.6	21.0%	4.2%	
Industrial	3.57	4.11	3.61	15.0%	1.2%	
Irrigation	2.78	3.17	2.78	13.9%	0.0%	
		4.65	4.29	25.0%	15.0%	

may be far less if the three-member commission follows its staff recommendation to approve a 3.06 percent average increase instead. The difference is about \$70.8 million in annual revenue — \$86.6 million requested by the company and \$14.8 million proposed by PUC staff. The staff analyzed Idaho Power's request

and recommended cuts in areas staffers agree shouldn't be passed on to customers. They include pension expenses, legal fees acquired defending IDACORP's unregulated trading company, various expenses such as golf course green fees and liquor store purchases, and more.

Please see POWER, Page A5

Local history buffs have plenty to see for free

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — If all you've seen these days is the same old, same old, you may want to take a bigger dose of Twin Falls history. Dr. David McClusky's medical antiques are among many things you can see for free these days. During the city's centennial year, people all over town are sharing pieces of the past. And you won't pay anything for admission to these sights.

• Depictions of downtown On Wednesday, the Historic Old Towne Twin Falls business improvement district opened a photograph gallery at 27 S. Main Ave. S. in a Main Street "Backspace." Visitors can see pictures at Twin Falls' downtown area — the original townsite — from every decade of the past century, said Karla Williams, the district's executive director. The images start in the early 1800s, with views such as downtowns from the intersection at Main and Shoshone.

The display will remain through the end of 2004. "We're all changing it periodically, so they need to come down every so often and see what's new," Williams said. She expects people to bring in privately owned antiques, and the Twin Falls County Historical Museum will display items there, too.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. Many of the historical downtown photos had been on display at Magic Valley's Fall Biz downtown — business people wanted the display moved closer to home to draw people downtown, Williams said. And the new location — right beside Williams' office — is more convenient for her workers to manage and staff.

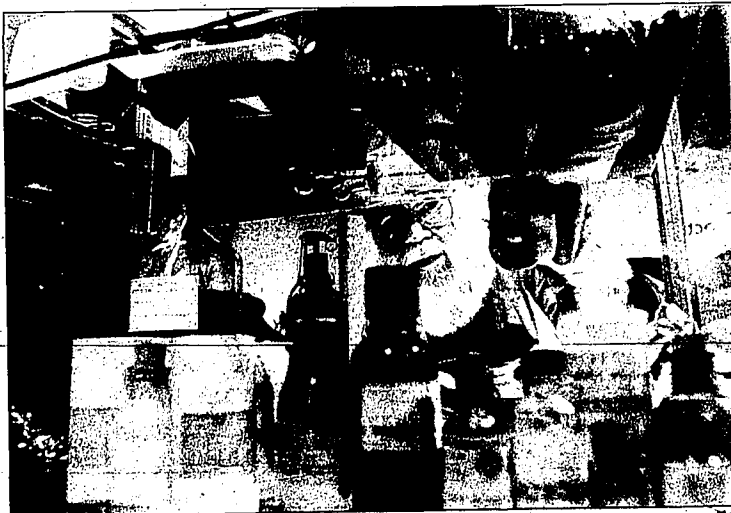
• Sunny stroll — Follow your visit to the new downtown photo gallery with a walk down Main Avenue, suggested Chris Bolton, president of the Twin Falls County Historical Society and Museum. Pick an afternoon with sunshine for the stroll. And look up.

Please see HISTORY, Page A2

Send us your centennial news

Are you inviting the public to see a display of local memorabilia, or to participate in a centennial event? Let us know. Please let us know the date, pass the word to our readers. Send written information to: Virginia S. Hutchins, Editor, P.O. Box 955, Twin Falls, ID 83403. Or call Hutchins at 735-3242.

MEDICINAL TIMELINE



Chris Bolton, president of the Twin Falls County Historical Society and Museum, sets up a display case of antique medical equipment from three generations of McClusky-family doctors at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science in Twin Falls Thursday.

Collection chronicles Magic Valley's medical history

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

Centennial page — E6

TWIN FALLS — As a child, Dr. David A. McClusky Jr. was mighty proud of the caduceus sign on the bumper of his father's car, identifying his dad as a doctor.

But eventually the physician had to remove the staff-and-serpent emblem. "People would break into his car to try to get drugs, because they knew he had his bag in there," McClusky said. "When he finally took it off, he gave it to me."

McClusky, a Twin Falls general surgeon, kept that caduceus — and a collection of other medical memorabilia from his father's and grandfather's doctoring days in Magic Valley. A century-old microscope. A wooden stethoscope. His grandfather's doctor bag. The

equipment his father took on house calls. Presentations from old Twin Falls — and Bull

pharmacies. The other mask his dad used for some mothers giving birth.

Much of McClusky's collection is now on display at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho. The Twin Falls Centennial Commission sponsored the exhibit, arranged and displayed by the Twin Falls County Historical Museum's outreach program. "There's some scary stuff in that case," said Chris Bolton, president of the historical museum.

Particularly, the tonsillectomy tool. They're a reach-grab-and-cut affair sure to make you shudder.

"Of course, nobody uses them nowadays," McClusky said.

But McClusky intends to ask Bolton to add to the exhibit one still in use: a pair of glasses with magnifiers mounted in front of each lens.

"They're terrible looking," McClusky said.

He uses higher-tech vision aids in surgery. But for the sake of tradition, he dons the magnifying glasses which his grandfather and father wore for minor office tasks that require magnification — like removing stitches and splinters or attending to delicate lesions on a patient's face.

In addition to sharing artifacts for the case at the Herrett Center, McClusky this year is

assembling a new display in his own Shoshone Street East office each month to chronicle his family's history in Magic Valley. Their story is the story of Magic Valley medicine.

McClusky's grandfather, family doctor A.E. McClusky, came to Bull in 1900, was the first chief of staff of what's now Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and practiced until his death in 1928.

McClusky's son David A. McClusky Sr. practiced in Bull just before World War II, returned from overseas in 1946 and in 1947, opened Twin Falls Clinic & Hospital with three other local doctors. He practiced internal medicine until his death in 1970.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins — serving also as Centennial editor — can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia@magicvalley.com.

A year after war, life in Iraq improves slowly

But, hope is scarce and fears of disaster loom

By Niko Price
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — In Iraq, glimmers of hope can be found in the unlikeliest of places. Few suffered as much in the war

- U.S. soldier death — A4
- Staying in Iraq — A4
- U.S. launches offensive in Afghanistan/Pakistan — A9

as Mohammed Abed, the tailor who found the bodies of his wife, his mother, his sister and his cousin in the rubble of a Baghdad slum after a missile struck the marketplace outside his home last March. For Abed, as for the rest of Iraq's 25

million people, it has been a tumultuous year in which their country was invaded and Saddam Hussein, once their all-powerful leader, was pulled from a hole in the ground and decapitated. A hard hold together for has shattered into fragments, often riotous. Insurgency and terrorism continue to take American, European, Asian and Iraqi lives.

Yet for all the hardships that have compounded Abed's grief — jobless brothers, power cuts that shut down



Students from Mosul University in Iraq shout slogans as they march around their campus Saturday to protest the recently signed new Iraq Interim constitution.

7 days, 7 reasons to read

Monday
Summer starts today
Get your kids moving for signing them up now for summertime activities.

Tuesday
Change is coming
There's high drama in world of Internet search engines.

Wednesday
Try this at home.

Basque cooking

Thursday
Idaho's hot pools
It's a perfect time to dip into Idaho's warm springs.

Friday
High steppin'
Riverdance brings its Irish magic to Boise.

Saturday
What's the buzz?
Here's what area readers think of Mel Gibson's 'Passion.'

Sunday
A guarded past
It's not the first time Idaho Guardsmen has found themselves in harm's way.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

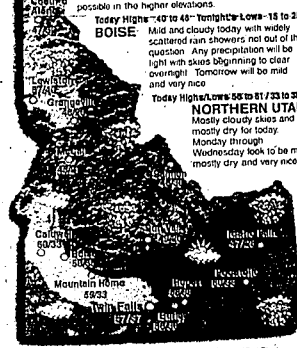
Today: Mostly cloudy to cloudy skies, breezy and mostly dry. Highs in the middle to upper 50s. Tonight: Skies will begin to clear and lows will stay in the middle to upper 30s. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, a little warmer and very nice. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy skies and isolated showers. Highs in the middle 50s. Tonight: Partly cloudy skies with lows in the middle 30s. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, a little warmer and very nice. Highs in the lower 60s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Scattered rain and snow showers are possible through today. Valley locations will have rain and snow showers with small accumulations of a well snow possible in the higher elevations.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 61 at Caldwell, Low: 12 at Stanley. Weather key: ☀ Sunny, ☁ Partly cloudy, ☁ Mostly cloudy, ☁ Cloudy, ☁ Hazy, ☁ Overcast, ☁ Partly sunny, ☁ Partly cloudy, ☁ Mostly cloudy, ☁ Cloudy, ☁ Hazy, ☁ Overcast, ☁ Partly sunny, ☁ Partly cloudy, ☁ Mostly cloudy, ☁ Cloudy, ☁ Hazy, ☁ Overcast.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 57, Low 37, 61/34, 58/34, 60/35, 67/39).

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists cities like Burley, Boise, and Pocatello with their respective high and low temperatures.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello with their forecast for today and tomorrow.

NATIONAL FORECAST

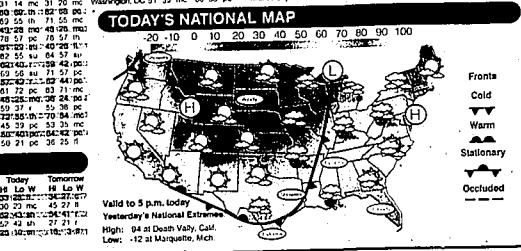
Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists major cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago with their forecast.

WORLD FORECAST

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

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists Canadian cities like Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.



Spain bombing points to Islamic extremists

MADRID, Spain - Spanish police on Saturday arrested three Moroccan suspects in connection with the Islamic extremist in last week's train bombings here, and hours later the government announced it had received a videotape in which a man purporting to represent al-Qaida claimed responsibility for the attacks.

History

Continued from A1 - above Main Avenue's store windows. Fly detective and try to match the historical buildings in the old photographs with those that still stand along Main, Bolton said.

Organizers are looking for volunteers to staff the Magic Valley Mall gallery from regularly, at least through Saturday, or Monday to 5 p.m. Sunday, but no guarantees.

Its contents include such stuff as an old flour sack, pictures of early Magic Valley potato and freight-trailer businesses, old bottles from Twin Falls pharmacies and antique farm equipment such as a sycamore, a shovel.

The Twin Falls County Historical Museum, which has been showing local artifacts for years. Three miles west of the county by hospital on U.S. Highway 20, by Curry Crossing, the historical museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, through the end of April. From May to September, the hours extend to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, but the museum accepts donations.

There was lots going on besides churning butter and making bread, Bolton said. • Permanent collection - While you're at the Twin Falls Public Library to peruse the outdoor exhibit, take some extra time for the library's Idaho Room. It's locked, so you'll have to sign in and provide identification to be allowed inside, and most materials there can't be checked out.

Spain bombing points to Islamic extremists

Despite earlier official statements designating the militant Basque separatist group ETA as the prime suspect in the carnage that left 200 people dead and 1,500 wounded, investigators here are increasingly convinced that the masterminds were Islamic extremists. If true, that would mean that al-Qaida or its followers have

the Twin Falls County Historical Museum, which has been showing local artifacts for years. Three miles west of the county by hospital on U.S. Highway 20, by Curry Crossing, the historical museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, through the end of April. From May to September, the hours extend to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, but the museum accepts donations.

Monday morning, the Perrine statue will move to the headquarters lobby of another top centennial sponsor, First Federal Savings Bank, at 383 Shoshone St. N., said Perry McCurdy of the Centennial Commission. The commission plans to install the statue at its permanent canyon-rim spot later this year.

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Suspect Marcus Wesson is led away in handcuffs by police officers after giving himself up following a standoff where three women, three toddlers and an infant were found dead Friday afternoon in a home in Fresno, Calif.

Guest-worker plan keeps scammers busy

Los Angeles Times
President Bush's recent proposal to create a temporary guest worker program has created a new opening for scam artists eager to capitalize on the confusion surrounding the yet-to-be-approved plan. Unscrupulous notary publics, lawyers and self-styled "immigration experts" have been selling services and enrollment documents, profiting from the hope among many illegal immigrants that the plan might allow them to legalize their status. The salespeople typically tell immigrants that they can buy

documents necessary to be considered for Bush's plan, community leaders said. In some cases, illegal immigrants have been paying to guarantee a place on a nonexistent visa waiting list. "People are so desperate to legalize their status that when they hear from somebody that there is a possibility, it's just like a green light," said Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles, an immigrant advocacy and support group. "It's a sign of hope, and people cling to that hope."

Four die in shooting at Dallas suburb home

McKINNEY, Texas (AP) — Four people were killed after being shot in the head at a home in this Dallas suburb, police said Saturday. Police were called after a man lived at the home discovered the bloody scene Friday night. Authorities did not yet have a suspect. "Rosa Barbosa, 46; Mark Barbosa, 25; and Austin Mark, 18, were pronounced dead at the scene late Friday, Capt. Robert Deane said. Matthew Self, 17, was taken by medical helicopter to Baylor University Medical Center in

Dallas, where he died Saturday, Deane said. Police said no other information was immediately available Saturday. "They were just real fine people," said Bill Self, 68, a relative of Matthew Self and the neighbor of Rosa Barbosa. "She's been a good neighbor. There's never been any trouble that we know about." "Bill Self said he was asleep in his recliner when he realized emergency vehicles were outside. "If something like that happened next door, it could very easily happen here," he said.

Police find nine dead after Fresno standoff

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — A man suspected of murdering nine of his family members apparently was involved in polygamy and incest, fathering two of the victims with his own daughters, police said Saturday. The bodies of six females and three males, ages 1 to 24, were found tangled in the back room of in Marcus Wesson's home Friday, Fresno's largest mass-murder ever quadrupled its homicides for a night in a single night and disturbed officers so much that some immediately called in a polygamist relationship.

pile of clothing that it took hours for investigators to reach a final count, police said. Ten coffins lined a wall inside the home's front room. "What's making it so difficult is the bodies are not only intermingled, but stacked on top of each other," Dyer told reporters Friday night. Police were not sure of a motive, but Dyer said "there may have been some type of ritual" involved. "Two been with the Fresno Police Department for 25 years, and I've never experienced anything of this nature," said Dyer, who wiped his eyes Friday night as officers carried bodies out of the home, cradling the youngest ones in their arms. The scene was so gruesome some of the first officers into the house were placed on administrative leave and received counseling Friday night. Six police chaplains were at the house throughout the evening as detectives continued to gather evidence. Officers were called to the home Friday afternoon by two women who said a man had their children and would not release them. The man initially ignored orders to come out, running into a back bedroom as two other women fled the house. They were unharmed. A neighbor, Chris Tognazzini, said he heard two gunshots moments before police arrived. Dyer said the woman who called authorities told them they had given custody of their children to Wesson two years ago and now wanted them back. The slayings shocked authorities in Fresno, a city of 440,000 about 190 miles southeast of San Francisco. Dyer said the city had seen three murders in the last 2.5 months, the fewest number for a 10-week period in more than three decades. The nine deaths represent the largest mass killing ever in this San Joaquin Valley city. Seven people were killed in rural Fresno in 1993.

FBI looks into latest claim of where Hoffa's body rests

DETROIT (AP) — The FBI will investigate a purported deathbed confession by a former Pennsylvania lieutenant official that says he helped dispose of the body of Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa. The confession, said to have been written by Francis Sheeran before he died Dec. 14 in a nursing home near Philadelphia, says he flew to Pontiac the day Hoffa disappeared in 1975, picked up Hoffa's body from his killers and drove it to a trash incinerator in Framtramck, where it was cremated. "The case is still open and we run down any leads we receive on it," FBI spokeswoman Dawn Clenney said Friday.

Sheeran's daughter, however, says the letter is a fake. "It's definitely a forgery. It's not his signature," Dolores Miller of West Chester, Pa., told the Detroit Free Press. Miller said she believes the document was created by her father's biographer, John Zeits of Omaha, Neb., to upstage a book due to be published by another author. Zeits, who says his book still is in the works, said Friday that the confession is genuine. He said Sheeran sent him the confession in November and he forwarded it to Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, who is a judge in St. Louis.

Former priest gets eight years

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — A former Roman Catholic priest has been sentenced to eight years in prison for molesting two teenage brothers more than a decade ago. Carlos Rene Rodriguez, 48, could have received more than 10 years but prosecutors recommended a lesser penalty because his guilty plea last month spared his victims from having to testify. Rodriguez "betrayed God and his role to society," Ventura County prosecutor Anthony Wold said. "There are no words to describe him."

Rodriguez stared toward the floor, crying occasionally as his attorney shielded him from the audience. "Mr. Rodriguez, I believe, is profoundly sorry for the pain he has caused," defense attorney James Farley told the judge. Most of the incidents occurred at the boys' home between 1988 and 1993, authorities said. The victims were 13 and 14 when the incidents began.

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NATION/WORLD

U.S. wants military in Iraq, even after sovereignty switch

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — In less than four months, a sovereignty switch by the Iraqi government will have authority to impose restrictions on U.S. troops, or even request that they leave.

U.S. military officials here, who are already planning for American forces to be in Iraq through 2005, insist the latter option won't happen.

"We intend to stay here as invited guests as long as we are needed, and as long as we are invited," Iraq's Gen. Kamal al-Mutairi, deputy operations chief, said this week.

U.S. officials want to make sure American forces are free to continue to kill insurgents, interrogate prisoners and command Iraq's new security forces.

But the rules that troops follow after the June 30 handover have yet to be written, and Iraq's government will have a say.

Iraq's transitional government is expected to name the U.S. military to stay in control of Iraq's security, technically ending America's status as occupier. U.S. and British leaders say they expect few practical aspects of the occupation to change right now.

Military control will probably fall under a U.S.-headed joint command. Officials said plans are afoot to put an American four-star general at the head of the command, with a three-star general running operations. The current top U.S. commander in Iraq, Lt. Gen.

Iraq

Continued from A1

his sewing machines — Abed, 31, exhibits little of the anger he sometimes betrayed in previous conversations with The Associated Press.

Having never known anything but Saddam's suffocating rule, he sees the beginnings of democracy and economic revival, and with U.S. soldiers on patrol he feels protected. "Their presence lets us sleep at night," he says.

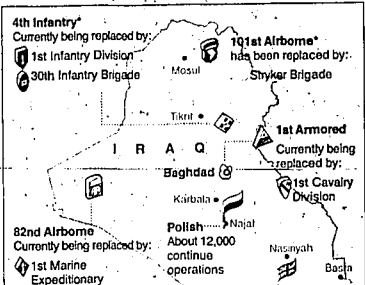
Sill, such glimmers of hope are there. The construction of a new nation has been much slower and more painful than most anticipated. While there are those like Abed who feel protected, many others have seen their homes raided by U.S. soldiers searching for insurgents, or have been caught in the gunfire and bombings mounted against Americans and Iraqis alike.

Iraq's U.S. occupiers speak excitedly about new infrastructure, new institutions, new possibilities. But many Iraqis describe themselves as a defeated people, and have resigned themselves to hardship and chaos.

"At first we felt the situation would get better, because we were liberated from Saddam Hussein. For six or seven months, there was a general feeling that everything was going well," said Ahmed Ikhida, a 24-year-old pharmacist. "But now that dream is destroyed."

Much of the insurgency is concentrated in central Iraq and there are parts of the country where violence is less frequent and reconstruction moves ahead with less trouble.

The big picture remains uncertain. U.S. officials hope Iraq will become a model for democracy in the Middle East. Some Iraqis hope it will become a religious state more along the lines of Iran. And with new attacks that appear designed to sow hatred, many believe "its patchwork of ethnic and religious groups could fracture into civil war."



Operation Iraqi Freedom 2
By May, U.S. troops in Iraq will be reduced to 110,000 from about 120,000 currently in the country. The rotation is being called Operation Iraqi Freedom - Second rotation.

*Candidates to return to Iraq in early 2005, along with those given a "warning order" including 3rd Infantry Division, some Marines, three National Guard brigades and a National Guard division headquarters.

SOURCES: U.S. Central Command, Associated Press

Ricardo Sanchez, a three-star general.

"That is the scheme which is being planned at the moment," a senior British official said in a statement of anonymity. "The Americans will announce it when it is all ready."

Iraq's U.S.-picked Governing Council, which advises the occupation authority, agrees that

foreign troops will be needed to secure Iraq for the near future, said Hamed al-Bayati, a spokesman for council member Abdul Aziz al-Hakim.

Most Iraqis lack a continued role for U.S. troops, but they're not likely to tolerate a foreign power in command of an Iraqi army, police, or even Iraqi prisoners, al-Bayati said.

"The Americans, when they came here, said 'We won the war, and we want to win the peace,'" he said. "They didn't win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. People desire much better of our day ago."

Not so, says Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the commander of coalition forces. He believes the Iraq operation will be seen as "a remarkable case study in what a powerful, benevolent army can do."

Coalition spokesman Dan Senor said in an interview that while many Iraqis express frustration at their lives, they are generally pleased with the path their nation is taking.

"If you say, 'Look past the central services, look past the economic frustrations of daily life, would you rewind to the time ago?'" he believes most Iraqis would say, "No way," he said.

Indeed, few Iraqis want a return to Saddam's era, when hundreds of thousands died at the hands of their government. However, that doesn't mean they're happy with the occupation.

"We're so glad when they got rid of Saddam, but we're still waiting for changes," said Kahla Rahim, a 30-year-old telephone operator. "Our hopes were tied to the promises they made before the war: reconstruction, electricity, security. I'm not hopeful anymore."

Children have returned to school. Some phone lines are working again, and Iraq's first cellular network has just been launched. Satellite television, banned by Saddam, beams news from around the world into Iraqi homes. And 200 new newspapers complete for readers.

"If you had told anybody in March 2003 that 12 months from that point all this activity would be going on in Iraq ... people wouldn't have believed it," Senor said.

"You don't transform an economy that was devastated for 35 years in six months or nine months or 12 months. It's going to take time."

Arrests follow U.S. deaths

By Paul Garwood
Associated Press writer

TIKRTI, Iraq — A roadside bomb killed two American soldiers and wounded three others in Saddam Hussein's hometown Saturday, and U.S. forces responded by making several arrests and dispatching troops into the streets in a show of force.

The slain soldiers were the first casualties suffered by the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, which took over control of the restive Sunni Triangle town of Tikrit on Saturday. The deaths brought to 560 the number of U.S. service members who have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq, according to the Department of Defense. Of those, 381 died as a result of hostile action and 179 died of non-hostile causes, the department said.

The soldiers, based in Germany, have been in Iraq for less than a month and formally took over security duties in the Tikrit area several hours after the fatal 5 a.m. blast.

In Baghdad, a bomb planted in a shop killed Haidar al-Qazwini, brother-in-law of a Shiite member of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, said an aide to al-Jaafari said.

Iraqi police Capt. Abbas Nima said an unidentified man entered the shop and left a bag containing explosives, which later detonated.

Also Saturday, the White House said it sent a senior official to Baghdad to help form an interim government — action that is needed before sovereignty can be transferred to the Iraqi people by June 30.

In Baghdad, coalition spokesman Dan Senor identified the official as Ambassador Robert Blackwell of the National Security Council staff, who visits Iraq every four to six weeks.

Blackwell was sent in part to resolve problems some Shiite members of the Governing Council have with the interim constitution signed by the coun-

cil Monday, a senior administration official said. He also is charged with convincing the Governing Council to let the United Nations help set up elections, which are scheduled to be held before Dec. 31.

In the Tikrit attack, gunshots were heard near the rear vehicle in a three-Humvee American patrol seconds before a remote-controlled bomb, which included an artillery shell, exploded under the second car, Capt. Tim Crowe told The Associated Press. There were conflicting reports about the source of the gunfire.

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Power

Continued from A1
Commissioners could come down somewhere in the middle of the requests and recommendations. They must review testimony by staff, the company, industrial customers and advocacy groups participating in the case, and the public. A decision is expected in May.

Idaho Power's response to the PUC staff analysis will be issued in the form of testimony due Friday.

"We are now in a rebuttal period," said Dennis Lopez, a company spokesman.

The company will then wait and see what the commission decides, he said.

The energy crisis forced Idaho Power customers to pay record-high rates in recent years, but the company has not had a general rate increase since 1991.

Idaho Power, with PUC approval, adjusts rates each spring to reflect varying power costs and hydropower generation. Rates can go down in abundant water years and up in a drought.

Base rates reflect the company's other business costs and set the starting line for the annual power cost adjustments.

The company provides power to about 405,000 southern Idaho customers. In making its rate request, the company pointed to growth during the past 10 years and the millions of dollars invested in new generation facilities, transmission lines and distribution facilities.

But PUC staff isn't supporting the full request.

"In general, I am recommending small increases in customer charges and believe the company's proposed increases ... are too large," PUC staffer David Schunke's testimony said.

Idaho Power has asked the monthly service charge for residential customers be increased from \$2.51 to \$10 a month. Public comments opposing the increase say it fails to reward customers for conservation measures.

"Customers feel it would decrease their ability to affect the size of the bill by adjusting usage," PUC staffer Marilyn Parker's testimony said.

Instead, PUC staff recommends the fee be raised to \$3 a month.

"That was the extent of the residential increase recommended for non-summer months — 49 cents. During summer months, staff proposed increasing base rates by 1 cent a kilowatt-hour once household use reaches 800 kilowatt-hours.

It retains Idaho Power's proposal to send price signals during summer months when

Comment Monday

- **Public comments** will be accepted on proposals to increase Idaho Power Co. rates at a public meeting Monday in Jerome.
- **The hearing begins** at 6:30 p.m. at the Sawtooth Inn Best Western at 2655 S. Lincoln, just off Interstate 84 in Jerome.
- **Written comments** will be accepted through April 30 and should be mailed to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission Secretary, PUC, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, 83720-0074 and to Idaho Power to the attention of Barton Kline and John Gale, P.O. Box 70, Boise, 83707-0070, or by e-mail to btline@idahopower.com or rgale@idahopower.com.
- **Online comments** can be filed at www.puc.state.id.us and sent to Idaho Power via e-mail.
- **More information** is available online at www.puc.state.id.us.

What PUC staff says shouldn't be charged to Idaho Power customers:

- **Pension expenses** totaling \$28.9 million in part because the money came from market performance and because PUC staff says the company's pension program is overfunded.
- **Legal expenses** of \$350,000 incurred defending energy crisis power trades made by IDACORP Energy. IDACORP is a holding company created to insulate the regulated Idaho Power from risks involving IDACORP's unregulated companies.

"To later have Idaho Power financially responsible for legal expenses resulting from IDACORP Energy's actions entirely defeats the purpose of creating a holding company," PUC staff member Donn English's testimony said.

- **Dues and contributions** of \$325,000 including about \$246,000 paid to the lobbying firm Edison Electric Institute; membership dues for civic clubs and chambers of commerce; \$2,000 in donations to the Democrat and Republican parties; \$7,200 to the exclusive Aid Club for the company president and vice presidents; and community charitable donations totaling about \$36,000.

- **Management expenses** of about \$60,000 for items such as liquor store purchases, limousines, golf course green fees, meal expenses that seemed excessive to PUC staff, and travel expenses related to lobbying conferences.
- **Incentive pay awarded** to employees when IDACORP earnings per share reach certain levels. Idaho Power budgeted for incentive pay averaging about 7 percent of employees' base pay. Officers can receive incentive pay up to 80 percent of their salaries and the chief executive up to 100 percent. PUC staff says the incentives should be paid by IDACORP and recommends \$7.7 million be removed from the company's rate proposal.

*Ratopayers do not directly benefit when IDACORP's earnings goals are achieved or exceeded; PUC staffer Alden Holm's testimony said.

- **Cloud seeding costs** of \$1.1 million because of lack of information presented about whether seeding has produced measurable precipitation for the hydropower generator.

electrical usage is high and the company must generate power at expensive natural gas and coal plants to meet demand.

A household using 2,000 kilowatt-hours now pays about \$101 a month. That would increase to about \$113 during summer months under the staff recommendation.

The overall residential increase would be 2.51 percent.

PUC staff said its recommendations are intended to bring rates closer to the costs of providing services. But staff acknowledged irrigation rates would continue to be subsidized by other customer classes. Moving irrigators' rates to the full cost of service would amount to about a 47 percent increase, deemed to be too much of a rate shock. The staff recommends a 15 percent increase. Less than that was considered too much of a subsidy by other customer groups.

Spain

Continued from A2
committed their first successful blow in Western Europe.

"It's looking more like Islamic law enforcement official told the Los Angeles Times. "ETA looks less likely. We have indications that these Moroccan were connected to the attacks.

It's an important step. But it's still early."

The developments in the case stirred growing uproar on the eve of national elections scheduled for Sunday. Despite a ban on political rallies the day before the vote, the streets of Spanish cities filled Saturday night with protesters who

banged pots and pans and loudly accused the government of concealing the truth in order to protect the center-right ruling party.

The center-left opposition alleges that the government of Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar had downplayed the evidence pointing to al-Qaida.

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NATION

Kerry seeks debate at historic site

QUINCY, Ill. (AP) - In the city that saw a historic 19th century debate, John Kerry called for monthly debates with President Bush to elevate the tenor of a campaign that's opened with a relentlessly negative tone.

"Surely, if the attack ads can start now, at least we can agree to start a real discussion about America's future," said Kerry, speaking Saturday to about 500 people packed into a school gymnasium.

Kerry put a lock on the Democratic presidential nomination Saturday as he reached the 2162 delegates needed to become the party's candidate to take on Bush, according to a delegate tally by The Associated Press.

Through eight months remain until the presidential election, Bush has launched an attack ad campaign bashing Kerry, and Kerry has fired back with a campaign of his own.

"We confront big issues - as big as any in our history - and they call for a new and historic commitment to a real and informed exchange of ideas," said Kerry. He argued that "2004 can't be just another year of politics as usual."

Kerry made his call in Quincy, the largest city to host the 1858 series of debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas during a Senate campaign eventually won by Douglas.

"Both candidates laid out their positions plainly and honestly," said Kerry. "They clashed but over differences in policy, not personal attacks."

Kerry argued the Lincoln-Douglas debates included "sharp" exchanges, but they were a serious, honest discussion of important questions of the day, sparking enormous public interest.

Dems and GOP both see asset in Kennedy's support for Kerry

WASHINGTON (AP) - With John Kerry's presidential campaign lagging in the polls last fall, fellow Massachusetts Sen. Edward M. Kennedy paid an unannounced visit to a quarters to bolster a dispirited staff.

Recalling his own race for the White House in 1980, Kennedy said: "Let me tell you, at this point when I was running in Iowa against President Carter, I was ahead 20 points" yet lost.

"So don't believe the polls," one participant recalls him saying. "Fund-raiser, morale-booster, surrogate campaigner and more, Kennedy has given enormous public and private help to Kerry in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination."

Now, with the campaign moving into the general election phase, Kerry's opponent hopes to lure the senator's best liberal into an asset of their own.

"Another rich, liberal elitist from Massachusetts who claims he's a man of the people," Priceless says the anonymous critic in a television commercial by Citizens United. An image of



Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., left, talks with Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., during a campaign stop at the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay, Wis. in this Feb. 16 file photo.

the two Massachusetts senators provides the visual backdrop for the sarcastic script.

Republicans say Kennedy isn't likely to end up in President Bush's campaign commercials, designed in part to woo independent voters and peel Democrats from Kerry. Instead, his name probably will turn up in fund-raising appeals, given what Republicans say is his record of motivating GOP

donors to dig deeper into their pockets.

"I can't imagine that we wouldn't use Ted Kennedy ... in terms of earned media, things like that," said Terry Holt, press secretary for Bush's re-election campaign.

Lawmaker questions Bush's 'credibility gap'

WASHINGTON (AP) - Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said Saturday the Bush administration has a "widening credibility gap" between what it tells the American people and the facts.

In the weekly Democratic radio address, Kennedy said the administration's assurances on the economy, education, health care and the war in Iraq don't match the truth.

"During Bush's three years in office, we have seen a widening credibility gap between what the administration says and what it does," said Kennedy, D-Mass.

"Facts don't lie," he said. "The Bush administration and the Republican Congress are giving schools only two-thirds of the funds they were promised" by the No Child Left Behind Act.

Kennedy's criticism followed Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry's comments, spoken into a microphone that he apparently did not realize was activated, that his Republican critics were "the most crooked, you know, lying group I've ever seen."

An ardent backer of fellow Massachusetts Sen. Kerry's campaign, Kennedy has been

On no issue has the truth been a greater casualty than the war in Iraq.

- Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

one of the administration's most frequent and rabid critics, particularly on the Iraq war. In last week's Democratic radio address, Kerry pummeled Bush's Iraq policies.

On Saturday, Kennedy said, "On no issue has the truth been a greater casualty than the war in Iraq." He said Bush's assertions that Iraq posed an urgent, imminent threat were just distractions to justify the war.

There was no immediate threat of nuclear weapons, he said. "No president who takes our country to war like that deserves to be re-elected," he said.

Hundreds of donors max out to candidates for year

WASHINGTON (AP) - Hundreds of people have given the maximum \$25,000 per year they can send to the national party committees since a law capped their donations.

The Republican National Committee has handed the most maximum donors - at least 700 since a ban on corporate, union and unlimited donations known as soft money took effect starting with the 2003-04 election cycle, separate reviews by the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics and campaign finance tracking service Political Money Line found.

Under the new law, parties can accept up to \$25,000 a year from individuals and political action committees.

Among the Democrats, the Democratic National Committee has logged roughly 220 maxed-out individual donors; the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, about 190; and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, about 105.

About 110 people gave the limit to the National Republican

Senatorial Committee, while roughly 60 have to the National Republican Congressional Committee, the studies found.

Despite the Democratic congressional committees' larger number of \$25,000 individual donors, their Republican counterparts, whose members control Congress, have outpaced them in fund-raising by millions of dollars overall.

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NATION

Federal analyst says he was told to withhold Medicare data or be fired

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—The government's longtime chief analyst of Medicare costs said Friday that Bush administration officials threatened to fire him last year if he disclosed to Congress that he believed the prescription drug legislation favored by the White House would prove far more expensive than lawmakers had been told.

Richard Foster, a nonpartisan health and human services official who has been Medicare's chief actuary for nine years, said he nearly resigned in protest because he believed that the top Medicare administrator and, perhaps, White House officials were acting against the public interest by withholding information about how much changes to the program would cost.

"Certainly, Congress did not

have all the information they might have wanted, or that we had," Foster said in an interview.

He said Thomas Scully, then administrator of the HHS agency that oversees Medicare, repeatedly told him last spring and summer that Foster would be fired if he complied with requests from Republican and Democratic lawmakers to provide cost estimates of various aspects of the prescription drug legislation. Although other HHS officials ultimately assured him his job was safe, Foster said, the administration's practice of withholding budget predictions continued until the legislation was enacted in November.

