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Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No: 83

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

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GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly sunny, brisk and very mild.
High 69, low 42.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Pay boost: After two years without, College of Southern Idaho employees will get a raise.
Page A4

MONEY

Pleasant bankruptcies: Jobless recovery, no restraint fuel debt pressure on Idahoans.
Page B4

COMPUTERS



Riding the wire: Internet hitches a ride on the electric grid.
Page B7

SPORTS

Even the losers: Japan is agog over a racehorse that has lost 106 times.
Page B1

OPINION

Courts go light: Public officials who stole taxpayer money still get off lightly, today's editorial says.
Page A10

COMING UP

Family recipes
Mother and daughter team up to cook.
Wednesday in The Times-News

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FUNDING THE FAIR



Twin Falls County Fair Manager John Pitz stands in the beef and dairy barn. Pitz said the barn suffers from structural and electrical problems.

Annual event needs building boost from taxpayers, officials say

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

Fair vote will wait until November

The Twin Falls County Fair Board Monday decided to wait until the November general election to ask voters to approve a property tax levy to help pay for a new year-round multipurpose building.

The board had planned to put the question on the May primary ballot.

"What bothers me is the time el-

ement between now and May 25," Fair Board member Ralph Denton said.

The board wants more time to fine-tune its plan and review it before making their decision.

"We have to convince the voters of Twin Falls County that this is the right thing to do," Fair Board member Jim Barker said.

amount that barely covers maintenance.

"That's just to keep your head above water," Zellbarth said.

County commissioners recently decided to let the Fair Board ask county voters to approve a two-year, 2-mill levy if help foot some of the costs. If approved by voters, the levy would cost property owners an extra \$20 per \$100,000 valuation

on their annual property tax bills. The levy would generate about \$540,000 a year, money that would be used to build a \$2.1 million multipurpose building to replace aging buildings built in the 1930s and '40s.

Without buildings, there wouldn't be much of a county fair, said Debbie Carrier, marketing consultant for the Twin Falls County Fair Foundation.

"If we don't have these buildings, how can we have a county fair that showcases the industry of the county?" Carrier asked.

During the fair, the proposed 220- by 300-foot clear span building would be used for the beef, dairy and goat shows, but the other 359 days a year it could be used for everything from sit-down dinners to concerts to winter equine activities. The building could accommodate about 2,500 people for a sit-

Please see FAIR, Page A6

Agreement offers protection to all wells in dispute

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

Shorter season - A6

TWIN FALLS - Last-minute legislation to protect all threatened wells from a shutdown, and other loose ends, are wrapped up in a landmark agreement intended to keep the water flowing in the Magic Valley.

Karl Dreher, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, updated water users Monday during a telephone status conference.

Barring the agreement or some other accepted plan,

1,300 wells north of the Snake River would have been curtailed April 1, drying up water to thousands of irrigated acres and thousands of dairy cows. A nasty court battle was simmering and sure to follow.

Lawmakers on Saturday approved House Bill 848, which protects groundwater users who are not covered by a mitigation plan designed to compensate spring users for water

Please see WATER, Page A2

Who signed?

Signatories to the agreement among the state and water users are:

- Gov. Dirk Kempthorne.
- Bruce Newcomb, speaker of the House.
- Robert Geddes, Senate president pro tem.
- Clear Lakes Trout Co., its sister companies, and the Earl M. Hardy estate.
- Clear Springs Foods Inc.
- Rangan Inc.
- North Snake Ground Water District.

- Magic Valley Ground Water District.
- Pistone Springs.
- SeePac Inc.

Pending are signatures from:

- A consortium of Hagerman Valley water users.

Find the agreement and a statement issued by Idaho Department of Water Resources Director Karl Dreher online at www.idwr.state.id.us under the "News and Events" section.

Mystery token dates from 1940s bus service

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Leave it to readers to present them with a puzzle, and Times-News readers are sure to volunteer the solution.

Saturday's edition related the riddle of a "Twin Falls Motor Transit" token unearthed by a metal detector in Blue Lakes Boulevard yard last week, and asked for information. The finder and others wondered: Could the tiny token date from Twin Falls' short-lived electric railroad in 1914-1916?

No, our readers said.

Instead, the "good for one fare" tokens appeared almost three decades later - for riders boarding a 1940s city bus system. With gasoline and tires in tight supply, the short buses debuted during World War II and endured to 1950.

"My mother didn't drive, and a lot of times we'd walk to town, but occasionally we would take the bus, when it wasn't really good weather," said Lilah Watson, a Twin Falls native, who saved one of those "Twin Falls Motor Transit" tokens.

Watson and Hendrix were among almost a dozen readers who called in to share memories of the city bus system from during or after World War II.

Charles H. Watson of Twin Falls, about age 10 in the mid-1940s, frequently walked from his Leans-and-Third home to a Walnut-and-Third bus stop on Saturdays, for easy transportation to cowboy shows at the movie theaters clustered downtown.

"I remember riding it several times as a young child (in the late '40s), and also I remember my mother carrying his tokens in her coin purse," said Cheryl Hart of Boise.

We found old newspaper articles that corroborate.

The City Council on Nov. 10, 1941, authorized J. Ted Davis to operate a bus line in Twin Falls for the next 20 years, the *Idaho Evening Times* reported the next day. The franchise stipulated that the bus begin operation by March 1942, but Davis predicted a January start-up - "barring difficulties in securing it because of national defense activities," the newspaper reported.

But public transportation eventually ceased to be profitable.

The *Times-News* on Feb. 7, 1950, reported that city leaders had cancelled the Twin Falls Motor Transit franchise - at Davis' request - and city bus

Please see TOKEN, Page A2

MYSTERY SOLVED

Elk died after eating lichen

The Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. - Solving a puzzle that had baffled scientists across the country, researchers concluded that the recent deaths of 304 elk in southern Wyoming were caused by a mossy plant native to the Rockies.

State wildlife veterinarians suspected lichen as the culprit in the die-off after finding it in the stomachs of many dead elk.

To confirm their suspicions, three elk were fed the plant at a research center.

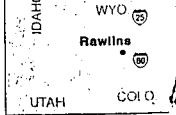
One collapsed and was unable to rise Sunday. A second also started stumbling, and a third is expected to be similarly afflicted. All three will be destroyed.

"We've answered the biggest and most important question: What the heck is killing these elk?" Wyoming Game and Fish Department spokesman Tom Reed said. "It's a huge relief for everyone involved."

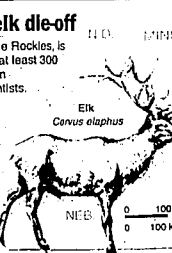
The lichen, known as *Parmelia molliscula*, contains an acid that may break down

muscle tissue, causing the elk to lose strength, said Walt Cook, a Game and Fish veterinarian.

Native elk were not affected by the acid; those killed in the die-off were apparently new to the area where the deaths occurred and may have lacked microorganisms needed to neutralize the acid.



SOURCES: ESRI; Associated Press



Tunnel may have let al-Qaida suspects escape

The Associated Press

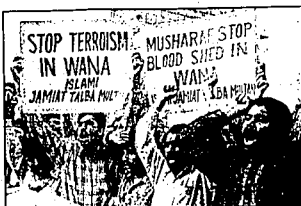
WANA, Pakistan - Pakistani forces discovered a mile-long tunnel leading from a besieged mud fortress to a dry stream bed, and said Monday the secret passage may have allowed top al-Qaida suspects to escape toward the Afghan frontier.

The revelation came as Pakistani authorities began DNA tests to identify foreign terrorists killed in the weeklong offen-

sive in South Waziristan, where thousands of troops have been battling hundreds of die-hard militants.

Forces first found a tunnel connecting the heavily fortified compounds of two tribal elders - Nek Mohammed and Sharif Khan - who have been leading supporters of some 500-600 foreign fighters, said Brig. Mahmood Shah, chief of security for the tribal areas.

Please see TUNNEL, Page A3



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly sunny, brisk and mild. Highs in the upper 60s to near 70.
Tonight: Partly cloudy, breezy and mild. Lows in the lower 40s.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, breezy at times and mild. Highs near 70.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

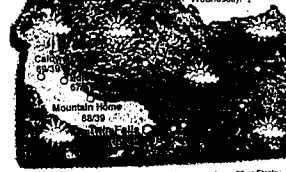
Today: Partly sunny, brisk and mild. Highs in the upper 60s to near 70.
Tonight: Partly cloudy and mild with decreasing clouds. Lows in the lower 40s.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, breezy at times and mild. Highs in the lower 70s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Mostly cloudy and mild today with isolated showers and possibly a thunderstorm. Sunshines returns to Idaho on Wednesday. Temperatures will be unseasonably warm.

Today Highs: 47 to 59. Tonight's Lows: 22 to 32.
BOISE
Mostly cloudy, brisk and mild today. Increasing sunshines and very mild temperatures are expected on Wednesday. Fine weather conditions will continue on Thursday.

NORTHERN IDAHO
65 to 70 to 72 to 84
Mostly cloudy and mild today with temperatures expected to rise on Wednesday. Temperatures and more sunshines is expected on Wednesday.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 76 at Weiser, Low: 23 at Starley.
Weather: Partly sunny, mostly cloudy, no rain, snow, or heavy wind, mizzling, in thunderstorms, showers, rain, snow, or heavy wind, mizzling.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 69, Low 42, 70/40, 67/42, 63/37).

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phase, Moonrise and Moonset.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, etc.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Sunrise and Sunset, U.V. INDEX, Moon Phase, Moonrise and Moonset.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like London, Paris, Tokyo, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP
-20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
Includes a map of the United States with weather symbols and a legend for Fronts, Cold, Warm, Stationary, Occluded.

Black clergy rally to Water decry gay marriage

ATLANTA (AP) - From the cradle of the civil rights movement, several dozen black pastors are voicing their opposition to the gay marriage movement and rhetoric that equates it with the struggle for racial equality.
The pastors rallied late Monday at an Atlanta-area church where they signed a declaration outlining their beliefs on marriage and religion. They are pressing for a state constitutional ban on gay marriages, which will be considered again by the Georgia House as soon as this week.
Many black clergy say they are offended by the gay rights

Kerry could well be favored in foreign political circles

WASHINGTON (AP) - For all the clumsiness in his claim, John Kerry is hard to refute on the suggestion he led with a popular contest against President Bush abroad.
Republicans have demanded he name names of leaders supposedly supporting him, chastised him for taking politics beyond the water's edge and pointed out that overseas cheering sections don't make a whiff of difference in a U.S. presidential campaign.
But the central point that Kerry made and probably wishes unheeded, that opposition to Bush is widespread in foreign capitals and a variety of political circles are privately - in a few bold cases, publicly - rooting for the president to lose.
Tensions between Bush and some Western European leaders are palpable. Arab govern-

Water chief says law required groundwater decision

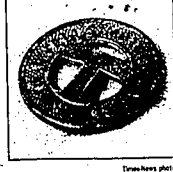
Karl Dreher, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, posted this statement online Monday about his decision to curtail 1,300 wells unless an agreement was reached between water users by April 1.
"Issuing this order was the result of lengthy deliberation and application of facts coupled with Idaho's laws.
Idaho is a prior appropriation state, meaning that large or small, the holder of earlier rights has the right to divert and beneficially use water before later rights are filled. During most years, junior priority surface water rights are curtailed as the supply recedes and there is not sufficient water for those rights

and the rights that are senior in priority.
Surface water rights have been administered in this manner for more than 100 years. Ground water rights are subject to the same laws governing administration of the rights as for surface water rights, and the outcome can be harsh - but those laws must still be enforced.
There are mechanisms for the holders of senior priority rights to allow for sharing of the available water supply with junior priority users during times of shortage. But as the recent drought has extended through a fourth year, holders of senior rights are more aggressively seeking to receive their water through curtailment
of more junior rights. This is the recourse provided for by the law to the holders of senior priority rights.
I do not take lightly the responsibilities of my position and the fact that the decisions I must make have consequences. I also do not give any weight in my decision making on whether a party does or does not have political connections. I do, however, fully intend to enforce Idaho law and Idaho's water rights, which is what Idahoans should rightfully expect of me.
The agreement reached last week to avoid curtailment will give us all the much needed breathing room we need to determine what should be done in the longer term."

Circulation
Daniel Walock, director
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Token

Continued from A2
service would cease Feb. 18. For two years, Davis had operated the bus service at a loss, the newspaper reported.
"Davis said bus charges would be 10 cents per ride for the remainder of time the buses are in operation," the 1950 article said. "Until now, rides have been 15 cents each or 5 tokens for 50 cents."
But that wasn't quite the end of the line.
Later that day, Clinton E. Watson of Hazelton offered to revive the service abandoned in February by Twin Falls Motor Transit Co. Twin Falls awarded the transit franchise to Clinton Watson, who started operations in town May 8, 1950, with new buses - but with the same, familiar tokens.
Leta Williams of Twin Falls, Clinton Watson's daughter, saved some of those Twin Falls Motor Transit tokens in a scrapbook with other Watson Transit Co. memorabilia. Including some of the fakes which riders dropped into coin-collection boxes in lieu of legitimate fare.
"People would smash something down and then use it as a token," Williams said.
Some days during that summer of 1950, Williams, then 14 years old, and her 13-year-old sister would accompany their



This token, unearthed in a yard on Blue Lakes Boulevard, roused curiosity around Twin Falls.

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each was valued at \$1.
"They have inflated a little bit since then," Fries said.
Two other Magic Valley residents cited matching statistics from the "The Atwood-Coffee Catalogue of United States and Canadian Transportation Tokens."
This publication also reports that 3,000 of the tokens were struck in 1941, 2,000 more in 1945, 3,000 more in 1946 and 5,000 in 1947, said Charles Hill of Bull.
"To a collector, they're worth about \$2.50," he said.
Plenty of them, apparently, are still around. Many of the 17 readers who responded to Saturday's article said they own some of the Twin Falls Motor Transit tokens.
No big deal, says Wayne Anderson. When his metal detector turned up the token in the Blue Lakes yard last week, he wondered whether his find might be older - and more valuable.
"It's still the fun in the find, and it's still history," Anderson said Monday. "It's still Twin Falls history."

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hatcher - working also as Contentual editor - can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia@magicvalley.com.

NATION

White House steps up criticism of ex-adviser who wrote book

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Bush's top aides launched a ferocious assault on the former White House counterterrorism official who accused Bush of failing to act on the al-Qaida threat before Sept. 11, 2001, and strengthening terrorists by pursuing a misguided focus on Iraq.

The accusations in the new book by Richard A. Clarke, a veteran of four administrations who served for two years on Bush's National Security Council, caused a furor in the capital, as Democrats sought to denounce Clarke as a disgruntled former colleague and a Democratic partisan. Vice President Dick Cheney, on Rush Limbaugh's radio show, said the



President Bush

counterterrorism coordinator "wasn't in the loop, frankly, on a lot of this stuff." Cheney suggested Clarke did not do enough to prevent three attacks during the Clinton administration and said "he may have a grudge to bear there since he probably wanted a more prominent position."

Although some GOP leaders defended the White House and joined in denouncing Clarke, others expressed concern that the former aide's accusations would compound a recent fall in Americans' perception of Bush's honesty that began with the flawed charges about Iraq's weapons and the understatement of the costs of Bush's prescription drug initiative.

Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Ieb., said he believes the White House has to respond directly to Clarke's allegations rather than question his credibility. "This is a serious book written by a serious professional who's made serious charges, and the White House must respond to these charges," he said.

Clarke, who resigned 13 months ago, wrote in his book, "Against All Enemies," that Bush "failed to act prior to September 11 on the threat from al-Qaida despite repeated warnings and then harvested a political windfall for taking obvious yet insufficient steps after the attacks."

The timing of Clarke's accusations is particularly sensitive for Bush because the Independent Commission Investigating the Sept. 11 attacks is taking public testimony this week from Bush and Clinton administration national security officials about their actions before the attacks.

Feds: Former official used classified data

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, who painted an unflattering portrait of President Bush in a book in January, received 140 government documents for the book that should not have been released after he left office, the Treasury Department's inspector general says.

The report Monday from Jeffrey Rush Jr. said that no federal laws had been violated in the release of the documents but that Treasury needed to improve the way it handled sensitive documents.

The new report found that 140 of those documents had not been marked classified even

though they contained national security or sensitive but unclassified information.

Reacting to the report, Treasury Department spokesman Rob Nichols said that O'Neill's successor, John Snow, had already begun a major overhaul to improve Treasury's document-handling procedures.

Tunnel

Continued from A1

From that passage, they found the mile-long tunnel running under the town of Kaloosha, about nine miles from the Afghan border, to a dry stream bed on the edge of the craggy, treacherous mountains that straddle the frontier.

"There is a possibility that the tunnel may have been used at the start of the operation," Shah told journalists in Peshawar, the provincial capital.

Three senior officials have told The Associated Press that they believe al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahiri may have

been at the site, though the government has repeatedly said it does not know who is inside. Treasury Gen. Pervez Musharraf said Thursday that a "high-value" target was likely involved.

The tunnel, which undoubtedly took months to construct, was another indication an important fugitive was in the area at some point. South Waziristan is considered the most likely hideout for al-Zawahiri and his boss, terror chief Osama bin Laden.

The Pakistani military has clamped a 20-square-mile cor-

don around Kaloosha and several other tribal towns in South Waziristan, and says they are confident nobody has escaped the area.

But the cordon did not exist at the disastrous start of the operation Mar. 16, when Pakistani forces who thought they were going to arrest local tribesmen were surprised by a ferocious barrage from within the compound walls.

Fifteen soldiers and 26 militants died in the initial assault; the military sent in thousands of reinforcements over the following two days.



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MAGIC VALLEY

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

The Times-News

Page A-4

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

AROUND THE VALLEY

Paul woman dies in 93 rollover

HOLLISTER—A single-car accident-took the life of a Paul woman.

Joann Winn, 53, was driving a 2001 Pontiac Grand Am northbound on U.S. Highway 93 near Hollister late Sunday night or early Monday morning, according to a news release issued by Idaho State Police.

Winn lost control of her vehicle and overcorrected, causing the car to roll. She was ejected from the car and died at the scene, the release said.

Winn was not wearing a seat belt.

Church, Ramos will speak at conference

TWIN FALLS—Bethine Church and Angel Ramos will be the keynote speakers at the Northwest Human Service Association 2004 Conference, set for April 15-17 at the College of Southern Idaho. The conference theme is "Human Service: Walking the Path."

The conference begins with an informal gathering at 6 p.m. April 15. Sessions and roundtables on April 16 and 17 will address mental health, partnerships, poverty, addiction, domestic violence and other human services issues.

Church, widow of the late U.S. Sen. Frank Church, will address the conference at 11 a.m. April 16 in the CSI Fine Arts Auditorium. Her topic will be "A Lifelong Affair: My Passion for People and Politics."

Ramos, an activist and advocate for the deaf community, will speak at 8 a.m. April 17 in Rooms 117-118 of the Shields Building at CSI. His topic will be "Walking the Path of Class Advocacy."

Jim Palmer, director of human services at CSI, says at least 200 people have registered for the conference from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, Utah and Nevada.

The conference is open to the public and those who work in human services. On-site registration for the entire conference is \$75 per person. Those who wish to attend only Church's address will be admitted for \$18.

Contact Jim Palmer at 732-6715 or jpalmer@csi.edu.

CSI plans GED graduation ceremony

TWIN FALLS—Students who have recently completed their GED or high school equivalent exams through the College of Southern Idaho's Adult Basic Education Center are encouraged to sign up for the GED graduation that will be held May 15 at CSI.

Relexie Waldron, ABE coordinator, said students should sign up before March 31 in order to be able to receive gowns that will fit. The actual graduation application deadline is May 7.

Waldron said students who believe they can successfully complete their testing before graduation also are encouraged to sign up. The cap and gown fee is \$10. Students should call Veneta Jenkins at 732-6534 or Waldron at 732-6543.

Idaho first lady Patricia Kempfhorne will be the keynote speaker at the GED graduation at 7 p.m. May 15.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

| Watershed | % of season | % of season |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Upper Snake Basin | 102% | 78% |
| Salmon Falls | 102% | 97% |
| Saimon | 87% | 78% |
| Oakley | 103% | 99% |
| Big Wood | 82% | 76% |
| Little Wood | 83% | 76% |
| Henry Fork/Teton | 101% | 91% |
| Little Lost | 86% | 78% |
| | 89% | 69% |
| | As of March 22. | |

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

CSI employees will see raises

Base pay goes up for first time in three years - 3 percent

By Karin Kowalski Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Faculty and staff members at the College of Southern Idaho can look forward to seeing a little more green next year.

The college board approved a 3 percent pay raise at its meeting Monday night.

"I think that's an important thing to do," President Jerry Meyerhoeffer said.

The state will provide for 2 percent increases, and the college will get the rest of the money from student fees and adjusting the budget, Meyerhoeffer said.

offer said. CSI faculty and staff have gone without base pay increases for two years, although they have had raises linked to going up in rank and changing duties. At the same time, health care costs have gone up and might increase next year, said Mike Mason, CSI's vice president of finance.

Mason did not know what the exact changes in the health plan would be because the college is in the process of switching from Blue Shield to Blue Cross.

Kim Fultz, the college's payroll manager, said earlier Monday that she did not know if

the rising cost of insurance would eclipse a pay raise. She said overall the college employees and other state employees have a good insurance plan.

"It's there's a little bit more in there—yahoo," Fultz said. Ken Bingham, an associate English professor, said he was following news of a pay raise with interest and hoped it might help people feel better about some of the budget cuts on campus.

"Keeping up morale is an important thing," Bingham said. Cindy Flowers, an office specialist in the college's maintenance department, is

Rising costs

Monthly health insurance premiums for College of Southern Idaho employees:

| Year | Employee pays | College pays |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| July '03-June '04 | \$28-\$127* | \$472.73 |
| July '02-June '03 | \$31.89-\$154.43** | \$403.07 |
| July '01-June '02 | \$11.62-\$97.02** | \$403.07 |
| July '01-June '02 | same | \$382.76 |

*This range includes the minimum coverage for one person up to maximum coverage for a family and includes medical and dental. **In the '02-'03 fiscal year, the college had two modules in the health plan that people could choose. The cost per month varied with different deductibles and stop-loss amounts.

Source: Kim Fultz, CSI payroll manager

looking forward to a raise. "I'm feeling like I really want one and I need one," Flowers said.

In another matter, the board heard a report on plans for 26 Please see CSI, Page A6

THE NEXT MOVE ...



Aleksander Vereshchagin of Twin Falls analyzes the chess board during a game Monday. The Magic Valley Chess Club meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Twin Falls. On Saturday, the Idaho Chess Association Presidents Cup Chess Tournament will be held at the Ameritoll Inn Hotel in Twin Falls. If you're interested in playing, call Barry Ecker at 733-6186.

Cassia OKs wine in stores, restaurants

By Shelley Ridenour Times-News writer

RURLEY—Cassia County shoppers and diners will soon again be able to buy wine at retail stores or purchase glasses with dinner at restaurants, county commissioners decided Monday.

After a public hearing Monday afternoon, attended by about 25 people, commissioners voted 2-1 to allow wine to be sold in the county. Commissioners Clay Handy and Dennis Crane voted "yes," and Commissioner Paul Christensen voted "no."

They directed Cassia County Administrator Kerry McMurray to prepare a resolution to change the county law. McMurray plans to have the resolution ready for next week's meeting. Commissioners must then approve an ordinance to create a new license, and the county's new law must be recognized by state officials.

Please see WINE, Page A6

T.F. council OKs subdivision plans for south edge of town

Area probably will remain agricultural for a few years

By Rebecca Meany Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Housing options may soon be more numerous on the south side of town.

The council approved 5-0 Monday the final plat of Villa Vista Subdivision No. 6, on about 20 acres northwest of the intersection of Harrison Street South and Pheasant Road.

Donald Acheson, a project engineer speaking on behalf of the developer, Devine Homes Inc., told the council the applicant had met the conditions of the preliminary plat that the Twin Falls Planning and Zoning Commission recommended in November. Those conditions include making a bike path on Harrison Street South and connecting two cul-de-sacs with a path.

Developers, however, reconfigured the plan by eliminating

the cul-de-sacs and linking the streets.

"We've done away with the cul-de-sacs and made a horse-shoe out of it," Acheson said.

"That'll be better for everyone." The area is zoned R-4, which requires a minimum lot size of 4,000 square feet for a single-family home and 7,000 square feet for a duplex.

The city gave its OK for the developer to enter into a trust agreement with the city for plats in the subdivision. This financial guarantee provides the city assurance that the land will be developed.

The agreement allows for more flexibility for the developer, Acheson said, by only having to build what the market will bear.

Monumentation, which means the setting of pins or markers in the ground to designate lot boundaries, could be deferred up to five years, renegotiable after each phase of

development.

The land will likely be contracted out for agricultural purposes until the developer wishes to continue building on it, Acheson said.

The city annexed the area in December.

The council unanimously voted to approve the final plat of Pheasant Meadows Subdivision, phase one, presented to council members by Acheson.

Phase one is made up of nearly 31 acres west of Washington Street South, north of Pheasant Road West.

Developers are working on tying in the park plans with storm water treatment areas and a bike path, Acheson said.

The first phase could develop 120 of the 350 homes in the subdivision.

Mayor Glenda Thompson and Councilman Tim Craig were not in attendance.

Please see COUNCIL, Page A6

Wendell council defends decision on library board

By Elisabeth Devena Times-News correspondent

WENDELL—A former Wendell Public Library Board member says the City Council's dismissal of her and her colleagues is a thinly veiled precursor to removing the longtime librarian. During a City Council meeting last week, former board member Gwen Rost directed sharp words at city leaders. She accused them of dismissing the previous five board members and picking their own replacements so they could get rid of

librarian Vivian Maltz, who has been unable to work since she broke her hip Feb. 4. She has continued to receive her regular salary while on the mend.

"The only reason I can think that you did this despicable thing to Vivian is so that you would have—and your new library board would have—this power that you did not want the old board to have," Rost said.

Mayor Paul Isaacson dismissed Rost's accusations. "Vivian is still the librarian. She has not been removed," he said. "It was not my intention

not even patrons of the library, she said.

"There is one of those people that has a library card," Rost said. "The other people do not even have library cards."

Personnel matters are now in the hands of the new library board, which met for the first time Wednesday.

Newly appointed Chairman Mike Holloman said board members are just now getting organized. They did not discuss any personnel matters at their first meeting, he said.

"We have not had opportunity to deal with anything with the

past," Holloman said. "We will deal with other issues as they present themselves in the future."

One of the new library board members, however, said she does have some ideas about changes she would like to see at the library.

"We're going to have to set up some rules and regulations and get a librarian," Virginia Arano said.

She also said she's interested in seeing the library go to more set hours of operation and evaluating the use of paperback books.

Candidates run without opposition

Regulators schedule meeting next week

The Times-News and The Associated Press

BOISE—After two decades without a direct presence on the Idaho Supreme Court, justice who should soon have plenty of representation.

Two men with strong Magic Valley ties are running unopposed for two positions on the Supreme Court this year.

Justice Roger Burdick, the former 5th District administrative officer, was appointed to the court last summer to fill the vacancy created by the mid-term retirement of Justice Walters, who has no opponent in his bid for a full term.

And Jim Jones, who grew up near Eden and served as Idaho attorney general from 1983 until 1990, is the lone candidate to replace Justice Wayne Kidwell, who decided not to retire early and complete his term on the Supreme Court so voters would have a say in his successor.

It marks the first time since 1996 that Idaho has not had a contested race for the nonpartisan Supreme Court. The three previous campaigns were successively more partisan and acrimonious.

Burdick, though only Jones filed for the position he's vacating, Kidwell said he was still pleased with his decision.

"I had hoped there would be a little more interest," Kidwell said. "But I still feel comfortable. I felt an obligation to leave it up to the people."

Kidwell, only the second person in Idaho history to be elected to all three branches of government, announced last fall that he would not run for reelection.

Had the 65-year-old judge not completed his six-year term, which goes through the end of this year, the Idaho Judicial Council would have submitted up to four nominees to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, who would have appointed a successor.

Developers are working on tying in the park plans with storm water treatment areas and a bike path, Acheson said.

The first phase could develop 120 of the 350 homes in the subdivision.

Mayor Glenda Thompson and Councilman Tim Craig were not in attendance.

Please see COURT, Page A6

Please see COUNCIL, Page A6

Please see WINE, Page A6

Please see CSI, Page A6

Best Available Copy

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Watchdog agency blasts DOE on Rocky Flats' safety

GOLDEN, Colo. (AP) — A federal oversight board has accused the Department of Energy of allowing a "wholesale breakdown" in safety at the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant. The Nuclear Defense Plant Safety Board said DOE's

failures include not grasping the seriousness of a fire in a building full of plutonium.

The department's oversight of private contractor Kaiser-Hill Co., which is cleaning up the site, has been ineffective, the board said.

The critical report from the board charged with overseeing the nation's nuclear weapons plants comes amid concerns by area governments that Kaiser-Hill is rushing cleanup of the site northwest of Denver to earn bonus.

Kerry's Ketchum home comes with long Heinz family ties

It's one of five he owns with his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry



KETCHUM (AP) — From a sailing mecca to a ski resort, presumptive Democratic nominee John Kerry and his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry, enjoy the trappings of their wealth in at least five homes and vacation getaways valued at nearly \$33 million.

Some are private escapes for the family, while others serve as prime spots to host fund-raisers and exclusive gatherings for wealthy donors. All reflect the couple's status — he is a four-term Massachusetts senator, she is heiress to the \$500 million family Ketchum fortune with breathtaking vistas, elegant furnishings and enclosures that protect the property from prying eyes.

Each home has a place in the family's history and mission, from the preppy island of Nantucket and Boston's Beacon Hill to the Pittsburgh countryside, from the Idaho mountains to the nation's capital.

Kerry is on a weeklong break from the campaign at the home in the wooded mountains of Ketchum. Located near the banks of the Big Wood River, the nearly \$5 million house is a re-

Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry's home in Ketchum is on the edge of the Big Wood River.

1995 marriage to the Massachusetts senator. Several are still listed under the name of her late husband.

Formerly part of a convent, the five-story, 12-room Boston town house — with six fireplaces, a rooftop deck and an elevator — is Kerry's main residence. It is where he is registered to vote, where his cars and motorcycle are registered and is located blocks from the State House where he began his political career as lieutenant governor. While that is his newest home, Heinz Kerry has had a Massachusetts presidency for years.

Just beyond the historic Brant Point Lighthouse in Nantucket's harbor is Heinz Kerry's \$9.1 million waterfront estate.

Visitors say that while the homes are adorned with pricey art and antiques, they are generally friendly and comfortable and not ostentatious.

While Kerry calls Boston home, Heinz Kerry's base is Pittsburgh, which is her long-time residence and the headquarters of the Heinz Family Philanthropies, which she chairs.

Located on a \$3.7 million, 90-

acre family farm in Fox Chapel, the home is a nine-room white colonial fronted with six columns, and at the end of a steep drive, hidden from the road by a curtain of woods. The property includes a deep-red, nine-room carriage house. They fifth home, in Washington, is perhaps the most Georgetown, and is necessary to accommodate the time they spend in Washington when the Senate is in session. Also belonging to Heinz Kerry, the 23-room, \$4.7 million town house, with its wide stairway and landscaped courtyard, is filled with antiques, fine art, including paintings by Dutch masters, and family photos.

SERVICES

Harold D. "Hal" Rowley of Rupert, service at 11 a.m. today at the Rupert First Baptist Church, 807 Fifth St. Friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church. (Rasmusen Funeral Home).

J. Richard Fillmore of Twin Falls, graveside service at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Rigby-Plymouth Cemetery in Rigby; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rasmusen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Christ of Latter-day Saints, 160 W. 400 S., Burley, friends and family may call from noon to 12:45 p.m. Saturday at the church (Rasmusen Funeral Home, Burley).

Philip A. Smith Sr. of Buhl, celebration of life at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Clear Lake Country Club. Celebration of life for Philip and his wife, Jo, who died in 1988. (Farmer Funeral Chapel).

Margaret Louise Greer of Twin Falls, memorial service at 7 p.m. April 2 at Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Emma Viola McCloud of Wendell, graveside service at 11 a.m. April 10 at the Wendell Cemetery (Spencer, Libby and Powell Funeral Home).

Ila Frances Craven of Rupert, funeral at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 25, 2004, at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 605 H St. Viewing for family and friends from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2004, at Hansen Mortuary-Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the funeral at the church.

Burton R. Mackey of Burley, service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Pella 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus

Ronald J. Cochran of Eagle, service at 2 p.m. today at the King of Glory Lutheran Church, 3430 N. Maple Grove Unit, Boise; viewing from 1 p.m. until time of the service today at the church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel, Jerome).

Gary Roy Kernin of Lewiston and formerly of the Magic Valley area, memorial service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Twin City Isidore Dance Hall in Clarkston, Wash.; graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Norman Hill Cemetery in Lewiston.

DEATH NOTICES

Byron L. Martin

BURLEY — Byron LeRoy Martin, 81, of Burley, died Monday, March 22, 2004, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 26, 2004, at the Unity First and Second Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 275 S. 250 E., Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

A complete obituary will appear in a later edition.

Ethel M. Doty

CALDWELL — Ethel M. Doty,

77, of Caldwell, formerly of Gooding, died Monday, March 22, 2004, at a Caldwell care center.

Memorial graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 25, 2004, at the Gooding Cemetery, Gooding, under the direction of Demary's Gooding Chapel. Cremation was under the direction of Pfahlf Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

Owen Benjamin Bingham

KIMBERLY — Owen Benjamin Bingham, infant son of Heather and Benjamin M. Bingham, died March 21, 2004, in Twin Falls.

A private family service will be held at 2 p.m. today, Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at the Rupert Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Hansen Mortuary-Rupert Chapel.

Gary C. Jacobson

GOODING — Gary C. Jacobson, 57, of Gooding, died Monday, March 22, 2004, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital in Gooding.

Arrangements will be made by Demary's Gooding Chapel.

JoAnn Winn

PAUL — JoAnn Winn, 53, of Paul, died Monday, March 22, 2004.

Arrangements will be made by White Mortuary, "Chapel in the Park."

Norma J. O'Brien

HEYBURN — Norma J. O'Brien, 63, of Heyburn, died Monday, March 22, 2004, at her sisters home in Heyburn.

Arrangements will be made by Payne Mortuary in Burley.

OBITUARIES

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

Ronald Dean Easterday - Buhl



Ronald Dean Easterday, 58, of Buhl, went home to the loving arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, March 19, 2004.

He was the second child born to Lenard and Lorene (Beuther) Easterday Feb. 6, 1946, in Lexington, Mo. He moved to Buhl, Idaho, with his family in December 1948 and grew up and worked on the family farm and dairy. He went to school at Castleford, graduating in 1965.

He met his wife, Mary Stokesberry, on a blind date in February 1969. They were married on May 23, 1970. To this union were born two daughters, Carla and Jeri, and a son, Brad. He worked and lived in Lexington, Mo., until August 1989, when he suffered a spinal cord injury due to hay bales falling from the top of the stack and hitting him. This left him paralyzed from the chest down for the past five and a half years. He enjoyed time with his family. He also enjoyed collecting John Deere tractors and especially loved

58 Chevys, peanuts and his dog, Charlie.

Even though he will be deeply missed by his family, we know he was able to walk into Jesus' arms when he was called home.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; and three children, Carla (Brandon) Owen of Boise, Brad (Jennifer) Easterday of Boise and Jeri (Oscar) Flores of Castleford; his grand-children, Kendra, ReAnna and

Makayla Flores of Castleford; his parents, Lenard and Lorene Easterday; brothers, Lalfay and Elden Sr. of Buhl and Alvin of Sasabe, Ariz.; and sisters, Christine Ewing and Mary Hope of Buhl. He also survived by his Uncle Fred and Aunt Ruth Koch of Buhl; Uncle Ray and Aunt Lova Easterday of Hagerman; Uncle Danny and Aunt Diane Easterday of Nebraska; Uncle Marvin Easterday of Oregon; Aunt June Easterday of Nebraska; Aunt Opal Easterday of Oregon, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Chris and Leola Beuther and Alvin and Mary Easterday; and his uncles, Donald, Ervin and LaVern Easterday and Raymond Beuther.

There will be a viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. today, Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, Buhl. A funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2004, at the Community of Christ Church, Highway 30 in Buhl.

Jalene Carole Williams Ainslie



Jalene Carole Williams Ainslie passed away peacefully March 19, 2004, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

She was born May 7, 1961, in Arcu, Idaho, to Logan and Linda Hayworth Williams. She spent her childhood days above Mackay on the family ranch. She graduated from Mackay High School, attended ISU Tech, graduating with a degree in Graphic Arts. She also attended the College of Southern Idaho.