Foster is regarded in government and policy circles as a competent and neutral civil servant. His disclosure set off the latest escalation of a partisan war over Medicare that has

been playing out since Congress adopted the largest expansion in the history of the health insurance program for the elderly.

On Friday, congressional Democrats called for an ethics investigation and dispatched a bitter letter to President Bush, who frequently cites the new Medicare law as one of his proudest domestic accomplishments. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., demanded a new vote on the measure, which barely passed the House and Senate, saying that "members of Congress were called to vote under false pretenses." A Republican who helped forge the law, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley of Iowa, joined in the criticism. "Government analysts with relevant information should never be muzzled," he said.

Tally: Kerry mathematically secures nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Kerry locked up the Democratic presidential nomination Saturday, eclipsing the magic number of delegates needed to become President Bush's chief rival in the general election, according to an Associated

Press tally. The four-term Massachusetts senator reached the 2,162 delegate mark Saturday afternoon, the AP count found, just as Democrats in Kansas headed to party caucuses.

Amassing the required number of delegates was a mere formality for Kerry after his last main Democratic rival, John Edwards, dropped out of the campaign following a disastrous showing on March 2, when 10 states held "Super Tuesday" contests.

number of delegates was a mere formality for Kerry after his last main Democratic rival, John Edwards, dropped out of the campaign following a disastrous showing on March 2, when 10 states held "Super Tuesday" contests.

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NATION

Singer, television star promises 'safe' radio

LEHI, Utah (AP) — Marie Osmond is taking the shock out of

As the Federal Communications Commission cracks down on indecency in the industry, Osmond's nationally syndicated and family-friendly radio show, "Marie & Friends," is hitting the air-

"It's safe radio," said the 44-year-old Osmond, a member of the famous musical squawky-clean performing Utah family. "That's one of the things we're going for is to be safe, and funny and clever and quick-witted without getting to the blue side."

"It's pretty good timing, huh?" said Tom Taylor, editor of the New York-based trade publication Inside Radio. The debut of Osmond's show last month came as broadcasters nationwide are responding to pressure from federal regulators and lawmakers who say too much of radio and TV programming has become unsuitable for children.

Radio giant Clear Channel Communication has said it would pay a record \$755,000 fine for broadcasts of "Bubba the Love Sponge," which the FCC found indecent, and fired the disc jockey responsible. Clear Channel also suspended broadcasts of the Howard Stern show on its six stations that carry it, citing sexually graphic content from a broadcast.

"I'm not Marie Stern," Osmond said of her show, which mixes congenial conversations with familiar songs instead of Stern's shock talk and stripper sidekicks. "We all have choices. You have to be able to go into a strip bar. Why are you bringing the strip bar into my living room?"

Besides, she has tailored the show to an audience of primarily women, but counts her eight children, her 78-year-old

mother, men and truck drivers among her listeners. "It's informative and it's fun and we're a little crazy," she said.

"But it's something you don't feel like you have to explain to your 6-year-old later in the evening, and try to fill her in on information that she's too young to understand."



Marie Osmond

ON HER EXTENDED FAMILY: The show is primarily geared to women, but she said a lot of men are calling. "That was actually quite surprising; of course, in Utah, they're all my cousins."

TV VS. RADIO:

"Television was a very visual thing. I started at age 14. 'The Donny and Marie Show,' and it was all about visual. I remember being 103 pounds at 14 years old and taken out to the parking lot and told if I didn't lose 10 pounds, the show would be canceled. And now, I figure, as long as I can fit into the recording booth ..."

ON '70s TELEVISION STARS:

She was going through her CD collection with her 14-year-old daughter, and they listened to a Tom Jones album. "He's really good," Osmond recalled her daughter saying after confusing him with actor Brian Williams. "Why did he decide to do 'The Brady Bunch?'" Osmond answered by invoking her equally famous brother in the conversation. "It's the same reason Donny decided to do 'The Partridge Family.'"

BOXING MARIE:

Osmond told her 14-year-old daughter that she would have defended the family honor when brother Donny lost a grudge boxing match in 1994 to a former star of "The Partridge Family." "You know, sweetheart, if I had been in that boxing ring with Danny Bonaduce, I would have won."

DONNY & MARIE:

Osmond was asked if her brother, Donny, would appear on her radio show. "He'll probably visit, but this is adult conversation."

DONNY & MARIE, PART 2:

Her radio show mixes conversation with adult contemporary music from the '80s and '90s. But will she play music from the Osmonds? "Heavens, no!"

now and then. Recent celebrity callers have included country music star Winona and actress Betty White.

Comedian dismisses uproar about indecency

LOS ANGELES (AP) — George Carlin famously dissected "The Seven Words You Can't Say on Television" as a way to explore what everyone was so uptight about.



George Carlin

Thirty-two years later the same debate is still raging, now fueled by Janet Jackson's Super Bowl flash, the suspension of Howard Stern's raunchy radio show from six stations and new House legislation that would raise a performer's indecency fine from \$1,000 to \$500,000. So what does the 66-year-old Carlin think of the current handwringing over what is indecent, profane, obscene, immoral, lewd or insulting?

"More of the same, more of the same. What are we surprised?" Carlin told The Associated Press on Friday.

He blamed it on religious moralism, media commercialism and election-year politics. "The whole problem with this idea of obscenity and indecency and all of these things—bad language and whatever—it's all caused by one basic thing, and that is: religious superstition. ... There's an idea that the

human body is somehow evil and bad and there are parts of it that are especially evil and bad, and we should be ashamed. Fear, guilt and shame are built into the attitude toward sex and the body. ... It's reflected in these prohibitions and these taboos that we have."

Mix that with TV or radio, and you've got a problem, he said. "What I always remind people, radio and television and—as it happens—newspapers and magazines too, are advertising media. ... When you have commercialism involved you have the kind of fear that advertisers are very afraid of offending some potential customer. They don't want to lose a sale. So they have this need to inspect and clean up and watch the content in order not to hurt their own sales. It's based on success at the cash register."



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Military starts Afghanistan operation

New plan targets Osama bin Laden

By Stephen Graham
Associated Press writer

KABUL, Afghanistan — The American military stepped up efforts to find Osama bin Laden and destroy his al-Qaida and Taliban supporters, announcing Saturday a major new sweep across lawless southern and eastern Afghanistan involving thousands of troops.

The military insisted their net will eventually close on the al-Qaida leader, who has vanished since melting into the Afghan mountains months after the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

A spokesman said the new operation also will prepare the way for reconstruction in impoverished provinces along the Pakistani border — a reward the military hopes will loosen villagers' tongues.

"It's certainly about more than one person," Lt. Col. Bryan Hilfery said. "We do have confidence, though, and the leaders of al-Qaida and the leader of the Taliban need to be brought to justice — and they will be."

Afghan officials hailed the new push and said their forces were fully involved.

"They are trying to eliminate the enemies of Afghanistan and the enemies of the world," said Hillaullah Hila, the deputy interior minister in Kabul.

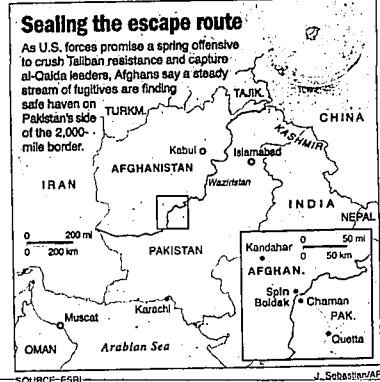
American commanders have vowed to crush militants and snare bin Laden as well as Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar this year, with a combination of military might and desperately needed aid.

"But they face enemies — estimated at less than 1,000 active fighters by a top U.S. general this week — that present no easy and pressing on civilians, including aid workers and minor government officials, as well as military targets.

Hilfery said the new operation, which began Sunday, would continue tactics already employed by the 13,500 U.S.-led troops tracking militants more than two years after the fall of the Taliban.



U.S. soldiers guard a group of Afghans at a roadside checkpoint Friday in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Despite intense efforts by Pakistani, U.S. and Afghan military forces, Afghans insist that the border remains an open door for Taliban crossing into Afghanistan to carry out attacks.



As U.S. forces promise a spring offensive to crush Taliban resistance and capture al-Qaida leaders, Afghans say a steady stream of fugitives are finding safe haven on Pakistan's side of the 2,000-mile border.

That includes frontier patrols, house-by-house searches and surprise checkpoints and air assaults.

"We believe this will help bring the heads of the terrorist organizations to justice, by continuing placing pressure on them," Hilfery said.

Troops carried out an air assault in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, but Hilfery would not give details, saying soldiers were still on the ground Saturday.

He declined to say how many soldiers would be involved in the new operation, but said they would have air support "24 hours a day, circling overhead ready to assist."

"An Afghan army commander in southern Kandahar province, Haji Granai, told The Associated Press that U.S. aircraft killed 12 suspected Taliban in a pickup truck there Thursday.

Granai said the planes struck in Maruf district, some 160 miles east of Kandahar city, where suspected Taliban killed seven Afghan soldiers in a March 3 raid on a border post.

The U.S. military had no immediate comment.

Hilfery played down suggestions by Washington officials that the military was embarking on a "spring offensive."

"If it continues past March 21, I assume it will be a spring operation. But spring offensive is what the media have been calling for, not us," he said.

But there are signs that forces were adding muscle.

The number of U.S. soldiers has risen by some 2,500 since late last year, an increase officials attributed to a new headquarters in Kabul and new security teams placed in provincial capitals.

Bush launches media blitz to mark invasion anniversary

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The House will mark the anniversary of invading Iraq, which comes this Friday, with a weeklong media blitz designed to tie the overthrow of Saddam Hussein to the global war on terrorism.

The message is crucial to President Bush's re-election campaign, which has tried to shift the focus of the race from troublesome issues such as the economy to his biggest strength in polls — his handling of the aftermath of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Bush's presumed opponent, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., is responding with events this week focusing on troops and veterans in West Virginia and other battleground states. Kerry will say that Bush has shortchanged soldiers and their families in a time of war. Retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark, who lost his bid for the Democratic nomination, will speak for Kerry in Ohio.

Jim Wilkinson, deputy national security adviser, said the main message for the week is that the nation is more secure because of the capture of Hussein. "A dangerous regime with a history of aggression and links to terrorist organizations is no longer in power," Wilkinson said. "The principled action

taken by the United States in Iraq has sent out a clear message about resolve in the war on terror."

Other administration officials said they will use appearances in coming weeks to begin setting what the White House calls "realistic expectations" for the condition of Iraq's infrastructure — including its electricity supply, gas lines and food distribution network — in advance of the scheduled end of the U.S.-led occupation on June 30.

Administration officials plan to point out that the demand for oil and electricity has soared now that more Iraqis have cars, air conditioners and satellite dishes.

Administration officials have said they overestimated Iraq's modernity before the attack and now want to dampen expectations about the progress of the reconstruction, which will come under increased scrutiny before June 30.

The week-long events began Friday with a town hall meeting by Rumsfeld with Pentagon employees.

On Monday, the National Security Council and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham will point to what the administration regards as one of the biggest benefits so far of the war in Iraq with an event in Oak Ridge, Tenn.



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NATION/WORLD

Haiti's new leader gets sworn in.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Haiti's new prime minister, former edle Gerard Latortue, vowed to unite his country after a rebellion that pushed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide from power and criticized Jamaica's decision to host the exiled leader's return.

U.S. Marines on patrol in a poor Aristide neighborhood late Friday killed two gunmen who opened fire on them, Marine Staff Sgt. Timothy Edwards said Saturday. U.S. troops have killed at least six Haitians after coming under attack or in efforts to prevent bloodshed.

The Marines also have engaged in nightly gunbattles with looters. On Friday, they guarded the National Palace as Latortue took the oath of office in front of 200 dignitaries and members of Haiti's former opposition.

"I'm a man of dialogue," the prime minister said. "I give you the assurance that I will work and listen to you all as much as possible."

Latortue said he would begin visiting cities across Haiti, starting with his hometown of Gonaives, where the bloody rebellion that began on Feb. 5.

The insurgency ended on Feb. 28, when Aristide fled to exile under pressure from the United States and France and from rebels just miles from the capital. At least 300 people have been killed during the rebellion and in reprisal violence since then.

Latortue warned that Aristide's plan to return to nearby Jamaica early next week was causing tension in the Haitian capital; he told Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson that host-



The relative of a man killed by U.S. Marines weeps in a corner at the Bel-Air district of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Saturday.

ing Aristide would be seen as "an unfriendly act."

Aristide, in exile in the Central African Republic, claims he is still Haiti's legitimate leader. Latortue denied that Friday, dampening speculation that the trip to Jamaica might lead to negotiations for the former president's return.

Latortue is a U.N. career officer and business consultant who arrived in Haiti on Wednesday after years in Florida. A U.S.-backed council earlier this week selected him to replace former Prime Minister Yvon Neptune, an Aristide appointee who resigned in a letter dated March 10.

Latortue said earlier Friday he wants to hold legislative elections in six to eight months.

"This is an occasion of hope for all Haitians," he said. "Together, we will form a responsible government that respects its institutions, and I will see that every dollar given to development projects will be well spent."

Latortue spoke with Patterson by telephone, and said the Jamaican leader told him Aristide "had no other place to go."

Patterson said Aristide would visit with his wife, Mildred, for eight to 10 weeks to be reunited with their two daughters, who were sent to New York City for

their safety. Foreign Minister K.D. Knight said Aristide had been told not to use Jamaica as a staging post for any attempt to be reinstated in Haiti.

Patterson, chairman of the 15-nation Caribbean Community, has invited Latortue to visit Jamaica this weekend for talks on Haiti, Latortue said if he goes, his trip will not overlap with Aristide's arrival.

Aristide claims he was abducted and forced from office by the United States. U.S. officials say Aristide asked for help and that they saved his life by arranging his departure aboard a U.S.-chartered aircraft during a bloody rebellion.

96-year-old faces drug charges

KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C. (AP) — A 96-year-old woman facing drug charges said she does not know how the crack cocaine deputies found on her got into her wheelchair.

Julia Roberts was charged with possession of crack with intent to sell and deliver, and with possessing a crack pipe, sheriff's officials said. She was freed pending a hearing March 30.

"I've never seen (the drugs) in my life," she told The Charlotte Observer for a Saturday story. "I don't know how they

could get there."

A search warrant for the arrest said it's the third time Cleveland County deputies have seized crack at the mobile home Roberts shared with her son.

Harold Roberts, 61, was charged with possession of stolen goods. Harold Roberts' brother, James Roberts, 58, who lived nearby, was charged with possession of moonshine. A neighbor, Donald Eugene Bridges, 56, was charged with possession of stolen property.



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The Times-News

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Church catches fire; collapsing roof kills two firefighters

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Firefighters who thought they had a church fire under control were trapped when the building's roof collapsed Saturday. Two firefighters were killed and 29 were injured, five seriously.

There had been no sign of structural problems at Ebenezer Baptist Church before its steeple toppled as firefighters doused hot spots, Fire Chief Peter Micheli said.

The steeple crashed into the church's basement, where both dead firefighters were found, Micheli said. Firefighters at the scene removed their helmets and turned off warning lights on their vehicles in tribute as each body was removed.

Five firefighters suffered serious or critical head and chest injuries, said city Operations Director Bob Kennedy. At least one was undergoing surgery, four others needed to be hospitalized, Kennedy said.

The cause of Saturday morning's blaze appeared to be an electrical fire in the basement that jumped up the walls and spread rapidly, Kennedy said.

The senior pastor of the church, the Rev. J. Van Alfred Winslett, told Pittsburgh television stations that the congregation was preparing for a breakfast when the fire started.

Some firefighters were injured when the blaze flashed over, knocking one off a ladder and causing minor burns to the faces of five others, Micheli said. Most were hurt about an hour later when the steeple toppled, taking much of the roof with it.

Teen kills deputy and injures four others in standoff

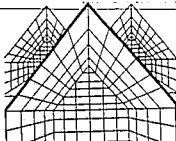
LENOIR CITY, Tenn. (AP) — A teenager who killed a sheriff's deputy and barricaded himself in his home was found dead inside Saturday with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot to the head, officials said.

Michael Harvey, 16, was found in an upstairs bedroom of his lakeside home, said Loudon County Sheriff Tim Guider. He said the teenager had been dead for up to 20 hours.

Harvey fired on SWAT team officers Friday afternoon from the home where he had semi-automatic weapons with multiple 30-round magazines.

The confrontation started Friday morning when officers went to investigate a domestic violence complaint from the boy's mother, who had fled to a neighbor's house. She allegedly was attacked with a pipe when she refused to let the boy drive to school after drinking the night before.

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Putin's presidency brings quiet control to political melodrama

MOSCOW (AP) - Vladimir Putin, who is certain to win today's presidential election, came to power in one of the most astonishing scenes of Russia's long political melodrama - and quickly changed the show into a show-and-play.

Since the mid-1990s, Russian politics had been filled with ideological ferment, policy twists and colorful figures. Today Russians have Putin's cool, firm managerial style - a small circle of circumspect men in gray suits making decisions with little open public discussion while policy-making bodies such as the parliament have been marginalized or tamed into a supportive chorus.

Critics say it marks the return of Soviet-type authoritarianism and reflects Putin's years as a KGB operative. But such complaints get washed away by the flood of approval for Putin from Russians exhausted by years of anarchy.

His biography radiates simplicity and a willingness to shoulder responsibility. Born in 1952 in war-battered Leningrad, Putin grew up in a bleak communal apartment. From his teens he wanted to be an intelligence agent, and he joined the KGB after graduation from law school, serving in East Germany.

After the fall of the European communist regimes, he returned to Leningrad, now St. Petersburg, and was an aide to the reformist mayor. In 1996, he came to Moscow and became President Boris Yeltsin's deputy chief of staff, then head of the



Vladimir Putin Stated for reelection today

KGB's main successor agency. He was named prime minister in August 1999.

His rise to the presidency upon Yeltsin's resignation on Dec. 31, 1999, was abrupt, stunning, and a study in contrasts - from Yeltsin looking feeble and sad as he announced his retirement, to Putin, clear-eyed and precise, assuring the nation he would protect "the fundamentals of civilized society."

He made fiscal responsibility a priority, promising to repay Russia's enormous international debt in full and on time, and to ensure that pensions, however small, arrived promptly.

He pushed successfully for tax reform, which swelled government revenue and enticed back foreign investors who had been scared off by the 1998 economic collapse.

The reforms and high world prices for oil, Russia's key export earner, produced steady

economic growth and the base for a small but growing middle-class.

Devoted to physical fitness and lacking any obvious taste for personal enrichment or alcohol, Putin projects an image of discipline, rectitude and power.

Moscow's vast avenues are cleared of traffic for his motorcade. When he makes an infrequent foray into public, the eager crowds he draws get heavy play on state television.

His tough persona occasionally lapses into vulgarity about Chechnya's separatist rebels, including his notorious vow to hunt them down and kill them in their toilets. Despite that pledge, the Chechnya war that Putin began in 1999 while still prime minister continues in a violent stalemate of daily fatal attacks on Russian forces.

The disappearance of independent television channels inclined to challenge the Kremlin is a striking characteristic of the Putin era.

The channels' closures or takeovers by state-connected companies were widely seen as the result of a Kremlin campaign directed by Putin or at least approved by him, although he contends that the changes had a strictly commercial basis.

Likewise, critics said the Kremlin's hand was behind the investigative assault last year on the major Russian oil company Yukos, which culminated in the dramatic jailing of Russia's richest man, ex-Yukos head Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

Mourners riot at funeral of stampede victims

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) - Hundreds of Kurds rioted at a funeral Saturday for victims of a soccer stadium stampede, vandalizing shops and state offices and shouting anti-government slogans - a rare protest in tightly controlled Syria.

Police fired shots into the air to disperse the crowd in Qamishli, a city 448 miles northeast of Damascus, where a soccer match a day earlier erupted into a melee between fans of rival Kurd and Arab teams. The death toll Saturday rose to nine, hospital officials said.

Another witness, Elias Abraham, said shops and businesses quickly shut down for the day. Police fired into the air to disperse the angry crowds trying to protest in the main street, Abraham said.

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U.N. agency passes resolution on Iran

VIENNA, Austria (AP) - Iran froze international inspections of its nuclear facilities indefinitely Saturday hours after the U.N. atomic agency issued a resolution censuring Tehran for hiding suspension activities.

Iran's top nuclear negotiator, Hasan Rowhani, described the resolution of the International Atomic Energy Agency as "unfair and deceitful."

"Today, IAEA inspectors were expected to arrive in Iran,"

Rowhani told a press conference in Iran's capital, Tehran. "We will not allow them to come until Iran sets a new date for their visit. This is a protest by Iran in reaction to the passage of the resolution."

An agreement that Iran signed last year empowered U.N. inspectors to inspect Iran's nuclear facilities at any time and without notice.

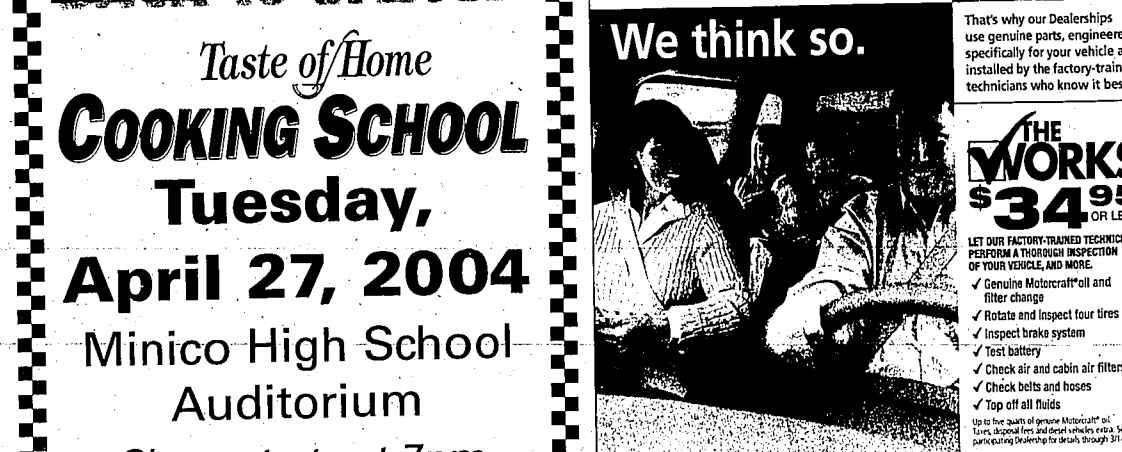
Asked whether the freeze was indefinite, Rowhani said "yes." A

day earlier, Tehran had announced a temporary freeze. Asked when inspectors might visit again, he replied: "It could be less than six weeks. It could be more than six weeks...we have not set a date."

Saturday's resolution praised Iran's increased openness to inspections but said it "deplores" recent discoveries of uranium enrichment equipment and other suspicious activities that Tehran had failed to reveal.

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EDITORIAL

Dell and Simplot add fuel to local economies

The Magic Valley's economic progress took not one, but two significant steps forward this past week.

On Wednesday, Dell Inc. announced that its established Twin Falls computer call center will begin serving business-to-business customers rather than consumer clients. The transition to a local Dell employee will be given more technical responsibilities and benefits in their positions.

Then on Thursday, the Mini-Cassia region got a boost when J.R. Simplot Co. donated its Heyburn plant property and assets to the city of Burley to be marked as an industrial park. The plant includes 1.1 million square feet of space in 20 buildings, and 276 total acres of land, valued altogether at more than \$15 million.

Most areas in Idaho, and many in the nation, would be thrilled to have just one of those announcements in a year. The Magic Valley experienced both of them in a week. Just more proof of the regional economy's growing vitality.

In the case of Dell, the transition to business customers highlights the versatility of the call center's work force. Dell workers in Twin Falls have validated the Texas PC manufacturer's decision to pick Twin Falls. The company's performance-oriented plan for growth has been a natural fit with the work force, the city and the College of Southern Idaho. That working relationship has even garnered praise from the U.S. Secretary of Labor.

Those elements have led to steady growth in jobs at the call center, from 200 workers since opening in 2002, to about 630 today.

By now moving into busi-

ness-to-business tasks, the company will take bolder steps in upgrading its work force. Employees will be given more technical training, better wage potential, and industry certifications, while working better hours as they handle business calls rather than PC-owner calls.

As for the Mini-Cassia economy, the Simplot property donation is also a nod to the regional work force. For decades the workers in Burley, Rupert, Heyburn and other nearby communities have helped Simplot prosper and become the food processing giant that it is today.

So it is appropriate that Burley be given this property so that some kind of recovery can strategically be made in the area. The acquisition doesn't heal all the local wounds from the plant's shutdown - but it's a good start.

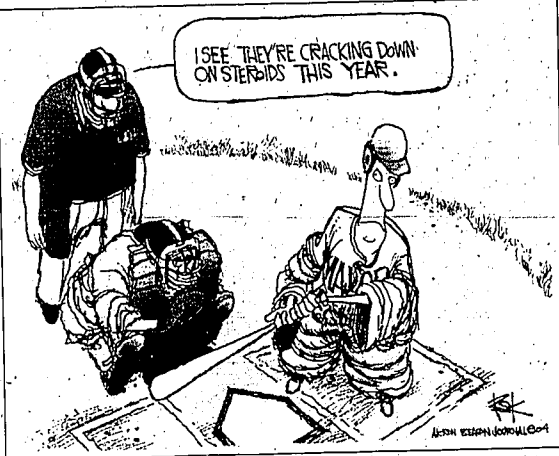
Due to a restrictive clause that prevents competition to Simplot, Mini-Cassia leaders won't see another massive venture process move in and take over where Simplot left off. But just as Twin Falls acquired property to help Dell deal at its tax-free location, perhaps Mini-Cassia officials can likewise use this property to attract a number of tenant employers.

With that approach, the region would see a more diverse mix of employers in the industrial park area instead of one single company. That variety helps insulate the local economy from any massive layoffs from one employer.

Economic officials and city leaders for Twin Falls and Burley deserve praise for working with Dell and Simplot to make both events happen. The multiplying effect of Dell's growth, and Burley's property acquisition, sends a message that the local economy is moving ahead.

Our view: The Magic Valley's regional economy will gain momentum with Dell's new operations and Simplot's property donation.

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



Facts show rape laws serve their purpose

Reep. Wendy Isquet, D-Ketchum, has introduced legislation to liberalize Idaho's rape statutes. On March 9, the Legislature held hearings on her proposal. The danger of Rep. Isquet's legislation is, ironically, best demonstrated by examining the cases presented to support it.

Audrey Von Lindern, complaining her grandson, Toby LaPray, and Debi Rice, alleging mistreatment of her son, Dylan Byrne, testified before the Legislature. Both complained about Twin Falls cases. Both cases were handled fairly.

Toby LaPray was charged on Oct. 7, 1999, with forcibly raping an 18-year-old. LaPray was 18. After a preliminary hearing where the victim testified, a judge ordered LaPray to stand trial on the forcible rape charge. Before trial, the victim left Idaho. At her request and after negotiations, LaPray pled guilty to the non-forcible rape of a different 16-year-old.

LaPray was 19 at the time so Idaho law didn't require sex-offender registration. LaPray was sentenced on Aug. 30, 2000, to a 2-4 year suspended term. LaPray's victim said, "I just want him to get help or go away so he doesn't do harm to any other girls." LaPray was placed on probation and ordered into sex-offender treatment.

On Nov. 6, 2001, LaPray began to pile up probation violations. He violated by refusing court-ordered treatment and consuming alcohol under age. LaPray was arrested for DUI and escaping, in handcuffs.

READER COMMENT
Grant Loeb.

after his arrest. He refused sex-offender and substance abuse treatment, to take required polygraphs, and to maintain employment. His probation officer said, "Mr. LaPray has basically done what he wants to do and nothing more... he poses a continuing threat to society." He was sent to six months in the retained jurisdiction program at Cottonwood.

He returned on June 18, 2001, and was again placed on probation.

LaPray continued to violate probation by failing treatment, committing assault, and having sex while on work release. His probation officer said, "Mr. LaPray has demonstrated reckless and irresponsible behavior; he has impregnated three different females. Two of his children were given up for adoption and the third was aborted." Because of these violations LaPray was sentenced to one year in jail. He was allowed work release if he qualified. He did not. He is serving his sentence and has appealed.

Dylan Byrne was convicted of rape on May 13, 2002, for sex with a 15-year-old. He was 19. No physical force was involved. Byrne was sentenced to 2-6 years in prison, but was allowed probation and ordered into sex-offender treatment.

Byrne violated probation on Nov. 6, 2002, by disobeying court orders, having contact

with his victim and refusing treatment. He took his 16-year-old victim to California without her parents' knowledge and against court orders. Byrne's probation officer said, "Dylan refuses to follow any of the conditions of his probation. In fact, he goes out of his way to violate these conditions. Dylan has become a real threat to public safety and specifically to [his victim]." Byrne admitted violating and was sent to Cottonwood for six months.

Upon returning Byrne was again placed on probation.

On Nov. 26, 2003, Byrne again violated by disobeying court orders and state law and again having sex with his underage victim and taking her to Nevada in direct defiance of her parents, the court and his probation officer. He and his victim admitted to ingesting methamphetamine.

These violations and new felony charges are pending. Their complaints, their letter-writing campaign, and their rapist's rights crusade notwithstanding, the facts show that both LaPray and Byrne have worked hard to fail. Their serious crimes and miserable performances on probation demonstrate that neither is a poster boy for weakening Idaho's rape laws.

Grant Loeb, the prosecuting attorney for Twin Falls County, submitted this reader comment as a response to proposed legislation and recent letters to the editor concerning statutory rape cases.

LETTERS

Aquifer users should help to rebuild it

This letter is in reference to Mr. Fitzgerald's letter on Rangen "wastewater" (April 5).

If the water Rangen uses for fish is "wastewater" as you are suggesting, it was created by the development of the canals back in the 1920s. There was a level of the aquifer before 1920, and after that was the addition to the aquifer after 1920 by the canals and the gravity irrigation practices. Taking this into account, you could say that all the water added to the aquifer after 1920 is "wastewater." The pumps after the 1920s should pump from that part of the aquifer so they are using the same "wastewater" that Rangen is.

But when those pumps deplete the aquifer down below the prior 1920 aquifer level, then I personally have a problem. My water rights have a priority date of 1881. Right 36-00073 has a 2 cubic foot per second (90 gallons per minute) irrigation right. A .04 cfs (18 gpm) stock water right and a 9.1 gpm domestic right for a combined flow of 117 gpm. On Jan. 18, 2004, it measured 7.8 gpm (total coming from the spring). It measured 6.67 gpm on March 4, 2004. I am receiving 6 percent of my water right. I use it to heat and cool my house in a water to air heat pump, which takes 5 gpm. So what happens if I take a shower or turn on the washing machine or flush the toilet or turn the dishwasher on or my cows drink water or I do more than one of these at a time. I suck mad. This summer, it will be below 4 gpm. I say the "pumpers have sucked all your wastewater" aquifer water out and now are into the prior 1920 aquifer level. All the people that use the aquifer, which is everybody on the north side - domestic users, stock water users, municipalities, pumps, businesses and fish people - should sit down and solve the aquifer problem. If we can't come to a short-term and long-term agreement, I would hate to see every pump after 1881 shut down or be curtailed because we can't agree. Everybody that uses the aquifer should pay something to rebuild and sustain it. The aquifer is the lifeblood of the north side and all of the Magic Valley.

LAYNE OSBORNE
Hagerman

Even kids can work and save for fair fees

Property owners should not have to pay more taxes on property they worked hard to buy so others can get into the fair fees.

Every person who goes to the fair should pay something. Even a kid can gather pop cans or pull weeds for a neighbor to earn money for the fair. Too many things in life are free for those who don't work or have more kids than they can afford.

I grew up on a farm. I hoed beets, corn and beans. I planted weeds, cut potatoes for plucking and picked potatoes (dragging a sack down the rows) in the fall to buy school clothes, a school sweater, activity card, school annual, ring and the fair. If I couldn't afford it, I didn't get to go (a part of life). I could only go one day, be very selective in the rides I chose and didn't have much money for eating. But I met friends there and still had a great time. If I wanted to go to the fair, I would go. It was inexpensive. It is a shame people don't work - and work hard - for things they want or want to do.

I am older now, but I still have to make choices in how I spend money. I don't shop and travel like some or spend money on hobby-style cars or some. People and kids still have all summer to work and save. Maybe they can't go camping or buy a motorcycle or motorhome or go to Lagoon or Disneyland and go to the fair, too. It's a choice. If they do choose not to go or save some, start saving now and make choices in how to spend that money. You can buy school stuff and go to the fair. I did it - so can others. Fair board - be fair.

DONNA KILLINGER
Twin Falls

The Times-News
Stephen Hartzog, Publisher
Clark Walworth, Managing Editor
Mike Smith, Advertising Director

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

Big government makes a sudden comeback

On the left of the Democratic Party, they don't come any stouter than Barney Frank, the 12-term congressman from Massachusetts.

Republicans enjoy debating him, because if you've beaten him, you know the next liberal will be easier.

In a speech on March 4, Frank took what has become a commonplace of political conversation, something that President Bush, Senator Kerry and scores of lesser lights constantly discuss - namely, the frustrating jobs that have opened it in a depth one rarely hears from a politician.

By doing so, he carried the jobs debate to a level where the policy choices become so basic - and challenging - that ordinary pods and pundits fear to tread.

While most of those in office or seeking office suggest that tweaking the economy with modest measures such as more job training or new tax incentives will revive the great job-growing engines of the 1990s, Frank offers a more sweeping and disturbing hypothesis.

A fundamental shift has occurred, he says. "The ability of the private sector in this country to create wealth is now outstripping its ability to create jobs. The normal rule of thumb

by which a certain increase in the gross domestic product would produce a concomitant increase in jobs does not appear to apply." That is the basic reason, he suggests, for this jobless recovery - why month after month the economic growth figures spell boom, and month after month unemployment remains stubbornly high and more thousands become so discouraged they give up the search for work.

Frank buttresses his argument by pointing out that the boom in corporate profits and the rise in the stock market have been accompanied not just by joblessness, but a decline in real wages, a fall in private health insurance and a rise in income inequality.

All this suggests something more is at work than just bad luck or bad timing - a shift requiring a fundamental re-examination of the available options.

Why is this boom leaving so many worse off? Frank's catalogue of causes is a familiar one: globalization and its handmaiden, the outsourcing of jobs to low-wage countries; the weakening of unions; the tilt of the tax system in favor of the wealthy investor. And Frank endorses the regular catalogue of remedies urged by Kerry and other mainstream Democrats.



But if you sense, as I do, a need to challenge Bush's belief that pumping up the private sector with more tax incentives and more deregulation is the only way to find the missing jobs, Barney Frank's speech fills a real void in the debate.

tem more progressive. Like everyone else, including President Bush, he says education, innovation and skills training are the keys to a healthy long-term economic future.

But unlike others, Frank does not stop at that point. Just as he is bold in diagnosing the cause of the problem - a private economy geared to producing wealth, not jobs - he is equally daring in his remedies.