On May 16, 1981, she married Bill Ainslie. To this marriage were born two handsome sons, Cory Austin and Bryan Gordon. Jalene was her boy's biggest fan. She loved going to baseball, football and basketball games and high

school rodeos. She was a 4-H and Cub Scout leader. The one most important thing in her life was her family. She will be greatly missed by all those who

knew her and loved her. She is survived by her husband, Bill; sons, Cory and Bryan of Bliss; her parents, Logan and Linda Williams, grandmother, Elvera Williams, and brother, Dusty (Marcel) Williams, all of Mackay; two sisters, Jan (Cris) Machidon of Florida and Leann (Kurt) Bywater of Twin Falls; and five nieces and three nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2004, in the Mackay Community Church, Mackay, Idaho, with Pastor Josh Ratzlaff officiating. The family will meet with friends one hour prior to the services. Burial will be in the Mount McCaleb Cemetery. Arrangements are in the care of Simpson Marvel Funeral Chapel.

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Groundwater district readies for short season

The Times-News

RUPERT — A meeting to discuss an agreement affecting all members of the Magic Valley Groundwater District is set for 9 a.m. March 30 at the McGee Center at the Minidoka County Groundwaters.

Groundwater district Chairman Orlando Maughan said the meeting is designed to share information about this summer's shortened watering season.

All irrigators in the district are allowed to pump from their wells only between April 10 and Oct. 31 this year, Maughan said. That condition is part of the agreement reached among the district, the North Snake Groundwater District, the state

and spring users in the Hagerman Valley.

The 2004 irrigation season is being shortened by about 10 days, he said. Typically district members may use water from their wells from March 15 until Nov. 15.

It doesn't matter whether users have senior water rights in this case, Maughan said. The top six affected water users in the 117,000-acre district.

"We will police it," he said. "It is a gentlemen's agreement, but if people want to violate it they are putting themselves in jeopardy for future water use."

The biggest crop worry with later spring water is sugar beets, he said. Potatoes and grain could also be affected if there's no spring rain.

Burley company seeks to build grain elevator

The Times-News

HAZELTON — Reed Barley Storage LLC in Twin Falls has asked the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for an air permit for a grain elevator and associated loading and unloading equipment in Hazelton.

Particulate matter or grain dust is the pollutant regulated. Public comments are being accepted on the plan until 5 p.m. April 12.

The permit is available for review at DEQ's TWIN Falls office, 601 Pole Line Road, Suite 2. Submit comments, requests and questions to Joan Lechtenberg, Air Quality Division, DEQ State Office, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, 83706; (208) 373-0502; and jlechten@deq.state.id.us.

'Freeze on Skis' presents donations this evening

TWIN FALLS — Money raised at the 2004 "Freeze on Skis" event will be donated today to

Magic Valley in brief

two local charities.

Snake River Freeze on Skis Inc. makes the donations to the People for Pets building fund and the South Central Community Action Emergency Medical Fund at 7:30 p.m. at the KMVT Community Room on Blue Lakes Boulevard North.

Wood River Watershed group meets tonight

CAREY — The Wood River Watershed Advisory Group will hold Technical Advisory Committee and general and executive board meetings at 7 p.m. today at the Carey City Hall, 20482 N. Main St.

Routine business will be conducted. The public is encouraged to attend.

— compiled from staff reports

Trade group questions different treatment of Mexicans, Canadians

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mexicans entering the United States face tougher restrictions than Canadians because of a greater number of problems along the southern border, an undersecretary of the Homeland Security Department said Monday.

"There has historically been greater problems on the southern border than the northern border," Asa Hutchinson, who oversees border and transportation security, said in response to a question by a Texas businessman.

The answer irritated several guests attending the Border Trade Alliance conference in Washington, who asked, "What problem?" Gerald Schwebel, executive vice president of the Laredo-based International Bank of Commerce, drew ap-

plause when he asked Hutchinson to "bring down the policy makers to witness the action."

"All I meant was there has been a greater influx of illegal immigrants from the southern border," Hutchinson later told reporters.

His explanations did not satisfy officials of several border towns. "Every time we come up here to discuss making things user-friendly with respect to security issues, it seems we always get bashed," said Carlos Villagras, mayor pro tem of Pinar, Texas.

The two-day conference is focusing on the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology, or US-VISIT, a system to track foreign visitors, and its impact on border economies.

Council

Continued from A4

Other council business included:

- Strategic plan — Council members and city staff are continuing to tweak the strategic plan that was hashed out at a day-long planning session March 11. A final version of the plan may be ready in the next couple of weeks.
- No parking — The council

denied members of Our Savior Lutheran Church the right to park RVs on property at the southeast corner of the intersection of Carriage Lane and Filer Avenue East that would be occupied while workers construct a new church.

"What we're afraid of is the door that it opens," City Attorney Fritz Wondolitsch said. Neighbors don't like people living in RVs, he said.

Minidoka County eyes economic development

By Chip Thompson Times-News writer

RUPERT — Minidoka County commissioners were asked Monday to consider forming an urban renewal agency in order to spur economic development in certain areas of the county.

An urban renewal agency is a tool for economic development, Minidoka County Assessor Max Vaughn told commissioners. Vaughn and members of the urban renewal commission presented the proposal to a joint hearing and advisory agency.

Vaughn suggested that property along Idaho Highway 24, parts of Rupert's city center, the Centennial Industrial Park and the Simplot property in Heyburn could all be included in an urban renewal district.

Pointing out that the Simplot land will soon be owned by the city of Burley, Cassia County Magistrate Judge Rick Bollard said, "Burley has no motivation to privatize, but with a jointly held parcel, the city of Burley could receive a portion of taxes if ownership is privatized." Bollard is a member of the Rupert Urban Renewal Agency board.

Urban renewal agencies can

offer powerful incentives to businesses within their borders, Bollard said.

Property in an urban renewal district can be designated as revenue allocation areas, which means any additional tax revenue generated by development of the property would be directed to the urban renewal agency to be invested in that property or infrastructure serving that property, Bollard said. Current tax rates would continue to be paid to the city or county.

Urban renewal agencies have broader powers than county commissions or city councils and can take action much more quickly, Vaughn said.

"When you talk to businesses, they need an answer right away," Rupert Community and Economic Development Specialist Sherri Miles said. "If you say you'll let them know in six weeks, you've lost them."

Vaughn said starting small, including a few specific areas and expanding as needed. Previously, commissioners resisted the idea because they had the impression that the entire county would be designated an urban renewal district.

Oregon rates at the top among environmentalists

Oregon has been rated by scientific environmentalists as the "greenest" of the United States. Maine came in second.

In only one of the United States can the sun appear directly overhead. Aloha.

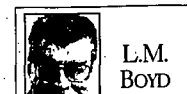
Writes a woman of retirement age: "My son always sends me a card of congratulations on his birthday. It has been a long-running joke. But I'm getting a little sick of it..."

In Evanston, Ill., you'll find the Museum of Funeral Service Artifacts, if you look.

Those who think color preferences denote character traits contend people particularly fond of blues and greens tend to be a bit too anxious about everything.

Roads, too, go forth in search of a place to mate. What they seek is shallow water.

The waitress asked the cus-



L.M. BOYD

tomer whether he wanted his pizza cut into four slices or eight. And he said, "Better make it four. I don't think I can eat eight." In this one, Yogi Berra has been named as the customer ever since an enlightened property put Aggies and the Polish off limits. But how much sander can an old catter stand? Let's hang it on Rodney Dangerfield. He's probably already told it on himself anyhow.

Report is you can still eat your new Christmas gingerbread house up to six months after Christmas.

Wine

Continued from A4

before any wine licenses can be issued. McCormay guessed the entire process would take a month or two.

Monday's vote reverses a November 2001 vote by county residents to prohibit a wine license category from being created in the county, which would have allowed businesses to sell wine. Many retail outlets are suffering because they can't compete with businesses in other counties in the Magic Valley that sell wine.

That sentiment was echoed Monday by 15 speakers who offered comments in favor of allowing wine sales. Commissioners had two letters of support, too. Two people spoke against wine sales at the hearing.

Crane said while he's not personally in favor of alcohol, he realizes people make personal choices about whether to drink.

Crane said he supports growth and development in Cassia County, but wanted to be clear that the absence of wine sales isn't the only factor in the county's economic problems.

Christensen explained his "no" vote, saying there's already enough alcohol in the community. He wants to be able to tell his children he "did what I could to limit the sale of alcohol in Cassia County."

That doesn't mean he's against growth and economic development, Christensen said. He's not willing to support increased substance abuse.

Handy countered that people who are going to abuse alcohol will do so, no matter if the county allows wine to be sold, especially because beer and liquor are already sold in the county.

Supporting the move

Burley Abensons Store Director Don Swenson said he's been selling a certain item that would have allowed wine sales, the complaint he heard from people who voted "no" was that they didn't want to see wine in their grocery stores.

Swenson said, those same people shop across the river in Minidoka County at the Burley Wal-Mart, which has a 30-foot-long wine section. People aren't staying out of that store to avoid wine.

"Nobody is boycotting Wal-Mart because they sell wine," he said.

Swenson and several other business owners and managers said allowing wine to be sold is simply a matter of economics.

"Do we keep the retail dollars in Cassia County or let it go to Minidoka County?" Swenson asked.

John's Market owner Kevin Crawford also spoke in favor of wine sales.

Crawford said he doesn't expect to make a great deal of profit from selling wine in his store, but he sometimes loses food sales because people are buying wine instead of dinner, and when they can't get a bottle of wine they don't buy their groceries either and instead go to a store where they can buy both.

Josie Garcia of Angela's Restaurant said the same thing. People come in for dinner, and when they discover they can't have wine with their meals, they leave and eat elsewhere, she said.

Prohibiting wine sales isn't very progressive, Crawford said. Josie Stokes Jr., an owner of Stokes, voiced similar comments.

Customers at his store usually choose to shop there because of the quality of the products, Stokes said. If they're looking for a bottle of wine, they can't compete with businesses in other counties in the Magic Valley that sell wine.

Stokes said he'd like to see a situation where Wal-Mart was prohibited by the government from selling a certain item that he was allowed to sell because if those shoppers were coming into Burley from Wal-Mart, his is the first store they pass by.

"This isn't a religious issue," Curtis said, pointing out he's a Mormon and he's the three county commissioners. "It's an economic issue. It's time to slow the rest of the world we're with the times."

Israel Palamantes, who works for hardware and wine distributor Hansen Beverages, said tourists especially like to buy Idaho-made products, including wine. When they can't buy it in Burley, they buy it somewhere else, and that sales loss hurts the county and businesses, he said.

An opponent

Claude Bryant told commissioners the county shouldn't allow wine to be sold because beer is already legal and the two products "are the same thing."

"We got so many alcoholics in Cassia County we don't need any more," he said. And he said, if a business needs to sell wine "to make a living," that business should just live. "We don't need you."

Court

Continued from A4

being appointed to the Supreme Court last year. Before that, he served for 10 years on the District Court bench in Twin Falls and had been a magistrate in Jerome County court, a prosecutor, public defender and private attorney.

The last Supreme Court judge from south-central Idaho had been Justice Joseph McAdden from Blaine County, who served from 1959 until 1992.

A disincentive to run?

Some think the meager and expiring of the more recent high court campaigns was enough to keep qualified candidates off the ballot this year.

Justice Cathy Silak in 2000 was subjected to an attack campaign financed by more than 100 outside interests in her failed re-election bid. She lost the seat to Daniel Eismann.

And Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout had to fend off a last-minute attack financed by \$173,000 from an anonymous source.

"Many thoughtful people in Idaho have been concerned about the amounts of money flowing into judicial campaigns and the specificity of issue identification by the candidates," said University of Idaho law professor Don Burnett, one of the three original judges on the Idaho Court of Appeals.

Burnett said that has called "into question the independence of the judiciary and both the appearance and actuality of impartiality, so it is possible that concerns about that have had some effect on individuals deciding not to run for office this time."

Former Idaho State Bar President Eric Peterson of Lewiston was more blunt.

"As an attorney who has a practice, you run a very great risk to give up your practice for a four- or six-year job when you could get voted out the next time," Peterson said. "Why would you want to run in a hotly contested election, risk the income you have and spend \$150,000 to \$200,000 for a job that pays \$90,000?"

Fair

Continued from A1

dinner and between 5,000 and 6,000 people for a concert with standing and seating, Currier said.

The building could be used for some events but not others, as the planned first phase of the project doesn't include a concrete floor. So now the board is considering stretching out the levy to two years in order to complete the entire project and make the building useful for a number of events, all of which would bring additional revenue to the county fair officials say.

What other fairs do

Bannock County holds two fairs every August, a small one at fairgrounds in Dorney and a larger one at its fairgrounds in Pocatello. The county's fair levy brings in about \$350,000 a year, said Bannock County Commissioner Steve Hadley. During the off-season, Bannock County rents out two multipurpose buildings — a 60- by 100-foot structure and a 40- by 100-foot structure — at the Pocatello site for everything from flea markets to tool sales to wedding receptions. Renting out the buildings has been a money-maker for the county, generating \$72,000 a year which goes back into the county's general fund, Hadley said.

General admission to the fair is free, but the fair does charge anywhere from \$8 to \$15 to get into special events, Fairgrounds Secretary Jolynn Larsen said.

The Western Idaho Fair in Boise is the largest fair, with more than 250,000 people passing through its turnstiles during the annual nine-day event. The fair is self-supporting, bringing in close to \$4 million, all of which is banked into its coffers, Fair Manager Bob Batista said.

The fairgrounds rents out five of its buildings during the off-

CSI

Continued from A4

summer repair projects. The notable ones include:

• 522 Madrona St. — The maintenance department is in the process of refurbishing this building's house CSI's developmental disability assessment center. When that department moves out of the Teaching and Learning Center, maintenance will refurbish that facility, said Randy Dill, the college's physical plant director.

• Eagle Hall — The maintenance department will remodel the "B" wing of the dormitory. This men's wing has 28 double rooms and four sin-

gles, but has not been redone since it was built in 1970. The renovation will include new sheet rock, furniture, windows, lights and air conditioning. It will cost about \$25,000 from the Dormitory Housing Commission, student union funds and plant facilities funds, Mason said.

• Pavement sealing — The college received state money from the Department of Public Works to seal and resurface the top layer of roads on campus. Dill said it would tentatively be done on a Sunday during the summer when the smallest number of people would be there.

Fair

season, bringing in \$700,000 from rentals last year alone. The fair's goal is to bring in \$750,000 this year, Batista said.

Batista, who serves as president of the Idaho Fair Association, and sits on the board of the International Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, said the fair board is in the midst of developing its master plan — looking at needs down the road six to seven years. For instance, if the fair is going to need a new facility five years from now, it needs to start looking for funding sources now, he said.

Admission to the fairgrounds in Boise is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children and seniors.

The Twin Falls County Fair Board had considered making admission to its fair free but dropped the idea after receiving many calls from people opposed to the idea.

"I was just talking to me the number of people who called who were against the idea of free fair admission," Pitz said. "They didn't like the idea of people who don't pay tax dollars getting a free ride on their tax dollars."

The current proposal on the table calls for reducing most admission prices. It voters approve the levy, family fair admission, which admits up to two adults and three children under the age of 18, would be reduced from \$25 to \$15. Meanwhile, admission for people ages 65 and over would be reduced from \$6 to \$4. Admission for children ages 6 to 12 would be \$3, down from \$4, and adult admission would be \$7, up from \$6. Grandstand seats would be \$5 for reserved seats, and general admission to the events would continue to be free.

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at smiller@magicvalley.com

Best Available Copy

COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

Teen queen passes on crown, knowledge

By Trena Tegan
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Kabree Dayton will soon relinquish her title as Mini-Cassia Junior Miss.

The Minico High School senior was winner of last year's local contest and second runner-up at the state contest. She has received more than \$3,000 in scholarship money between the two pageants and says she has gained a wealth of experience, experience she is passing on to 2004 contestants.



Kabree Dayton

Kabree was not always a fan of the program.

She was a athlete, playing on Minico's volleyball and basketball teams and thought a "beauty pageant" was not for her. But the America's Junior Miss pageant was not what she had expected. She found the emphasis was education, scholarship opportunities and encouraging personal development.

"I learned a lot of things to take into the future," Kabree said.

She especially enjoyed the "Be Your Best Self" program, a

Saturday camp where the contestants worked with grade school-age children promoting literacy, all-around excellence and self-esteem.

Kabree's mother, Trudy Dayton, is also an advocate for the program, saying it's not political like so many contests are for young girls.

"It's an amazing program," she said. "It's based on making better girls. I support it 100 percent."

The contest was not expen-

sive. Between the local and state pageants, she only spent about \$200 and that included a dress, a suit for the interview and costumes for the opening act and fitness routine, as well as shoes and accessories, Kabree said. Many items she used in the contest were borrowed or purchased secondhand at thrift stores. She also took outside lessons to improve her performance in various categories.

This year, Kabree will help the girls prepare for the contest, which will be held April 21 at the King Fine Arts Center in Burley. She is teaching the girls the opening act and fitness routine and will offer insight on the contest and how to get the best out of the experience.

Upon her graduation, she plans to attend Brigham Young University Idaho and work toward a degree in pediatric medicine.

Though she started the program with a lot of doubts, Kabree said she has no regrets.

"My parents taught me not to quit," she said, "and I'm so glad I didn't."



PHOTO: TRENA TEGAN

Kabree Dayton, winner of the Mini-Cassia 2003 America's Junior Miss contest, helps contestants for the 2004 competition learn their fitness routine, which will be performed at the event in April. The fitness routine is a combination of dance and exercise.

SAWTOOTH MATH RECOGNITION

Students in Susan Jessor's class at Sawtooth Elementary School in Twin Falls already passed their 50 in a Minute math drills for the second grade.

During a minute timing, these student have been successful on their sums and differences to five, 10 and 18; and multiplication facts from 0-5. Recognized were, from left, back row: Sam Krapf, Courtney Nolan, Kaden Ottersberg and Jason Cox; front row: Samantha Drellinger, Rachel Taylor and Bekah Pool.



Photo courtesy of Sawtooth Elementary School

Auxiliary sends delegates to Girls State

TWIN FALLS - The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 7 announced the selection of the east end Twin Falls County delegates to the 58th annual session of Idaho Springs Girls State June 13-19 at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa.

Girls State is for girls in their junior or third year of high school. The selection is based upon leadership, character, cooperativeness, courage, honesty, good moral character and scholarship. The program focuses on leadership and workings of government.