Toward the end of his speech, Frank uttered a sentence one can hardly imagine coming from the mouth of a 21st-century American politician. "Our problem today," he said, "is too little government." When I asked him in an interview Thursday if he was sending a message to John Kerry for all Democrats, he said, "I'm saying it's in a situation now where we need the government, and where is it? We've cut taxes, we've criticized bureaucracy, we've almost condemned the public sector. I'm saying it's time to talk positively about government and use it to do what the private economy is no longer doing." His proposal is to tax some of the wealth the private sector is now producing so abundantly - "a fairly small percentage," he said, without being specific - and use it to employ people

on socially useful purposes." Frank urges that we "take some of the wealth that is being created by this wonderful thing, this increased productivity, this new technology and the ways of using it, and all this in our own indisputable public purposes. Let us give cities and states more money so they can have more people policing, fighting fires, cleaning up the environment, repairing facilities that need to be repaired, enhancing train transportation, building highways, helping construct affordable housing in places where that is a crisis, helping pay for higher education for students." As Frank's speech smacks "to some extent [of] the New Deal philosophy." And that is why no one, including the Democratic presidential candidate, is likely to endorse it wholesale.

But if you sense, as I do, a need to challenge Bush's belief that pumping up the private sector with more tax incentives and more deregulation is the only way to find the missing jobs, Barney Frank's speech fills a real void in the debate.

David Broder, a columnist for the Washington Post, can be reached at davidbroder@washpost.com.

They include tougher trade rules, restoration of union organizing and bargaining rights and steps to make the tax sys-

Best Available Copy

OPINION

LETTERS

Do more to help catch check thieves
Everyone needs to know that helping our police catch the crooks that steal our checks...

Seek alternative options to a fair subsidy tax
After reading the article in The Times-News regarding the problem at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds...

When problems occur in a business, usually the first place you look is at management...

There are many prospects yet to be explored, such as better ways to handle the huge volume of cash that goes through...

The homeowners are the only ones taxed, they should also be the only ones to vote. BOB LANCASTER

Bush exploits 9/11 for his own purposes

I can hardly blame the relatives of 9/11 victims for objecting to President Bush's use of the 9/11 tragedy to bolster his election campaign...

Second, he has consistently refused to extend the deadline of the 9/11 committee investigating this intelligence failure...

FLORENCE BLANCHARD Bellevue

State creates bigger problem with wolves

An article in The Times-News, Jan. 27, reported there were approximately 371 wolves presently in Idaho...

An earlier article from the same news source told about some wolves that had been shot east of Salmon, Idaho...

Simply put, nature's way is what there is. It is a beautiful game, a pack will prosper and increase rapidly...

The lofty fantasy of introducing wolves to control overabundance of deer, elk and bison is a short-sighted vision...

The Wolf Reintroduction Act is a poorly conceived plan that has caused and will continue to cause huge problems...

I can remember when we depended on our government to solve problems wisely. Now it creates them.

GLEN CAPPS Jerome

Point should be clarified regarding county fair

The fair is not a necessary quote taken out of context and print the information that best serves its purpose is a powerful tool...

My point is that the request will be for a two-year, 2-mill levy that will increase county taxes by \$20 per every \$100,000 of property value...

Ketchum Democrats stoop lower with button

Senate Minority Leader Clinton Stennett and House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet should apologize to their constituents and then resign.

It was, at best, an embarrassingly stupid attempt at sophomoric humor and, at worst, vile and demeaning...

It either case, it demonstrates the moral death in which the Democratic leadership has sunk.

The button brought \$300, and an attempt to get John Kerry to sign it is in the works.

It is my bet that Sen. Kerry will have some close to that button, let alone sign it.

One thing I know they won't do is call Sen. Kerry an evil ass.

KEN CARWIN Halley

severance and retirement packages could be put into the Social Security fund to assure that our elderly are not found wanting in their declining years.

Looks like they are wanting to punish all for the irresponsibility, mistakes and mishaps of the few.

JIM CHILDS Twin Falls

CEO positions could also be exported

As I was driving home listening to a radio editorial concerning the exportation of jobs overseas...

The first is that instead of exporting the lower-level jobs, why not export the chief executive officer and other high-level administrative positions?

And why stop there? Let's export our USA congressional and upper levels of government positions as well.

Let's keep the fair "fair"! If you enjoy the county fair, you pay the entrance fee...

FLORENCE OSTERKAMP Twin Falls

Getting in touch
Want to make your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how. Sen. Mike Crapo, Sen. Larry Craig, Rep. Mike Simpson.

Write to us
The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office.

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Carpet One advertisement showing a living room with a carpet and a person cleaning. Includes prices like \$1499 and \$1899.

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Making peace:
Yoga offers tranquility for cancer patients

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MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

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Idaho/West B2-7
Nation B8

City Editor: Chad Balksin, 733-0931, Fax: 234

The Times-News

Sunday, March 14, 2004

Section B

Pocatello's pathetic; ain't it grand?

Two relatively recent arrivals to Idaho have whipped up a Web site, name of "PatchedPocatello.com," to let them count the ways.

It's a pretty dispiriting portrait of a down-at-the-heels Idaho town that can't seem to find its snowplows under the drifts and subsists, hand to hand, from whatever's to hand at the dollar stores.



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

But to be honest, Jared Davies and Adam McKinney are working a target-rich environment: Pocatello, lacks — how to put this? — discernion, frequently smells bad, skulks under a never-ending temperature inversion and hosts the Idaho State University athletic program.

And a lot of the unsightly things they complain about you'll find here in Twin Falls, too — or in Idaho Falls, at Sandpoint, in Meridian, over in Idrico or anywhere else with more mudflaps than can be consumed locally.

"This site is an experiment, to see if people can communicate in a civilized manner about things that make us angry, scared, happy, confused, etc. about things locally," Davies writes. "If we succeed, then we will become a parody of ourselves."

"I don't mean to offend anyone by this site. I do not mean to badger or belittle people. I will not tolerate anyone who does on my site."

Maybe not, but there's only one "I" in "tolerate."

And his Web site probably wouldn't exist at all if Pocatello hadn't long since become a punchline. (I'm a native, so I can be picky.)

Pocatello was a town where politicians, according to former Oregon Sen. Richard Neuberger, never went back to after the voters had sent them someplace better. It was the place where, in the movie "A Star is Born," Judy Garland was "born in a trunk in the Princess Theater."

"It was during a Mutinee on Friday. And they used a make-up towel for my ditty."

Pathetic Pocatello? Sorry, that ship has sailed.

But I've always admired my hometown's clean-cut billing: Paris, Heck, it's not even Paris, Idaho.

But it is a place that, you can proclaim that you're from and unfailingly start a conversation. The local Chamber of Commerce used to boast, quite un-self-consciously, that the city was the only Pocatello in the world. It's a claim that, as far as I know, is to this day unrefuted.

What might have happened, after the Iron Curtain fell, if we'd all discovered there's been a Pocatello, Azerbaijan, all along? I hard to say, but the real Pocatello wouldn't have wasted time feeling sorry for itself.

Changes are it would have dispatched its Chamber Ambassadors to the other Pocatello and presented the local mayor with one of its trademark Indian headresses.

It's a technique they've long employed to break the ice. In 1969, then-Sen. Frank Church even persuaded John Kennedy, then a presidential candidate, to stop by and deliver a few remarks in the Pocatello High School Auditorium that fall.

Please see CRUMP, Page B4

Snowpack levels

Watershed	100% of Avg	Season peak
Upper Snake Basin	92%	80%
Salmon Falls	116%	104%
Salmon	93%	91%
Oakley	113%	104%
Big Wood	91%	81%
Little Wood	87%	85%
Henrys Fork/Teton	107%	93%
Big Lost	96%	83%
Little Lost	91%	75%

As of March 13

A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average, is a indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.

Hearing officer rejects arguments

Documents detail why official thinks Ramos should be reinstated

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Angel Ramos has done nothing to justify being dismissed as superintendent of the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, a state hearing officer has concluded. Charles McDevitt's March 3 response to state petitions for him to reconsider an earlier decision in Ramos's favor, obtained by *The Times-News* through a public records request, rejected arguments by state attorneys in the matter.

The newspaper also obtained copies of petitions for reconsideration by the state's attorneys, and Ramos's attorneys' responses. The State Board of Education still has the final say about Ramos's fate. He has been on paid administrative leave since July 30.

McDevitt's original recommendation to the board on Feb. 10 included 15 pages of fact-finding, summarizing testimony at a four-day hearing in January. He commended Gary Stivers, the state board's executive director, for his handling of the matter but said the evidence and testimony did not amount to adequate cause for Ramos's dismissal.

McDevitt wrote that many of the Gooding school's finance-related violations stemmed from the illness and death of the school's longtime chief financial officer, McDevitt recommended reinstating Ramos and affirming the school's transition to a greater emphasis on academics. The state's petition for reconsideration and clarification, filed Feb. 23, was intended to show that there was adequate cause for Ramos's removal. The petition from Ramos's attorneys, submitted Feb. 26, requested that the state's petition be denied. It de-

scribed the state's petition as repetitive and unnecessary. "No point or purpose is served by repeating arguments that failed to resonate in the first instance," Ramos's attorneys wrote in their petition. Major issues in the decision include: • Disagreement with corrective action plan — "The state's petition cited numerous examples of testimony and evidence



Angel Ramos

Please see RAMOS, Page B4

MAKING IMPRESSIONS



Mckayl Rutherford, left, a fourth-grader at Lincoln Elementary School, watches as Kimberly High School senior and Miss Kimberly Pageant contestant Ashley Remaley, right, and stylist Lori Hofmeister test some glitter hair spray at Trendz Hair, Nails and Tanning salon in Twin Falls Saturday. As part of the Miss Kimberly "Queen for a Day" mentorship program, Remaley took Rutherford to breakfast, shopping for a dress and to the hair styling in preparation for the night's pageant.

Natalie Fowers wins Miss Kimberly Pageant

The Times-News

KIMBERLY — Natalie Fowers captured top honors among the 15 contestants at the annual Miss Kimberly Pageant Saturday night.

In addition to being crowned Miss Kimberly, Fowers also took home the Miss Congeniality award.

Fowers, the daughter of Mike

and Laura Fowers, enjoys running and is active in the National Honor Society. Sarah Sargeant was chosen first runner-up. Sargeant, the daughter of Steve and Vickie Sargeant, is a senior, plays piano and is in the National Honor Society and Business Professionals of America. Second runner-up was Laura

Allen. Allen, the daughter of David and Brenda Allen, is a senior, active in softball and plays harp and piano. The talent competition winner was Jayde Graham. Graham, the granddaughter of Floyd and Deanna Finney, is a junior and is active in choir. Pageant prizes included five College of Southern Idaho Pres-

idential Scholarships and other scholarship money. Earlier Saturday, pageant contestants were paired with girls ages 5 to 12 selected by such organizations as the Wishyng Star Foundation as part of the Miss Kimberly "Queen for a Day" mentorship program. The girls spent time together in activities including shopping and getting their hair styled.

Juniper removal rouses ire

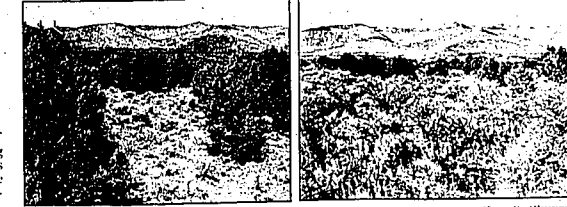
Activists, BLM officials debate purpose of plan

By Chip Thompson
Times-News writer

BURLEY — A battle is brewing in the Jim Sage Mountains southwest of Malheur over the proposed removal of encroaching and mature juniper.

An environmental assessment regarding the plan was completed last month by officials at the Burley Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. During the 30-day period provided for public comment, environmental groups expressed concerns about the motivation, cost and lasting effects of the project.

The proposed 10-year project involves 27,740 of the area's 135,000 acres, about half of the mature juniper acreage and all of the encroaching juniper acreage. Jim Sage Mountain is the largest non-routted and undeveloped area in the Burley office's jurisdiction. The area received attention in recent years after the successful reintroduction of bighorn sheep. The Jim Sage Mountain bighorn herd is estimated at 70 to 100 after the most recent release last spring. BLM Fire Behavior Specialist Marc Furech said the removal of juniper will promote growth of sagebrush and native



The photo at left from 1952 shows sagebrush-steppe habitat in Cottonwood Basin in the Jim Sage Mountains. The photo at right, taken in the same area in 2003, shows how juniper has largely taken over the area. The BLM is proposing to remove juniper in what it calls an ecosystem restoration project.

grass in the area. Marquex said restoring the ecosystem will benefit wildlife and help reduce fuel, making the remote area less prone to catastrophic wildfires. But Jon Marvel of Hailey-based Western Watersheds Project says the treatment is intended "to benefit the 17 percent of ranchers who graze cattle on the public land by increasing the amount of forage for the livestock. "If BLM was seriously interested in restoring ecosystems, we'd all love to see that," Marvel said. "But they clearly don't know what they're doing." Marvel said cattle grazing itself may be largely responsible for the spread of juniper, and that BLM has never even considered removal of cattle as a potential solution. "If BLM and Fish and Game

really wanted to promote wildlife, why aren't they considering livestock control or eradicating livestock from erig sensitive areas?" Marvel asked. Marquex acknowledged that the project will provide better forage for cattle, but he insisted that's not the reason for the juniper removal. He pointed out that the environmental assessment parameters specifically said, "Permitted livestock grazing would not be increased." Richard Ward, a permittee who has grazed cattle in the area for more than 30 years, said there may be some benefit from the project because juniper requires more water than sagebrush and grasses, so there should be more available moisture if the juniper are reduced. Ward lives in the Camp Springs area of the Jim Sage Mountains and grazes around

100 head of cattle May through September on BLM and state land. Ward is concerned that the provision prohibits expansion of grazing; citing a 1995 management plan that proposed to increase annual unit months to 0,000. — An annual unit month — AUM — is a unit of grazing management that equals the amount of forage one cow and its calf eat in one month. Marquex explained that AUMs could increase in the future but not as part of this project. Any increase in AUMs would require a separate study when applied. Marvel said that if forage is increased, grazing is sure to be increased as well. Please see JUNIPER, Page B4

Consolidation controversy causes sparks in Richfield

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD — Tempers are beginning to flare in Richfield over the possibility of consolidating the school district with Shoshone. School Board member Jesse West said he is writing a letter to his constituents about consolidation. "It's 100 percent against it," West said. "It's not good for our community." When asked to elaborate, West said, "Consolidation don't help nobody." The issue resulted in an argument at a School Board meeting last week when parents Lamin West and Ric Hiebling were asked to leave after they talked out of turn several times about the subject had been tabled. Superintendent David Hocklander said.

See related story — B3

The board gave an update on the issue of consolidation, without taking public comment, then moved on to other topics. Hocklander said West and Hiebling refused to follow parliamentary procedure. "They were extraordinarily involved in the issue," Hocklander said. "It was becoming a disruptive factor." Hocklander said he hoped they would come to the next joint board meeting when consolidation will be up for discussion. **Loosing identity** Mike Genross, a Richfield board member, said that those opposed to consolidation have

Please see CONSOLIDATION, Page B4

What's next?

The next joint school board meeting to discuss possible consolidation of the Richfield and Shoshone school districts is 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Richfield School, at the corner of Tiger Drive and Kootenai Street. The meeting is open to the public.

EPA rejects city's arsenic request

By Sandra Wisecaver
Times-News correspondent

CASTLEFORD — The City Council's request for more time to comply with stricter arsenic standards has been denied so far. The news is the latest stumbling block in Castleford, which is the first city in the state to apply for an exemption to the Feb. 23, 2002, deadline for compliance with new Environmental Protection Agency standards. In a letter to the city, the EPA's Richard E. Green said that since Castleford had already indicated in an Oct. 21, 2003, communication that compliance could be achieved by July 1, 2006, "EPA was disinclined to suggest that you instead take another 6 years to comply." However, Castleford may still submit a revised compliance Please see ARSENIC, Page B4

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Constable faces charges in billing for unserved warrants

OGDEN, Utah (AP) — A constable has been charged with two third-degree felonies for allegedly billing this city for warrants he never served. Paul Larsen is scheduled to be arraigned April 13 in 2nd District Court on charges of theft by deception and communications fraud. Officials said the billings involved several thousand dollars in fees for warrants served in the past year or two. Police Detective Tim Shestard noticed the irregularities when he saw that Larsen was

billing the city for warrants Shestard had served. Shestard's supervisor, Sgt. Doug Lucero, said he couldn't comment on the case because "the city generally, and the police department specifically, are the victims in the case." Shestard is listed as a victim in the charging documents filed Wednesday in district court. "That's the problem with constables. When they're good, they're great, but there can be oversight problems that show up on the jurisdiction whose name appears on their shoulder patch," said Weber County Attorney Mark DeCaria, whose office filed the charges. The office of constable is unusually autonomous. "Though Larsen's title was 'city constable,' and he was listed in the phone directory under Ogden government, he was not a city employee. He was appointed to the position several years ago by the City Council. Larsen also serves papers all over Weber County and occasionally in Davis County.

Hagerman police seek three suspects in drug-related cases

By Sandra Wisecover Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — Police have issued arrest warrants for three Hagerman residents in connection with drug- and firearms-related charges. The Hagerman Police Department, which has ratcheted up its drug enforcement efforts in recent months, is looking for George Jensen, 41, Tammy Hamilton Jensen, 33, and William Virgil Brown, 39. All three are at large.

Keeping a watch in the neighborhood and reporting suspicious activity is important.

— Loren Miller, Hagerman police chief

Suspicious activity at a Hagerman residence in October sparked the initial investigation of the Jensens. Police Chief Loren Miller said.

The occupants of the home were evicted in the middle of the investigation, Miller said. When the Jensens moved to 260 Orchard St. E., so did the investigation.

Miller, assisted by the Gooding County Sheriff's Department and the Magic Valley Drug Task Force, said he attempted to serve an arrest warrant to George Jensen at the home on March 3 and discovered 17 items of drug paraphernalia and a growing marijuana plant in plain sight. "Two males, ages 11 and 13, were at the residence at the time and were taken into custody by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare."

Also discovered in the home was a growing light and plastic bags containing an unidentified white substance, Miller said. The items recovered are being

analyzed at the Idaho State Police crime lab in Meridian.

George Jensen, who has a prior possession of a controlled substance conviction, is now wanted on charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of drug paraphernalia and felony injury to a child.

In a search of a vacant home owned by Tammy Hamilton Jensen at 180 S. St. W. on March 4, investigators found drug paraphernalia, Miller said. Tammy Hamilton Jensen also is wanted on felony injury to a child charge.

An unidentified informant reported seeing two individuals coming in and out of the home late the previous night, Miller said.

The ISP crime lab also is testing evidence seized from a home at 313 Third Ave. S. related to a separate investigation in February.

In an interview with officers, William Virgil Brown admitted he had drug paraphernalia in his home and consented to a police search, Miller said.

But when officers arrived at the home, Brown barred their entry without a warrant, Miller said.

Returning with a search warrant, police found approximately four grams of methamphetamine and a firearm, said Miller, adding that they also found precursors to the production of methamphetamine.

Hagerman police have been unable to locate Brown since Feb. 18.

The serial number on the gun had been ground off. Miller said he is hopeful the crime lab will be able to do so their magic and pull number back up off the firearm."

An arrest warrant has been issued for Brown for possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

"Keeping a watch in their neighborhood and reporting suspicious activity is important," he said. "I need the input and the help I have received from Gooding County Sheriff Shawn Gough and his deputies and the task force."

Anyone with information about the three fugitives can contact Miller at 837-6636 or the Gooding County Sheriff's Department at 934-4421.

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obituaries@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."

R. Lorraine Mai Uriguen - Paul

R. Lorraine Mai Uriguen was born June 12, 1930, to William and Huby Thiel Mai of Burley, Idaho. She had four children. Lorraine passed away on March 12, 2004, in Pocatello, Idaho, surrounded by her family.



She attended Burley schools and graduated from Burley High School in 1948. She met her future husband, Frank Uriguen, in 1949 and they were married at the Y-Dell Ballroom on Nov. 25, 1949. They later had two sons, Frank G. and Stephen. Lorraine spent a great deal of her adult life working as a bank teller for Idaho Bank and Trust, a job she really enjoyed.

Later in life she found another profession that she enjoyed as well, being a reading tutor in the Minidoka Community School District.

Lorraine was affiliated with many organizations including Minidoka Memorial Hospital Board of Directors, Saint Nicholas Catholic Union, Lady Bikes, Minidoka Memorial Hospital Foundation and Boise State University Bronco Athletic Association.

Robert (Vera) Mai of Rupert, Idaho; sister, Barbara Gochnour of Burley, Idaho; brother, John (Doris) Mai of (Barbara) Mai of Burley; brother, Jack (Messte) Mai of Burley; brother, Jerry (Billie) Mai of Payette; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother-in-law, Eugene M. Haynes; and Frank "Pat" McCaslin.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 17, 2004, at the St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 802 F St., Rupert, Idaho, with interment at the Paul Cemetery in Paul, Idaho. A rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, 2004, also at the church.

The family will then gather at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., Rupert, Idaho, immediately following the rosary to greet friends and family from 8 to 9 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Minidoka Memorial Hospital Foundation or charity of your choice.

Carmen Sanchez Reyes - Rupert

Carmen Sanchez Reyes, 66, of Rupert, died Saturday, March 13, 2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center. She was born on April 10, 1937, in Salinas, Hidalgo, Mexico, the daughter of Jose and Reynalda San Miguel Sanchez. She married Alberto Reyes in 1955, in Tamaulipas, Mexico. She moved to the Burley-Rupert area nearly 20 years ago, where she has since resided.



She loved her family and enjoyed being with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed her trips to Jackpot, Nev., and also liked to play bingo. She was a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

Carmen is survived by her children, Jose Guadalupe Reyes of Mission, Texas, Maria Isabel Vasquez of Heiburn, Alberto Reyes Jr. of Mission,

brothers and sisters living in Mexico. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1993, and one son, Reynaldo Sanchez in 1999.

A vigil with recitation of the rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, 2004, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, 1601 Oakley Ave., Burley. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 17, 2004, at Little Flower Catholic Church with the Rev. Father Juan Carmona as celebrant. Burial will follow at Riverside Cemetery in Heiburn. Friends and family may call from 6 until 7 p.m. Tuesday and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

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

Thurlow C. 'Ted' Hartwell - Twin Falls

Thurlow Corydon "Ted" Hartwell, 78, of Twin Falls, passed away Friday, March 12, 2004, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho.



Ted was born Nov. 2, 1925, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Corydon and Eva Alice Robinson Hartwell. As a young man, Ted enlisted in the United States Army and served his country during World War II.

On Jan. 11, 1952, Ted married the love of his life, Georgiella Sobotta. This union were born four children. Ted's life work was as a central office technician for the Bell System and he retired from there in 1988.

But his hobby and great passion was Chess. From a very early age he became an active player with many competitions and championships. He played Chess anywhere he could set up a board, and

Hartwell of Las Vegas, Nev.; daughter, Barbara Ann Hartwell (Fred) Botha of Sacramento, Calif.; and two grandchildren, Tanya Michelle Davis and Nicole-Annette Davis. His parents and his son, David Hartwell, preceded him in death.

A funeral for Ted will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 17, at St. Edward's Catholic Church in Twin Falls with Father Boniface Lutz officiating. Interment will follow the service at the Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery in Twin Falls, Idaho. All arrangements and services are under the direction of the Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls, Idaho.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to the Monastery of the Ascension, 541 E. 100 S., Jerome, ID 83338.

Norene E. Brooks - Hagerman

Norene E. Brooks died Friday, March 12, 2004, from a brief illness at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

She was born Nov. 6, 1915, in Oakley, Idaho. Norene and Elvin met and married in Twin Falls, then moved to Ketchum in 1959 to run the Chevron Service Station.

In 1956, they started Brooks Welding in Ketchum, which is now a third generation Brooks business. Norene ran the office for Brooks Welding in Ketchum in Eastern Star, and was on the Community Library Board.

In the late 1950s and early

60s, family income was supplemented by Elvin, Norene and their sons plowing snow for many local residents including Ernest Hemingway. Hemingway was always quite friendly to "the locals" and frequently would invite the snowplow crew in for a drink. Later, Brooks Welding was selected by friends of Ernest Hemingway to destroy his suicide weapon.

Norene enjoyed both trout fishing and big game hunting. She was happiest stalking small trout on streams she could jump across.

She is survived by her three sisters, Louise, Charlotte and Bernice; her two sons, Allen and Ray; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Her parents, her brother, Ed Uhlig, and her husband, Elvin Brooks, preceded her in death.

Due to Norene's wishes, there will be no funeral services. She will be interred in Ketchum.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you stop and raise a glass in remembrance of Norene.

SERVICES

Olga N. Fisher of Rupert, service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Methodist Church in Rupert, friends and family may call from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Hansen's Mortuary in Rupert.

graveside service at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Meridian Cemetery in Meridian (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home).

J.B. Smith of Burley, service at 11 a.m. Monday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Burley West Stake Center, 2420 Parke Ave.; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Hansen's Mortuary, 223 W. Main St., Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church.

Stella Marie Lawson - BUHL — Stella Marie Lawson, 77, of Buhl, died Saturday, March 13, 2004, at the Snake River Rehabilitation and Living Center in Buhl. Arrangements will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Paul Fleming - Paul Fleming, 91, of Hagerman, died Sunday, March 13, 2004, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital. A graveside service will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, 2004, at the Hagerman Cemetery. A complete obituary will appear at a later date. Arrangements are under the

direction of Demary Funeral Chapel in Gooding. Lloyd N. Andersen - WENDELL — Lloyd N. Andersen, 90, of Wendell, died Saturday, March 13, 2004, at the Gooding County Rehabilitation and Living Center. Arrangements will be announced by Demary's Wendell Chapel.

Gary Roy Kernin - LEWISTON — Gary Roy Kernin, 63, of Lewiston and formerly of the Magic Valley area, died Saturday, March 13, 2004, in Nampa. Arrangements will be announced by Nampa Funeral Home, Yraguen Chapel, 415 12th Ave. S., Nampa.

Fairfield accepts employee's resignation

By Amy Ballard Times-News correspondent

FAIRFIELD — The City Council read and accepted a letter of resignation effective March 3 from public works employee Dallas Smith at Thursday's regular meeting. The letter did not state Smith's reason for resigning from the part-time position.

Council members agreed to post the job opening at \$9 per hour. Applicants must possess a valid Idaho driver's license.

Applications for a Planning and Zoning commissioner/ building inspector also are being accepted. The city extended the application period because of an error in the job description originally posted.

The Planning and Zoning commission also is expected to meet and to vote on the job toward certification.

Other Fairfield City Council business included:

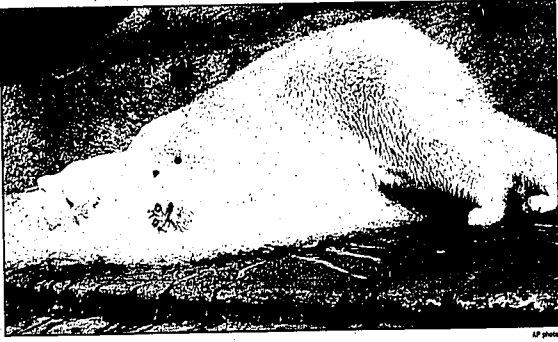
- Criminal prosecution — The council appointed Calvin Campbell to the position of city attorney for criminal cases. Campbell, who is also the Camas County prosecutor, will receive a retainer of \$100 per month. Mayor David Hanks said employing the city's attorney for criminal cases would be too expensive. He asked that the city have criminal cases pending.
• Seal finalists — Two out of five designs for a city of Fairfield seal were chosen as finalists. The black-and-white drawings will be sent back to the entrants for coloring. The council will then choose the better of the two at the next regular meeting. Names of the artists were not displayed during judging and public input was sought.

DEATH NOTICES

Thank You A special thank you to all the friends and family of Paul Ehrmantraut, who showed their support at the recent loss of our husband and father. Our family will always remember your outpouring of love and sorrow. Also, thank you so much to the Hospice of the Wood River Valley. Carolyn, Leslie and Kathy were like guardian angels sent to help us during this trying time. Their assistance was invaluable and helped us get through this ordeal. May God bless you all. The Paul Ehrmantraut family, Joanna, Tod, Tammy, Wade, Sandra, Sierra, Kiana & Collin.

Don't Believe Everything You Hear... We are still the only independent locally owned and operated funeral home in Twin Falls and we are here to serve the Magic Valley. Call us for all your funeral needs... 735-0011 PARKE'S MAGIC VALLEY FUNERAL HOME & TWIN FALLS CEMETERY 2551 Kimberly Road - Twin Falls, ID 83301 Owned and Operated by the Parke Family of Twin Falls, ID "Personalized professional service, always at an affordable cost."

BEARING THE HEAT



Pike, a 21-year-old polar bear, buries her head in a pile of ice cubes as she seeks relief from the warm weather at the San Francisco Zoo on Tuesday.

Utah legislative 'technical error' nearly cost state agency

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A state lawmaker blames a "technical error" for language in a passed bill that slashed funding for a consumer rights agency, fixed without reducing the Committee of Consumer Services' funding.

Utah Department of Commerce analysts discovered language earlier this week in a supplemental appropriations bill passed in the 2004 sessions final hour that appeared to cut \$300,000 from the group's \$1.3 million budget. But it now looks as if the entire amount will be restored to the committee,

which represents the interests of consumers and small business owners in utility rate cases.

Sen. Leonard Blackham, R-Moroni, acknowledged Friday he was instrumental in adding language to the bill that would have cut the committee's budget by nearly a quarter.

However, he said the language should have been removed from the legislation.

"The House didn't like the idea and we thought we'd taken it out. It was a technical error but it will get fixed," he said.

However, he offered no apologies, saying he wanted the money to pay for a study of the

economic impact of utility rates on the state's business climate.

"We need to understand how the changing face of the utility industry and rising rates are affecting all our businesses and what if anything we can do to help them," Blackham said.

The attempt to cut the committee's budget in what appeared to be a last-minute maneuver caught many on Capitol Hill by surprise, including Gov. Olene Walker and her staff.

Irene Rees, director of the division, said she knew nothing of the financial move by the Legislature or of the study.

Mother charged with murder for ignoring doctor's advice had prior conviction for child endangerment

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The mother accused of murder for allegedly refusing a Caesarean section to save the life of one of her twins, which was later delivered stillborn, was convicted of child endangerment in Pittsburgh nearly four years ago, a newspaper reported Saturday.

Melissa Rowland, 28, was convicted in July 2000 in Allegheny County, Penn., on charges of simple assault, reckless endangerment and endangering the welfare of a

child, according to the Pittsburgh-Tribune-Review in its Saturday edition.

Rowland was arrested at a supermarket after witnesses said she punched her daughter several times in the face when the toddler picked up a candy bar and began eating it, the newspaper reported.

"Witnesses said Rowland screamed, 'You ate the candy bar and now I can't buy my cigarettes,'" she was sentenced to five years' probation and her

daughter was turned over to Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families Services.

In a jailhouse interview with The Associated Press Friday, she punched her daughter several times in the face when the toddler picked up a candy bar and began eating it, the newspaper reported.

"Witnesses said Rowland screamed, 'You ate the candy bar and now I can't buy my cigarettes,'" she was sentenced to five years' probation and her

Company develops test center to turn manure into energy

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Intrepid Technology and Resources, Inc. will begin building a test center this month in what could be the state's first plant to turn manure into energy.

In January, the renewable energy company announced it was building an anaerobic digestion complex to refine

animal waste generated at a dairy north of Rupert.

The site is largely dedicated to the commercial sale of refined methane gas products, but part of the complex will be used for energy studies.

The company will use the center to verify the economic feasibility of gas products that

can be produced.

The process turns manure into methane with some water and a few solids as byproducts. The solids can be used as fertilizer and the water for irrigation.

Company officials hope to begin construction within the next few weeks, and anticipate commercialization by summer.

Volunteers line up for Mexican celebration

By Dixie Thomas Reals
Times-News correspondent

JEROME — The Mexican Independence Day celebration being planned for September 10 and 11 at the Jerome fairgrounds should be a success if the committee that's organizing it is any indication.

Volunteers turned out in force during last week's meeting of the city of Jerome's Committee on Minority Relations, which put out an invitation to join the committee that's planning the traditional celebration.

Wendy Sedano, a student at Jerome High School and a member of Todos Unidos, agreed to sit on the minority relations committee as a student representative and help recruit other students to help with the celebration.

Sedano told the commission that Todos Unidos means "reunited" and the club was formed at the high school to help eliminate intercultural

conflict. The club is open to students of all cultural backgrounds and is a way for them to get acquainted with one another. The club has started a lunch buddies program at the elementary schools.

Jerome High School Principal Phyllis O'Dell said she felt the Mexican Independence Day celebration would be a great activity for the high school students. Members of Todos Unidos were starting a welcome committee at the high school for students who transfer to Jerome with limited English skills, O'Dell said.

She also said a Hispanic parent organization was forming that will meet at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Catholic Parish Hall. The meetings are conducted in Spanish and are open to any Hispanic parent who has a child in the Jerome School District. It's a way of assuring Hispanic parents that they have power in the schools, O'Dell said. She encouraged anyone seeking more

information on the organization to call the high school at 324-8137.

Volunteers for the Independence Day festivities didn't come just from Jerome.

Jesus Morales of Buhl told the minority relations committee to count him in. He said he has been involved with the Hispanic community in Buhl for many years.

Sylvia Moore-Futrell, president-elect of the Jerome Chamber of Commerce and owner of Semovilidad, an antique shop downtown, said she wanted to help with the celebration. She said she is planning an intercultural outreach program among the downtown merchants to try to get a merchants association started.

Anyone wishing to help plan or assist the Independence Day celebration may call Lupe Cisneros at 324-5557 or Jerome City Administrator Travis Rohweiler at 324-8189.

Schools wrestle with budgets, consolidation

WATERLOO, Neb. (AP) — Anyone dropping by Travis' store and sub shop in the little village of Waterloo in recent weeks would have heard one recurrent theme in the conversations of regulars at coffee time — school consolidation.

Signs that read, "Save Our School," peppered yards and storefronts. Others read, "Planner Power: Made in Waterloo."

The issue of school consolidation is nothing new in Waterloo, or in rural school districts throughout the West. Small towns nationwide are watching their school enrollment decline and along with it, funding.

But the issue of consolidating Waterloo schools with the nearby Valley school district took a decisive move this week when residents rejected taxes that would have given the district the money it needs to stay independent. Both the Valley and Waterloo school boards promptly voted to merge.

The situation in Waterloo, in eastern Nebraska, is a harbinger for what is becoming of rural life in America, said Jon Bailey of the Nebraska-based Center for Rural Affairs.

"What the question really comes down to is 'What is the

future of your community?' because if you don't have a school, your town isn't going to have much of a future," Bailey said.

Keeping the Waterloo district afloat for this long has been a struggle. Superintendent Paul Sellen said, "Some folks have lost their jobs. The faculty had to take a pay cut."

The Waterloo and Valley school districts already share Sellen and have some combined extracurricular activities. Under consolidation, Waterloo high school students will go to Valley, while elementary and middle-school children will stay at Waterloo's one-building school. The total enrollment for both districts will be about 650 students.

Across the country, the loss of a school signals the loss of a town, said Craig Howley, an Ohio University professor of education.

"(A school) is a center of socialization in the community," Howley said. "Everyone who you talk to who lives in a small town who has had a school removed, talks about it being the death of a town, or ripping its heart out."

"You lose their identity, which has been developed over generations, and they don't get to hand it down to the kids."

But Fred Meyer, member of the Nebraska Board of Education, said the first priority should be to educate students. Keeping the town alive, he said, is a distant second.

"I do not want the town to rest on the shoulders of the students," said Meyer, whose children go to the small school in St. Paul. "If we're going to sacrifice education to keep the town alive, I am definitely against that."

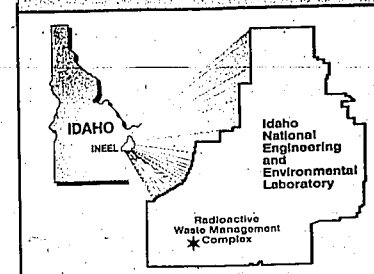
The number of school districts in Nebraska has decreased from 656 in the 1996-1997 school year to 501 in the 2003-2004 school year, according to state Department of Education statistics.

Department spokesman Russ Inbody said the No. 1 reason for the decrease is declining enrollment. The second is financial hardship.

Some state governments have sanctioned schools to consolidate to save money. In Arkansas, the Legislature passed a law this year requiring school districts with fewer than 350 students to merge with another district.

For other states such as Montana, Wyoming, Kansas, Idaho and the Dakotas, consolidation is a local decision, but a recurring one.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DOE announces plans to reduce risk at the INEEL



the administrative record. The administrative record is located at the DOE Reading Room at the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls. Copies can be found at Alberson's Library at Boise State University. The Administrative Record can be accessed on the Internet at <http://ar.ineel.gov>. The Department of Energy is also willing to provide briefings to interested groups upon request. To request a briefing, contact Jeff Perry at 208-526-4570 or by e-mail to perryj@id.doe.gov.

Public comment will be accepted through April 13, 2004. Comments can be submitted at <http://cleanup.inel.gov> or by sending comments to: Jeff Perry, Department of Energy, P.O. Box 1625, MS 1222, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415-1222

The U.S. Department of Energy, state of Idaho and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are committed to reducing risk of contaminant migration to the aquifer beneath the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. The agencies are seeking public comment on a proposal to coat beryllium blocks with a wax-based grout at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex.

The blocks were buried in the Subsurface Disposal Area between 1970 and 1993. They are beginning to corrode and release carbon-14, a long-lived, mobile contaminant. Coating the blocks reduces migration of contamination to the Snake River Plain Aquifer and keeps future remediation options open for the Subsurface Disposal Area.

The agencies are seeking public comment on the proposal to coat beryllium blocks in place. The proposal is available online at cleanup.inel.gov and in



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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Ski resort backs off from drug testing

WHITEFISH, Mont. (AP) — A northwest Montana ski resort has dropped plans for employee drug testing after random drug testing drew employee opposition and a look at the policies of other ski areas.

Instead, Big Mountain resort will test workers only in the case of on-the-job accidents or if employees show signs of drug use, officials said. Managers and supervisors will take two days of training later this month in how to spot such indications.

"From the folks I've spoken with, people seem to think it's a fair and healthy solution," said Big Mountain spokesman Dan Virkitys.

Employees will be asked to sign off on the new rules by April 22, Virkitys said.

"It's a zero-tolerance policy," he said, "but there's no random testing."

Executives at the resort, one of the largest employers in the Flathead Valley, announced the middle management in January that random testing was being considered for seasonal and year-round workers. The resort said the testing was aimed at the ski industry's young and highly mobile work force.

Under the plan, names would have been submitted to a drug testing company which would then have picked names, at random, and begun the tests. Managers estimated about 225 Big Mountain employees would have been tested over a year.

Approved, only the plan manager approved of the plan. Executives gave management 30 days to come up with an alternative policy. During that time, employees researched ski industry standards, and said they discovered that random testing had not worked well at other resorts.

In addition, Resorts in Colorado, for instance, dropped its drug testing program in 2000. A spokesman named Kelly Ladyski said such tests didn't set the right tone of trust.

Official will seek re-election

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — U.S. Rep. Jim Matheson has quietly launched his re-election campaign, filing for a third term with the Utah Lieutenant Governor's Office on a weekend trip from Washington.

"I've made real progress. I'm trying to make Utah a better place to live," Matheson said. "But I have some things I'd still like to do."

Two years ago, Matheson narrowly defeated attorney and businessman John Swallow by less than 2,000 votes.

This year, the 43-year-old congressman faces virtually the same field of challengers in a district that encompasses about 60 percent of the state.

Crump

Continued from B1

Introductions were made, and a descendant of Chief Pocatello — the Shoshone-Bannock *capo* who was the town's namesake — walked to the microphone and tried to place the feathers on Kennedy's immaculately coiffed head.

The senator intercepted them just in time, tucked them under his arm and pledged to wear the headdress "while watching television in the privacy of my living room while I root for our state."

A politician couldn't get away with saying such a thing today, but remember that Kennedy had previously served with Glen Taylor, a Pocatello man known as the "Singing Cowboy of the Senate."

God knows how many times the poor man has been embarrassed by having a 10-gallon hat thrust upon his brow.

Seems to me as Pocatellos have come pretty close to embarrassing ourselves a time or two.

Steve Crump is *The Times-News* features editor. Write to him at valleycom.

BATTER UP



Steven Jacobs, 9, connects with a tennis ball during a pick-up baseball game with several other children Tuesday in Victoria Park in Longview, Wash.

Arsenic

Continued from B1

schedule for consideration. The city now wants a seven-year extension for compliance of the new 10 parts per billion arsenic standard.

The arsenic level in Castleford's water has been measured at 22 parts per billion.

The city originally filed for a six-month extension, which the EPA was set to approve, but then tried to amend that request to seven years. Green indicated the city needed to go back to the drawing board and submit an entirely new request.

After filing for the six-month extension, city officials learned that they might not be able to obtain funds to construct a treatment facility to remove arsenic from water by the 2006 deadline.

Even the most proactive and cooperative.

But the City Council's effort to meet the pending mandates has been a difficult.

Grant applicants must show the city is trying to help itself, so last fall water rates were raised

just to do what to do without any money, City Attorney Mark Gurney said.

"The city of Castleford and the public are being ordered regulated, and told what to do without any money. It's like an 800-pound gorilla telling you what to do because it can."

Richfield School Board and joint board meetings were illegal according to open meeting laws.

"I just want it to be open to the public," Jim West said.

She is also suspicious of consolidation. She said the only solid evidence she has seen was that didn't make it look good for Richfield.

No formal complaint has been filed, but a letter has been sent alleging violations of the Idaho Open Meetings Law in the last four months. The prosecutor's office is gathering minutes, and the matter is under investigation. The prosecutor's office would not release any other information.

The law requires that public officials notify people of the regular schedule of meetings one year and post an agenda 48 hours before each meeting. Special meetings are required to have 24 hours' notice and a posted agenda. If a public body violates these regulations, any actions or deliberations are void, and there is a \$150 fine. The group can then have a properly announced meeting and proceed as before.

Consolidation

Continued from B1

legitimate concerns for the community's identity.

"People don't want the school leaving here," Cenarrusa said.

He has his own concerns for the school's future. Richfield Supplemental Levy that will run out this year. A renewal election could be held as soon as May.

If the levy isn't renewed, he could imagine cutting sports and physical education programs, but then students would leave and the school would lose funding based on attendance. Fundraising led to a downturn in spirit of the city. He said consolidation might help with some of these financial problems.

"I have nothing to gain by this," Cenarrusa said. "In the end, the voters have to vote on it. We cannot make this happen."

Open meetings

Twin Falls is the daughter of board member Jerrie Turange, another parent, sent complaints to the Lincoln County prosecutor's office last week

Yellowstone ecosystem could be full in 25 years

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — Grizzly bears could reach "full occupancy" in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem within 25 years if the animals' population growth continues at recent rates, biologists say.

Managers now estimate between 500 and 600 grizzlies live in the ecosystem, which covers parts of Montana, Wyoming and Idaho. The animals are moving south from Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and

could be much closer to human communities by 2029, said Joe Berger, senior scientist with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

"They could be near the Wyoming towns of Afton, Alpine, Big Piney and Lamar," Berger said.

Grizzlies were listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 1975. Steps were taken to protect the animals, including moving livestock away from grizzly habitat

and keeping garbage and other sources of human food away from the bears.

Since then, they have seen a significant population increase, said Chuck Schwartz, leader of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team.

"Disturbance of grizzlies in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem increased 11 percent between the 1970s and 1980s, and 34 percent between the 1980s and '90s," Schwartz said.

Canada will ease requirements for feeder cattle

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Canadian officials plan to lift certain requirements for feeder cattle from the United States, a move they say will improve year-round access for cattle headed to Canadian feedlots.

Under the rules, testing and treatment requirements for anaplasmosis and the viral disease bluetongue will no longer apply to feeder cattle imported from the United States, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency said. Anaplasmosis is caused by a blood parasite and can cause anemia, or even death. Insects can spread both diseases.

The rules, to take effect April 1, are a "positive recognition of the integrated nature of the industry," said Chris Thomson, consul general for Canada and the Upper Midwest and Rocky Mountain states.

But the announcement was met with cautious optimism by some Montana agricultural leaders who said they wanted more details.

Steve Picher, executive vice president of the Montana Stock Growers Association, said his group has been "very adamant

and persistent in saying there is no scientific justification for the non-essential restrictions" that have been in place.

Currently, feeder cattle from about nine states, including Montana, can enter Canada without testing during October through March. Feeder cattle from other states can, too, if they are tested first, said Francine Lord, a veterinarian and national manager for import-export at the CFIA.

Cattle from nearly all states can be sent to Canadian feedlots during the remaining months if they are first tested, she said.

But under the new plan, seen as a way to increase access, feeder cattle from 39 states, including Montana, could be sent to Canadian feedlots without testing, Lord said. Feeder cattle from the other 11 states, considered to have a "high incidence" of bluetongue, would not have to be tested if they spent at least 60 days in a low-or-medium-risk state before going to Canada, she said.

Testing still would be an option for those cattle, according to CFIA.

"The 'high incidence' states, many in the South, historically haven't sent significant numbers of feeder cattle north across the border, the agency said, adding that Canada's classification of bluetongue incidence is based on information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The rules also will require Canadian feedlots that import U.S. cattle to have "risk mitigation measures," including keeping imported feeder cattle segregated from breeding stock, the agency said.

George Luterbach, the CFIA's chief veterinarian for animal health in western Canada, said the rules came about from new scientific information and from consultation with industry officials and others.

If not, however, that cattle movement restrictions tied to cases of mad cow disease may keep producers from taking immediate advantage of the new rules. Luterbach said no cattle from Canada can enter the United States under the restrictions, and only cattle for immediate slaughter can come from the United States to Canada.

Juniper

Continued from B1

fire suppression?

National Fire Plan money is expected to fund the juniper removal, and costs could be as much as \$2 million based on similar states in the area.

This money is available for fire suppression and ecosystem restoration projects.

Marvel argues that millions of taxpayer dollars will be spent for the benefit of ranchers under the guise of fire suppression.

Marque said Marvel is refusing to see that the project is not being done for the benefit of ranchers, but for fire suppression, wildlife and ecosystem restoration. Richard Ward agreed.

"They left us out of the whole picture," Ward said. "We're a full partner."

Ward said the written assessment addresses environmental recreation and ecosystem restoration, but ignores the concerns of ranchers.

"Grazing is the basic economy around here," Ward said. "The reason we have recreation and wildlife is because of the grazing economy." These ranchers haven't subdivided their land, and I have wildlife in and out of my property all the time."

defense against predators.

Juniper encroachment provides excellent cover for mountain lions, and some bigboms have been and some recently around juniper near water supplies. Hatch said.

"Chaining is very disruptive to the soil, which is a living organism that can take years to repair," Reynolds said.

Marque said chaining will be used selectively and can actually have a beneficial effect on seeding, because it breaks up the soil.

Herbicides are another concern, but Marque said they will be used primarily on early growth of cheatgrass, which would otherwise dominate native grasses.

If cheatgrass is killed when it first appears, other grasses which sprout later have a chance to take hold.

"Ecosystems aren't static. We need to manage them the best we can," Marque said, pointing out that many of the issues began long before regulations were placed on the land when settlers took what they could and moved on.

Wildlife

Kelron Hatch, a regional conservation educator for the Magic Valley office of Idaho's Department of Fish and Game, said the department supports the selective removal of juniper in the Jim Sage area.

Hatch said elk, mule deer and bighorn sheep herds will benefit from the project.

Bighorn sheep, particularly, require wide-open areas as a

growing grass.

Duane Reynolds, chairman of the Sierra Club's Northern Rockies Chapter, said his group is concerned that non-native grasses will be used to provide forage.

"If they convert native habitat (juniper) to non-native species, it's a concern," said Reynolds, citing the BLM's treatment of nearby Rice Canyon as an example of the damage caused by use of non-native species.

Marque said juniper grasses will be used whenever possible, but Marvel and Reynolds argue that use of exclusively native species needs to be guaranteed.

"We can't guarantee exclusive use of native grasses, because in certain sites non-natives are so dominant that natives just won't survive," Marque said. He suggested that a step-down process of using less dominant non-native species leading to the reintroduction of native grasses is a possibility.

Methods of removal

Marque and Reynolds are also concerned about the methods proposed for the removal of juniper, which will include fire, chaining and herbicides.

"Destructive and stone age" are the words Marvel uses to describe the practice of chaining, in which a heavy cable is suspended between two bulldozers as they creep over a treatment area.

What's next

The next step is for BLM to send out a final decision on the project after taking into account comments received. This could happen sometime in April — unless it's determined that an environmental impact statement is needed, as demanded by Marvel. Work could begin in early summer.

"We're frequently in the middle of controversies," Marque said. "We're dealing with a lot of different interests, and we do our best."

Times-News reporter Chip Thompson can be reached at the newspaper's Mini-Cassia bureau at 208-677-4042. Ext. 638, or by e-mail at chthompson@magicvalley.com.

Ramos

Continued from B1

Ramos publicly disagreed with elements of the corrective action plan for a school and himself and was required to implement it and oversee its completion. He was doing the opposite of what he should have done to pull the school back together after a serious division.

In McDevitt's response, he disagreed, writing "Dr. Ramos' actions demonstrated more than any opposition and completely with the Corrective Action Plan that was provided to him by the office of the Executive Director."

Appearance of retaliation — The state's petition also instances the testimony about retaliation when school employees felt threatened. For example, there was a meeting on May 15, 2003, where Ramos told the staff that three school administrators had taken concern to Stivers. The petition said that was not to stop Ramos, but was instead retaliatory, be-

cause at that time Ramos also knew of another administrator who spoke with Stivers and Ramos did not name that administrator in front of others.

McDevitt discounted this instance, writing "Dr. Ramos' practice of openness and transparency with the staff about issues of great concern to all staff does not constitute retaliation" or the "appearance of retaliation."

Vehicle and furniture auction — The state's petition summarizes testimony from the ISD Foundation Chairwoman Selma Gray about the donation of surplus vehicles and furniture to the foundation and the subsequent auction of the items. There are no records in the evidence of how much money was raised by the sale of the furniture. The state asserts that only Ramos had the authority to declare surplus property, but he let Gray and his wife choose what furniture to sell.

McDevitt's response said that Idaho law gives Ramos the authority to donate property using

his own judgment.

Conflict of interest — The petition from the state summarized testimony and evidence about Ramos' relation to the school's foundation, which his wife worked for. One of the conditions of the corrective action plan was for her to step down. This would eliminate possible conflicts of interest, such as when Ramos made recommendations for a buyout of his wife's "benefit" firm.

McDevitt's response said there was more evidence supporting his original recommendation that this was not a big enough problem for Ramos to be not reinstated.

Formalizing the hiring process — The state's petition described instances of Ramos hiring people before their job descriptions were written or finalized and without other candidates being interviewed.

McDevitt's response cited the evidence of Ramos violating the corrective action plan or hiring personal friends.

Twin Falls City Courts

Page D6

Court records

Twin Falls City Courts

Page D6

Yoga offers tranquility for cancer patients

BOISE (AP) - Many Americans who have cancer have rushed through their daily grind until they are brought up short by a disease which wreaked havoc on their physical and emotional lives.

A growing number of hospitals and other organizations are discovering a tranquil 5,000-year-old therapy from India that may help them - yoga.

"It's the oldest strategy for stress management," said Debra Mulnick, a registered nurse who offers classes through the Mountain States Turner Institute at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise. "Our culture is just starved for the concepts we teach, such as how to be kind to ourselves. When we're tired, we usually just go for a triple latte and go for a run."

But cancer and treatments such as chemotherapy and radiation produce such side-effects as fatigue, nausea and pain from surgery. Running after a latte is not in order and even aerobic forms of yoga are not appropriate.

Society may look at yoga as a New Age whim, but advocates say that while it may not directly fight a tumor, it does have positive effects which can complement medication.

The American Cancer Society said research has shown that yoga can be used to control physiological functions such as blood pressure, heart rate, respiration, metabolism, body temperature, brain waves and other bodily functions.

Stress can weaken the immune system, making it even tougher to battle cancer.

Yoga means "union" in ancient Sanskrit, the language the first practitioners spoke, Mulnick said. The many yoga forms can involve stretching and strength exercises, deep breathing, meditation and religious observance.

"Ahimsa" means "nonviolence." But that means nonviolence to oneself, Mulnick said. "Cancer patients may be extremely fatigued and a hard workout is not workable. The instead emphasizes relaxation and deep breathing."

"The goal isn't to reach a physical peak. It's the exact op-



Yoga instructor Debra Mulnick gracefully moves her body weight to her arms during an early morning class at her studio in McCall Friday. AP photo

posite of 'no pain, no gain.' You want to be nurturing," said Debra Mulnick, who teaches yoga classes for cancer patients

They can do the same with meditation.

The teachers said everyone has a continual internal monologue and the chatter is even worse when they are troubled, such as fighting cancer. Meditation allows them to focus their minds on other things, such as how their bodies feel. "Sometimes, just a minute of not having those thoughts can be a relief," Mulnick said.

"But the training has been shown to have lasting benefits for days and even weeks. People don't have to be pulled down a path of habitual worrying."

Murphy said a McCall psychiatrist visits her sessions to

advise the participants in meditation.

"Sangha" means "community." The people in the yoga sessions realize they aren't alone in their cancer experiences.

Mulnick said the vast majority in her sessions are women. They can discuss side-effects from breast cancer and medication, such as hot flashes, insomnia and the early onset of menopause.

Murphy said one woman who finished cancer treatment found the yoga sessions had become a big part of her life.

"She said that when you're undergoing chemo, you feel like 'I've done everything I can.' But when you're done, you're in freefall. You need something to do."

Mulnick said she studied for five years under Inani Chappman, a registered nurse and stress management specialist for the Breast Cancer Program at the University of California, San

To learn more

Mountain States Tumor Institute: http://www.stukeson-line.org/SUMSTI/info/health_news.html
Sloan-Kettering Center: <http://mskcc.org>

Francisco. Murphy has a doctorate in exercise science and specializes in adaptive exercise programs.

At the country's most prestigious cancer clinics, such as Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center in New York City, rolled-up yoga mats are a common sight. Yoga is routinely prescribed by oncologists for stress and its re-gain movement.

"These programs, more and more, will be part of what is offered," Mulnick said.

"Yoga is not ever thought of as in lieu of professional treatment. But it's going to become a standard of care."

Wildlife officers kill cougar in Boise

BOISE (AP) - State and federal wildlife officers trapped and killed a male mountain lion in an east Boise neighborhood earlier this month, and they say at least one more cat may still be in the foothills.

A motorist reported hitting the mountain lion near Warm Springs Mesa on March 4.

The lion apparently was injured but not killed, so Idaho Department of Fish and Game officials tracked it into an abandoned irrigation culvert nearby, said Jon Hachael, the department's Southwest Region wildlife manager.

The department called in federal wildlife agents, who trapped and shot the animal the next day. "If we've got a mountain lion we have to capture and remove from an urban area, it has to be killed," Hachael said. "That's not going to sit well with some people, but there's good justification behind it."

A mountain lion living near neighborhoods loses its fear of humans, Hachael said, making a release back into the wild too risky.

"We cannot comfortably take a lion habituated to living among people and move it somewhere else," he said.

The incident was the first time in at least two years that the Fish and Game Department has trapped and destroyed a mountain lion in the Treasure Valley, department spokesman Ervin Oneale said.

There's never been a known cougar attack in Boise, and wildlife officials say the risk is very small.

Idaho has had just one reported case of a wild mountain lion attacking a human. In 1991, an 11-year-old boy suffered cuts, puncture wounds and scratches after a mountain lion attacked him along the Salmon River. Mountain lions have attacked people in other states, including a recent fatal attack in California.

Judge orders crack down on jury-duty

IDAHO FALLS (AP) - Bonneville County residents who try to avoid the jury box could end up behind bars instead.

Judge Jerry Meyers says he has had it with jury duty no-shows and he will sentence them to one to three days in jail for contempt of court.

"Jail is the only thing I find that motivates people to come," Meyers said.

Earlier this year, jury duty ditherers were sent letters ordering them to explain their absence, said Ranae Jennings, Bonneville County jury commissioner. Those who continued to avoid jury duty were fined \$100.

But Meyers said the fines did not seem to work. In some court cases, one in four residents called to jury duty never showed up.

The judge started a similar policy in Lemhi County seven years ago. He said that now nearly everyone in that county shows up for duty.

On the hunt



Early Magic Valley residents declared war on rabbits.

See page E6.

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NATION

Early problems prematurely end robot race

BARSTOW, Calif. (AP) - Looks like we won't be seeing any robot driver's licenses issued anytime soon.

All 15 self-navigating vehicles in a 150-mile race across the Mojave Desert were knocked out within a few miles of the starting gate Saturday, victims of technical glitches, barbed-wire fences and rugged terrain.

None could claim the \$1 million prize offered by a military agency seeking to develop autonomous vehicles that could be used in combat.

One of the early favorites, a military Humvee converted by Carnegie Mellon University students, managed to travel 7.4 miles before veering off course and snapping an axle during the race.

"It was supposed to be challenging. We knew we had the chassis," said Jim Walker, a spokesman for the Pentagon agency that sponsored the race.



The first of 15 driverless robots begins crudding across the Mojave Desert in a government-sponsored race on Saturday. First out of the gate is Carnegie Mellon University's 'Sandstorm,' a converted Humvee, which took off at a fast clip only to break down about 45 minutes into the

well as a variety of sensors, lasers, radar and cameras to orient themselves and detect and avoid obstacles.

Most of the vehicles Saturday made it less than a mile before stalling, overturning or running off course. One six-wheeled robot built by a Louisiana team was disqualified after it became entangled in barbed wire. Others crashed seconds after starting.

"It's a tough challenge - it's a grand challenge - you can always bet that it's not doable. But if you don't push the limits, you can't learn," Vassudevan said shortly after his company's entry rolled onto its side several hundred yards from the starting gate.

The Pentagon's research and development agency would have awarded \$1 million to the first team whose microcircuit-studded vehicle could cover the course in less than 10 hours, but

most involved in the race were skeptical that any vehicle entered would accomplish the mission.

The teams were given a map of the course two hours before the start. It included hundreds of waypoints marked by precise coordinates. Team members were not allowed to steer or touch the robots.

Carnegie Mellon's Humvee was the first to set out on the brush-and-boulder-dotted course just after dawn. It took off at a fast clip. Within 15 minutes, the vehicle dubbed Sandstorm had covered about seven miles over mostly flat desert, but it stalled near the tiny town of Daguerre.

The race was over in about four hours after the final competitors were disabled. Competitors suffered a variety of problems, including stuck brakes and malfunctioning satellite-navigation equipment.

We're involved because it's a technology we really need to push forward. Officials foresee using competitor-run, remote control-free

robots to ferry supplies in war zones. The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency spent \$13 million on the Grand Challenge. It estimates competitors laid out a total of four to five times that amount developing their entries, which rely on global positioning satellites as

well as a variety of sensors, lasers, radar and cameras to orient themselves and detect and avoid obstacles. Most of the vehicles Saturday made it less than a mile before stalling, overturning or running off course. One six-wheeled robot built by a Louisiana team was disqualified after it became entangled in barbed wire. Others crashed seconds after starting. "It's a tough challenge - it's a grand challenge - you can always bet that it's not doable. But if you don't push the limits, you can't learn," Vassudevan said shortly after his company's entry rolled onto its side several hundred yards from the starting gate. The Pentagon's research and development agency would have awarded \$1 million to the first team whose microcircuit-studded vehicle could cover the course in less than 10 hours, but

Couple sues agent over injuries from falling ice

NEW YORK (AP) - A couple who say they were nearly killed by a 300-pound ice chunk that crashed through their apartment's roof and shattered on the bed where they were laying, have sued the owner of the building next door.

Phillip and Lesley Carter suffered cuts and bruises to their heads and bodies in the Feb. 7 incident, in which the massive chunk of ice fell from the neighboring 10-story building.

"They were lucky to get out alive," said the couple's attorney, James Fitzgerald. "When it hit the bed it exploded into many pieces and sliced them up."

The lawsuit names real estate agent Lee Powers, the owner of the neighboring building, and two of her real estate firms as defendants.

Powers' telephone number is not published and attempts to reach her realty companies was unsuccessful.

The Carters contend in court papers that a leak in a three-story water tower on the roof of the next building caused an "iceberg" of more than 1,000 pounds to form.

Despite similar ice formations in prior years and warnings from neighbors, Powers did nothing to fix the tower, the lawsuit alleges.

On Feb. 7, around 9:30 a.m., the Carters were in bed, reading newspapers and drinking coffee when "a giant slab of ice weighing 300 pounds" broke off the larger chunk of ice and dropped 10 stories into their third-floor apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

The ice tore a 2.5-foot diameter hole in the roof and ceiling of their third-floor bedroom.

The Fire Department declared the Carters' rental apartment "uninhabitable due to dangerous (Ford Explorer size) ice formations still on the defendant's roof and water cover that could fall at any time," the lawsuit says.

Rapper reflects on acting in movies

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Snoop Dogg says a rapper knows he's made it as an actor when he's alive at the end of the picture. "You never see a new rapper coming into a movie role where he's playing an orthodoxist or a top-notch lawyer. He's always going to come in with a gun in his hand and getting killed," the

32-year-old rapper told reporters recently, according to AP. "Until he can step out of that and do some comedy or do something that's far-fetched from what your imagination and what you didn't feel he could do, then he gets respected as an actor," he said.

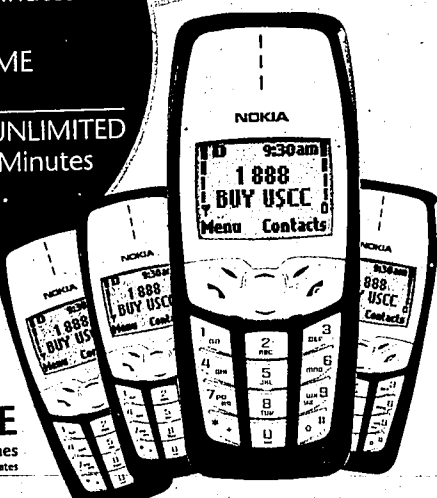
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Dr. Wayne Dyer: The Power of Intention
Dr. Dyer transforms conventional thinking about how things happen in our lives into an exploration of understanding how each person has the power to co-create the life he or she desires.
2:30 p.m.

Ad Aerial Tapestry
Soaring over lakes, rivers, deserts and mountains, this eagle's-eye view of the Gem State displays the geologic wonders of Idaho.
6:30 p.m.

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SPORTS

The Times-News

Sunday, March 14, 2004

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

66

This coming season, sales of steroids will be cut off after the eighth inning.

99

-Jay Leno

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Who is the only NHL coach to have won the Jack Adams Award as coach of the year in consecutive seasons?

...answer below

IN BRIEF

Goodbody takes 11th at nationals

NEW YORK - Wendell junior Jaymie Goodbody scored 3,083 points, good for 11th place in the indoor pentathlon at the National Field Championships held at The Army in New York City on Saturday.

Goodbody scored her points by running the 60-meter hurdles in 9.2 seconds, the 800 meters in 2:35.40 and with a personal-best high jump of 5-1.75, a heave of 33-7.5 in the shot put and a leap of 15-6 in the long jump.

The national high school winner was Shana Woods of Long Beach, Calif., with 3,826 points, the second-best score ever in high school. The runner-up and bronze medal winners recorded the third- and fifth-best totals ever.

"She's in quite good company," said Wendell coach Steve Goodbody, her father.

Heyburn/Paul all-star tryouts start Monday

HEYBURN - Tryouts for the boys ages 8-10 Heyburn/Paul traveling all-star team will be held starting Monday, March 15 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Heyburn ball field. Tryouts will also continue on Tuesday at the same time. For further information, please call Vince Frank at 438-5557.

Burley baseball holds signups through April

BURLEY - Registration for Babe Ruth baseball for boys ages 13-15 in the Burley area is now being accepted at Donnelly Sports, Redder's Showcase, and Fine Furniture in Burley. The deadline to sign up is Saturday, April 10.

Also, boys ages 9-12 are invited to Burley All-star tryouts April 7 and 8 starting at 5 p.m. both days at the Burley Babe Fields. For more information, please call Troy Winnill at 678-8917 for ages 11-12, or Bernie Boehmer at 768-8393 for ages 9-10.

Jerome Roping Club meets March 31

JEROME - The Jerome Roping Club will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 31 at the El Sombrero restaurant in Jerome. Call Jeff Faulkner at 334-4218 or Charlie Howell at 308-1768 for more information.

Association seeks scoreboard sponsors

BURLEY - The Burley Amateur Baseball Association is looking for sponsors to help fund the purchase of new scoreboards for the youth baseball fields. Anyone interested in making a donation is urged to call Mike Alcocer at 677-2454.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Jacques Demers, in 1987 and 1988 when he was with the Detroit Red Wings. Pat Burns has won the award three times with the three teams, but not in successive years.



Twin Falls outfielder A.J. Stone slides safely home after an errant throw behind Madison catcher Riley Snell hit the backstop Saturday during the first game of a doubleheader. Twin Falls won the first game 6-5.

A clean sweep

Bruin sluggers slug their way to victory over Madison

**By Dustin Lapray
Times-News writer**

TWIN FALLS - It's a good start. The Twin Falls Bruins opened their season with a pair of wins over Madison 6-5 and 14-4 at Bruin Field Saturday.

The 2-0 Bruins are coming off a 25-4 season that took them to the state title game in 2003.

"We have a long way to go," Twin Falls coach Mike Federico said. "But this works for our

first outing. We had a nice, beautiful day."

A.J. Stone smacked a single through the left side of the Bobcat infield in the bottom of the seventh inning to drive in Luke Hawkins from third for the winning run in Game 1. Hawkins had hit a triple to the wall in right to get on base.

"To see guys coming when it got tight is really a tribute to our team," said Federico. "They really came through."

Stone went 2 for 3 with an RBI and a run scored. Stone also had five put-outs for his

position in right field. Bruin starter Tim Mealer pitched six strong innings, recording seven strikeouts before getting pulled in the top of the seventh inning. All five Bobcat runs were scored with Mealer on the mound, but only one was earned. He also went 2 for 4 on the day.

"I thought Mealer battled," Federico said. "He didn't get the win unfortunately. He pitched his butt off and didn't get the win."

Bruin sophomore Blake Nielsen pitched the deciding seventh, getting a strikeout and help from catcher Drew Bernhard. Bernhard made a sliding catch along the fence behind home plate for the third out.

Bernhard went 2 for 3 in the game with two RBIs and a run scored.

The Bobcats are now 0-4 on the season. They lost a doubleheader to Minico Friday.

"We're not used to this green stuff. We're still got white stuff on our field," Madison coach Randy Loris said.

The Bobcats have been practicing.

Please see BRUINS, Page C2

Rusty but effective: Skyline captures wins over Burley

**By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer**

BURLEY - The Burley Bobcats and Skyline Grizzlies both felt their way through their first high school baseball games of the season Saturday at Burley High School. Neither team played up to potential, both showing the effects of a weather-shortened practice period, but the Grizzlies out of Idaho Falls managed to sweep the double header against Burley 3-1, 9-5.

"Pitching and defense were good today," Bobcats coach Scott Palin said. "Running and hitting let us down, and those are the things we need to work on."

After jumping out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning of Game 1, Grizzlies pitcher Jon Molbert helped himself out by pulling a one-run homer just inside the right field foul pole in the top of the fourth inning. The Bobcats struggled at the plate early, their

only run in Game 1 coming after Molbert walked Burley catcher Shane Hoskins to the bases loaded.

The Grizzlies had an answer during the top of the sixth though, when Molbert scored when Derek Bitter grounded out into a fielder's choice with one out, making the score 3-1 Skyline.

"I wasn't completely happy with what I saw out there," Skyline coach Gary Gernant said. "But we did some things well. We just need more time on the field."

The Bobcats loaded the bases in the bottom of the seventh, but third baseman Christian Loya grounded out to the shortstop, putting an end to the game and threat.

"We're not completely healthy and we haven't had much practice," Palin said. "But we're learning about ourselves and we'll get better."

Both teams' batting picked up in Game 2 as Skyline outscored the Bobcats 9-5 to sweep the double dip. The Grizzlies took a 2-0 lead before the Bobcats had their best inning of the day.

In the bottom of the third, Burley strung together four runs off two hits, two walks, and a Derek Bitter catching error in left field. Both Gunnell and Sherrod drove in two during the inning, giving the Bobcats a 4-2 lead.

The Bobcats stretched that lead to 5-2 in the bottom of the third when shortstop Ricky Jensen tripled to drive in second baseman Shane Hoskins.

But Burley starter Derek Winnill's arm tired in the fourth. Winnill allowed five runs in the fourth inning, two of them unearned. The Grizzlies took a 7-5 lead and would add two runs to make the final tally 9-5. Gunnell was the Bobcat's bright spot for the day, going 3 for 3 with a walk in Game 2, and hitting three doubles on the day.

Please see SKYLINE, Page C2

Sports and politics are doubles partners

It's reassuring to know the nation is in such dandy shape that politicians have the leisure to consider the problems of baseball, college football and the Super Bowl halftime show.

STEVE WILSTEIN

The world, so deeply troubled not long ago, surely must be a more peaceful place and the economy doubtlessly is humming along if the president can take the time to kick back at the Daytona 500 and chat up cowboys at a rodeo in Houston. With so little to worry about, the only surprise is that the president and Congress have not yet convened hearings on Alex Rodriguez's trade to the New York Yankees and his relationship with Derek Jeter.

We haven't heard a peep out of Washington so far on the seedlings for the NCAA basketball tournament and whether Saint Joseph's still deserves a No. 1 spot after blowing a perfect season.