Emily Mosloe

Representing Kimberly High School are Danielle Everill and Emily Molsae. Danielle, 17, is the daughter of Becky Everill of Kimberly and Brian Everill of Twin Falls. She enjoys music, debating



Melissa Myers

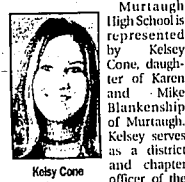
issues, singing, dance and playing the piano and the clarinet.

Emily, the daughter of Leanne Yrasti of Kimberly, also enjoys singing. She has earned her bronze and silver Congressional Award, is a member of the National Honor Society and Key Club and is organizing an organ donor contest at the high school.

Their contributor is the Grace Smith Kevenen Foundation.

Melissa Myers, 16, the daughter of Bill and Willma Myers of Hansen, will represent

Hansen High School. Melissa enjoys performing and has participated in "The Sound of Music," "Our Town" and "The Wind in the Willows." She is a member of National Honor Society and Natural Helpers and plans to attend medical school. The Hansen High School Student Body Fund is her contributor.



Kelsey Cone

Murtaugh High School is represented by Kelsey Cone, daughter of Karen and Mike Blankenship of Murtaugh. Kelsey serves as a district officer of the Future Farmers of America, is a 4-H member, shows sheep and is a soccer coach for young students.

Kelsey's contributor is the Murtaugh High School Student

STORK REPORT

St. Benedicts Family Medical Center

Sariah Muree Johansen, daughter of Steven and Annetta Johnson of Shoshone, was born Monday, March 1, 2004.

Zia Lee Ann McKnight, daughter of Tim and Wendy McKnight of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, March 4, 2004.

Harvey Elvorn Holson, daughter of Richard Holson and Lindsay Tangay of Twin Falls, was born Sunday, March 7, 2004.

Benjamin Jack Bodmer, son of Ben and Mindy Bodmer of Wendell, was born Friday, March 12, 2004.

Caleb Andrew Harrison, son of Cameron Harrison and Amanda Kasimatis of Gooding, was born Monday, March 15, 2004.

Mackenzie Kristine Walgamott, daughter of Tom and Chris Walgamott of Jerome, was born Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Jase Michael Van Houten, son of Jedd Van Houten and Collin McClymonds of Jerome, was born Friday, March 19, 2004.

Jason William Cox, son of Jeremy Cox and Cristina Burton of Gooding, was born Friday, March 19, 2004.

Austin Michale Stowell, son of Mike and Shara Stowell of Shoshone, was born Saturday, March 20, 2004.

Cassia Regional Medical Center

Damean Salvatore Pigford, son of Evan Salvatore and Angel Dawn Burgess-Pigford of Burley, was born Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Jevon Shay Williams, son of Debbi Garza of Buhl, was born Saturday, March 6, 2004.

Kody Michael Knipe, son of Michelle Reese and Kenneth John Knipe, was born Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Edina Spic, daughter of Besima Bekte and Muris Spic of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Jayden Paul Simpson, son of Veronica Maria and Trent Richard Stimpson of Twin

Falls, was born Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Kasey Gutierrez, son of Shawn Janell and Raul Gutierrez of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, March 18, 2004.

St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center

Gabriel Reuben Leigh-Wagner, son of Elizabeth Meghan Wagner and Adam Clement of Elkiron, was born Monday, March 8, 2004.

Jenni Dawn Hoopes, daughter of Summer Dawn and Jonathan J. Hoopes of Halley, was born Wednesday, March 10, 2004.

Andres Salamanca, son of Celis and Juan Salamanca of Halley, was born Friday, March 12, 2004.

Chase Dean Bennion, son of Dawnetta Lynn and Shawn Dee Bennion of Carey, was born Saturday, March 13, 2004.

Carlos Alejandro Ceja, son of Elda Rios and Silvano Ceja of Halley, was born Sunday, March 14, 2004.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Former Buhl student receives art award

Darron Peterson, a sophomore at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, has received first place in ceramic and sculpture at the NNU Art show for his copper sculpture design "Last Breath."

The art show has had more than 400 entries from NNU art students in categories of graphic design, painting, charcoal, watercolor painting, ceramics and sculpture. The announcement of the winners of this art show was made opening night at the Brandt Center of NNU.

Peterson is receiving a certificate. He is studying art



Darron Peterson

education with an emphasis in sculpture. Peterson, a 2002 Buhl High School graduate, is the son of Donna and Ron Peterson of Buhl.

Theater major will study in Florence, Italy

Jacqueline Baxter, a junior theater major at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., is participating in a foreign study program this spring in Florence, Italy through Syracuse Florence.

Baxter is a graduate of Wood River High School in Halley and the daughter of K. Baxter of Twin Falls.

Whitman College offers foreign study credit through 38 affiliated programs in 22 countries.

Local students study abroad through Linfield
Molly McBride of Twin Falls

and Angela Patrick of Kimberly spent January studying at the United States and abroad through a special study program at Linfield College in McMinnville, Ore.

McBride, a sophomore, majoring in political science, is a 2002 graduate of Twin Falls High School, the daughter of Michael and Janet McBride of Twin Falls, the health and outdoor coordinator for the Linfield Activities Board and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta honor society. She took the class "Politics, Medicine, and Health: Hawaii - The Health State."

Patrick, a junior, majoring in business, is a 2001 graduate of Kimberly High School. She is the daughter of Ron and Vicki Patrick of Kimberly and a KSMC dance instructor. She took the class "Topics in Asian History: Japanese Pilgrimage and Sacred Space" in Japan.

St. Catharine's hosts Basque dinner, auction

HAGERMAN - Roast leg of lamb, potatoes, salad, green beans, Basque rice and desert will be served for St. Catharine's Catholic Church Basque dinner 5-8 p.m. Saturday at the American Legion Hall, 281 N. State St. in Hagerman.

Auctions, door prizes and a raffle for a kayak will be available. The cost for adults is \$10, children age 10 and under are \$3.

For more information, call St. Catharine's at 837-6592.

Desert Sage Quilt Guild meets this week

TWIN FALLS - The Desert Sage Quilt Guild will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the KMVT Community Room, 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Dide McClain, an experi-

enced teacher of many different quilting classes, will teach how to make a tessellation quilt. These quilts have a mosaic-like appearance.

Those attending should bring paper, scissors and tape to the meeting.

Church hosts workshop for visually-impaired

TWIN FALLS - The Idaho State Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired will have a two-day workshop from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. Thursday at the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church located at 209 Fifth Ave. N.

The workshop is free and all sight-impaired people are encouraged to attend. The workshop is designed to help the sight-impaired to function more easily at home, become acquainted with the services of

the commission and experience the new technology available to the sight-impaired.

For transportation or to provide transportation for the workshop, call Norma Coizer at 733-6220.

CSI evening computer classes start in April

TWIN FALLS - Evening computer classes will begin April 5 at the College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave. E.

Evening computer coordinator, Olenka Paredes, says the 13 classes represent a wide variety of computer skills for beginners and intermediate-level computer users.

There will be introductory classes for computers, including a class taught in Spanish. They include classes on spreadsheets, windows, word processing, scanning, Internet and e-mail and an intermediate

COMMUNITY EVENTS

class in Front Page and Microsoft XP.

Each class earns one credit, and the cost is \$92.50, not including textbooks. Some classes require a \$25 lab fee.

For information and class times, call Paredes at 732-6441 or e-mail her at oparedes@csi.edu.

Mail invites 'Home Grown' authors to fair

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Mall will host a "Home Grown Author Fair" featuring Magic Valley residents who have written and self-published a book. The fair will be held April 16-17 in the center court area in the mall in support of Magic Valley Reads and the Twin Falls Centennial celebration.

Self-published authors are invited to contact the Magic Valley Mail office, 1465 Pole Line Road E. or Barnes and Noble, 1239

Pole Line Road, for an information and registration packet.

For more information, call 733-3000.

Jerome resident celebrates 80th birthday

JEROME - Robert V. Goley of Jerome will celebrate his 80th birthday with an open house from 1:30-4 p.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls R.E. Forme Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N.

Goley was born March 28, 1924, in Conda, Idaho. He married Donna Riley on July 8, 1947, in Boise. He has resided in the Magic Valley area for 68 years.

Goley has served on the



Robert Goley

North Side Soil Conservation District committee for several years in the Grange organization, on the Jerome County Planning and Zoning Commission and with church and community organizations.

They have four sons, Gary (Dana) Gola of Alabama, Larry (Juanita) of Nevada, Randy (Nora) of Burley, and Kelley (Dore) of Florida; and six grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. His family is hosting the event.

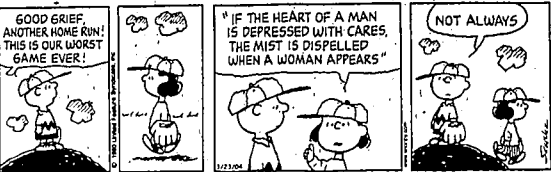
Craft store holds free family event

TWIN FALLS - The Michaels store celebrates National Craft Month with a free come-and-go family-oriented activity that will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, at 1988 Bridgeview Blvd.

To learn more about National Craft Month, visit www.michaels.com or call Michaels at 735-8906.

COMICS

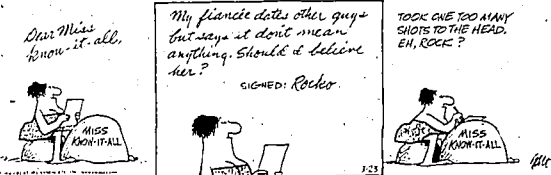
Classic Peanuts



Dilbert



B.C.



Garfield



Hi and Lois



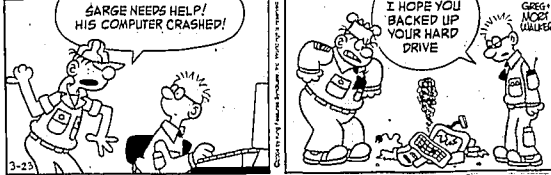
The Wizard of Id



Hagar the Horrible



Beetle Bailey



Frank and Ernest



The Born Loser



For Better or For Worse



Blonde



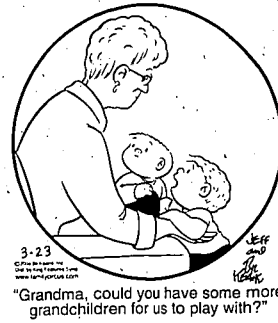
Pickles



Dennis the Menace



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



Rose Is Rose



Zits



Luann



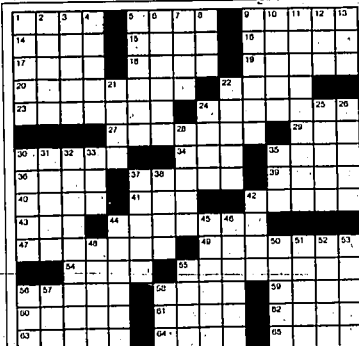
Strange Brew



Non Sequitur



MORNING BREAK



ACROSS
1 Pockybooks
2 Those other guys
3 Confronted
4 Direct
14 Baddle of love
15 Dynamic or space leader
16 All by oneself
17 Saharan
18 Court action
19 Hollow forms
20 Colonize
22 Nourishment
23 Major City
24 Fluffy baked dish
27 Educators
28 Treat
29 Artifacts
34 Silent
35 Drawn-out
36 Burden
37 Looks over quickly
39 As soon as
40 Priest's robes
41 cocktail
42 Renowned
43 Lacking
44 Flowy traveler
47 Fool grip

DOWN
1 Moody mediator
2 Home honk
3 Happen at the same time
4 Old Nick
58 Give the cold shoulder to
59 Work units
60 Rub out
61 Combat
62 author
63 Lash mark
64 Common conjunctions
65 Cozy retreat
66 Remnant
67 Plains, IL
68 Chuck
69 Before long
70 Through long
71 Amusing
72 on (in)cro
73 Where lovers wait?
74 Through-fours
75 Not illuminated
76 Presentations
77 Double cure
78 London lay
79 Nore Welle's creator
38 Evrovec
42 Light gas
44 Old hags
45 Occur in great numbers
46 Imbibe
48 Faculous
50 Vast expanse
51 Funeral song
52 Advantages
53 Return to default
55 Biggie's
56 Defective
57 Ewest
58 Rwy stop

Monday's Puzzle Solved
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

Consignment jeweler can help man with ring

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter from a man in Chicago who had broken his engagement. He asked how to dispose of the rings because it was "no longer possible to return them to the jeweler, and a pawnshop would never give him their full value." You advised him to get a written appraisal and donate the rings to charity.



DEAR ABBY: Jeanne Phillips

I have been a jeweler for 20 years, and I disagree. If that young man needs the money instead of a tax write-off, there are jewelers who will take items on consignment. Another idea is to run an ad in the classified section of the local newspaper. Before he places the ad, the man should contact a local jeweler, make an appointment to have a written appraisal done, and ask the jeweler for a commission - he can meet the prospective buyer in the store. This adds credibility to the ring that is being sold, and it is the only safe way to resell jewelry to the public.

DEAR ABBY: Your advice about donating the rings to charity isn't the only choice that young man has. My husband is a custom jeweler. Women come into his store all the time wanting "divorce rings." They bring their old wedding rings, have them melted down and have a different one created. That young man could do the same thing for himself or for someone else important in his life. -JEWELER'S WIFE, CARRIZOZO, N.M.

2. Melt down the bands and engagement ring and have a wonderful Mother's Day gift created. She would appreciate it more than anyone.

DEAR WIFE: Hmm... a divorce ring if the person doesn't mind being reminded of an unhappy chapter in life. I suppose that would work.

3. Get a safe-deposit box and keep them there. They will not lose value. If all else fails, and he's stuck with the rings, I have two other suggestions.

DEAR ABBY: Set the record straight at once. The young man back to the jeweler! I have been buying estate jewelry for more than 25 years. In my experience, there are four ways to liquidate a diamond ring: (1) sell to a jeweler; (2) consign to a jewelry store; (3) sell through auction; (4) donate to a charity. Consignment is usually the best choice because you can determine a fair price in advance.

DEAR SOUTHERN JEWELER: Thank you for your input. I learn from my readers every day. By the way, you aren't the only jeweler who offered suggestions. Read on:

L.M. Boyd is on page A6 today

Things could get tense for you, Scorpio

IF MARCH 23 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... you are usually forthright and brave, and at this point of time are more demanding and willing to fight for your rights. You have a take-charge attitude and refuse to back down on important issues. Because there is a tendency at the moment to take offense at the least provocation, it would be wise to avoid acting impulsively and to think carefully before striking out on a new path. ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): People are somewhat belligerent today and could egg you on into doing something that you may regret. Now and exciting does not always mean "better."

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

mental situations. Maintain a neutral demeanor and don't allow aggravations to get under your skin and ruin your day. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): With everyone vying to be top dog today, you may find yourself bristling with hostility and ready to take some serious steps. Clashes should be avoided, though. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen to the news and get in sync with the mood of the world; there is valuable material for reflection that could help you through the upcoming week. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Butting heads with people at close quarters could cause some irritation, so bring your best manners with you. Also, restrain yourself from making major moves this week, no matter how much you are provoked.

much you are provoked. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may be stirred to make major alterations or stand up for your beliefs, but this is not the time to strike out on your own. PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): The trend is for rush and speed, and it is tempting to jump to conclusions.

Godde Auto Sales '04 F150 Ext. Cab 4x4 \$25,998*

Four Missionaries. Hall a World Away. Experience the Time Of Their Life! Now at the Odyssey 6

Winner of 11 Academy Awards Including Best Picture THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING Now at the Twin Cinema 12

This Spring, Clear Your Mind Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind Now at the Odyssey 6 Theatre

This Town isn't Small Enough For Both of Them Welcome to Mooseport Now at the Twin Cinema

Unbridled Unbroken Unbeaten HIDALGO Now at Odyssey & Jerome Cinema

Academy Award Winner Best Actress Charlize Theron CHRISTINA RICCI MONSTER Now at the Twin Cinema

When There's No More Room in Hell, the Dead Will Walk The Earth! DAWN OF THE DEAD Now at the Twin Cinema 12

Orphan Now at the Twin Cinema 12

SECRET WINDOW Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE REALITY CHECK Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

MOVIES Orphan Now at the Twin Cinema 12

SECRET WINDOW Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE REALITY CHECK Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

THE HOUSEMAID Now at the Twin Cinema 12

and the jeweler doesn't have to front the money to buy it. Donating is harder because most charities are geared toward receiving money rather than merchandise. Above all, remember the two "don'ts": Don't sell to someone you know - and don't run an ad, because it could be dangerous. -HANK FRIEDMAN, MARIN COUNTY, CALIF.

ARRATE AUCTION Thursday, March 25, 2004 Located: Shoshone, Idaho From Shoshone on 4 mile north on Hwy 75 to 420 N Road (Johnny's Country Store) then 12 mile east Sale Time: 11:00AM Lunch Served by Kathy

TRACTORS International 656 diesel tractor with wide front, power steering, category 1-3 pt. hitch, gear-driven, T.A., 55.5, 3.8 rear rubber and gear hydraulic ram and a 60 bucket. Loader will be sold separate. International 544 diesel tractor with wide front, P.S., category 1B pt. hitch, gear drive, utility type tractor, 19.9 x 28 rear rubber, International 1256 diesel turbo tractor, wide front, P.S., cab, 540-1000 P.T.O., category 11 3 pt. hitch, 18.4 x 38 rear rubber, T.A., International 806 diesel tractor with wide front, P.S., category 11 3 pt. hitch, cab, T.A., 18.4 x 38 rear rubber.

GROUND WORKING EQUIPMENT International 314' 3 bottom 2 way plow, 3 pt. hitch, gauge wheel, trash turners - International 370 tandem disc, 12, hydraulic lift, on rubber - John Deere older type roller harrow, 12, inside teeth, outside rubber, hydraulic lift - Trax-K renovator, 12, 3 pt. hitch, gauge wheels - International 45 Vibra skid renovator, 12, 3 pt. hitch - Everman 3212 land plane with swing link hydraulic lift, on rubber - John Deere 155 grain drill, double disc, gross seeder, hydraulic lift, on rubber - 1' coil chanks, 2 1/4" solid bar, 3 pt. hitch - John Deere 3 row corrugator, 1 1/4" coil chanks, 2 1/4" solid bar, 3 pt. hitch - John Deere 4 row corrugator, flat C-chanks, 2 1/4" solid bar, 3 pt. hitch - John Deere 4 row terrace blade, 3 pt. hitch - International 175 manure spreader, double beaters, P.T.O. driven, on rubber - 8' cuplucker with solid and star rings, 3 pt. hitch - Two sets of metal harrows, with draw bars.