Where does the president stand on attacks by goons in hockey?

Will Congress take action to keep high school players from jumping to the NFL?

And when will politicians weigh in on the three-day suspension of a sixth-grader in Ohio who brought the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue to school?

In this election year, we probably can expect politicians to court sports fans with all sorts of drop-ins at events and opinions on the subjects of the hour.

All it takes is a pair of boosters or sneakers: to make President Bush seem a man for all seasons, a down-to-earth Middle American, rather than an Ivy League from a wealthy and powerful New England-based family.

Please see SPORTS, Page C4

It's SHOWTIME

NCAA Selection Committee now takes center court

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Karl Benson came to Indianapolis with a full dossier.

He'd watched the games, filed his notes, built up printouts and debated behind closed doors about some of the best college basketball teams in the country.

College hoops - C4

Still, he wasn't sure he was ready to whittle the field down to 65.

"There's always a little nervousness on my part, wondering if I've studied enough and am I prepared enough," said Benson, one of 10 members on the NCAA tournament selection committee. "It's somewhat like studying for an exam."

Benson, commissioner of the Western Athletic Conference, and the other committee members, this is the busiest time of year.

"They'll fill out the bracket sheet early after considering many factors, including overall records, conference records, road wins, records in the last 10 games, schedule strength and a team's RPI."

"If they need more information, they'll use computer help and other conferences and the NCAA staff."

"The last 24 or 36 hours is a little bit like cramming for a test," said Benson, who has been on the committee for three years. "It's exhilarating. But there are tough calls to make and tough decisions to make."

In some cases, the choices are

Please see NCAA, Page C4

Part of a greater, grander plan

Rev. Falwell revels in Liberty's success on the basketball court

The Associated Press

LYNCHBURG, Va. - The students with red and blue painted faces and bare abdomens keep one eye on the back entrance to the Vines Convocation Center, the arena where Liberty University plays basketball.

When the campus icon finally appears, dressed in a black suit and a red T-shirt that shows his support for the home team, the chant begins: "Jer-ee! Jer-ee! Jer-ee!"

The Jerry Springer Show?

No. It's Liberty University men's basketball. The Rev. Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority in Falwell's name has won the NCAA tournament for the first time in a decade.

"I can't get them to be quiet," Falwell said of the Flames' most boisterous supporters, whose arena the nickname "The Furnace."

Nor does he want them to quiet down. As Falwell once told a coach imploring him to get a team to behave, "It's taken me years to get them to act like this!"

And for Falwell, who founded

what began as Lynchburg Baptist College 34 years ago, the rabid support and steady improvement of the team under coach Randy Dunton are just the start of what he hopes will be a march to the top of college sports.

He figures that Liberty's sports success will make it the logical choice for top Christian athletes in the way Brigham Young attracts Mormons and Notre Dame attracts Catholics.

In Dunton, who took over a team that was 5-25 two years ago and has led it to 14-15 and 18-14 records, Falwell feels he has a coach who is a perfect fit.

"It isn't easy to find a coach who has all the qualities to play mid-major to higher and compete well who also is a committed Christian," Falwell said.

At Liberty, players and coaches alike know that some opponents wonder whether faith interferes with competitiveness, and they relish the chance to show them it doesn't.

"You don't need to be soft as an athlete just because you're a solid Christian kid," Dunton

Please see FALWELL, Page C4



The Rev. Jerry Falwell climbs the ladder to cut off the net after the Liberty men's basketball team won the Big South tournament crown with an 89-44 victory over High Point in this March 6 at Liberty University, in Lynchburg, Va. Liberty University is on its way to the NCAA tournament for the first time in a decade.

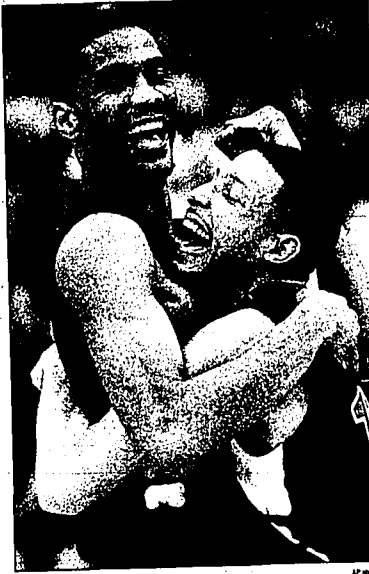
SPORTS

Bearcats fight way to C-USA title

CINCINNATI (AP) — Fomer Southern Idaho standout Tony Bobbitt overcame a punch to the groin, returning to make the decisive shots, and leading Cincinnati to the Conference USA tournament championship, 55-50 over DePaul.

The 13th-ranked Bearcats (24-6) survived a tumultuous second half — a technical foul, an ejection, a wild last minute, to get their fourth tournament title.

Bobbitt left the game after LeVar Seals hit him in the groin with 8:22 left, drawing an ejection. When he recovered from the low blow, Bobbitt returned and made a pivotal 3-pointer and a driving lay-in that clinched it. He was voted the tournament's MVP, finishing with a team-high 17 points.



Cincinnati guard Tony Bobbitt, right, hugs teammate James White after they defeated DePaul 55-50 to win the Conference USA championship, Saturday in Cincinnati. Bobbitt led Cincinnati with 17 points.

No. 2 Stanford 77, Washington 66

LOS ANGELES — Matt Lottich had 20 points, six rebounds and five assists, and Stanford defeated Washington to win its first Pac-10 tournament title and a berth to the NCAA tournament for the 10th consecutive season.

The Cardinal (29-1) is virtually assured of a top seed in the West Region when the pairings are announced Sunday, along with a trip to Seattle for their first game.

Nate Robinson, the 5-foot-9 guard led the Huskies with 16 points and five assists.

No. 5 Duke 85, No. 14 Georgia Tech 71

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Shelton Williams had 20 points and 18 rebounds Saturday to lift No. 5 Duke past No. 14 Georgia Tech 85-71 in the semifinals of the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament.

Luol Deng scored 19 for the Blue Devils (27-4) who won their record 17th straight ACC tournament game. B.J. Alder scored 25 points to lead the Yellow Jackets (23-9).

No. 7 Oklahoma St. 82, Texas Tech 77

DALLAS — Daniel Böbök start-

Smoltz looks strong in first spring outing

By The Associated Press

John Smoltz looked as good as ever in his first outing since offseason elbow surgery.

J.D. Drew has been unstoppable all spring.

Smoltz needed only seven pitches to retire the side Saturday and Drew hit another home run, leading an Atlanta Braves split squad to a 6-5 victory over the New York Yankees in Kissimmee, Fla.

"It was a little nerve racking, even after 17 seasons of doing this, but I felt really good about it," Smoltz said. "I wanted to go out there and be smooth and obviously I was."

Not to be outdone was Drew, the star of spring training so far. He hit a three-run homer. Atlanta's new right fielder is 11-for-11 with 14 RBIs this March.

"It's hitting the ball so hard, it's really amazing," Cox said. "Everything he hits is right on the head."

In other exhibition games:
Marlins 6, Astros 1
 At Mexico City, Roger Clemens

Falwell

Continued from C1

tells his players. "You need to be tough."

Before coming back to Liberty, where he was the interim coach in 1997-98, Danton was coaching at Binghamton in New York State. When he decided to leave, forward Gabe Martin came with him despite some anxiety about the Christian emphasis.

At Liberty, classes begin with prayer, prayer begins and ends with prayer. There are no coed dormitories and the campus has a drug- and alcohol-free policy, a package of rules that Danton said helps weed out

those not inclined to follow the program.

Martin has never regretted the move.

"I had never been in a true Christian environment where you had to watch your language, the way you talk, the way you walk, the way you carry your-

home run and two RBIs for Milwaukee.

Rangers 13, Angels 2

At Tampa, Ariz., Hank Blalock went 4-for-4 with a home run and four RBIs and Texas got 20 hits.

Reds (ss) 7, Pirates 3

At Bradenton, Fla., Stephen Smitherman hit a two-run homer and Aaron Harang pitched four solid innings for Cincinnati.

Devil Rays 6, Phillies 5

At Clearwater, Fla., Geoff Blum's two-out RBI single in the top of the ninth sent Tampa Bay past Philadelphia.

Indians (ss) 4, Expos (ss) 3

At Viera, Fla., John McDonnell's two-run single highlighted Cleveland's four-run fourth inning.

Braves (ss) 6, Reds (ss) 3

At Sarasota, Fla., Johnny Estrada had three hits and scored three runs.

Red Sox 7, Blue Jays 1

At Dunedin, Fla., Derek Lowe

pitched five solid innings and Brian Dabubba hit a grand slam.

Twins 5, Dodgers 4

At Fort Myers, Fla., Jeff Weaver pitched four solid innings, but Minnesota rallied for four runs in the ninth.

Expos (ss) 13, Tigers (ss) 6

Lakeland, Fla., Luis Lopez hit a three-run homer, and Joe Vitiello and Danny Rombley each had a two-run shot to lead Montreal.

Indians (ss) 5, Tigers (ss) 2

At Winter Haven, Fla., Casey Bluhm hit a two-run homer and Jason Bere pitched three scoreless innings for Cleveland.

Mets (ss) 7, Orioles 1

At Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Jason Phillips homered and New York roughed up reliever Rick Bauer.

Cardinals 5, Mets (ss) 4

At Port St. Lucie, Fla., Cody McKay's two-run single in the ninth lifted St. Louis to a comeback win.

name and regular-season champion.

No. 11 Texas 64, No. 18 Kansas 60

DALLAS — Brandon Mouton scored 10 straight, including consecutive 3-pointers, during a 12-4 run late in the second half that sent Texas past Kansas.

Texas (23-6) climbed out of an early 11-point deficit, going ahead on a three-point play with 1:27 left in the first half.

The Jayhawks (21-8) led briefly early in the second half and tied it at 45 midway with 3:40 left. Jason Klopf put Texas ahead when Mouton took over, scooping in a layup, then hitting another one followed by the two 3s.

No. 12 Illinois 74, Michigan 60

INDIANAPOLIS — Dee Brown scored 21 points and No. 12 Illinois held off a second-half comeback to move into the championship game of the Big Ten tournament for the second straight year.

Michigan (18-11) cut to 15-point Illinois lead to two points midway through the second period, mainly with the 3-point shooting of Daniel Horon.

Maryland 85, No. 17 North Carolina State 82

GREENSBORO, N.C. — John Gilchrist scored a career-high 30 points to lead Maryland back into the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament final.

North Carolina State (20-9) got 31 points from Julius Lodge, but he missed a free throw with 29 seconds to play and N.C. State trailing 81-78.

Xavier 58, Dayton 49

DAYTON, Ohio — Dedrick Finn picked up the slack on a bad shooting night for Xavier, hitting a jumper and two free throws, down the stretch to guide the Musketeers over Dayton in the Atlantic 10 championship game.

The Flyers (21-8) misfired on their final 11 shots from the field and didn't have a final goal over the final 6.5 minutes.

No. 10 Wisconsin 68, Michigan St. 66

INDIANAPOLIS — Devin Harris scored 21 points, including a back-to-back 3-pointers to start a late rally, and help No. 10 Wisconsin advance to the Big Ten championship game.

Wisconsin (23-6) will play No. 12 Illinois, the defending tour-

THE REPLACEMENTS:

J.D. Drew, John Thomson, Johnny Estrada, Mark DeRosa and Adam LaRoche

Become key to Braves' hopes of capturing 12 straight titles

CISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — The Replacements. That really cool rock band from the 1980s? That really bad movie about the NFL strike season?

Nope.

The Replacements, circa 2004, are J.D. Drew, John Thomson, Johnny Estrada, Mark DeRosa and Adam LaRoche — five guys who most likely will determine whether the Atlanta Braves extend their streak of 12 straight division titles.

Needless to say it's a major burden.

"You understand what's at stake," DeRosa said. "We don't want to be the guys who don't win one."

Their task is daunting.

• Drew takes over in right field for Gary Sheffield, who hit 330, but 39 homers and set an Atlanta record with 132 RBIs last season.

• Thomson fills the spot in the rotation formerly held by Greg Maddux, who has four Cy Young awards and at least 15 wins for a record 16 consecutive seasons.

• Estrada steps in for Javy Lopez, who set a major league record for catchers with 43 homers, along with career highs in average (.328) and RBIs (109).

• DeRosa is the successor at third base for Vinny Castella, who had 22 homers and 76 RBIs.

• LaRoche, a rookie first baseman, gets first crack at replacing Robert Fick, the least-mentioned of the Braves' offensive losses but still a guy who drove in 88 runs.

The Braves are counting on Thomson being much better than previous years. He's never had a winning season, standing at 42-63 with a 4.93 ERA for his career.

Thomson's numbers are a bit skewed. He's played for Col-

NCAA

Continued from C1

Still, things aren't fall-safe and the debates have already begun.

Some argue that two No. 1 seeds — Mississippi State (25-2) and Kentucky (23-4) — could come from the Southeastern Conference. Another that will be considered is Stanford (26-1).

St. Joseph's (27-1) and Gonzaga (26-2) also will make cases for top seeds.

"I think seven or eight or nine schools could make a case for being the top seed," said selection committee chairman Bob Bowlsby, Iowa's athletic director.

The toughest part of the process isn't necessarily picking the teams, though it's seeding them and then defending the process.

The process works like this:

- If eight of 10 committee members select an at-large team in the first ballot, that team goes up on the board.
- Everybody else is considered alternate.
- Those like Bowlsby receive themselves when their own team is being debated.
- What makes this year especially difficult is that committee members expect fewer than the usual 16 to 22 teams to make it through on the first ballot. That means there will be more teams involved in the deliberations and most likely will test the camaraderie among committee members.
- Bowlsby put it this way: "It's more art than science."

Sports

Continued from C1

Image is everything in politics, as it is in advertising and Bush's appearance at NASCAR played well, showing him off as "both the macho guy and the regular guy" as Alan Lichtman, a political scientist at American University in Washington, put it.

"Despite all the charges that his administration is a giveaway to the rich, this shows President Bush as in touch with the concerns and the lives of ordinary Americans in all the former hippie areas, distant, former hippie war protester John Kerry isn't, Lichtman said.

Actually, it doesn't show that at all. It's just a costume party calculated to shore up Bush's support of a particular con-

situency that makes up a large portion of NASCAR's fan base: white men. An Associated Press poll last week showed Bush leading Kerry by almost 20 percent among white men.

We probably can expect Kerry to start shaking hands at bowling alleys, softball games and NHL arenas, proving life's just a regular guy, too.

The Kerry campaign is pumping up the Massachusetts senator's penchant for hunting, hockey, windsurfing and other sports. But Kerry spokesman Chad Clanton questioned whether sports events are the best use of the president's time when important economic and national security matters face the country.

"Maybe the president is hanging out at spectator sports to try and make people forget the past 3.5 years, but it won't work," he said. "People aren't going to be fooled by this."

Unfortunately, a lot of people probably will be.

Politicians are chameleons, blending into any background to catch their prey, the hapless voter. They promise whatever anyone wants and smile the smile of a buddy in the stands.

They crowd the landscape of life to the unflexible, cure the incurable, and solve the unsolvable. They practice voodoo economics and black magic budget tricks. They offer speeches that sound like incan-

andations and make themselves available for photo ops at every stop.

Sporting events are the perfect places for such sound bite-sized appearances with minimum of substance. The savvy politician can touch the people, make the evening news, get his picture in the newspaper and appear as if he's on the same wavelength with everyone else who watches that sport even if the never watches it again until the next election.

Congressional hearings and State of the Union proclamations on sporting issues are high-profile, no-loss deals for politicians. Who isn't against steroids in sports? Who isn't against college football recruit-

ing violations?

The Bush White House seems determined to pound the sporting circuit, especially NASCAR and its 75-million-strong fan base. Bush added NASCAR winners to the list of sports victors that get White House invitations. Just like World Series winners and Olympic champions, and let drivers pull stock cars onto the South Lawn in December.

His campaign made sure that the first round of re-election ads air on Fox Sports Net, ESPN and the Golf Channel, and he helped kick the Super Bowl helped kick a pregame interview on CBS, aired live nationally from the White House's Rose Garden. Bush deftly avoided the half-

time flap over Janet Jackson's exposed breast by saying he had fallen asleep watching the game by then.

It's all smart politics, given the popularity of sports across all ages, religions and parties, even if it seems contrived.

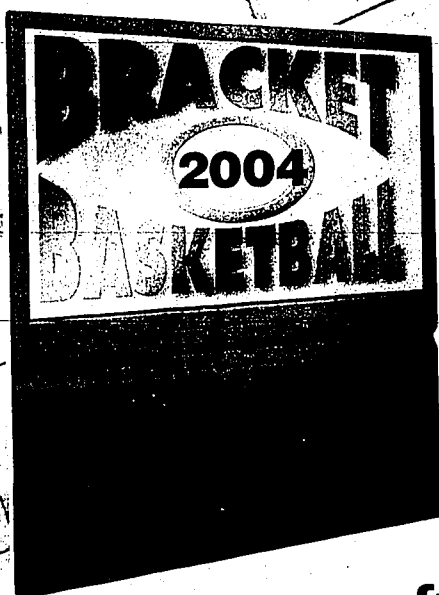
"It's a good way to get out and connect with the American life," White House spokeswoman Suzy DeFrancis said.

Sure it is. And it's comforting that the affairs of state are so carefree these days that the president has time to enjoy the games like a regular fan.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at swilstein@jta.com

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MONEY

INSIDE

YourBusiness D2-3
Classified D7-20

Business Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins 733-0931, Ext. 242

The Times-News

Sunday, March 14, 2004

Section D

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

CSI students get chance at nationals

TWIN FALLS — Fifteen College of Southern Idaho students placed high enough in the Idaho State Career Development contest to qualify for national competition. The winners are members of Delta Epsilon Chi, a professional marketing and management organization that helps students develop leadership skills.

The students entered 21 contests in the three-day conference held in February in Pocatello.

Bret Feltman of Burley placed third in the sales representative category. A.J. Stallones of Twin Falls placed first in marketing and management and was part of the four-person team who won first place in the 2004 Quiz Bowl Championship; other team members were Felix Silvaz of Burley, Tyler Garcia of Twin Falls, Blake Best of Hagerman, Rachel Myers of Soda Springs placed in travel and tourism, Julie Smith of Rupert placed first in apparel and accessories, and Amy Markwick of Shoshone placed second. Smith and her partner, Lori Feltman of Burley, also placed third in business-to-business marketing.

Rast placed fourth in financial services. Kathy Von Koepen of Twin Falls placed first in hospitality management, and she and her partner, Karris Capps of Gooding, placed third in the team event of business ethics. Silvaz placed first in restaurant management. Lindsay McClymonds of Jerome and her partner, Rast, placed first in advertising campaign. Sonya Graham of Buhl and her partner, Alex Dorofeev of St. Petersburg, Russia, placed first in international marketing. Crystal Massey of Burley placed first in design presentation.

The national conference will be held April 14-17 in Nashville, Tenn.

Builders group plans membership meeting

TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley Builders Association plans its general membership meeting at the Herrett Center for Arts & Science on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls.

The meeting is set for Tuesday in the center's Rick Allen Hall and its Faulkner Planetarium, with a pre-show at 6:40 p.m., the "Ring World" planetarium show at 7 p.m. and the meeting, desserts and refreshments at 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$15 per person. Sign up before noon Monday by calling the builders association at 736-8991. All those who sign up will be billed, the association said.

Class teaches business programs

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho is offering a series of classes designed to teach the basic features of programs used in everyday business from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays in Shields 201.

The emphasis in each hands-on workshop will be on menu items and toolbar features.

Cost is \$35 per class or \$140 for all five classes.

Microsoft Word will be held March 29 and April 5. It will cover completing and printing a letter, formatting and printing an envelope, and using functions such as bold, underline and font size.

Microsoft Excel is set for April 12 and 19. It will cover creating spreadsheets, formatting and printing from the program, and using functions such as sum, @ and font.

Microsoft Access will be held April 26 and May 3 and will cover creating databases, writing and running queries, making changes to the database using a query, and using functions such as change, delete or select.

Microsoft PowerPoint will be held May 10 and 17 and will cover creating and formatting slides, using and understanding menu options and tools, and preparing and presenting.

Microsoft Outlook is set for May 24 and June 7. It will cover creating address books, using the send and receive features, sending and receiving e-mails, and using menu and formatting functions.

For information or to register, call 732-6288 or 732-6290.

— compiled from staff reports

Dying to work



Luis Ramirez stands in a tobacco field where his brother, Urbano Ramirez, was last seen alive near Enfield, N.C. Ramirez believes heat stroke contributed to his death.

Mexican worker deaths rise sharply as overall U.S. job safety improves

The Associated Press

The jobs that lure Mexican workers to the United States are killing them in a worsening epidemic that is now claiming a victim a day, an Associated Press investigation has found.

Though Mexicans often take the most hazardous jobs, they are more likely than others to be killed even when doing similarly risky work.

The death rates are greatest in Washington and Colorado, as well as Southern states where a Mexican worker is four times more likely to die than the average U.S.-born worker.

These accidental deaths get little attention, but are almost always preventable and often gruesome: Workers are impaled, shredded in machinery, buried alive. Some are as young as 15.

For the first study of its kind of Mexican worker deaths in the United States, the AP talked with scores of workers, employers, advocates and government officials and analyzed years of federal safety and population statistics.

Among the findings:
• Mexican death rates are rising as the U.S. workplace grows safer overall. In the mid-1990s, Mexicans were about 30 percent more likely to die than native-born workers; now they are about 80 percent more likely.

• Deaths among Mexicans increased faster than their population in the United States. Between 1995 and 2001, as the number of Mexican workers grew by about half, from 4 million to 6 million, the number of deaths rose by about two-thirds, from 241 to 397. Deaths peaked at 420 in 2001.

• Though their odds of dying in parts of the West and the Southeast are far greater than the U.S. average, fatalities occur everywhere: Mexicans died falling trees in Colorado and welding a balcony in Florida, trimming grass at a Las Vegas golf course and falling from scaffolding in Georgia, cutting North Carolina tobacco and Nebraska beef.

• Even compared with other immigrants — those who historically work America's hardest jobs — what's happening to Mexicans is exceptional in scope and scope. Mexicans are nearly twice as likely as the rest of the immigrant population to die at work.

Why is all this happening? Public safety officials and workers themselves say the answer comes down to this: Mexicans are hired to work cheap, the fewer questions the better.

They may be thrown into jobs without training or safety equipment. Their objections may be silent if they speak no English. Those here illegally, fearful of attracting attention, may be reluctant to complain. And their work culture and Third World safety expectations don't discourage extra risk-taking.

Simple precautions would save many lives, government records show. "Was not using any type of fall protection," concludes a government report on one worker who fell 150 feet. Says another report: "Untrained worker ... operated the equipment." Another: "Procedure was patently unsafe."

Federal and state safety agencies have started to recognize the problem. But they have limited resources — only a few Spanish-speaking investigators work in regions with hundreds of thousands of recent arrivals — and often can't reach the most vulner-

able Mexican workers.

President Bush's recent proposal to grant illegal immigrants temporary protections as guest workers energized the national immigration debate. Yet in these discussions, job safety has been almost completely ignored. Meanwhile, Mexicans continue to die on the job.

Eighteen-year-old Carlos Huerta was helping build federal low-income housing in North Carolina — but because his bosses ignored basic work safety rules, according to state safety inspectors, he fell to his death.

Huerta was told to stand in a trash container, which a forklift raised 10 feet so he could wash a brick wall. But the improvised platform wasn't secured to the forklift's prongs, and it soon toppled.

In 2002, the year Huerta was killed and the latest year of complete federal statistics, more Mexicans died in construction than any other industry — and more died from fatal falls than any other accident.

In April 2000, 16-year-old Antonio Garcia Reyes was framing the roof of a new college dormitory in



Workers exit the Excel Corp. meat packing plant at the end of their shift in Schuyler, Neb., on July 15. Jesus Soto Carbalja, a former Mexican-born worker in the plant, died at work after accidentally severing his jugular vein with a carving knife.



Roofer Jorge Miranda works on a house in Bellevue, Neb., last summer. Falls are the most common cause of death in the United States among Mexican-born workers.

Alabama when he plunged three stories. He had no harness or other protection against a fall, accident investigators found.

A year ago in South Carolina, brother Rigouerto and Moses Xaca Sandoval died building a suburban high school that, at 15 and 16, they might have attended. They were buried in a trench when the walls of sandy soil collapsed.

The United States offered Rigouerto and Moses Sussan Feldmann, who fields calls from Spanish-speaking workers for an institute within the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"They're considered disposable," she says.

However, employers are not always at fault, safety officials say. Though he was trained and wearing required safety gear, Jesus Soto Carbalja severed his jugular vein with a carving knife in a Nebraska meatpacking plant in 2000.

Please see DYING, Page D4

Without safety gear, two Mexican workers die at California dairy

The Associated Press

GUSTINE, Calif. — Jose Alatorre drowned in liquid cow manure on his first wedding anniversary. His wife, Anjelica, wanted him to skip work that day. His mother had the baby and they could relax before a nice dinner, maybe take a walk in the park like he enjoyed. No, Alatorre said, there was something that needed fixing at the job.

He would just work the morning. Alatorre got in his gray 1989 Thunderbird, his first car. bought so he wouldn't have to bum rides with friends to visit Anjelica when he lived half an hour away in Modesto. Past the shanties on the other side of the railroad tracks, he stopped at the Aguar-Faria Dairy, where for four months he had worked as a welder at \$8.75 an hour — just over \$18,000 a year.

It was solid work in the Central Valley's sprawling dairy country.

Anjelica met Jose at a wedding in the Central Valley town of Gustine in 1999 when he asked her to dance.



Anjelica Alatorre holds her 3-year-old son, Guillermo, outside their apartment in Gustine, Calif., June 4. Anjelica's husband, Jose, drowned while trying to unclog a pump at a manure pond at a dairy farm in Gustine.

Please see DAIRY, Page D4

release month after month of disappointing payroll-gains reports has intensified a debate about whether a profound change in the way the U.S. economy operates is under way or has already come about: With advances in technology, rising productivity rates and the outsourcing of work to foreign

countries, more economic activity won't translate into more jobs.

"I'm growing increasingly suspicious that something more fundamental may be happening to the job market and the economy," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com, a research and

consulting firm in West Chester, Pa.

The government's latest employment report, released Friday, showed that employers nationwide added a puny 21,000 nonfarm jobs to payrolls in February. The California jobs

Please see JOBS, Page D3

Job creation may not come so easy this time around

By Don Lee
Los Angeles Times

For months, economists have been reassuring Americans that the employment market drought would soon end.

With its corporate profits surging and economic indicators

improving, they said, it wouldn't be long before there was a downpour of jobs. After all, history shows that strong economic growth is quickly followed by robust job creation.

With this recovery, that still hasn't happened. Most economists aren't quite ready to throw out the history books, but the

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Please see JOBS, Page D3

MONEY

Dying

Continued from D1

The blade punctured his chest just above where the protective metal mesh stopped. "Everybody wishes they had 20-20 hindsight on this one," said Mark Klein, a spokesman for Minneapolis-based Cappell Inc., which owns the plant where workers have since been outfitted with larger protective suits.

Sometimes a worker may misjudge a hazard. That was the conclusion of federal inspectors in the case of Manuel Tapete, who punctured his heart when he tripped carrying a borrowed knife at another Nebraska meatpacking plant. He wore no protective gear because his job was to steam-clean meat, not cut it.

Soon after Tapete gashed himself, supervisors moved his body and opted to restart the work line at the plant. Co-worker Luis Rodriguez, who described a geyser of blood pumping from Tapete's chest, still can't understand why the firm came back so fast and turned the chain on, Why?

Supervisors properly resumed work because they didn't know the severity of the accident, said a spokesman for the Tyson Fresh Meats plant in Dakota City, where Tapete had a tragic and unfortunate accident.

When Camilo Rojas died at a Georgia chicken processing plant in 2001 — his head crushed by a conveyor belt from which he'd tripped to dislodge a packing box — plant officials closed the bloodied production line, but ran two others that day.

Urbano Ramirez died picking tobacco in the North Carolina summer. There was no drinking water in the field, though his crew boss sold beers on the spot. That supervisor told investigators Ramirez suffered a nose bleed, so he told him to rest.

Ramirez's body was found 10 days later reclined against a magnolia tree, the only shade around. A medical examiner said he died of a heart attack because the body too badly decomposed for a definitive finding. His brother, Luis, suspects heat stroke.

Like Urbano Ramirez, many Mexican workers who arrive with little more than a grade-school education. Often they're behind a wife and children.

Criminal charges are rare — fines more typical — when employers are to blame. One exception is a California dairyman who faces involuntary manslaughter charges after two of his workers drowned in liquid cow manure.

Jose Alatorre was overcome by fumes as he stood in the field, trying to fix a pump at the bottom of a 30-foot concrete shaft. His partner, Enrique Arasa, died trying to save him. Both men were full-time workers but, according to prosecutors, had no safety training. No one took time to ventilate the predictably hazardous air or provided a harness to extract a stricken worker.

"They didn't simply go into the shaft, they got the shaft, prosecutor Gale Filter told grand jurors who indicted the dairy owner. Trial is scheduled for April.

The deaths received a burst of

Dying To Work

Making a living and finding death

Mexican immigrants are at much greater risk of dying on the job than native and other foreign-born workers. Their workplace mortality rates have been higher than six deaths per 100,000 workers for five consecutive years despite the U.S. workplace growing safer overall.

Year	Workplace deaths per 100,000 others		
	Mexican-born	Other foreign-born	Native
1996	5.8	4.3	4.4
1997	5.8	3.5	4.4
1998	6.8	2.9	4.2
1999	6.4	3.5	4.0
2000	6.4	3.4	3.9
2001	6.9	4.0	3.8
2002*	6.2	3.7	3.5

*Preliminary
SOURCES: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Census Bureau; Associated Press



Smoke billows from the Tyson Fresh Meats plant in Dakota City, Neb. Mexican-born worker Manuel Tapete died after he punctured his heart with a carving knife while working in the meat packing plant in October 1999.

attention in early 2001, but just 18 months later, at another dairy in the same small town of Gastine, a third Mexican-born worker died the same way.

The federal government catalogues those accidents and hovers more each year in a growing roll call of dead Mexican workers.

The AP's investigation focused on 1995 through 2002. The most recent set of worker death data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Those were years when the economic boom coaxed about 1 million Mexicans beyond the border states, according to the best government estimates, which may be low because of the difficulty in counting undocumented workers.

During these years, the analysis showed, Mexicans were increasingly more likely to work on the job than U.S. workers of any race.

The annual death rate for Mexicans increased to the point that about 1 in 16,000 workers died. Meanwhile, for the average U.S.-born worker, the rate steadily decreased to about 1 in 20,000.

Dairy

Continued from D1

Before the music stopped, he insisted confessing to two things: He had crossed the border illegally from Mexico, and he didn't have a car — yet. His car owner won her.

"He was an honest person. He just went straight to everything," Anjelica says. "I really liked that."

Alatorre was still a jester at 22, but one thing that turned his smile was the dairy's stench.

The 1,700 cows produced about 200,000 gallons of waste each day that washed from the pens through an underground shaft to be pumped into a large rectangular holding lagoon.

Co-worker Enrique Arasa scampered into the shaft to rescue his friend, but he too quickly passed out. Another, Juan Caballero, went down far enough to tie a nylon rope to Arasa's arm before he reversed course and summoned help.

Anjelica Alatorre remembers walking outside to investigate the unusual sound of a helicopter. Her sister called. Jose had fallen. Jose was hurt. Anjelica arrived while a dozen trained rescuers, with all the proper equipment labored several hours to retrieve the bodies.

Alatorre and Arasa were among 119 Mexican-born workers who died in California in 2001, the state's highest annual death total for the state on government record. An Associated Press analysis found that California has one of the lowest death rates for Mexican workers, but that the rate is still greater than the average for U.S. workers.

Though the death rate for Mexicans in California was still greater than the U.S.-born worker average, The AP's investigation found, it was far lower than Mexican death rates in Western states such as Colorado and Washington and regions such as the Southeast.

But prosecutors are charging him with involuntary manslaughter because there are indications he knew the dangers of the shaft. As a volunteer county firefighter, he acted on safety in confined spaces. But he hadn't relayed that information to his workers, prosecutors say, and didn't supply them with proper fans to ventilate the air or a harness to extract a stricken worker.

Faria could have hired a professional crew to clean the pump for about \$600, according to prosecutor Gale Filter, instead of sending down three low-wage dairyhands.

"It's about money, M-O-N-E-Y," Filter told the grand jury that indicted Faria. "There is absolutely no doubt what the motive was."

Filter also showed a picture of Alatorre, smiling in his Sunday-best cowboy hat, to grand jurors. They needed to see Alatorre and Arasa not as illegal immigrants, but as people who expect the same from life as everyone else.

Faria's trial is scheduled to begin in April. His lawyer said Faria does not want to discuss the case.

The deaths received a burst of attention, but just 18 months later, at a second dairy in this same small town, another Mexican-born worker died in the same way.

Merced County firefighters retrieve the bodies of two Mexican-born workers who died after drowning in liquid manure on a dairy farm in Gustine, Calif., in 2001.

How the investigation was done

The Associated Press used two primary statistical sources, both collected by the federal government, to do its own computer analysis of elevated death rates among Mexican workers in the United States.

The first source is the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, a Bureau of Labor Statistics project which catalogues the vast majority of U.S. workplace deaths. Those numbers, verified using multiple sources, allow analysis of workplace deaths from many angles — in this case, by country.

Second source is the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, the same source used to calculate the monthly unemployment rate. Many Mexican-born workers are in the United States legally, either on work visas or as legal permanent residents. But because about half of the Mexican workers are undocumented, government statisticians use a complex set of calculations to project the total population of Mexican-born workers.

At the request of the AP the population data were compiled by Jeffrey Passel, an authority on Mexican immigrant-related statistics from the Urban Institute, a nonpartisan research group based in Washington, D.C., that develops population estimates that are cited regularly in academic research.

The AP calculated death rates for Mexican workers by comparing the estimated population of Mexican workers with the fatal injury reports. The AP focused on Mexican workers because they are the dominant immigrant worker group in the United States and account for about two-thirds of deaths among foreign-born Hispanic workers. Workers from other Spanish-speaking countries were excluded from the AP's study because they are smaller in number and government population estimates for them are considered less reliable.

Construction was the deadliest industry. Across the nation, about 1 in 3,100 Mexican construction laborers died on the job, a rate one-quarter above that for native-born whites working the same job, and one-third above that for native-born blacks, though more in line with that for native-born Hispanics.

Unlike an American worker who may have apprenticed in the job, a rate one-quarter above that for native-born whites working the same job, and one-third above that for native-born blacks, though more in line with that for native-born Hispanics.

Explaining that right is one thing, enforcing it another. Some of OSIA's own officials say their resources are insufficient and note the agency's own punitive action only after an accident.

OSIA Director John Henschaw points to Spanish-language materials the agency has put on its Web site, as well as the agency's Hispanic Taskforce, which coordinates enforcement and educational ventures for Mexicans and other workers from Central and South America.

Safety officials in high-growth Southern states such as North Carolina, Georgia and Florida launched outreach programs after they saw construction deaths rise. Some states consulted with local Mexican contractors or construction associations.

WorldCom wipes out \$74 billion in profits

Chicago Tribune

WorldCom Inc. took a major step Friday toward emerging from bankruptcy, filing restated financial results in which it acknowledged overstating by \$74 billion during two years.

Most of that comes from recognizing that various assets were worth nearly \$60 billion less than previously calculated. Although immense, those sorts of write-downs are legitimate accounting transactions that occur frequently across corporate America.

But WorldCom's restatement for 2000 and 2001 also included at least \$10.6 billion of wiped-out profits that the firm attributes to accounting "errors" as well as "improper" and "inappropriate" accounting.

"The numbers are stunning. It's amazing what those guys did way back when," Thomas Mullen, a former partner at hedge fund TWM Capital, told Bloomberg News.

In court documents, the total amount of overstated profits as a result of the nation's largest accounting scandal have been put at roughly \$11 billion dating to 1999.

Without admitting or denying guilt, WorldCom agreed last year to pay \$750 million in cash and stock to settle federal regulators' charges that it engaged in improper accounting to overstate profits.

For the long-distance giant, which is changing its name to MCI, the restatement is a key step to putting its past behind it.

"This filing culminates the largest and most complex financial restatement ever undertaken," WorldCom Chief Financial Officer Bob Blakely said in a statement. "It is one of the last remaining milestones on our path to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy."

Spokeswoman Britany Hoff said the company's final major hurdle is filing its 10-K annual report for 2003, which is eagerly anticipated by Wall Street to shed light on current performance.

Hoff said it likely will be filed close to the company's emergence from bankruptcy, which is anticipated to happen next month.

Although Wall Street quickly dismissed Friday's report as covering ancient history, it is historical nonetheless. The \$74 billion is by far the largest restatement in U.S. history.

In fact, just under \$5 billion in combined pretax profits were wiped out by three of the other largest restatements ever — at Rite Aid Corp., Waste Management Inc. and Xerox Corp.

In filing its restatement, WorldCom also released audited 2002 results for the first time, posting a net loss of \$9.2 billion on revenue of \$32.2 billion.

Revenue was down more than 14 percent from the restated 2001 level, but the net loss shrank from \$15.6 billion.

Exchange-traded fund returns

Comparing performance of the S&P 500 Sp500 Splitcap exchange-traded fund to a comparable Index fund (Vanguard 500) and average for U.S. stock mutual funds; through Sept. 30, 2003.

Table with 4 columns: Period, S&P 500, Vanguard 500, Average U.S. stock fund, U.S. stock funds that Sp500 outperformed. Rows for One year, Three years, Five years, Ten years.

Note: Ten-year returns best reflect ETF's and are not subject to historical performance. Source: American Securities Capital Group, The Orange County Register.

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Exchange-traded funds could help

By Mary Ann Millburn The Orange County Register

Spiders have crept into the stock market — and Vipers, too. But they're not creatures from your usual investment jungle.

They're part of a growing trend toward alternative investments called exchange-traded funds. These ETFs — which often sport exotic names such as Diamonds and Qubes — are basically baskets of many companies' shares. They mimic index mutual funds but trade like stocks.

ETFs began 10 years ago when the American Stock Exchange created Spiders — Standard & Poors' Depository Receipts, or SPDRs — a group of shares representing the 500 companies on the S&P 500 index. Their popularity has grown in recent years as more companies created new types of funds pegged to different indexes.

Now they've gained new appeal among investors, worried about the growing mutual-fund scandal, cast about for some place else to put their money.

"I've been dumping their mutual funds and invest (in ETFs)," said Susan Strain, 56, of Laguna Woods, Calif., who has been investing in them for five years. "I don't want to rely on (a mutual-fund manager) who really has his own interests in mind rather than mine."

Mark investors are getting the same idea. In 1993, when the first SPDR began trading, only \$7 million was invested in them, according to Strategic Insight Mutual Fund Research and Consulting. By December, the figure had grown to over \$102 billion, according to the Investment Company Institute.

ETF assets rose to nearly \$120 billion in September, just as the mutual-fund scandal was taking hold.

Mark Wilson, a certified financial planner at Tarbox Equity Inc. in Newport Beach, Calif., is a big proponent of ETFs, which he says have many advantages, especially for taxable accounts and investors with larger portfolios.

Like index funds, exchange-traded funds generally are inexpensive to operate since they basically are programmed to track an index. As a result, shareholders don't have to shoulder the higher fees associated with actively managed mutual funds. For example, the S&P 500 Splitcap has an expense ratio of 0.12 percent, or \$12 for every \$10,000 invested. The Vanguard S&P 500 Index fund's ratio is 0.18 percent, while the average no-load mutual fund is around 1.5 percent.

Equally important for taxable accounts is that exchange-traded funds don't incur the penalty that mutual funds run into when they sell a stock for a gain. So, instead of mutual-fund investors' surprise end-of-the-year surprise tax bill, ETF investors only have to worry about a capital gain when they sell ETF shares.

For short-term investors, exchange-traded funds also provide greater flexibility. Since they trade throughout the day like a stock, you know the price you will pay instead of waiting until the end of the day to learn a mutual fund's net asset value. There also are no restrictions on how often you buy or sell an ETF. Most mutual funds limit how often shares can be traded. And, for investors concerned about mutual-fund wrongdoing, exchange-traded funds aren't subject to the kinds of security market timing, self-dealing or after-hours trading that have been exposed in recent months

More about ETFs

- Spiders, or SPDRs — Standard and Poors' Depository Receipts. Track a variety of S&P indexes.
• Diamonds (ticker DIA) — Diamond Trust Shares. Track the Dow Jones Industrial Average.
• Vipers, or VIPERs — Vanguard Index Participation Receipts. Track several Vanguard index funds.

For more information online: www.kit.com, www Morningstar.com, www.americanetf.com, www.mutualfunds.about.com

at prominent mutual-fund families such as Janus and Putnam. An ETF's value is tied to the index it tracks and is continually visible as ETF shares are traded throughout the day.

"You can really see what's being done (with ETFs)," Wilson said. While exchange-traded funds offer many advantages, experts say they aren't for everyone in all situations.

Investors must pay a broker's commission every time an ETF is bought or sold, so people doing a lot of trading could run up fees that would outweigh any savings. Like stocks, exchange-traded funds are also subject to the difference between the bid and ask prices. While the difference in S&P 500 ETFs' bid and ask prices is typically only a few pennies, less popular funds can have much larger spreads — and additional hidden cost that the investor pays.

Investors also end up absorbing some costs generated by frequent trading of ETFs, which can make ETFs slightly more costly than a low-expense index mutual fund.

Wilson says brokerage fees also make exchange-traded funds less suitable for small investors. For instance, if someone invested \$2,000 in an ETF with a broker's fee of \$25, that fee alone would equal 1.3 percent of the total purchase.

"That could take you five or six years to get back to even," he said. Even with a discount broker, Wilson believes, ETFs are still most suitable for someone with at least \$10,000 or more to invest. Brokerage fees also would hurt an investor who buys dollar-cost averaging to buy shares periodically.

What to do with the money?

Make sure your retirement account keeps up with you

By Mary Ellen Slayter The Washington Post

For many of us in our twenties or early thirties, job-hopping has been the norm for our entire careers. The bid for the 1990s boom meant frequent promotions, sparkly jobs with brand-new companies, and salaries that went up, up, up with each move. The bust brought layoffs for the unlucky.

We've survived, adapting to the constant flux and uncertainty. But what about our precious retirement accounts? About half of private-sector workers were participating in an employer-backed retirement plan as of March 2003, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Twenty percent of us were covered by a defined benefit plan, or what most of us would call a plain 'ol pension.

Both. Over the years, the bureau also has tracked a shift in the proportion of workers covered by each type of plan, with the

contribution, which transfers more responsibility — and risk — to individual workers. That, coupled with young workers' insecurity about the solvency of Social Security, ought to be giving us a sense of urgency about retirement savings.

Assuming you're stashing money in your 401(k), you're forced to make a major decision every time you change jobs. Will you do with all that money? You have four options: • Let it be. This is the inertia plan. Whether it's the best choice depends on how much you've saved and how much you trust your old company and its choice in investment options. It seems the wisest thing to do at the time of departure, if your employer allows it, but it becomes a pain to keep in

touch with the plan administrators. After a few job changes, you'll have money all over the place. You might even lose track of the accounts completely.

Rolling the cash over to your new job's retirement plan at least keeps things consolidated. One problem: You might not be immediately eligible. Many employers make workers wait a year or so to join their retirement plan.

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fees and taxes. The firm to which you're transferring money may be happy to help you with the details, but don't be surprised if the old company drags its feet. It really has no incentive to let your money go.

• Cash it out. It's tempting to take the money and run, but this could be one of the most expensive decisions you'll ever make. The IRS is going to hit you with a 10 percent penalty for early withdrawal. Because the contributions were tax-deferred, it will want to collect that levy, too. Depending on your tax bracket, Uncle Sam could knock 40 percent off your account balance. While the IRS is sympathetic to a true emergency — there are exceptions to the 10 percent penalty rule — doing this just because you're fed up is just being silly. You'll destroy your finances.

Choose carefully. Or that sweet Winnebago Chief may never be yours.

Younger workers neglect retirement savings

By T. Shawn Taylor Chicago Tribune

Even as younger workers watch parents and older generations go back to work after retiring because their savings were not adequate, they still aren't doing enough to provide for their own financial futures.

Twenty-nine percent of American workers say they have not begun to save for retirement, and 61 percent have not needed to reach their retirement goal, according to a recent survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington.

Jeff Hinrichs, 28, of Chicago, said he'll probably be 40 years old before he can start socking away money. Meanwhile, his boss is paying off about \$30,000 of hospital loans and a three-day stay a few days ago to control his diabetes.

"It's hard to save for retirement unless you're wealthy," Hinrichs said recently while shopping for music CDs. "I think too many other bills to think about saving."

Hinrichs also has seen how unexpected events can impact retirement savings. When his father, 59, and stepmother, 52, — both have good jobs — he's an administrator for the United Way in Baton Rouge, La., and she inspects nursing homes, but they blew through their retirement money on two homes that needed expensive repairs. The houses were purchased as a result of job changes.

"They're putting money away, and they do have a little bit, but it's not as great as it used to be," said Hinrichs.

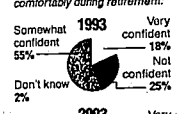
He remains confident he will be able to retire comfortably in the back of his mind. Hinrichs still hopes he will hit the lottery or sell for millions of dollars a movie script he has written on the side.

Many people dream of having luxuries, retirements, but rarely do things turn out the way they planned, said William Gale, senior fellow of economic studies at the Brookings Institute in Washington.

Today's younger workers not only face longer life expectancies

Retirement expectations

Confidence level of workers to have enough money to live comfortably during retirement:



Planned retirement age: Age 54 or younger 6%, Age 55-59 10%, Age 60-64 21%, Age 65 29%, Age 68 or older 24%, Never retire 6%, Do not know 8%.

Today, the elder baby boomers who took an early retirement two years ago from Commonwealth Edison because his job was eliminated, works part time as a courier to help his home innovation and technology business.

His son feels badly about the situation. "But it's great to have someone I can depend on, to help me out anyway he can and to make sacrifices."

But the people also marry and buy homes later than previous generations, and that doesn't help their finances.

"I think that waiting longer to do everything from child-raising to buying a home will pay off in the end, but the eight ball in terms of budgeting," said Don Blandin, president of the American Savings Education Council.

"If you stay single or even live together paying rent, you want to have the tax advantages of someone who is married and has a home."

Workers in their 20s and 30s often need a second household income to make ends meet. Many singles share the rent and live with people of the opposite sex living together as taboos — more couples are living together. But even with two incomes, most aren't saving any more for retirement.

Blandin suggests workers closely examine the Social Security statements they get in the mail every year, put together

had to move in with his parents. In March 2002, two years after completing his bachelor's degree in electronic engineering from Purdue University, Dodd, 29, got laid off as a software engineer at Northrop Grumman.

Consistently as he was about to buy a house closer to work in Rolling Meadows, Ill. Today, he homes, he says.

He has used up about a third of his intended house down payment, but at least he has no debt. Still, the layoff was a major setback.

"I was hoping to save up a little more towards retirement," said Dodd, who said he learned he'd be laid off from his father. "My kids didn't do well (with the downturn). They did pretty bad, actually. I invested a lot in technology."

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Blandin suggests workers closely examine the Social Security statements they get in the mail every year, put together

er a retirement plan and alter it when necessary.

"It's like any goal. You have a plan. It's not set in stone. You have to fine tune it every year," Blandin said.

Such planning is more critical for young people, whose Social Security, employer-funded pensions and company matches (401(k) accounts) cover less ground.

Those who fail to plan and save for retirement are deciding they will work into their 70s or 80s or will never retire.

Carter Kennedy said he intends to work way past retirement age anyway.

"Retirement is not appealing at all. I'd go insane," said the 41-year-old bond option-trader at the Chicago Board of Trade.

Kennedy said he sees the retirement and good news to him, but he doesn't believe he will be affected by it. His six-figure salary has enabled him to create a substantial stock portfolio and to make another key investment: a four-level house in Chicago's exclusive Lakeview area.

Though he has racked up major stock losses in the last three years and splurges on things like cats — he owns a Porshe and good wine, he fully expects to be able to retire from trading at age 48.

"I want to spend the rest of my career doing something meaningful, like work for a non-profit or environmental cause. I don't want to add that to my list. I'll be content on his ability to obtain flexible scheduling and lots of time off."

"I'd like to spend summers in Harbor Springs (in northern Michigan) and do nothing the whole summer. Or have a month off here or there. As long as I'm not tied to my job."

Far more share Kennedy's view of retirement than ever reach it.

Despite the economics lessons that beg to be learned, many of the newest work force entrants carry the same get-rich-and-retire-early expectations. In some ways, it's part of growing up.

Perhaps they will get lucky, Blandin said.

"Sometimes, people think the worst, and when they get there, it's better than they thought," he said. "I honestly hope they'll all be right."

Bankers discuss how laundering rules work in real world

By Gregg Fields Knight Ridder News Service

MIAMI — For bankers involved in international transactions today, the road to regulatory hell can be paved with good intentions.

With international bodies and tough domestic laws like the USA Patriot Act cracking down, the mandate is to be vigilant about possible money laundering activities. It is as plain as black and white.

The problem, experts say, is that the everyday world is rife with situations that fall into gray areas. In some cases, "unfortunately, you only get an interpretation when you go to trial," said Thomas Fleming, with the compliance division of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. "Do we have any volunteers?"

International Bankers Association, held at the Hotel InterContinental in downtown Miami.

In a conference, which drew hundreds of delegates from across the state and the Caribbean region, hosted seminars on subjects such as preparing for regulatory exams, money laundering programs, and the impact of U.S. laws on foreign banks.

It was the fourth FABA conference, one of a growing number of financial industry conventions designed to shed light on anti-money-laundering regulations that have noble aims, tough penalties — and murky language.

But that reason, there is a learning curve for every institution regarding money-laundering rules that are changing. And every situation is different. "Not every bank will be examined the same way," said Haylede

Gillion, with the state of Florida's Office of Financial Regulation. "You have different products and different and different risks. But we do try to be consistent."

Fleming acknowledged that the broad sweep of laws like the Patriot Act makes them hard to interpret at times.

Despite the banks, law extend money-laundering regulations to innumerable other businesses, such as retailers and money transmitters, that are collectively known as "money service businesses."

A neighborhood drugstore, for example, might perform many financial functions for its customers, such as cashing checks, wiring money or dispensing financial instruments such as traveler's checks, Fleming said.

For instance, might be rated riskier than domestic home mortgages, and banks are supposed to know their customers, and in some cases their customers' customers.

John Atkinson, assistant vice president of supervision and regulation for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, said one clear requirement for institutions is to bring their questions to banking regulators.

"First bring it up with your examiner," he said. "If you still think there's an open issue or question, don't hesitate to raise the issue with a higher authority."

Added, with a smile: "And as we train people, and they're doing excellent work, please don't hire them away."

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TWIN FALLS ARRAIGNMENTS

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls included the following:

James H. Moore, 27, 1429 Eighth Ave. E., Twin Falls: possession of paraphernalia; possession of marijuana; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$500 bond; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty to possession of paraphernalia; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond; trial set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Jeffery G. Knutson, 28, 2783 E. 2950 S., Wendell: driving without privileges; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; sentencing set for March 16, \$1,500 bond.

Grayley Lee Greig, 19, 227 50th St., plm robbery: public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$700 bond.

James J. O'Brien, 53, 131 N. 3000 E., Highway: open container, violation of an interlock device; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$500 bond.

Kevan Richard Merrill, 26, 388 Diamond: public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Robert J. Nevers, 18, 2370 Elm N., Twin Falls: driving or attempting to elude police; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

James Marshall Garcia Jr., 21, 615 Jambrowsky Ave., unit 1234, Twin Falls: battery - domestic violence traumatic injury; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

Trod Terry, 49, 1007 E. 1020 N., Blackfoot: outstanding warrants fraud check private counsel, no plea entered; preliminary hearing set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Michael James Bowman, 21, 561 Third Ave. W., Kimberly: possession of marijuana;

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls included the following:

possession of paraphernalia; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 30; released under own recognizance.

Donald James Orr, 41, 808 Buck Lakes Blvd. S., Twin Falls: failure to purchase a driver's license, obtaining an operator's driver's license without a valid license; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary conference set for March 30, \$100 bond; possession of paraphernalia; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

Johnny Johnson, 23, 1598 1/2 E. 13th St., Twin Falls: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$100 bond.

Donald J. Hendry, 55, 425 Eastland Dr., Nampa: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$100 bond.

Camela Mae Colson, 29, 310 Third St. E., Hansen: driving a police officer; private counsel; no plea entered; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

Bill E. Harding, 56, no address listed: two counts aggravated assault with a deadly weapon; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

Theresa E. Rivera, 18, 428 Seventh Ave. E., Twin Falls: minor consumption of alcohol; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$100 bond.

James M. Swiven, 27, 500 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$200 bond.

Theresa E. Rivera, 18, 428 Seventh Ave. E., Twin Falls: minor consumption of alcohol; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 30, \$100 bond.

Shane Michael Beach, 19, 788 Rayborn Court, Twin Falls: possession of a controlled substance, marijuana; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

Shane Michael Beach, 19, 788 Rayborn Court, Twin Falls: possession of a controlled substance, marijuana; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

Kody Derrin Derrin, 20, 51 S. 150 E. E., Twin Falls: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

Michael A. Jull, 19, 428 14th St., Nampa: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

Michael J. Jull, 19, 428 14th St., Nampa: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

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pretrial conference set for March 30, \$100 bond; no plea entered; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

Scott J. Link, 24, 234 Washington St. N., Twin Falls: forgery; public defender appointed; no plea entered; preliminary hearing set for April 19, \$1,500 bond.

Christopher Michael Ramirez, 24, 748 Buck Lakes Blvd. S., Twin Falls: probation violation - driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for April 19, \$100 bond.

Christopher E. Hayward, 20, 1322 Washington St. N., unit B2, Twin Falls: probation violation - domestic battery; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Josue Luis Torres Garcia, 23, 210 Fourth St. N., Twin Falls: probation violation - domestic battery; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Jack Joseph Hoover Jr., 33, 4134 E. 3800 N., Hansen: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 26, \$500 bond.

Levianna C. Smith, 28, 840 Madrona St. S., Twin Falls: aggravated battery; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$500 bond.

Pratt, 41, 2050 E. 3500 N., Flir: possession of paraphernalia; public defender appointed; pleaded innocent;

For Denver, solution for dealing with homeless becomes urgent

DENVER (AP) - When John Hickenlooper opened his brew pub in downtown Denver in 1988, the city's homeless often took shelter in abandoned warehouses and panhandlers saw few donors after dark.

Since then, many of Denver's historic buildings have been converted to pricey lofts, trendy retail stores and popular restaurants. A baseball stadium and a new sports arena now sandwich downtown, and a once-moribund pedestrian mall is clogged with shoppers.

The city's homeless population has grown, too, from an estimated 1,985 in 1990 to nearly 10,000. Hickenlooper is now mayor and he is searching for solutions to the problem, looking at everything from a ban on verbal panhandling to temporary shelters in public buildings, tents or even baseball's Coors Field.

Hickenlooper said he has been frustrated by panhandlers, but has heard from colleagues who fear panhandlers are tarnishing Denver's image and scaring away potential national retail chains and tourists.

"This is a sense of urgency and this isn't something you can just address with Band-Aids, like opening a temporary shelter," Hickenlooper said in an interview with The Associated Press. "In 10 years, I want to see that we have enough shelters and are moving people into

“I'm absolutely convinced that homelessness as we know it can be eliminated in 10 years.”

- John Hickenlooper, Denver mayor

transitional housing. "I'm absolutely convinced that homelessness as we know it now can be eliminated in 10 years," Hickenlooper said.

On a recent day along the 16th Street Mall, Billy Martinez carried a white paper cup pulled from the hundreds of coins pedestrians have dropped.

"I do this to get some extra money, sometimes four cents, but often just to be able to go buy a sandwich or a cup of coffee for myself," said Martinez, who works day labor jobs. "Man, people get tired of going to the soup kitchens. We all got some pride."

Martinez spots a nicely dressed woman. "Spare some change?" he asks politely. Judy Miller of Lakewood dips

into her coat pockets and comes out with a dollar. "I don't feel intimidated by the panhandlers, but I know some of my friends do," she says. "It's a tough call for the city."

Lamine Joy, dubbed the "Burger Lady" for giving free hamburgers each Friday to about 175 homeless, said many of the people she sees have drug or alcohol addictions but a large number also suffer from mental illness.

"These people are functional enough to walk the streets, but they are not functional enough to get a job and keep it," Joy said. "A lot of them would be good for housing assistance, but they need someone to help them through the process."

Many cities are enacting laws designed to get the homeless off the streets, said Donald White, executive director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. "While cities nationwide face this issue, there are more efforts to criminalize practices that the homeless rely on," White said.

Whiteites said Hickenlooper's goal of wiping out homelessness is "not a federal money program for affordable housing and job programs. He said a lot of money now goes to other projects.

TWIN FALLS CITY COURTS

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls included the following:

Driving under the influence

Harrison Scott Taylor, 42, 581 S. Salmon: driving under the influence; excessive, amended to driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; 30 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

Darcy J. Waswin, 40, 275 E. 250 N.: driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; \$75.00 court costs; 375 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

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Michael Edward Mitchell, 41, 1226 Yale Ave. N. B., Butte: driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; \$75.00 court costs; 375 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

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Myke Martin Gause, 19, 2279 E. 4000 N.: driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; 30 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

Kody Derrin Derrin, 20, 51 S. 150 E. E., Twin Falls: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

Michael A. Jull, 19, 428 14th St., Nampa: driving under the influence; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$200 bond.

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Shane Michael Beach, 19, 788 Rayborn Court, Twin Falls: possession of a controlled substance, marijuana; public defender appointed; pleaded guilty; preliminary hearing set for March 19, \$100 bond.

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Ryan Glenn Hinkle, 21, 2020 Elizabeth: driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; \$75.00 court costs; 375 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

Robert Scott Osborn, 46, 405 50th St. N., Twin Falls: driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$250 suspended; \$75.00 court costs; 375 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume or possess any alcoholic beverage or be where they are present; submit to alcohol/drug testing; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; attend court alcohol school; attend AA meetings 32 hours abert's work detail; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

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Publication Day...Deadlines

Sunday	4 pm Friday
Monday	4 pm Friday
Tuesday	2 pm Monday
Wednesday	2 pm Tuesday
Thursday	2 pm Wednesday
Friday	1 pm Thursday
Saturday	1 pm Friday

100 Announcements

500 Real Estate for Sale

900 Recreation

200 Employment

600 Real Estate Rentals

1000 Transportation

300 Financial

700 Agriculture

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

400 Education

800 Merchandise



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, or religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

BUHL AREA 1.25 acres, 2400 sq. ft. lg. kitchen, gas fireplace, AC, large fenced shady back yard. 5 car garage, 30x72 ft. truck shop. \$165,000.
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HAZELTON 4 bdrm. 1.5 bath, new roof, cabinets, paint, windows, insulation, roll finished maple floors, full basement, huge lot, mature trees. 3 covered porches. \$89,900. Please call 208-629-5554.*

HOLLISTER 1995 Remwood 2 bedroom, 2 bath, doublewide, super nice. Landscaping, shop, out buildings, includes 2 large lots. Owner needs to sell! Reduced to \$79,900. Mortgage payments as low as \$505 with \$2000 down (oac). Ken 734-4321 or cell 420-6440.*

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JEROME Great family home 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2100 sq. ft. with large family room. Sit on 2.26 acres, split rail fencing, large shop with 12 overhead doors. Located close to Jerome County Club.
Marva 539-5441
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MURTAUGH Nice 3 bdrm., 1 bath, 2300 sq. ft. home w/den, large living room, newly remodeled kitchen, family room. Includes 900 sq. ft. rental home, 60x28 foot storage shed w/shop. 20x25 ft. barn on .5 acres w/10 well. 13 shares \$130,000. 432-5408 or 280-1280*

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Featured Homes of the Week

493 Boxwood Court NEW LISTING
1511 9th Avenue East NEW LISTING

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A top of the line mobile with almost everything included even the TV, Maytag Washer and Dryer, beds, range, refrigerator, recliner, new window cover, lawn mower and lots more. Very open and clean. Country court, low rent, and utilities \$38,000 #109230
Call Carlyn 731-4268 - 734-7608

Brick Rambler
Wonderful 4 bed, 2 bath, 2,439 Sq. Ft. Home. 12,328 Sq. Ft. Lot, Gas Heat, central air, covered patio, storage shed, 2 floors, Never windows, back door, kitchen appliances. No Egress in Basement \$124,900 MLS#109403
Call Bob or Betty Veeh 731-6500 or 731-6740

PRICE REDUCED - GREAT BUY!
Price just reduced in this cute and cozy bungalow in Buhl. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, gas heat and metal siding. Priced at only \$44,900 MLS# 109414
Call Donna 420-4504 or Shey 420-2365

Family Home
Four bedroom 2 bath home with garage, fenced yard, vinyl windows, and much MORE! A GREAT price of \$92,500
MLS#109309
Call Nell Harpster 734-1329 or 731-1991

INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY
Invest in your future with these 2 houses, one lot, great rental history and cash flow. Front house has been related with new wiring, plumbing, kitchen, bath, SALL FIBER OPTIC, APPRAISAL DONE, NEW ROOF, HETTER HUBS \$338,000 #109230
\$509,000 MLS#109119
Call Gayle Anderson 308-8224 or 734-6500

Very nice family home
Home has 5 bedrooms, 3 bath very well decorated big screen TV come with the home for everyone to watch and to enjoy. \$194,900 MLS#109430
CALL 731-3164 ask for Ross Deahl

Brick Home with Huge Shop
On 5 irrigated acres. Over 3600 sq. ft. of living, 4 BR, 4BA with attached 2 car garage. A great family home with room for all projects, pasture, corral, chicken coop, and small orchard. \$239,900 MLS#108150
Call Gudrun Hallows 308-6789

Don't miss this one...
Remember the old large farmhouse kitchens, well this 4 bedroom 2 bath home has that kitchen and much much more with an extra large mud room off of 8 acres with water shares. Completing this great searage and home is an enormous paved parking area and detached garage shop with 2200 power and a wood stove to take off the chill while you work or play in the shop \$132,000 MLS#109402
300 w/e or play in the shop \$132,000 MLS#109402
Call Jill Goodhart 539-5845

Nice home with 2 Car Garage
Nice home built in 1950. 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath. New Carpet Throughout. Tiled Kitchen and Dining Room. Gas fired Back Range, Forced Air, Manual Auto Sprinkler. Basement. Has family room and 2 bedrooms (no egress windows). Call to see. \$85,500 MLS#109433
Call Victoria Ray 429-4682 or 420-3590

Kimberly
Large brick home, features over 3,800 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, separate living room and family room, nice mature yard with trees. Great price! \$77,900 MLS#109108
Call Willis or Jill Stone 734-0062

Located in Quiet Kimberly
A Best Buy on this Brick 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath Home on Large Lot w/ Roomy Asphalt Drive. Insulated Dbl. Garage, New Gas Heat & Central Air Plus Fireplace. All Appliances Included. \$93,600 MLS#108844
Buy Sabula 539-3321 or 733-6340

SHARESHARE
Newer Rambler freshly painted with EZ Care Vinyl Exterior. Offers Nice Oak Kitchen, Great Room, 3 Bedrooms 2 Baths. A MUST SEE - Affordably Priced at JUST \$107,900
MLS#109023
Call Bobbi Kelley 731-2806

Enthusiastic Buy
Great older home with hardwood floors, lots of room with a fully fenced yard. Three bedrooms in basement, no egress windows in basement. New gas furnace installed. 1/10-04-579,900 MLS#109084
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COME LOOK AT WHAT IS GOING ON AT NORTH COLLEGE. Ultimate office space in Twin Falls come and be the part of it.
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Great home to get started
This home is very well taken care of inside and out hardwood floors new paint and very well landscaped. Great sun porch welcomes you into this home. \$79,900 MLS#109711
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Beautiful Family Home

Home is located on 2 1/2 acres. Beautifully landscaped w/ mature trees and shrubs. This 5 bedroom 3 1/2 bath is a custom built home w/ 2 family rooms, large kitchen, office/den, extra storage, 2 car garage, hot tub and gazebo! MUST SEE \$349,900 MLS# 108421

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FILER 7 acres, 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, water, 190' North Fair. Call 328-6446.

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TWIN FALLS 1330 Clearwater, Clear.

Enjoy golf course living. \$199,000. New home on Candlelight Golf Course, Over 2300 sq. ft. with 3 bdrm., office, living and hobby rooms. 3 patios with whirlpool in master. Hardwood floors. Vaulted ceilings. 3 car garage. All on 1/3 acre bordering Candlelight Golf Course.

Open house every Sat. 3pm-5pm. For more info, call 208-733-5537. Duction or Tanya?

TWIN FALLS 2 of everything! 3295 Longbow Dr. Associated living facility. 5000 sq. ft., +720 unfinished, hardwood floors. \$529,000. Financing Available. 736-9021/280-3361.

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TWIN FALLS Moving out of state. 5 bdrm, 3 bath, formal dining room, 2 large living rooms, landscaping, auto sprinklers, covered deck, \$165,000, 200-5493. Possible to lease to own option.

TWIN FALLS Newest 3 bdrm, 2 bath, bonus room, office/4th bedroom. Many upgrades & extras inside & out. Room for RV. Quiet NE area. Near Sawtooth & O'Leary schools. \$215,500. 208-733-5128.

TWIN FALLS Nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath, family room, lots of updates. Sitory Lane \$110,000

Brick 3 bdrm., 1.5 bath home, newly medelot & updated. Near Lynwood, TFHS and pool \$109,900

4 bdrms, 2 baths, fireplace, rec. room, jacuzzi, covered patio. On .75 acres in city limits, north east location. NEW PRICE! \$119,900.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, dining house. Approximately 1300 square feet. \$90,000. 733-6990 or 420-1878.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft. located in Sawtooth School District. \$49,500 cash or terms. Call 539-7429.

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TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 2 bath, 1997 sq. ft., fenced yard, auto-sprinklers, finished basement, central heating/A/C, West of Thompson Park. \$124,000. 735-5132.

TWIN FALLS Across from Mum Golf Course Super nice mtg. home 1400 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, concrete patio, garage pmt. as low as \$611 with \$2000 down (eac). Call Ken 208-734-4221 or 420-6440.

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TWIN FALLS Fiori Uppers, Frodoesures, Frog List. 1 (888) 453-4177 for 1942. No Money Down Homes. -Free Report. 1 (888) 453-4177 for 1051. Bryan Newberry Canyonside Realty.

TWIN FALLS for sale by builder, many extras, approximately 2650 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 3 bath, oversized 3 car garage, 2 fireplaces, on one acre Windmill Heights. All for \$179,900! Call soon to see completed model 731-2406.

TWIN FALLS Nearly new! 3/2, A/C, gas fireplace, fenced yard, cathedral ceiling. Priced at appraisal \$122,000. No 6% brokers fee. 734-6481.

TWIN FALLS Vintage home 2824 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 3 bath, large fenced yard, hardwood floors, brick, covered patio, gas fireplace, gas heat, jetted tub, garage 2 car. \$173,000. Call 208-734-9240.

It's easy to advertise in classified 733-0931

TWIN FALLS Now! 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Great neighborhood, 1544 sq. ft. Must see. Asking \$125,800 or \$4000 down, \$891/mo. for loan assumption. Call 562-449-8099.

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MOUNTAIN HOME Idaho Dairy Farm 660 acre irrigated farm, 4 irrigation wells, full water rights, 3 pivots and 24 wheel lines. Good fertile ground. No rocks. Land is good for corn, sugar beets or potatoes. 6500 head dairy permit, water transfer already completed. Waste management plan in place. Custom 2500 sq. ft. home with 3 car garage, large 60x125 ft. machinery building. This farm is ready for a dairy or row crop farmer. Can be broken into smaller parcels. Custom farming available, owner can finance. \$1,900,000.

Please call (home) 208-587-8592 or (cell) 208-989-4605

JEROME \$29,500 Approx. +/- 2.5 acre lot SW of Jerome. Includes 2 shares of Northside Canal Co. water. For more details visit TheHesTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or 737-3940 MLS#108017 PC#4511

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TWIN FALLS 40 acres, 2.5 shares Salmon Falls Water, nice slope, great view, excellent building site. No improvements. 1/2 miles east of Hwy. 33. Marva 539-5441. Landmark Realty.

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WENDELL 4.50'
dental lots, \$7000 each. 208-536-2013.

JEROME 5.1 acres
w/water & RR. frontage, located on US 93. \$350,000. Call Bob Bennett at Kripko L and C Company 599-3691.

517 CONDOMINIUMS
TWIN FALLS Live In T side and rent out the other! Harlan Village duplex. Single floor. Two car garages. Close to canyon trail. Call 208-737-4075.

BUHL 3 bedroom, 1
bath new paint, clean. \$550. 120 Sunset Circle. Will sell for \$62,000. Realtor needed. Westeros Real Estate Group. 539-9590.

JEROME 2 bdrm, fresh
paint, newly carpeted. W/D hook-up. \$550 + dep. Call 539-6517 or 539-0023.

JEROME 2 bdrm., 1
bath, AC, appliances, lawn care. \$535 + dep. Call 208-958-1370.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm.
2 bath, fenced yard, garage. \$650/mo + \$400 dep. Call 208-734-5211.

KIMBERLY
\$84,500 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 TheHosTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS# 106517, PC#3051

HANSEN big corner
lots of trees, power, sewer, water on sight. \$13,500. 423-4135.

TWIN FALLS "Tired of flocks?"
Check return on new 4plex. Chucks 733-8207.