HAYING MACHINERY New Holland 114 self propelled diesel engine, 14' header with hay conditioner, cab - Massey Ferguson 775 self propelled swather, slant 6 cylinder gas motor, 14' draper platform - New Holland 1425 self propelled baler, Ford 6 cylinder gas motor, the cab with By-Cooler - 2 1/2' tractor, New Holland 455 P.T.O. baler, twine tie, hydraulic tension - New Holland 1046 self propelled harrowed, 6 cylinder engine - Ford 5 bar hay rake, P.T.O. driven, 3 pt. hitch - Massey Ferguson 775 swather for parts only.

PICKUPS - STOCK TRAILER 1989 Chevrolet 1/2 ton pickup, 454 gas engine, 4 x 4, 4 speed, L.W.B., 4 speed transmission - 1988 GMC S15 pickup, 5 speed, S.W.B. - 1981 Chevrolet Scottsdale 20 pickup, 4 speed transmission, 350 gas engine, L.W.B., 3 x 4, 1600 2000 stock trailer with 8 over 16 gal tank, tow bar, tandem axles, covered top - Travel trailer with single axle, storage only.

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EDITORIAL

Hard time should be exactly that for felons

Hard time ain't what it used to be in Idaho's correctional system. Just a few months after some high-profile public officials began serving time for stealing from taxpayers, their sentences have been reduced or suspended.

Betty Carlson's husband, Dell, had been ordered to serve 60 days in jail. But that sentence was delayed for 18 months, because the judge wanted one of the parents at home to care for their 11-year-old son. Older son Dustin, who also was involved in the theft, was also given a withheld judgment.

Our view: Reduced sentences for high-profile felons hurt public confidence in the justice system.

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

Consider it another message from the justice system that theft of public funds isn't as serious a crime as some people think it is.

Case 1: Former Boise Mayor Brent Coles walked out of the Ada County Jail in late February, after serving just four weeks of a six-month sentence. Coles completed a four-week Active Behavior Change course to enable his early release. And, because Coles was given a withheld judgment, he can wipe the conviction from his record by completing three years' probation.

Case 2: Three months into a one- to three-year sentence for stealing public funds, former Twin Falls County Clerk Bob Fort was transferred from a Boise prison to the Twin Falls Community Work Center. Fort admitted to taking \$64,000 in public money to feed a gambling habit. Now he's on work release. He's eligible for parole in May and could be released as soon as November.

Case 3: Fifth District Judge Monte Carlson reversed course last week on the sentencing of a Malta woman who stole nearly \$86,000 from the Raft River fire district.

Carlson suspended the one- to seven-year prison sentence of Betty Carlson (no relation to the judge). Her new sentence involves a single year in the local jail.

Judge Carlson said he changed his mind primarily for family reasons.

As convicted felons, Dell Carlson and Dustin Carlson were unable to visit Betty Carlson in the state women's prison in Pocatello. Meanwhile, prison officials told Betty Carlson she'd have to wait three to five years for parole - much longer than the single year Judge Carlson had suggested she might serve.

So Judge Carlson suspended the sentence. That act takes the case out of the Correction Department's hands and puts it back under the judge's direct control. It also virtually guarantees Betty Carlson's release in November.

County Prosecutor Blaine Cannon protested the change, because the suspended sentence will let Carlson cleanse her record. If she completes probation and stays out of trouble, her felony can be expunged. That's light treatment for a woman who barely acknowledged her crime in last week's sobbing appearance before the judge. (She likened her theft, bizarrely, to bankruptcy.)

In each of these three cases, a public official betrayed the trust of taxpayers, by diverting money from needed public services. The taxpayer public deserves better protection from the justice system.

Judges often complain when the Legislature infringes on their discretion. These incidents don't help their cause.



Editorial misreads area youth

Reading the March 19 editorial concerning Lucky's, I was both agghast and amused. Being born and raised in the Magic Valley, I could understand the content it raised but was surprised at the manner chosen to articulate them. We were compared to Michael Jackson and it was insinuated that simply by opening our door we would be the drug and underage drinking capital of the free world. It was implied that teens dancing equated to drugs and illegal activities.

Having played music for the youth of this community for the past 16 years, I know the strength and character of our youth here. I think it is sad to let the few bad apples we have taint the image of the whole. The kids I disc jockey for here have shown me nothing but respect and really impressed me with their commitment to each other and their communities. I believe providing them a place to go dancing in a controlled and well-secured environment would be a great asset to this community. If they are on blue

READER COMMENT Forrest Andersen

Lakes or gathered at a friend's house with no parents, how can anyone ensure their safety? We will by playing the music they love in an edited format that is accepted at all public schools here in the Magic Valley.

To tell our children so short to say that if they gather they will destroy the neighborhood and start a drug ring is both ignorant and inaccurate. Lucky's is partially an answer to requests I have received over the past years. Kids always tell me they wish they had a place to go to dance. We have answered that call and worked closely with the community leaders to do so. Our doors are always open and parents are welcome any time for a walk through or inspection. I believe in our ability to provide a fun-filled dance club for the youth of this community one night a week. I also

believe in the youth and their ability to continue to show the respect for themselves and their community.

As for the 18-and-up nights we will be having, we will be in complete conformance with state and federal law. Wouldn't it be nice to have a choice to go dancing and not have to be under a alcohol? We will provide that opportunity. Our main floor will be alcohol free. In order to even see a beer bottle, you'll have to go through three security guards and be 21 years old. Security at the City Park isn't even that strong for Western Days.

We will never mix people under 18 with those over 18. Furthermore, we will never allow a minor to consume alcohol. We are offended that *The Times-News* would imply that we would serve alcohol to minors. Please contact us with any questions or information.

Forrest Andersen of Twin Falls is one of the business partners in the new dance club and bar Lucky's to be located on Main Avenue.

LETTERS

Review judges who go light in rape cases

I just want to say "bravo" to Prosecutor Grant Loeb's article in Sunday's (March 14) *Times-News*. It was factual, to the point but also raises more concerns.

Why were these individuals busted, then put back on probation only to commit more crimes? Maybe *The Times-News* needs to look at all our local judge's records and make their records public so we can determine if we want to vote them back on the bench. If a prosecutor gets a conviction but a judge hands down a "soft" sentence, what good is it?

It's an election year. I don't know if there will be any judges seeking re-election. But if they are or are not - I would still like to see their sentencing records made public so I can make a sound decision at the polls.

BRIAN CRONER
Twin Falls

Prosecutor goes too far in pursuing rape cases

I am a Republican and have always voted strictly Republican. However, after realizing what is happening to these young boys, my decision has changed.

Idaho is a primarily Republican state, and it is the only state with a law that defines rape as "where the female is under 18." It is a Democrat who is trying to make this law more rational, allowing a three-year age difference with 16 being the youngest. Grant Loeb's not wanting this law to change, must be using it for

political reasons. It is not a crime to have sex with a girlfriend. It is a sin. God will be the judge of this. The law should not be taking these kinds of matters into their own hands.

I am 66 years old and it really intrigues me to know that Toby LaPray will have to live life without any rights. If he would have been raised in any of the other 49 states, his life would be completely different. Toby is forever branded a rapist, convicted felon and sex offender. He can't vote, go to service or own a gun. This law is created for people who seek power, like Loeb's.

If this law was in effect when I was a young girl, it would have changed my whole family history. I married my husband when I was 16 and he was 19. We are still happily married. If Loeb's were in office, I wouldn't have any of my children or grandchildren.

If they had forcibly raped someone, then it would have been appropriate to label him a felon. Toby was having consensual sex with a girl who was just as guilty of sin as he was. Toby's whole situation has been unjust: he has been judged so harshly. He just wants to get his life together, and the district attorney wants to send him to jail for another year, because he could not afford the sex offender treatment.

If they had other two probation violations have been paid for. He already did a year and six months behind bars because of a consumption and one driving under the influence.

In America, people can't be punished twice for the same crime.

People are also supposed to be "innocent until proven guilty." This is not the case in Twin Falls County. Loeb is using irrelevant information against Toby. Is this the kind of man we want to be in an elected position?

VIOLET AMEN
Rupert

Proposal to divide State Board will

Your editorials reveal a weak and narrow-minded perspective when it comes to issues concerning education and teaching. If the teacher's union disagrees with your point of view, you label it "protectionism." In recent issues of your paper, you have chastised legislative efforts to improve the quality of education in Idaho and voiced support for a pernicious plan to undermine teaching certification.

One of the more logical legislative proposals this term was that of Gary Schroeder, who suggested that the State Board of Education be divided into two boards - one representing higher ed and the other public elementary through high school. It is clear from some of the charter school problems and issues of certification that one board is overtaxed to find time to make careful decisions that will enhance the quality of education for public school children.

If a separate board focused only on public education, it could more easily manage charter schools and could also thoughtfully consider alternatives to certification.

While Sen. Schroeder's idea would advance a good solution, a better proposal would

LETTER

Tousley goes too far to nix criticism

After reading your article, Sheriff suspends employees running for office. I am not surprised at Sheriff Tousley's actions in creating a new policy and to suspend, without pay, those that want to run for the elected position of sheriff against him or neighboring agencies.

By suspending anyone who may have different views than Tousley's his deputies fear the threat of job security and the ability to speak freely concerning problems they personally have knowledge of or concerns about the department.

Tousley's personal opinion, based on the deputy's loyalty to the sheriff's office and morale issues, is ludicrous. If they weren't loyal to the department and to the profession, they wouldn't be running for the office of sheriff or have taken the position of deputy in the first place.

As for the morale, perhaps the employees see this platform as the opportunity to air mismanagement or personnel issues, which they view as a problem.

By losing one's income, and possibly the only means of support for their family, employees may fear losing their jobs or being suspended if they support an opposing candidate against Sheriff Tousley.

Tousley states that candidates should run on their own time. He also states that, "When a sheriff is in office, people expect him to spend time running." Well, Sheriff, I am not sure how many taxpayers you interviewed for your survey, but this taxpayer firmly believes you should lead by example. It is time to run for your candidacy on your own time and not on taxpayers' time or payroll.

TIM MILLER
Twin Falls

to elect the board members in our state. Many states require such officials be democratically represented. In Idaho, however, the governor is in charge of appointing members to the state board. When education leaders matter, voters speak. Look at Marillyn Howard's success.

The worst decision our board made recently was to promote the certification that bypasses the traditional licensure with tests and fees and no real practice, the American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence credential. The ABCTE teacher only gets feedback from a simulated experience. No real, experienced teacher is in the classroom to document strengths and weaknesses or to model ways of reaching all types of learners.

Worse still, the ABCTE certification candidates must limit themselves to one of three areas: K-6, six-12 math, and six-12 English. The secondary English and math areas of certification are the nuts and bolts of our Idaho Standard Achievement Tests. There is no surer way of leaving children behind than to entrust someone whose hiring criteria is strictly subject-matter knowledge. While content knowledge is essential, so is pedagogy. Knowing how to motivate, to inspire, to manage content in a sequence that has optimum value for the varied learners in a class are critical elements missing in drive-by certification.

A better board would not make such poor decisions.
DARLENE DYER
Halley

The Times-News

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Mike Smith ... Advertising director
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartgen, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, David Cooper and Shelley Ridenour.

Getting in touch

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

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

Sen. Larry Craig
In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Matthews, regional director
560 Flax Ave., Suite A
Twin Falls, ID 83301
734-6780; Fax 734-3905
In Washington:
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2752
e-mail: http://craig.senate.gov/email

Rep. Mike Simpson
In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director
1201 Falls Ave., Suite 25
Twin Falls, ID 83301
734-7219; Fax 734-7244
In Washington:
1339 Longworth Building
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Phone: (202) 225-5531
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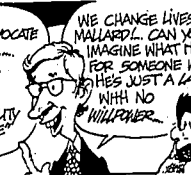
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NATION

Dispute threatens 'Pledge' case

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The challenge to the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance might never have reached the Supreme Court if not for a collision of faith between two parents — one an atheist, the other a born-again Christian.

The clash between the parents threatens to derail the entire case, which will be heard by the high court on Wednesday.

The case was brought by Michael Newdow, an atheist who does not want his 9-year-old daughter exposed to the phrase "under God," which Congress inserted in 1954.

The girl's mother, Sandra Banning, is a born-again Christian locked in a bitter custody dispute with Newdow, whom she never married.

The judge could decide that Newdow, because he did not have custody at the time, could not sue without the mother's consent, and dismiss the case outright.

FDA warns about suicide with antidepressant users

WASHINGTON — Doctors who prescribe some popular antidepressants should monitor their patients closely for warning signs of suicide, especially when they first start the pills or change a dose, the government warned Monday.

The Food and Drug Administration asked makers of 10 drugs to add or strengthen suicide-related warnings on their labels.

The agency insists it's not yet clear whether the drugs actually spur suicide on occasion — or whether the underlying mental illness is to blame. But FDA bowed to pressure from anti-guilt families who, at an emotional meeting last month, blamed the pills for their loved ones' suicides and pleaded for better warnings.

Rover Opportunity climbs out of martian crater

LOS ANGELES — NASA's Mars rover Opportunity on Monday managed to climb up and out of the crater that it explored for nearly two months, overcoming a slippery slope that left the vehicle spinning its wheels during an earlier attempt.

The short drive across the sandy inner rim of Eagle Crater placed the rover outside the shallow depression for the first time since it landed Jan. 24.

Supreme Court will rule on name-telling case

WASHINGTON — Do you have to tell the police your name? Depending on how the Supreme Court rules, the answer could be the difference between arrest and freedom.

The court heard arguments Monday in the appeal of a Nevada cattle rancher who was arrested after he told a deputy wrong and didn't have to reveal his name or show an ID during an encounter on a rural highway four years ago.

Nation in brief

Larry "Dudley" Hülbel, 59, was prosecuted, based on his silence, and faked himself at the center of a major privacy rights battle.

The case will clarify police powers in the post-Sept. 11 era, determining if officials can demand to see identification whenever they deem it necessary.

Nichols goes on trial in Oklahoma bombing

MALESTER, Okla. — Terry Nichols went on trial for his life Monday in the Oklahoma City bombing and was alternately portrayed as an eager participant in the attack and a fall guy in a conspiracy wider than the government has acknowledged.

Nichols hated the U.S. government and worked hand-in-hand with Timothy McVeigh in assembling and detonating the "huge, monstrous bomb," prosecutor Lou Keel said during opening statements in the state murder trial. Defense attorney Brian Hermonson countered that



Terry Nichols

McVeigh and other conspirators were responsible for the bombing and Nichols was manipulated by McVeigh to take the blame. Nichols, 48, is already serving a life sentence on federal charges for the deaths of eight federal law officers in the April 19, 1995, blast that killed 168 people. The state charges are for the 160 other victims and one victim's fetus.



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Study links calories, lifespan in mice

WASHINGTON (AP) — It may never be too late to extend life through sensible eating. A study shows a strict, low-calorie diet increased the life span of aged mice by more than 40 percent.

Many studies have shown that starting young mice on a restricted-calorie diet helps them live for months longer than lab animals fed a standard diet. But the new research, in

the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, shows that even 19-month-old mice, about the human equivalent of 60 to 65 years, can have a longer life when eating fewer calories. Researchers led by Stephen R. Spindler of the University of California, Riverside, found that restricting calories for old mice had an immediate benefit in slowing the aging process and

that eventually the animals lived up to six months longer than others fed the standard diet.

It's still unproven that calorie restriction would extend life in humans as it does in mice, said Spindler, but if the findings do translate to people "this could mean a lot more years and a lot of good years. The mice on calorie restriction live longer and they are healthier."

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Angry Palestinians bury slain leader

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians chanting "revenge, revenge" flooded Gaza's streets Monday to bury assassinated Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin, as militants pledged unprecedented retaliation — including threats against the United States.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and many world leaders

condemned Monday's killing of Yassin, the most prominent Palestinian targeted by Israel in 3.5 years of fighting. The Bush administration said it was "deeply troubled" by the attack and that it had no advance warning.

"We will get revenge for every drop of blood that spilled," said Salman Bdeir, a Hamas supporter crying near the mosque

where Yassin prayed shortly before being killed by an Israeli airstrike.

Israel scaled off the West Bank and Gaza, banning Palestinians from Israel, and placed its security forces on high alert.

Later Monday, Palestinian militants fired several rockets and mortar shells at Israeli targets in and near Gaza. To the north, Hezbollah guerrillas fired

an anti-tank missile at Israeli troops along Israel's border with Lebanon, and Israel responded with an airstrike and artillery fire. No casualties were reported.

The Yassin assassination was part of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's effort to crush Hamas ahead of a possible Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. However, the killing was seen as a major gamble that could galvanize the

Palestinians behind Hamas. Rival Palestinian militant groups immediately pledged solidarity with Hamas.

The missile strike dealt what could be the final blow to the stalled U.S.-led "road map" peace plan. It also angered Egypt and Jordan, moderate Arab states whose tacit support Sharon needs for any unilateral withdrawal from Gaza.



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PRICES EFFECTIVE TUESDAY THRU MONDAY

SPORTS

INSIDE
MoneyB46
ClassifiedB912

Sports Editor: Joe Paisley, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

The Times-News

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Section B

MORNING LINE SPORTSQUOTE

66
Little League
(Baseball) is a
great thing because
it keeps the parents
off the street.

99
- Vogl Barra

TRIVIA
QUESTION:
How many UCLA players
have become NBA head
coaches?
...answer below

IN BRIEF Jerome Rec plans softball meeting

JEROME - The Jerome Recreation District will hold the Co-Ed Adult Softball meeting on Wednesday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jerome Recreation Center conference room. Some of the agenda items to be discussed are by-laws, regular season, and tournament play. Letters will be read out to the captains prior to the meeting. If you would like to be put on the mailing list contact the Jerome Recreation District at 324-3389.

Canyon Springs Amateur has openings

TWIN FALLS - Openings still remain for the Canyon Springs Golf Course Amateur Tournament this Saturday and Sunday. The 36-hole Carter Cup event has added prize money. Call 734-7609 to register.

Jackpot Golf Club is now open for business

JACKPOT Nev. - The Jackpot Golf Club is now open from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call (775) 755-2260 for tee times and fees.

Burley association extends registration

BURLEY - The Burley Amateur Baseball Association will hold one more day of registration for this season Tuesday, Apr. 6 from 6-8 p.m. at Mountain View Elementary. Anyone with youth ages 5-16 who are interested, but not yet registered are encouraged to attend.