TWIN FALLS
\$40,000 Zoned R-6 with professional overview/good medical office location, close to hospital. For more information visit TheHosTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS# 107070-32. PC#3551

TWIN FALLS Open
house, Fr., Sat & Sun, All Day! Condo, 2 story, 200 yards from center of town, North Washington, 3 bdrm, 3 bath, den, living room, 2 car garage. \$125,000. 1-208-733-9597.

BUHL
Newly renovated 2 bdrm., 1 bath, appls. Hollow Property Mgmt 734-4334. twinfallsrentals.com

JEROME 3 bdrm., 2
bath mobile homes, no pets, long term. \$475-\$525 + dep. 204-809543/8542.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm.
2 bath, large, clean, garage & carport. \$525 + \$350 security. Call 208-736-9269.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm.
2 bath, large, clean, garage & carport. \$525 + \$350 security. Call 208-736-9269.

TWIN FALLS
\$49,000 2 acres. Great building site located south of Rosa Hill Subdivision. For more information visit TheHosTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS# 106532. PC#5021

TWIN FALLS
Great location on Highway Industrial. All city services available. \$250,000. Trades considered. 731-4700

TWIN FALLS
For sale or lease. 1440 sq. ft. 628 Main Ave. N. Great for office or destination type business. Avail. March 15. Sell \$47,500. Lease \$4500/mo. 208-734-4100

TWIN FALLS
6 acre +/- on Hwy Industrial. All city services available. \$250,000. Trades considered. 731-4700

FILER 100
Oakwood in nice park. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Close to school. Garden tub, DW and built-in. \$29,000 offer, possible rent to own. Call 731-9173

GOODING 2 bdrm, 2
bath, W/D, stove, refrigerator garage. \$500. 208-539-0805.

JEROME Available
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515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

519 CEMETERY LOTS

521 MODULAR HOMES

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516 VACATION & TIME SHARES

517 LAND/LOTS

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TWIN FALLS \$95,900 3 bed, 2 bath Archie 731-2049 Bobbe 731-0309 MLS# 107038	TWIN FALLS \$695,000 Commercial bldg. Archie 731-2049 Bobbe 731-0309 MLS# 109540	TWIN FALLS \$249,500 2 bed, 2.5 bath 1,646 sq. ft. Steve 731-1991 MLS# 108308
HAZELTON \$112,900 4 bed, 2 bath 1,630 sq. ft. Judy 731-3141 MLS# 109442	TWIN FALLS \$30,900 New small subdiv. lots, 1+ acre each Tonya 208-1360 MLS# 108947	SHOSHONE \$65,000 3 bed, 1 bath Great starter! Terry 430-1996 MLS# 108583
TWIN FALLS \$69,500 1 bed, 1 bath Detached garage David 731-6922 MLS# 109618	GOODING \$77,500 3 bed, 1 bath 1,040 sq. ft. Hunter 539-4443 MLS# 108065	JEROME \$179,900 3 bed, 2 bath Home on 2.7 acres Judy 731-3141 MLS# 109754

RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS

Country Living 5 bdrm, 3 bath home. Lots of built-in's & granite. Lots of storage. Sit on 2 acres. \$219,500. Call Doug 731-6211. #109763

Nice Duplex One side has 3 bdrms, other has 2. Both sides have been updated. 1+ acre garage. \$149,000. Call Judy 731-3141. #109213

Great home looking for a buyer. 2 car garage. \$83,000. Call David Watson 731-6922. #108390

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Great home looking for a buyer. 2 car garage. \$83,000. Call David Watson 731-6922. #108390

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Family Curry Grain 600,000 bushel storage. 700 acre, selling for 100 net acres. Call for map and details. \$495,000. Call Art 731-1541 or 539-5595. Call Steve 734-1991. #109199

For Sale or Lease 27,292 sq ft warehouse with 1,698 sq ft of office space. \$55 on a 177 acre parcel. \$29,500. Call Steve 734-1991. #109222

Nice 1 acre K&S tract with irrigation water. K&S tract country. \$29,500. Call Steve 734-1991. #109222

Old Globe Feed & Seed 24,721 sq ft warehouse. Truck 122' x 107' 10" Dock High 110' & 220' V-paver. Call Dennis 5249,500. Call Steve 734-1991. #109199

17 acres of farmable property. Full water shares. Possible building sale with the water. \$93,885. Call Steve 734-1991. #109783

5 acre parcel off Highway 19. Great building site. Has a great building site with a nice view. \$175,000. Call Steve 734-1991. #109457

Reduced! Sited and located 1.9 acre in built-up great wood's. Perfect for a horse ranch or for your dream home. \$175,000. Call Steve 734-1991. #109311

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Your #1 Real Estate Firm Serving The Magic Valley Since 1958!

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<p>\$45,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108225 • 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Great investment property. Two houses on one lot! Alex Catalano 735-9971 or 735-3926</p>	<p>\$68,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108038 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Lots of space, large yard, hot heat. Lynn Rasmussen, Lynn Rasmussen 737-3908</p>	<p>\$69,900 • Wendell • MLS#108075 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Nice home with extensive remodeling. Bonnie Carter 624-8111 or Linda Harris 280-8222</p>	<p>\$72,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108044 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Clean, new vinyl windows carpet, kitchen floor, A/C. Alex Catalano 590-9758 or Miranda 628-0729</p>	<p>\$77,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108080 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Large yard, car garage, large master bedroom. Nichole Webb 539-7355</p>
<p>\$78,900 • Filer • MLS#108088 • Canyon Rim property, 6 acres. Ken Roy 731-6665 Dorothy 737-3903</p>	<p>\$94,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107529 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. "Tenderloin 1" - Large family room. TheLynnTeam.com Web 737-3929 Tam 737-3948</p>	<p>\$94,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109303 • 4 bedrooms, 1.75 baths. Brick home, new windows new roof, hard wood floors. TJ Miranda 737-3926 Alex Catalano 735-9971</p>	<p>\$102,000 • Buhl • MLS#109435 • 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Newly remodeled updated and spacious 2.42 acres. Lesli Bloch 737-3918 or 308-4944</p>	<p>\$101,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#108069 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. "The Gardens" Lynn Rasmussen or Lynn Rasmussen 737-3908</p>
<p>\$102,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108958 • 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Great family home! Close to school! Large lot. Kary & Ernie Knack 948-9400 or 948-9401</p>	<p>\$110,000 • Buhl • MLS#108214 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Family room, sunbay kitchen and laundry room. Call Vicki Sacher 280-9484</p>	<p>\$112,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#109733 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Pride ownership, best of upgrades. Lynn Rasmussen.com Lynn 737-3900</p>	<p>\$123,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108666 • 4 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, 1991 sq. ft. Master suite, family room, and large 2nd floor. Nore Kent 731-6332</p>	<p>\$134,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109118 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Excellent three level family home in an ideal location! Alex Catalano 590-9758 or Miranda 628-0729</p>
<p>\$137,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#109430 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Just like new formal living room and great room. Diana Dornan 737-9916 or 428-1813</p>	<p>\$139,000 • Shoshone • MLS#104554 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Log overbuilt home over 2000 ft. on 5 acres, shop & fence. Kath Schuler 212-9212 Randy Lawrence 212-2228</p>	<p>\$145,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108233 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. New floor plan 282 sqft. tiled master bath. Ron Freeman 737-3916 Kathy Perlage 737-3978</p>	<p>\$149,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108152 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1900+ square feet, den. Great location on quiet cul-de-sac. Diana Dornan 428-1818 or 737-3918</p>	<p>\$154,000 • Buhl • MLS#106362 • 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Artesian geothermal water, 3.61 acres. Lesli Bloch 737-3918 or 308-4844</p>
<p>\$157,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108547 • 2 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3264 sq. ft. great area, 3 family rooms, large master. Nore Kent 737-3962 or 731-6332</p>	<p>\$159,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109316 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful updated home, 1970 sq. ft. Unique style. Lynn Rasmussen.com Lynn Rasmussen 737-3908</p>	<p>All of our residential listings can be found on the INTERNET at www.gemstater Realty.com. Go to the Twin Falls site, & enter the MLS number found in our ads.</p>		
<p>\$182,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#107122 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. New Bonus Room - 2100 sq. ft. Triple garage. Ken Roy 731-6665 or Dorothy 737-3903</p>	<p>\$184,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109518 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Living dining & family rooms, den, great back yard. Kary & Ernie Knack 948-9400 or 948-9401</p>	<p>\$187,500 • Hartshorn • MLS#109399 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Wonderful country home with acreage. Many upgrades. Kathy Perlage 737-3928 Ron Freeman 737-3918</p>	<p>\$209,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109710 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Sawtooth Dist. Living & family room, RV parking, country. Tackle on 10 acres, barn, view. Kath Schuler 212-9212 Randy Lawrence 212-2228</p>	<p>\$225,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#109381 • One of 4 homes! Great building. Ken Roy 731-6665 or Dorothy 737-3903</p>
<p>\$238,000 • Hagerman • MLS#108620 • 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 homes on 8.30 acres. Extended family a possibility. Linda Harris 280-9029</p>	<p>\$238,700 • Twin Falls • MLS#109420 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3070 sq. ft. 3 levels large lot. Web Site 624-8252 Lesli Bloch 308-4944</p>	<p>\$249,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109514 • 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Wolverton Homes Bonus Room. TheLynnTeam.com Web 737-3929 Tam 737-3948</p>	<p>\$279,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108652 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Gorgeous Lion Lago Home. Pond views. Carolyne Custer 737-3913, 428-3381</p>	<p>\$285,000 • Buhl • MLS#108649 • Price includes business, holding, inventory, beer license, and 2 acres with highway frontage. Call Vicki Sacher for additional information - 280-9484</p>
<p>\$299,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108344 • 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Price Reduced! - 15 acre, shop, gorgeous country setting. Cathy Carter 624-8111 737-3918 Cathy Carter.com</p>	<p>\$309,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109507 • 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3654 sq. ft. 3 car garage, 2 family rooms. TheLynnTeam.com Web 737-3929 Tam 737-3948</p>	<p>\$320,000 • Hamblen • MLS#108627 • 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Cowboy chisel 15 acres, shop, stables, arena. Close to TR. Carolyne Custer 428-3381 or Carolyne Custer.com</p>	<p>\$375,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#109138 • 20,000 sq. ft. buildings. 1 warehouse, 1 office bldg, 1 home. Carolyne Custer 624-8111 Carolyne Custer.com</p>	<p>\$225,000 • Jerome • MLS#109679 • 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Great investment opportunity 78 AC, 480 NDCS. Call Sharon The 428-8884</p>

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Million & Producer
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Sales Associate
420-0364

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Sales Associate
737-3940

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Sales Associate
Multi-Million Dollar Club
948-9400

DIANA WHITNEY
Sales Associate
734-2105

THOMAS LLOYD
Sales Associate
Multi-Million Dollar Club
308-0117

JO ANN REAVES
Sales Associate
324-8443

KATHY PARTIENDE
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Burley Mechanical
In P.O. ID is hiring experienced: Welders, Pipefitters and Millwrights in person. 208-436-B108

MECHANIC
Diesel mechanic needed
Good pay. ID 83001
Call 644-1504

MEDICAL
We are now accepting
for part-time RN's
CNA's, all shifts.
Please apply in
person at 826
Eastland Drive.
Idaho Home Health & Hospice.

PROFSMAN
Full-time needed for
one color work in
established shop.
Send resume to:
Sandra Rasmussen
PO Box 2347
Twin Falls, ID.

RETAIL
Now hiring, Part-time
sales person for days
& evenings. Apply in
person at 167 S.
Shoos Magic Valley
Mall

SALES
Farmers Insurance is
expanding its agency
force in the Twin
Falls area. Seeking
individuals with enter-
preneurial spirit to join
the team. Farmers
Insurance offers an
exceptional career
opportunity that can
give financial freedom
and independence.
We offer extensive
training, management
support up to 2 years
financial assistance
and the ability to keep
your present job while
you train. Please fax
resumes to 733-1603

SALES
Part-time help needed
for Burley location.
See performance
helpful but not necessary
apply in person at
Idaho Youth Ranch
1328 Abbon Ave.
Burley, EOE

SECURITY
Officers needed.
Call 644-3001, 644-5pm.
1-800-919-9198

WAREHOUSE
United Pipe & Supply
in seeking warehouse
personnel/driver.
Call 733-7450.
Dundee Workplace.

MEDICAL
Full-time Surgical
codor for a busy
medical office. Please
send resume to:
552 Shoup Ave W.
Twin Falls, ID 83301

MEDICAL
Immediate opening for
full-time RN for busy
family practice. Previous
medical office experience
required. Bilingual a
plus. Competitive
salary and excellent
benefits. Send resume
and cover letter to:
P. Kleinkopf,
794 Eastland Dr.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
Drug Free Workplace,
EOE

NEED A PART
TIME JOB?
Keep your civilian
job, or stay a
part-time student, and
be a part-time
soldier in the
Army National Guard.

RECEPTIONIST
Must have good phone
and communication
skills, and be able to
work under pressure.
Experience w/Windows
tasks, Microsoft Office
Word. We offer paid
vacation, health, 401k.
Send resume to:
D.D. Transportation
PO Box 116
Gooding ID, 83300
208-736-2512 AA/EOE

SALES
International Commercial
Exchange is seeking
a regional sales
manager and sales
associates for the Twin
Falls area. To apply call
1-800-475-7124

SALES
Magic Valley Distributing
now hiring in the
Twin Falls area. Part-
time sales position up
to 25 hours per week.
Competitive pay/salary
benefits. Wine knowl-
edge & sales experi-
ence advantageous.
Please fax resume to:
3543 or fax resume to:
208-733-3985.

WAREHOUSE
Glambia Foods has
an immediate
opening at our
Richfield Plant for
a Warehouse
Associate.
Must have relevant
warehouseing
experience.
Day shift. Requires
weekend work.
\$11-52/hr.
Good benefits after
90 days.
Apply in person at
1572 East HWY 28
Richfield, ID
Monday, March 15th
from 10 am to noon.
EOE AA No Phone Calls
1-800-876-7060.

WAREHOUSE
Senior Person
Must have relevant
warehouseing
experience.
Day shift. Requires
weekend work.
\$11-52/hr.
Good benefits after
90 days.
Apply in person at
1572 East HWY 28
Richfield, ID
Monday, March 15th
from 10 am to noon.
EOE AA No Phone Calls
1-800-876-7060.

CURRENT
MOTOR ROUTES
AVAILABLE
BELLEVUE/HAYLEY
KETCHUM
KID CAR
& SUBSTITUTES
You need
If you live near these
areas and would like
to be a carrier.
Please contact
Kath, District Mgr.
735-3347

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Times-News
Ag Weekly is accepting
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full-time media
marketing support
position. This
person will be
responsible for up-
dating visual presenta-
tion elements and in-
putting news releases
for a Weekly newslet-
ter as managing
marketing and
databases.

MEDICAL
Part-time Bilingual
Clinical Assistant for
South Central District
Health in Burley.
For more information
contact Tommy Waiters at
208-678-8608

NURSING
SunBridge Health
Care is looking for
RN's to join our dy-
namic team as our
new Director of
Nursing Services.
Provide clinical lead-
ership for our facility.
Must have a current
Idaho RN license,
outstanding clinical
skills, and understand-
ing of regulatory
issues and a list of
references.

RESTAURANT
Molly Bagel Bakery
PT Bagel Baker
Must have a current
Idaho RN license,
outstanding clinical
skills, and understand-
ing of regulatory
issues and a list of
references.

RESTAURANT
Thomas Cuisine
Management, has the
following job
openings open.
FT HOST/CASHIER
and part-time
UTL/COOK/WASHER.
Excellent communication
skills, and customer
service skills required
for both members.
Insurance, 401k.
56-58, some evenings
and weekends.
Apply at:
MVRMC Cafe
650 Addicks Ave.
737-2052

RESTAURANT
Mini-casual store in
the Magic Valley area.
Full-time req. required.
Job duties include un-
derstanding full opera-
tions of the business,
employee supervision,
merchandising, cash-
ing, on occasion, full
management respon-
sibilities, providing
exceptional customer
service. This is a full-
time position with a
full benefit package.
Must be willing to
work evenings and
Saturdays. Compensation based on
experience. Please
send resume with cover
letter to: #95356
c/o Times-News,
1263 Overland Ave.
Burley ID 83318

SECURITY
Visible professional
presence. TPS will
be performed at
doors and will strictly
adhere to uniform
guidelines. Also
respond to critical
situations, loss preven-
tion and support
a professional work
week.
Apply in person
Target
1611 N. Blue Lakes
Twin Falls

SECURITY
Soccer officials are
needed for the Twin
Falls Parks and Rec-
reation Spring Youth
Soccer program for
grades K-7, Monday-
Friday evenings. Se-
lection through May 14th.
Soccer officiating
training is provided for
all successful applica-
tions. Pay is \$5.50 -
\$7.00/hr. The City of
Twin Falls is a drug
free workplace. For
further info call 208-
736-2266. EO/AA.

CURRENT
WALKING ROUTES
AVAILABLE
TWIN FALLS
RT 809
100-300 2nd Ave W.
300-800 3rd Ave W.
RT 813
100-300 Washington
Street N. Addition
Avenue Trailer Park
RT 822
300-800 2nd Ave E.
300-800 3rd Ave E.
RT 824
200-500 5th Ave E.
RT 829
100-500 Madison St.
RT 830
100-500 Madison St.
200 Filer Ave.
RT 862
200-600 Filer Ave.
West
300-500 Braken St.
N.
RT 872
100-400 Robbins Av.
900 Blake Street
N. Addition
RT 882
1000-1300 Blake St.
N.
1400-1900-Sunburst
St.
RT 886
100-500 Northern
Pine Dr.
600-800 North Pointe
Drive
RT 890
1200-1299 Sparks St.
N.
400-500 Park Terrace
Buil.
RT 892
200-800 12th Ave.
N.
100-1000 11th Av.
N.
RT 945
100-800 14th Ave.
N.
1400-1500 Birch
Street
RT 946
200-800 Main St.
100-200 3rd St.
N.

IDEAL candidates will
possess a working
knowledge of basic
mailing rules and
regulations and have
good keyboarding
skills. They will be
computer literate.
Room and board
included. Please
send resume with
reference to:
Dob. Osborn, IHHS,
826 Eastland Drive
Twin Falls, Idaho,
83301. EOE

MEDICAL
RN needed for
temporary pediatric
care. Please call Pam
at 734-0600. EOE.

MEDICAL
RN, LPN, or CNA
needed for live-in
patient at home.
Room and board
included. Please
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826 Eastland Drive
Twin Falls, Idaho,
83301. EOE

MISCELLANEOUS
Busy optometric
practice seeking
part-time, friendly
individual with the
ability to multitask.
Approximately 8-
24 hours weekly.
Will train the right
person.
CNA
Send resume to:
Office manager
844 Shoshone
Street, Twin Falls,
ID 83301

Also interested in
accepting
part-time to
location 32-40 hours
per week.
Send resume to:
CNA Manager
2011 South Lincoln,
Jerome, ID 83338.

Director of Nursing
Blaine Manor
Immediate openings
RN/LPN
Charge nurse
position. Primarily
evenings and week-
ends. Minimum of
24 hrs a week.
CNA
Days & evenings
Minimum of 32
hours week.
Competitive salaries
with excellent bene-
fits including health
insurance. FT
Shift and weekend
differential.
Director of Nursing
Blaine Manor
PO Box 927
Halley, ID 83333
208-578-2436
Blaine Manor is an
Equal Opportunity
Employer

MEDICAL
Idaho's largest in
home care agency
has the following
immediate openings:
CNA's and
Non CNA's
We are growing and
need providers for
Jordan/Gooding,
Wendell/Twin Falls,
Rupert/Burley &
Halley
Home health care ex-
perience a plus.
Top pay depending
on level of experience
To schedule an
interview please call
A Full Life Agency
733-9100

MEDICAL
Nursing
SunBridge for Twin
Falls is a 1.6 full-time
skilled nursing facility
with an affiliation of
Sun Healthcare Group.
We have the following
opportunities available.

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WALKING ROUTES
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TWIN FALLS
RT 1600-2100
Candlecove Dr.
2000-2200
Candlecove Ave.
RT 728
800-800
Sunbelt Blvd N.
700-899 Elm Monte
RT 735
300-500 Elm St. N
100-500 Locust St. N
RT 759
1300-1499 Spruce
1200-1450 Sherry Ln
RT 765
1900-2099 Sherry Ln
1900-2099 Sherry Dr.
2500-2600
Carriage Way
100-400
Park Circle
RT 836
100-499 Tyler
RT 829
300-499 Filtmore
300-499 Taylor

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Busy optometric
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Approximately 8-
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Will train the right
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CNA
Send resume to:
Office manager
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ID 83301

Also interested in
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part-time to
location 32-40 hours
per week.
Send resume to:
CNA Manager
2011 South Lincoln,
Jerome, ID 83338.

Director of Nursing
Blaine Manor
Immediate openings
RN/LPN
Charge nurse
position. Primarily
evenings and week-
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24 hrs a week.
CNA
Days & evenings
Minimum of 32
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Competitive salaries
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Shift and weekend
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We are growing and
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Jordan/Gooding,
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Rupert/Burley &
Halley
Home health care ex-
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Top pay depending
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800-800
Sunbelt Blvd N.
700-899 Elm Monte
RT 735
300-500 Elm St. N
100-500 Locust St. N
RT 759
1300-1499 Spruce
1200-1450 Sherry Ln
RT 765
1900-2099 Sherry Ln
1900-2099 Sherry Dr.
2500-2600
Carriage Way
100-400
Park Circle
RT 836
100-499 Tyler
RT 829
300-499 Filtmore
300-499 Taylor

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CNA
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Competitive salaries
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Top pay depending
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100-500 Locust St. N
RT 759
1300-1499 Spruce
1200-1450 Sherry Ln
RT 765
1900-2099 Sherry Ln
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RT 765
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Park Circle
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Sunday, March 14, 2004

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff: Am I out of line in not opening balanced hands with a 12-count in first or second seat? My old-school training has persuaded me to pass these hands, but I find myself in left field so often that I am prepared to revisit the issue!

Ruthless Researcher, Bristol, Va.

ANSWER: Though I am pretty Old School myself, I do open all hands with two aces and a king - control-rich hands tend to be undervalued in standard point count. I also open 12-counts with a five-card suit, and hands with two four-card suits when the suit I am opening is a good one. I like to get partner off to the right lead when we are going to defend.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Holding ♠ 10-5, ♥ A-Q-8-5-2, ♣ K-J-10-4, ♦ K-3. I open one heart and hear my LHO overcall one spade. Partner raised to two hearts, and RHO chimed in with two spades. Could you please discuss the merits of passing, continuing to three hearts, and bidding three diamonds?

Diamond Warrior, Monterey, Calif.

ANSWER: Passing might work, but with a little extra shape and no wasted values in the opponents' suit, I feel I should join in and push them up a level if I can. Three diamonds should be a game-try here. Take the same hand, but change the spade five to the king, and I might make that call. Here, a purely competitive three-heart call seems right to me.

Dear Mr. Wolff: What are the situations in which Keycard Blackwood is the most useful? Should one ever play regular Blackwood instead of, or as well as, Keycard?

Cantering Home, Lakeland, Fla.

ANSWER: Finding out about the trump king (which is as important

as an ace) can be critical, and the trump queen is often a vital card. Keycard does its best. After an opening one-level bid, it makes sense to use Keycard after a Jacoby response of two no-trump, but to reserve a direct jump to four no-trump as the old-fashioned ace-ask. Similarly, after a weak-two opening, a direct jump to four no-trump should be ace-asking, but after a two-no-trump enquiry, four no-trump should be Keycard.

Dear Mr. Wolff: My partner opened one heart, and I elected to pass, holding ♠ 7-5-4, ♥ Q-6-2, ♣ 9-8-6, ♦ Q-7-3-5. My LHO reopened with one spade, my partner competed with two clubs, and my RHO now bid two diamonds. Was it right for me to pass now, or should I have joined in with hearts or clubs?

Shrinking Violet, Huntington, W.Va.

ANSWER: Passing is inconceivable here. Partner has shown a desire to compete knowing you are weak, and you have length and strength (relatively speaking) in his suits. I could live with a simple raise of either of his suits, but frankly I think this hand is worth a jump to three hearts.

Dear Mr. Wolff: I am in college and just starting to master some of the basic concepts of duplicate bridge. Can you advise me of the best authors for an aspiring player?

Quick Study, Sunbury, Pa.

ANSWER: I normally cite the following quintet of authors to anyone who asks me: Kelsey, Lawrence and Reese are the most instructive, and all write clearly and with style. For entertainment, you will be hard-pressed to beat Victor Mollo and Eddie Kantar.

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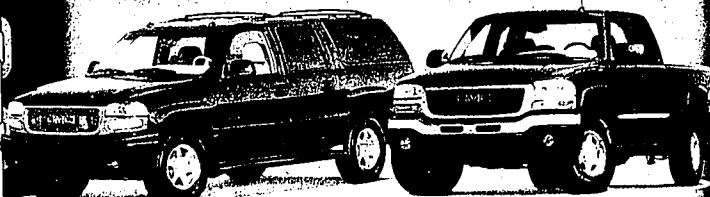
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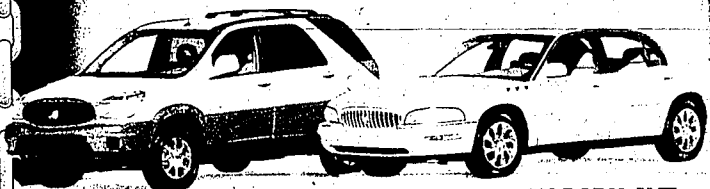
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Dear Abby:
Daughter wants no
part in mom's play
at reconciliation.

Page E3

The Times-News

My name
is 2.0; how
do you do?

When I was a child, some parents were giving their babies names like Elvis and Moon (Zappa), inspiring all of us to grow up and name our own babies something exotic.

Last month, a Baltimore Sun story focused on a Michigan couple who have named their baby Jon Blake Cusak 2.0. He's a baby born into a digital world, with the appropriate upgrade at the end of his name.

The boy's dad is a software designer and self-described "engineering geek." No word on whether or not the mom likes computers.



LIFE AND TIMES
Denise Turner

The story does report that there are two known children named ESPN, several named Atari and a few named Iron.

after the 1982 Disney movie about people tripped in computers. But even the American Name Society, which studies naming practices, hasn't run across an equivalent of 2.0. In fact, it says, numbers are rarely used in personal names, and, when digits in names do pop up, they're usually not suffixes.

Now, with the birth of little Jon 2.0, that may become more likely.

The Web site babynames.com is a good place to find information about all sorts of names and naming. In fact, the people who manage the site will even choose names for your children, based on your own preferences, through their Personalized Naming Service. Or, if you would prefer to check out the most popular names of the year, those names are on site, too.

The top five names for 2003 have been posted. For boys, they are Aden, Jaden, Caden, Ehan and Caleb in that order. For girls, they are Madison, Emma, Abigail, Riley and Chloe.

No Mary or John for today's creative parents. Of course, trendy names have been at the top of these lists for quite a while. In the 1970s, for example, "J" names were big for boys, with the most popular being Jason, Joshua and Justin.

And expectant parents have long pondered the meanings behind the names. "The Baby Name Survey Book" is one of many publications that assigns personality traits and physical attributes to thousands of different names.

As in, Frans are pictured as "strong, tall, skinny women who are fun-loving smart alecks." And Herbs are pictured as "fat, bald men with glasses who are classic whimps or overeducated, dull pushovers."

No one is sure whether or not people live up to their names, but many believe that other people react accordingly. I once read that personnel directors favor employees with strong, distinctive names.

Denise Turner is a assistant features editor at The Times-News.

Sticker-shock therapy



Anthony Diazdeleon, left, and his mother, Gigi Aguirre, have both paid high premiums for car insurance. Diazdeleon currently pays \$1,400 every six months, while Aguirre used to pay \$1,900 each six months.

Got a teenage driver at home? Save money

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When Gigi Aguirre's teenage son, Anthony, had a birthday recently, the family got an unexpected birthday present:

A \$1,900 car insurance premium. "And that was for six months," said Aguirre.

Anthony has a job and a good driving record, but he has two problems. He's 18 and he and his Mom drive a nearly new car.

"We finally got the premium down to \$1,400," Aguirre said. "But that was for a lot less coverage."

And Aguirre has more interesting times to come: Anthony is the oldest of six children.

"I really don't know how I'm going to afford to pay for car insurance for the rest of them," Aguirre said.

Tim Obenchain hears similar stories all the time.

"I've had clients tell me, 'I'm not going to pay that kind of money,'" said Obenchain, partner in a Twin Falls insurance agency. "I tell them, 'OK, are you ready to self-insure the kid?'"

Usually not. Parents of teen-age drivers are legally on the hook for whatever mischief the child inflicts behind the wheel.

"There are some things you can do about the cost, but the reality is that teen-age drivers are expensive to insure because they get into a lot of accidents," Obenchain said.

Drivers aged 16 and 17 are three times more likely to be killed in a traffic accident than a driver between the ages of 25 and 64, according to the National Safety Council.

Add a teen-age driver to your family's auto insurance policy, and you can expect the premiums to rise by 50 to 200 percent, on average. And if it's a boy, the tab could triple.

"Pregnant girls, as a rule, pay about 10 percent less than teenage boys for coverage," Obenchain says.

The single biggest money-saver is buying — or having your teenager buy — an older car and then only paying for liability insurance on it. No collision, no comprehensive.

"Obviously, if the kid is in an accident, that kind of coverage doesn't pay to fix the car," Obenchain said. "But if

Money-saving strategies

- To lower the premium for your teenage driver, have him or her qualify for as many discounts as possible...
Before your child signs up for a driver's training course, check with your insurance agent to see if it qualifies for a driver education discount...
Wait until your kid turns 25 before you buy yourself a sports car...

- If you have a teenage driver on your policy, check to see what buying a new SUV will do to your rates...
Statistically, kids are more likely to get into an accident during daylight hours...
If your child gets a ticket or gets into an accident, your premium is headed vertical...

it's an older car, your loss is going to be less — and the premium savings are substantial.

If your teenager is listed on your auto or of the family car — as the primary driver of an older car — then you won't pay premium rates to insure never-vehicles, he said.

It also helps considerably if your son or daughter is an "A" or a "B" student, Obenchain added.

"Good students get into fewer accidents than other students," he said. "That's why good student discounts save real money."

Don't insure the teenager if he or she doesn't drive — if the kid's away at college and doesn't have a vehicle on campus, for example.

"But if the kid is going to hoist State or Idaho State and comes home and drives sometimes, you probably need to keep them on your coverage," he said.

Most of all, make sure your teenagers know there are real consequences for driving badly.

"Young drivers are just more careless," Obenchain said. "Have you driven through the high school parking lot lately? They need to bring an insurance agent into those driver-training classes and talk dollars and cents with those kids."

Occasionally, Obenchain hears from an anguished parent who's just received a catastrophic car insurance premium notice — and has no idea why.

"Then it turns out the kid has been issued a citation for underage consumption (of alcohol)," he said. "The kid hasn't told the parent about it, and when the premium notice comes out, it comes as quite a shock."

But sticker-shock too shall pass. If your child keeps his nose clean, the premium will decline annually until age 25, at which time the insurance industry considers him or her a responsible adult driver.

"That's a long time away for Aguirre," Obenchain said.

"When we got the premium notice, my agent said, 'Don't worry, his insurance will go down when he's 25.'"

"That's not much consolation now."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com

Fun and games: What's hot in 2004

The Washington Post

Every February, the toymakers of the world gather in New York City to show off their best gee-whizz creations—the hot stuff you'll be craving for your birthday or next December. They don't always kids at the American International Toy Fair, but they do let reporters come, and we're basically just overgrown kids. So, since you couldn't go, Kid-Spot did. Here are a few cool toys that you might want to check out at the toy store. We've included their Web sites so you can go online to find out more.

Snot and Snot Shot. We just really liked these names. Snot! It's a memory card game: Each player becomes a baryquad animal and, as the cards are played, must hurr out the sounds the other animals make. Before you know it, the whole family is squawking and hee-hawing. Snot Shot is tug like you've never played it before: Instead of tapping your brother on the back, wouldn't you rather plunk him with a glob of slimy snot from 40 feet away? But be

careful, because the snot flings two ways. Snot! is coming this summer. \$19.99. otgames.com; Snot Shot available \$19.99. jakks-pacific.com

The Triko is a new mode of transportation. The average American child will wear down 730 crayons by his or her 10th birthday. That's a lot of crayon nubbins lying around your house. Now you can turn those isy-his into customized hot rods, using the Gadget

Headz Car Factory. Put your crayon stubs into the factory, watch them melt (from the heat of a light bulb) and pour into a car mold. Once it's cooled, snap on a chassis and your psychedelic racer is ready to burn rubber. Available this summer. \$29.99; crayola.com

Native Americans called North America home long before European explorers landed. The Indians spoke many languages and had different customs. Some farmed, others hunted and moved around a lot. Some lived in wigwags, others in adobe houses. If you like to know more about our first settlers, the 300-piece Native Lands jigsaw puzzle is for you. This puzzle is so much fun, you won't even care that it's educational. \$11; greatamericanpuzzle.com

AbraCadabra and witch's car, make this ghost rise and disappear! You can do it, too, with Magic Floating Ghost, the latest Please see HOT, Page E2

MAKE exercise FIT

You don't have to go to the gym

When winter's grip finally loosened last week, we headed out for some outdoor playtime. That got us thinking: With so many fresh-air activities to dog, jog, hike or — do you know the most-efficient calorie burners? We consulted www.caloriesperhour.com and learned the following. All results were calculated for a 37-year-old male, 5'9 and 170 pounds (that's me) — and for a fictional 45-year-old woman, 5'3 and 125 pounds. Her calories-per-hour follow mine in parentheses. Here's a sampling of what you can get out of the season ahead:

- Pushing a baby stroller: 193 cph (142)
Car-washing: 231 cph (170)
Walking at 3 mph: 245 cph (187)
Canoeing (light): 270 cph (170)
Walking (or — or playing with dog): 308 cph (227)
Bicycling, under 10 mph: 308 cph (227)
Yard work: 386 calories per hour (283)
Backpacking: 540 cph (397)
In-line skating at 10 mph: 598 cph (449)
Singles tennis: 617 cph (454)
Mountain biking: 655 cph (482)
Running at 6 mph: 771 cph (567)
If you're looking for a pattern, think heart rate: To burn more calories, get and keep your heart rate up. Equally key: Every little bit helps. — The Washington Post

Sunday Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

LOOKERS By Sheryl Scott, Akron, Ohio

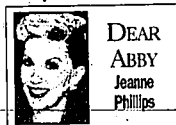
15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some filled-in letters.

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ACROSS and DOWN word lists for the crossword puzzle, including words like 'Clumsy', 'Swish talk', 'Borrower baby', etc.

Daughter won't play part in mom's reconciliation drama

DEAR MODIST: My mother was unloving and downright cruel to all of her children, but now that we're all over 18, she has suddenly decided she wants to have relationships with us...



DEAR ABBY Jeannie Phillips

Write to Abby Send letters to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069, or via her Web site at http://www.DearAbby.com

She recently showed up at my house. I don't know how she got my address, because I didn't give it to her and I never return her calls...

DEAR ANGRY: I have heard from readers who cut themselves off from their parents after abusive childhoods and long regretted that there was no closure...

DEAR ABBY: My niece, "Debra," had her breasts enlarged before she was even 20, and she dresses to draw attention to them...

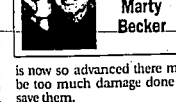
DEAR MODIST: Let's stop assigning blame and assessing fault. It's really happening. For years, Debra probably felt something was lacking...

DEAR ANGRY: I have heard from readers who cut themselves off from their parents after abusive childhoods and long regretted that there was no closure...

DEAR MODIST: Let's stop assigning blame and assessing fault. It's really happening. For years, Debra probably felt something was lacking...

Take pets to the vet twice a year

It used to be that our pets just in our care and the reminder card in the mail and obediently came to an appointment for Fido or Fluffy to see the vet.



THE BOND Barky

But talk more on vaccination recommendations in another column, but what I do know, from talking to animal health experts from universities to top private practices, is that more veterinarians have compelling reasons to see pets more often than once a year.

It is now so advanced there may be too much damage done to save them. Pets can't talk. Although recent surveys show that 99 percent of us talk to our pets like they're human...

On fact, pets need to be seen by veterinarians at least once a year as adults and more frequently than that as puppies, kittens and as senior people in general...

Researchers Sara Brosnan and Frans de Waal at Yerkes National Primate Research Center trained capuchin monkeys in food tokens in exchange for food...

Will Novak, DVM, MBA, Diplomate, ABVP, Chief of Staff at the Pet Hospital which is the nation's largest privately owned veterinary practice...

And pruned me for modifying a well-worn phrase, but following this logic will add years to your pet's life and life to its yours.

Pets hide illnesses: Be sure the sick and weak are prone upon so animals instinctively hide their illnesses. Many times caring pet owners bring their pet in because it didn't want to eat breakfast this morning only to find out that their pet is in serious condition...

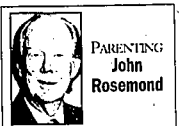
And pruned me for modifying a well-worn phrase, but following this logic will add years to your pet's life and life to its yours.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 209, Highland, Ind. 46020 and at his Web site: http://www.rosemond.com/

And pruned me for modifying a well-worn phrase, but following this logic will add years to your pet's life and life to its yours.

Use 'tickets' for coherent discipline plan

Q: I need help with my 4-year-old daughter. She is our second child and a major handful. As I write this letter she is in her room for the day, due to behavior last night...



PARENTING John Rosemond

Every ten seconds, I told her she had lost another of tomorrow's privileges. When she used up all of tomorrow's privileges, I started on the following day's privileges, which she lost in no time.

With one of her "target misbehaviors," you identify the misbehavior and put her in time out for ten minutes, and take a ticket.

Consistent application of a simple plan of this sort will usually begin yielding good results within one or two weeks.

She finally went back into her room, but I expect more take no for an answer and often will just downright refuse to do what I tell her to do.

For example: "You're yelling at me. Yelling is on your list, which means you're losing a ticket and going to time out for ten minutes."

The "ticket" is to stick with it. It is the Mom who recently wrote me... the following testimonial: "I just want to let you know that, after religiously applying the 'Tickets' method to my 8-year-old son who has been diagnosed with Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) and for whom medication had been recommended, that he has now been stricken with Mom Avoidance Disorder As Typified by Moaning Or Muttering (MADAMTMO)."

At first, you need a coherent discipline plan. The method I most often recommend with this age child is one I call simply "Tickets."

On any given day, the loss of the fifth ticket means loss of all of her privileges for the remainder of the day, including her usual bedtime (which is moved up at least an hour).

Furthermore, I myself appear to be "suffering" from In The Same Words Of Rosemond, Keep Imitating Non-sensical Grandmat (KITSWORKING)."

Put a list of her most frequent misbehaviors on the refrigerator. Like a magnetic clip (obtained at any office supply store or section of a department store) to clip five "tickets" to the refrigerator, next to a list of three to five (no longer) of her most frequent misbehaviors (e.g., refusing to do what she is told, yelling at you, ignoring you when you talk to her, etc.).

This is a simple, clear, and easy to administer discipline program.

So, if she uses up all of her tickets and she continues to misbehave, well, you simply must accept that there is no perfect discipline plan and deal with the continuing misbehavior as well as you are able. Earnings may prove helpful at this point.

She begins every day with five tickets. When she lets fly proper response.

Second, you need to understand that if you take away tomorrow's privileges for today's behavior, your daughter will have no reason, tomorrow, to behave.

So, if she uses up all of her tickets and she continues to misbehave, well, you simply must accept that there is no perfect discipline plan and deal with the continuing misbehavior as well as you are able. Earnings may prove helpful at this point.

New book lists common parenting mistakes to avoid

Erin Brown Conroy, mother of 12 and author of the new '20 Secrets to Success With Your Children' (Celle-Cross Publications, \$16.95), says a few common parenting mistakes can make life difficult.

- 1 Never ask your child "why?" Most of the time, they don't know why they acted the way they did. Just address the issue and teach the proper response.
2 Set realistic consequences. Don't use threats that are too huge to follow through on.
3 Be open to underlying physical or emotional causes for behavior. Identify and address the root issue that leads to a display of poor behavior.

- 4 Give a five-minute warning before you plan to leave, or want your child to do something, give clear words about what's going to happen. Then follow through.
5 End before the crash. Know your child's limit (it may be sooner than you think) and stop while you're ahead.

- 6 Give adequate opportunity for body movement. Let your child run and exercise. It even helps them learn better.

Family news you can use. -Compiled from wire service reports

Community

Buhl student wins alto soloist division at jazz festival.

See page E4.

COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

Buhl student earns honor

BUHL - A Buhl student sang her way to top of a distinguished jazz festival recently. April Dieter won the alto soloist division at the Lione Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, earning won a new microphone and trophy, reported Buhl High School choir teacher Jennifer Schoth.

The Buhl High School Jazz Choir also competed at the jazz festival with more than 800 schools participating in the four-day competition. "The choir had a wonderful learning experience, as well as a great performing experience," Schoth said. "Our rhythm section also entered the competition, as well as three of our singers in the solo division." But the highlight was April's win, she said. "And if that wasn't enough, (April) also got to hobnob with the other famous jazz musicians backstage while she waited to perform for an audience of 10,000 at the evening concert."

April was accompanied by a professional band made up of Wally "Gator" Watson on drums, Christian Fabian on bass and Kuni Mikami on piano.

April has been singing for 10 years, first coached by her mother, Rosa. She won a regional competition to perform at Washington, D.C., where she earned a superior rating. She also has won various talent shows; performed at fairs in Boise, Twin Falls, Gooding and



SANDRA WELCH/ARTS THE TIMES-NEWS

April Dieter and the Blue Heart Jazz Band entertained during the annual Buhl Rotary Club Spaghetti Dinner and auction. April won a state singing award recently. Other band members include, Keaton Willson and Zach O'Connor. In the background is Ashlee Schmitt. Tom shown is Trevor Jones.

Jerome and sang with the Singing Christmas Tree directed by Caleb Collins, for the Gospel Opry of Twin Falls and for local churches. She has also entered several beauty pageants where she won the talent portion for most of them, her teacher said. Recently April entered a competition in British Columbia, Canada and was named the overall winner for the young women's category.

MUSICAL TALENTS

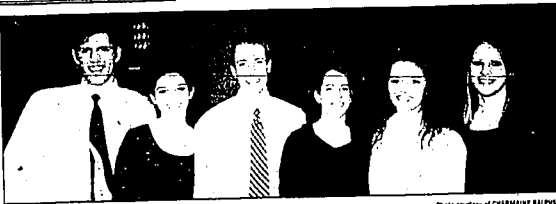


PHOTO COURTESY OF CALMARINE BAILEY

Students of the Mini-Casals Junior Music Club and winners in the Awards Audition Festival held recently included, from left, Samuel Christensen, second place piano; Felicia Horsley, second place vocal; Sean Rutachke, first place piano; Jacobie Haiger, first place piano; Heather Harper, first place piano; and Jessalca Byington, first place strings. They will perform at the Burley Music Club meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the United Methodist Church, 450 E. 27th St., Burley. The public is invited.

Center series focus on contemporary art

KETCHUM - The Sun Valley Center artistic director, Kristin Poole will lead a series of informal discussions, entitled, "Considering Contemporary Art," at 7 p.m. Thursdays, March 18 to April 15 at the center, Fifth Street and Leadville Avenue in Ketchum. The discussions are free of charge and open to the public. Each evening, two, 20-minute artists, interviews that

are part of the PBS series, "Art: 21, Art in the Twenty-First Century" will be screened. Poole will then lead a discussion about the art, the artists and their motivations, significance to art history and relevance to daily lives. The discussions will cover emerging and established artists, sculptors, painters and performance artists.

The award-winning PBS series is the only one on television to focus exclusively on contemporary visual art and artists in the United States, the center reported. The footage allows the viewer to observe artists at work, watch their process as they transform inspiration into art and hear their thoughts as they grapple with the physical and visual challenges of achieving their artistic visions.

St. Edward's serves St. Patrick's Day dinner

TWIN FALLS - St. Edward's Catholic Church will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a corned beef and cabbage dinner Tuesday in the Parish Hall, 206 7th Ave. E. Traditional St. Patrick's Day fare will be served from 4:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children age 12 and under and \$16 for family. The menu will include corned beef, cabbage, carrots, rolls, red potatoes, dessert and punch/coffee.

Fossil Beds program gets 'batty' for March

HAGERMAN - Bat researcher Julie Landreth will share information on bats from 2-3 p.m. Saturday at the Binghamley Creek State Park on Highway 30. A film on the importance of bats in the environment will be shown, along with a discussion. People of all ages are invited to this free event. Children under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call 837-4793, ext. 5224.

Program focuses on women in Middle East

HAGERMAN - The Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument will present "Women in Middle Eastern History" by

Boise State professor Joanne Klein at noon Thursday at the Visitor Center, 221 N. State St. Admission is free. Visitors are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert will be provided by the Hagerman Historical Society.

For more information, call 837-4793, ext. 5224. This program is made possible by support from Boise Cascade Corporation and funding from the Idaho Humanities Council.

Burley man celebrates 90th birthday Saturday

BURLEY - Darrell Peck of Burley will be honored at an open house for his 90th birthday from 2-5 p.m. Saturday at the Best Western Burley Inn, 800 N. Overland Ave., Burley. His family requests no gifts. The event will be hosted by his children, David (Margaret) Peck of Twin Falls, Sandra (Lucky) Koyle of Albion, Jerry (De Anna) Peck of Highland, Utah, and Jeff Peck of Burley.

Homemaking classes for young people are held

BURLEY - Sewing, cooking

and craft classes are offered at The Party Place at 1232 Overland Ave. in Burley.

Sewing classes for beginning and intermediate sewers are open to children age 8 and older and cost \$8 per class. A cooking class costing \$5 per class and craft classes at \$4.50 per class are open to children ages 7 and older. The classes will run through April. There will also be a cooking/craft fun day on the last Saturday of each month. Call 879-3053 or 312-3833 for more information on class times, or stop by and pick up a schedule.

Burley merchants host Legacy Quilt Challenge

BURLEY - The Burley Area Merchants Association and the Burley merchants are holding a legacy quilt challenge. There are three categories, including "First Generation" for beginning and intermediate quilters, "Legacy" for intermediate quilters, and "Professional" for advanced quilters. There is a \$20 entry fee per quilt. Entry forms are available at Hem-Stitching Etc., 1238 Overland Ave.; Sandy's Bernina, 1234 Oakley Ave.; and Mill Ends Fabrics, 1358 Overland Ave. All entries must be turned in by May 31. Quilts are due by July 10. Quilts will be displayed in the windows of

Magie Valley Regional Medical Center

Michael Ross Suter, son of Brittany Diane Jacobsen of Buhl, was born Monday, Feb. 23, 2004.

Marcos Luis Trevino, son of Irene Robledo and Ricardo Javie Trevino of Twin Falls was born Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004.

Drake Henry Rasgorhek, son of Karen Jean and Mark Lane Rasgorhek of Twin Falls, was born Wednesday, March 3, 2004.

Daniel James Wachtel, son of Phoebe Anne and Baron James Wachtel of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, March 4, 2004.

Alexander Kaden Alcalá, son of Kari Ann and Jose Alcalá of Murtaugh, was born Thursday, March 4, 2004.

Lillian Maire Mingo, daughter of Amy Marie and Timothy Thomas Mingo of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, March 4, 2004.

Logan David Bausman, son of Lisa Ann and Tom Logan Bausman of Kimberly, was

STORK REPORT

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to: The Community Page The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 Or fax to 734-5538. Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper. More information? Call 735-3278

born Thursday, March 4, 2004. Ethan Chad Herrick, daughter of Amy Lynn and Chad Ross Herrick of Twin Falls, was born Friday, March 5, 2004.

Dylan Garrett Narum, son of Virginia Christine and Shawn Robert Narum of Twin Falls, was born Friday, March 5, 2004.

Averee Mae Silva, daughter of Reanna Rose and David Anthony Silva of Buhl, was born Friday, March 5, 2004.

Shehli Lee Proenza, daughter of Jennifer Annelie Lee and Joseph Allen Proenza of Twin Falls, was born Friday, March

5, 2004. Keraeade Ann Brownlee, daughter of Katie Ann and Trenton Gall Brownlee of Kimberly, was born Saturday, March 6, 2004.

Joshua Levi Loveless, son of Julie Maureen and Grant Michael Loveless of Buhl, was born Saturday, March 6, 2004.

Sarah Navarro, daughter of Luz Maria and Arnulfo Navarro of Gooding, was born Sunday, March 7, 2004.

Abigail Joy Compher, daughter of Carolyn Jane and Buddy Leroy Compher of Filer, was born Sunday, March 7, 2004.

Samuel Aaron Ducharme, son of Elizabeth Ann and Matthew Aaron Ducharme of Filer, was born Monday, March 8, 2004.

Cassia Regional Medical Center

Kadin Jo Thompson, son of Stacy Jo Thompson of Heyburn, and Scot N. Bailey of Utah, was born Monday, March 1, 2004.

PERFECT STUDENTS



Jerome High School perfect attendance winners for the third trimester are Crystal Haakma, Yessenia Fergoso, Juan Oscar Martinez and Amanda Hall.

SERVICE NEWS

Brown graduates from Army basic training

Army Pvt. Dan J. Brown has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the nine-week training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rifle marksmanship and bayonet training, chemical warfare, field training and tactical exercises, armed and unarmed combat, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history, traditions, and core values.

He is the son of Becky Brown of Jerome and grandson of Lee Eric of Filer. Brown is a 2003 graduate of Jerome High School.

Airman graduates from Air Force training

Air National Guard Airman

1st Class Ryan L. Lierman has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force's mission, organization and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises and special training in human relations.

He is the son of Julie Lierman of Jerome and Brent Lierman of Twin Falls. Lierman, a 1997 graduate of Jerome High School, received a bachelor's degree in 2002 from Boise State University.

Corporals participate in large hashish seizure

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Sean A. Cannon and Jose M. Martinez recently participated

in the seizure of an estimated 2,800 pounds of hashish with an estimated value of \$11 million, after intercepting a small rubber sea vesicle in the North Arabian Sea, while assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), based in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

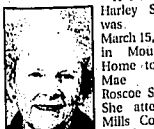
The interception is designed to hinder the funding of terrorist organizations by denying the use of the seas for the smuggling of illegal contraband. This is the third interception by coalition maritime forces in recent weeks.

This unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment. MEUs are composed of more than 2,000 personnel and are divided into an infantry battalion, aircraft squadron, support group and command element.

Woman celebrates 100th birthday on Monday

TWIN FALLS - Helene Harley Babcock is celebrating her 100th birthday Monday.

Helene Harley Babcock was born March 15, 1904, in Mountain Home to Ida Mae and Roscoe Smith. She attended Mills College, graduated from the University of Idaho in 1926 and



Helene Babcock

taught school for seven years in Coeur d'Alene. She married Edward E. Babcock, a lawyer from Twin Falls whose parents were early pioneers of the town. They had two children, Bill Babcock and Carolyn Dalgh of Twin Falls.

Helene Babcock has been active in the A1 chapter of PEO, Panhandle, American Association of University Women, Kappa Alpha Theta, the Episcopal Church and her bridge club. She also enjoyed fly-fishing, hunting, canoeing, horseback

riding, golfing and skiing and drove her Model A Ford back to the Chicago World's Fair in the 1920s.

Cards maybe sent to Cenoma House, 1930 Heyburn Ave. E., Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.

What do you think about 'The Passion' movie?

Controversy has swirled around Mel Gibson's new movie, "The Passion of the Christ." Now it's your turn to offer your opinion. The Times-News will print your responses, or excerpts from them, in a future issue. Include your name, address and phone number. Also, if you are willing, let us know your religious affiliation, if any. Respond to Denise Turner, religion editor, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0548. Or e-mail denise@magievalley.com. Or fax (208) 734-5538. For more information, call (208) 733-0931, ext. 243.

Oakley Valley Arts offers scholarships

OAKLEY - The Oakley Valley Arts Council is accepting applications from high school seniors for the Aaron and Gloria Johnson Memorial Scholarship.

Two \$250 scholarships will be awarded to those who have been active in the community/council arts, such as music,

drama, set design and others activities, and have a grade point average of 2.5 or better. Applications may be obtained from area high school counselors and must be post-marked no later than March 25. For more information, call 677-ARJTS.

Buhl Community Education offers courses

BUHL - The Buhl Community Education and Recreation Association Inc. is offering several spring classes. "Reading Aloud to Children" will show how to interact with children while reading and will be held from 6:30 p.m. on March 31 in the Poppelwell Elementary School Library. The cost is \$5. "Beginning Photography" will run for three weeks and will be held from 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, starting April 1 in the Buhl High School Art room. The cost is \$12 and about \$20 for materials. Students will learn to take pictures without automatic focus and develop black and white pictures.

"Mitered Knitting" will be held from 6-7 p.m. April 5, in the Buhl High School Library. The cost is \$4. Students should bring yarn and appropriately sized needles. For information on other courses, call Connie Glander at 543-6553.

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: Chicken cordon bleu, veggies, rolls, Jell-O w/ fruit, scalloped potatoes, lemon bar
Tuesday: Baked potato bar
Wednesday: Corn beef and cabbage, potato w/ carrots, cornbread, green Jell-O, celery, pistachio pudding
Thursday: Taco salad
Friday: Chicken ala king, potato, peas and carrots, biscuit, corn salad, dessert

Activities:
Monday: Quilting
Exercise class, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday
Blood pressure
Good Sam's meeting
Wednesday: Quilting
Elks Card Club
Foot clinic
St. Patrick's Dinner
Board meeting
Thursday: Center pinocle, 1 p.m.
Friday: Quilting
Lunch bingo
Blood pressure
Exercise class

West End Senior Citizens Inc.
1010 Main St., Buhl
Menu:
Today: Chicken dinner
Monday: Cook's Choice
Tuesday: Beef stroganoff, noodles, salad, veggies, roll, fruit, cookie
Wednesday: Rib-b-que sandwich, fries, veggie stick, tapacia pudding
Thursday: Corned beef dinner, Jell-O salad, bread dessert
Saturday: Community breakfast, 8-10 a.m.

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1-9 p.m.
Monday: Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crafts 1-4 p.m.
Tax Assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Jackpot trip, leave center at 4:30 p.m., leave jackpot at 10 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Sunday: Last Resort Band

Flier Senior Haven
222 Main St.
Dinners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals are available each mealtime.

Menu:
Tuesday: Sausage patty, gravy
Thursday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce

Jerome Senior Center
212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

Menu:
Monday: Tuna Casserole, peas, fruit, apple bites
Tuesday: Chicken chow mien, rice, oriental veggies, fruit salad, brownies
Wednesday: Corn beef, cabbage, potato wedges, carrots, under the sea salad, shrimp cookies, sherbet
Thursday: Lasagna, garlic bread, peas, carrots, salad, custard, fruit
Friday: Porcupine meatballs, scalloped potatoes, corn, coloslaw, pineapple upside-down cake, fruit

Activities:
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Gem state fiddlers, noon
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early bird, 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinocle, 1-2 p.m.

Agless Senior Citizens, Inc.
310 Main St. N., Kimberly
Menu:
Monday: Sausage, scrambled eggs, hashbrowns, pancakes, orange juice, coffee and milk
Wednesday: Corned beef and cabbage, russet potatoes, salad, bread, apple crisp, coffee and milk
Friday: Pork chops, potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, rolls, cake, ice cream, coffee and milk

Activities:
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Crafts, 1 p.m.
Friday: Birthday dinner, noon
Foot Clinic, sign up, 56 Pinocle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizens
308 Senior Ave.
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menu:
Monday: Pork chops, potatoes, gravy, cauliflower, cheese sauce, bread, cobbler
Tuesday: Chili, baked potato, coloslaw, cornbread, fruit cocktail, coffee
Wednesday: Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, lime Jell-O, french bread, cake
Thursday: Cube steak, carrots, gravy, glazed potatoes, peas, rolls, Texas sheet cake

Activities:
Sunday: Mexican Train, 2 p.m.
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinocle, 12:30 p.m.
Wild One, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Hearing Clinic, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Pool, 1 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Messages, 10:15 a.m.
Computer Lessons, 12:45 p.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilt and Sew, 9 a.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
SHIBA, 11 a.m.
Fiddlers, 12:30 p.m.
TOPS, 4 p.m.
Pinocle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge, 1 p.m.
Hand/foot, 2 p.m.
Bowling, 12:30 p.m.
Bingo, 6 p.m.

Hagerman Senior Center
140 E. Lake
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
Lunch is served at noon and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non-seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

Menu:
Monday: Chicken breasts, potatoes, gravy, broccoli salad, applesauce cake
Wednesday: Corned beef and cabbage, blueberry muffins
Friday: Cook's choice

Silver and Gold Senior Center
Edin
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: Corn beef, potatoes, carrots, cabbage, fruit, shrimp cookie
Thursday: Lasagna, salad, green beans, applesauce, french bread

Activities:
Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.
Golden Years Senior Citizen, Inc.
218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone
-Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

Menu:
Tuesday: Ham and beans, fried potatoes, cole slaw, dinner rolls, pineapple upside-down cake
Thursday: Hamburger, split pea soup, cream pie
Friday: Corned beef and cabbage, boiled potatoes and carrots, Irish soda bread, pistachio dessert

Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 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.
Pancake supper in Richfield, 6-9 p.m.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Bridal Registry
Erin Bowen
& Nitraj Chitrakar
March 20th

RECOLLECTIONS
1214 Oakley Ave., Burley
876-2554

Richfield Senior Center
Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.
Menu:
Monday: Corned beef and cabbage, boiled potatoes and carrots, Irish soda bread, pistachio dessert
Thursday: Hamburgers, potato soup, banana cream pie

Blaine County Senior Center
721 Third Ave. S., Halley
Menu:
Tuesday: Pizza casserole, green salad, tomatoes, peas, cheese bread, angel food cake w/ strawberries
Wednesday: Corned-beef, cabbage, red potatoes, lime Jell-O salad, whole wheat rolls, lemon dessert
Friday: Turkey or fish, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, congealed cranberry salad, rolls, banana cake w/ frosting

Activities:
Monday: Dinner and movie, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Reflexology, 9:30 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Tax Assistance, 9 a.m.
Poetry group, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Carey exercise, 10 a.m.
Tax assistance in Carey, 10 a.m.
Friday: Birthday day, noon

Three Island Senior Center
492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glens Ferry
Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, beverages available by phoning the center at 366-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for non-seniors under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Menu:
Friday: Pepper steak, rice, broccoli Normandy, carrots, pudding, roll
Tuesday: Corned beef and cabbage, carrots, parslid potatoes, pear and Jell-O salad, bread
Thursday: BBQ pork chops, baked beans, broccoli cuts, roll

Activities:
Tuesday: Crafts, 5-8 p.m.
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.

Camas County Senior Center
127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9-2 on meal days. The cost of the meal for non-seniors is \$3.50, children under 10 are \$2.00. The suggested donation for those 60 years of age and older is \$2.50.

Menu:
Tuesday: Zesty zany chili, salad, sliced peaches, cornbread, french vanilla pudding
Wednesday: Corned beef and cabbage, creamy cucumbers, salad, pistachio pudding
Friday: Pork chops, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, salad, fruit, cake

Activities:
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pool playing, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tax preparation by appt.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pool playing, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday: Art class, 9 a.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pool playing, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday: Breakfast dinner, 7:30-10 a.m.

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center
702 11th St., Rupert
Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Menu:
Monday: Salad, chili, corn bread, orange wedges, pudding
Tuesday: Salad, chicken nuggets, fries, green beans, tapioca pudding
Wednesday: Salad, corned beef, cabbage, brownies, cornbread, ice cream
Thursday: Salad, enchiladas, beans, rice, ice cream
Friday: Smorgasbord

Activities:
Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 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.

Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
SHIBA assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinocle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley
Monday: Potato bar, cheddar broccoli, burger gravy, salad, boiled eggs, roll, berries, cheese cake
Tuesday: French dip sandwiches, mini-rouni soup-pears, dessert
Wednesday: Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, peas on lettuce, herb roll, fruit cocktail cake
Thursday: Pork noodles, egg roll, oriental veggies, boiled eggs, rice medley, mandarin Jell-O, apple pie
Friday: Crab salad sandwiches, salad, California veggies, orange chocolate delight

Activities:
Monday: Closed, Federal holiday
Tuesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 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
Hearing aid assistance, 11 a.m.
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.

Thank the French for vaudeville acts

DEAR EDITOR: Both my father and grandfather were avid fans of vaudeville entertainers. Could you tell me where the word "vaudeville" comes from?
-S.A. UTICA, N.Y.

WORDWATCH
Merriam-Webster

Word up!
This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 281, 47 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

DEAR S.A.: "Vaudeville" refers to a form of entertainment popular in the U.S. from the 1890s to the 1930s. The term is believed to be a corrupted form of the French phrase "vaux-de-vire", which referred to popular satirical songs composed in the 15th century in the Vaux-de-Vire literary "valley of Vire"; in the French region of Normandy. The phrase may have been overlapped with "voix de ville" ("voices of the city"), a term that referred to another type of French song, the existence in the United States of these villages named "vaudeville" may have contributed to the confusion. These songs became popular in Europe as a result of a movement by professional actors in the 18th century to provide an alternative to the dramas held at the Comedie-Francaise, the national theater of France. Unable to compete with these popular productions, vaudeville performers spiced up their acts by presenting plays in pantomime and setting the action to music. Spoken dialogue was later incorporated into the act. Early vaudeville shows in the United States were known to be rather coarse and crude, intended primarily for male audiences. By the end of the 19th century, theater managers forced entertainers to provide cleaner acts that could be presented to families. American entertainers whose careers started in vaudeville include the Marx Brothers, W.C. Fields, Will Rogers, George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Scorpio: Don't start new projects

IF MARCH 14 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... you refuse to compromise when faced with a challenge. There are blessings at your fingertips that speak of fair and liberal treatment in relationships, and safety and security in financial matters. Your most important inner essence will be undergoing a permanent alteration, and you may feel the need to slam doors shut behind you.

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

grasp of situations may be put to good use to seek for more creative activities.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Expect exacting fairness and a fit-for-fat atmosphere in relationships you enter into under these planetary alignments. If you want a mate who won't mess with the deal this week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is not a good day to start projects or meet new people as that compulsion to throw your weight around is still at high tide. Good things will be within grasp if you focus your attention on those who care about you.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The security that you have been yearning for is within your reach if you begin new relationships in the next few days. If you put a little effort forth, you can expect a fairly bright harvest from seeds you plant now.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A more analytical attitude and a cold atmosphere will surround the next few days. This is good for business, but is not helpful for communicating with loved ones. Remember that actions speak louder than words.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): Today you have the ability to put your mind and let your real meaning shine through. Use this day to delve into technological areas such as computers, brainstorm problems or chat with friends.
PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Rest up today from the turmoil of the past weeks. The coming week will demand your energies, and you will be leading the pack as a new spirit of accomplishment invigorates the atmosphere.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Potential pitfalls loom in the relationship sector, and you should spend extra time being cautious about your finances. It's a good day to pursue pleasure as long as you avoid situations that could invite criticism.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): You could be inspired today to take steps to make your home more cozy or secure. You will find a spirit of cooperation with others in your immediate vicinity.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Blending your energy with that of others can bring a powerful force for good into being. It is best to concentrate on fulfilling existing obligations and to limit urges to take control of situations.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pressures may have recently been released, and you may have adopted a matter-of-fact, practical attitude. Your exacting

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Boyer Jewelry
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Twin Falls 733-4552

Walmart (Wedding Rings)
415 River View Dr.
Burley 677-4709

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636 Poleline Road
Twin Falls 733-4000

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Centennial

Centennial Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins - 735-3242

Sunday, March 14, 2004

The Times-News

Page E-6

The habits of rabbits

Rod, gun club brings respect for game laws

At the beginning of the 20th century, jackass rabbits - jackrabbits - existed in immense numbers on our Western plains. When the irrigation water began flowing on the Twin Falls tract in spring 1905, and the first tender crops emerged on the once desolate plain, farmers were dismayed to find that the pesky "jacks" were gobbling them up for dinner, and then stripping the tender bark from young fruit trees for dessert. Every night the rabbits invaded fields and gardens and even came, uninvited, into the center of Twin Falls.

Paul Bickel, chief engineer for the Land and Water Co., jokingly suggested that the rabbits might be exterminated by somehow enticing them to eat

clay and cement. After filling up on these tidbits, the rabbits would naturally drink from the nearest irrigation ditch, which would cause the cement and clay to solidify and the rabbit to die of indigestion. After the coyotes had stripped the carcass, Bickel theorized, the intestinal formations could be used for anatomical illustration.

But the solution chosen was much more practical. To combat the pestis, large organized drives were regularly conducted during those early years, the first being held on May 7, 1905.

Typically, the rabbit "hunters" would assemble in their town, choose several leaders and review the rules of the hunt, which usually allowed only shotguns and clubs to be used as weapons. At the edge of town, the participants would spread out into a line and march toward some cul-de-sac or impediment, such as the canyon rim, driving the rabbits before them until they were trapped and could be dispatched by the club-wielding participants. Jacks that refused to be driven were shot by armed outsiders.

On at least one drive, several of James Baker's transfer company wagons followed behind to carry the carcasses. For what purpose isn't known, but the newspaper warned that it would "not be safe to eat sausages in Twin Falls for weeks to come."

These drives often produced astounding results. One held near Hansen in January 1906 was said to have eliminated 1200 rabbits; an outing near Filer, in which 50 horsemen and 300 pedestrians took part, did in 4,000; nearly 3,200 shotgun shells were fired in the course of another.

The drives were, in part, social events. Sometimes, the hunters of one town would challenge those of another to a shoot. Frequently, teams within a town competed with one another, the losers buying supper for the winners. After one hunt near Filer, the Ladies Aid Society



TALES OF THE TRACT James Varley

served lunch for everyone at the Maroa schoolhouse.

Another hunt near Twin Falls concluded with a dinner held at Mrs. William Wolfe's boarding house, at which speeches were delivered on the subjects of "Rabbits and Their Habits," "The Uncertainties of Rabbit Shooting" and "Wild Animals I Don't Care to Meet."

At this dinner party, preliminary steps were taken to

organize a rod and gun club. A few weeks later, in early March 1906, the club organization was perfected with the help of Peter Holohan, who had just arrived in Twin Falls from Wallace. Holohan, known as the "boy wonder" of trap shooters, was a noted Idaho sportsman and the winner of many trophies.

Property was secured just across Rock Creek, south of the railroad depot. A trap was obtained, a club house built and one of the member's grandsons chosen as club mascot. Weekly recreational and competitive trap shoots were held, many of them with other towns. This may have been the first sportsman's organization formed in Idaho, and it is believed to be the forerunner of today's gun club on the canyon rim.

Although Idaho wildlife was still plentiful in those days, there was little control over the wanton taking of it by game hogs and commercial fishermen and hunters. Near populated areas, deer, sage hen and other upland game bird species had been decimated.

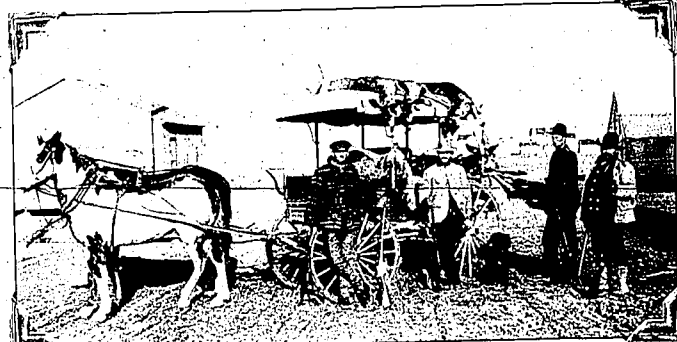
After Idaho had become a territory in 1863, the first legislative assembly passed a law prohibiting the killing of big game during the spring and early summer, but no means of enforcement had been provided. It wasn't until 1903 - a year before Twin Falls was founded - that a state Fish and Game Department was established and authorization was granted to hire game wardens in every county.

That was also the first year meaningful regulations were promulgated, including a requirement for licenses. Women didn't need a license, but residents males 12 years or older had to pay a dollar per year to obtain one from a justice of the peace, probate judge or game warden.

For his dollar a resident could kill an elk, two deer, a mountain sheep and a mountain goat. In season, he was allowed each day to take 10 sage hens and grouse, 24 ducks, three geese and 20



Photo courtesy of Twin Falls Public Library



Above, jackrabbit hunters, 1907. From left to right are Frank Lindy and wife, Frank Benolt and Herbert Martel.



Fishermen at Milnor Dam, about 1907.



Ten-foot-11 inch, 632-pound sturgeon caught in 1908 at Lower Salmon Falls. C. Lind and George Parton had to rope the fish "like a steer" to land it. A nearby trout fisherman said the men had merely caught one of the "minnows he was using for bait."

pounds of trout, grayling, bass or catfish. Fishing and hunting seasons were of very liberal lengths. Moose, antelope, caribou, swans and most nongame birds were protected.

The Twin Falls Rod and Gun Club was very active, in its earliest days, in the feeding of quail and other wildlife, and in trying to get game refuges and better enforcement of the game laws.

The club's conservation and enforcement efforts were spearheaded by the editor of the *Twin Falls News*, George Fraser, who 'owned a setter bitch and was an

ardent bird hunter. Due in large part to his efforts, in May 1907 the state chief deputy game warden visited Magic Valley and appointed three local deputies. After a few arrests were made, there was a sudden demand for fish and game licenses and a new respect for bag limits.

James Varley's newspaper columns are collected in a book titled "Tales of the Tract: The Beginnings of Twin Falls, Idaho and the Magic Valley," sold by the Twin Falls Public Library Foundation.

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