Mini-Cassia softball meeting is tonight

BURLEY - Anyone interested in forming a coed softball team in the Mini-Cassia area for the 2004 season is urged to attend a meeting at 7 tonight in the ice cream parlor of Al's Pizza Shoppe in Burley. For further information, please call Mike Hammond at 436-5926.

Cochran wins again at Alpine Championships

GIRDWOOD, Alaska - Jimmy Cochran knew he was getting a break when race favorite Hode Miller slipped on the opening run of the giant slalom Monday at the U.S. Alpine Championships.

And...when first-run leader, Daron Rahives missed a gate in the afternoon run, Cochran knew he had his second national title in two days. Cochran, the latest member of a U.S. ski racing family dynasty, added the GS title Monday to the slalom gold he won a day earlier.

"The slalom, I figured I have a chance to do pretty well. But to win the GS is unbelievable," said Cochran, 22. "No dude, so that helps, but I'm really, really excited."

Miller, the World Cup GS champion, was late for his first run and immediately fell out of contention when he slipped past a gate and had to climb back up the hill, losing about 10 seconds.

Zamansky finished second (2:08.97), followed by Tom Rothrock (2:09.20).

Compiled from staff and wire reports
TRIVIA ANSWER:
Zero.

Tennessee tops DePaul

Team reaches Sweet 16 again

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Tennessee cruised into the NCAA's round of 16 for the 23rd straight year with a 79-59 victory over DePaul on Monday night in the Midwest Regional. Shanna Zolman scored 18 points in the first half for the top-seeded Lady Vols, who were up by as many as 27 before halftime.

Tennessee next plays Baylor in Norman, Okla., on Sunday. The Lady Vols (28-3) took command with a 10-3 start and DePaul was shackled further by scoring leader Khara Smith's early foul trouble.

Zolman, who scored 23 points in an overtime loss to Tennessee three months ago, played just over six minutes in the first half and was scoreless. Zolman started 7-for-10, including 4-of-5 from 3-point distance, while her taller teammates controlled the boards by nearly a 3-to-1 margin in the first half.

Zolman didn't score in the second half, but it hardly mattered. Five other Lady Vols scored in double figures. LaToya Davis and Shyra Ely each had 12, reserve Brittany Jackson scored 11, and Tasha Butts and Sidney Spencer had 10 apiece.

Ashley Robinson's season-high 12 rebounds in the first half matched DePaul's team total. She finished with a career-high 14 rebounds.

Tennessee coach Pat Summitt now has 82 NCAA tournament wins among her 849 career victories, second only to Dean Smith and Adolph Rupp among college basketball coaches.

Vanderbilt 60, Chattanooga 44

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. - Carla Thomas had 15 points, 11 rebounds and six blocks, and Vanderbilt beat Chattanooga 60-44 Monday night to advance to the round of 16.

The second-seeded Commodores (26-7) are in the regional semifinals for the 11th



Tennessee's Sidney Spencer, top, and DePaul's Jenni Dant battle for a loose ball in the second half of their second-round NCAA Midwest Regional game Monday in Tallahassee, Fla.

time and will face either Stanford or Oklahoma in the Midwest Regional.

Chattanooga (29-3), playing on its home court as a No. 10 seed, extended its streak to 27 with a 74-69 victory over No. 7

Baylor 91, Florida 76
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - Sophia Young scored 17 of her 23 points in the first half and Baylor beat Florida 91-76 in the NCAA tournament Monday night to advance to the round of 16 for the first time in school history.

Fourth-seeded Baylor (26-9) will meet top-seeded Tennessee in the Midwest Regional in Norman, Okla., next week.

The Lady Vols beat DePaul 79-59 to advance to the round of 16 for the 23rd consecutive year.

With Florida's leading scorer and rebounder, Vanessa Hayden, on the bench for the first 14.5 minutes of the first half with 10-16 left on two free throws by Hayden.

Fifth-seeded Florida (19-11) rallied once Hayden returned

in the second half. The Gators got within five points twice, the last at 67-62 with 10:46 left on two free throws by Hayden.

Boston College 63, Ohio State 48

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Amber Jacobs scored 17 points and Boston College held Ohio State scoreless for eight minutes of the second half.

The third-seeded Eagles (27-6) advanced to play either Minnesota or Kansas State in

Please see NCAA, Page B2

Horse that's lost 106 times enralls Japan

The Associated Press

TOKYO - "Glorious Spring" is the undisputed darling of Japan's racetracks. Thousands pack the stands to watch the thoroughbred run, a new pop song sings her praises, and a movie is in the works.

The 8-year-old horse has earned all the attention with an ignoble feat: She's lost more than 100 races in a row.

"Glorious Spring" - or "Hani-urara" in Japanese - was out of favor that she does best Monday, losing her 106th consecutive race, even with Japan's top jockey on her back. More than 10,000 fans braved the rain to watch her come in

10th out of 11 horses.

A horse that has never won a race is an unlikely hero, but Hani-urara's struggles have struck a chord with the Japanese fondness for the hopeless but determined underdog, said Noriyuki Fukui, 21, who came to the Shimbashi Wins off-track betting outlet in Tokyo to drop \$9.30 on Hani-urara. "If she won, it wouldn't be so interesting anymore."

Hani-urara doesn't disappoint.

Born in Japanese horse country in the northern island of Hokkaido, she first raced - and

Please see HORSE, Page B2



Hundreds of fans of racing horse 'Glorious Spring,' or 'Hani-urara' in Japanese, dash to a racetrack in Kochi, western Japan, Monday morning to witness her 106th race.

Woods heads off for military training

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. - Tiger Woods sometimes adds green to that usually-means a jacket, but that's ordinarily in April, not from Augusta National - not fatigues from Fort Bragg.

The day after the Masters, the world's No. 1 golfer will swap his spikes for Army fatigues, and instead of retreating to his lavish home in Islesworth, Woods will stay in the barracks at Army Special Forces headquarters and spend a week in military training.

"It was never introduced to golf. I would be doing something like that," Woods said. "Hopefully, something in the Special Ops arena. It's the physical and mental challenge of it all. We'll see what happens."

No one is more curious than his father, an ex-Green Beret who trained at Fort Bragg, N.C., during the Vietnam War, and then taught his son to take no prisoners on the golf course.

"He's a very independent individual, and he plays an individual sport," Earl Woods told The Associated Press.



Amateur golfer Tiger Woods, right, talks with his father, Earl Woods, after practice for the Masters at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., on April 4, 1995.

"Quite frankly, he's not in the business of people telling him what to do. This will be a broadening experience for him." Please see WOODS, Page B2

Dominant O'Neal wants another title run

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - His eyes narrowed and his brow furrowed, Shaquille O'Neal has that look about him these days, the one that tells opponents to get out of his way.

The one that says it's almost playoff time.

The self-proclaimed "MDE" - Most Dominant Ever - is controlling the lane the way he did in leading the Los Angeles Lakers to three NBA championships from 2000-02.

Now O'Neal is looking for the other parts to fall into place for another title run.

"We're winning games, but we're not winning them pretty," he said. "We're still learning each other - we're going to be fine. The last few games, we've had 15-point, 17-point leads and let teams get back in it."

O'Neal put forth one of the most impressive individual performances of the season Sunday night, leading the Lakers to a 104-103 overtime victory over

'Fine, I'm gay. Now let's go play golf'

Rosie Jones was 19 when she told her family she was a lesbian.

But it wasn't until some 25 years later, long after all her friends and most of her associates on the LPGA Tour already knew that one of golf's steadiest performers made a point of telling the rest of the world. The reason she waited says almost as much about the climate in sports at the moment as it does about her.

"It still wouldn't be anybody's business," Jones said last evening, "except that this felt like one of those few opportunities you get in life to set a lot of things right."

Already preceding in her rearview mirror were Superstition Mountain north of Phoenix and the Safeway Classic, where earlier in the day, Jones finished tied for 13th place in the heat and wind of the desert.

Another few hours down the road were Rancho Mirage, Calif., and the Kmart Nabisco Championship, where she will tee it up later this week in the LPGA's first major of the season.

"And so far," Jones said as she steered her 35-foot motor home westward along Interstate-10 in Arizona, "so good."

She made her formal announcement that morning in a first-person story in the sports section of the New York Times. Not coincidentally, Jones started out by explaining that she would play in Nabisco, sparring the logo of a company called Olivia, which happens to be one of the world's largest travel services catering to lesbians.

"Inherent in this sponsorship," Jones wrote, "is my coming out."

It was almost as simple as it sounds. The fact is that Jones, who has won 13 times and eclipsed the \$7 million career-earnings mark in 21 years on tour, now feels successful and mature enough to handle the scrutiny that she inevitably follows her decision to go public. She isn't the first female athlete to do so, and she won't be the last. What makes the timing of her announcement noteworthy is that it was of her own choosing.

"I've never been in the closet," Jones said, "but I don't know if you're ever ready to take on the responsibility that goes along with something like this. I was a passenger on a few of their cruises, and when the people at Olivia talked to me, I thought, 'Well, I'm already established. I'm financially secure. I've got a strong fan base and it's hard enough to get endorsements as it is.'"

Please see LITKE, Page B2

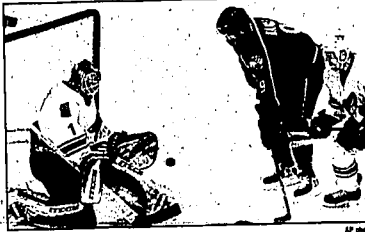


JIM LITKE

SPORTS

Coyotes end 15-game winless skid

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Mike Comrie snapped the Coyotes' 15-game winless streak when he put back his own rebound with 24.2 seconds left in overtime, giving Phoenix a 3-2 win over the Minnesota Wild on Monday night.



Phoenix Coyotes goalie Brent Johnson (1) makes the save as Coyotes' Derek Morris, right, holds back Minnesota Wild's Alexandre Daigle, center, during the first period Monday in St. Paul, Minn.

On a breakaway, Comrie skated in third Manny Fernandez, and his first shot bounced off Fernandez's leg. But Comrie corralled the rebound in the lower left circle and slipped it under the fallen Fernandez, drawing a groan from the crowd.

The Coyotes had been 0-8-4-3 in their slide. They also were 2-16-4 in their last 27 games. Their last win was Feb. 20 against Columbus; the last road win was Jan. 22 at San Jose, a span of 29 games.

It was a night of firsts for the Coyotes. Coach Rick Bowness picked up his first win since taking over for the fired Bob Francis on Feb. 24. Bowness is 1-7-3-3.

And goaltender Brent Johnson got his first win since being

acquired in a trade from St. Louis earlier this month. Johnson, who finished with 27 saves, is 1-3-1 with Phoenix.

Fernandez had 25 saves for Minnesota.

Dan Cleary and Shane Doan also scored for the Coyotes. Doan's third-period goal lifted Phoenix into a 2-2 tie. Johnson made a couple of impressive overtime saves before Comrie's game-winning goal.

After a fast first period, Minnesota, which got a goal and an

assist from Marc Chouinard, looked lethargic the rest of the game.

Phoenix took advantage: The Coyotes outshot the Wild 22-13 in the second and third periods.

Doan scored his 25th goal to pull the Coyotes to 2-1 in the second period on a power play. Camped to the left of the net, Doan tipped in a hard shot from Cale Hulse over Fernandez.

Cleary tied it with 9:53 remaining in regulation.

Pacers cruise past Bulls

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Reggie Miller scored 17 points and Ron Artest and Al Harrington each added 15 to help the Indiana Pacers beat the Chicago Bulls 101-77 Monday night.

Jamaal Tinsley finished with 11 points, eight assists and three steals as Indiana snapped a two-game skid. The Eastern Conference-leading Pacers have not lost three in a row all season.

Jeff Foster had 11 points, eight rebounds and a blocked shot, helping to make up for the loss of fermaine O'Neal in an injury.

The All-Star forward left the game in the second quarter with a sprained left knee. He will be reevaluated Tuesday.

Eddie Curry led the Bulls with 13 points on 4-of-14 shooting.



Indiana Pacers guard Jamaal Tinsley, front, steals the ball from Chicago Bulls guard Jamal Crawford as referee Violet Palmer keeps an eye on the action in the first quarter in Indianapolis, Monday.

Knicks 96, Hawks 84

NEW YORK - Nazr Mohammed had 19 points and 13 rebounds in his first game against his former team, and New York pulled away early in the fourth quarter to defeat Atlanta.

Muhammed, dealt to the Knicks last month in a three-team trade also involving Tim Thomas and Keith Van Horn, played as though he had something to prove against the team he spent nearly three years with. He shot 7-for-11 in just 24 minutes.

Penny Hardaway added 14 points and Stephon Marbury had 11 points and 11 assists for the Knicks, who swept the season series from the Hawks for the first time since 1974-75.

Another ex-Hawk, DerMarr

lead Philadelphia over Dallas.

Kenny Thomas tied a season-high with 27 points and added 13 rebounds. Rookie Willie Green had 19 points for the Sixers, who were without All-Star Allen Iverson, out with a knee injury.

Stephen Jackson had 20 points for the Hawks, who lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

76ers 107, Mavericks 98

PHILADELPHIA - John Salmons had career highs with 21 points and five 3-pointers to

of 16 for the 14th time in 21 NCAA tournament appearances. Georgia will face Villanova or Purdue in Seattle.

Sandora Irvin led the sixth-seeded Lady Frogs with 20 points and 10 rebounds and Tiffany Evans had 22 points.

Philadelphians had 20 points and 12 assists for the round of 16.

The third-seeded Bulldogs (24-9) advanced to the round

Horse

Continued from B1

lost - at the Kiochi Racecourse in southwestern Japan in November 1998.

She's repeated the defeat with remarkable consistency, winning second place only four times and earning a paltry \$10,400 in prize money. She was due for redemption when her losing streak started attracting attention last summer.

Since then, the horse has become Japan's top four-legged sportswoman, her admirers a pastry of the Kochi Racecourse, travel agents are making a killing off "Hara" tours, and her chestnut face adorns shirts, cups and other tourist trinkets.

Her already legendary lack of spots has made betting tickets with her name on them talismans to guard against traffic accidents. And her face is being used as advertising space: She

rides with a pink "Hello Kitty" riding mask. A pop song about her came out last week, and a Tokyo film producer is planning a movie about her exploits.

Even top politicians are paying attention.

"I'd like to see Hara-urara win, even just once," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said recently in Parliament.

"The horse is a good example of not giving up in the face of defeat."

Hara-urara was a clear draw Monday at the Shimbashi Wins betting parlor, which was packed with a mix of cigarette-smoking regulars and a younger crowd - and even a few women - drawn by the "Hara boom."

Some people bet on the horse nationwide that she ended up favored to win, with 1.9-to-1 odds.

Bettors pushed up to the screens when the race began, chucking as Hara-urara started quickly full apart, despite the efforts of star jockey Yutaka Take.

The results were flashed as urgent by Kyodo News service and were the second story on two national TV networks.

Even regulars said they were touched.

Shinji Yoshida, 54, said the horse's popularity shows the Japanese, who grew overconfident during the roaring 1990s, had rediscovered their appreciation for the weak and the troubled during more recent economic hard times.

But there are limits to sentimentality, he said.

"I bet on Hara-urara to get the ticket as a memento," he said. "But I still bet on a different horse in the same race - and he came in third."

Litke

Continued from B1

"Another thing that happened is that my father passed away about a year and a half ago now, and while he was comfortable with me, I'm not sure he would have been comfortable with everybody knowing.

"So it's kind of unique, I guess, because I'm not doing it to further a political agenda or a gay human-rights issue either, beyond Olivia having the right to choose somebody to market their product. And once I decided to represent them," she added, "any doubts about me were bound to disappear. So I figured I might as well say it."

The party scene at the Nabisco Championship was described in an infamous Sports Illustrated article in 1997 as a

kind of "spring break for lesbians." It caused a great deal of discomfort for LPGA officials back then.

But a half-dozen years later, it's proof of how deep tolerance or commerce (or both) have seeped into the fabric of our games that instead of being stigmatized, the Nabisco crowd is viewed by the sponsors, the LPGA and its players as just another target audience to sell hats, shirts and travel services to.

It won't make everybody happy and the added sponsorship won't make Jones much richer. But it will make her and some of her fellow players a whole lot more comfortable. There can't be much harm in that.

A few players came up to me

and said they really appreciate it," Jones said. "The one thing that concerned me all along was our fan base. I didn't want to disappoint anybody, and judging by the reception I got Sunday, I haven't. I want them to know that I'm the same person I was yesterday and if they loved me then, they should love me tomorrow."

Anybody who thinks all this soul-searching has dulled Jones' competitive edge should read the closing line of her story.

"To the rest of you," she wrote, "I say: Fine, I'm gay. Now let's go play golf."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org

Woods

Continued from B1

This is clearly a case where father knows best.

Earl Woods first trained at Fort Bragg in 1963 following a tour in Vietnam, and he was assigned to a Special Forces unit at Fort Bragg before leaving for another tour in 1970.

He did not remember the years he was there, only the schedule he had to keep.

He was up every morning at 5:30 for inspection, where a whistle threaded out of place on the uniform meant push-ups. That was followed by physical training, including a run in boots he had spent the night spit-shining for inspection.

Then it was time to change clothes, work all day until dinner at 7:30 p.m., and start over in the morning.

"He'll learn a lot more respect. He'll learn a little bit about dedication," Earl Woods

said. "And he'll learn an awful lot about himself, and how he can handle it. He'll come out a lot stronger than he went in."

Why would the world's best golfer, who earns close to \$90 million a year, sign up for this working vacation?

Woods is to arrive at Fort Bragg on April 12, spend four days of training and conclude his week by conducting a junior golf clinic for families at Fort Bragg.

Soldiers will train him in weapons and military tactics before sending him on a mission as part of a Special Forces team. Bragg spokesman Lt. Col. Billy Braker said. Also in the works is a lesson in skydiving and a tandem jump with the Army's parachute team.

Besides being the most physically fit among golfers, Woods' mental strength is what separates him from the others.

But this mental toughness did not come from any boot camp.

Earl Woods never put his son through sleep deprivation. He did not scream 2 inches from his face. He did not make his son take 5-mile runs before going to kindergarten.

The training came in the form of gamesmanship.

"I tried to break him down mentally," Earl Woods said. "I tried to intimidate him verbally."

Even as Woods was collecting junior golf trophies, his father routinely laughed at his mistakes.

"One day, I did all my tricks, and Tiger looked at me and smiled," Earl said. "At the end of the round, I made him promise. I said, 'Tiger, you'll never run into another person as mentally tough as you.'"

"He hasn't, and he won't."

O'Neal

Continued from B1

latest winning streak against non-playoff teams, with the exception of Milwaukee, which has lost five straight and eight of nine to drop below .500.

And they were extended to the limit in all five games, perhaps an explanation for coach Phil Jackson deciding to give them Monday off rather than get in an extra day of practice to prepare for the Kings.

that have gone on, Jackson believes the Lakers can finish like they did three years ago, when they went eight straight to complete the regular season before going 15-1 in the playoffs.

"I think it's possible," Jackson said. "We're going to have to have that rejuvenation at some point, where you can get that energy shot. It's going to come from Shaq rebounding, defensively. That's where we get our strength as a basketball team, from his turn at the end of the

season to a defensive, rebounding player."

O'Neal has averaged 15.6 rebounds in the last eight games to raise his season average to 11.4. He had 27 points, 23 rebounds and five blocks in a 113-119 overtime victory over Orlando on March 15.

Then came Sunday night's effort, when he surpassed the previous single-game high of 25 set by Minnesota's Kevin Garnett in an overtime game at Sacramento in December.

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Thome gets clearance to return to Phillies camp

The Associated Press
Told he could start hitting Jim Thome headed from Philadelphia straight to spring training Monday. Thome broke the right middle finger on his throwing hand during a spring training fielding drill on March 5. He initially was concerned he might need pins inserted into the finger, which would have sidelined him for up to two months. The slugger will wear a special splint on his finger for two weeks and his activity will be limited. He could return to the Phillies' lineup later this week, and is expected to play in the season opener against Pittsburgh on April 5.

Cleveland Indians, who last week learned closer Bob Wickman would miss the first half of the season because of a sprained elbow. "We are not at the stage where we are discussing terms, nor are we anywhere close to," Indians general manager Mark Shapiro said. The 30-year-old Urbina was 3-4 with a 2.61 ERA last season and converted 32 of 38 save opportunities for Texas and Florida. He saved four games for Florida during the postseason. In Lakeland, Fla., the New York Yankees said right-hander Jon Lieber, who will start the season on the disabled list with an ankle right groin, might not be ready to pitch until May. The Yankees will need a fifth starter only a couple of times in April. In Jupiter, Fla., the Florida

Marlins said center fielder Juan Pierre will miss just a few days of workouts because of a dislocated right pinkie. Later in the day, Andy Pettitte outpitched Josh Beckett - five months too late to do Pettitte any good. In a rematch of the starters in Game 6 of the World Series, Pettitte led the Houston Astros over the Florida Marlins 3-0. Pettite allowed two runs in seven innings for the New York Yankees in the Oct. 25 matchup. Beckett pitched a five-inning 2-0 win that gave Florida the title and earned him the World Series MVP award. On Monday, Pettite allowed three hits over six innings. Beckett matched him through the first five, then allowed three runs in the sixth after Phil Iliat duoff on a fly ball that left fielder Jeff Conine lost in the sun.

In other games: Yankees 3, Tigers 3 At Lakeland, Fla., Alex Rodriguez made a diving stop to rob Ivan Rodriguez of a double down the third-base line, then stepped on the base and threw it first for a double play. Bubba Crosby boosted his long-shot bid to make New York's roster with an inside-the-park grand slam off Jamie Walker in a five-run fourth. Dodgers 3, Red Sox 2 At Vero Beach, Fla., Odalis Perez allowed three hits in five scoreless innings. Boston Curt Schilling gave up one run and striking out five and walking one. Twins 11, Pirates 7 At Bradenton, Fla., Minnesota

of Johan Santana allowed four runs in the first inning. Pittsburgh's Kris Benson gave up four runs and four hits in the first two innings, then finished with three scoreless innings. Cardinals 7, Braves 2 At Kissimmee, Fla., Woody Williams allowed only one hit - Andrew Jones' solo homer - and struck out two over two innings in his second spring training start. Williams has been slowed by shoulder tendinitis. Indians 11, Reds 4 At Winter Haven, Fla., Jason Stanfor gave up a leadoff homer to Javier Valentin in the second, then induced an inning-ending groundout from Barry Larkin with the bases loaded.

Phillies 5, Devil Rays 4 At St. Petersburg, Fla., Jason Michaels hit a two-run homer, and Shawn Woodrow 3-for-4 and drove in two runs. D'backs 3, Mariners 2 At Tucson, Ariz., Randy Johnson allowed a first-inning homer to Bret Boone, then allowed just four more hits during the rest of his six-inning stint. Rockies 1, Padres 0 At Peoria, Ariz., Shawn Estes and three relievers combined on a five-hitter, and Kit Pellow hit a sacrifice fly. Brewers 6, White Sox 2 At Phoenix, Lyle Overbay hit a solo homer off Esteban Loaiza, ending a 37-inning scoreless streak for Milwaukee.

SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

NBA All-Time Best Eastern Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NBA Western Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NBA Division I Eastern Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NBA Division I Western Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NBA Division II Eastern Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NBA Division II Western Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Women's Basketball Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Division I East Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Division I West Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Division II East Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

NCAA Division II West Division Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

Area ski report

Area ski report detailing conditions at various ski resorts including Snake River, Marquette, and others. Includes reports on snow conditions, lift operations, and local events.

GOLF

GOLF PGA Tour Money Leaders table listing top performers like Tiger Woods, Vijay Singh, and others with their earnings.

PGA Money Leaders

PGA Money Leaders table listing top performers in the PGA tour.

HOCKEY

HOCKEY NHL Eastern Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and various statistics.

Area ski report (continued)

Area ski report (continued) detailing conditions at various ski resorts including Snake River, Marquette, and others.

GOLF (continued)

GOLF PGA Tour Money Leaders (continued) listing top performers.

HOCKEY (continued)

HOCKEY NHL Eastern Conference Standings (continued) listing team statistics.

Area ski report (continued)

Area ski report (continued) detailing conditions at various ski resorts.

Jets sign safety Lynch after losing out on Lynch

Jets sign safety Lynch after losing out on Lynch. The New York Jets signed safety Reggie Tongue on Monday, hours after losing out on John Lynch. The eight-year veteran takes over the strong safety spot of Sam Gaines, who was released earlier this month. New York pursued Lynch for the position when Tampa Bay announced it would let him go and had him in for a visit last week, but he agreed to terms with the Denver Broncos. Lynch and coach Herman Edwards are close friends, dating to their days together in Tampa Bay. It was another disappointment for the Jets, who lost out on cornerback Antoine Winfield after having a verbal contract agreement. Winfield signed with Minnesota. Tongue, a second-round pick of the Kansas City Chiefs in 1997, spent last four seasons with Seattle. Last season, he had 66 tackles, two sacks, four interceptions, eight pass defenses and two forced fumbles. The Jets' revamped their defense during the offseason, releasing starting linebackers Matt Lewis and Marvin Jones, Games and cornerback Aaron Beasley. In addition to Tongue, they also signed cornerback David Barrett and linebacker Eric Barton as free agents.

Rockets PG Francis gets fined \$25,000 by NBA

Rockets PG Francis gets fined \$25,000 by NBA. New York - Houston Rockets point guard Steve Francis was fined \$25,000 by the NBA on Monday for cursing during a halftime television interview and for criticizing officials. Francis drew his league-lauded 17th technical foul, but he contended a non-call in the closing seconds of the first half of Houston's 100-95 loss to the Sacramento Kings on Sunday night. When an ESPN reporter approached him for a halftime interview, Francis swore and stormed off the court. He apologized shortly before the third quarter began.

Top four women were missing at Key Biscayne

Top four women were missing at Key Biscayne. Key Biscayne, Fla. - The four top-ranked women were missing Monday when the field was set for the Nasdaq-100 Open, which begins Wednesday. Justine Henin-Hardone decided to skip the tournament, and No. 2 Kim Clijsters withdrew because she sprained her left wrist this month at Indian Wells. Also absent were No. 1 Lindsay Davenport and No. 4 Lindsay Davenport (chose not to play). All the defections mean Serena Williams was seeded No. 1 for her first tournament since being sidelined by knee injury after winning Wimbledon in July. Roger Federer, who beat Tim Henman in the final Sunday at Indian Wells, is seeded No. 1 on the men's side. Andy Roddick is No. 2.

NHL suspends Toronto's Wade Belak eight games

NHL suspends Toronto's Wade Belak eight games. Toronto - The NHL suspended Wade Belak eight games for the face of Colorado defenseman Ossi Vainanen. The Maple Leafs defenseman will be out for Toronto's remaining six regular-season games and the club's first two postseason games. Belak sustained Vainanen on Sunday night and was given a match penalty for assault on injury. He met with Colin Campbell at the league's office in Toronto on Monday before the NHL disciplinary hearing handed down his decision. Compiled from wire reports

Area ski report (continued)

Area ski report (continued) detailing conditions at various ski resorts.

GOLF (continued)

GOLF PGA Tour Money Leaders (continued) listing top performers.

HOCKEY (continued)

HOCKEY NHL Eastern Conference Standings (continued) listing team statistics.

Area ski report (continued)

Area ski report (continued) detailing conditions at various ski resorts.

MONEY

Business Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins 733-0931, Ext. 242

The Times-News

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Albertsons, Boise Cascade make list

BOISE - Idaho's membership in the Fortune 500 has slipped to just two.

Albertsons Inc. and Boise Cascade Corp. were the only companies headquartered in the state to make the annual list, which is based on 2003 revenues.

Washington Group International Inc., which earned a spot on the list last year at \$1.35 billion, saw revenues drop by 32 percent last year from \$3.7 billion to \$2.5 billion after completing several major projects. It had been carrying on the books for some time. Micron Technology Inc. missed the list for the second straight year, the slump in the international computer chip market continued to depress prices and its receipts.

Albertsons, the nation's second largest food and drug retailer, slipped three spots to 38th as revenues dropped slightly to \$3.4 billion due to the Southern California clerks' strike.

Boise Cascade, which did not complete its acquisition of OfficeMax Inc. until December, picked up six spots to 248th as its revenues jumped 10 percent to over \$8.2 billion. IDACORP Inc. was the other Idaho company to be listed recently among the Fortune 500. It made the list with \$5.6 billion in revenue in 2001 on the strength of its energy trading subsidiary that took advantage of the western energy crisis.

The power sales subsidiary was disbanded shortly after the crisis ended, returning the parent company of Idaho Power Co. to more traditional revenue levels of around \$1 billion annually.

Washington Federal announces dividend

JEROME - Seattle-based Washington Federal Inc., parent of Washington Federal Savings, on Monday announced a quarterly cash dividend of 20 cents per share.

The dividend will be payable April 16 to common stockholders of record on April 2. It is Washington Federal's 85th consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Walgreen Co. sees profit increase in Q2

CHICAGO - Another quarter of soaring prescription drug sales lifted Walgreen Co. to a 17 percent profit increase in the second quarter - the latest evidence that rapid expansion is paying off for the nation's largest drugstore chain.

Walgreen's earnings came in slightly below Wall Street's high expectations Monday and its stock fell 2 percent. But the Deerfield, Ill.-based company nation has a 10-year track record - continued to report strong pharmacy results in particular, with prescription sales jumping 19 percent over the previous year's total to account for 60 percent of all sales.

In a sign that not just new stores are fueling the growth, Walgreen said comparable sales - those from stores open more than a year - rose 15.5 percent over prescriptions and 11.5 percent overall.

Home Depot offers online gift registry

ATLANTA - Home Depot is going the way of retailers like Crate & Barrel and Macy's by offering an online gift registry. Industry observers see it as a way for the Atlanta-based company to enhance its relationship with customers even if it isn't a boon for the bottom line. The initiative will be formally launched today.

The home improvement chain - which has a Twin Falls store - says it is banking on its research showing that more people are getting married later in life, perhaps after a second time, and already have small appliances, fine china and cutlery.

Instead, the company says, couples may be looking for power drills or other items they can use to upgrade the look of their homes.

Debt pressure mounts

Jobless recovery, no restraint fuels it

The Associated Press

BOISE - Mark Wagner doesn't have much optimism for the state's economy turning around any time soon.

The client enrollment director at the not-for-profit Debt Reduction Services Inc. has watched the caseload in south-western Idaho grow from just 1,500 four years ago to 5,000 today.

And the average debt has jumped from \$15,000 to about \$20,000 in the same time.

"We haven't seen the economy coming back as far as jobs and wages are concerned," Wagner said.

Rising credit card debt, medical emergencies that torpedo household budgets, corporate

downturning and plant closures that have cost thousands their jobs are driving a surging personal debt load across the state.

"There are no jobs out there, and the ones that are don't pay anything," said credit counselor Sherry Matson at Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Idaho. "Everything is seven or 10 bucks an hour. How do you do that - pay rent even if you don't have any back bills."

Industrial engineer Martin Hinderer, who has been job hunting for months since returning to Boise after being laid off by Boeing in Seattle, saw the same thing earlier this month as he was plowing through possibilities at a state Job Service office.

"It's getting better for low-paying jobs, but I'm not sure about higher-paying jobs," Hinderer said.

Hinderer got a fairly good sev-

erance package that has kept him out of financial trouble. But that generally is not the case for thousands of others who find themselves out of work.

Personal bankruptcy filings hit a record 8,214 in 2003 in Idaho, and were running over 8 percent ahead of that pace the first two months of 2004, according to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

Counselors blame the credit and lending industry for making debt so attractive and easy to accumulate. But economist John Church of Idaho Economics, a Boise economic consulting firm, puts some of the responsibility on the governments' shoulders because of its deficit spending.

"There comes a point where people say, 'If the federal government can do it, why not me,'" Church said. "If there were a mentality of fiscal discipline in the country and the idea that we

need to save for the future, the federal government should be setting the example, and they are not."

Dodd Christensen, who runs financial education program at Debt Reduction Services, said too many people just don't have a grasp of fundamentals like balancing a check book or developing a household budget and then exercising the discipline to live by it.

"We see everyone from hourly workers to well-paid professionals," Christensen said. "It doesn't matter how much you earn. If you spend more than you earn, you're in trouble."

But while education and discipline can help limit increases in personal debt, Wagner and others see better economic conditions offering real relief.

"You're going to have to have an income recovery, a job recovery," he said.

Dow nears 10,000 from the other side

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Investors increasingly worried about terrorism extended Wall Street's sharp decline into another week Monday, selling stocks across the market and giving the Dow Jones industrial its fifth triple-digit drop in the past nine sessions.

The blue chips came close to breaching 10,000 for the first time since Dec. 12 after Israeli troops killed the leader of the Palestinian group Hamas early Monday. Hamas has promised retaliation against both Israel and the United States.

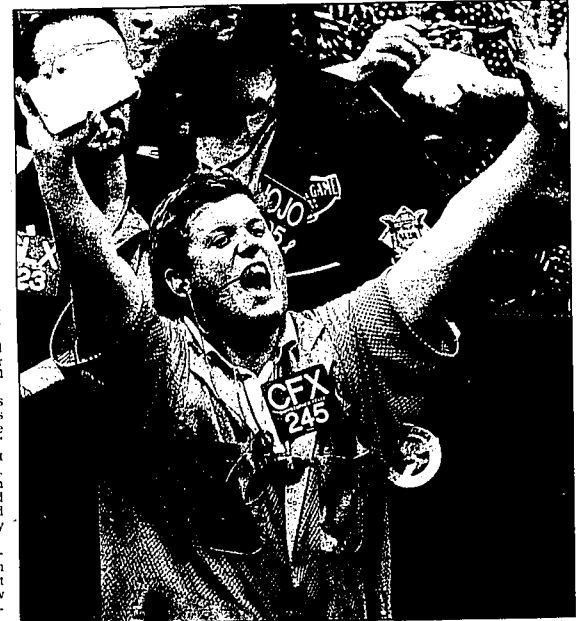
The turbulence in the Middle East discouraged equity investors already uneasy about a slow economic recovery and tepid job growth.

Wall Street was also worried about decreased consumer spending due to rising oil prices.

"The geopolitical situation is dominating the markets, but it's a very strange thing because there's no way to quantify it," said Peter Dunay, chief market strategist at Wall Street Access. "It definitely puts investors on edge. They've already factored in a lot of future positives, and when that's threatened, they react."

The Dow Jones industrial average finished the session down 121.85, or 1.2 percent, at 10,064.75. The index fell as low as 10,012.23 in afternoon trading.

The Dow came off a 53.48 loss last week, and has lost 672.95, or 6.3 percent, since its recent high of 10,737.70 on Feb. 17.



Christopher Falk works the S&P 500 pit moments before the closing bell at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Monday in Chicago.

You can't get back money that's already gone

Question: My wife and I are trying to decide how to invest a \$250,000 windfall. She wants to pay off our \$114,000 mortgage, but I'm not eager to do that since we just refinanced 9 months ago, paying \$3,300 in fees and costs. We are both approaching 40 years of age and want to see the principal somewhat secure. We got a wake-up call during the bear market and realized we weren't properly diversified, so I'm inclined to dollar-cost-average the money into a couple of good balanced funds. What do you think?

Answer: You need to know about an economic concept called "sunk costs." Basically, what it means is that you can't get money back once you've spent it. People often make financial mistakes when they try to recoup money that's long gone. A classic example is the investor who holds on to a losing stock and refuses to sell unless it returns to its original value.

You're doing something similar with your mortgage. You can't get back the money you paid for refinancing. All you can do now is try to analyze what you want to spend your money in the future. You could decide to continue paying interest on this mortgage because you'd rather put the windfall into your other investments. But you shouldn't cling to a mortgage just because you paid a lot of money for it.

There are some factors that support your wife's point of view. You're probably getting little, if any, tax benefit from your mortgage, and paying it off is a



MONEY TALK Liz Pulliam Weston

way to guarantee yourself a return equal to the interest rate on the loan. While a return of 5.5 percent or so isn't spectacular, it's certainly better than the 2 percent or so you'd make from any other secure investment.

Because you'll have plenty of money left over, it would appear you could make both your wife and yourself happy by paying off the loan and investing the remainder - plus the money you'll have freed up by not having to pay the mortgage each month. I am writing about the guy who asked you if he should pay off his credit cards or buy a house with a \$40,000 gift he expected from his grandmother. You didn't tell him to make sure that she gives him that money in installments over a couple of years. If she gives the money all at once, then he'll have to pay taxes on the gift, since it's over \$10,000. My wife's mother is getting a sizable inheritance and plans to pass it around to her daughters, but she's doing it over time so they won't owe taxes.

As you've actually misconstrued the gift tax rules - which isn't surprising, because they're a bit complicated. First of all, the recipient of a gift isn't the one who may owe taxes. Gifts are typically free of

both gift and income taxes for the recipients, so your wife and her sisters will be able to enjoy any money their mother gives them without having to worry about Uncle Sam wanting an immediate cut.

It's the giver who may potentially owe gift taxes - although your mother-in-law would have to be a generous soul indeed to owe over \$10,000 in gift taxes. That's because she would have to give away more than \$1 million in her lifetime before such taxes would be owed.

Furthermore, she can give up to \$11,000 (not \$10,000) per recipient per year without having to notify the government of her generosity. So if she wants, your mother-in-law could give you and your wife \$22,000 a year without gift tax consequences.

If she wants to give you more, she could do so - she would just have to file a gift tax return. Only when the total amount of her gifts over \$11,000 per person reaches the \$1 million mark would she owe any tax.

After reading your column, I decided it would be a good idea to use my credit report. I went to all three Websites you listed recently and they all wanted to charge me for the privilege. This is highway robbery. Why do I have to pay to go over my personal information?

As Congress actually agrees with you, which is why it decided last year to require credit bureaus to give consumers free access to their credit reports once a year. The change was part of updates to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, which went into effect Jan. 1.

Don't dial the bureaus quite yet, though. The Federal Trade Commission, which regulates the bureaus, decided to give them more time to figure out how to implement some of the changes. So don't expect to get your free reports until the end of the year.

In the meantime, you can still get a copy of your credit report for free if you've been denied credit or are the victim of credit-related fraud.

A handful of states also require that credit bureaus give out free copies to their residents once a year. Those states include Colorado, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Vermont.

Otherwise, if you want your reports now, you've got to cough up - usually \$8 to \$9 per report. You can get a look at all three reports and your all-important FICO credit scores at MyFico.com for about \$40. Your credit score is a three-digit number that's increasingly used in lending decisions. It's known as a FICO score because it was developed by Fair Isaac Corp.

You should plan on checking your credit report at least once a year to look for errors and fraud. You can call Experian at (800) 311-4769, Equifax at (800) 685-1111 or Trans Union at (800) 688-4213.

Questions can be sent to Liz Pulliam Weston at asklizweston@earthlink.net or mailed to her in care of Money Talk, Business Section, Los Angeles Times, 202 W. First St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

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

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Charles Solomon Spencer and Camille Marie Spencer, also known as Shannon Jacobson, 2539 Donor Drive, Twin Falls, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40484.

Jake Earl Spaulding, also known as Jake E. Spaulding and Amy Spaulding, also known as Amy Bowen, 372 E. 700 S., Idaho Falls, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40482.

Jane Earl Spaulding, also known as Connie Wadell, 1774 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40491.

Alan Leo Carreira and Cheryl Renee Carreira, 202 Boyd St., Murtaugh, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40494.

Benito Molina and Janet Molina, 500 Hansen Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40504.

Richard R. Quintana and Alicia P. Quintana, 619 Malva Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40522.

Mandi Jo Tracy, 1576 E. 1500 S., Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40538.

Janet Ann Gray, 205 N. 200 W., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40540.

Wilson T. Garner, also known as Tim Garner and Susan A. Garner, 3305 A. S. 2900 E., Hazelton, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-40541.

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

Ieste Jill Davidson, also known as Jill Davidson, Jill Evans and J.J. Davidson, and formerly doing business as Espozosa Photography, 725 S. Eden Road, Eden, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 50-99 creditors, assets not indicated, liabilities under \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40495.

Ellen E. Anell, 3450 Mountain Ash, Hazelton, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40500.

Rance Sherry Chappin, doing business as Char-Fee's Playhouse, 219 Lenore St., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40503.

Daniel J. Bries and Diana Gray, 316 S. Main Ave., Idaho Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40519.

Janette Carol Morris, 1010 Q St., Heyburn, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40520.

Robert Monroe and Shirley Bolan, 125 Lane W., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-40521.

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

Delbert William Benkula, also known as Del Benkula, and Melissa K. Benkula, also known as Melissa Collins, 719 1/2 Main Ave., Idaho Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40493.

Joanna Acosta, doing business as The Crossover, 690 Orchard, Eden, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40523.

Jeffrey Karl Hall and Tabitha Alene Hall, also known as Tabitha Alene Zollinger, 725 1/2 St., Heyburn, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40519.

Charles Edwin Schoolcraft and Mary Loan Schoolcraft, 234 Fourth Ave. W., Gooding, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40506.

Robert Bolan and Shirley Bolan, 170 Walnut, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40535.

Ronald Owens and Susan Owens, 230 Monroe, Twin Falls, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40537.

Cathy Elaine Rogers, 860 Marston Drive, Hazelton, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-40539.

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

Clayton Gardner and Jarne Gardner, 230 Taylor St., Twin Falls, joint, business total debt, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, Case no. 04-40539.

Please see FILINGS, Page B6

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes categories like Grains, Metals, and Energy.

MARKETS

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Includes categories like Grains, Metals, and Energy.

CHEESE

Cheddar cheese prices at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange...

POTATOES

Chicago (AP) - USDA - Idaho potato market... Washington-Horticulture...

SUGAR

NEW YORK (AP) First Dow Jones averages for Tuesday, July 16.

LIVESTOCK

POPCATELLO (AP) - Idaho Farm Bureau... LIVERSTOCK Auction - Greenwood Livestock Auction...

GRAINS

Valley Grain Prices for wheat, barley, rye, and oats...

FEDER CATTLE

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Includes categories like Grains, Metals, and Energy.

METALS/MONEY

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Includes categories like Grains, Metals, and Energy.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Includes categories like Grains, Metals, and Energy.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ markets.

NASDAQ MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NASDAQ market.

BEANS

Valley Beans Prices for various bean types...

GRAINS

Valley Grain Prices for wheat, barley, rye, and oats...

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ markets.

INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, Value, Change. Includes Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, YTD. Lists local stocks.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange...

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY

Access Net through power outlets

Missouri company hopes idea spreads across the country

By Jack Naudi
Knight Ridder News Service

Dan Niswonger zips along the Internet on a "digital" highway that most folks can't travel - yet.

Through telephone lines or cable wires carry most high-speed signals today. Niswonger of Girardeau, Mo., are testing a new technology: They hook into the Internet using the same electrical outlet that powers televisions, toasters and lamps.

And their Internet signal is carried along power lines owned by AmerenUE.

"I can't quite comprehend that something that will kill you when you put your finger into it can get a signal into the Internet," Niswonger said.

With the exception of a couple of small cities, broadband over power lines, or BPL, remains an almost unheard-of concept in the United States. But after 18 months of testing, Ameren Corp., the St. Louis-based utility company of AmerenUE, is optimistic about the system.

"The technology has proven it works at a pretty decent scale," said Steve Kidwell, manager of business improvement for Ameren.

Niswonger goes further: "It has been fantastic."

It also has been a long time in coming. Utilities have known for a while that digital signals can piggyback on the same lines that carry electricity.

But movement is the easy part. What's more troublesome is keeping electrical interference from turning high-speed digital signals into indecipherable, scrambled messes.

In recent years, several companies have devised software and hardware to keep those things intact. With each tweak, the interference has been reduced, and Internet connections are getting faster and faster.

Today, the average Cape Girardeau test customer can download images, video and data from the Internet at about the same speed as service over digital subscriber lines, offered by telephone companies.

BPL soon could rival the top speed offered by cable broadband systems, about four times as fast as DSL. In theory, Kidwell said, power-line Internet connections have no maximum speed.

Power lines have another advantage: They're everywhere. Many sections of the country

Internet outlets

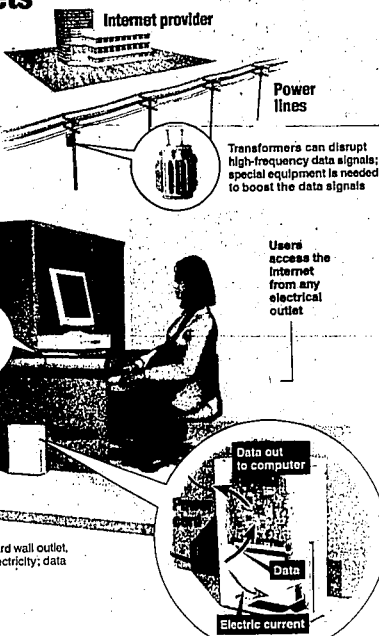
A St. Louis-based company is testing broadband over power lines (BPL), which uses electrical outlets, instead of telephone or cable lines, to carry a high-speed Internet connection.

1 The starting point
Internet service provider connects to power grid via a physical or wireless connection

2 Transmitted data
Data signals travel along power lines to customer's home; data signals have a higher frequency than electric current, allowing both to share the lines without interference

3 Inside the home
Modem, plugged into standard wall outlet, separates data signals from electricity; data signals are sent to computer

© 2004 KRT
Source: Ameren Corp.
Graphic: Rich Paolucci, St. Louis Post-Dispatch



(from the utilities) to my meetings, because they say, "Our job is a utility," Shark said. "They are spending their time worrying about the core business."

The city of Manassas, Va., which operates a municipal electric company, soon will roll out BPL service citywide. But most for-profit monopoly utilities are sitting on the sidelines, even when virtually alone in the field.

Ameren is expected to end the Cape Girardeau test in a month or two. It plans to start rolling out access to an undisclosed broadband area shortly afterward. Even for the small test in Cape Girardeau, Ameren has a partner, Big River Telephone Co., which serves southeast Missouri. Big River essentially provides the customer support, technical assistance and a link from the Internet's framework, known as its backbone, to Ameren's power lines.

Big River also provides a con-

nection from the Internet backbone to the power lines and the servers that allow customers to have e-mail. The company hopes the partnership will expand after the test phase.

"Our experience has been good, and I think Ameren has been happy with the service," said Jerry Howe, Big River's chief executive.

Big River and Ameren have discussed pricing for the service, but they aren't revealing numbers. "The price will be competitive with cable and DSL," Howe said.

That would put the cost to customers at about \$30 to \$40 a month.

As a tester, Niswonger has been involved in pricing discussions. "I'm not at liberty to talk about it," he said. "But I'd tell you one thing, the cable company is going to have a fight on their hands."

"I think it's going to take off. It's going to be a monster."

Labeling DVDs raises risk of rotten approach

By James Coates
Chicago Tribune

A tech person at CompUSA told me that he has heard there is a problem with some labels used to customize DVDs. Apparently, the adhesive penetrates into the DVD and ruins the information on it. Have you there a solution to it other than going back to using a permanent marker? (I'll assume the marker is still OK to use.)

-Dennis Hodlin
A welcome to the never-ending "DVD rot" debate, Mr. H. It has been raging since the early days of putting movies on laser discs but has gained much more attention as more people encounter an occasional homebrewed DVD or CD that goes bad after it was filled with things like family movies.

It's particularly unnerving for the complex and sensitive DVD+/-R/RW discs used for personal computers. Rather than having a powerful laser to burn holes in plastic, these home computer DVD recorders use a lesser laser to change the color of a plastic sheet of film that is sandwiched between thin, reflective plastic film, with a thicker hard plastic on the top.

If the thin film in the middle—where the data goes—gets damaged at a section used to start the DVD, the disc will not open, or maybe some of the content won't work.

When the film layers get damaged, an irregular coffee-colored splotch often appears. Folks started calling it DVD rot.

As you have found, there is debate about what can cause the problem. One theory is that a DVD can get knocked slightly out of balance when a user creates one of those slick-looking homemade DVD labels using an ink jet or laser printer and special paper.

As the disc spins rapidly in the DVD drive, the label can be slightly off-center and thus cause the disc to wobble and possibly warp enough to slightly separate some of the layers of plastic.

The lesson is clear: When you make a DVD, use your burning software to create a backup of the disc. Store the backup in a safe place, and you'll almost certainly save a lot of grief sometime down the road.

Q. I am running Windows XP

Computers Q & A

Home version. Is there a program or a setting on Windows that will prevent a program from being installed on my computer without giving a warning or a protection password?

-Jim Berg
A. Let's start with spending no money and just using the substantial security and privacy features built into Microsoft's Internet Explorer and Windows XP by using those two shields, you can block all incoming efforts to run those small programs called applets often sent by Web pages to a visitor's computer. You also can deal with those cookie files that Web pages try to write on a visitor's computer.

To find these cost-free items, click on Tools and Internet Options in the browser. You will find tabs for Security and Privacy. Click on Security and you get a sliding bar that lets you set the machine to do everything from promiscuously accepting the stuff that comes in to taking an ultra-cautious approach, where most of it is blocked and nothing gets loaded unless you approve it first.

Likewise, the Privacy tab gives a slider that lets you set the machine to accept or reject all cookies or somewhere in between.

A large number of utility programs on the market include somewhat non-intrusive Internet security features designed to stop computer users from getting duped by the hustlers who try to get people into downloading and running booby-trapped applets. Firewall utilities such as Zone Alarm probably are the most rational and effective defenses against mistakenly clicking stuff riddled with unsavory powers.

Less draconian tools such as AdSubtract (www.intermute.com) and Ad-aware (www.lavasoft.de) are designed to block those booby traps outsiders attempt to get installed on your machine. This software includes information about known offenders to protect against things like browser hijacking as well.

Nothing's perfect, however. Some booby traps change your home page to another site, because these booby traps often prove extremely difficult to remove.

They make software for that?

By Ieva M. Augstums
The Dallas Morning News

Ever had the urge to control the minds of others? There's hope.

A quick online search nets access to a software program touting the ability to entice people to get them to feel and do what you want.

"I'm not going to tell you that every one of the downloads are the best out there, but if a user wants it, they can find it," said Kelly Green, director of CNET Download.com, which offers more than 30,000 free and free-to-try software titles.

It's easy to make fun of the software. But as Preston Gralla, a longtime software reviewer and author of "Windows XP Hacks, points out: "Every piece of software has a dream behind it. One person's crazy idea can be another's treasure."

Get into the heads of others with Tele Hypnosis

Learn how to sway the thoughts, emotions and actions of family members, friends and co-workers with Tele Hypnosis

Pro 1.0. This "electronic magic software" teaches the user how to control the minds of others.

Some things the program's developers say you can do with the software: make a male or female love you passionately, influence your boss to give you a raise and keep your children off drugs.

Purchasers can also practice mind control on themselves, its makers say.

Other self-hypnosis features include how to stop smoking, lose weight, and enhance your memory and intelligence.

Where to find it: www.tifareth.com
Cost: \$199

Decorate home online before the real thing

...If you're already plotting this year to win your street's "Best Decorated House" award, plug Holiday Lights Designer 2.0 into your computer.

The program allows you to virtually design a home — large bulbs, small bulbs, multicolors and icicle lights — on images of your home or anything else you want to decorate.

You can change the lights' colors, make them blink and even

decorate lawn ornaments.

The software developers at Arapaz Software LLC in Orlando, Fla., say their software was a hit around the holidays. They're even thinking about adding features for November and Fourth of July features.

"Nobody out there has this same product right now," said Ron D. Collins, the software company's co-owner. "We're looking for Suzy Homemaker wannabes and play with it and for that avid professional landscape lighter."

Where to find it: www.holidaylightsdesigner.com
Cost: \$79.95, standard edition; \$129.95, professional edition

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LINE-AD DEADLINES

| Publisher Day | Deadline |
|---------------|------------------|
| Sunday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |
| Monday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |
| Wednesday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |
| Thursday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |
| Friday | 6:00 p.m. Friday |

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

AGC Finance will accept the following repossessed equipment for sale to the highest bidder for cash. No down payment. All applicable sales tax. Equipment: Agco Allis-9550, 4 wheel drive tractor with cab, SN 942011PA & Massey Ferguson-4235, tractor with cab, SN, G14053. Date of sale: March 30, 2004. Time of Sale: 11:00 am. Place of Sale: 2005 Kimberly Road East, Twin Falls, Idaho.

100 Announcements

300 Employment
400 Education
600 Real Estate Rentals
700 Agriculture
800 Merchandise

500 Real Estate for Sale

1000 Transportation
6000 Recreation

300 Financial

Business Hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

400 Merchandise

600 Real Estate Rentals

700 Agriculture

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600 Real Estate Rentals

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS

Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you would want. These can be picked up at the Times-News Classified Dept.

BANKRUPTCY

Competitive rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcies. Jeff Stoker at 734-8452.

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

"The more defects a man may have, the older he is, the less love he has, the more resounding his success." -Marquis de Sade

Table with 4 columns: WEST, SOUTH, EAST, NORTH. Symbols and numbers for a bridge hand.

This week, we are looking at deals from last year's Spring Nationals in Philadelphia...

In four spades Cushing, South was favored with a club lead...

Vulnerable: Both Dealer: North

Table with 4 columns: South, West, North, East. Pass/Pass/Pass/Pass.

Opening lead: Club two

BID WITH THE ACES 62-3B South holds: ♠ 8 ♥ K Q 8 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 9

Table with 4 columns: South, West, North, East. Pass/Pass/Pass/Pass.

ANSWER: Jump to two hearts as an invitation to game...

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at http://www.bridgetexas.com

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512 FARM/RANCHES/ACRES CASTLEFORD 3000 acre farm w/pwots...

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BUHL Small 2 bedroom, 2554 sq. ft. \$1200/mo.

GOODING 3 bedroom, 3000 sq. ft. \$500 + dep.

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TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2554 sq. ft. \$1200/mo.

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TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 3000 sq. ft. \$500 + dep.

FILER 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2100 sq. ft. \$2000/mo.

GOODING Clean nice 2 bdrm unit, 1014 sq. ft.

HAZELTON New 2 bdrm unit, 1014 sq. ft.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 2000 sq. ft. \$500 + dep.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 3000 sq. ft. \$500 + dep.

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606 MOBILE HOMES BUIHL to be moved, 3 bdrm, 2 bath...

607 OFFICE & RETAIL LYNWOOD SHOPPING CENTER

608 COMMERCIAL REALTY LARGE WAREHOUSE & office for lease.

609 HORSES & TACK APPEY MARE 15 yrs old, 14.2 h...

610 ROOMMATES WANTED TWIN FALLS roommates, \$275 + \$125 dep.

611 WANTED TO RENT KIRKBYLL TWIN FALLS AREA

612 HORSES & TACK ARABIAN/Porter 4 yds old horse, pitted to sell.

613 HORSES & TACK CHEESAPEAKE puppy, 8 wks old, \$250.

614 HORSES & TACK ARABIAN/Porter 4 yds old horse, pitted to sell.

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514 INCOME PROPERTY TWIN FALLS 7 bdrm, 4 bath, 10,000 sq. ft.

515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY RUPERT Commercial lot, 24 acre, 100' frontage.

516 MOBILE HOMES JEROME 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 1000 sq. ft.

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